

# Spirit of Service



## Greetings from the Chair

Welcome to the second edition of the *Spirit of Service*, our Area 14 newsletter designed to keep you up to date and in the loop with our service happenings .

April Assembly is right around the corner. Plan now to attend either in person or virtually.

You'll find Zoom links for all virtual sessions, including workshops, the delegate's pre-conference agenda items session, and Sunday's business meeting on the area [website agenda page](#).

If you plan to attend in person and will need a hotel room, the cut-off date for [reservations](#) under the NFAC room block at the host hotel is March 15.

We've made some interesting additions for the April assembly. See the Archives and Growth Committees' work-

shop summaries on page 3 for more information. Make sure to stop by their tables in the main hallway in between workshop sessions on Saturday, and don't forget to bring a small article or memento from your district's history. You'll have to check out the workshop summaries to learn why.

Please know that the Chair's office hours are whenever you need me and the door is always open. Let me hear from you if I can assist with any question, concern, or suggestion you may have on the operation of Area 14. Our job is to work for you.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone in April. Yours in service.

**Lori P, Area 14 Chair**  
[chairperson@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:chairperson@aanorthflorida.org)

## AREA 14 ASSEMBLY

### In Person & Virtual

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

## Final Pre-conference Agenda Items Session

### In person & virtual

**Saturday, April 9, 7-10 pm**

Oscar Wilde Ballroom, in person  
 Zoom ID 864 3844 9372,  
 Password: area14 (case sensitive)  
 (See page 2 for more details)

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

## Come prepared

A good way to prepare for assembly is to review the previous meeting's minutes in advance on the password protected section of the [NFAC website](#). Ask your DCM for user ID & password or email: [webchair@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:webchair@aanorthflorida.org)

### Meeting Minutes Trivia Quiz

- ◆ Which recently published *Grapevine* book has already sold out and must be reprinted?
- ◆ A motion was tabled at the January assembly. What was that motion and who made it?
- ◆ What area service position was added to the list of eligible assembly voters?
- ◆ Why was a \$400 line item added to the 2022 budget?

Check your answers in the [January minutes](#).

Need the user ID & password? Ask your DCM or email: [webchair@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:webchair@aanorthflorida.org)

## You named it, it's yours

Congratulations to Jake K, winner of our Name the Newsletter contest and to Tia Mc and Kris P whose suggestions ranked in the top three. Each will receive a one-year's subscription to the *AA Grapevine*.

Now make our newly named *Spirit of Service* your own by contributing content or volunteering to serve on the ad hoc newsletter committee.

Email content for the next issue on or before May 27, 2022, to:

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

## Reserve your assembly hotel room by March 15

The cut-off date for reservations under the NFAC room block rate at the host hotel is March 15. Reserve now!

[Hotel Reservation Link](#)

# Delegate's Corner

**Happy Spring everyone!** I hope this finds everyone happy and healthy.

As many of you know, this is the busiest time of the year for delegates and GSRs alike. This is when we try to capture the voice and vote of the entities we all represent, in order to carry Area 14's vote to the General Service Conference.

In the time between the agenda items' posting and the General Service Conference itself, I'll have the pleasure of interacting with many of you as we meet in person and virtually at pre-conference workshops.

During these workshops, we review and discuss many of the agenda items for which I will carry your vote to the conference.

I'm filled with gratitude for the support of the Area 14 panel members and past delegates who have helped put together the presentations for the workshops.

I'm equally grateful for the active, enthusiastic, and vocal participation of my fellow alcoholics at the area, district, and group levels. Your voices are heard and they count.

The workshops were launched in late February and will continue through

our April assembly. While we encourage everyone to participate in those sessions, we also rely on those of you who do attend to take the agenda items and background material back to your groups, get their vote, and then bring your group's vote to the special pre-conference agenda item session Saturday evening at April's assembly.

At that session we'll review and discuss the most important agenda items and take an informal vote, or sense of the assembly. That way I can go to the General Service Conference fully informed as to how Area 14 would like me to vote.

So please familiarize yourself with the agenda items by getting your groups' votes. Then, of course, we need you to attend the **final agenda items session at area assembly on Saturday, April 9, 7:00 to 10:00 pm either in person or virtually** to ensure your group's vote counts toward the voice of Area 14.

Thanks again for entrusting me with this very important task. See you in April.

**Ruth R, Area 14 Delegate**  
[delegate@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:delegate@aanorthflorida.org)

## Pre-Conference Agenda Items Workshops

**Orlando**, Saturday, March 12, noon. St Stephens Church, 2140 W State Rd 434 Longwood, FL 32779

**Gainesville**, Sunday, March 13, 1-4 pm. Veteran's Memorial Park, 7400 SW 41<sup>st</sup> Place, Gainesville, FL 32608

**Brooksville**, Saturday, March 19, noon -2 pm. St Andrews Church, 2301 Deltona Blvd #3227, Springhill, FL 34606

**Palm Coast**, Saturday, April 2, 10 am-noon. Shepherd of the Coast, 101 Pine Lakes Pkwy, Palm Coast, FL 33308

**Daytona**, Saturday, April 2, 1-4 PM, Almous Club, 569 Foote Ct, Daytona Beach, FL 32214

## Background & More

[Email the Delegate](#) for information on how to access the background information.

[Agenda topic summaries](#) (PDF)

[Delegate's pre-conference presentation](#) (PDF)

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

What is a service sponsor and why would you ever need one?

Have you ever raised your hand to help set up an AA workshop? If so, you probably needed a service sponsor.

Have you ever agreed to work on a committee—to distribute AA literature at a health fair perhaps, or to take meetings to homebound members? You probably needed a service sponsor.

Maybe you became the new alternate GSR for your home group? You probably needed a service sponsor.

Regardless of what you've volunteered—or been elected—to do to serve AA, it's always wise to seek out a service sponsor.

Okay, so what is this person called a service sponsor?

A service sponsor is someone who has been involved in general service and is willing to help by sharing their experiences with you. Sometimes they may also know someone else who has held the position you've taken on before.

The experience they share is just that—their experience and how they carried it out. Service sponsors may not always have the answer you need, but they will usually know where you can find it.

Ultimately your service sponsor is there to guide you along on the new commitment you've made, and to teach you about what resources are available, where you can find them, and how best to use them.

As with working the steps, it can be especially helpful when your service spon-

sor tells you about the times when things didn't go so well for them and the lessons they took away from the experience.

Remember you may not always agree with your service sponsor; you should be able to listen to what they offer and make your own informed decision.

Something I was taught by my service sponsor a while ago has stayed with me to this day: Use the "conference approved literature" that we have available to us and speak from it. Remove your hands and let God work through the group conscience. Allow yourself the minority opinion when it's appropriate, and then support the vote regardless of how it passed.

Vivian F, Area 14 Archivist

# April Workshops & Committee Sessions Previews

Observe, Learn, Participate

Saturday, April 9

Plan your schedule now

Please confirm times and Zoom sign in information online: [aanorthflorida.org](http://aanorthflorida.org)

## Accessibilities, 10:00 am

Discuss General Service Conference agenda items. Review areas in the US and Canada's Accessibilities Tool Kits.. Review the Area 14 pamphlet regarding accessibilities. [Click to view.](#)

## Archives, 10:00 am

In this workshop, we will discuss new items in the display and a new media for showing the archives. Visit the Archives Committee table in the main hallway and bring a piece of your district's archival history.

## Concepts Workshop, 10:00 am

## Cooperation with Professional Community, 11:15 am

Two new district CPC chairpersons have joined since last assembly. District CPC chairs will share any outreach efforts undertaken recently. More information will be provided on our upcoming Behavioral Health Conference to be held this summer in Orlando.

## Corrections, 11:15 am

This workshop will review the Bridging the Gap initiatives out of Jacksonville intergroup. There will be a panel discussion. We will also review the corrections GSC agenda items. Our GSRs need to be informed advocates in relaying information back to our groups.

## DCM/Panel Workshop, 4:30 pm

"I'm thinking about standing for a role further down the triangle. What next?" Discuss with other DCMs and panel members before it's time to stand in July. Submitting a service resume

## Finance Committee, 2:45 pm

We expect to focus on the 2023 budget.

## 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

We will touch on some of the General Service Conference agenda items and review other Grapevine information.

## Growth, 2:45 pm

Explore ways to bring a more informed group conscience regarding business meeting motions. Review edits and additions that could enhance motion forms and the motions section of the website. Please visit the *Motion Station* table on Saturday to give feedback.

## Intergroup, 11:15 am

A sharing session on Service Manual Appendix S regarding General Service and Intergroups focusing on communication and cooperation between the two entities.

## Linguistic District, 12:30 pm

**Literature, 10:00 am & 1:30 pm**  
Learn how AA literature gets published, how to find how many times a book or pamphlet was revised, how many published editions, how to find answers in the literature to your questions, discuss A.A.'s newest and oldest publication. Discover all the free literature available.

## Lunch with the Delegate, 12:30 pm

Bring your lunch and any questions you have regarding agenda items or background information for the upcoming General Service Conference.

## Newsletter, 12:30 pm

Bring your ideas for content and improvements to the new newsletter. We'll also share tips and tactics for creating and publishing a digital newsletter.

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

Hear about two bid packages for the 67th Florida State Convention, one each from North and South Florida. Reports may be heard from the 65th and 66<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome, especially if interested in a service opportunity at convention.

## Final Pre-conference Agenda Items Workshop, 7:00 pm

Last chance to discuss and represent your group's vote on agenda items.

## Public Information, 10:00 am

A report from a PI podcast in which our service coordinator has been asked to participate.

## Service Manual, 1:30 pm

## Site & Agenda, 2:45 pm

What does the Assembly look like for 2025-26? Bring your ideas about a hybrid assembly with a smaller in-person footprint. With recent past experience, we can help shape future assemblies.

## Structures & Guidelines, 12:30

## Technology, 11:15 am

AA's 7th Tradition reminds us, "Every group ought to be fully self-supporting." Our members are looking for digital options. We'll discuss best practices for digital contributions and share lessons learned as AA's continue to come of age with technology. Please feel free to invite your group or district treasurer or tech team to attend.

## Treatment, 1:30 pm

We'll cover Issues and concerns, fill in Area 14 treatment programs on North Florida map, and discuss Bridging the Gap: what's working; what's not working

## Website, 2:45

We will discuss how to generate new content for the area website.

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.

## Area 14 Events Mark Your Calendar

**March 19, Flagler (D22)**

[All About Service Workshop](#)

**March 25-27, Deland**

[Unity Under the Stars Campout](#)

**March 26, St. Augustine (D6)**

[Sponsorship Workshop](#)

**April 8-10, Maitland**

Area 14 Assembly

[Hotel Reservations](#). Deadline Mar 15

**May 14, Merritt Island (D15)**

[Fish Fry. Food, Fun, Fellowship.](#)

## Celebrate Service with Area 14 Online Every Wednesday 6:00 PM EST

- ◆ **March 16** The Committee System
- ◆ **March 23** Overview - 12 Concepts for World Service
- ◆ **March 30** Prep for Area Assembly

Zoom Meeting ID 828 5682 4762 Use  
Zoom passcode: service

More at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org)

## Service Spotlight Cooperation with the Professional Community

CPC stands for Cooperation with the Professional Community. We actively seek to make contact with members of the professional community to increase their knowledge and understanding of who and where we are and what we can do for those suffering from alcohol abuse.

### Who is the "Professional Community"?

Social workers, probation or parole officers, school counselors, teachers, judges, doctors, nurses, and others who may come across individuals who are sick and suffering from alcohol abuse and who might benefit from interaction with the AA program.

When such an occasion presents itself, we want the professional to know that AA stands ready to help any alcoholic who is willing to consider the solution that we offer.

### How can you get started in CPC work?

An example of CPC service happened in August 2021 at the Florida Behavioral Health Conference (FBHC) in Orlando. CPC staffed a table among some 100 other exhibitors at the event.

The conference drew more than 1,100 leaders, educators, and innovators in their field and provided our AA volunteers an excellent opportunity to carry our message to hundreds of behavioral and mental health professionals!

The FBHC will be held again in Orlando this summer. CPC will reserve a table and ask for AA volunteers to join us.

There are many other local opportunities for CPC service as well. Sound like some volunteer work you might like to do? Contact us!

Tom S, Area 14 CPC Service Coordinator  
[cpc@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:cpc@aanorthflorida.org)

*"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

## The District Insider What's happening in yours?

The following are excerpts. Complete reports at [www.aanorthflorida.org](http://www.aanorthflorida.org). Want your district featured? Contact: [newsletter@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:newsletter@aanorthflorida.org)

### District 7 Sumter & Lake County

Meetings in our District have really grown with the increasing development in The Villages.

Since the pandemic, we have about four GSRs coming to the district business meeting. We will be starting in-person hybrid meetings this month, March.

A new idea may help to increase participation: have everyone at our meeting put their name in a hat for two or three meetings and then draw for a winner, and have district pay for their room at the Area Assembly. What do you think?

We have three events planned—a service fair in April, Unity Picnic with Central Office in May, and gratitude dinner in November. All will help bring people together.

[Click to read the complete report.](#)

### District 12 Melbourne

We have an awesome district! We meet on the first Wednesday of each month. Usually at least 25 people attend out of the 33 groups, up from attendance during the pandemic.

We are planning a service fair with Districts 23 and 15 in September. We also have a workshop coming up on how to chair a meeting and chairing etiquette.

Recently we held "Donuts with the Delegate" with Districts 15 and 23, and about 50 people participated. It was a great unity experience.

We also work with intergroup to keep communication open with members.

[Click to read the complete report.](#)

### District 30 S. Jax & Mandarin

In June 2021, we resumed in-person hybrid business meetings and have had good attendance. The district plans to continue hybrid business meetings at least for the remainder of this panel.

A panoramic camera picks up participants on the screen at once and a small microphone provides good audio

District 30 resumed its traditional annual picnic at waterfront Mandarin Park on Memorial Day 2021 with about 100 people attending. Planning for the 2022 picnic has begun!

Recent workshops focused on group inventory and Roberts Rules of Order. A GSR workshop with District 6 is upcoming. We're trying to get people engaged in service, and these activities are helping.

[Click to read the complete report.](#)