



# Name This Newsletter

## From the Chair

### Welcome to our new Area 14 newsletter

**Happy New Year everyone.** I'm thrilled to introduce the **inaugural issue of our new Area 14 newsletter**, one of several ways we're aiming to improve the flow of information among us all between assemblies.

As an additional **channel of news, updates, and other content**, the newsletter can help all of us—DCMs, GSRs, district and area service coordinators, and officers—collaborate more confidently and make more fully informed decisions.

This first issue is a work in progress. We invite you to **help make it your own** by letting us know what you think, contributing content, and sharing it with others.

For starters, we need a **name for the newsletter**. Please help us come up the perfect one—something that captures the purpose and spirit of service and collaboration. To make that fun, **there's a prize for the winning name**. (More on that below.)

I also urge each of you to join us at the upcoming **Area Assembly, January 21-23 in person or virtually**. You'll find lots of information about how to do that in these pages and at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)

Thank you for your service to the fellowship. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Lori P, [chairperson@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:chairperson@aanorthflorida.org)

## Share your news, initiatives, activities

You're invited to make the newsletter your own by contributing news, calendar items, announcements, and issues of interest to all across Area 14. You can also volunteer to serve on the ad hoc newsletter committee.

Please email your content items for consideration at least five weeks in advance of the next assembly to:

[newsletter@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:newsletter@aanorthflorida.org)

## Name this Newsletter Win a *Grapevine* subscription

Suggest one of the top three names for our newsletter, and you'll win a free one-year subscription to the *AA Grapevine*.

Submit your ideas for consideration to:  
[newsletter@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:newsletter@aanorthflorida.org)

**Deadline: February 18, 2022**

**Remember to visit the *Grapevine* Room at assembly to see what's new, including the new book, *Prayer & Meditation*.**

## The right vote is an informed vote

A good way to prepare for assembly is to review the previous meeting's minutes in advance. They're always available 30 days prior to the next assembly.

Find them on the password protected section of [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org). Ask your GSR or DCM for username/password or email: [webchair@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:webchair@aanorthflorida.org)

Tabled motions coming up include:

- Two from Finance Committee. 1) Regarding Section 15 of Structures and Guidelines. Change "overage" to "overage or shortfall;" 2) Include the Chair of the new Technology Committee in the list of those to receive two nights area assembly lodging.
- From Kevin B. To include the Area Archivist as a voting member of the assembly.

Also, see the Growth Committee session description on page 3 for another motion referred to that committee about the process for "making motions."

## AREA 14 ASSEMBLY

### In Person & Virtual

**January 21-23, 2022**

Sheraton Orlando North Hotel  
600 North Lake Destiny Road  
Maitland, FL 32751

- **Registration** Friday, 6-8 pm; Saturday, 8 am-4:15 pm; Sunday, 8-8:45 am
- **GSR Orientation** Saturday, 9:00 am
- **DCM, Officers, Service Chairs meeting** Saturday 9:00 am
- **Service Workshops and Committee Meetings** Saturday, 10:00 am; 11:15 am; 1:30 pm; 2:45 pm
- **Linguistic District** Saturday 12:15
- **GSR Workshop and DCM & Panel Members Workshop** Saturday 4:30 pm
- **Business Meeting** Sunday, 9:00 am. **Reminder:** You must be in the meeting room—physical or virtual—at 9:00 am sharp to be eligible to cast your vote.

Visit [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org) for the full agenda, virtual meeting details, first-timer tips, and more.

## Lunch with the Delegate & new GSO General Manager Saturday, January 22, 12:15 pm

Bring your lunch and join the discussion with our delegate Ruth R and special guest Bob W, general manager of the General Service Office, in person or virtually.

## Speaker Meeting, Bob W Saturday, 8:00 pm

Hear more from the GSO General Manager at Saturday's speaker meeting, in person or virtually.

# Delegate's Corner

**Hi Everyone!** How were your holidays? I hope you all had a wonderful time with friends and family, no matter what you did.

I'm so excited that we'll be seeing each other later this month, whether it's in person or online.

If you can, be sure to come by and **meet the new General Service Office General Manager Bob W during the "Lunch With The Delegate" session.**

Bring your lunch and get answers to all the questions you've ever had about what goes on at GSO in New York.

As your Area 14 Delegate, **I'll be attending the General Service Conference in New York in April.** We'll be voting on many different agenda items that week. But prior to that, I'll be traveling around our area in person--as well as having virtual sessions--presenting all those proposed agenda items to all interested parties. That

*"When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible."*  
AA's Responsibility Statement

## Why me? One member's story of service

When I first walked into the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous, it never occurred to me to ask how the meeting was opened and coffee made available, where the meeting list originated, where the literature came from.

As was suggested to me, I joined a group and attended the business meeting. There I learned that the group members opened the meeting, the meeting list came from our central office, and the literature came from AA's General Service Office.

I immediately knew I wanted to be an active member and take part in all of these activities. Since that time, I have done just that.

When I was delegate for Area 14, a non-AA friend asked me why I did this because it consumed so much of my time. I answered that it was because I loved AA, and

way, you can take those items back to your groups and find out how they'd like me to vote on each item.

Then, in April, you'll bring that vote to me at our area assembly in April. So, be sure to have your DCM **contact me about scheduling your district's Pre-Conference Agenda Items Workshop in March.** There's already several on my schedule--so be sure to reach out soon.

For all of you I've texted, emailed, or chatted with on the phone, but haven't yet had the pleasure to meet in person, please be sure to grab me over the weekend and introduce yourselves. I can't wait to meet you!

I'm looking forward to meeting with many of you at our upcoming assembly. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Ruth R, [delegate@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:delegate@aanorthflorida.org)

## Pre-Conference Agenda Items Workshops

DCMs, if you haven't yet scheduled a pre-conference workshop for your district with the delegate, please contact her soon. Availability is limited.

### Scheduled, Virtual

- Zoom, February 26, 10 am and 3:00 pm
- Zoom, February 27, 4 pm

### Scheduled, In Person

- Jacksonville, March 5, 1 pm
- Orlando, March 12, TBD
- Gainesville, March 13, 1 pm
- Daytona, April 2, 2 pm

**Locations and sign-in information will be posted on the "Activities at Area 14" page at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)**

## Your participation counts

The General Service Conference agenda is expected to arrive mid-February. The delegate and others will cull the list for items on which a vote may occur, research the background material, and develop a presentation to be made in person at districts that schedule a workshop or virtually for all others. Everyone is welcome.

The delegate relies on you to take agenda items and background to your groups, get their vote, and bring that vote to a pre-conference session at area assembly in April where an informal vote, or sense of the assembly, will be taken.

Background material will not be discussed at this meeting, but is available electronically in advance, so please familiarize yourself with it and get your groups' votes prior to assembly.

That will help our delegate go to the General Service Conference fully informed about how Area 14 would like her to vote.

I wanted my children and grandchildren to find the same program that I found if they needed it.

When my son reached out for help, there was someone who answered his phone call and told him where there was a meeting. There, he found the same program of recovery that I had found many years before.

For this, I thank all who have taken the time to be of service to AA -- whether you are a greeter at your home group or a trustee for GSO. We have all done our part in making AA available to the newcomer.

The best way to describe how I feel about service is a quote by R. Tagore, "I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy."

Corliss G, Past Delegate, NFAC

**Subscribe today. Send your request and preferred email address to [newsletter@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:newsletter@aanorthflorida.org)**

The Area 14 Newsletter will be sent only to those who have opted to receive emails from NFAC. Make sure you're on the list.

# January Workshop & Committee Session Previews

Observe. Learn. Participate. **Saturday, January 22.** Plan your schedule.

## Confirm Meeting Times

Schedules may change. Please confirm times, locations, and virtual sign-in credentials online: [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)

### Accessibilities, 10:00 am

The Accessibilities meeting will find out the answer to the last question at the October 2021 assembly: the history of our Responsibility Statement from the 1965 AA International Convention in Toronto! We will look at the Accessibilities Checklist (SMF-208 ) and possibly do some role playing.

### Ad Hoc Committee on Structures & Guidelines, 12:15 pm

### Archives, 11:15 am

Review Archives activities (Roundtable) since the last assembly, discuss what to add to the newly developed archives presentation. Also, discuss and show the new materials received from a past archivist (very exciting corrections stuff).

### Concepts Workshop, 10:00 am

Past Delegate Joyce C, presenter.

### Cooperation with Professional Community, 11:15 am

Review the CPC activities we have participated in since the last assembly. District 18 attended a health and wellness expo in Maitland in December. District 14's CPC committee planned to have a table at the entrance to Griffin stadium at the UF v FSU football game! Can't wait to hear how that went! Will ask other district CPC chairs to share their outreach efforts as well.

### Corrections, 11:15 am

A report on the National Corrections Workshop.

### DCM/Panel Workshop, 4:30 pm

Dialogue with our DCMs, ask questions, catch the bouncing ball in this lively Q&A session.

### Finance Committee, 2:45

The committee expects the following items to be addressed: Treasurer's report for year ending December 2021; Tech Committee funding request; motion regarding expenditure of funds from the prudent reserve; business from the floor as time permits

### GSR Workshop, 4:30 pm

An introduction to the responsibilities of a GSR, including serving as a communications link between Area 14 and the group, understanding the role of the Advisory Actions and Structures and Guidelines, and the process for making motions at area assembly.

### Grapevine, 1:30 pm

Our AA meeting in print magazine.

### Growth, 2:45

This committee has received a request from the chair to consider a motion brought to the floor of the October 2021 assembly to review the process by which a motion may be brought to the floor. All are welcome at this meeting. Please bring any thoughts you have regarding the consideration of this motion to help this committee make the most informed decision possible

### Intergroup, 10:00 am

It's a new year, and we are halfway through our panel's service commitments so let's discuss our goals. We will evaluate our goals for intergroups, our groups, and our personal service.

### Literature, 11:15 am

Personally defining your Higher Power. Spiritual experience, strength and hope: From the Christian focus of the Oxford Group to "The 'God' Word: Agnostic and Atheist Members in AA" pamphlet.

### Lunch with the Delegate & New GSO General Manager, 12:15 pm

See page 1 for details.

### NFAC Florida State Convention Oversight Committee, 1:30 pm

The final reports from the 64th Florida State Convention and exciting news about future Florida state conventions will be presented at this committee meeting. All are welcome to attend, especially if you're interested in participating in these events or submitting a future bid.

### Public Information, 10:00 am

The PI workshop will be on how to coordinate a PI broadcast with a radio/TV station. The service coordinator is currently working on this with WUFT in Gainesville and will make a presentation at the workshop.

### Service Manual Workshop, 1:30 pm

Past Delegate Annette D, presenter.

### Site & Agenda, 2:45

We will be updating the bid packet to consider hybrid meetings.

### Treatment, 1:15 pm

Survey of attendees who are involved with treatment meetings in their districts. Learn how to contact treatment facilities, how to interact with program directors, and arrange a skit on how and how not to represent AA with staff at the facility.

### Technology, 1:30 pm

We will discuss 2022 as it pertains to Technology Committee membership, AV and other hardware needs, budget, planning, and volunteers needed for hybrid and virtual events. Sharing sessions on lessons learned as AA's have come of age with technology in a global pandemic.

### Website, 2:45

The Website Committee will discuss how to generate new content for the area website and the newsletter. Should the area website mirror "carrying the message" like the new aa.org site does?

## Mark Your Calendar

**January 19, 26 & more, Online**  
**Weekly Wednesday Service Workshops**  
Session topics and Zoom sign-in details at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)

**February 19, Satellite Beach**  
**Working with Others Workshop**

**March 25-27, Deland**  
**Unity Under the Stars Campout**

**April 8-10, Maitland**  
**NFAC Area Assembly**  
[Hotel Reservations](#). Deadline Mar 15

**July 8-10, 2022, Maitland**  
**NFAC Area Assembly**  
[Hotel Reservations](#). Deadline Jun 15

**August 3-7, 2022, Ft. Lauderdale**  
**65<sup>th</sup> Florida State Convention**

**October 7-9, 2022, Arkansas**  
**25<sup>th</sup> National AA Archives Workshop**

**October 7-9, 2022, Maitland**  
**NFAC Area Assembly**  
[Hotel Reservations](#). Deadline Sep 24

**For the most up-to-date information on these and more visit the “Activities at Area 14” page at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)**

## Service spotlight: Corrections

As your Corrections Service Coordinator for Area 14, I recently had the privilege of attending the three-day national corrections conference in New Orleans. The following is a summary.

The conference began with brief introductions of the organizational committee. Our Friday evening featured an AA speaker named Morris from Tennessee who shared his AA story.

The Saturday morning session consisted of three panels followed by questions and answers. The panels consisted of institutional professionals, a committee of AA women volunteers, and a group of male AA volunteers.

Next, we welcomed two visitors from the General Service Office. The first was Mike L, an AA trustee (Class B) and the conference chair of corrections from Nebraska. He spoke about

electronic material placement within our jails and institutions.

Nancy M, our other visitor, is a non-alcoholic trustee (Class A) from Missouri. She spoke about our helpful AA digital meeting applications and various magazines highlighting AA prison work.

The conference concluded on Sunday with a panel discussion on the weekly international corrections call that has been ongoing for the past year and a half. AAs from the United States and Canada take part in discussing what is happening in their areas for corrections.

The next national corrections conference is scheduled for November 2022 in Chicago, Illinois.

**Nannette L, Service Coordinator,**  
[corrections@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:corrections@aanorthflorida.org)

See full report: [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)

*“This we owe to AA’s future, to place our common welfare first, to keep our fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.” AA’s Declaration of Unity*

## Inside the districts. Tell us what’s happening in yours.

Each issue of the newsletter will feature summarized reports from different Area 14 districts as space permits. You’ll find the complete reports at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org) If you’d like to see your district featured, ask your DCM to send a request to: [newsletter@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:newsletter@aanorthflorida.org)

### District 5

Centered in Tallahassee (Leon County), the district also includes Franklin, Liberty, Wakulla, Gadsden, Jefferson, Taylor, and Madison counties, making it geographically the largest district in Area 14.

The District started at least 30 years ago and currently has about 30 active groups. During the pandemic, some groups have continued to meet in person, some went online, and others met outdoors.

In 2020 and 2021, instead of a traditional gratitude dinner, the district held a Zoom event with a speaker from out of the area. District 5 and Intergroup share a website: [www.Intergroup5.org](http://www.Intergroup5.org)

### District 24

AA is alive, well and growing in Putnam County. We have 12 groups and some strong personalities.

We do not and have not had any Zoom meetings. That requires internet access and many of members don’t have it. They have cell phones (many are pre-paid) but not computers. I was told just go to McDonald’s and use their wi-fi.

PFFFT! We prefer to meet face-to-face, masks optional.

We are planning Round-ups, Founders Day, and the Gratitude Dinner in 2022. Maybe a workshop too.

We aren’t fancy. We have chili cookoffs and pot lucks. Fellowship is key here.

### District 28

Encompassing all of Citrus County, District 28 currently has about 30 groups with 100 meetings. That’s a lot of meetings!

When participation in service slowed due to the pandemic, the DCM used humor to make service fun, visited meetings to garner support and keep communication open, and stayed approachable.

The pandemic had a strong impact on meetings with most being held online or outdoors.

District 28 co-sponsors an annual Founders Day celebration and a Gratitude Dinner with Intergroups and maintains its own website: [www.aadistrict28.org](http://www.aadistrict28.org)