

**AREA 65 (N.E. TX), DISTRICT 54 MONTHLY MEETING
MARCH 2, 2008
HELD AT DALLAS NORTH GROUP**

- ❖ At 2:00 pm, Stephanie S. (GSR, Dallas North) welcomed the district and opened the meeting with The Serenity Prayer, and then read "Why Do We Need a Conference" (The AA Service Manual, page S-19) before turning the meeting over to James V. (District 54 DCM).
- ❖ Those present introduced themselves with their names and service positions. 14 groups were represented (Addison, Belmont, Carrollton, Clean Air North, Dallas North, Garland Clean Air, Georgetown, Great Fact, Legacy, New Freedom, ODAAT, Omega, Plano and Richardson) and 26 people were in attendance.
- ❖ Tradition 3: Bob M. (GSR, New Freedom) led a discussion of the 3rd Tradition.
- ❖ Concept 3: Rick E. (GSR, Belmont) led a discussion of the 3rd Concept.

GROUP REPORTS/CONCERNS

- ❖ Carrollton Group had money stolen from safe and the Corrections fund-raising cans.
- ❖ Garland Clean Air's member Grace G., almost 90 years old, passed away with 37 years of sobriety.
- ❖ New Freedom celebrating 8 year anniversary party on April 12th.
- ❖ Richardson having chili-cook-off on April 12th. More details to come. March 16th is hosting a How to Chair a Meeting at 2-4 pm.
- ❖ Legacy still looking for CFC reps to visit Collin County Jail.
- ❖ Belmont having difficulties in speaker meeting attendance.
- ❖ As of last month, ODAAT is now a 100% non-smoking group based on the Health Department requirements.
- ❖ Great Fact Group having low attendance at meetings and is considering possible location changes to accommodate different nights, and different meeting formats.
- ❖ Dallas North is giving money to Corrections, and 14 nominees for 9 positions on the Steering Committee. Looking at a group inventory in June.
- ❖ Traditions meeting approved to be held at Addison group. On May 17th, Arthur S., NETA 65 Secretary, will be moderating a group inventory.
- ❖ Omega Group is holding meetings at a church now. The group is looking for its own place to move to.
- ❖ Clean Air North GSR and Alt GSR have changed its election policies to be in sync with the District 54.

PRESENTATION – AREA 65 TREASURER "SELF-SUPPORT"

- ❖ P.J. H-R, Treasurer of NETA 65, gave a presentation on Self-Support.
- ❖ Disputes over property, authority, money go back to Tradition 7.
- ❖ Described the "radical" and "conservative" factions of AA, explaining that the radicals wanted hospitals and to publish a Big Book, whereas the conservative did not want to do any of this.
- ❖ AA Comes of Age outlines the influence of St. Francis of Assisi, when it came to money. The Prayer of St. Francis is in step 12 of the 12 & 12. In his sect, they took a vow of corporate poverty. What you didn't need you give away – you didn't take money; you were self-supporting. AA declared the same principles.
- ❖ AA had three temptations: to raise money, tighten up when AAs sobered up, and to take money from non-alcoholics.
- ❖ GSO contributions from Area 65 for 515 groups were \$3.33 per capita. There was a 2-3% increase total in the U.S. and Canada from 2005 – 2006. For 2007 we needed \$6.32 per capita to be fully self-supporting.
- ❖ Only the three past delegates have access to the Area prudent reserve. Spirit of rotation is very important when it comes to finance.

- ❖ The "AA Treasurer" and "Self Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" pamphlets were cited as being helpful to groups understanding self-support.
- ❖ Annually \$69.52 needed from each 515 groups to stay in the black as an Area. The Area spent more than we took in last year.

DISTRICT 54 OFFICER REPORTS

- ❖ Secretary (Camille K., Georgetown)
 - Copies of the Feb minutes were provided and the DCM asked for additions and corrections. Minutes were approved with corrections.
- ❖ Treasurer (presented by Dennis S., Treasurer)
 - Beginning operating fund balance 1/31/2008: \$4,682.99; total Jan. income: \$274.36; total Feb. expenses: \$74.12; Ending operating fund balance 2/28/08: 4,883.23; Prudent Reserve: \$1,500.00, total assets: \$6,383.23.
 - Errors on the general ledger for this month's report (pg 2) should be: Grapevine Chair should read \$138.36 for January. On group contributions, Feb should be \$274.36.
 - Group contributions year-to-date are \$1,594.72.
 - Please submit your expense reports to Dennis.
 - Ad Hoc Budget Committee will consist of Ad Hoc Budget Committee to review 2007 budget. Dennis chairing. Volunteers are Greg G, Mike L, Christie M, Bob B. The committee could not meet on Feb 24 @ 2:30 at Georgetown group. It will meet after this meeting at Dallas North on March 2nd and present findings at the April district meeting.
- ❖ Alternate District Committee Member (Bob B., Clean Air North)
 - The NETA65 Archives Committee meeting was held at the New Harbor Group, 3000 W. 5th St., Ft. Worth, TX, 817/336-5255 at 7:30 pm on Feb 21st. Scott R., Chaired the meeting. No Archives meeting will be held in March.
 - If your Group would like to schedule a workshop, GSRs are asked to please let me know. Some workshop planning thoughts are to:
 - Start planning the workshop and let Bob know plans a couple of months in advance.
 - Select a workshop subject or theme.
 - Select a workshop time and a date.
 - Appoint a group workshop project person with telephone number and email.
 - GSRs are asked to provide a copy of their latest group history.
 - Please post a copy of the latest District 54 Speaker list and Speaker Forum on your group bulletin board.
 - The District 54 "Night Out" visits are proceeding as scheduled. To date, we have visited Addison, Living Sober, Keystone, and Miller Road groups. The purpose of our visits is to make a regular practice of talking to groups (new and old) on the responsibilities of general service work (S29, AA Service Manual). In addition to the DCM, Alt DCM, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee chairperson are invited and encouraged to attend.
- ❖ District Committee Member (James V., ODAAT)
 - In February I spoke at Wylie Group and Lifesavers Group & will speak at New Freedom on Mar 21.
 - D-54 "Thursday Night Out": In February we visited Cottonwood, Living Sober, Keystone and Miller Road
 - In March we will visit Sachse (Wed 3/5 6:30pm); Serenity (3/13 8:00pm); Into Action (3/20 8:00pm); and Belmont (Wed 3/26 8 pm).
 - NETA Spring Assembly will be held on Mar 29th-30th at the Sheraton Grand Hotel at 4440 W. John Carpenter Fwy, Irving, TX 75063 (800/345-5251). Rooms are \$73/night.
 - Saturday Mock Committees will be held – everyone is invited to participate (bring someone with you!)
 - Sunday at 11:15 am we will "Send Off" our NETA Delegate to the 58th General Service Conference in New York "informed but not instructed."

- Assembly Schedule and Area Motions for Spring Assembly discussed.
- NETA Workshop Schedule discussed.
- May 4th District Meeting at Addison will feature the very first Delegates Report from the 2008 General Service Conference in New York by Delegate Bill Neal. Please note the special time of 1:30 pm.
- Upcoming Events:
 - April 13, 1:30pm ... NETA Spring Committee Meeting at ODAAT Group 2109 Parker Road #728
 - June 21-22: NETA Summer Assembly at Diane Heaven Community Center , 400 Schroeder Dr (Hwy 84 near Hwy 6), Waco, Tx
 - July 13, 1:30: NETA Summer Committee Meeting at Open Door Club in Abilene, Tx
 - September 19-21: NETA Fall Election/Convention at Sheraton Grand Hotel, Irving, TX. (\$10 Registration Fee / \$12 Coffee Star)
 - January 10-11: NETA Winter Assembly in Pottsboro (Sherman), Tx
- ❖ Cooperation with the Professional Community / Public Information (David S., Clean Air North)
 - On February 8th, the Dallas Morning News printed an article titled "Missing Oak Lawn man is found slain", in which they identified the murder victim as "an Alcoholics Anonymous counselor." That person was a member of the Lambda Group in District 53. I send an email to the reporter, after consulting with District 53's DCM (they don't currently have a CPC/PI contact), as well as our Area Delegate.
 - Provided an AA booth at the Richardson Independent School District's Community Resource Fair on February 20th. During the course of this event, I was able to "network" with other community organizations, such as the Suicide & Crisis Center of Plano, offering AA literature, presentations, etc.
 - The District 54 CPC/PI Committee met at The Richardson Group on February 23rd. There were three members in attendance, including myself.
 - I've received background material for the CPC General Conference agenda items from the Area Delegate and will be participating in that mock committee at the Spring Assembly.
 - Upcoming meetings and events
 - There is a NETA Public Information Workshop scheduled on March 4th at 7:30 pm to be held at The Greenville Traditions group.
 - The next NETA CPC committee meeting will be at The Arlington Central Group on March 8th at 2:00 pm.
 - The next District 54 CPC/PI Committee meeting will be held at The ODAAT Group on March 15th at 2:00 pm. We will be reviewing the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings", as well as discussing a possible Public Information Workshop in the summer.
 - The Dallas Intergroup is working with UT Southwestern Medical School to hold its annual 1st year medical student AA orientation on March 19th. Forty volunteers (including myself) will be participating, taking students to open AA meetings.
- ❖ Grapevine / La Viña (Keith C., ODAAT)
 - Attended NETA 65 Grapevine Committee meeting on 2/09/08 at The Mesquite Big Town Group in Balch Springs, TX. Plans for the Grape-A-Thon were discussed, in addition to ideas for making presentations to groups, and the presumptive NETA 65
 - The next NETA 65/District 54 Grapevine Committee meeting will be at The Clean Air North Group in Addison, TX on Saturday March 9, 2008 at 2:30 pm. The next monthly meeting is at the ODAAT Group in Plano, TX on Aril 12, 2008, at 2:30 pm.
 - The 5th Annual Grape-a-thon at the ODAAT Group in Plano, TX from 12:30 to 5:00 on July 20th, 2008. The featured speaker will be Southwest Regional Trustee Conley B. (Sheridan, AR), with special guest Richard R. (Wichita Falls, TX). There will be food, fun and fellowship provided by ODAAT, District 54, and NETA 65. Mark your Grapevine calendar now!

- The NETA 65 Grapevine Display was set up at the District 22 Round Robin in Farmersville, TX on Feb. 23, 2008.
- ❖ Correctional Facilities (Tony C., Garland Clean Air)
 - Attended group conscience @ the Lifesavers group; shared experience while serving as GSR & Corrections coordinator and the importance.
 - Distributed two cases of Big Books to AA members to be taken into the Corrections Facilities.
 - Made arrangements with an AA member; to meet and receive one case of Big Books for Corrections.
 - Attended Spring Assembly in Irving, TX.
 - Invited to speak @ the Towne North Group; shared some on the importance of service.
 - Ordered 12steps&12traditions window shades; to be taken into the correctional facilities. Awaiting pickup, purchase made with contributions from AA groups.
 - Received \$25.00 orange can contribution; to be given to District 54 treasure for deposit.
 - Made Correctional Volunteer Application copies; for availability while visiting groups within District 54.
- ❖ Treatment Facilities (Dave R., Georgetown)
 - Total of 9 people in attendance at today's District TFC meeting.
 - Distributed DIA meeting directories and assorted back issues of the Grapevine at the treatment Facilities Committee meeting.
 - Treatment Facilities meetings are available at Green Oaks Hospital. The 2nd – 4th Saturdays are open. Meeting time is 1 pm.
 - The next District 54 Treatment Facilities meeting will be held at the Georgetown Group, Sunday, April 6th at 12:30 pm.
- ❖ Intergroup Liaison (James V, DCM for Tom M., Intergroup Liaison)
 - Intergroup has new 3rd edition Spanish Big Book in.
 - There is a Spanish Intergroup in Dallas that has much Spanish literature.
 - Last Intergroup meeting was on Valentines Day so there was low attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

- ❖ Mike L., Tom M., and James V. to meet with the Area Literature Intergroup Chair Bill H. at the March Assembly to discuss combining those two functions for our District.

NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ Our Area 65 Delegate will be visiting us at the May meeting. We will start the meeting early at 1:30 pm.
- ❖ One member said he thought we should consider having the 7th tradition basket proceeds given to the group hosting the meeting, and not to the district, given that the District is fully self supporting. This member tabled his motion and it will be presented at the April meeting. James V will review the District 54 Guiding Principles in the meantime to see what the guidelines currently are.
 - in 2007, the basket took in about \$40 per district meeting.

TRADITION / CONCEPT PRESENTERS FOR APRIL

- ❖ Tradition 4: Mike L. (GSR, Richardson)
- ❖ Concept 4: Peggy G. (GSR, Omega)

UPCOMING GSR MEETING DATES / TIMES

- ❖ 4/6/2008 at 2:00 pm, The Georgetown Group
- ❖ 5/4/2008 at 1:30 pm, The Addison Group
- ❖ 6/1/2008 at 2:00 pm, Clean Air North Group

ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Being no more business before the District, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 4:15 pm.