

Mini Conference 2015

Beginning Balance March 31, 2016	\$1,651.22
Income	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$1,651.22
Expenses	<u>1,151.22</u>
Ending Balance April 30, 2016	\$ 500.00

Motion to accept the report was made by Tim D., Came To Believe and seconded by Hazel S., Inner City. Motion passed.

**In April, of the 310 registered Groups in Area 55, 25 Groups made contributions this month or 8.06% and Year to Date 60 Groups or 19.35%.
Is your Group Helping Support Area 5 5 General Service?**

COMMITTEE REPORT

ARCHIVES Committee: *Patty B.*

Archives.chair@area55aa.org

The committee met at Central Office on April 18th. Present were Patty B., Jean H. and Nancy M. Jean H. took our display to the Sober Women’s Big Book Study Anniversary on May 4th. Scott M. took the display to the Whitehouse Group’s Anniversary on April 29th. Patty is still working on the shredding of outdated material. Next Committee meeting will be on Thursday, May 26th at 5:30pm at Central Office. Patty wants to thank Jean and Scott for helping out while she was out of town. All commitments were met. Respectfully submitted, Patty B., Chair

CPC/PI Committee: *John K.*

CPC.PI@area55aa.org

The committee met on 4/20/16 at Central Office. Tyler C., Mike W., Bill F., Courtney and John K. were present. They talked about past commitments and any ideas, good and bad, that may help in the future. They also talked about anonymity with the news and press. On May 11th, they met their commitment for the Toledo Homeless Society and they have an upcoming commitment on May 19th for the Harbor Professionals Health and Wellness Fair. Their next meeting will be on May 20th at 7:00pm at Central Office. Respectfully submitted, John K., Chair

MULTI-DISTRICT CORRECTIONAL CHAIR: *Keith R.*

The committee met on April 18, 2016. Present were: Keith R., Jim S., Eric H., Dale S., Nicole K., Beth P., Michael L. and Steve F. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. Updates on commitments as follows: Tuesday night Work Release—New member Beth P. is going to go with Jim S. this Tuesday to check out the commitment. They are having problems with groups not showing up for their commitments. Toledo Prison—Much success with leads and mixing open discussion. Head of programming seems satisfied with how things are going. Lucas County Jail—Men—No update at this time. Work Release Friday Night—Jim and Nicole alternate weeks. No issues to report at this time. Lucas County Jail Women’s—No update at this time. Holland Driver Intervention—No update at this time. Rossford Driver Intervention—Did not have this month. Now has a current and updated schedule. Zepf Driver Intervention—Michael and Jim will go together to the commitment so that Michael can get used to the environment. New Business: We are grateful that we had some new members join this month and want to take the time to welcome Beth P., Michael L. and Steve F. We still need

additional new members to join as we take on new commitments and try to make sure that everyone has a backup on their current commitment. Talked about getting in touch with CTF again and letting them know that the hand of A.A. is still here for the sick and suffering inside of their facility when they are ready for a meeting to be brought in again. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm with the Lord's Prayer. Next meetings will be at Central Office on May 16th at 5:30pm and on June 20th at Central Office at 5:30pm. Respectfully submitted, Keith R., Chair

GRAPEVINE Committee: Veronica N.

Grapevine.chair@area55aa.org

Veronica N. gave their Financial Report for April as follows:

Beg Balance 4/1/16	\$420.32
Income	<u>288.25</u>
Total	\$708.57
Expenses	<u>585.08</u>
Ending Balance 4/30/16	\$123.49

The committee had no commitments for April and only one in May, which they have covered. Veronica spoke with all members which included Michelle M., Jim B., Bob S. and Luis N. All members agreed not to have a Grapevine committee meeting in April. Lynn S. finished her two-year commitment with the committee in April. Next meeting will be on May 10, 2016 at 6:00pm at Bay Park Hospital. Respectfully submitted, Veronica N., Chair

GROUP SERVICES Committee: Steven G.

GroupSer.chair@area55aa.org

The committee did not hold a meeting on May 10th due to members conflicting work schedules. They will have a make-up meeting on May 17th at 7:00pm at the Navarre Park Shelter House. They fulfilled their commitment at the Sober Women's Big Book Anniversary. Their June meeting will be held on June 14th at 7:00pm at the Navarre Park Shelter House. Respectfully submitted, Steven G., Chair

SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES: Jim L.

Jim gave two reports as follows:

April:

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm. In attendance were Julie L., Jim L., Tony O., Lynn S. and Andre S. Committee was informed of the passing of Allen G. Updated Shut-In List was distributed. Committee sent out cards with a letter asking whether Shut-In's would like us to have their sobriety anniversary and birthday recognized. Also asked for comments on how we could better carry the message. Julie L. volunteered to be Recording Secretary. Committee members set a day to see Jim B. and Dale M. on 4/26/16.

Operating Expense Report:

Balance as of March 1, 2016	\$50.00
Income	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$50.00
Expenses	<u>16.24</u>
Balance as of March 31, 2016	\$33.76

Next Committee meeting will be on Monday, May 9th at 5:30pm at Central Office. Meeting closed at 6:30pm.

May:

Committee met on May 9th at Central Office. Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm with the Serenity Prayer. In attendance were Julie L., Jim L., Tony O. and Denise Y. Committee members fulfilled their commitments with Jim B. and Dale M. Updated Shut-In list was distributed. Changes were that Kathy S. wishes to receive cards only, Tracy D. was added and Jerry K. was removed due to declining health and returned cards. Denise will be keeping track of Shut-In's anniversaries and birthdays. Julie will be contacting the women regarding accommodations for upcoming meeting.

Operating Expense Report: Balance as of April 30, 2016 \$33.76.

Meeting closed at 6:30pm with the Lord's Prayer. Next committee meeting will be on June 13th at 5:30pm at Central Office. Respectfully submitted, Jim L., Chair

INTERGROUP LIAISON: Derek L.

Not in attendance, no report.

WEB COMMITTEE: Josh D.

web.comm.chair@area55aa.org

The Web Committee met on May 15 at 11:30am at the Senior Center. In attendance were Nicole K., Deb and Kenny A. and Josh D. Henry C. and Ron S. were at the meeting as guests. The committee would benefit from additional members. We reviewed the recently added Area 55 map on the homepage of the website. This is the first step in having a more interactive map of all the districts in the Area. We also reviewed the calendar layout, which now features a list of events, with full details, above the grid calendar. The committee also discussed ways that the website can be used as a unifying force for A.A. in our Area. Since our last meeting, many events have been added to the calendar. Furthermore, several emails have been received with flyers to add to the calendar. The committee appreciates this show of support. The next meeting will be on June 26th at 11:30am at the Senior Center prior to our next General Assembly meeting. The committee invites you to attend. If you are hosting an event, please email a flyer to web.comm.chair@area55aa.org. Respectfully submitted, Josh D., Chair

OYPAA HOST: Bryan L./Lauren B.

Josh D. gave a report of their recent activities. Last event was the Decade Dance held on April 16th. It went over very well. Next event is May 21st, they are having a Summer Kick-Off Bonfire at the University Church at 4747 Hill Avenue from 2:00pm until into the evening. They will be having a bonfire meeting at dusk and they will be adding a tree to the Memorial Garden there. They are ordering more merchandise to support their State Conference. They have started to have more of their subcommittee meetings as they get closer to the Conference. Their registration cost is going up to \$15.00 from \$10.00 and will likely be going up to \$20.00 eventually. They had a meeting at Kalahari Resort yesterday and met with an event coordinator there to discuss details for the Conference and they came away with positive results. Respectfully submitted, Brian L./Lauren B.

DCM REPORTS

DCMC

Jim S., DCMC, Area 55, said the DCMs met today and discussed what is going on in their districts as of now. Mainly what they are trying to line up the districts and finding a DCM for every district so they can be represented at General Service. If you know anyone in your District who may want to serve, please have them contact Jim or John C. or Henry C. They talked about workshops. They really want to have a GSR school and they will plan that at their next meeting next month. They are hoping to have this in late August/early September and they plan on having more than one and they will move it around the Area. They want to educate people as to what the difference is between a GSR and an Intergroup Rep is and things like that. Another thing that was discussed is the formation of a committee to define the Districts. Jim and John C. are working on this and have several members interested in taking part. If you are interested in participating, please let Jim or John know.

District 11

Kristen T., DCM, District 11 said they met on April 21st at 7:00pm at St. John's United Church of Christ in Tiffin. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer at 7:05pm. In attendance were: Kristen T., Jim S., Brian A., Paige Q., Paul R., Ron S., Michelle W., Julie E., Ray K., Roy F., Jerry S., Michael H. and Adam B. Kristen welcomed everyone and made sure they all had an agenda and literature. She introduced Jim S., Area 55 DCMC—he answered questions and shared his experience. Kristen reviewed minutes from the March meeting and made sure everyone had an A.A. Service Manual and literature including the GSR Pamphlet, the A.A. Group Pamphlet and the Circles of Love and Service Pamphlet among others. Kristen reported that she will be meeting with the Area 55 Intergroup Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson on April 23rd to ask if they would come to District 11 in May and share some information about Intergroup. Kristen handed out literature regarding Intergroup Offices from New York and the Grapevine for everyone to read before the visit from the Area 55 Intergroup people. Our Area Delegate and/or Alternate Delegate will be asked to come to District 11 to share information on our 7th Tradition and Kristen gave everyone a copy of the sheet *Your Seventh Tradition Contributions*. Kristen shared highlights from the Area 55 General Service Assembly on April 17th. District 14 is holding a sharing session in Lima on April 30th, District 3 is holding a workshop on May 21st in Toledo and District 5 is planning to hold a General Service Representative School at some time which Kristen will relay when the date is announced. Kristen told everyone that she is trying to update District 11 group information with New York. She will be encouraging meetings to get registered as groups with New York and to elect a GSR so that all members have a voice in A.A. affairs. Groups with no GSR can provide a mail contact who can receive updates and information. They also discussed the Area 55 Website and that groups can access their meeting information on there to see if it is correct. Next month, Kristen will bring copies of the Area 55 meeting schedule so that all groups can verify that their information is correct in there also. The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm with the Lord's Prayer. Their next meeting will be at St. John's United Church of Christ in Tiffin on May 26th at 7:00pm. Respectfully submitted, Kristen T., DCM, District 11

District 14

Jean S., DCM, District 14 said they met on May 9, 2016. In attendance were: Jean S., Don T., Shane H., Steve B., Amy H., Kristen J., Rick Z., Jamey T. and John B. Group Reports: Don T., GSR, Grace group, said they are looking for a chairperson for their Tuesday night 5:30pm meeting. It is a BB study.

Jamey T., GSR, SOP group, said attendance is good. Shane H., GSR, Hope group said attendance is steady. Steve B., GSR, LDG group, said they are getting 15 people or better and Rick Z. said 20 people on Sundays. Rick Z., GSR, Morning Meeting, said they have had some loss of attendance since moving from St. Rita's to 222 S. West Street. Steve B., Sunday Morning Wakeup, said attendance is steady. Rick Z., St. Rita's group, said their Thursday night Joe and Charlie BB meeting has been cancelled due to poor attendance. They will be having a picnic in August at the Shelter House, flyers to follow. John B., Alternate GSR, Oasis group said they have five or six members who attend regularly but they are having a hard time attracting others. Not sure why this is. Old Business: Jean distributed minutes from the District Sharing Session. Also said the Post Office wants a letter outlining requested changes and officers. Jean will take this to the Post Office after she gets Chrissy's signature and will get the application. New Business: They discussed how to support new meetings. Said the groups should be listed in the No Booze News, on their website and in the Area 55 Newsletter. Amy H. volunteered to get a flyer for the Morning Meeting to companies with swing shifts. They also discussed how to make their website functional. They thought they should include links to Area 55 website and AA.org and to put the A.A. preamble on the landing page. They need to get pictures of flyers forwarded to Billy to post on the events page. Motion was made for GSRs to take ask their groups if they think District 14 should post its minutes and Treasurer's Report on the aalima.net website. Jean said she will add website to the District Committee Report allowing groups to submit flyers for her to scan into PDF and forward to Billy for posting on the website. Motion made by Jean S. to give all collections taken during district-related events as rent to the host facility. This was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned. Sharing Session held April 30th at 9:00am. Fifteen people attended. They discussed the following questions: Question #1: How do you handle someone who is drunk at a meeting? Some of the feedback was not all inebriated people are disruptive. If they do get disruptive, remove them from the room and talk with them outside. They also said not to make them the center of attention and incorporate a statement at the beginning of the meeting that tells them that if they have had a drink in the last 24 hours, to just sit back and listen and speak to someone after the meeting. Question #2: What do I do if my sponsee drinks? The consensus seemed to be to exercise patience and tolerance. Recommend they read the BB and go to meetings. Carry the message, not the drunk. Question #3: What do I do if my sponsor drinks? They said that losing a sponsor to booze can be devastating so keep your AA network deep and wide. Question #4: How do I expose my sponsee to service work? They said they believed the Responsibility Statement that they always want the hand of A.A. to be there. It is about what I can bring, not take. They said their sponsors dragged them to service work and told them that taking out trash and doing the work for a meeting like chairing, moderating and leading is also service work. Respectfully submitted, Jean S., DCM, District 14

AREA DELEGATE: John C.

419-340-9646

Delegate@area55aa.org

He told us that the case in California has been dismissed completely and that A.A. was found to have no liability in the case. He also told us that if your Committee wants to dress up its' presentation that there are tabletop banners they have in New York that your Committee can buy for about \$65.00. They are also working on QR codes and they talked about it extensively in New York and they think it would be great for the doctors. They can pull up information on their phones to help them deal with whatever case they happen to be working on at the time. He is going to give us his report next month as to what took place in New York. He said it was very grueling and he used everything the former Delegates told him about being there. He took their advice and found it to be very helpful. On May 7, he and Chris C. went down to the State Conference Planning Committee meeting in Columbus. He wanted to apologize to our Past Delegates as he was informed that he was supposed to invite them to this as they have a vote and he was unaware of

that. One of the things they talked about was that we had to send our part of the loss for the State Conference last year to Cleveland for \$370.88. Part of the discussion was that they were thinking of combining some Areas for their State Conventions and John spoke up and said he disagreed with this. He said we are missing the boat—we need to get out and get the people who aren't coming to attend and ask them why are they aren't coming. He wanted to thank everyone in our Area for spreading the word and allowing us to have such a great turnout. He told them that instead of combining things and making things weaker, we should be focused on making things stronger. He said that was well received. He said that all the officers on Panel 66 will be on committees/panels at this year's State Convention in August. He said that next year, at the Delegates/Past Delegates Conference in February, that all four Delegates from the state of Ohio are going to get together a split up all the items on the General Service Conference Agenda so that all items are covered in our Mini-Conferences instead of us just picking out perhaps the easiest, least involved items. John is going to be on a panel at the Illinois State Convention/Regional Forum. If anyone is interested in attending with him, please see John. The panel that he is going to be on in Illinois was one that they talked about in New York and that is the feasibility study. He said the feasibility study is a look at where A.A. is going and how we are going to support ourselves financially. He said that Ohio is fourth from the bottom in donations to New York. We can take this back to our groups. He said the Birthday Club program is very good for us to take action individually. On your anniversary of your A.A. birthday you send in in dollars the number of years you have sober. This helps to support our General Service Office in New York or your Area 55 General Service Assembly. John said he is always willing to help with anything our Committees need. There have been problems in communication that he would like to get ironed out. District 3 is having a workshop and John heard from the DCM that he is stepping down so he is looking for someone to serve as DCM for this district. If you are interested, see John. He said he is going to meet with the Past Delegates and our current officers in Area 55 to discuss how we can make A.A. stronger in Area 55. John said he will report to us next month what happened in the committees at the General Service Conference and how they voted. He said it was an honor and privilege to have gone there. He will be Chairing the CPC/PI Committee at the Conference next year.

OLD BUSINESS

The officers will be getting together with Nancy M. to finish the revision of the Area 55 Guidelines.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim D., GSR, Came to Believe, said there is something called the Rainbow Retreat and he said they are recruiting new members and told us to avoid this if possible. He also mentioned Facebook and that he continues to see people posting their sobriety dates and A.A. membership on the public page. Our guidelines, which reference our tradition of anonymity, tell us we are not supposed to do that. Let's keep reminding our group members of this.

Danielle G., GSR, Life's Good, said that the Central Office Committee of Intergroup would like to see that our General Service meetings monthly are listed on our meeting directory. We just need to make sure that it is listed as a closed business meeting so that people do not mistake it for a regular meeting.

Sherri S., GSR, Reno Beach Sobriety, said that she got a letter, as Treasurer of her group, from our New York office saying "Thank You" for your contribution and here is how we used the money. She thought that we could perhaps do something like that in our Area. She thought that if the groups were recognized for their contributions and other groups noticed the letter, they might start contributing or contribute more.

Kelly C., Past Delegate and GSR, Sunday Morning Sunshine, said that we had an Area Chair of Corrections at one time. John said now we are trying to set this up through the Districts and have them report back to us regarding the meetings they are holding at facilities in their districts. He wants to involve the whole Area. Kelly also wanted to know if the body would be willing to look at having a Hospital Coordinator because Intergroup only covers hospitals in Toledo. John said we would look into this.

Henry C. said that we are hosting the Delegates/Past Delegates Conference next year and he would like all of our Past Delegates to be there representing our Area. He said flyers will be out on this Conference shortly.

The General Service Assembly Meeting adjourned at 2:45PM, closing with the Responsibility Statement. Motion to close made by Meladie S., 12 Step West and seconded by Bill F., Wayne Group. Motion carried.

Next GSR Assembly Meeting will be held on June 26, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the Senior Center. Clean up for June is Tuesday Night Young People. Tradition Six is Kristen T. and Concept Six is Kelly C.

Also, the August meeting will be held on Sunday, August 28th at 1:00pm at the Senior Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacqueline B., Recording Secretary Area 55, Panel 66, NW Ohio