



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
NORTHERN AREA

April 12, 1977

See Report 2nd

MINUTES OF SECOND QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN FLORIDA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, HELD THE WEEK-END OF APRIL 2-3, 1977 AT RAMADA INN CONVENTION CENTER, 3810 N.W. BLICHTON ROAD, OCALA, FLORIDA.

Present were all Area Committee officers or alternates. absent were Ralph P. D.C.M. # 2 and Chairman John V. (illness)

PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

Saturday, April 2, 1977 1:00 P.M.--Area Institutional Committee Meeting in Belmont and Preakness room. (minutes enclosed)

Saturday, April 2, 1977 2:30 P.M.--Area Public Information Committee Meeting in Belmont and Preakness room. (minutes enclosed)

Saturday, April 2, 1977 4:00 P.M. G.S.R. sharing session in Belmont and Preakness room. (minutes enclosed)

Saturday, April 2, 1977 4:00 P.M.--Area Committee meeting in Stallion Room. The meeting was opened by Alt. Chairman David G., asking for a moment of silent meditation to be followed by joining in The Serenity Prayer. The Roll Call was taken by Rhoda Mc., Secretary. Present were all Committee Members, D.C.M.s or Alternates. Absent, Ralph P. D.C.M. #2. Treasurer, Elise D. presented her quarterly report for approval of Committee. Motion made, seconded and voted to accept her report. Buck R. was asked to explain the importance of each Group contributing to financially supporting the North Florida Area, asking the D.C.M.s to take the responsibility of contacting each Group in his or her District to contribute some amount, even a \$ would help. Be represented and belong in our purpose of carrying the Message. Porter B., P.I. Chairman, gave a report on activities of the past quarter of the P.I. Committee in Districts in The North Florida Area. He asked for financial assistance in preparing tapes for future presentation and for Delegate Barbara S-N. to take to New York with her. This was discussed and voted to have him present the bills to the committee, if approved, Elise would pay the bills as the money becomes available. \$140.00 was the estimated amount. Institutional Committee Chairman, Owen Mc. gave a short report of the 1:00 P.M. meeting. He asked for the approval to pay \$260.00 for recently purchased Big Books and literature for Institutions. This was discussed and asked to estimate total expenses on an annual basis. The committee approved paying the bill as funds became available. At present, special contributions for Institutional work amount to \$160.00. Lou M. Alt. Delegate, called attention to the ever increasing cost to all member that attend the Area Assemblies. It was agreed by voting, to eliminate the Saturday Night Banquets. A Skeaker from the Area be contacted to speak at the Open Saturday Night Meeting. Try to Keep it Simple, and as inexpensive as possible. David G. has literature and information for an interested member to become a Grape vine Representative. Barbara will leave April 16 for the G.S.O. Conference in N.Y. She will try to have a report of the Conference at the next Assembly. The tentative date, June 11-12 in Tallassee. The basket was passed and the meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

(continued on other side)

Saturday, April 2, 1977--7:00 P.M. After a well attended banquet held in the Belmont Preakness room, Mary B. shared her experiences, strength and hope with us. She had a standing ovation. The basket was passed and the meeting brought to a close by joining in The Lord's Prayer.

Sunday, April 3, 1977 10:00 --Three Mini-work shops in Belmont & Preakness, Derby and Stallion rooms were all well attended. Topics: Rotation throughout the Fellowship ;Application of the Warranties of the Conference Charter in Area and in Groups; The A.A. Group. Opinions and minutes of these work-shops to be sent to Barbara or Rhoda.

MAIN ASSEMBLY MEETING Sunday, April 3, 1977--1:30 P.M. David G. Alt. Chairman, asked for a moment of silence to be followed by joining in The Serenity Prayer. Rhoda was asked to take a Roll Call. She asked, in essence of time to please hold all applause until each Committee Member, D.C.M.s, G.S.R.s or Alternates stood and were recognized. All present and accounted for. Also, as a time saver, she gave a very brief condensed report of the minutes from the Assembly in Orlando, January 15-16. She had mailed copies to each D.C.M. & G.S.R. or those with correct mailing addresses. Ask your D.C.M. to check and be sure your Group and G.S.R with a correct mailing address be registered with the Area Secretary, Rhoda. Elise D. gave a Treasurer's report. The current balance as of April 1--\$1,549.69. The balance of the Delegate's yearly expenses to given to at this Assembly, also the expenses of this Assembly to be paid. She explained the importance of sending in contributions from each Group. We must keep the North Florida Area self supporting through contributions and attendance. In making contributions--make check to North Florida Committee A.A. and send to Elise. She will strive to pay the bills presented to her from the Committee's approval, and as the money becomes available. Porter B. P.I. Chairman, played two 30 second tapes, as a sample of the work the P.I. Committee is doing to provide radio stations with this material for their Public Service spots. These will be available to Chairmen of District P.I. Committees. Owen Mc. Institutional Chairman, gave a short report of the progress of the Committee, the amount of literature and Big Books, 12 & 12 being purchased for our 'inside' members. The forming of one New Group, Nu-Life Group-D #16. There was also a G.S.R. present at this Assembly. David has literature and material for a Grape vine Representative in this Area. At the next Assembly, that will be open for nominations. Barbara will leave April 16 for the annual Service Conference in N.Y. She hopes to be able to have her report at our next Assembly, June 11-12 in Tallahassee. Trying to get the Group feelings in this North Area, she presented different 1-Are we declining in 12 step work and Sponsorship, leaving this to De-TOX and Treatment Centers; 2-Are we letting the South East Conference Die by not attending. As of now, there are no bids for 1978; 3-The importance of Rotation in the Service Structure; 4-Co-operation and commuciation of all levels of Service; 5-How the Conference Charter applies to and how the Groups use the Warranties; 6-Do the Groups approve of selling Non A.A. approved literature along with A.A. approved list. These topics were very well discussed, with pros and cons from attending D.C.M. & G.S.R.s, giving the feelings of their Groups. Barbara will be a well informed Delegate. David conveyed our thanks to Merrill T. and Districts 7 & 13 for the well planned and organized Assembly. The basket was passed and Assembly closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Sincerely

Rhoda

Rhoda McA [redacted], Secretary



Sanford, Florida 32771 -- Mailing Address

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE

NORTHERN AREA

March 1, 1977

TO: District Committeemen (DCM's), North Florida State General Service Conference

COPIES TO: Members of the North Florida State Committee

FROM: Elise D [redacted], Treasurer

This is an "interim" report to let you know how contributions have been coming in. Two contributions were made during the last General Assembly; all others have been received since then (i.e., all contributions received January through February). A detailed report, including the current listings, will be prepared the first of April for distribution at the General Assembly in Ocala).

DISTRICT	GROUP	"A"	"B"
I	ARLINGTON	\$ 25	\$ 5
	BETTER DAYS	20	
	CENTRAL	10	5
	LIFE LINE	10	
	DIST.I-GSR'S	40	10
III	WESTSIDE	50	10
IV	TUES.NITE		
	FERNANDINA		5
	MURRAY HILL	15	
V	W.THORPE ST.	25	
VII	MT.DORA TRIANGLE	25	5
VIII	DAYTONA HIGHLANDS	20	5
	ORMOND BEACH	50	10
IX	APOPKA	12	3
	OSCEOLA CENTRAL		5
X	ALTAMONTE SPRINGS	20	
	ATLANTIC DRY DOCK	20	
	FAIRBANKS	15	
	SANFORD	10	
	SANFORD WOMEN	5	
XI	AZALEA PARK	10	
	GOOD SHEPHERD/ BIG BOOK	20	
	EAU GALLIE	20	5
XII	SOUTH BREVARD		
	NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMITTEE	3	
	OCALA	20	
XIII	SPRING HILL	10	
	SERENITY	10	5
XVI			
TOTALS		\$ 480	\$ 73

"A" - Contributions for "Delegate" and/or General Service Conference Area (No.Fla.Com.)

"B" - Contributions earmarked for Institutions Committee

Some groups have indicated their contributions are to be sent in quarterly; others make an annual contribution.

Thank you.

Elise R. D [redacted]

Elise R. D [redacted]
Treasurer

Checks covering contributions should be made out to "North Florida Committee, AA" and mailed to Treasurer.

Elise R. D [redacted]
[redacted]
Sanford, Florida 32771
Phone: 1 (305) [redacted]



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE

NORTHERN AREA

INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING, APRIL 2 - 3, 1977

2nd
Inst 4/77

Approximately forty persons attended the Institution Committee meeting held April 2nd.. Meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer, Preamble, How It Works, and Thought For Today. Alice N [redacted] and John G [redacted] were Co-Chairmen.

Groups needing AA books and literature were discussed. Books and literature will be ordered this month for those groups having orders in. Ken S [redacted], GSR for the Nu-Life Group at Florida State Prison, presented a suggestion from his group that the Department of Offender Rehabilitation hire a full-time AA Coordinator for all prison groups in Florida. The duties of this suggested full-time AA Coordinator would include getting the prison groups involved in the Recovery Program of AA, as well as allowing the groups to get more involved with "outside" AA groups through more trips by institutional groups. Committee members agreed that few prison groups are involved with the Recovery Program, and that they should become more involved with outside AA. At the same time, the committee members brought out that the Institutional Committee cannot recommend to DOR what they should or should not do without violating AA Traditions. The suggestion by Ken on behalf of his group was therefore not acted upon, but the suggestion was made to him that his group is free to write to GSO in New York for their thoughts on this.

Meeting was opened for discussion of problems. Bill said that AA carries the message to prisoners and officials; we cannot change rules in institutions. He said we carry a message to sick alcoholics, and when they come out of prison they must take it from there. Bob K. said they badly need outside AA people to help carry the message at the Lake Butler Reception and Medical Center. Brad brought out race problems in institutions; committee members indicated clearly they consider this a "cop out" sometimes used by groups or individuals, and that alcoholism certainly does not recognize race.

Owen McR [redacted] led a discussion on what the North Florida Institutional committee is doing right and the things we may be doing wrong. The discussion brought out that groups have been slow in electing GSR'S who could attend quarterly assembly meetings, and that this committee may need to assist prison groups in understanding the service structure of A.A. The suggestion was made that the committee should have suggested guidelines for District Institutional Chairman and outside sponsors; some members of the committee will work on this and hopefully have these guidelines available before the next quarterly assembly meeting. The suggestion was made that we should find a better way for A.A. members getting out of prison to immediately contact outside A.A.; This will be given some thought by committee members and will be brought up again at the next quarterly assembly meeting.

It was the "sense of the meeting" that this institutional meeting was well worthwhile. Basket was passed, and meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

Sincerely in AA,
Marge and Owen
Marge & Owen McR [redacted]



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE

NORTHERN AREA

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE MINUTES --AREA ASSEMBLY, APRIL 2-3, 1977

The P.I. workshop, held in Belmont room at 2:30 P.M. was opened by Chairman, Porter B. He asked all to join in the Serenity Prayer. He then gave a synopsis of what the P.I. Committee is all about. How to start one-- select alcoholics with preferably two years sobriety. A Chairman from each District could be appointed by the D.C.M. out of G.S.R. District meeting. The Chairman of the P.I. of that District then appoints qualified members from each Group in that District. Meetings should be held at least once a month to discuss and line up Newspaper, Radio, TV, schools and Civic Groups for coverage. Porter also pointed out recent activities of Districts 12 & 15 in his area of Brevard County. Such as Daily Newspaper coverage in Date Book section--giving time and place of meetings and phone contact in Brevard County. We have just completed (wallet size) directory listing all meeting in County--'When and Where.' A Question and Answer period -- Doyle W D #5, gave a report of his District as they have become very active with Newspaper articles, Open A.A. Meetings, inviting any one interested in the disease of Alcoholism to attend, also with a viewing of Father M.'s #2 Chalk Talk--Guide Lines. Luke P. Representative from the Central Florida Intergroup in Orlando, reported on their activities--such as their movie Library for showing at schools, civic groups, churches and etc. How they work with Newspaper, T.V. and Radio. How they to be more active by the P.I. Intergroup Committee working more closely with the District P.I. Chairman and Committee. Porter then made another plea to all D.C.M.s and G.S.R.s to form a P.I. Committee and be more active in the existing ones. This is one way to 'Carry the Message.' The meeting was closed by joining in The Lord's Prayer. After the meeting, a short sharing session was had by those interested becoming a Chairman and discussion with the existing Chairmen. The response and enthusiasm at the Workshop was very good! Please keep it up.

Porter

Porter B. [REDACTED] Area P.I. Chairman

Cocoa Beach, Fla. 32931

305- [REDACTED] (home)
305- [REDACTED] (business)



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
NORTHERN AREA

2nd
Workshop 4/77

MINUTES OF THE AA GROUP WORKSHOP, NORTHERN FLORIDA ASSEMBLY, APRIL 3
1977, RAMADA INN, OCALA, FLORIDA

The working session was called to order by the Chairman, Doris C., of Leesburg and began with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity prayer.

The Chair man stated that she would like to hear thoughts on group problems often received at the General Services Office, and asked that we discuss the points listed one by one. The results of this discussion were:

1. Does the attached sheet cover the idea of an AA group? The general concensus was "yes".
2. Are non alcoholic members of your community welcome to attend open AA meetings? One opinion was that only Alanon members or members of the alcoholic's immediate family should be guests at an open meeting. After much discussion the general feeling was that open meetings be open to all interested persons. Some feared loss of anonimity, but it was pointed out that no member is obliged to speak out at open meetings nor to give his name as an alcoholic.
3. What are an AA member's responsibilities to the group? Not much discussion, and the general opinion was "anything asked of him for the good of the group".

Results of discussion of the points listed on the workshop sheet:

- a. An AA member holding office in more than one AA group: the majority of members felt that members should hold secretary, treasurer, or GSR positions only in one group, but being active in other groups should be encouraged.
- b. How do you handle a disruptive person, drunk or sober, at an AA meeting? It was felt that each case should be treated on an individual basis.
- c. How do you sponsor AA members who have found their sobriety at a treatment center? Follow traditions; in general, try to meet the new-comer "where he's at"; these people do start as new members with some knowledge of the AA program.

d. What do you do about AA members who use the podium to discuss problems other than alcohol at an open or closed meeting? The Chairman should be responsible in handling of individual cases - it was suggested that pertinent literature be recommended to members with other problems.

e. How do AA groups in your area feel about showing films on alcoholism and having non-AA's speak at AA meetings? We were generally in favor of films if edited or AA approved. Non-AA speakers good if beneficial to AA, depending on individuals, such as doctors, priests or ministers.

f. If an AA group officer has a slip, what does the Group do? What about a group officer who is taking mood changers? Each case should be handled according to situations and available solutions. In any case, he should be immediately replaced.

g. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the way AA groups are formed in the US and Canada - for example:

one group holding several meetings per week.

one group - one meeting.

"Squad" system.

After general discussion, the majority felt "if it works don't fix it"!!

h. Is the proliferation of groups endangering the strength, continuity and mutual concern that characterized earlier AA groups? No. We are constantly learning by growth, exchange of ideas and by trial and error. In the words of Charlie W. "Proliferation is growth".

i. Do you know of any specific reason why there are so many new AA groups? Due to the growth in members and forming of new groups to preserve the "personal touch" and "gut level" discussions at meetings. AA goes on!!!!

The workshop session ended with the Lord's prayer.

Kay III