



**Delegate Report
E.P.G.S.A. Panel 69
September 13, 2020
Area Quarterly Meeting, 4Q20 (Zoom)**

Since our last quarterly meeting in June, we experienced the devastating loss of our elected Panel 69 Delegate, Ken D., who died on July 24, 2020 after suffering a major heart attack. His family and sponsor were by his side at the time of his passing. Alcoholics Anonymous lost an exemplary service leader and a wonderful, kind, and humble member. We have been grieving this sudden and unexpected loss with shock and profound sadness. We may take some comfort in knowing that his impact as a mentor, sponsor, and friend will live on through his legacy of service and we can reflect in gratitude for serving alongside him and the many ways in which he touched our lives. I encourage you to read the Grapevine article Ken wrote called "A Worldwide Connection" about his international service contributions in Latvia that was published in the July 2020 issue.

While services were private, you are invited to join us as we remember Ken at the annual Eastern Pennsylvania General Service Assembly and Convention, to be held virtually on Zoom this year, November 13–15, 2020, at the Saturday night meeting, on November 14, which begins at 7:00 p.m. The program and Zoom information will be posted on the Area 59 website, www.area59aa.org, in the coming weeks, so please check there for details.

Immediately following the news of Ken's heart attack, I called a meeting the next night with my fellow officers, Steve, Curt, Sue, and Pete. Ever since, we have been in close contact with each other and with our Past Delegates, Northeast Regional Trustee, and others for advice as we continue to serve and lead Area 59. With a heavy heart, I willingly stepped in to serve as Delegate and Steve S. assumed the responsibilities of Alternate Delegate while also remaining Chair (see pages 17 and 24 of our Area 59 Structure Manual). All other officers remain in their positions, per the Structure Manual.

Thank you all for your support and for your service to our Fellowship.

Eastern Pennsylvania General Service Assembly and Convention Planning: November 13–15, 2020

- The Convention Committee and Virtual Elections Delegate's Advisory Team (VEDAT) continue to plan for our EPGSA Convention and biennial Election Assembly
- I began attending Convention Committee meetings as of the July 26 meeting
- In August, the committee decided to meet biweekly through November
- At my request, the Convention Committee Chair agreed to invite the Chair of the Virtual Elections Delegate's Advisory Team (VEDAT) to present a report and answer questions at each meeting, which has been very helpful, and I am glad Fred was here to present to us today
- The VEDAT has been meeting frequently and it's been fascinating to be part of that process; three of us members of VEDAT attended the Area 49 Southeastern New York elections yesterday, which was a helpful learning experience as we continue to refine the process for our Area 59 elections
- We will hold a practice session to experiment with virtual polling for our election assembly on **Saturday, October 10, 2020** at 11:00 a.m., so please plan to attend
- As Delegate, I am responsible for the program for November 13-15, which Ken had thankfully started, so I have been updating his draft and am pleased to share the latest version today; there are a few loose ends which I hope to wrap up and finalize for posting online

- The Convention Committee will reformat the program and add Zoom information in advance of the convention weekend

Area Subcommittee and Officers Annual Reports

- All Subcommittee Chairs and Area Officers have the duty to compose and submit their Annual Report to the Delegate for distribution at the Assembly on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Please see the guidelines that I sent by email yesterday, noting the deadline of **Saturday, October 31, 2020**. This deadline is later than last year's because the Assembly is later and because the reports will be compiled and distributed electronically, not printed as we usually do, unless specifically requested by a GSR, DCM, or other member.
- For examples from previous years, please visit: <https://area59aa.org/committee-reports/> and <https://area59aa.org/officer-reports/>

Delegate Conference Report: Special Virtual Finance Presentation: September 26, 2020

- You are invited to attend at 10:00 a.m. on **Sunday, September 26, 2020**; all A.A. members welcome
- The purpose of this event is to allow the Delegate to present information that was shared with General Service Conference members by the General Service Board Treasurer, Leslie Backus, Class A Trustee, on August 15, 2020* and ask questions on topics including:
 - Actual 2019 audited figures for Alcoholics Anonymous
 - Information on A.A.'s 2020 budget reforecast
 - A.A.'s current financial outlook

*The 2019 audit had not been completed by the 70th General Service Conference Finance Presentation on May 17, 2020, so the General Service Board Treasurer promised to update Conference members at a special session over the summer, which was held on August 15, 2020.
- Meeting ID: 812 4225 0988 Passcode: 854870

Final Conference Reports

- Hard copies of the 70th General Service Conference Final Reports arrived last month; 600 total quantity ordered for Area 59
- These copies do not contain the financial information, which is available electronically
- Please ask your GSRs at your upcoming district meeting if anyone would like copies, email me with your request, and I will mail the requested amount to one contact per district (either the DCM or other district officer)

71st General Service Conference

- The General Service Board (GSB) recommended planning for the likelihood of a virtual General Service Conference (GSC) from **April 18–24, 2021**
- Between the lessons learned from the 70th GSC, including the suggestion that planning involve the 71st General Service Conference Delegate members, the coming virtual Conference shall endeavor to address the feedback from our 70th virtual GSC
- Notwithstanding, the GSB acknowledges that, as circumstances allow, an in-person Conference is preferred.

Regional Forums

- The International Convention and Regional Forums Committee recommended canceling all in-person Regional Forums in 2021
- Planning for holding 2021 Regional Forums on a virtual platform is already well underway.
- Two one-day U.S./Canada ("US/CAN") Forums, Eastern US/CAN and Western US/CAN with four regions each, will be held **December 5 and 19, 2020**

NERAASA 2021

- NERAASA Guidelines call for the current delegates from the Northeast Region to make any significant decisions that arise which affect the hosting of NERAASA
- As such, it was decided at the NERD July 2020 meeting to hold a virtual 2021 NERAASA instead of an in-person event, and that we would roll forward future NERAASA hosting, as follows:
 - Area 60 (Western PA) moves to host NERAASA in 2022 instead of 2021
 - Area 48 (Hudson, Mohawk, Berkshire) moves to host in 2023 instead of 2022
 - Area 59 (Eastern Pennsylvania) moves to host in 2024 instead of 2023
- Areas 60, 48, and 59 were invited by the Northeast Regional Trustee to serve on an Ad Hoc Committee formed to research and propose options for the 2021 NERAASA Host Committee to the Northeast Regional Delegates; Marty S. and I represented Area 59 at those meetings
- At the NERD August 2020 meeting, it was decided that the 2021 NERAASA program will be planned by a host committee of seven Panel 69 NERDs, appointed by the NERT. This steering committee is Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Program Chair, Communications Chair, and Technology Chair, with the NERT as a consulting member
- I will share more as I learn more about the plans for 2021

NERAASA 2024

- Area 59 was awarded the 2023 NERAASA at the General Service Conference, with a proposal for Hershey Lodge, which is now to be held **February 22–25, 2024** (see above)
- The NERAASA 2024 planning committee, comprised of Paul M., Marty S., Steve S., Suzanne C., and I, met at Hershey Lodge on July 25, 2020 for a walk-through of the property
- The hotel representative and I executed the contract on August 7, 2020 and our Area Treasurer sent a check of \$2,500 for our first deposit (which was seed money from the NERAASA treasury)

Service Activity Log

June 15	Area Day Planning Committee meeting
June 16	VEDAT meeting
June 22	NERAASA 2024 contract review conference call
June 28	Speak for Montgomery County Bid for PENNSCYPAA
July 11	Literature and Grapevine workshop
July 13	Speak at District 36 monthly meeting
July 16	Bridging the Gap meeting
July 19	Monthly NERD meeting
July 22	Area Officers meeting
July 23	NERAASA 2024 Planning Committee meeting
July 25	Hershey Lodge walk-through for NERAASA 2024
July 26	Convention Committee meeting
July 30	VEDAT meeting
July 31	Welcome remarks at Pennsylvania State Convention
August 1	Speak at Pennsylvania State Convention
August 4	Virtual NERAASA 2021 Ad Hoc meeting
August 5	Area Officers meeting
August 9	NERAASA NERD meeting
August 11	VEDAT meeting
August 15	General Service Conference meeting for General Service Board Treasurer's Special Virtual Finance Presentation; gave two-minute remarks in memory of Ken D.
August 16	Convention Committee meeting
August 16	Monthly NERD meeting
August 18	VEDAT meeting
August 18	Conference Corrections Committee meeting
August 19	Area Day Planning Committee meeting

August 20	Speak at District 44 monthly meeting on behalf of Convention Committee
August 23	4Q20 Pre-Area Officers Meeting
August 24	VEDAT software demo
August 25	VEDAT software demo
August 25	Bridging the Gap meeting
August 25	Speak at District 55 monthly meeting on behalf of Convention Committee
August 27	Convention Committee meeting
August 29	Present at District 64 workshop, "The Role Area Serves"
August 30	Speak at Russian Skype meeting at invitation of ADCM22
September 1	VEDAT meeting
September 5	Meet Area Treasurer at M&T Bank to become signer on Area's checking and savings accounts
September 7	VEDAT meeting
September 12	Area 48 Southeastern New York Elections
September 13	4Q20 Area Quarterly Meeting

Thank you for the privilege to serve our Fellowship. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

With gratitude,
 Caroline N., Area 59 Panel 69 Delegate
 Conference Corrections Committee Member
delegate@area59aa.org