



NORTHEAST TEXAS AREA NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Publication

Welcome to the heartbeat of the Northeast Texas Area 65 Assembly

Spring 2007

www.neta65.org

Volume 23, Number 1

Spring Assembly Agenda

March 24 & 25, 2007

Theme for the 2007 General Service Conference:

"Our 12th Step Responsibility-Are We Going To Any Length?"

Saturday – March 24

- 8:00 Registration Opens
- 8:30 Welcome - Open Assembly Jim C. - Area Chair
- 8:45 Delegate's Report Final GSC Agenda Report Bill N.
- 9:00 Mock Committee Break Out Session
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Mock Committee Sessions (Continued)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Delegate's Mock Committee Reports on GSC Agenda
- 2:30 GSC Agenda Q & A Bill N.
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 Standing Committee Reports
- 4:15 GSR – Sharing Session
 - DCM - Sharing Session
 - Standing Committee - Sharing Session
- 5:45 Dinner
- 7:30 Traditions Presentation (1-6)
- 8:30 Traditions Q & A
- 9:00 Close for the day

Sunday – March 25

- 8:30 Welcome - Open Assembly Jim C.
- 8:45 Secretary and Alternate Secretary Reports and Minutes
 - Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer Financial Reports
 - Convention Report
 - Alternate Chair Workshop Report
 - Alternate Delegate Report
 - Structure Committee Report
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 Old Business
 - (Motions Referred by Area Committee)
 - New Business
- 11:15 Delegate Send Off Jimmy D
- 12:00 Close Assembly

Now a little Housekeeping

This newsletter, as well as those that will be produced during this panel will stop using last names as well as contact information. NETA Phone Lists will be available at every Assembly and Committee Meeting. Please refer to these for the latest contact info. This is being done so we can post the same newsletter /minutes we mail out on the NETA website. That address is <http://www.neta65.org/>. Please contact Arthur

S. if you would rather get your Newsletter / Minutes there instead of US Postal Mail. The Newsletter / Minutes posted on the website will also contain all flyers and handouts from the Assembly. Remember, for every 4 of you who elect to get these this way, NETA saves \$1 each Assembly. Additionally, the English and Spanish versions of the Newsletter will now be separated as a method of trimming the cost of producing this Newsletter.

Delegate's Report Bill N.

Greetings to all, We just got through the first Assembly of this panel and what an amazing weekend it was. Don't know about you, but I could have done without all the rain though it didn't dampen the excitement, enthusiasm and turnout that we witnessed. Thanks to District 65 for their efforts and a really nice facility to hold our Winter Assembly.

The "first-timers" turnout was really remarkable and that, coupled with the overall attendance, really showed what our Area is made of in light of the bad weather and threats for even worse to come. It made me grateful once more to be a small part of Area 65 NETA. In AA, I've been told that we don't have strangers that instead, they are friends we just haven't met yet and we all got the opportunity to make new friends during the weekend. And it was good to see many of the ones who have been with NETA service for a while.

Now comes the Spring Assembly in March, which I always enjoy with the Mock Committees being such an important part of that weekend. Around the middle of February, I will receive the Final Agenda for the 57th General Service Conference. I will then complete the final assignments for each committee and contact each of you to get your respective background materials to you. Arthur S has helped me get my computer ready so I can easily send the background material to you via email. The ones that don't have email will receive paper copies in the mail as soon as I can get them to you.

I am really counting on the strength of our Area servants to prepare themselves for the Mock Committees and be prepared to inform the folks new to our process. In this way we can get a true "Group Conscience" of our Area. I know you will all step up as you always have in the past and I thank each of you in advance for your efforts. Until then, God bless you all.

Bill N

Alternate Delegate's Report

Jimmy D.

I am honored to be allowed to serve you as your Alternate Delegate for Panel 57. I would also like to thank all of the Area trusted servants (especially the GSRs) for fulfilling their commitment to their groups/districts and attending our Winter Assembly in Granbury. Without the participation of the General Service Representative we do not achieve an informed group conscience at the Area level. Without that group conscience our Delegate and Area Committee members cannot effectively perform their duties for the members of AA in our Area. I know that the momentum and enthusiasm established in Granbury will continue throughout this next two years so we can all be of maximum service to our groups and our districts, helping one another best carry our message of recovery.

Please put the following dates on your calendars and announce them at your groups:

62nd Annual Texas State Convention
June 15 – 17, 2007

Tarrant County Convention Center – Fort Worth, Texas

I do not have any "preferred" hotel information at this writing but am in contact with the Convention committee and as soon as I receive additional details I will share them with you. This is OUR State Convention – hosted this year by AA in Fort Worth. The program of speakers is phenomenal! The State Convention has generously supported the NETA over the years and this is our opportunity to support their hard work and diligent efforts by attending this event.

2007 Southwest Regional Forum
October 12 – 14, 2007

Red Lion Hotel/Denver Central – Denver, Colorado
303-321-6666 or fax 303-355-7412

Reserve ASAP but before 9/12/07 - \$76/night single or double

The Regional Forum is a biennial event which rotates around the areas in our Southwest Region. This is when our General Service Office and our General Service Board comes to "local" AAs to answer our questions, give reports on finances, Grapevine, the General Service Office.

You do not need to travel to New York – New York is coming to see you! It is our "shareholders meeting". There are open-mic question and answer sessions where you are encouraged to pose any question you or your group might have about our office, the General Service Board, or the corporate boards AAWS and Grapevine. The registration for the forum is free – cost of the forum is absorbed by your AA dollars contributed to GSO.

Register for the forum on-line at www.aa.org or use the registration form in the flyer distributed at the Assembly.

I can be reached via email or by phone at the info in the NETA Phone List. Thanks to all of you for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

Chairperson's Report

Jim C.

Thanks to everyone for getting Panel 57 off to a great start. Additional thanks to District 65 for hosting our Winter Assembly in Granbury. Even though the weather didn't co-operate fully, the facilities and hospitality were great. Also gratifying was the large turn-out, particularly those who attended an Assembly for the first time. Hopefully, the experience was a good one and participation in general service in the Area will continue to grow.

Since almost everyone is beginning in a new position as the new panel starts, there are bound to be some bumps in the road for awhile. I ask your patience and tolerance along with your prayers as we go forward. I will certainly do my best to keep everyone completely informed and integrated into the process to ensure a smooth running assembly. The primary purpose of our assemblies is to foster communication and share information that will ultimately enable us to better carry out our twelfth step work. If the procedures are unfamiliar or done in error, please bring it to my attention and I will be happy to explain or take corrective actions, as necessary.

A good portion of the assemblies is devoted to our Delegate and discussion of the General Service Conference agenda and the results of the Conference itself. We also allot time to address the concerns of the GSR's and DCM's. There are several ways in which this can be accomplished. If anyone has any suggestions regarding format, content, or general ideas on how best to achieve our goals, I would welcome the input. I would also welcome suggestions as to the content and scope of our evening program sessions – speakers, workshops, social events (fellowship)? In short, any ideas to make our assemblies more informative and better attended would be appreciated.

I want to again thank everyone in the North East Texas Area for this opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous. Over the years, participating in the general service structure has been a major part of my sobriety. I have come to look at our assemblies as a second home group where we are all united for a common purpose and a common good. I thank God daily for showing me this path and try to show my gratitude in my actions. One of the things that I have observed is that there are opportunities to give back to AA in many ways. Not all of us can be exceptional speakers, have the opportunity to sponsor dozens of fellow AA's, or be called upon to lead workshops, etc. But there are numerous ways to carry the message and do twelfth step work. For me, it is an honor and a privilege to serve you in the area and do my small part.

Alternate Chairperson's Report

Jana A.

Hi everyone. It was a good start to a new panel at the NETA. It was good to see you all in Granbury

We have scheduled a few workshops already and look forward to scheduling more of them for you in the future. A list of topics for workshops is on the web page at www.neta65.org. Please check them out.

Get the OK from your group conscience to put on a workshop. Pick the topic and a couple of dates that are good with you and then give me a call or e-mail and we will get it set up for you. Please refer to the NETA Phone List for my contact information. Once it is scheduled I'll finalize everything with you and I will also put it on the calendar on the web page.

Hope to hear from you soon! Take care.

Secretary's Report

Arthur S.

With the start of a new Panel it's very important, in a timely manner, to collect contact information for incoming trusted servants. The General Service Office (GSO) needs the information for mailings. The Northeast Texas Area (NETA) also needs the information for Phone Lists and mail-outs (which occur 4 times each year prior to assemblies).

A newly designed GSO data base (called the "Fellowship New Vision" or FNV) is being tested side by side with the old data base. A new method for updating the FNV over the internet (called the "Web Portal") will be rolled out between January thru March. There is also a NETA confidential data base for mailings which is called the "Area Directory."

A new report, called the "NETA Phone List" is being published to allow for removal of this type of confidential and personal information from the area committee and assembly minutes for anonymity considerations.

GSRs, DCMs and groups can send updated contact information to the area Secretary, who will either forward it to GSO in behalf of the sender, or when the "Web Portal" is available; make updates directly to the GSO data base. If at all possible, the update information should be sent by email to secretary@NETA65.org. If you do not have email it would be most appreciated if your alternate or another trusted servant can send the information in for you by email.

Three GSO forms can be downloaded from the NETA65.org web site to record updates. Go to NETA65.org and click on the page for "Reports." The GSO forms are: (1) District Information Change Form for DCM/Alternate info; (2) Group Information Change Form for group and GSR/Alternate info and (3) New

Group Form. A new group requires special handling and the involvement of the area Delegate. For your convenience, except for the new group form, all other update information can be sent in as text in the body of an email message instead of using a form (but please make sure that all form information needed is included in the email).

During 2007 the area will be streamlining the mail-out to lower printing and mailing costs. You can help in this goal by voluntary use of electronic distribution of the minutes and newsletter instead of postal mail. The minutes and newsletter can be downloaded from the NETA65.org web site. The web site version of the minutes will contain copies of assembly and committee meeting hand-outs. This information cannot be included in the version mailed out because of bulk and weight or postage would more than double.

If you would like to personally help reduce area expenses, you can voluntarily opt out of receiving postal mail by sending an email to secretary@NETA65.org stating your intention. You can also opt back in any time you want.

The area mails out over 1,100 pieces of mail 4 times a year. A mail-out typically includes 18,000 pages or 18 reams of paper. For every 4 members who opt out of postal mailing and download from the web site, the area can save \$1 per mail-out or \$4 per year in printing, paper and postage expenses. An email notice will be sent out when the minutes and newsletter are posted on the web site. You can certainly use both the downloading and mailing methods. However, the difference is that downloading helps to reduce area expenses and mailing increases area expenses.

We also need help with the very important matter of English and Spanish language translation and are trying to organize a pool of volunteers to help with document translation. If you are bi-lingual and would like to volunteer, the only requirements are that you can be contacted by email and have Microsoft Word or some other word processor. You can do the translation work at home. If you know of any AA member who is bi-lingual then please help us recruit volunteers. They can send an email to secretary@NETA65.org to volunteer.

Arthur S
NETA Secretary
secretary@NETA65.org

Alt Secretary's Report

Richard R.

The next mail out (Spring) will be at the Show Me Group in Denton. The date is April 29th at 1:30 pm.

Treasurer's Report

PJ H.

Dear NETA 65,

At the winter assembly, NETA 65 passed a budget that included an increase in funds that will move the Area toward becoming fully self-supporting. This is the first increase in the NETA budget in 6 years.

As Bill W. wrote "Every single A.A. service is designed to make more and better Twelfth Step work possible." He also wrote that these services are "absolutely essential ...to our survival as a Fellowship. Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amount to a recognition on our part that A.A. must everywhere function in full strength – and that, under our Tradition of self-support, *we are all going to foot the bill.*"

Thank you for supporting the services of NETA 65. Please send contributions to:

NETA Treasurer
PO Box 169
Allen, TX 75013

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

PJ H.

Alt Treasurer's Report

Mo N.

New Expense Reports that automatically total are available in XLS format. Please contact me at the contact information in the NETA Phone List.

Archives Chairperson

Scott R.

Hi Everyone, as individuals we need to remember where we came from, as AA groups and in AA service we need to do the same, saving our history makes that possible.

The Panel 57 Archives Committee will be having its first Committee meeting the Golden Triangle Group 1240 N. Main, Keller, TX on Feb. 13th @ 8:30 pm. We will be eating at the Prairie House @ 7:00 together then go to the group from there. Any Alt. DCM's from Area 65 NETA are encouraged to come. The Area Archives display is available for Group Anniversary events; please check with your Group before you reserve a date. We are also available for District events, Intergroup events, Area Assemblies, and Conventions.

We are also working on an AA projector show with info. corresponding to each transparency lasting about 45 min. The

scheduled events so far this year are: Pockets of Enthusiasm at Lake Texoma Feb. 10th. Ft. Worth Central office open house, May 5th. Texas State Conv., June 15, 16, & 17.

In Service, Archives Chair Scott R.

Audiovisual Chairperson

Mike W.

Please check with your Group Conscience first and have two dates, in case of scheduling conflicts. Spanish Videos are coming and will be included at a later date. These titles are in English only.

AA an Inside View -60 minutes – Depicts alcoholics recovering in A.A.

Young People and A.A. – 28 minutes – Four young A.A. members describe what it was like drinking, what happened to bring them to A.A. and what their lives are like sober today.

It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell – 17 minutes - Filmed inside correctional facilities in the U. S. and Canada. This video is about four young A.A.s who were in prison as a result of drinking, yet today are sober in A.A.

A.A. -- Rap With Us – 16 minutes – Features four anonymous young A.A. members. Rap music and lyrics bridge these four young people's stories of alcoholic despair and A.A. recovery.

Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous – 15 minutes – Explains the principles of A.A.: what A.A. is and isn't, primary purpose, sponsorship, home group, the Steps and Traditions, and basic recovery tools.

Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions – 65 minutes – Bill W. tells how the principles safeguarding A.A. unity developed.

Bill's Own Story – 60 minutes – Co-founder Bill W. tells of his drinking and recovery.

You're A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine, and the General Service Structure – 22 minutes – Tour the Grapevine office and your G.S.O., which also contains information on A.A.'s service structure.

Carrying the Message Behind These Walls – 15 minutes – Focuses on encouraging more A.A.s to participate in carrying the message into correctional facilities and addresses some of the concerns that hold members back from this rewarding service.

Markings on the Journey – 35 minutes – Depicts A.A.'s history using rare material from A.A.'s archives.

Correctional Facilities Chairperson

Stuart R.

Howdy,

I enjoyed the assembly very much. I am looking forward to serving you on panel 57 the next two years.

Corrections work is some of the most rewarding 12th step work we do. I hope you will get approved to take meetings into the

units. Many people think they do not have the time for this work, but let me assure you it doesn't take much at all. If we could get volunteers to agree to take one meeting a month you would not believe the difference we could make. We could truly carry the message!! I hope you will join us.

Our next committee meeting is Feb 17th at 4pm at the Simply AA group, 211 w 3rd Street, Irving, TX. We meet in the family life center of the 1st United Methodist Church.

Gsr's & others, the orange cans are available for your groups. Group members can contribute on an individual basis using the cans. The contributions are to support the purchase of literature for meetings.

See you in the spring,

Love in service,
Stuart R
NETA corrections chair

Convention Chairperson Jim P.

Again, Thank You so much for allowing me to be your Convention Chair. THANK YOU VERY MUCH! Now that we have the Winter Assembly behind us, and I must say a successful Assembly, it was also a learning experience for me. We had a total of 193 members that registered. Covered a lot of agenda. Thanks Granbury, District 65 for doing a super job as host for our Winter Assembly

This brings me to asking the Districts to bid on the winter and summer Assemblies. Also looking into the winter and summer of 08 and 09. That is my plea and prayer Together we can get this taken care of!

A Trusted Servant
Jim P
Convention Chair NETA

Cooperation w/Professional Community Chairperson Joe C.

Greeting from Area 65 Cooperation with Professional Committee Chair,

I have received a few contacts of district CPC and others interested. I need at least one contact from each district.

We had a good sharing session at The Winter Assembly- Later that night we meet to start our new panel committee. Our first meeting will be on March 10th at 6:00pm at Greenroom Group in Palestine. The address is wrong in the new directory. It is 900 Line Street (Knights of Columbus Annex). Take Loop, Then take Highway 79 (toward town).

I have had contact with Combined 6 CPC. They meet at The Meadowbrook Group in Fort Worth on second Saturday of the month at 9:00am.

All CPC committees: Please put me on your mailing list. I won't be able to attend every function, But I will read and stay informed.

Please let me know if I can help with literature, presentations, or any other way to serve. We need to work together allowing Area to help your efforts and we can learn from your experience.

Our committee will only be as good as its members. We need active Participation from All of Area. I will be depending on you. Let me know what your local needs are and any experience you have with CPC. I don't intend to intervene with your activities, or try to direct. I only wish to help when needed and keep Area informed on your activities.

Please use the NETA Phone List to contact me.

Literature / Intergroup Chairperson Bill H.

Greetings to NETA AA's. The Literature / Intergroup Committee is currently working on adding members from around the area in order to have "boots on the ground" throughout Area 65.

We are also considering a joint project along with Area treasurer PJ and the Intergroups/Central Offices to disperse 7th Tradition Literature to all group treasurers through DCMs and GSRs including the addresses for contributions groups wish to send. I'm planning to have this in place by Spring assembly. More will be revealed!

I want to remind all DCM's that instead of regular committee meetings our plan is to visit 1 or 2 district meetings each month. If you are a DCM and would like to schedule a presentation please contact Bill H. We can do any time, topic and format you desire from a 5 minute report to a full fledged literature workshop. Workshops can be sheduled thru me or with Alt Chairperson Jana A. We are scheduled to visit the Combined 5 meeting Feb 11 at Richardson Group.

I look forward to working with all of you for the next 2 years. May God help us stay focused on AA unity and our primary purpose.

In circles of love and service,

Bill H
Literature / Intergroup Chair

Newsletter Chairperson

Charlie A.

Groups interested for hosting the North East Texas Area mail out give us a call. We also need help with the translating to Spanish of this Newsletter and the Minutes of both the Area Assembly and the Committee Meeting. If you know of any Bi-Lingual people in recovery that are willing to put a little time in 4 times a year, please contact the Area Secretary or myself at any time.

Remember to update your Group information with NETA Secretary Arthur S. *Only you* can supply us with the best information so we do not waste your money by sending mail to the wrong address. If you would like to do an article for the NETA Newsletter, email me at the information found in the NETA Phone List.

Public Information Chairperson

Lynn R.

Greetings to the Northeast Texas Area,

WOW! What a wonderful assembly we had in Granbury. I was very pleased to see the number of people that turned out and even more pleased to see all of the new faces. I want to take a moment and thank Bobbi C. and the Area for allowing me to serve as the Alt.P.I. Chair for the past two years. I looked forward to serving the Area and its' members for the next panel as Area P.I. Chair. I was very pleased at the turnout for the P.I. committee during the break out session at the assembly. We had over twenty people show interest in serving.

I have asked Jane G. of Greenville to serve as alternate and will present her at the committee meeting on Feb.4th. I have contacted Julio at the G.S.O. Public Information desk and have requested and received the P.S.A. tracking information that they have on hand. It contains such information as station call letters, date and time of airing and which P.S.A. was aired. I will pass this information on to the district P.I. chairs and their committees. I am starting to receive information on upcoming events that the P.I. committee will want to be involved in and will pass this information on to the local committee chairs. Thanks to Keith D. for agreeing to serve as webmaster again. He does a wonderful job with our area website and I would like to encourage everyone to utilize this valuable tool. Until we meet again.

Love in service,
Lynn R. Area 65 P.I.Chair

This Space is Reserved for you
and your Article.

DCM 53

Maile S.

Hi everyone,

District 53 is starting a very strong and enthusiastic 2007. We have district committee members for the first in recent years. These excited men and women even ventured to the muddy Granbury Assembly. What an exciting time for our district! We have begun a monthly study of traditions and concepts. We are going to revisit our district's groups to try to encourage more area participation. Thank you for allowing me to serve. I look forward to learning a lot from our Panel 57.

Thank you for all your support!

DCM 54

James V.

Greetings from District 54, serving 27 AA groups in northern Dallas and southern Collin counties: We have had a great start to the 57th Panel of Alcoholics Anonymous.

All of our Service Chairs are filled, including David S.(Georgetown) - CPC/PI; Dave R. (Georgetown) – TF; Alison G. (Dallas North) – CF; Keith C. (ODAAT) – GvLv; and Tom M.(No Hassle) - IG Liaison. Our ADCM Bob B. (Clean Air North) has begun working on a Speaker List for our member groups, and is also serving as our district 54 Archives Chair. Bob chaired our district meeting on February 4 while I attended the Area Committee meeting.

Our Treasurer Dennis S. (Garland Clean Air) is busy banking group contributions and keeping track of our district budget. Our district secretary, Camille K. (Georgetown) has been working hard on a new district roster, typing up results from our recent district inventory (moderated by Alternate Delegate Jimmy D.), and a report on our Inventory Ad Hoc Committee. In her spare time she records minutes from the district meeting. To give her a little help, we have named an Alternate Secretary, Jennifer H. (ODAAT). On March 4, Linda A. did an Area Grapevine presentation at our meeting in Richardson, and April 1 we are looking forward to Bill H. presenting information about the Area Literature / Intergroup Committee at the Lifesavers Group.

May 6th, 2:00 PM at the Dallas North Group will find Bill N. doing a Delegate's Report after returning from the 57th General service Conference. We meet at various groups in the district on the 1st Sunday of every month, so if you are free, join us for a little info and a lotta fun. We always welcome visitors!

James V, DCM - District 54

DCM 61

Jan L.

Greetings from District 61-

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous. Looking to the next two years, I am excited to get to walk with each of you and to continue to learn. I was happy to see so many of you in Granbury, and felt that we had a very informative and positive assembly.

Ed C., Alt. DCM for 61, and I have been working to get information on all of the groups in our District. Our first Dist. Meeting will be Feb. 10th, and we are hopeful of a good turnout. We have "consulted widely" to find out what has worked for previous DCM's in creating enthusiasm in our GSR's. We have a great group to work with so far, and are encouraged by their participation. Stuart R. will be sharing his experience as a GSR at our next meeting, and we will have Concepts presentations from two of our GSR's. We have invited our Delegate to our April meeting, to review the Final Conference Agenda.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve.

DCM 71

Jeanine S. (Alt.)

The assembly was an interesting one to say the least. It was nice to know that

Alcoholics' Anonymous is like the Postal service. Not rain, nor sleet or snow will prevent us from delivering our message! There were a couple of us that made it from the West Texas District 71, since we had just been covered in ice and snow. It was 20-30 degrees and raining when we left Abilene. We were getting onto the freeway when we saw this skinny little hitchhiker on the side of the road in the drizzling rain. What to do well, we picked him up. His name was Mick, 21 years old and going to college in Abilene and hitching a ride home to see family in Tyler. I must tell you that Mick was the beginning of Louisa and my spiritual weekend, but that's another story for another time.

The story I want to tell you now is about the motel and they way my God works in my life. The most interesting part of the weekend was on Saturday night when we got back to the motel. When Louisa and I went to go to our room there was a woman knocking on our door to see if anyone was in there. We were coming up the stairs to close out our evening; we said that was our room. She asked us to come to the office to straighten things out.

I must tell you first, upon checking into the motel, they had told us that they apparently had over booked the weekend due to the weather. So, we were lucky that we checked in early;

Friday night or it could have been Saturday morning the phone rang asking who the room was checked out to? The person on the phone said that my name did not show up on her computer screen. I told her that I had a paper that showed that I had paid for the room. She left it at that, so I wasn't surprised when the lady was knocking on the door to see if it was occupied.

Once in the office it became apparent that the overbooking situation had reared its ugly head and there were a number of people (AA's) trying to check in. A guy had been given our room and gone up to it to close out his evening, but to his surprise upon opening the door he saw all of our AA materials scattered on the table were we had left it earlier. He told me that it was cool seeing that whoever had the room was a brother or sister in AA. He told the receptionist that it was no big deal and that he probably should go back to Dallas as he had a big group conscience meeting on Sunday, which he needed to attend as the issue was trying to tear the group apart. I asked, "Does it have to do with the new Smoking Laws?" He looked at me and said yes, how did you know? I told him of our same issue in Abilene. We talked a few minutes about the traditions and how the concept of Principals before Personalities and Our Common Welfare Comes First and a few others have gotten wrapped up in an Outside Issue that could tear our groups apart.

Well, back to the motel story! After the gentleman left and the lobby cleared out she began taking care of our bill and room. The young lady started talking to Louisa and me about her boyfriend being in treatment and how she was really hoping that he could find what we people had. She said that she couldn't believe that the gentleman and I didn't more upset about the room situation. I told her that there are really no big deals worth getting upset or drunk over today. She began to talk more freely with us. Louisa began looking in her materials for contact numbers for her. We also gave her a list of pages and things to look at which might help her and her boyfriend. Quite awhile later Louisa and I went up to our room.

After settling in for the evening we began to talk about the young lady and wishing that we had a book to give her as she obviously didn't know of it. We decided we'd find her a Big Book somehow. We called Jimmy D. and he said he'd help us find one. I went to Jimmy's room and between the 4 guys he was talking to they came up with a B.B. for her. So, me and my house shoes shuffled our way down to the office and gave her the B.B. she looked at me with tears in her eyes and said thank you. I told her no thank you for ending our weekend in a wonderful way, I prayed with her and told her that she will surely meet more of us, if she trudged this happy road of destiny laid out in the book.

Wow, what a weekend. Got to love it how God works in mysterious ways to put people, places and things in our lives.

Jeanine S., Member at large in Abilene.

This Space is reserved for you
And your Article.

*We pray this newsletter has something
for everyone, including all who find pleasure in
uncovering mistakes.
Enjoy!!!*

Ask It Basket

The Ask It Basket is taking this Newsletter off. If you would like to see it continue, please bring your questions to the Spring Assembly.

And now an encore presentation from the Fall 2005 Newsletter:

**Summer Assembly June 18-19, 2005
Henderson, Texas
Question: What is the job of the G.S.R.?
G.S.R. Duties?**

- G.S.R.s serve as the mail contact with the General Service Office, and they are listed in the A.A. directories as contacts for their groups. They receive the G.S.O. bulletin *Box 4-5-9*, and keep their groups abreast of A.A. activities all over the world.
- They serve as mail contact with their district committee member and with the area committee.

- G.S.R.s supply their D.C.M.s with up to date group information, which is relayed to G.S.O. for inclusion in the directories and for G.S.O. mailings.

- They are knowledgeable about material available from G.S.O. – new literature, guidelines, bulletins, videos, tapes, kits, etc., - and they are responsible for passing such information on to the groups.

- They learn everything they can about the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts and are familiar with this manual, the books *Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions* and *A.A. Comes of Age, Twelve Concepts for World Service*, and the pamphlets "The A.A. Group," "A.A. Tradition – How It Developed," "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated," and "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated."

- They usually serve on group steering committees.

- They work with group treasurers to develop practical plans for group support of G.S.O., such as the Regular Contribution Plan and the Birthday Plan. They encourage the group to support the area and district committees and local central offices or intergroups, and they are familiar with the leaflet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix."

- They participate in district and area service meetings, and often help in planning for area get-togethers and conventions. Following these events, they make reports to their groups for the benefit of those who could not attend.

(The above information is a compilation from Page S24-25 of the AA Service manual)