

DCM Report – District 3-301

9/14/10

Greetings fellow AA's

This has been an especially busy summer. I attended the international in July, it was fabulous, but too short. The bus rides on the other hand were too long.

I attended the August Assembly in Mesa and participated on the Grapevine Panel. We had one topic, a proposal to change the August assembly to 2 days instead of 3 in years that the November assembly is 2 days. After a lengthy discussion we voted to keep it as is. Some years there are many topics and all 3 days are required. It so happens that this year we finished all business on Saturday evening.

Other topics from the business meeting:

- The Area Handbook is always available on the web site (area03.org)
- Liz J. (Corrections Chair) is planning a corrections workshop for November in Winslow.
- A new District for Spanish speaking groups was approved.
- There is a Service Workshop in Jerome (Spook Hall) on September, 18th.

I also attended the Pacific Regional Forum in Torrance, CA. I am attracted to regional Forums and Service Assemblies and there are some special moments, but there is a lot of time spent sitting and listening. They are very interesting and informative, but for me, “spiritual” is a stretch.

Forum Highlights:

- Ward Ewing – Class A Trustee (non-alcoholic)
He has a remarkable commitment to AA and devotes much time helping our cause.
- Rod Betonney – Pacific Region Trustee at Large – Class B (He's one of us)
- GSO staff – Mostly alcoholics, but not a requirement. They are extremely dedicated and knowledgeable.
In general they take care of the business of AA. They are also a resource to help us resolve issues. We can contact GSO (New York) for help in understanding our principles, Traditions and to help resolve conflicts. I heard over and over, that “groups are autonomous, but we can research and share the experience of other groups”; or words to that affect. I am much more likely to call GSO for assistance as issues arise that I need help in dealing with.
- The movie: Markings on the Journey is available. I have a copy and will share when we have an appropriate gathering.
- Sexual harassment / illegal activity at meetings. Groups need to deal with the issues, call the police if appropriate. There is a special task force in NY to determine how GSO should respond.
- Anonymity in the digital age.
- There will be a membership survey next year.
- If you are on the 12th Step list, become familiar with local hospitals, treatment centers, detox centers, shelters, ... Don't hesitate to call 911 if a life is at risk (suicide/homicide). ALWAYS take someone with you.

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- All AA pamphlet are on the internet.
- Digital Archives are on the internet. Extremely helpful for research.
- The final forum reports will be available in 4 to 5 months.
- We always share our experience with other 12 step programs.
- There is a Bridge the Gap assembly in Sacramento next year.
- The Intergroup Seminar is in St. Louis, MO 9/24 – 9/26/10.
- The next Pacific Regional forum is in Woodlands Hills, CA, August, 2011
- Informed group conscience is critical.
- Working on an electronic method to update group information.
- There are “Local Forums” for Spanish speaking groups.
- Web based donations are now possible, same guidelines apply as in person donations or by check.

Please let me know if you want to discuss any of these topics further.

I asked a question regarding sending representatives to PRAASA in Hawaii. “What are the principles that should be considered when determining whether to send representatives to PRAASA.” The scope is really larger than this one PRAASA, it applies to all service meetings. This topic was addressed throughout the forum.

Here are some of the comments:

- PRAASA is a college education for general service.
- It is a group decision.
- PRAASA and Regional Forums are extremely important
- Read “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix”
- What is the stated AA purpose for funds?
- Reps bring back a wealth of knowledge.
- It’s all 12 step work, service is no less important than ...
- General Service is not us vs. them, it is all AA
- General Service has the future of AA in it’s hands.
- Allow time between meetings (discussions) allow time for prayer & percolation.
- Need good information, base it on the literature of AA.
- Pause before you speak, take time to pray before you vote.
- It does not need to be decided in one meeting.

Self Support: \$1 in 1945 = \$108 in 2010

Thank you, Keith Allaman
DCM 03-301
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Remember: You do not have to be a polygamist to have one spouse too many.