



Area 59

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

[www.area59aa.org](http://www.area59aa.org)

## History of the Pre - Conference Sharing Session

In 1999 Panel 49 delegate Gary C. attended the annual General Service Conference in New York. While he was discussing various agenda items with fellow delegates from Delaware and New Jersey he learned of their experiences with a "pre-conference" event they held in their areas.

Gary took this idea to the June 1999 Area 59 meeting and proposed to the Area Committee that a Pre-Conference Workshop be held and that its mission would be:

To provide the Delagate with the conscience of Area 59 on selected issues to be discussed at the upcoming General Service Conference in New York

Gary went on to say to the Area Committee "If you decide to do this - I expect to see all of you there"

The motion was made and passed, Marty S. was put to organizing it, Clay R. was to chair it, the format and responsibilities were established.

As reported by the Area Secretary: "Despite Mother Natures surprise 3 1/2 inch snowfall, the first Pre-Conference Workshop in Eastern Pennsylvania General Service Area 59, Panel 49, was held on April 9, 2000 at the I.B.E.W. Hall in Collegeville, Pa."

The format of committees meeting in the morning and reportbacks, voting, and general participation in the afternoon has continued in much the same fashion ever since. Some Delegates have "tweaked" it a bit since that first session but it but it remains pretty much the same.