District 41 / May 2014 DCM Report

Area 60 2nd Quarterly Meeting / Post Conference Assembly

Yvette N. (Area 60 Delegate) reported back from the General Service Conference in NYC:

Bids / Events:

We (Western PA) lost the bid for NERASSA 2017 but won the big for Northeast Regional Forum, June 2-4 2017 to be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Cranberry, PA.

80th Anniversary International Convention of AA – July 2015 Atlanta GA. Registration opens September 3rd 2014.

PA State Convention 2014: August 1-3, Harrisburg, PA. Next planning committee meeting is June 14th @ noon – you can participate via Skype, talk to Jon M for details.

Quotes from the Conference:

"Autonomy does not mean we do what we want to do"

"The message hasn't changed, the means of communication has"

Finance:

1.39 million AA members; 65,000 AA Groups... 42.5% of groups donate to GSO. GSO spends \$6 per AA member per year, and \$140 per group per year, to provide services. Roughly speaking, this means that if your group is not donating \$11.67 per month to GSO, the group is NOT self-supporting, as it is receiving that much monthly in services. If every group donated this amount, all our literature would be sold at COST, with no profit made or needed. Please bring this back to your groups!

If every AA member donated 1 penny per day of sobriety, per year to GSO, it would raise \$13m / year. If you have not donated recently, please go to aa.org or talk to your group about donating to GSO. The money your group donates to our district does NOT go to GSO. If you are able to donate, please remember that there are other members who are not so fortunate, and it is our responsibility to AA to help.

This is awesome: Now available from AA.org: Regular contributions auto-pay – any AA member may make contributions for themselves or their group to the General Service Office from the aa.org website, and now you can setup auto-recurring donations.

Literature:

The big book is now available in 69 languages, with 17 more to come. To get an idea of how many that is, try to list 69 languages on a piece of paper or in your mind. Good luck with that. Navajo is the latest language, which is amazing considering Navajo is ONLY a spoken language, there is no written form. You can listen to portions of the Navajo spoken big book on YouTube. (Search AA Big Book Navajo)

New pamphlet coming soon: Many Paths to Spirituality – very modern pamphlet in final revision stage emphasizing NON-religious.

More ebooks available from aa.org, itunes, amazon, or barnes and noble: Daily Reflections now available. Also, big book + Twelve and Twelve. All e-books are \$5.99 and the proceeds go directly back to AA.

Our District and Area Votes

Motion to revise the wording on the primary purpose card to include "non-alcoholics are welcome to observe" – D41 voted "NO", Area 60 voted "NO", GSO voted "NO".

Considering changing from print AA directories to online-only version to save on costs and inaccuracies. I will be voting to support this if it comes to a direct vote.

A motion was presented to send and pay for the Area 60 literature coordinator to go to the State Convention in August. District 41 voted YES. Much was learned about how complex voting can be. Area 60 voted YES, motion carried.

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Area Officer Positions

Area 60 needs a Corrections Officer and a TF/SNA (Treatment Facilities, Special Needs and Accessibility) Officer – if you are willing to stand for either of these positions please come to the 3rd quarterly area meeting on August 17th.

Meeting List Update - Last Chance!

I am making a new version of the meeting list (last updated 2 years ago) – if anyone has changes to be made for their group, or the general information presented on the brochure, let me know ASAP.

Jon M., DCM
District 41, Johnstown