



Area 59 Quarterly Area Meeting
Panel 65
September 13, 2015
American Legion Post Hall, Mt. Pocono, PA

Melanie S., Chairperson, opened the meeting at 11:03 AM with the Serenity Prayer.

Acknowledged Guests –Past Delegate & Current Convention Chairman from Area 59 - Marty S.; Archivist, Donald H., Chuck G., Assistant Archivist and Greg G., Web Servant

Traditions and Concepts - Read by the DCMs: Reading of Traditions began at D59 and rotated to D60, D61, and so on. Reading of Concepts began at D39 and rotated to D38, D37 and son on.

Roll Call –All officers present and 42 DCMs (or their Alternate) for a total of 48 out of 54 eligible voting Committee Members present at roll call. (Roll Call tally sheet attached at end of Minutes.)

Approval of Minutes – Chairperson asked for motion to accept the minutes of the previous area meeting held on June 14, 2014. Motion made by DCM 21. Seconded. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

Convention Committee Report – by Marty S. A written report was submitted. The committee held two meetings this past quarter. Some important points to note:

- Please pass the word to your GSR's - they should know how to register and attend.
- We face a \$20,000 penalty fee if we do not fulfill our room contract.
- We expect to sign a contract with a new hotel for the 2016 E.P.G.S.A. Convention.
- Question from Paul M.: "Convention committee members do not attend district meetings unless invited, right?" REPLY: "Yes. We have had 2 invitations thus far"

Archivist Report – Donald H. – The Archivist distributed and commented on the E.P.G.S.A. convention (2 paper reports).

- In 1940 complaints were received about the hotel accommodations
- 1970 a folder was used for the program and in 1981 we had a "micro' program
- 1962 registration cost \$3 and 3 days with the program dinner, breakfast cost \$35.
- 1963 cost was \$37.50 per person.
- In 1967 the election took one hour.
- The 1968 election was held on Sunday from 1:30 – 3:30 PM
- Beauty pageant has been held at one time in the past.

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Secretary's Note: *Copies of full, written reports distributed at the meeting will be posted on the web site www.area59aa.org. Please see the written reports for complete information content. The minutes will attempt to capture any pertinent additional comments or questions relating to those reports.*

Officer-At-Large (O-A-L) Report - by Curt C. Folders for each DCM included respective Active/Inactive group forms.

- Please see written report regarding group registration
- Please help correct the "unknown groups" section
- The folder contains the active groups list for each district
- Lots of GSRs are sending changes directly to G.S.O. Please send GSR changes to Officer-At-Large
- 179 GSRs have invalid addresses. Please ask GSRs if they are receiving information from GSO.
- Question from Michael N.: "Regarding the GSRs list (invalid addresses), are we getting new list each meeting?" Reply: "Yes."
- Questions from James (D26): "What do we do for GSRs who do not receive a packet?" Reply: "The DCM should be active with new GSRs and work with the Officer-At-Large."

Treasurer's Report – by Steve S. The Treasurer presented a current P&L report with Prudent Reserve and operating checking accounts amounts.

- Regarding expense reports – please send to your subcommittee Chairperson for approval before sending to the Treasurer.
- Make checks (for contributions) to "E.P.G.S.A."
- The area treasury is in a strong position. It is an opportunity for us to expand our ideas for carrying the message.
- Regarding the P&L Report: 17% increase in contributions this year over last.
- You have summary reports of group % contributing to the Area. The Area has 37.75% groups registered contributing thus far this year.
- No questions.

The Chairperson called for a motion to approve the Income and Expense Report (aka Profit & Loss Statement). The motion was made by DCM 57, seconded and approved unanimously by the Area Committee. (The report will be posted on our web site.)

Secretary's Report – by Ken D. The Secretary described the library request process and his previous quarter activities. The service to the PA International Hospital Suite was highlighted. A full financial Report of that event was distributed. The service roster was passed and updated.

Chairperson's Report – by Melanie S. The Chairperson thanked the Area Committee for their support.

- The District Minutes Report was discussed.
- The area service calendar was discussed. Please review for DCM expected attendance events.
 - See items of importance & note that significant proposals (motions) and appeals are due 48 hours prior to the pre-area officer meeting.
- Please include the names of your subcommittee members on your reports
- Please keep phones on silent mode during the business meeting.
- Please invite officers to your district meetings.
- Comment by Bob B. – District is the site of the Dec. 13th meeting.

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Chairperson's Report – by Melanie S., continued

- Caroline D27 questions:
 - When will calendar for 2013 be announced? Reply: “Dec. 13th meeting.”
 - Why are motions required in writing? Can a member bring a motion without it being in writing?
 - The phone issue is uncomfortable for me, please do not “threaten” me regarding my cell phone.
 - Our district minutes were submitted but not reflected on the report. Why?
- Ann Marie Comment: Are you sure that a member cannot bring a motion without it being in writing? Reply by Secretary (Ken): “ Of course several kinds of motions can be made without being in writing. Our Structure does not require all motions be in writing per se. However, it is more efficient and effective that any substantial motion be prepared for the agenda and sent to all members prior to the meeting.”
- Chairperson replies to sell phone comment: “I apologize if the comment was irritating. There are personal situations; but, please try to keep them from interrupting the meeting and our attention to business at hand.”
- Evelyn (D68) commented that the Structure Manual has some instructions regarding motions.
- Allison commented about cell phones – “I am a teacher and have to deal with modern technology like smart phones and tablets. At the last meeting we had severe weather coming in and we were using our phone appropriately.
- Paul M. commented that some motions could be made under new business.

Alternate Delegate's Report – by Paul M. The Alternate Delegate read his written report to the committee.

- Paul has Volunteer forms ready for the EPGSA Volunteer sign-up.
- It would be great to get 5 volunteers from each district.
- The ideal deadline would be to receive them by the Area Inventory, Oct. 18th.
- It is important to know the day and times the volunteers will be available.
- Area Day *Ad hoc* Planning subcommittee meeting will take place at lunch today.
- This was the first year to have a YPAA Liaison
 - Question from Ruth: “Is the YPAA event on Oct. 17th at 3 PM?” REPLY “Yes.”
 - Question from Louis: “Can you email the volunteer list to DCMs?” Reply: “They do not have to volunteer and do not have to register.”
 - Question from James, D66: “What are the duties of volunteers?” Reply: “We give them out at the convention, when they show up.”

Delegate's Report – by Pat F. The Delegate thanked the committee for their support and the opportunity to serve at the International Convention.

1. International convention in Atlanta, July 34 – 5, 2015.
 - a. Signed up “Old-Timers” > 50 years. An amazing experience!
 - b. There were no scholarships at the international convention.
 - c. The Delegate also chaired a meeting entitled, “12th Stepping The Old-Fashioned Way”
 - d. She loved giving out souvenir pins.
2. The Delegate reported that she continues to serve on the G.S.C. Report & Charter committee.
 - a. They are proofing the new service manuals.
3. She attended the PA State Convention and presented the Conference Report. Well received.
4. She attended PENNSCYPAA & ICYPAA.
5. The Delegate reminded all about the upcoming Area Inventory and preparations for that.
6. Review of the E.P.G.S.A. – it is a “loving assembly.”
 - a. Please send in officer and subcommittee reports (annual reports) to the Delegate by Oct. 1st. in Spanish and English.
 - b. We will have a Guest Observer, please greet and talk with her.
 - c. Area Day planning is underway.
 - d. NERAASA 2016 is open for registration – all are encouraged to attend.
 - e. The Delegate is available to come to your districts to give a Conference Report.
7. Reviewed Delegate's activity log.
8. Reviewed draft of the EPGSA Convention Program:
 - a. All committee members have a presentation assignment.
 - b. Reviewed the agenda
 - c. There will be a dance with a DJ
 - d. Videos for movie presentations available
 - e. Lots of workshops available during assemblies for other attendees
 - f. After the general session we'll have a feedback session – open microphone
 - i. Question: Bob B. “Are we free to share this draft? Answer: “No, please.”
 - g. The final should be ready and maybe posted in 2 weeks on our web site.
 - i. Question: Evelyn: “Will the annual reports be required in both Spanish & English?” Reply: “Yes. They will need to be checked for anonymity – no last names before we can post them.”
 - ii. Ira, DCM 29: “I have no assignment.” Reply: “You will have one.”
 - iii. Dale: “When will the final conference reports be distributed? They are not out yet.”
 - iv. Ken D. asked if Chairpersons & Officers make an oral presentation at the Assembly. The reply: “Yes.”
 - v. Paul M., “Has the new General Manager of GSO been announced since Phyllis H. has retired? Reply: “No – we need to send Phyllis a card.” The Delegate states that Greg T. is the new General Manager at GSO as of Oct. 1st.

The Committee adjourned for lunch at 1:30 PM and re-opened business at 2:15 PM.

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Summaries & Actions (“S” = summary; “A” = action):

D21: S = Hosting a workshop on Oct. 3rd.

D23: S = 1. Oct. 17th event. 2. Oct. 30 event.

D24: S = 1. District mtg. site (church) changed their name to St. Merriam Parish & Priory. 2. Visitation using a Google doc form. Action: 1. Discussion of AA group relationship with a club... A member wanted to send a check back. Comments: We separate groups and individuals. The check should identify money coming from each group in the clubhouse. Accepting money from clubhouse – groups collected and pay together. It seems to break group autonomy. Perhaps you can do a group conscience vote at district. How do you account for the money to the group? Action 2. A church web site lists our meeting. Comments: It should not be linked to avoid endorsement. I think its ok to list the meeting on the church’s web site. The Church should drop “A.A.”

D26: Left the meeting

D27: S = Oct. 4th Picnic and ICYPAA; Oct. 17 Group Anniversary; Oct. 19th – Monday Beginner’s Anniversary. Actions: Group voted to purchase 2nd market literature to save money. Comments: Nothing the district can change. When a group buys “outside – A.A. does not make a profit. Contact SEPIA. I don’t understand, if it’s conference, how does GSO not get a profit?

D28: S = Jan 10th New Group, “Count Your Blessings” at the 4021 Club. The Sunday Anniversary meeting \$27 will be held at the Sheraton.

D29: S = Combined workshop D’s 29, 30, 44 on Sept. 19th.

D30: Action 1 - Home group’s have no reps. Can a GSR serve multiple home groups?. Comment: see HG pamphlet – denies other the right of participation. One member, one vote. Action 2 – Membership is flat for last 5 – 10 years. Brian K comment, in 2001 it was 2,115,000 and in 2014 it was 2,040,000. GSRs should share about the convention.

D31: S = Oct. 17th Scavenger Hunt

D32: S Oct. 28th Singleness of Purpose Anniversary. Action: GSRs suggest that district pay their way to EPGSA for home groups could not afford. D30 – we do it. D59 – we pay day registration.

D35: s = Oct 3rd Share-A-Day. Oct. 24th hosting a Workshop: speakers on Unity, Recovery & Service.

D36: S = Oct 10th Cumberland Share-A-Day. Dec. 13th Enola is next area meeting.

D38: S = Past DCM passed away. Action = D38 updated web site to be mobile-friendly. Other districts with web sites please send your link www.district38-aa-org

D39: S = Workshop Oct. 4th

D40: S = 1. Sept. 20th workshop. 2. Oct 17th workshop at 2 PM. 3. Oct. 10th Wizard of Booze workshop St. Patrick’s church E. Stroudsburg.

D45: S = 1. Pennscypaa placed 2016 bid. 2. Next regular district meeting will be an inventory. 3. District considering splitting. 4. Planning a workshop. Action = Is the Area still considering splitting? Reply: Nothing under consideration.

D47: S = workshop on 11th Step coming up. Action = on the Internet some AA meetings have paid ads attached to them. Should PI interact with them to educate? Comments: 1. I have used some that were interactive. 2. This is about an outside entity – not our issue. 3. Watch out it could contain malware. 4. That would be a wild goose chase.

D49: S = 1. District inventory completed. 2. Sept. 19th workshop, Steps Traditions & Concepts.

D51: S = 1. Annual Picnic. 2. History workshop planned for Nov. 18th.

D52: left meeting

D53: none

D55: left meeting

D59: left meeting

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Summaries & Actions, continued:

D60: S = Oct. 31st workshop Acts of Recovery

D65: S = workshop – Service on Oct. 24th

D67: S = Young people’s Reading Area Convention “Circle of Hope.” Oct. 2 – 4. Camp out.

Action = of 23 groups, 5 groups are active. I am GSR for two home groups. They do financially support the district. Comments: 1. We have the same issue. A small percentage does most of the work. We do visitation and help those who do not participate. 2. I was an ADCM and GSR and keep announcing for help. 3. I had the same thing. Service manual is against a DCM being GSR. But let it go naturally without GSR the home group has no voice in A.A. Come and visit our meeting with me. We carry message and not the alcoholic. 4. We cannot give up as DCMs. 5. I was involved in a dark district. They should consider whether they still want a district or have it collapse.

Archives Report: Allison referred to her paper report. She reinforced that all area committee members belong de facto to the Archives subcommittee and are asked to come to the storage sessions. Please have all subcommittee reports submitted to archives. GSRs are needed to help with Archives display at EPGSA.

CPC: RiverStone asked for requests from the home group are welcomed. He reported on the June convention and work with D36. The subcommittee helped the Villanova group with a landlord agreement issue.

Corrections: Michael N. read his report. A.A. on the inside versus AA on the outside is worth considering. You can get volunteers to correspond and could use District PO Box or group PO box to keep personal addresses confidential.

Finance: Caroline presented her Written report submitted. The budget planning process started and they are preparing to submit to the Area Committee at our Dec. meeting. They will be contacting members to get information. All the Seventh Tradition packets are ready.

Grapevine: Ann Marie presented her report. Jim B. did the display at PENNSCYPAA. She attended history-writing workshop at the convention. There is a newly published Grapevine book entitled, “Forming True Partnerships.”

Public Info: Brian submitted his written report and noted that all events had been covered by PI displays. He urged members to review pamphlet P40 about speaking at non-A.A. events. All subcommittee reports submitted last quarter from subcommittees for posting on the web in word.doc form. Please note the new web calendar event request form. PI is planning a workshop for 2016 with Structure and Literature subcommittees for March.

Structure: Evelyn noted she had request for structure from multiple groups. They now possess the electronic file of the current Structure Manual. They are working on incorporating a D68 map on the current map file. The subcommittee is prepared to help any districts that are drafting manuals. D68 has a manual in process and D56 just sent in a revised manual.

Treatment/SN: Louis discussed his report. The subcommittee has had some turnover. Bill S is their Area Day Planning member.

Ad hoc Literature: The Chairperson was absent and no report filed.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements: The Chairperson announced the next Area 59 Inventory to be held on Oct.18th and the E.P.G.S.A. Convention on Nov. 13 – 15th. Thanks to D61 volunteers for their service!

Next Meeting: The next Area Committee meeting will be held on December 13, 2015, at 11:00 AM. See www.area59aa.org for posting of confirmation and details.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

The Committee concluded with the “I Am Responsible” declaration.

PANEL 65, EPGSA (Area 59) Roll Call, Sept. 13, 2015

Officer or District	Title	Summaries & Actions	Officer or District	Title	Summaries & Actions
Delegate	Present		Secretary	Present	
Alt Delegate	Present		Treasurer	Present	
Chair	Present		Off-At-Large	Present	
21	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A	45	ADCM	1 G/5 S/1 A
22	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	46	ADCM	1 G/0 S/0 A
23	DCM	1 G/2 S/0 A	47	DCM	0 G/1 S/1 A
24	DCM	0 G/2 S/2 A	48	Absent	
25	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	49	DCM	2 G/2 S/0 A
26	DCM	1 G/2 S/0 A	50	Absent	
27	DCM	1 G/4 S/1 A	51	DCM	0 G/2 S/0 A
28	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A	52	ADCM	1 G/1 S/0 A
29	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A	53	DCM	2 G/1 S/0 A
30	ADCM	0 G/0 S/2 A	54	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
31	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A	55	DCM	0 G/2 S/0 A
32	DCM	0 G/1 S/1 A	56	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
33	DCM	2 G/0 S/0 A	57	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
34	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	58	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
35	DCM	0 G/2 S/0 A	59	DCM	2 G/1 S/0 A
36	DCM	0 G/2 S/0 A	60	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A
37	Absent		61	DCM	7 G/0 S/0 A
38	DCM	0 G/1 S/1 A	62	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
39	DCM	4 G/1 S/0 A	63	Absent	
40	DCM	2 G/2 S/0 A	64	Absent	
41	DCM	2 G/1 S/0 A	65	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A
42	DCM	2 G/0 S/0 A	66	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
43	Absent		67	DCM	0 G/1 S/1A
44	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	68	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A

District	Registered Groups	Represented Groups	District Highlights
21	33	20	Hosting a workshop "History of AA in Philadelphia" Oct 3 rd .
22	37	15	Planning workshop reviewing Traditions & Concepts
23	82	22	Visitation committee working. Speakers added to district meeting. Looking into non-profit status getting EIN #. Long-timer's brunch planned. Willow Brook closing Sept. 30 th .
24	54	25	Dist. Mtg. church meeting site changed name to St. Miriam's Parish & Friary. Meet in Diener room. New GSR orientation. Updating roster making visitation form.
25	38	12	Combined district workshop planned. ADCM planning next workshop. Archiving district minutes and treasury reports. Posting on www.district25aa.org . New Treasurer Jim D.
26	14	13	Some new GSRs not receiving packets because they are past GSRs. We have a Spanish group registered in our district but they belong in D68. What should we do? Planning a workshop.
27	38	20	Delegate gave GSC report at Aug. meeting. Events listed – see Summaries.
28	16	7	Planning anniversary for Count Your Blessings group.
29	34	20	New DCM: Ira M. ADCM Jon H. Planning combined workshop.
30	34	18	Workshop planned for Sept.
31	53	53	Planning district workshop.
32	36	16	Workshop with YPAA. Planning another workshop. Visitation continues. Working on District Meeting list.
33	18	7	Planning inventory – Oct. 18 th .
34	20	11	2 New groups join the district. Planning a workshop.
35	36	20	Speaker seminar being planned. Making changes to group forms. Better participation at District meetings.
36	59	20	Planning Share-A-Day and preparing for the Dec. 13 th meeting.
37	40	20	
38	55	23	District web site updated and mobile friendly. DCM attended PENNSCYPAA. Planning a workshop for January 2016.
39	44	4	Combined workshop with district 53 being planned.

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District	Registered Groups	Represented Groups	District Highlights
40	40	20	Labor Day "Alcathon" planned. Sept. and Oct. workshops planned.
41	17	13	New DCM elected: William S. New Officer-At-Large: Brian L. Guidelines being updated. Corrections: has criminal background check for all incoming speakers at Monroe County Corrections facility. Workshop being planned for Oct. 10 th .
42	36	18	Big Book Back To Basics meeting now at Faith Lutheran church in Lewisburg. Sept. workshop planned.
43	44	15	
44	32	14	Completed district initiatives: conduct 2 workshops and create a District Report communicating the initiatives. Created a financial report that was distributed to home groups to enhance transparency. Issue: the 307 Clubhouse is relocating outside the district(?). Combined workshop planned for Sept. 19 th .
45	48	20	Placed bud for PENNSCYPAA. To place another in 2016. District inventory set for Sept. district considering a split because we have too many groups to be effective.
46	24	10	Speakathon – 6 speakers – 4 WOMEN attendance was 80 – 100. Border Picnic – Pat F. spoke 30 attended (rain). Nov. 20 th Long-timer's meeting.
47	43	22-25	A New Dawn Pancake breakfast Aug. 29 th . Workshop planned for Oct. 17 th
48	33	18	
49	23	12	Finished district inventory. Planning combined district workshop.
50	13	4	
51	76	33	New Officer-At-Large – Mark R. New Secretary – Ann M. Planning workshops for Oct 3 rd and Nov. 8 th .
52	30	6	Current DCM missed last 2 district meetings. Planning a workshop on service for Oct. 18 th .
53	17	4	Oct 24 th workshop planned.
54	21	17	"No highlights" no events being planned.
55	21	10-12	Planning annual picnic for Sep. 19 th . A group from Baltimore will be joining us this year. Concepts workshop planned for third week of Oct.
56	26	14	Held summer workshop. 75 members attended. Approved purchase of Big Books and Living Sober to distribute at Chester Co. Prison and Coatesville V.A. Bus trip to GSO will be planned when renovations are finished.
57	45	16	The situation with the minor was taken care of. We are continually looking at the district manual to see if we need to make updates to it. Planning to buy the book "Young and Sober" for the public high schools. We are planning a district email address.
58	18	5	Report submitted no notes.

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District	<u>Registered Groups</u>	<u>Represented Groups</u>	<u>District Highlights</u>
59	18	9	District picnic completed. Sept. workshop being planned.
60	25	7-8	Rumor has it that one of the meetings of Port Richmond Step has split off from to form a new group called "New New Life." To be held at Wednesday 7 – 8 PM. Workshop: "Acts of Recovery" planned for Oct. 31 st .
61	23	18	The Grapevine Picnic was a great success. Thank you Pat F. & Steve S. for attending. We are working with District 41 for the workshop Oct. 10 th in E. Stroudsburg. There has been a slight decline in enthusiasm for the corrections commitment since the jail has required detailed background checks for all speakers. Other than that the district continues to have high turn out for meetings and events. Planning some workshops.
62	12	1	Possible upcoming workshop.
63	31	15	
64	25	19	
65	11	8	Combined district workshop picnic on August 8 th . 60 -70 in attendance. Oct. 24 th workshop planned.
66	25	15-20	District 66 CPC/PI has been meeting monthly with the purpose of contacting and presenting a program to police departments in our district. Also the committee is planning to speak to the cart (?) DUI program. The district is actively planning the inventory which will occur the first of the year. Pat F. has agreed to do an upcoming meeting.
67	23	5-10	District picnic was a success with 175 in attendance. \$250 was raised for next year's picnic. RAAAC "How It Works" weekend being planned for Oct 2 -4.
68	15	9	We have begun to activate subcommittees: Archives, Structure, Visitation, CPC and PI. Planning a La Vina 1 st Year anniversary. April 30 – May 1 st AA Hispanic State Convention.