

DISTRICT 43 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held on April 8, 2003 at Jaycee Hall in Blanchard, PA. The meeting opened at 7:15 with the Serenity Prayer followed by the Preamble. All the while, it snowed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mark J. announced Medallion Night at Saint Andrews in State College on Friday, April 11, 2003.

ROLL CALL			
X	Alcoholics Alternative		Renovo Monday Night Group
	As Bill Sees It By Candlelight	X	Saturday Keep It Green
	Back To Basics	X	Saturday Morning Gratitude
	Big Book Study - Lock Haven		Saturday Night Living Sober
	Big Book Study - State College	X	Saturday Night One Hour Discussion
	Friday Night As Bill Sees It	X	Serenity At Noon
X	Friday Teachables	X	Snow Shoe
X	Happy Hour Promises		Sunday Afternoon Discussion
	Hear The Oldtimers	X	Sunday Came To Believe/Primary Purpose
	It's OK To Be AA		Sunday Grapevine
	Living Sober		Thursday Night Achievers
	Lock Haven Group	X	Thursday Night Big Book Study - Bellefonte
	Mill Hall Group		Thursday Night Men's Meeting
	Monday Night Winners		Thursday Night Living Sober
	Monday Night 12 & 12	X	Tuesday Night Young Hope
	No Excuses	X	Wednesday Night Living In The Solution
	Philipsburg Group	X	Wednesday Night Recovery
	Rainbow Group	X	Wednesday Night Step
	Relapse Prevention		Women's Step

Meeting began with Andy S. introducing our guest Wilma White, Area Treasurer. Wilma thanked Andy and noted that this was the first district group that she has visited that meets in varying locations, which she feels is a very nice idea. Wilma also expressed her appreciation of being invited because she views these invitations as an opportunity to learn.

Wilma began her discussion with the topic of Service and described her duties as Area Secretary - responsible for reports, quarterly minutes, sending them to all 47 Area DCMs, Innergroups, and delegates in the NE Region. Wilma noted how she sees her functions as enabling one alcoholic to help another, and how this same reasoning applies to smaller groups, etc.

Wilma stressed that anyone is free to contact an Area or District officer on their own.

Wilma noted that, in order to have an event listed on the Area Calendar of Events, a homegroup should complete the form and ask DCM to submit it. Or, contact her directly. Similarly, groups and individuals can also access the Area video library for free rentals. Andy S. noted that the forms for the calendar and video rentals are available on the District website (www.district43.com). Wilma also gave us her phone #- (215) 224-3333.

In regard to the topic of Area Officers being located in the Philadelphia area, Wilma continued her discussion by describing the Third Legacy voting process for Delegates and how they then carry the Area conscience to the April conference. Any DCM can stand for an office, but that doesn't necessarily mean that they will get a position. As Wilma put it, it's up to the Higher Powers who will ultimately serve. Wilma assured us that she has no knowledge of anyone asking others to vote in specific ways. She did note that there is a process to changing the status quo and that the Service Manual (page 546) cites Geographical Rotation. Wilma recommends that anyone with a concern to talk to their service sponsors and attend the Mini Assembly so that they can find out for themselves how things operate - get involved so you can pass on your experience.

Wilma described the Mini Assembly as being designed as a way for Delegates to report on issues and for any member to ask questions. It is an opportunity sit down and share and get answers. This year's Mini Assembly reinstated a meal charge and registration fee, but Wilma stressed that the money was used to pay for the facility and food - not to hear the Delegates reports. This year's Mini Assembly was based upon four presentations - only DCM's can take part in making the presentations, while GSRs can participate in skits. District 43's would be making a presentation on Sponsorship.

Wilma concluded by talking about the upcoming Area Assembly in November. This coming year is a business year, and an interim Area Officer at Large will also be replaced. Wilma stressed the importance of completing the green registration forms and mailing them in as early as possible.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

DCM: Andy S. noted that groups should be reserving approximately \$25 per month in order to send their GSR to the Area Assembly. Andy also reminded everyone of the monthly Swap Meeting between with Williamsport and the 18th Mini Assembly. These events are posted on the online calendar.

Secretary Report: Mark J. asked for any GSR who would like to have their name and contact information included on a "GSR List" to please provide their information after the meeting.

Treasurer: Brad B. noted donations of 296.00 for the month of March, 2003 with total expenditures equalling \$231.00. Brad presented the new suggested budget and a motion was made to accept it. The budget was passed by a majority of votes.

The issue of having \$800 above our prudent reserves was raised by Michael B. Raquel asked that we hold off on resolving this issue until the workshop had been paid for. Other ideas for spending the surplus involved supplying Grapevine subscriptions to the six institutions in our Area, purchasing Big Books for prisoners, and carrying the message in general. Michael B. asked for a statement to be made regarding the prudent reserve. The issue was tabled for continued discussion.

Officer At Large: Ken announced a new GSO-endorsed book - Experience, Strength and Hope. He noted that a group order could save money and offered to consolidate an order for others who would like to order.

Ken also requested groups to host upcoming District Meetings - the Gratitude Group offered to host the October meeting at Saint Andrew's in State College.

ADCM: Bob R. congratulated Glenn for supporting the Clayton and Associates meeting. Bob also asked how long we expected the Community Help Center to continue to ask callers where they received the phone number. The issue was tabled for discussion in May.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ad Hoc: Phone List and Meeting Lists will be updated again in July, 2003. Website updates are moving along. Speaker swap speakers are lined up through May.

PIC/CPC: Meeting at Clayton & Thomas and Associates is not an open meeting. Meeting is held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at 5:30. Interested parties can contact Glenn at 814-357-3753.

Treatment and Correctional Facilities Committee: Bill W. asked for a group to support the Center County Prison in July. Bill also asked for GSR's to pass around a list at meetings for people who are interested in supporting the TCFs.

Grapevine/Archives: Debbie P. announced that she and Ryan U. did a donation inventory of the archives and were working on a shadow box display of medallions. Debbie also noted that they would like to get the word out that the Archives committee is accepting donations and asked if this could be included on the website.

Workshops: Lorrie reminded everyone of the upcoming workshop and noted that there would be a 50/50 drawing with the proceeds going to the church. Lorrie also noted that food and beverages would be provided at the workshop.

OLD BUSINESS: Mark J. asked what the District prudent reserve is and was told that it is, according to the District conscience of 2 years ago, 1/4 of the operating budget.

NEW BUSINESS: Mike B. presented a Founder's Day Flyer.

Wilma gave us a Toll Free number to reach her - 866-436-2177 (use PIN 2177.)

George raised the topic of what a group's legal responsibility is when a member leaves a meeting while intoxicated. Should we contact law enforcement? This led into a variety of responses with the over-riding consensus that each group must do the next right thing according to their own conscience.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Mark J., District Secretary.