

District 36 Meeting Agenda

Monday, March 9, 2020

- **Open with Declaration of Unity:** "This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; To keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. Unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come."
- **Introductions / News from Groups: Summaries/Actions***
(Actions will be addressed in New Business)
- **Concept 3: *Curt Chambers, Area 59 Secretary***
- **Officer's Reports:** Secretary, Treasurer, ADCM, DCM
- **Subcommittee Reports:**
 - Archives:
 - Finance:
 - Workshop:
 - Structure:
 - District Split:
 - Ad-hoc Grapevine
- **Liaison Reports:** HAI/HBGICYPAA Bid
- **Old Business:**
- **New Business:**
 - Area Forum – May 30, 2020 – in conjunction with Districts 34, 38, 45, 63, 65 (Lancaster, York, Lebanon)
- **Tradition 3: *Grace N., GSR, Hershey Group***
- **Close with Responsibility Declaration:** "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that – I am responsible."

NOTES:

Next Meeting – Monday April 13, 2020 – 6:30pm – Fellowship House 1251 S. 19th St. Harrisburg, PA

*Summaries – Announcements, Anniversaries, etc. / Actions – Group problems or issues

DCM Report - District 36 – March 9, 2020

Welcome to the second year of Panel 69! *As a GSR, you are the vital link between your home group and the General Service Conference.* The GSR Preamble pretty much says it all:

"We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize that the ultimate authority in A.A. is a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that the group can reach an informed group conscience. Passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups and A.A. as a whole."

Events DCM Attended since last meeting: SEPIA/EPGSA Share A Day 02/16/2020; NERAASA (Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly) 02/21/2020-02/23/2020; **Area 59 Quarterly Meeting** Quakertown, PA 03/08/2020

DCM Will Attend: Districts 38/67 "The Home Group" Workshop Limerick, PA 03/14/2020; **Lancaster Hand of AA Conference** 03/28/20; **Pre-Conference Sharing Session**, Philadelphia 04/05/2020; **SEPIA Cape May Roundup** 4/17-4/19/2020.

NERAASA 2020: I am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend this assembly and represent District 36 in Area 59. With the exception of the very first panel, I attended all presentations as well as the DCM Roundtable on Friday and Saturday evening. As usual, it was an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow General Service geeks in the Northeast Region. One of my favorite things about NERAASA is after the presenters are finished, the mics open up for comments. As usual, the comments were thoughtful and insightful; I will be happy to share my notes with anyone who is interested. For me, one of the most powerful moments was when we were shown a GSO PSA that featured "cartoon" people, followed by an Australian AA PSA that showed a man sitting in a bathroom stall, bottle of booze in hand, frantically gulping it down and breathing a sigh of relief with each swig. Powerful stuff and so relatable! Wish we had those kinds of PSA's here in the United States.

AREA QUARTERLY MEETING: I have made copies of some flyers regarding upcoming events and included in your packets. The Public Information Committee requested that DCM's share the "Stay Informed, Help Carry the Message" flyer with GSR's – please encourage home group members to sign up to improve communication. Delegate Ken D. reported that the General Service Convention items have been posted on Area 59 website, area59aa.org, and may be accessed by anyone who has an interest by using password "epgsa" to view. He reminded us that GSR kits are available on the website as well, which is especially useful to new GSR's who have not yet received their kits from GSO. Ken thanks everyone in Area 59 for the opportunity to attend the Conference and represent the voices of A.A. in Area 59.

Pre-Conference Sharing Session is being held on April 5th! Last month I provided a flyer for you to display at your home group as well as a list of the Agenda Items for this 70th GSC. If you didn't get one, please see me after the meeting, I have more! Be sure to share this information with your home group members. GSR's play a critical role in conveying your groups' conscience regarding issues facing the entire Fellowship! I strongly suggest you consider attending this important event!

District 36 will participate in the **Mini Assembly I / DCR** to be held on **May 3rd** in District 40 – Wilkes-Barre area. As previously noted, we are assisting with cleanup. Who among you is willing to make a solid commitment this evening to attend?

The PA Hospitality Suite at the 2020 International Convention in Detroit is seeking volunteers and accepting financial contributions. Has YOUR home group discussed this need? Visit the area59aa.org website home page for the flyer and additional information. This is a joint effort between Area 59 and Area 60, Eastern and Western Pennsylvania A.A.

In grateful service,

Alicia Ann Shenk, DCM

DCMD36A59@gmail.com / Talk/Text: 717-602-9173

ADCM Report

In attendance since last district meeting:

- SEPIA/EPGSA Share A Day (Literature Presentation)
- NORTHEAST REGIONAL A.A. SERVICE ASSEMBLY – Nashua, NH
- Ad-Hoc Literature Sub Committee meeting
- Ad-Hoc District split committee

Report back on NRAASA:

Panel 1 "Internet and the online presence of AA"

How is AA currently presenting itself online? How are we using forums like YouTube, Google Ads (formerly known as AdWords), and LinkedIn, etc., to interact with the world-at-large? How can we continue and improve utilizations of such forums?

- I was not present for this part of the panel. If you would like more information please let me know.

Should we curtail the use of YouTube, Google Ad (formerly known as AdWords), LinkedIn, etc.? Does the current disclaimer satisfy concerns about affiliation?

- The presenter on this topic talked about AA's current use of YouTube and how it is a great resource for youth and others to find us on the web.
- However it is not always the first thing that comes up when you type AA in the search bar. This is something our technology person is working on.
- Google Ads are not something we are currently using in AA.
- In regards to LinkedIn members at large are the individuals using this not AA. This brings great concern to anonymity because people use their full name on LinkedIn.

How do we reconcile an online presence with our tradition of anonymity?

- The same way we always have with press radio and films.
- How can AA put a stop to people who violate this Tradition?
- It is very large scale and would be hard to enforce a rule on this.
- In the open mic section of Panel
- people sharing the face to face - loving and kind education is a great way
- If you see a person violate anonymity, help educate them rather than ostracize them.

Panel 5 "Literature: Historical vs Modern Perspective"

Should we do anything, or not, regarding language in our literature which is culturally or social now dated? Does the historical value outweigh modernization?

- The presenter on this topic speaks about how language over time has changed outside of the big book.
- Also People are more sensitive to language these days.
- They said change is necessary.
- Our language should be more inclusive.
- How we identify is how we communicate.
- We must keep in mind the Third Tradition.

Should we do anything, or not, regarding gender neutrality in current literature?

- The presenter on this topic talked about how many people are affected by alcoholism in the LGBTQ community.
- How our language affects people in general.
- The word of 2015 was this/there for use of pronouns in our culture society.

Based upon past General Service Conference Actions, can anything ever be changed in the first 164 pages of the Big Book or can future Conferences vote to change the first 164 pages.

- The presenter says Yes it will just take time.

Panel 6 "5th Edition Big Book"

Pro- We should create a 5th edition Big Book.

- The presenter said it would open our doors more. Making them roomier and broader.
- Be more inclusive and leave less room to offend people.

Con- We should not create a 5th edition Big Book

- The big concern is our message could hold less weight.

What is the process involved in creating a new edition of the Big Book?

- A whole lot.
- Currently there needs to be a vote in favor of starting a study committee to research our current language and how it could effectively be changed.
- Then they need to report back.
- Then it would need to be brought up to change the words or not.
- This would go through the whole voting process again.

Will be attending:

3/28/20 9am-10pm Lancaster Hand of AA Conference

(pending possible new job Schedule)

949 Church St, Landisville, PA 17538

4/5/20 9am-4pm Pre-Conference Sharing Session

723 S 43rd St, Philadelphia, PA 19104

I have been invited to serve as a "teller" or vote counter at the sharing Session as well as sit on literature.

Please review

- **AA Service Manual AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Services**
- **District 36 Structure Manual**
 - **<http://aaharrisburg.org/Docs/district/D36%20FINAL%20Structure%20Manual%20Revised%20July%202018.pdf>**



- **Area 59 (E.P.G.S.A Newsletter) "WE" QR CODE**
- **OR <https://area59aa.org/services-resources/> (bottom right)**
- **Please keep group info updated.**
- **Please reach out to me or any officers if you have any questions regarding**

Robert's Rules of Order, the Concepts, or the Traditions.

Thank you for your service,

Katherine (Katie)

ADCM D36 A59

adcmd36a59@gmail.com

