

AREA 92 NEWSLETTER

Serving the districts, home groups, and members of the Washington State East Area

DECEMBER 2004

VOL. IX, N^o. 12

The "P" Also Stands for "Priceless"

THE PURPOSE OF THE PACIFIC Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) is to develop greater unity among the members, groups and areas of the Pacific Region; to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences; and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA. The assembly and the PRAASA committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of AA.

PRAASA is an annual assembly held in one of the fifteen delegate areas that comprise the Pacific Region. It's usually held during the first weekend of March, providing an opportunity to discuss issues prior to the General Service Conference in April. As a PRAASA participant, you will have a priceless opportunity to form lasting friendships with AAs from the nine Western states and Area 79, British Columbia/Yukon.

The 2005 edition of PRAASA will be held in Tuscon, Ariz from March 11 through 13. Online registration (\$8.00) and additional information can be obtained at <http://www.praasa2005.org>. There is currently no printable reg form posted on the site. Email: registrar@praasa.org.

New Trusted Servants Fill Out Area 92 Officers Slate

IT'S WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I announce the appointments of Karen Kenny as our new Public Information Chair and Michael Bell as Treatment Chair. Both have extensive service backgrounds at the home, district and area level.

Karen's contact information is:

456 E. Hanley Ave.
Dalton Gardens, ID 838315
208.772.5003
cdablondkk@adelphia.net

Mike's address is:

634 Valley Westside Road
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Yours in service,

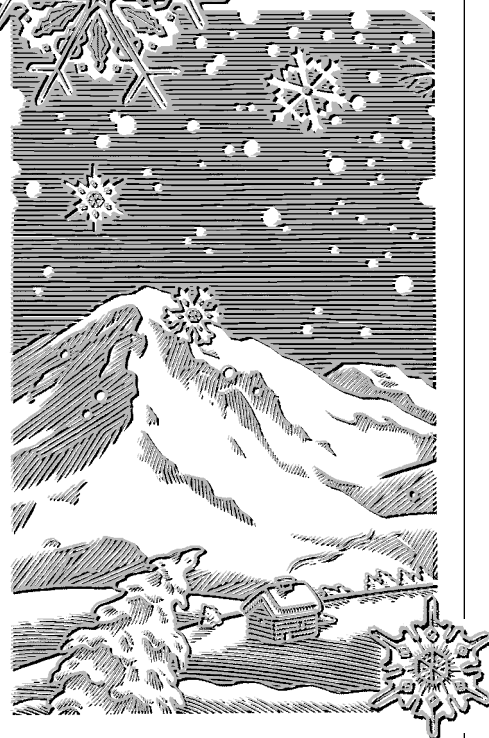
Sharon Turner, Area 92 Chair

Contributions in support of your Area 92 may be sent to:

WSEA92
PO Box 354
Yakima, WA 98907



*Yo, diggity...
The Duck speaks
for no man
but his self!*



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2004 – 2005

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Kent Manage

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Rigorous Honesty Trainer Hugh Lyons-Sackish

Self-Will Awareness Coach

Rhonda Holeshaw

Third Step Counselors

Willa Gnarl-Ives
Trudy Cara Gaudt

Fourth Step Counselors

Serge Ingen Feerlis
Mora-Lynn Ventori

Half Measures Coach

Noah Vale

Clueless Puke

Kent C. Detrees

Former Homemade Beer Aficionado

Bruno Moore

My Former Boss

Hugh Jim Bissel



UNITY: The "Easy" Legacy. ...Or Is It?

HELLO TO ALL YOU
Grateful Alcoholics...

This is gratitude month so I decided to try to express some gratitude at the life I have been given as a result of all of your hard work.

As a new member of AA my home-group despite my objections, elected me to the position of GSR. That started something that I could not stop.

In 1990 I attended my very first of an unbroken string of Assemblies and started a love affair with service in AA.

I have heard a number of people talking lately about a lack of enthusiasm for service, and wonder if we haven't made it too easy for us, not to think, about service to AA.

How many of you attend groups that study the 12 Traditions in their entirety at least once a year? If this is not available in one's home group, then how are others to learn about the importance of upholding the traditions? I have inherited three legacies! I do quite well in passing on the 12 steps of Recovery, and introducing the sponsee to the legacy of Service, but when it comes to

Unity, am I doing all that I can?

I think too often I take for granted that when the Preamble and the 12 Traditions are read at meetings, that everyone understands the true meaning of what is being said.

I guess what I am sharing is maybe my failure to show my gratitude for what has been given to me

by not being as effective of a sponsor as I can, regarding the unity of our fellowship at the group level.

Do I explain to a sponsee the importance of having a home group? I am guilty of telling them to get a home group but not why?

Do I encourage them to attend business meetings so that they can be a part of that loving experience we call a group conscience?

And how our ulti-

mate authority is a loving god as expressed by that group conscience.

Do I explain the importance of singleness of purpose? So many young people have addictions other than alcohol; do I use our literature such as "Problems Other Than Alcohol" to explain why we must deal only with the alcohol problem and thus ensure our unity?

Do I also explain the problems of money and property diverting us from our primary purpose? I can

share how John D. Rockefeller realized that money might spoil this thing, and how the money in the basket is the reason that we do not have to rely on outside contributions. So that we can pay the rent, buy the coffee, and more than that send money on to the various service entities.

I recently talked about the Big Book being translated into Swahili, our latest translation. AA is growing around the world and we can be sure that the message that is being sent around the world is the same message that we read here in the first 164 pages.

As we gather to give thanks on Thanksgiving and throughout the year, I also give thanks for those who came before us and how they were grateful enough for this life saving gift that they were prepared to give it away. You showed me a path that has led to continued joy and happiness.

I truly hope that your Gratitude Banquet or dinner has renewed your commitment to giving away that gratitude. My thanks to District 4 for allowing me to come and share with them at their wonderful banquet. It was a wonderful experience since I was able to talk to the person who first 12-Stepped me quite some time ago.

Contributions to GSO from Area 92 are still slightly down from a year ago but up from last quarter. I pass along the gratitude of the General Service Office for the contributions from Area 92.

“
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importance of singleness of purpose? So
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”

Are You Active? Inactive? If You're Not Up-to-Date, You Might Be Just "Unknown"

IN THIS MONTH'S REPORT I WOULD like to talk about group information.

As many of you know, we are now using a new software program developed by the General Service Office called Delegate-Area. It is different from the old (DOS-based) Del-Area program as it is built on the Microsoft Access database program.

There are two ways that changes get made to our group information program. One is that the information is sent directly to me and I enter it into the Delegate Area program. Periodically I export this information and save it to a floppy disk, which I then send to GSO in New York. They take the changes I have made and update their database. They export the resulting information to disk and send the disk back to me. I then import this information into the Delegate-Area program on my computer.

The other way changes and updates are made is that the group sends them directly to GSO on a

group change form or a new group information form. The data entry people at GSO then make these changes to their database. These

changes made at GSO will show up the next time I import the latest disk from GSO.

One of the fields in Delegate-Area is a comments field. When I make changes I notate them in the comments field, along with the date they were made, and the code word "AREGIS" which stands for "Area Registrar." That way the person at GSO knows that changes have been made. When data entry at GSO makes a change they notate it with "ADB." This tells me the change was made at GSO.

There are three designations for groups in Delegate-

Area: Active, Inactive and Unknown. An active group is a group that has a mail contact listed with GSO. An inactive group has no listed mail contact and has been designated inactive. So a group could be active as far as the group is concerned but will be listed as inactive if they have no mail contact. A mail

contact can be a GSR, Alt-GSR, or mail contact. The third designation is Unknown. Unknown is a group that is listed as active but has not mail contact. At the present time I am working on a list of Unknowns to find out if they have mail contacts. If they don't, I will tell GSO to list them as Inactive.

So that's a brief rundown of how we keep track of group information in AA. It's important to keep the district, the area and GSO up to date on group records. Each year thousands of letters come back to GSO because they didn't have up to date group records. The better records we keep the less of our valuable 7th Tradition money is wasted on dead postage. If you have changes in your group information, make sure they get to your DCM who will forward them to me. Some districts have a district registrar; sometimes it is their Alt-DCM. I would welcome the chance to come to any district meeting and talk about group information.

YIS,
Dave

“
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The Area 92 News staff
would like to thank our
HMO INSURER
CFICare[®]
WASHINGTON, D.C.

*"For little, if anything."*TM

The Area Chair



From Where I Sit...

AS A CANADIAN, I CELEBRATED Thanksgiving a week before the October assembly. So I got to experience the assembly and write this article with that spirit of gratitude—even in spite of myself. Friday night I was frazzled because my cheat sheet for how to handle motions and all my GSR orientation kits went north with my son instead of south with me.

The beauty of this program I have found is that even through negative blips the overall unity of the groups, the opportunity to be with other members of this fellowship for the whole weekend gives me a spiritual boost that I got at my first Assembly and has carried on throughout my AA service journey.

I'm grateful that we now have a new District, 23, that will be representing home groups in Chelan and Manson. Welcome!!

I'm grateful for Stan, Richard and Bear. I'm grateful for their love of AA and their willingness to work at area level and due to a

variety of reasons they have had to step down from their respective area positions. Thank you for your service.

I'm grateful for Robin O. and look forward to working with her as the new alternate chair.

I'm grateful for Karen K and Jeff L. that were willing to be of service at the area level.

I'm grateful for the new GSR's that were willing to come to their first assembly and despite their butterflies in their stomach were willing to come to the mike and tell us whom they were representing.

I'm grateful for the past delegates. Thank you Gene, Rusty, Ginger and Charlotte for helping count votes, chair the Web team committee and share your stories at the Sunday spiritual speaker meeting.

Thank you to all the area officers and their commitment to AA. I truly appreciate all the hard work you do.

“
What I'm looking forward to next year is what we can do within the structure. My hope is that we can spend more time with our standing committees, sharing DCM and GSR experience to help home groups, districts and ultimately each other carry the message to those who still suffer.
”

Area Treasurer

All Is Calm, All Is Bright

HI KITTI HERE, ALL IS WELL in the Columbia Basin, not much to mention. I can't believe that December is already here. I hope all have a good Christmas and New Year's.

I am still getting donations sent to my house. Please who ever reads this tell your group treasurers to send their donations to PO Box 354 Yakima WA, 98907.

Also for those of you who read last month's treasurer's report. The graph was not done by me, I have no idea what was meant by administration. Also the cartoon was not mine either. If anyone has questions about the \$\$\$\$\$\$. let me know, The email address is kittipotterarea92@hotmail.com. My street address is

16493 Frey Rd

Ephrata WA 98823

Look forward to seeing you all at the January Quarterly in Ellensburg. Thank you

Yours in Service,
Kitti Potter

What I'm looking forward to next year is what we can do within the structure. My hope is that we can spend more time with our standing committees, sharing DCM and GSR experience to help the home groups, the districts and ultimately each other carry the message to those who still suffer. It's up to you to help us decide how we are going to accomplish that.

Wishing one and all a great holiday season, I am so blessed to be in this area and have so many wonderful AA friends.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service and allowing me the chance to grow in my recovery.

Sharon T.
Area Chair

Transition, Reorientation, And Appreciation

GREETINGS TO ALL OF YOU OUT there in Area 92!

I am transitioning into my new service position as Alternate Chairperson. I have met most of the members of the Area Web Team, which is being chaired by Gene Davis. Dave McC, Mike McM, and Gene have been sending me minutes of Web team meetings as well as reports, and I have reoriented myself to the Website Guidelines. Dave McC was generous enough to drive to Ellensburg last Saturday to sit with me for a few hours and share his experience, strength, and hope in relation to his service as Alt Chair for Area 92 in 2002 and 2003. I am very appreciative of everyone's help, support and encouragement as I get adjusted to the new responsibilities as Alt Chair.

I am currently a member of the Host Committees for both the January 2005 Area Business Meeting and the Spring 2005 PreConference Assembly. Things are coming along fine.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our 2 newly appointed PI and Treatment Chairs: congratulations to Karen Kenney and Michael Bell!! I look forward to serving the Area along with both of you.

I just attended the most fabulous Gratitude Banquet in our whole Area on Nov. 13 here in Ellensburg, WA. It was full of AA members, their partners, and children, and there was definitely enough love, laughter, and gratitude to go around!! We were so grateful to all of the people who came from surrounding towns to share in the fun and fellowship.

One last thing to all: I am very much looking forward to attending the Pacific Regional AA Service Assembly (PRAASA) in Tucson, AZ-March 11-13, 2005. Now is the time to start planning for it and looking for travel partners and how to cut costs. I am hoping that many of us

in Area 92 will choose to share in this amazing experience.

Thank you for letting be of service to Washington State East Area 92 and to all of Alcoholics Anonymous.

In love and service,
Robin K. Ota

More Top Newsletter Committee Officials Hand in Resignations

JULIAETTA, Idaho—As newsletter chairperson and amateur TV news anchor Phil Medileven reorganizes his administration in preparation for a second term in office, a new round of top level resignations has shaken this tiny town to its toes.

In keeping with his stated commitments to controlling the growth of spending, and greater reliance on spiritual principles rather than on secular psychobabble, Chairman Phil announced through a spokesperson the resignations of Compassion Therapist Ophelia Payne and Grief Therapist Ariel Bummerman.

Communications Director Bjorn Lyer announced the latest shakeup, reading from a prepared statement.

"Due to the reduced benefits structure under the new health plan negotiated with our insurance provider C.F.I. Care, we must regretfully announce the departure of staff Dental Hygienist Ginger Vytiss. We wish her the best of luck, and promise to continue flossing and to

remember her immortal words of advice: 'Be true to your teeth, and they won't be false to you!'

"Also leaving the staff is Tax Attorney Lou Pole, following his indictment on charges of money laundering and mail fraud. And we say a reluctant but necessary goodbye to Credit Card Manager, Max Stout. We're grateful to Max for doing his best, but the finance charges and over-limit fees were just killing us.

"Our losses in paid staff have been more than offset by new volunteers. Joining the news staff in December are two more teams of Step Counselors. Handling 3rd Step assignments are Willa Gnarl-Ives and Trudy Cara Gaudt. And covering 4th Step issues are Serge Ingen Feerlis and Mora-Lynn Ventori.

"They will be assisted by Half Measures Coach Noah Vale. And helping us remember where we came from is our new intern, Kent C. Detrees, whose official position will be that of Clueless Puke."

1 thru 23

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 3

District 3 report

As I am writing this report several things of interest have popped into my head.

First, Christmas and New Year's alcathons will be held at Center Point. They will start at noon on Christmas Eve and run until midnight Christmas day, and start again at noon New Year's Eve and go until midnight New Year's Day.

Secondly, the recently held gratitude banquet was a big success. District 3 would like to thank everyone who helped!

Third, the Pockets of Enthusiasm Roundup organizing committee is asking for available bodies to help with this event.

District 3 would like to thank people from the Sunnyside area for putting together a great assembly. Keep up the good work!

In service,
Corky S.

District 12

District 12 had a happy and successful Gratitude Banquet at the Winthrop Barn on November 6th. There were about 40 in attendance and the food was delicious! The biggest news in our District as of late is that Chelan opted to form their own District - now District 23. We will miss seeing our friends from Chelan on a regular basis but wish them all the best in their new venture.

District 12 is talking about another workshop so keep your ears tuned in for details. And don't forget: the 7th Annual Okanogan Valley Winter Round-Up is January 21, 22, 23 of 2005 at a NEW LOCATION: The Courtyard Downtown, 28

N Main St in Omak. Dolores E. is in charge of registration, so if you need forms or information you may call her at 509-422-2114 or email hrexcellence@aol.com. There are hotels and motels nearby as well.

Yours in Service,
Tara Simmons
509-997-3067

District 10

The Gratitude Banquet on November 13th was a smashing success. I, for one, enjoyed an evening of good food, wonderful fellowship, and boogied until I couldn't boogie no more. John P, from Snohomish, was the speaker for the evening. What a pleasure it was to listen to him share his experience strength and hope. We're so grateful he and his wife Judy could grace us with their presence. There were approximately 240 people in attendance with several Districts throughout Washington represented. The Social Committee meets one more time on November 22nd to determine the exact numbers. A more accurate accounting will be reported in the January newsletter.

Robin O. has resigned her position as DCM since she has been elected as the alternate chair for Area 92. David D. was elected DCM. Michelle C. is passing the baton on to Katrina K. as the new Social Committee chair since she has been elected alternate DCM. I am also resigning my position as newsletter liaison, and Robin O. has been elected as the incumbent starting January 1st. Marvin W. will continue as Grapevine and Literature chair, and Carolyn T. has been elected as the new PI/CPC chair.

On November 21st there was a Literature and Grapevine Open House sponsored by District 10. All

literature was displayed for perusal and could be purchased for gift-giving, as well as for personal use. Cookies and punch were served.

The District Handbook has been completed and will be voted on and accepted during the December District meeting. Every six months the handbook will be reviewed and updated as necessary. The Handbook is a wonderful resource for newcomers to District, and we appreciate all the hard work Kelly T. has gone to in making this happen.

Robin O. attended the WSEA 92 October Assembly which took place in Sunnyside October 15-17. The Assembly selected a candidate to put forth from WSEA 92 for Class B Trustee at large for the US by a 3rd Legacy procedure. The voting went through 5 ballots, and then the 2 names remaining went into a hat from which Rusty Kidder was chosen.

B-Days: Sara, 9 months; Carolyn, 90 days; Robert, 7 months; Lanae, 7 months; George W, 6 months; Red, , 27 years; Harry, 45 years; Tina, 2 years; Jerry, 4 years

YIS,
Wanda W

Directions to January Quarterly, Elleensburg

Coming From Yakima / Spokane
From I-90, take Exit 109. Turn right onto Canyon Rd (Bar 14 restaurant on the right). Follow Canyon to second light (Mountain View) and turn right. Continue to second stop light (Chestnut St) and turn left. Continue on Chestnut to 5th Ave. (You should see fairgrounds signage). Turn right on 5th Ave. (Fairgrounds back gate straight ahead - DO NOT ENTER). Turn left on Poplar St, (Fairgrounds Office Parking lot on right). Enter Office Parking Lot, go straight thru gate and head for the Big Red Grandstand. Heritage Center is third door on left facing grandstand.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

Well, where do we go from here? First, I want to welcome Mike B. and Karen K. to their respective positions as Treatment Chair and Public Information Chair. I think I am going to like this.

When you read this, the holiday season will be upon us again and I know that many have particular difficulty at this time of year. The days are shorter and the sun is not shining through much. Everybody is trying to sell us something and there just does not seem to be enough to go around. But, on the upside, *There Is A Solution*. On page 15 of the Big Book it's written, "We meet frequently so that newcomers may find the fellowship they seek." That answers the question as to why have meetings. But, why do we go to meetings? There it is right in front of our noses. So they can find us! What an amazing concept. I think I will make an additional effort to extend my hand this season, stick close to AA and keep an open mind.

Saturday, December 11th, is the last combined committee quarterly for the year and we shall report on it in the next issue of this newsletter. We are meeting at St Pious Church in Coeur d' Alene. Look for the flyer. I know it's a short notice and it gets better.

- The beginning of the year was occupied with gathering necessary CPC literature for distribution and then preparing for the combined quarterly.
- Prepared newsletter articles of the principles associated with CPC each month.
- Attended the spring combined quarterly in Post Falls in March with discussions about A.A.s Singleness of Purpose.
- Made literature distributions to committee members throughout the area.
- Made literature distribution to professional request.
- Attended area workshops and Delegate reports throughout the first half of year.

- Attended the combined quarterly in Yakima in June working with literature distribution, contact with professionals, other committee opportunities.
- PNC ROCKS where I got to do a lot of service work associated with CPC
- Participated in the development for the fall assembly at Colville quarterly.
- Acquired the CPC display on loan from Area 72 for use at all Area 02 functions.
- Attended a service workshop in Winthrop where we talked about the attraction aspect of service and how

we accomplish this through human/social interaction.

- The Combined Quarterly in Spokane met with many challenges and ended with a good sense of accomplishment and sound ideas about future quarterlies.
- Joined with all at the October assembly for great fellowship and accomplishments
- Preparing for December combined quarterly in Coeur d' Alene.

What about the relationships we have with the professional community? Can we cooperate in a manner which does not violate our traditions and can we do that in such a way that we do not try to tell them how to conduct theirs? I think we can.

Thank you for my sobriety.

Tom Shropshire, your CPC chair

ARCHIVES

Hello Area 92,

I'm Mike, your alcoholic archivist. First of all, I would like to apologize for being a month late in my report. I missed the newsletter deadline last month due to being in the hospital for some medical tests.

In October, I attended the fall assembly in Sunnyside. I thought it was an excellent assembly and I would like to thank District 11 for an outstanding job of hosting it. I would also like to thank Mike and Eric for their extra effort in supplying tables for me for the archives display.

On Friday night at the assembly, I met with the archives steering committee. The first issue discussed was scheduling meeting times for the committee. It was decided to hold our meetings twice a year, at the spring and fall assemblies. The next item discussed was formulating a job description of the steering committee. This will be the first project for the committee and when completed, it will be inserted in the Area Handbook as a guideline for future

archive steering committees.

On March 19, 2005, the archives will be holding a workshop in Post Falls, Idaho. It will be held at the Calvary Luthern Church at 1011 N. Compton from 10:00 am til 3:00 pm and will be hosted by District 8. Since we have so many new district archivists in Area 92, it would be a good opportunity for all of us to get together and possibly answer any question that we might have concerning archives. Some of the agenda items we will be discussing will be preservation of archive material, suggested archivist duties, collecting home group histories, collecting individual oral histories, and maintaining inventory records. I will be sending out a flyer after the first of the year with more details. This workshop should be very informative and I hope that everyone with an interest in archives will attend.

Well, that's all for now. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season, and thank you for letting me be of service.

Mike Bare

Washington State East Area 92 January 2005 Quarterly



January 14 and 15 at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds

Hosted by District 10

Please use one registration form per person

Name: _____ District #: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Service Position: (Please circle one)

Member GSR Alt-GSR DCM Alt-DCM Past Delegate

District Officer (Position) _____

Area Officer (Position) _____

Registration..... \$ 10 \$ _____ (Amount Enclosed)

(This includes continental breakfast, lunch and ice cream social)

Registration Deadline: January 1, 2005

Please make checks payable to: **District 10 AA**
Mail to: District 10 AA, PO Box 1136, Ellensburg, WA 98926

For more information, please contact David D. (509) 306-9201 or
syladad@elltel.net or Theo D. (509) 899-0112

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DECEMBER 2004

*This principle has an immense spiritual significance.
It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities;
that we are actually to practice a genuine humility.
This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us;
that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation
of him who presides over us all.*

