



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
NORTHERN AREA

MINUTES OF THE SECOND QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTH FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, MARCH 24-25, 1979, HOLIDAY INN, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA.

AGENDA, SAT., 3/24/79: 1:00 P.M. - Institutional Committee Meeting
" " - Secty-Treas. Committee Meeting
2:30 P.M. - Public Information Committee Meeting
" " - Grapevine Committee Meeting
4:00 P.M. - General Service Representative Workshop
" " - Handicap Committee Meeting
" " - Area Committee Members Meeting

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING: Opened by Chairman, Tom L., with moment of silence, followed by Serenity Prayer. Roll Call - all present, except Alternate Chmn., Alt. Delegate, DCM #9, and DCM #11.

Phyllis D., Corres.Secty., presented copies of minutes of January, 1979 Assembly, which were accepted as printed.

Elise D., Treas., presented copies of Report, and read same. Approved as read. Quarterly statements from GSO, New York, were given to all DCMs present - they are to give each group in their district copy of same.

Lou M., delegate to New York, gave up-dated report on his pending trip to the Gen'l. Serv. Conf. in New York, April 22nd thru 25th.

1. Reminded everyone that he needs questions for "Ask-It-Basket" to take with him.

2. Advised that one important topic will be the question of whether or not dual-addicted groups (i.e.-alcohol and other drugs) should be listed in the World Directory? (See report on 3/25/-Sunday A.M. meeting as to feeling of N.Fl.Area Conference at this time).

3. Another topic will be whether or not celebrities, who break the 12th Tradition, by saing they belong to A.A., should be asked to speak at A.A. meetings.

4. Final approval on new film which will be coming out shortly.

5. There will be discussion on the reprinting of the "12 Steps and 12 Traditions" for use by other organizations. Guidelines will be set up - requests for use must be made in writing; credit references required; and approval for any adapting of Steps & Traditions must come from A.A.; and if other organizations use them without permission, then A.A. members would not participate.

5a. Lou advised that Service Pamphlets which are literature printed from New York office (through committees), are not the same as Conference Approved literature.

6. Also, for discussion, will be the matter of the New York Conference becoming overloaded with non-voting members (experts in many fields other than alcoholism.) Present feeling is there should be no more than 10%.

AREA COMMITTEE MTG., cont'd: Reports made by Chairmen of Public Information, Institutional, Grapevine, and Handicap Committees. (See main Assembly minutes for detailed reports-also attached to minutes is report re Handicap Committee, and also Secty/Treas. Meeting, and also GSR Workshop.

Chairman, Tom L. presented to the committee the subject of holding future N.Fla. Area meetings in two areas only (to be rotated) for each year, due to the energy crisis in re gasoline, and also due to individual and collective expenses for meetings continuing to increase. He asked that we all be thinking about this matter, and bring concrete, tangible suggestions to the next meeting, for two suitable locations in Central Fla. area.

Chairman, Tom L. also advised that Merrill T. [REDACTED], Alternate Chairman, has recently moved from the North Florida area; that a selection of a new Alternate will be made at the third quarterly meeting.

There was a discussion on the need for redistricting of Districts II and IV (Jacksonville area), and also 6 (Gainesville area). A suggestion was made that another district be added to Jax. (which covers Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4), and that District 6 be split. The subject will be brought before the Assembly at the next meeting.

Third Quarter Meeting, scheduled for July 14th and 15th, with Brevard County Districts 12 and 15 acting as hosts.

Meeting adjourned, basket being passed, and closing with Lord's Prayer.

SPEAKER MEETING, 8:00 P.M., Sat., 3/24/79: Jesse P., as Chairman, introduced Courtney M., from Albany, Ga., who gave an inspiring talk to attest to his many, many years of sobriety, found and maintained through the principles and program of A.A. Courtney is an accomplished speaker, interspersing much wit and humor in his story. No doubt, his soft, southern drawl, and twinkle in eye, were contributing factors to a story well told and well received.

SHARING SESSION, Sun. 8:30 A.M., 3/25/79: This early, early morning meeting was chaired by Betsy S., of Tallahassee. Her youth and enthusiasm as a new GSR were contributing factors in making this a fine meeting. The small opening attendance increased as the "late-risers" came straggling in. All were able to participate and share their comments and feelings on her topic for discussion, which was "How is Your Program, What is Your Program, and How is Your Sobriety Today?" To sum up everyone's thoughts, we were in accord that our program is just fine, that the twelve steps are our program, and our sobriety for today ranges from "reasonable happy" through "unreasonably happy" to knowing happy, contented sobriety.

MAIN ASSEMBLY MEETING, 10:30 A.M., Sun., 3/25/79: Tom L., Chmn., opened the meeting by asking that we all join in a moment of silent meditation followed by the Serenity Prayer. Rhoda McA., Recording Secty., took Roll Call - all Committee Officers present, with exception of Alt. Delegate and Alt. Chmn. Central Intergroup and Daytona Bch. Intergroup Reps. present. Roll Call for DCMs and GSRs was inadvertently omitted. Minutes, as printed, were approved and accepted. Treasurer's report was approved and accepted - Balance on hand, 3/21/79 - \$2,102.55. Delegate's expenses of \$1,000.00 would be deducted, leaving balance 3/25/79 of \$1,102.55.

Delegate, Lou M. again reviewed some of the topics which will be dis-

cussed at the Gen'l. Serv. Conf., New York, April 22nd thru 28th.

1. Should "dual addicted" Groups, i.e. A.A. Groups, whose members have another addiction also, be listed in the World Directory under such a designation? Lou said that a directory listing does not constitute an approved A.A. meeting. He asked for a show of hands - the feeling of this quarterly meeting was split about 50-50.

2. He referred again to the fact that not all our pamphlets are Conference approved - that they are approved by the committees at GSO, and are sent out before any final changes are made, to get the "feel" of all members; then they are taken back to the Conference for approval or disapproval.

(See detailed report re Delegate, from Area Committee meeting on Saturday, 3/24/79).

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT was presented by Dorothy McF., Chmn. As she expressed it, she feels that serving as chairman of this committee means a personal growth for service. She advised that a list has been sent out to get names for individual PI representatives from each group and district, who would like to serve on the N.Fla.Committee. The purpose of PI is dissemination of valid data about the program of A.A. We are not trying to "sell" the program, -i.e. this is not public relations. Also, we are not just informing those people out there, but we are also informing ourselves through public information. This is done through three areas: a. First, we inform ourselves; b. Secondly, we try and inform our own membership via the districts in N. Fla.; Thirdly, we answer the questions of those out there who need to know and want to know about A.A. Her last point was that we do not all reside in large, metropolitan areas, where major media are readily available - that many of us live in smaller areas in North Fla., and we need to find out what the opportunities are in these places to carry our message of public information.

INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT was made by Bill R., Chmn. 38 members were present at the Saturday meeting, or rather - workshop. Bill said that 1.- He is asking all the DCMS to go back to their districts and get IDCMS*before the next quarterly meeting (*Institutional District Comm. Members); 2.-That in carrying the message to non-State penitentiary and prison levels, the Committee hopes to see better coordination with prison officials, and a more workable plan evolve to facilitate A.A. members getting into these institutions for the meetings.

GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE REPORT was given by Dick P, who reported on what a GVR (Grapevine Representative) for a group should do. The GVR should make sure the group is receiving the Grapevine; alert the group to its use for recovery program - i.e.-might give to newcomer as a gift; have the magazine attractively displayed and readily available; use articles for subjects at a meeting; do monthly review of next month's Grapevine; urge group participation, and also individual members, in writing articles and sending same in for possible publication; suggests making gift subscriptions to doctors, dentists, lawyers, hospitals, penal institutions; and to always try to increase the individual member subscriptions. Dick closed by urging groups to send registration of GVR into New York (GSO). Florida ranks #6 in number of GVRs.

HANDICAP COMMITTEE REPORT was made by Bob K. This is a brand new Committee, and Bob's fine report is attached to these minutes -see Page 5. He said that his 85% loss of eyesight was through the use and abuse of alcohol; and he refers to his being visually disabled rather than handicapped. His closing remark was about the answer made to the question "Why didn't you take

the chip to the 'poor blind man?'. The answer was "If the blind drunk can find his way to the liquor store, he can find his way up here for a white chip".

Business to be presented at the next Assembly Meeting: Tom L., Chairman, advised as follows: 1.-We will be discussing some redistricting in the Greater Jacksonville area (presently Districts 1, 2, 3, & 4), and also in Districts #6 and #8. 2.-Be thinking about holding future quarterly meetings in one or two locations in Central Florida, due to energy crisis.

Tom L. asked for show of hands, the number of Districts who had held monthly district meetings since the January quarterly meeting - Four (4) out of fifteen (15) districts had done so. We all must remember to keep our "lines of communication" open!

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING to be held July 14th and 15th, 1979 in Brevard County. Districts 12 and 15 will be responsible for making all necessary arrangements.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M. Basket was passed, and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Phyllis G. D. [REDACTED], Corresponding Secretary

Perma File

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
NORTHERN AREA

TREASURER'S REPORT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TALLAHASSEE, HOLIDAY INN, 2ND QUARTERLY
MEETING, MARCH 24-25, 1979



Period Covered	General Use	Desig. Inst.	Total Group	Misc. Collect.	Total Receipts	DELEGAGE Expenses	Operational Expenses	Total Expenses	Period Balance
1.1-3.21 1979	\$1,394.54	\$ 70.00	\$1,464.54	\$ 272.61	\$1,727.15	\$ 300.00	\$ 207.55	\$ 507.55	\$1,229.60
	BALANCE ON HAND 1.1.79			TOTAL PERIOD BALANCE			BALANCE MARCH 21, 1979		
	\$ 872.95			\$1,229.60		=	\$2,102.55		

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS DURING PERIOD BY DISTRICTS AND GROUP, FOR GENERAL USE AND FOR INSTITUTIONS

DIST.	Gen.	Inst.	DIST.	Gen.	Inst.	DIST.	Gen.	Inst.
I. Beaches Unity	\$ 15.00		VIII. Big Book Study	\$ 10.00		XIII. Brooksville Thurs. Night	\$ 15.00	
Better Days	25.00		Big Book Study	10.00		Crystal River	10.00	
Central	5.00		Boulevard	50.00		Citrus Co. Women	10.00	
Central	5.00		New Smyrna Beach	25.00		Crystal River, Sat.	5.00	
Life Line	5.00		*Ormond Beach	60.00	\$10.00	Inverness	30.00	
Strength & Hope	15.00	\$15.00	Port Orange	50.00		Serenity	20.00	
THE	20.00		Serenity	10.00		Spring Hill	10.00	
TODAY	25.00		Three Legacies	10.00		XV. Central Brevard	25.00	
-----	-----	-----	Way of Life	6.00		Gateway	10.00	
III. Honesty	2.80		Winners' Way	22.24		Friendship	10.00	
Orange Park	20.00		-----	-----	-----	XVI. Friday Evening (Live Oak)	10.00	
Ortego	25.00		IX. Pinecastle Friend-ship	30.00				
Timuquana	10.00		Pinecastle Grace	50.00				
-----	-----	-----	W. Orange, Ocoee	10.00				
IV. Murray Hill	10.00		-----	-----	-----			
Riverview Study	15.00		X. Casselberry	25.00		Apologies to Amelia B [redacted]		
Yulee	10.00	5.00	Rebos	25.00		Group of Dist. IV. Last year's summary should have credited AB with \$15 contribution. (Add this amount to Group Contributions and subtract from Misc. Col.).		
-----	-----	-----	Sanford	10.00		* \$10 of Ormond Beach's Gen. Cont. was earmarked for Public Information. (Not a separate recording item)		
VI. Downtown	35.00		Sanford Women	5.00		As of 12.31.78, our Savings Account contained \$531.82		
Oldest City	10.00		Women's Gratitude	5.00				
Oldest City	10.00		-----	-----	-----			
Oldest City	10.00		XI. Central Orlando	25.00				
Palatka	30.00		Magnolia	10.00				
-----	-----	-----	Marvin R.	15.00				
V. CARRABELLE	30.00		Woodlake	25.00				
Lloyd's New Hope		30.00	-----	-----	-----			
Southside	30.00		XII. Canova Beach	10.00				
Tallahassee Central	25.00		Eau Gallie	17.50				
W. Thorpe St.	75.00		Patrick	100.00				
Quincy	14.00		Satellite Beach	50.00				
-----	-----	-----	Serenity	25.00				
VII. Fairweather	10.00		Young People	10.00	\$ 5.00			
You Are Not Alone	42.00							

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
Elise R. D.
Elise R. D., Treasurer

[redacted]
Sanford, Florida 32771
1-305/[redacted]



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE NORTHERN AREA

HANDICAPPED COMMITTEE MINUTES

AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING--MARCH 24,25, 1979

At this first meeting of the newly formed Handicapped Committee, the following topics were discussed;

A. What does Handicapped Imply ?

To those unfamiliar with the handicapped, a picture of a person in a wheel chair comes to mind just as to many people an alcoholic as a picture of a down and out skid-row derelict. However, in this age of advanced public information we now know that both of these mental assumptions are not entirely correct.

In essence a handicapped person is one who has a disability such as blindness, deafness, a paraplegic, an asthmatic, heart disease or any other such physical condition.

B. How do we carry the message to the Handicapped Alcoholic ?

In this formative stage of the committee it is by 10% inspiration and 90% communication. It was suggested that all DCM's and GSR's who personally know of a handicapped alcoholic member in his district have him or her contact the Handicapped Committee Chairman in an effort to establish a network in exchanging ideas and comments regarding this service assignment. Naturally, any member of A.A. who is interested in serving in any capacity in this committee is welcomed.

The General Service Office has expressed great interest in our committee and has supplied the following material to aid us in our program:

1. A list of tapes for sale, exchange and correspondence (many handicapped use these in their program)
2. A list of deaf groups and contacts we can write to.
3. Information on the Big Book and Twelve and Twelve in braille, along with tapes for sale to blind members. Arrangements can be made to supply some of these at no charge in hardship cases.
4. The Loners Internationalists Meeting by mail which is now sent to about 15 handicapped people who cannot get to A.A. meetings because of medical reasons.

Conclusion:

Alcoholics Anonymous does not make medical diagnoses or prognoses. The primary purpose of the Handicapped Committee is to carry the message of recovery to the handicapped alcoholic seeking help as well as to the member who thinks he can't attend regular meetings or actively participate in the program.

Bob K [redacted]
[redacted]
Handicapped Committee Chairman



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SECRETARIES-TREASURERS MEETING. 1:00 P.M., Saturday, 3/24/79

The meeting consisted of a small but lively group who got thoroughly into the delicate problem of extracting from A.A. members the necessary money for operating expenses, while, at the same time, preserving and fostering group unity.

The prevailing opinion was that alcoholics cannot be forced. Just as the 12 Steps are suggested only, so paying for coffee and other expenses should be suggested. (We can always drink water!). Appealing to a person's better nature seems to work best. Making the group aware of its exact financial status is extremely important, and this should be done at regular meetings (not at business meetings which no one attends). And it should be done before the basket is passed. Other novel ideas were: 1.-Ask members to bring supplies from home; 2.-Report the attendance, the amount collected, and the average per person - then let the group know what the average per person needs to be to support the group; 3.-Have special "group conscience" meetings.

An ironic note: The Chairman of this meeting forgot to pass the basket!!

Edna F. [REDACTED], Acting Chairman

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES WORKSHOP. 4:00 P.M., Saturday, 3/24/79.

Co-Chairman, John R., spent a considerable length of time outlining the role of the GSR in an AA group using the guidelines set forth in the service manual.

Then, the GSRs were recognized by Districts. Following, there was a discussion of some of the GSR activities, with emphasis on a GSR representing the group conscience of their individual group.

Alene S. and John R.

Co-Chairmen

NORTH FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
March 24 & 25, 1979
ROUND HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN

SATURDAY - March 24, 1979

REGISTRATION - 9 A. M. - 1 P. M.

Registration Committee - Edna P [REDACTED], Alene S [REDACTED]
Reception Committee - Walt E [REDACTED], Betsy S [REDACTED]

1 P. M. - INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING, Centurion Room
Chairman - Bill R [REDACTED]

2:30 P. M. - PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING, Centurion Room
Chairperson ---- Dorothy McF [REDACTED]

4:00 P. M. - G. S. R. WORKSHOP, Centurion Room
Chairman - John R [REDACTED]
Co-Chairperson - Alene S [REDACTED]

4:00 P. M. - COMMITTEE MEETING - Venetian Room
Chairman - Tom I [REDACTED]

5:30 P. M. - BREAK FOR DINNER

8:00 P. M. - SPEAKER MEETING - Centurion Room
Chairman - Jesse P [REDACTED]
How It Works - Don P [REDACTED]
12 Traditions - Edna P [REDACTED]
Speaker - J. C. M.

SUNDAY - March 25, 1979

8:30 A. M. - G. S. R. SHARING SESSION, Centurion Room
Chairperson, Betsy S [REDACTED]

10:30 A. M. - AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING, Centurion Room
Chairman - Tom L [REDACTED]

12:00 NOON - DISMISSAL

2/15/79