



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE

NORTHERN AREA

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, HELD OCTOBER 1-2, 1977, AT CROSSWAY INN, 3901 NORTH ATLANTIC AVENUE, COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA.

PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1977--1:00 P.M.--Area Institutional Committee in Terrace Room. (Minutes enclosed)

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1977--2:00 P.M.--Area Public Information Committee in Terrace Room. (Minutes enclosed)

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1977--4:00 P.M.--G.S.R. sharing session in the Terrace Room.

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1977--4:00 P.M.--Committee meeting in Hospitality Room. The meeting was opened by Chairman, John V. asking for a moment of silence followed with the Serenity Prayer. Roll call was taken by Rhoda Mc., Secretary. Present were all Committee Members or Alternates. Absent were; Ralph P. DCM#2, Ralph S. DCM#5, Mary S. DCM#7, Richard St.J. DCM#16.

Reading of the minutes was omitted in the essence of time.

Treasurer Elise D., presented her report for quarter ending Sept. 30. Our current bank balance is \$451.10. The Committee voted to approve the report as given.

John V. asked for suggestions on ways to improve our finances. We are not doing too well in paying our own way. Several ideas were presented and discussed. It was voted to continue as we have been, passing the basket at our Assemblies and relying on group contributions. He had Barbara read a letter from the Florida State Convention Committee. The Convention had netted far above their expectations and would like to contribute \$500:00 to the North Florida Area for their wonderful assistance in making the Convention such a success. The Committee asked Barbara to write and thank South Florida. It was voted to put this check in a special savings account as a prudent reserve fund.

Porter B., P.I. Chairman, read a letter from Public Information at General Service. This presents a challenge to North Florida to educate the Medical Profession of 'What is A.A.?'. There was much discussion of whether we should try this and by what feasible methods. It was agreed to form an ad hoc committee. Porter will contact persons that, in his opinion, as chairman, are qualified to undertake such a tremendous task. They will meet and work on plans to set up appointments with various Doctor and Hospital Organizations. We hope to have a concrete plan for Barbara, Delegate, to present to the Committee when she goes to New York, April, 1978.

Barbara explained how important it is to notify Rhoda of correct addresses and changes in the GSR's and DCM's. Send her the name of the retiring member and the new member. Also send this information to the General Service Office in New York.

Owen Mc, Institutional Chairman, gave a brief report of their meeting and would like a clarification of 'who is responsible for hospital contacts?' It was voted to table this for further investigation and discuss it at our January Assembly.

(continued on back)

The basket was then passed and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1977--5:00 P.M.--The Grapevine Representatives, led by Alternate, Newt B. met in Room 137.

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1977--8:30 P.M.--At an open meeting, Gladys A. of Titusville and Jim W. of Cocoa, told us 'what it was like, what happened and what it's like now. Thanks for sharing your experiences, strength and hope with us. The basket was passed and we joined in the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday, Oct. 2, 1977--10:00 A.M.--The Conference approved film, 'Circles of Love and Service', a filmstrip, using photos, sketches, and graphics to show how the parts of A.A. fit and work together, from home group and area assemblies to General Service Conference and Board, was shown to the General Assembly.

MAIN ASSEMBLY MEETING

Sunday, Oct. 2, 1977--10:30 A.M.--John V. opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed with the Serenity Prayer.

Rhoda was asked to take the roll call. Absent were, Ralph S. DCM #5; Mary S. DCM #7, who resigned. No new one elected; Richard St. J. DCM #16, who resigned. New DCM, Jim B.; Ralph P. DCM #2, who resigned. New DCM, Steve H.; Present but resigning were, Al M. DCM#3. New DCM, Del E.; Evelyn D. DCM# 15. No new DCM elected. Minutes of the third quarter were read by Rhoda. It was voted to accept these as read.

Elise D. gave a brief report. Our current bank balance as of Oct. 1, is \$451:10. Each member had a copy of the break down of income and expense for the preceding quarter. Any groups that have not contributed to North Florida Area A.A., please send to her.

Owen Mc., Institutional Chairman, presented an interesting report to the General Assembly. (detailed minutes enclosed)

Porter B. Public Information Chairman, reported their progress (also detailed minutes enclosed)

John V. read a letter from Public Information of General Services. This is a tremendous challenge to the North Florida Area. To quote a portion of the letter; "Contacting our local medical society for area list of Doctors and Psychiatrists who might treat Alcoholics in the course of their practice"--"Although Doctors are in a unique position to identify the alcoholic and refer him to A.A., too many of them have no accurate image of A.A." It was voted by the committee to have Porter, P.I. Chairman, form a committee of members of the North Florida Area. They will meet and try to come up with a feasible working plan to be presented at our next Assembly. If you have ideas, mail them to Porter.

John V. reminded us, we are self supporting-however-of 169 groups registered in North Florida A.A., only 100 have contributed to the area. It was brought out, perhaps a registration fee for the Assembly. This idea was discarded and the basket will continue to be passed. The State Convention Committee had a surplus from the 1977 Convention. They would like to share with North Florida and sent a check for \$500:00. It was voted to invest this in a savings account as a 'prudent reserve'.

Barbara has distributed yellow print out sheets for new groups. Send this, completely filled out-preferably printed or typed - to General Service Office in New York. Also send this information to Rhoda, for correct listing and mailing in the North Florida Area. Give the name of the old DCM or GSR, and complete name and mailing address of the new.

Barbara displayed several new and some updated pamphlets that are available from General Service. When ordering or contacting G.S.O. always use your group number. Check the World Directory to see if the number you have agrees with it.

Barbara had mailed questionnaires to all GSR'S and DCM'S. This is for the 1978 World Directory. She will take the consensus of the North Florida Area A.A. to New York in April, 1978. At this time it will be reviewed and discussed by all Delegates and Committees. This is a very condensed version of questions and answers from this area;

- (1) List only Central Offices instead of groups-----No
- (2) GSR workshop on record keeping-----No
- (3) Delete groups not heard from in two years-----Yes
- (4) Sent printo out to GSR instead of Delegate-----No

- (1) List meeting places only-----No
- (2) Directories by States-alphabetically instead
of Regions-----Yes
- (3) List local entities within States if requested---mixed
- (4) One directory instead od two-----Yes
- (5) Toll fre (800) number and no directory-----No

- (1) First name only and phone number-----No
First name and number with the Groug address (alternate suggest-
ion
- (2) GSO retain the GSR mailing address & handle intra-
Fellowship mailings at cost-----Yes

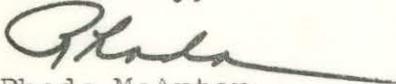
Districts 1-2-3-4 will host our next Assembly, to be held at Jacksonville. The time and place to be determined.

John thanked Districts 12 and 15 for the work and effort put into our well organized Assembly. Elise will thank Crossway Inn for their efforts and co-operation.

The basket had been passed prior to the coffee break. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Keep coming back. It really works.

Sincerely,



Rhoda McArtor



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
 NORTHERN AREA
 September 30, 1977

Reply to: E. Dean
 108 Mayfair Circle
 Sanford, Florida
 32771//Phone:305/323-0383

REPORT OF TREASURER

TO: Committee Members and General Service Representatives, North Florida General Service Conference Area - 4th Quarterly Assembly, Cocoa Beach, Oct. 1-2, 1977

RECEIPTS FROM GROUPS 7JUN-30SEPT				MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS		TOTAL RECEIPTS	EXPENSES
DIST.	GROUP	GEN.	INST.	8JUNE-30SEPT	\$213.01	\$ 642.01	\$ 795.23
I	Central (3)	\$ 15		2APR- 7JUNE	956.41	1538.57*	2483.94*
	Lakewood San Juan	10	\$ 1	1JAN-31MARCH	1483.37	2727.37	1708.02
	Lifeline	25		Total Misc.	\$2652.79	\$4907.95	4987.19
	Today	20	5	EXPENDITURES			
	Triangle, JAX Bch	15		P.I. Committee	\$180.00	<u>\$795.23</u>	
III	Orange Park	15	5	Film Exp.	110.00	RECEIPTS	
IV	Riverside	10		Lit. AAWS	70.00	Total Group: \$429.00	
V	Southside	25		Inst. Committee	\$ 35.50	Misc. 213.01	
	Wayward	5		Com.Exp.	19.50	Collections at meetings & workshops at Assembly	
	W.Thorpe St. Grateful Group	25		Lit. AAWS	16.00	Total \$642.01	
VI	Keystone	25		Assembly-T'hassee	\$260.29	Balance for Period:	
VII	12&12, Tavares	10		Hotel	153.51	- \$795.23	
VIII	Orange City			Supplies	88.32	642.01	
	Grateful Group	20		T.Camera	18.46	-\$153.22	
	Port Orange	32		No.Fla. Committee	\$319.44		
IX	Apopka	15		AAManuals	15.00		
X	Fairbanks	15		Other Lit.	11.81		
	Longwood	5		Postage,			
	So. Seminole	15		Mailings,			
XI	Magnolia	10		all other			
XII	Canova Beach	10		Com.Exp.	292.63		
	Melbourne Beach	25	5	BALANCES			
	Serenity	20	5	PERIOD			
	Women of Triang.	5		31 Dec.	\$ 530.34	CUMULATIVE BALANCES	
XIII	Dunellon	5		1JAN-31MAR	1019.35	\$ 530.34	
XV	The Beach	15		1APR-7JUNE	- 945.37	1549.69	
XVI	Unity	5		8JUNE-30SEPT	- 153.22	604.32*	
	Bradford	11				451.10	
				BANK STATEMENT 30 SEPTEMBER		451.10	

June 7-Sept. 30....	\$408	\$21
2APR-1JUN.....	497.16	85
1JAN-31MAR.....	1084.00	160
TOTAL TO DATE.....	\$ 1989.16	\$266

44 am
 1989.60

* Corrections made in figures presented at Tallahassee

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
Elise Dean
 Elise R. Dean
 Treasurer, COMMITTEE

William H [REDACTED], outside sponsor of the "Right Way Group" at Lake City CCC, reported that he has a "good, growing group".

Jack P [REDACTED], I-3SR of the University City Group at the Gainesville Road Prison, said that his group is getting fairly good outside support from AA people. He said his group would like to receive newsletters from other AA groups.

Owen McR [REDACTED] suggested that DIC's could correspond with and visit their groups on a regular basis. He suggested that DIC's could encourage their group inside and outside sponsors, and I-3SR's, to attend quarterly institutional meetings. He also suggested that the status of hospital groups should be clarified. Should the North Florida General Service Conference establish a hospitals institutions committee, or should hospitals be left to Intergroups? He said he would take this to the other officers of the State Committee.

John Van P [REDACTED], Chairman of the North Florida General Service Conference, brought out that Ralph C [REDACTED], secretary of the Hope Group at UCI until his recent death, had a suggestion in the Hope's "Communicate" to the effect that released prisoner AA members should have someone in outside AA meet them immediately upon their release from prison. Owen McR [REDACTED] said that maybe we need to emphasize more to outside sponsors the necessity of working closely with inside sponsors so that the outside sponsors know when a person is being released. The outside sponsor could then consult the AA Directory and get the newly-released prisoner in immediate touch with outside AA people and groups, hopefully even some AA person to meet him at the bus station.

Basket was passed, and meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

At the Assembly on Sunday, Owen McR [REDACTED] gave a brief summary of institutional committee activities. He said that correctional facility groups need more outside AA people, especially to attend and provide guidance at Closed meetings. He asked outside AA people to welcome newly-released inmate AA members into their groups, because they ARE AA members and will be living in our communities. He said that statistics show that the first few hours after a prisoner is released is the critical time, because those that immediately contact AA usually stay in AA and free, while those that delay in contactation AA seldom ever contact us and often return to prison. He also suggested that some decision should be made concerning hospital institutional work, and John indicated that this would be taken up at the next quarterly Assembly.

Marge and Owen
Marge & Owen McR [REDACTED]



Oct 1977

P.D

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
NORTHERN AREA

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 1977

Porter B., Chairman, called the meeting to order with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Rhoda read the minutes of the June Assembly. These were accepted as read. A roll call of P.I. chairpersons and District Committee persons was taken.

Porter explained an easy way to make a beginning effort for a Public Information Committee in each District. At the regular scheduled District meeting, the G.S.R.'s elect a chairman, ask for volunteers of people interested and try to have other members from their groups get in this way to carry the message. Hold regular meetings, monthly, bimonthly, or what would be feasible in that particular District. General Service has Guidelines and literature that will be sent upon request. He appealed to each Committee Member to get their District involved. Send him the name and address of the elected Chairman. Don't let just two or three Districts carry all the load and responsibility.

Naomi S. read a letter from the Trustees report. To quote one paragraph, "The Committee voted to remove the words 'Spiritual or' from the item (8) under the heading, What Does A.A. not do, in the pamphlet 'A.A. in your Community'. They further authorized to reword item (1) under the same heading, using words other than 'furnish initial motivations for alcoholics to recover', because they feel that our shared experience, strength and hope is often offered as motivation for suffering alcoholics to recover."

Mary C. reported that the Jacksonville area has been very active. They are using tapes, movies of 'Circles of Love' and newspaper items. They have been asked to appear at Psychology and Criminology classes at the two Universities. Traveling to Groups at regular meetings and service or business meetings. At regular meetings, they are extremely careful, keeping in mind, the newcomer, who, perhaps is still shakey and those just trying any way to hang on to their sobriety. Keep the talks or presentations to about twenty minutes. At business meetings, they may come on a little stronger. The members of steering committees usually have longer periods of sobriety. Their P.I. Committee pick from people that they find to be dependable, willing workers and will follow Guidelines.

Doyle of D#5, (his home Group is Wayward Group of Perry) brought articles from Taco Times and Perry News Herald. The Taco Times gave him several newspapers to distribute, containing an article on "A.A. helps local people". He presented us with copies of quotes from Alcoholics Anonymous about carrying the message to employers, spouses, clergymen, doctors and the public, so they could know what A.A. is and where to find A.A. The job his committee is doing proves that no group is too small. "When showing a movie for the 'special open meeting' once a month, we announce that they are not A.A. approved, that they only illustrate the problem."

Fred would like help in D#3 to get active in P.I. work. However, in 8 months, there has been no meetings. How about it, D#8? Write and

(continued on back)

give Porter the name and address of your chairman.

Phil P. reports that D#12 meets monthly. At present, they have one sign (reflecting light letters) Hwy. 1, North Melbourne city limits, listing A.A. and the answering service number. They are working on installing the same sign at all major roads leading into the Melbourne Area. They are composing a letter to the Doctors and one to be sent to Industry. They have plans to contribute a Big Book to each school library, asking each group to donate one book. They are sending speakers to schools. These classes range from grade nine through adult education.

Dett B. says D#15 is compiling a list of available speakers from Central and North Brevard Areas to speak at schools, civic organizations, and service clubs. Individual members will ask their own Doctor for permission to lay some of our literature in their waiting room.

Luke, from the Orlando Intergroup said we do have to get more people involved. Dependable, sober and willing to work.

John V. went into details concerning the letter Bill B. had read from Public Information of General Service. It is a challenge to North Florida. This is a test flight to cover about six months. (1) family physicians usually discover the alcoholic. (2) Contact the County Medical Society. He talked to the executive medical director who feels, the material is too much for individual doctors to read. (3) Contact the Florida Academy of Family Physicians in Jacksonville. Would they endorse this? Explain in their bulletin 'what A.A. is, how it works, and where it is'. The psychiatrist agreed, it is too much to read. He recommended a special piece of literature with some facts and figures, and where local meetings are held. This will require a lot of time and leg work. Do we think we can accept this tremendous challenge? Give it all we can--100%? Is it feasible? After many Pros and Cons from DCM's and GSR's, a vote was taken. The general consensus, "WE CAN DO".

Copies of this letter will be mailed to any one that would like them. Just contact Rhoda after the meeting and leave your name, address, and how many copies needed.

The basket was passed and the meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

Don't keep the Faith--Spread it around.

Sincerely,

Porter

Porter E [REDACTED]