

**MINUTES OF
FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING OF
NORTH FLORIDA AREA CONFERENCE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
JANUARY 12-13, 1991 - MELBOURNE, FLORIDA**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
January 13, 1991**

Fred M. Chairperson, called the meeting to order in the usual manner at 9:15 a.m. Fred welcomed all members; thanked hosts asked attendees to reflect on "Unity"...our first Tradition.

Dist.	DCM	GSR	Dist.	DCM	GSR
D-1	1	4	D-16	1	1
D-2	0	0	D-17	1	1
D-3	1	7	D-18	1	12
D-4	1	1	D-19	1	3
D-5	1	12	D-20	1	5
D-6	1	3	D-21	0	0
D-7	1	4	D-22	1	0
D-8	1	8	D-23	1	4
D-9	1	12	D-24	1	4
D-10	1	2	D-25	1	5
D-11	1	3	D-26	1	2
D-12	1	12	D-27	0	0
D-13	1	8	D-28	1	4
D-14	1	5	D-29	1	2
D-15	0	4	D-30	1	2
D-16	1	1	D-31	2	2

Rec. Secretary - Minutes approved as mailed.

Treasurer - Group contributions of \$18139.73 almost totally covered operating expenses of \$18539.60...short \$400. Experience has shown that a minimum of nine months operating capital (3 Qtrs) is needed for a prudent reserve; \$23,230.92 transferred to new treasurer. GSO also had a positive bottomline number. While groups did very well over the past 2 years, contributions steadily declined. Ken Rood has Blue Book containing financial records for 1988-89. Any member may review these records. Tax return will be filed in timely manner, with no extensions, by Joan E. Tape Library purchased for \$180. Three computers purchased for \$3,894. **Please note that Ken Rood's address is 315 Tangle Run Blvd # 1014, Melbourne, FL 32940 and that contributions should be mailed to him not to former treasurers.** Joan expressed her thanks and gratitude.

George C., Alt Del attended SE Regional Forum, Shreveport, Dec. 7-9 for Delegate. Purpose for Regional Forums is to provide an arena for increasing understanding through communication between members of AA and their Service Boards and staff. Joanie M. spoke to challenge of AA to Eastern Europe. Lois F. reported that Treatment Facilities newsletters

were no longer produced due to lack of input. Next World Service Meeting in 1992; theme "Service Everyone's Privilege". Frank M., spoke on Traditions..."In Unity, our most precious possession, everything is possible." Wayne P., Gen. Mgr GSO stated "AA structure reversed as compared to corporate structure...members rule. Two corporations AAWS and GrV. "If only 5% of non-contributing groups contributed there would be no shortfall; if 10% contributed we would never have to worry about finances." Need concordance in information and guidelines for physical infirmities.

Delegate-Tom D. Expressed his deep gratitude to Jackie M. for sharing her experience, strength and hope with the members of NFA.

Jackie thanked everyone for allowing her to be a part of this assembly.

Fred M., Chair, asked members to thank out-going officers who were rotating out and introduced new officers. Reminded members to return hand-outs given to DCM's at mtg. 1/12/91 (See p.2).

Brian S. presented a check for \$1,428.74 to NFA for coffee expense (200 gal @ \$2,280; Fri. nite 39 gals consumed). Districts 12, 23 & 15 donated money via coffee cans placed in meeting places; brainchild of D.C., who was roundly applauded.

Dan E. Alt. Chair, presided during Standing Committee reports. (see pp. 3-4). Chair announced that NFACAA. Officer's/Comm. mtg. would be 2/24/91 10:30 - 2:30; Ocala. Dan E. will contact officers to give specific location.

Bernice D., D-5 proposed that next assembly be non-smoking; motion made, seconded and carried.

Old Business - Fred M., Chair stated there were two issues for vote: Intergroup and Fixed Location issues and..."No decisions will ever be made with this assembly without coming before you. Intergroup will be given a formal position in the AA Structure. We propose to do it in NF Area..." Officer's proposed 10/14/90 to allow Intergroup a representative at this meeting. (see minutes Oct. 13-14 P.2) "I appointed Howard to chair this committee. A motion was made by Howard that it become a regular part of the assembly. I need a second."

"Debbie W. - "Since he is not a member of this body he cannot make a motion. Therefore, I make a motion that

we bring an intergroup committee to the assembly. Chair. "All in favor of Intergroup coming into our assembly." Majority ruled in favor of motion.

Grant - Read a proposal that AA "Declaration of Unity" be published as a wall placard with same dimensions as the I Am Responsible and Preamble Placards. Motion made, seconded carried.

Fixed Location - TABLED discussion until April. The committee comprised of Dan E., Tom D and Tom D. will visit the 4 sites under consideration; Holiday Inn Jax., Holiday Inn G'ville (no mtgs during football season), Steinbrenner Inn in Ocala and Daytona Bch \$7 coffee, \$50 rm, free mtg. rooms (Concerns expressed re Spring break). The vote for fixed loc. vote; either "Yes" or "No" for a fixed loc. will be in April (Jax.) the vote for the sites will be made in October. This consideration is made due to financial considerations and ability of facilities to accomodate our large number of member not to achieve a central location.

Claire stated that she would prepare a Book of Resolutions, as discussed in a prior officer's meeting, which would document important dates of motions/resolutions/etc. pertinent to the business of the NFACAA.

Robert B. D-9 read a proposal that D-9 be split. Motion, seconded, carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m. in the usual manner.

SPEAKERS MEETING

January 12, 1991

Chair - Brian S

Jackie M., Southeast Regional Trustee, spoke Saturday night to a group of approximately 366 persons.

FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKER'S MEETING

Chair - Dave N

The new officers for the North Florida spoke Friday night to a group of approximately 250 persons.

DCM's/OFFICERS MTG. 4 PM, 1/12/91

Fred M. Chairperson - called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the usual manner. Introduction of new officers. Reminded those present to remember our First Tradition

Minutes - approved as mailed. Treasurer's report approved as read. Delegate - will report Sunday Morning.

Marie B. Archives Chair, requested cooperation from DCM's to appoint Archives representatives from districts to serve on Archives Committee.

George C. Alt. Del - Theme for Forty-First Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is "Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action" Passed out hand-outs with the request that Districts have workshops using theme; return completed hand-outs to Tom Duffy at the NFA April meeting in Jax.

Robert R. requested permission to address the assembly regarding Concept V "Right of Appeal". The AA Service Manual; pp 22-25 1990-91). He stated he was elected to a two year term as DCM in D-20. Due to personality clash another election was held; another DCM was elected. He is concerned that this violates our Traditions. Chair thanked him..."The officers and I want to thank you for sharing. All that I can tell you is that we will be continually aware of this type situation happening. I am not going to get into details. It is closed."

Robert B., D-9 read a proposal requesting that D-9 be split. Motion, seconded carried.

Intergroup - The proposal to make Intergroup a standing committee was not voted on 10/14/91 due to time constraints...elections dominated assembly time. (See Minutes Oct. 13-14 P.2) Chair stated he appointed Howard to be standing Intergroup chair and to attend Jan. 12-13 Assembly in that capacity. A lengthy discussion followed. Chairperson stated if no further discussion..."Now, I would like to call for a motion that this be presented to the general assembly tomorrow. All in favor. A motion has been made, seconded and carried to put this on General Assembly Agenda."

Fixed Meeting Location -Committee comprised of Tom D. Dan E., Tom D commented on sites under consideration. Daytona Bch offers \$7, gal coffee, \$50 room rate, free meeting rooms (2 yr commitment); Jax. and G'ville Holiday Inns and Steinbrenner Inn in Ocala offer competitive rates. Vote in April on fixed location (not specific site). Vote on specific site October.

Garth, D- read proposal to be submitted to GSO that "Declaration of Unity" be made same format as "I Am Responsible" placard. Motin, seconded and carried.

Pat T., D-27 read proposal that all area assemblies, groups and workshops refrain from cloing meeting with..."Who's Father?" Discussion; motion to put on General Assembly agenda (1/13) voted down with exception of 1 vote.

Ed K. D-29 asked that we form a committee to provide more information to groups. George C. stated this need is met thru GSR's and DCM's via their links to districts and groups; the GSR/DCM Training Session covered this topic. See the AA Service Manual pp S43-S57.

Diane H., Tampa, Chair, 35th State Convention (July 10-14) brought flyers to be distributed to groups.

Fred W stated his intention to remove from mailing roster labels to club address, i.e. no minutes would be mailed specifically to club addresses; minutes would be mailed to groups who meet at clubhouses. Motion, seconded, carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 5:30 p.m. Attendance: Absent DCM's 2,8,11,13,15,16,17,21,22,24,28.

Clare Ni
Submitted by: *Clare Ni*, Recording Secretary
(2-1-91:AssemblyJ12-13)

STANDING COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS JANUARY 12, 1991

PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP

Chair: John C

Alt: Corliss G

AA is not a secret society. The primary focus is to carry the message; state what AA can do and what it cannot do. The P.I. individual in AA is secondary to the message as it relates to media; no pictures of members in print or film...a violation of Traditions. Study literature to become better informed, especially the Traditions prior to speaking or providing information in the Public Information realm. Refer to AA Public Information Guidelines and pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings". Attendance 65.

INTERGROUP WORKSHOP

Chair: Howard S

Theme: Communication - The main purpose is to relay information at this first Intergroup meeting at the NFA Conference and to promote communication and cooperation between Intergroup and members of AA. Representing (Volusia) were Donna G and (Jax.) Elaine and Sheila. General consensus was that "people were glad that Intergroup was participating." Attendance 88.

ACCESSIBILITIES

Chair: Brian S Alt: Judy P.

Posters were presented, depicting the plight of the disabled with a request to post in meeting rooms/clubhouses to evoke empathy for those who are not able to attend meetings (bedridden, nursing home members, minorities, handicapped, and those with driver's license suspensions). A reminder to members to focus on needs of deaf and blind members. Attendance 47.

CPC WORKSHOP

Chair: Anita C Alt: Pat G.

Theme - Explanation of CPC & relation to Traditions. One of the most important functions of the CPC committee is finding ways of clarifying the AA Traditions for professionals. One of the goals of CPC work is to let non-AA's know that we can be most effective and helpful to them being ever mindful of our Traditions. Be knowledgeable, read the literature thoroughly. CPC...carrying the message to the still suffering

alcoholic through 3rd party." Cooperation - not affiliation is the key." There was a review of how Traditions are observed and abided by and how anonymity makes program appreciable to the newcomer. GSO is funding an AA exhibit March 8-11, 1991, Orlando, National Association of Secondary School Principals. Contact Bob Bates, 520 Bryn Mawr St., Orlando FL 32804. (407) 423-2087 if you can man a booth. Attendance 71.

GRAPEVINE WORKSHOP

Chair: Bernice D;

Theme: "What Grapevine has done for us and how to use it." There were five GvR's present. The importance of GvR's at the group level was stressed. Some groups give copies of the Grapevine to new members and some give subscriptions for anniversaries. Recycle used copies of the Grapevine. One member present has issues dating back to 1949. There were several published Grapevine persons present who encouraged others to submit articles. Groups challenged to increase representation. Attendance 59.

GSR WORKSHOP

Chair - "Doc" S

Theme: "If You Get Involved You Get It!" MONEY - GSR's emphatically urged to please send checks to new treasurer's Ken R.

...NOT to former treasurers. INFORMATION - Send GSO correct, updated group information on forms provided (show old as well as new info) information is printed in Confidential Eastern U. S. AA Directory. LITERATURE - Advisory Action of 1986 encouraged groups to sell and display AA Conference Approved Literature ONLY! ANONYMITY - Respect anonymity...Do not use Alcoholics Anonymous in the address on envelopes." ROTATION - Rotate out of service when completing a job to let others experience the responsibility and growth of being a Trusted Servant. BOX 459 - All groups should provide this literature. DUTIES OF GSR - a) "Links Home Group with all of AA" b) Responsible for availability of AA literature. c) Study handbooks and become knowledgeable. (AA Service Manual). MONEY - Disperse to GSO, Area and District in a timely manner. Conduct yearly Group Inventory (See Pamphlet 41-42, The AA Group). Attendance 180.

ARCHIVES

Chair: Marie B.

A great need exists for volunteers to sort, file and categorize valuable documents. While anyone is welcome, those willing to commit for a lengthy stint would be most beneficial to this endeavor. preservation of documents is of great concern; recommend photocopying originals once to retard deterioration. Districts are encouraged to appoint an Archivist Representative to obtain pertinent documents, interview oldtimers and past delegates for posterity. Attendance 35.

CORRECTIONS

Chair: Bernie T;

Alt: Joe F.

Theme: "What do we Want and Need to accomplish?" More District involvement is needed. The 1982 Correctional Workbook is being updated, available soon. "Beginner's Tapes" will also be available. Discussion focused on difficulty of visiting prisons. Superintendent of the Institution is the contact person. The first 24 hours following release from prison are the most critical; member needs to attend AA meeting on first day. Communication gap between prisons and AA needs to be closed. Home groups are asked to send monies to GSO for prison literature. Plans are in the making for NF BBQ in May for Corrections volunteers. Cooperation from CPC Committee would help this committee in their work. Attendance 64.

TREATMENT FACILITIES

Chair: Bob V.

Theme: "Bridging the Gap!" Fifty percent of those leaving treatment don't make 90 days. Primary objective of this committee is to provide smooth transition from treatment and contact friend. "Treatment graduates" feel newfound knowledge may avail them everything negating their need for people. Treatment facilities are experiencing difficulties due to lack of payment of claims by insurance companies; becoming outpatient clinics. God sobriety pre-requisite for visiting treatment facilities. A Q & A period revealed (a) Information for developing committees can be found in Treatment Facilities Workbook. (b) New film, "Hope", literature, meetings can provide patients dependence on AA not on T.F. (c) Don't let T.F. dictate that patients attend speaker's meetings. (d) Key to success is to study and be knowledgeable and to be able to communicate.

ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

DCM/OFFICER TRAINING WORKSHOP

Chair: George C 1-12-91 - 2:45 p.m.

Introduction of DCM's by District. packets distributed. Joe explained definition and duties of DCM. DCM conduit of information from group to GSR to DCM to Area to region to GSO and the reverse. Stressed importance of sharing facts, not opinions. Should have Alt. and know "pulse" of district. George addressed informing GSO of new GSR's, new groups, procedures to follow. Dan spoke on Concepts. "Be informed, Go out and encourage, be enthusiastic, show up." Attendance 70

TRADITIONS WORKSHOP

Chair: George C. 1-12-91

John C. Spoke spoke on Concept III...Jimmy G and Jackie M. Jackie M. recognized new GSR's present, stressed their role as links to their groups; encouraged them to read Service Manuals. Spoke on duties of Trustee. Q & A were: (1) Should members hold more than one position in AA? (Jimmy G. "No") (Jackie--

"Both ways, have held more than one job; however must have one vote only.") (2) What to do about non-AA's purchasing raffle tickets, dance tickets, etc. for AA functions. Doesn't this violate our Tradition of self-support? (George C.--50%/50% split on this issue; abide by group conscious.) (3) What about Copyright on Big Book which expires in 5 years? (Jackie--No one else wants to publish it.) (4) Is Concept III abused? (Jackie M "Yes, we are not perfect.") (5) Will we ever become self-supporting? (Jackie M. "Yes, we are we pay services salaries.") Discussion regarding growth of AA/Districts splits to accomodate growth. Jackie M. stated that needed to be brought before the assembly. Request to be put on Agenda.

"HOW TO CONDUCT BUSINESS MEETINGS

Chair:D. C. Stultz 1-12-91

A most informative presentation was attended by 100 persons. The attached hand-out to retain for reference is on pp. 5-6.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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|------------|--|
| March 2 | D-5 Workshop, Tallahassee, Contact Bernice D. 904/893-4855 |
| March 8-11 | CPC Exhibit, Orlando, (see p. 3) Contact Bob Bates 407/423-2087 |
| March 23 | D-26 Workshop, Lake Pahsoaffkee Community Center, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. |
| April 6-7 | Second Quarter NFACAA, Jacksonville, FL, Holiday Inn East |
| July 27-28 | Third Quarter NFACAA, Ramada Inn, North, Tallahassee, FL |

[Please note! In order to reduce costs I shall endeavor to make the minutes as brief as possible while retaining the essence of the dialogue. What is covered in depth in the DCM Officer's meeting will not be covered in depth on Sun Assembly page to reduce redundancy. If you wish a copy of any proposals that are retained with original file send me a stamped/self-addressed envelope.]

Claire N. , Recording Secretary