

# AREA 63 SPRING CONFERENCE MINUTES: JUNE 02, 2007

Meeting opened by Area Chair, Perry G. How it works, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts were read by Vance, Chris S and Doug S, respectively.

DELEGATES REPORT: Estelle G, Panel 56. (Attached below)

## AREA 63 (SD) DISTRICT REPORTS

DIST 1: Sam, GSR from Lemmon SD group reported. District has been inactive for many years. Literature is a problem. They have been buying literature from Hazelton and they want to buy from GSO for pipeline of info.

DIST 2: Anne F, DCM; located in western SD, including Rapid City, east to Wall. There are 29 registered groups, with 15 active in district meetings. They had 10 votes.

DIST 3: Jodi, reported for Lloyd S, DCM; located in west-central SD. There is a meeting 30 minutes from most communities in the district. Literature recently rec'd from other Watertown.

DIST 4: Bob G, DCM; located in southeastern SD, including Yankton, Vermillion, Freeman, Tabor, Tyndall and Springfield. They have 8 registered groups, 4 active at district level and 3 votes at conference. Attendance at meetings is a problem still. Bob's home group currently taking an inventory.

DIST 5: Joan G, DCM; located in East Central SD, including Sioux Falls, Chester, Madison, Brandon, Salem and Flandreau. 22 registered groups, 13 active at district level and 8 votes present at conference. Madison group has started to actively participate at district again. Young Guns is a new group just started. District has been busy preparing for the Spring Conference. Questionnaire was mailed out to groups regarding what the district does and it has generated some interest. Bruce is chairing a committee that is preparing guidelines for the district. A new Spanish speaking meeting is coming to Sioux Falls.

DIST 6: Jess C, DCM; located in NE SD, including Aberdeen, Redfield, Webster, Milbank, Big Stone, Britton. 10-12 registered groups, 4 active at district w/ 3 votes. Hosting '08 Spring Conference. New GSR in the Dist was introduced.

DIST 7: Rod B, DCM; located in N Central SD, including Mobridge, Herries, Selfby, Hoven, Gettysburg, Pierre, Ft Thompson, Murdo, Draper and Vivian. 12 registered groups with 7 active at dist level and 2 votes present. Dist 7 is now active after several years of inactivity. They have a treatment center and SDWP meetings. Participation and unity w/ meetings outside Pierre are issues, including working with the county jails.

DIST 8: Mark S, newly elected DCM: located in E Central SD. DeSmet, Huron, Miller, Mitchell, Parkston, Wessington Springs and Woonsocket. There are approx 10 registered and active groups in the district with 3 votes at the conference. Unity is an issue in the district.

DIST 9: Leslie D, DCM: Located in Brookings, Clear Lake & Watertown with 9 registered groups, 11 active at the district level. They had 4 votes at the assembly. There is one new group at Lake Preston. Some members planning to start a hotline for meetings.

DIST 10: Brian C, DCM: Located in the southern Black Hills, including Hot Springs, Custer and Hill City. There are 7 registered groups and none active at district level. Dam's group is the only active group at district level. Big Book Thumpers meet weekly. Only active group in the dist.

DIST 11: Mike, Alt Del reported on behalf of Susan J, DCM; located in southeast region, including Beresford, Centerville, Canton, Parker, Irene, Alcester, Elk Point and surrounding towns. Currently not having any district meetings. No activity.

DIST 13: Bob M reported for Karla M, DCM; located in Northern Hills, including Belle Fourche, Buffalo, Deadwood, Lead, Spearfish, Sturgis & Whitewood. They have 9 registered groups with 9 active in the district. New group in Whitewood and welcome back to the Buffalo group! Taking meeting to Meade Co jail, New Dawn halfway house. Sturgis group planning for rally week. Dist is planning to host Fall conference.

DIST 12, 14 & 15 are not active at the Area 63 level.

## CONFERENCE REPORTS & ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

2007 Spring Conference: June 1-3, 2007, at the Oaks, Sioux Falls, SD.

2007 Summer Workshop: 9 am, Saturday Aug 25, 2007, Pierre SD \*\* Capital Visitor Center, 500 E Capital Ave.

2007 West Central Regional Forum: Sept 7-9, 2007 Omaha, NE.

2007 Fall Conference: - October 5-7, 2007, Holiday Inn, Spearfish, SD. Bob M, chairman; Committee meeting on first Thursday of each month and start-up money will be requested soon from Area 63.

2008 Winter Workshop: Pierre SD (TENTATIVE DATE =April 5-6, 2008 \*\* TENTATIVE.)

2008 West Central Regional Service Workshop: (Mar 1-2 or Mar 7-9 2008 \* location to be announced.)

2008 Spring Conference: Aberdeen SD. Jess reported as DCM. Ramada Inn, May 16-18, 2008. Rooms 4 people, \$70 rate. Working out details. Contact Jess (605-216-3037)

2008 Summer Assembly, Pierre SD (TENTATIVE DATE \*\* Aug 23, 2008 \*\* TENTATIVE.)

2008 Fall Conference: Oct 24-26, 2008, Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn, Rapid City SD. Anthony F, chairman reported 10 members on committee have met twice. Speakers are being booked.

## AREA 63 (SD) BREAK OUT SESSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC INFORMATION: Tammy F chaired with 8 members in attendance.

1. Discussed distribution of literature to public schools.
2. Discussed website including links to Alanon's web site and other group links.
3. Discussed listing personal information on website and the need to protect personal anonymity.
4. Decided to mail letter to DCMs soliciting how the PI committee can assist each district.

CPC (Cooperation with Professional Community): Todd T chaired with 5 members in attendance.

1. Discussed understanding what CPC is and what CPC is not and how to get involved in our communities.
2. Discussed how each attendee shared their CPC experience.
3. Reviewed past actions by committee.
4. Discussed update on progress of meeting with judicial professionals in the Black Hills area.

LITERATURE: Lori P chaired with 3 members in attendance.

1. Discussed recommendation to suggest that GSO include Daily Reflections in the group starter kit.
2. Solicited subscriptions to the Grapevine and notified members of price increase from \$17 to \$20/yr.

REMOTE COMMUNITIES / SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE: Jim K chaired with 6 members in attendance.

1. Discussed the Native American AA Gathering. Tried to contact person on flyer and discussed how the area might gather more information.
2. Discussed creating a contact list for committee use to include GSRs and AA members in SD.
3. Discussed contacting professionals in the Area and the CPC committee agreed to cooperate.
4. Discussed which special needs items the committee has available. Includes ASL version of the Big Book on VHS; audio cassettes of the Big Book and 12x12.
5. Discussed the budget and that they have not used the amount budgeted. Considered using budget money for literature for remote communities in the Area or for special needs members.
6. Reviewed the Remote Communities newsletter and report from the 2007 meeting in NYC.

Area 63 Minutes: Spring Conference, June 2, 2007, Sioux Falls, SD.

ARCHIVES: Darla J chaired with 2 members in attendance.

1. Reviewed pg 14 in Archive workbook – What to collect?
2. Discussed need for new location to store the archives collection. The committee was not able to review the collection in May as they are not getting access to the storage unit during weekends. The company that owns the storage unit only allows access during the week.

WEBMASTER: John E reported the following:

1. Discussed expenses for last quarter: \$29.90
2. Discussed duties of webmaster: update site with events, minutes, group listing.

REPORT & CHARTER: Chris D chaired with 4 members in attendance.

1. Reviewed the minutes from the 2007 Winter Assembly.
2. Discussed “How to Guide” and need to revise and update. This is now an issue under an Ad Hoc committee.
3. Discussed Area inventory to identify how the Area can better serve the districts and groups. A proposal will be submitted at the Summer assembly.
4. Reviewed the new FVN network..

CORRECTIONS: Dean B chaired with 10 members in attendance.

1. Discussed corrections panel discussion from morning session. Feedback was positive.
2. Discussed format for future panel discussions, pending approval of the agenda item for later in conference.
3. Discussed need to develop a list of contacts for institutions in the Area.

POLICY AGENDA: Norm chaired but no business was discussed.

FINANCE: John T chaired with 6 members in attendance.

1. Reviewed the treasurer’s report from 3/24/2007 to 6/01/2007.
2. Audited budget conference and general fund checkbooks.
3. Discussed current procedure used for compiling proposed budget and ways to improve that process.
4. Discussed preparing 2008 budget: the committee will take the past 12-mo income divided by 8 to calculate the maximum total for the 2008 budget.
5. Update: Group contributions from May 31, 2006 to May 31, 2007 totaled \$11,375, estimating that if contributions continue at same pace, the total for the year will be \$14,218.
6. Discussed desire to mail update to Area contacts after Fall election for continuity for group contributions.
7. Reviewed the budget. Group contributions are up as noted by the large number of groups listed on forms.
8. Reviewed the treasurer’s report from 3/24/2007 to 6/1/2007.

OLD BUSINESS: (2) Recommendations were voted on from the Winter Business Assembly.

1. Report & Charter made motion to change the title of the Area Secretary to Area Secretary/Registrar, consistent with the 2006 Service Manual P S42. This would permit the Sec/Registrar access to the new database at the GSO for updating group records and develop more accurate mailing lists. Motion was approved by majority with no dissenting votes noted.
2. Corrections made a motion to allow for time slot to be scheduled at the Spring & Fall Conferences for discussing corrections work. The motion failed with 17 voting in favor and 22 opposed. Minority opinion was heard to suggest an amendment to the motion to remove the specificity of creating a “corrections” workshop, instead substituting “committee” workshops, thereby allowing other committees to host workshops and not making it specific only to corrections. Discussion was heard regarding the process of the vote, and whether or not a conference can amend a recommendation following a motion failing by vote.

## DELEGATE'S REPORT:

Estelle G. - Area 63 Panel 56

Welcome to the Spring Conference! A special welcome to those of you who are entering the world of AA Service—what a trip!

What's happening in our Area? If you have not already done so, open your Grapevine to the “If these Walls could talk” section—the Lake Prior Group in Woonsocket is featured. There are a couple of new groups in our area. Welcome to: Stand-up and Shine Open 12 and 12 Study Group which meets in the Rapid City Public Library on Mondays. Bender Enders AA Group which meets at the Firehall Community Room in Lake Preston on Wednesday nights @ 7:30. Please let any of us know if we may help you as you start your new groups. It's that time of year again where I become a “world traveler.” Please let me know if you would like me to come and give my Delegates Report to your District. PS. Good food is always a plus—ha-ha.

What's happening in our Region? We are part of the West Central Region. This includes Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana and of course Area 63 South Dakota. The West Central Regional Forum to be held September 7-9 in Omaha. The following GSO staff will be in attendance: Greg M-General Manager GSO, Leonard Blumental (Class A) Board Chairman, Rick W.-Forum Coordinator (also a native SD), Gayle S.R.-GSO staff member, Chuck B.-West Central Regional Trustee, Herb Goodman (Class A) Trustee, Robin B.-Grapevine editor, Roberta L.-AAWS Director, Bob M.-Grapevine Director. As you can see there will be many opportunities to ask questions from this fine group of presenters. So what's a forum? A Forum in the short form is a gathering in which GSO staff members come to see us and share information. According to a recent decision, forums will no longer be coordinated by GSO after 2007. So please take advantage of this great opportunity. Our Region has an opportunity for a new West Central Regional Trustee position. Chuck B will be rotating in April 2008. There is one eligible candidate selected from each Area. I have the application and what the position entails with me. We will be submitting our chosen candidate after the August Summer Workshop, so please let me know if you are interested in standing for this position no later than August 1<sup>st</sup>.

What's happening at GSO? I attended the Remote Communities session in NYC before the official beginning of the General Service Conference (information given to Jim K.-Remote Communities chairperson Area 63). There has been an extension to submit stories for the proposed Native American pamphlet. The new deadline is June 30. There is an opening for a Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustee. Vincent E Keefe, General Service Board Treasurer is rotating April 2008. If you know someone that would like to serve the fellowship and has vast business and financial experience you may either contact me for information or contact Gayle Solheim Riese-secretary to the Trustees nominating committee @ GSO by JULY 31, 2007. There are some new and updated literature items available: “In our own words” a collection of stories from young people; “Inmate to Inmate” a collection of stories from those who are incarcerated. Our Area increased its Grapevine subscriptions by 21 in 2007...and there's still time to go! Remember, they make great gifts. The new PSA “Force of Nature” was (or soon will be) distributed nation wide. In South Dakota KABY-TV (Sioux Falls), KDLV (Sioux Falls), KELO-TV (Sioux Falls) and KEVN-TV (Rapid City) received a copy. Watch for it! I have copies of the Early Bird Box 459 that details the General Service Conference. The Delegate from NYC sent some Archival newsletters from the Yankton group. I will be handing those to Darla and the Archives committee. I brought back a small stack of the “Self-Support Cards.” (service piece similar to the open/closed meeting cards)

This is the time of year when your Delegate (oh yeah, me) becomes a world traveler. Please contact me and let me know if you would like me to give the Delegates Report at your District. NOTE: it worked really well last year, particularly with the price of gas, for a couple of districts to join together for a report.

Once again, thank-you to all of you for your support and enthusiasm in service to Alcoholics Anonymous. “Let it begin with me....”

Yours in fellowship, Estelle G, PO Box 1162, Aberdeen, SD 57401, (605) 216-1533, esgrote@yahoo.com