



NORTHEAST TEXAS AREA

Of Alcoholics Anonymous

NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Publication

Welcome to the heartbeat of the Northeast Texas Area 65 Assembly

Fall 2007 www.neta65.org Volume 23, Number 3

From the Editor...

NETA Phone Lists will be available at every Assembly and Committee Meeting and in the mail-out (email and postal). Please refer to these for the latest contact info. Please contact Arthur S. if you would rather get your Newsletter / Minutes via email instead of US Postal Mail. Remember, for every 4 of you who elect to get these by email, 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.

Please bear with me as some reports by nature are longer this Assembly, but I will try to get them all included.

Delegate's Report

Bill N.

Greetings to all,

I am writing this article on Sunday afternoon following the 62nd Annual Texas State Convention weekend in Fort Worth. We all had a great time and the Committee really put on quite a production this weekend. Special thanks to Jack H and Kelly Y (Co-Chairs) for allowing NETA Service Committees to set up their displays at the Convention this time around. Our Committee Chairs reported positive responses all weekend.

I had the privilege to Chair the Saturday morning portion of the Convention where we introduce the other Delegates from Texas and allow them to talk about their Area highlights as we do at the General Service Conference. It was really great to see my friends that I spent a week with in NYC at the Conference.

During that portion as well was our speaker Greg M (GM/GSO) and what a great talk he gave, both on his personal recovery and importance of General Service. Everyone there enjoyed listening to Greg. And afterwards, I got to spend a long session with him one on one to discuss the issue we talked about at our Summer Assembly. He was very forthcoming and I truly appreciated his candor. I'll be writing a report for the Area in the next few days and present it at the Area Committee meeting on our discussion and some other new information.

Now on to the Summer Assembly in Greenville. First off, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to District 22 for their efforts in putting this event on this year. You guys and gals really knocked it out of the park. The meeting room was large and comfortable, much the same as it was in Granbury. I wish we had that type of assembly hall in Irving.

I want to thank all of you who supported me during the Assembly weekend. The Delegate's report is a stressful event and, as any past Delegate will tell you, all we want to do is keep it

interesting. Your kind comments and words of support were greatly appreciated and they continued throughout the following week and at the State Convention as well. It was my good fortune (maybe?) that the material presented was interesting enough on its own, especially the issue of the GM Rotation. I knew going in it was going to be controversial and there would be opinions all over the place. That is not a bad thing. Any issue that forces us to read the literature and consult heavily on AA's experience is, in fact, a healthy thing so I've been taught. I just hope and pray that we stay with the facts, keep out of personalities and make sure that the information we put out there is accurate. The rest will take care of itself.

Each of you heard my views on this matter during the Assembly and even after more new information, I still stand by the belief that, because of the nature of the position of GM, rotation of some sort is best. I also recognize that the Trustees that filed the Minority Report were clearly within their obligation to do so. All one has to do is read the first paragraph of Concept V to clearly see that they did their duty and I admire their courage in standing up for us out here in the fellowship. And I believe that any decision of policy for or against rotation belongs in the Conference and not an arbitrary decision of the General Service Board. Others may not agree and that's OK as long as we stick to the principles.

The 57th General Service Conference was, for me, an experience of a lifetime. I have to thank all the past Delegates who mentored me or just shared their experiences. It makes it much easier to stay focused and not get all caught up in the "razzle-dazzle" of the big city and bright lights. And thanks to the efforts of our Mock Committees at NETA, your voices were with me at all times and I am grateful to all of you for that.

As I mentioned earlier, there were some good things accomplished there this year. I was pleased with the vote on the Class B Trustees now being considered for Chair of the GSB. I was glad that the 3 motions involving Regional Trustees failed. I was not so happy with the Grapevine addition coming soon and it will be interesting to see what they do with it. Hopefully it will not be disastrous. I enjoyed the new PI/PSA video and look forward to showing it at our Area soon. The Corrections video was fun to work with as that was my committee assignment and the committee honored me (and NETA) by electing me Conference Committee on Corrections Chair for 58th GSC which means I will go to NYC in January (brrrrrr!!) for Board weekend. Out of 13 Chair positions, our SW Regional Delegates were elected to 4 of them with a 5th as alternate. It was really great to serve with my friends from the SW Region and I wish to thank Gary K, now our

former SW Regional Trustee, for all of his efforts in helping each of us prepare for the GSC. Congratulations to Conley B (P43) from Arkansas on his election to be our new SW Regional Trustee. I look forward to serving with him next year.

Last of all, thanks to all the DCMs who allowed me to come to their Districts and present my Delegate's reports. It helped immensely in preparing me for our Assembly. I stand ready to come to any District for any reason you see fit. I have enjoyed my time all over our fine Area. I'm grateful to be a small part of such a strong North East Texas Area. God bless!

Bill N

Alternate Delegate's Report

Jimmy D.

I would like to thank all of the Area Service Committee Chairpersons and their committee members/volunteers for their service to the Gathering of Eagles Conference in Dallas over Memorial Day weekend. I believe the Area presence at this event presented General Service in a positive light, and was received with much interest by the Conference attendees.

We had great attendance at the 62nd Texas State Convention in Fort Worth. The Convention committee did a fine job with a great program of speakers within a well-organized event. NETA Service Committees hosted tabletop displays with AA literature and information about their specific responsibilities and opportunities in Service – the Area is well-served to have these trusted servants doing their jobs so effectively. Spread the words at your groups and districts that our Standing Committees need volunteers to help them carry AA's message. We have active committees in this panel and it would be disappointing to lose the momentum through lack of participation.

Our delegate spent many, many hours in preparation for his inaugural Final Conference Report, given at our Summer Assembly in Greenville. I appreciate the commitment of his time and his dedication to our Area and to the General Service Conference to give us as many details as time permitted during the Assembly, and know that he is always available to answer questions or find the answer to questions about the Conference. Bill has involved me in everything as his Alternate and I thank him for allowing me to participate through his passing information on to me at every opportunity.

Please announce these upcoming events at your groups and districts. Do as much as you can possibly do to encourage AA members to attend the Regional Forum in Denver!

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 9/12/2007 - \$76.00/night single or double

Registration is free – available online at www.aa.org or phone

General Service Office at 212-870-3400

SWAARSA 2008

Southwest Regional AA Service Assembly

October 10 – 12, 2008

Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel – St. Louis, Missouri

314-878-1500

Further information contact Mike F. – SWAARSA Chair

KEEP IN MIND THAT DALLAS HOSTS REGIONAL FORUM IN 2009

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve you as Alternate Delegate for Panel 57. If there is anything that I can do to be of service to you, your groups, or districts please do not hesitate to contact me.

Chairperson's Report

Jim C.

It has been an exciting summer. We started with our Summer Assembly in Greenville (what a great effort by District 22!), continued with the State Convention in Fort Worth, the annual Grape-A-Thon, and have had many workshops throughout the North East Texas Area.

Now that we've all had a chance to be in our new positions for a time, most of us have a good understanding of the procedures and traditional ways of conducting our affairs at the Assemblies and Committee Meetings. Most of these procedures are taken straight from the Service Manual. Where there is no guide, we also use standard meeting procedures and guidelines from Robert's Rules of Order, as does our General Service Conference. Occasionally, our methods are not always clear and may create some confusion. A couple of points for clarification were raised at the last Assembly and it is my hope that everything was explained satisfactorily. I encourage everyone to speak up and question anything that transpires that is not completely understood. The "upside down" triangle that is the organization of Alcoholics Anonymous depends on the input and involvement of all our GSR's and Committee members. And it reinforces the fact that this is your Assembly. If, after thorough explanation, you feel that the Assembly or Area Committee is acting in error, or if you feel that your point of view has not been heard or fully discussed, please bring it to my attention. In AA, we have a unique and wonderful process for minority appeal and the right to petition for the redress of personal grievances. Please take advantage of these alternatives, where appropriate.

The Fall Assembly & Convention in Irving is our last Assembly of the year and should be very informative and enjoyable. In the NETA tradition, we have a great line-up of speakers from outside our Area ready to share their experience, strength, and hope with us. We also are privileged to have a great panel of past-Delegates from the North east Texas Area who will kick-off the week-end. Please make your plans to attend and please take advantage of the hotel offers available. Room rentals contribute to reducing our overall costs.

While the Fall Assembly is the final one of this year, it is by no means the end of our activities for the year. There will be an extensive NETA 65 Corrections Conference in November in Irving with lots of information, fun, and fellowship. And, I hope to see as many as possible at the SW Regional Forum in Denver in October. The Forums were established to bring the General Service Office to us and it is a remarkable experience. There is always a lot of information presented with ample time over several sessions to get all our questions answered and meet informally with GSO Staff members and others throughout the Southwest Region. It will also provide a good setting to meet and get to know our new Regional Trustee, Conley H. of Arkansas. Many are planning to share rides, accommodations, etc. to take advantage of this opportunity.

Finally, thanks to everyone your tolerance and for your participation in your group, your district, and the area. It's been a great year, so far! Most of all, thanks for sharing your love of Alcoholics Anonymous through your unselfish actions.

Alternate Chairperson's Report

Jana A.

It was a really good Assembly in Greenville and I enjoyed seeing everyone there. I get an opportunity to talk to or e-mail a lot of you and it is good to get to meet you face to face at the Assembly. We got a lot of important information from the Delegate on the Conference.

As you could tell from my report the groups have done a great job at hosting workshops. I've had an opportunity to attend a couple of the workshops and have really enjoyed them. The presenters have been very informative and came well prepared. Since we have been talking

about self-support at the Assembly, I'm glad to report that almost all of the groups have been able to contribute to support the presenters.

If you didn't get a copy of my report, the workshops are posted on the calendar on the NETA web page (www.NETA65.org). Also a list of topics is posted on the website. If there is a topic you want presented that isn't on the list just let me know and we will work on getting it scheduled for you.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service and please don't hesitate to let me know if I can help you in any way.

Secretary's Report

Arthur S.

Hi All

For those of you who could not make it to the Assembly in Greenville please be advised that there is a new procedure for registering at Assemblies. Registration listings are being created from the Area Directory data base. If your name is in the Area Directory, then you will not have to fill out a registration form - you can just sign your initials next to your name on the registration listing. These same listing are used for conducting a roll call of voting members at the Assembly Business Meeting. Hopefully the new procedure will speed up the Assembly registration process and also allow us to conduct the roll call quickly and accurately. The first test of the new procedure at the Summer Assembly went well. If any member registering at an Assembly has a group or District service position that corresponds to one of the Area Service (Standing) Committees, that member will be added to the Area Directory as a "subscriber" and be sent a copy of the Assembly and Area Committee minutes and the Area Newsletter. Service Committee Chairs will also be provided with contact information from the subscriber list.

A report will be made at and after the Fall Convention and Assembly on the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) data base currently being implemented by GSO among the areas in the United States and Canada. There are still portions of the system that have yet to be developed and implemented. So far the implementation looks good, however, there are facets of the older system that have been retained that will prevent the Area from being able to use the FNV data base as a substitute for the Area Directory and we will have to continue with two data bases. This is unfortunate, however under the new system groups and DCMs will no longer have to send Group Information Change forms to the GSO in New York and can instead send them to the Area Secretary for processing. Again, more will be reported on this at the Fall Assembly Business Meeting and in writing after the Assembly.

Arthur S - NETA Secretary

Alternate Secretary's Report

Richard R.

Greetings from the "mail man". The mail outs are going fantastic. The support has been nothing but fabulous. It has been a pleasure to meet so many wonderful people in the groups where we have helped them. So far two groups have hosted the mail out: New Life Group in Wichita Falls and the Show Me Group in Denton. Thank you all kindly! This is a run down of the following groups that have volunteered to host the next ones: Town South Group in Lancaster August 05, 2007 at 1:30 pm, then the Big Town Group in Balch Springs approximately 4 to 5 weeks after the Fall Assembly. The Richardson Group in Richardson has graciously offered their group for the mail out after the 2008 Winter Assembly and the ODAAT Group in Texarkana seems a go for after the 2008 Spring Assembly. As these dates approach, I will have the definite day posted in the newsletter. Keep in mind, we still have two mail outs left for the 2008 Summer and Fall. If you would like to take part in service work, please contact me. BE

ALL YOU CAN BE, THE AA WAY!

Treasurer's Report

PJ H.

Dear NETA 65,

In the February 2006 AA Grapevine, there was an interesting article on self-support entitled "*A Buck in the Basket*". The author of the article had 1st come to AA in 1963 – when the accepted contribution was \$1.00. When adjusted for inflation in 2005– that \$1.00 equaled about 16 cents. What cost \$1.00 in 1963 cost approximately \$6.11 in 2005.

"Self-support begins with me, because I am part of us – the group. We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks, and A.A. literature. We support our central office, our area committee, and our General Service Office. If it were not for those entities, many new people would never discover the miracles of A.A." (*Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.*)

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Please send NETA 65 Contributions to:
NETA Treasurer
PO Box 169
Allen, TX 75013

Audiovisual Chairperson

Mike W.

Please check with your Group Conscious first and have two dates, in case of scheduling conflicts.

In keeping with A.A. tradition (anonymity), the identity of the A.A. members is protected in all the audiovisuals except the two with Bill W...

The Titles below are the English Videos available for showing.

AA an Inside View -28 minutes – Depicts alcoholics recovering in A.A., going about their daily lives, and attending A.A. meetings and other gatherings.

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.

PSA Compilation Video – 10 minutes – Compilation video of all current PSA's, including the Spanish and French versions, for committee use.

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

Archives Chairperson

Scott R.

Hi NETA,

The State Convention in Fort Worth was well received. We got some good ideas for our display from the Northwest Texas Area.

Our August Archives committee meeting will be held August 16, 2007 at the Golden Triangle Group located at 5440-A Keller Pkwy, Keller Texas 76248. Their phone number is (817)431-0464. The meeting will

start at 8:15 pm, preceded by dinner at 6:30 pm for those who care to join us, at Joe's Italian, directly across the parking lot from the group.

The October 18, 2007 meeting will be conducted at the Town North Group. They are located at 229 Farmers Branch Shopping Center, Farmers Branch, Texas 75234 (SW corner of Valley View Lane and Josey Lane). The number is (972)243-5999. The optional eating prior to the meeting will be next door to the group at Marshall's BBQ at 6:30 pm.

Please refer to the NETA on-line calendar to view upcoming Archives commitments made. Contact Scott R. or Vince K. to schedule a display at your AA function.

In grateful service,
Scott R.

Correctional Facilities Chairperson

Stuart R.

HOWDY 65,

We have a new meeting starting June 24 at **The Way Back House** in Dallas. The meetings will be Mondays & Fridays at 8pm. You must be state approved to attend this meeting.

Thanks to all the volunteers and visitors at the corrections table during the **State Convention**. We had a great time.

Please stop by the corrections table and sign up to be a pre release contact. Easiest service work around. Just fill out a piece of paper, be willing, that's it!!

Orange cans are available for your groups. These funds buy literature for carrying the message into correctional facilities. Thanks to all the groups who have participated so far. We just purchased \$1,056 in books, pamphlets, grapevines... again **THANK YOU!!**

The **NETA Corrections Conference** will be November 10-11, at the Clarion Hotel, 4440 W Airport Frwy, Irving, TX 75062. Room nights are \$69 (includes full breakfast buffet). Make reservations at 972 399 1010.

As always, we are available to make a presentation at your group or district, set up at your anniversary or conference.

Stop by the corrections table to get a list of service opportunities.

Thanks for your service to AA,

Love in Service,

Stuart R

Convention Chairperson

Jim P.

I want too express my sincere thanks to each and every one of you for such a great Assembly in Greenville. It took all of you!! Thanks so much!!!!

A few weeks ago I was watching the tube, a lecture by a Professor at Washington St U. After he introduced himself, he was talking about the parking lot next door filling up. A church parking lot and the thought crossed his mind, ever wonder what they are doing there? Needless to say, it was faculty and students, to hear his Lecture, he asked himself 'What am I doing here?' then went into his Lecture, which was very good...

Usually when I am off on a bike trip, or just a relaxing, vacation, I love too make meetings, meeting new friends. Get to see AA at work in other cities and states. Usually I will locate the meeting place, get an early start and find the meeting (am accused of getting lost at times). Sitting in the parking lot waiting for someone to show up. The thought crosses my mind, am I on vacation or on a great motorcycle cross country trip? What am I doing here? I could be having dinner with the other bikers or in my room relaxing...Then I realized that I am here to insure myself of another day of sobriety. That is exactly why I am here at this moment right now, just giving back just a little bit of what my God and AA has so freely given me...

Looking forward to seeing you all in Sept. May God Bless and you 'til then
Love n Service Jim P

Grapevine / La Viña Chairperson

Linda A.

NETA 65 Grapevine/LaVina Standing Committee 3/24-25/2007

The Standing Committee continues to have monthly meetings usually on the 2nd Saturday of the month at various group locations. This month, the meeting will be the 4th Saturday because of major schedule conflicts hosted by the Georgetown Group near Frankfort and Preston in N Dallas at 2:30 - 4:30 pm. The monthly meetings are published on the NETA 65 website calendar of events. This meeting is particularly for District GV/LV Chairs, Group GV/LV Chairs and all interested members of the AA fellowship.

I will be having a special meeting with District GV/LV Chairs this weekend.

Our Annual Grape-a-thon Workshop and Festival will be July 22, 2007 from noon to 6pm at the Richardson Group location on Plano Rd & Arapaho Rd above the Blockbuster. This location is wheelchair accessible.

We are delighted that the NETA 65 Grapevine/LaVina Display has been invited to set up at this event with a possible opportunity for a presentation or workshop 9/6-9/07 at the Singles in Sobriety Conference at Lake Murray and 10/26-28/07 at the TXYPAA Convention in Dallas.

The GVSC was invited to make a GV presentation and/or set up the display at the Irving Spring Conference 3/30-31, the Special Needs SC Workshop 4/7, the Stephenville Group Anniversary 4/7, the Special Needs workshop 4/21, District 1 Mtg 5/6, McKinney Fellowship 5/8, CPC NETA65 SC Mtg 5/12, Mesquite Big Town Group 5/20, Gathering of the Eagles 5/26-28, Sulfur Springs Group Anniversary 6/2, and District 9 Mtg 6/3.

The upcoming opportunities on the calendar, so far, include the TX Convention in Fort Worth 6/15-17, District 3 Mtg 7/8, Richardson Group Conscience Mtg 7/11, Combined 6 Mtg 7/14, and District 55 Mtg 9/2.

I want to thank the participants in the regular NETA65 GV/LV SC participants. With increasing help from the members of the GV/LV SC, the District GV/LV Chairmen, and Combined 6, we look forward to participating at more of your special events in the future. We welcome the opportunity to serve you. Please, contact me this weekend and help me fill up the calendar.

Respectfully submitted, Linda A, NETA 65 GV/LV Standing Committee Chair

Literature / Intergroup Chairperson

Bill H.

Greetings to AAs of NETA 65. We had a great assembly with lively discussion of issues. It was great to see everyone scrambling for service manuals to check the traditions and concepts, and the result was evident at the floor mic as the focus seemed to be on placing principles before personalities. I am confident that our delegate received a broad and clear sampling of the conscience of our area to assist in resolving the issues before the conference. The growth in experience and understanding of our guiding principles at area assemblies since I began attending some 10 years ago is sure evidence that despite our faults and flaws (and egos) our fellowship is growing in experience, strength and hope.

I want to thank everyone who stopped by the Corrections Display area at the assembly for your interest in the literature and activities of the Corrections Committee, and for your generosity to our little "treasure chest" Proceeds were used to add depth and weight to the Correction committee Orange Cans for literature behind the walls.

Special thanks to Past Delegates Pat and Glenice for being the panel on the Literature IG sharing session at the assembly. We had a very informative discussion on how the 7th Tradition applies to Literature,

Central Offices, and GSO. Pat and Glenice had a wealth of experience and history to share.

At the fall assembly the featured literature will be Treatment in cooperation with the Treatment Committee, so please urge anyone in your district or group who is involved in or interested in treatment service work to stop by.

I am looking forward to traveling around the area this summer and fall to visit as many District meetings and groups as time and work obligations allow. I want to request invitations to District meeting from DCMs to do presentations about the Literature IG Committee. We can do whatever topic you request related to literature or intergroup/central offices and it can be any length from 5 minutes to a full workshop.

Thank you all for serving AA so well.

Bill H

Newsletter Chairperson Charlie A.

Well here it is, my third newsletter for NETA. What I good time in my life it is now. Learning more about how NETA works by attending Standing Committee Meetings and proofreading all the Committee's Articles. My apologies out to the CFC, I was unable to attend in July. I did receive some feedback on the last newsletter both pro and con. I was only trying to get more voices heard in this publication. I am very pleased with the participation of the Area Committee, although I would like to see more articles from DCM / MCD. This month we will also be hearing from a Past Delegate

Remember, this is your newsletter NETA, any suggestions for improvements or additions, such as the Ask-It-Basket, just send them along or tell me about them at the next Assembly or Committee meeting.

Public Information Chairperson

Lynn R.

Greetings to the NETA,

Here we are after another successful assembly .Many thanks to the folks in Greenville and surrounding area for a well organized and enjoyable weekend of service work. Thanks to our Delegate for the informative report back from the conference. I would also like to thank my alternate, Jane G., for the help in the P.I. workshop at the assembly as well as our Area webmaster, Keith D. There were many questions and I hope many answers. I believe that this type of function at the Area assemblies helps to inform and inspire the local committees and reps to go back to their groups and districts and form those committees that are so vital to A.A. service work. Jane and I had a great time at the Gathering of Eagles working the P.I. table and I was much impressed by the work of our Area Standing Committee Chairs and the volunteers that showed up to help. Many people in A.A. have never seen or experienced the service side of our fellowship and these types of events are a good place to expose them to it. The Standing Committee Chairs also had the opportunity to man tables at the State Convention in Fort Worth. Here again I believe the Area was well represented and we were able to provide information and literature to still more people who are often not aware of what works go on in the Area. Let's all keep up the good work and I'll see you down the road!

Thanks for allowing me to serve,
Lynn R NETA65 P.I.Chair

Webmaster

Keith D.

Hello everyone! I've got a couple of items to cover.

I am currently serving as the NETA Webmaster. It is an appointed position, without a vote or a budget (hopefully the latter can be rectified in time.) The position is also chairperson of over the NETA Website Committee, which is sub-committee of the P.I. committee. I have served for one term already and have agreed to stand in until a replacement can

be found. I do not mind continuing to help out in this fashion, but in the spirit of rotation, it would be appropriate to find a replacement. If you know anyone that has experience in web programming, specifically PHP, HTML, JavaScript, and is willing and able to serve in this position, please, contact me.

Also, we are going to change all of the NETA email addresses at some point. Right now, all of the NETA email addresses are receiving a huge amount of SPAM. This is because the email addresses were posted on the website, which allowed them to be harvested by spammers. I have modified the site so that the email addresses are now hidden, so that once we change them, they will not be exposed. Here are the proposed email changes:

neta.webmaster@neta65.org
neta.delegate@neta65.org
neta.altdelegate@neta65.org
neta.chair@neta65.org
neta.altchair@neta65.org
neta.secretary@neta65.org
neta.altsecretary@neta65.org
neta.treasurer@neta65.org
neta.alttreasurer@neta65.org
neta.archives@neta65.org
neta.audiovisual@neta65.org
neta.convention@neta65.org
neta.cpc@neta65.org
neta.corrections@neta65.org
neta.grapevine@neta65.org
neta.lit.liaison@neta65.org
neta.newseditor@neta65.org
neta.pi@neta65.org
neta.treatment@neta65.org

Password will also change. All of this will occur the weekend of the Fall Assembly. I will distribute the new password then. Please, let me know if you have any concerns or questions.

Keith D, NETA Webmaster

DCM 9

Gene B.

Hello, hello to all in Area 65. I am in receipt of the summer 2007 NETA newsletter. The letter from Mike L., Richardson group GSR, struck a chord with me, Mike I thank you for the letter. Mike is on the path, and I agree with his thoughts and I hope to complement them inspiring thought and exchanges of thought with anyone following this line.

Mike's repetition of the old adage, "suit up and show up" is the line that grabbed me. My Alt. DCM has said, "Patience and tolerance can be practiced to the height of apathy." So true that I hope that it soon becomes another of our old adages.

I represent a district that had no active district organization for many years. How apathetic can several groups become? What might be a result of that apathy? Bill N. and others serving Area 65 has observed some of those results. Whether planned or by happenstance I cannot say, but that apathy has promoted abuse of group autonomy. That abuse extends to misunderstanding of Traditions, and to consequential and predictable breakage of Traditions.

Who tends the chicken coop after the fox has gotten into the coop? A question that I have spent hours meditating over, as many apparently have apathetically hoped that the chickens will save themselves. If that were possible, A.A. would have been unnecessary!! This chicken had passed the point of finding life as it is intended to be, in serene service

to others. Without leadership to show me how to return to living life in service, that service to show others how much 12 simple steps and maintaining the implement of service could change my life, still I would have failed without the group. A.A. might fail yet without the *groups* participating in maintaining unity throughout A.A. as a whole.

However, as I had regressed to disobeying rules of the Universe, groups can regress, also. Like myself in the old days, groups can become defiant about their autonomy. Was that regression purposefully done or accidentally happened? That makes not any difference, without leadership, it will continue.

-Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern." I am in absolute agreement! But, GSR's and DCM's, while we are not governors, that line definitely does charge us with the responsibility of being and performing as leaders. I had to ask myself, "Where or what is the difference? How can I lead without governing?" I had to dispose of personal apathy, accept responsibility and go to the Concepts to find that others need to accept the differences between ultimate authority and delegated authority. Utmost challenge then in order to perform, I had to accept that the Concepts provide for corresponding authority to discharge my responsibilities. How simple, as nearly all of A.A. matters are simple.

As Bill W. and Doctor Bob realized leadership will always be a necessity for Alcoholics Anonymous to survive, thus the conference idea, lines were drawn on the map, a Conference of A.A. was called and the Concepts became a necessary part of A.A. and responsibility was distributed among many leaders. Bill W. said, "Every sponsor is a leader." He also said that the principles of leadership will be the same whatever the size of the operation. Many years ago I chose a sponsor and mentors that saved my life. A group chooses a GSR responsible for many things, but one is to guide (sponsor) the group on Tradition (saving the group's life). GSR's choose a DCM to lead, to do for them what they cannot do alone. This is God in action, according to A.A. group conscience as a whole. Thus at the risk of being wrong at times, as DCM or at any other responsibility in our fellowship, I have to stand for A.A. principles, *as I understand them*.

Mike, as a GSR, challenge your DCM and other Area leaders to lead. It is you that directly represents the ultimate authority, but ultimate authority will be limited without the participation of delegated and corresponding authority in action. GSR's must continue to prepare themselves for leadership while carrying the load of ultimate authority. Delegated authority may be meek if not encouraged by ultimate authority's elected representatives. As GSR's and DCM's our responsibility is to maintain Traditions and primary purpose so that Alcoholics Anonymous will not be fractured. Thus it will remain whole.

Mike, I agree that we need more participation at assemblies. It is there, in assemblies that the future of A.A. is determined. And GSR is not only a job of honor, but a job of responsible service. Good leadership is a result of responsible sponsors, it all really does begin at group level! Quality sponsorship creates quality leadership!!

DCM 53

Maile S.

Hello all! Just wanted to say a quick hello and wish everyone a great summer. We have been concentrating on trying to get our standing committee members up to speed and get education to our district. We have had NETA 65 committee chairs from Corrections, Treatment, CPC, Literature/Intergroup and, Grapevine. In July, Bill N will come to our district and give us the report from the Convention. We will have PI in

August and another past DCM in September. We are doing well and look forward to seeing everyone in the fall. Have a great summer!

DCM 54

James V.

Greetings from District 54:

AA is alive and well in north Dallas and south Collin counties. It appears that a couple of groups have closed their doors over the last couple of months, but on a positive note we have visited three new groups during that same period. At the Summer Assembly in Greenville, District 54 was represented by 11 groups, including 17 participating members. We are looking forward to more District 54 and Area 65 participation as this panel progresses.

On May 6th at Dallas North we enjoyed an early version of Bill N's first official Delegate's Report after returning from the 57th General service Conference. We had a full house, including some visitors and a past delegate from another area. June 3rd brought Stuart R. to the Plano group to update the district on what's happening in Area Corrections. We had groups interested in increasing their participation in taking meetings to both Corrections and Treatment institutions. In July Scott R. will be bringing an Archives Committee presentation to our district at the Georgetown group. Don G., Area Treatment chair will be letting us in on the inner workings of the Treatment Committee in August as he shares with us at the Legacy group, and Lynn R will be bringing a Public Information presentation to the district meeting at Clean Air North in September.

One part of our district meeting that has been a little different this year is that we have allowed time in the 1st half of the meeting for GSRs to express concerns and get help with "group issues." Group finances and group unity has been a hot topic on several occasions.

We continue to focus on a Tradition and a Concept each month, and our GSRs always share in the discussion of both.

District 54 is also looking forward to helping host the hospitality suite at the next area assembly. Our GSRs are looking for the very best "Potluck Recipes" in Texas to bring to Irving in September. If our monthly pre-meeting lunches are an indicator you guys are in for a treat. If you have free any free time on the 1st Sunday of every month, please join us for a little info and a lotta fun. We always welcome visitors!

DCM 55

Bill M.

District 55 held its monthly meeting on June 3rd at the Compass Group. Bill N, NETA 65 Delegate presented the Final Conference Report.

Of nine Groups in the District, 4 attended. On May 20th, A Day in AA was held at the Big Book Group. The food was excellent; Tom I gave a timely and stimulating talk, and the Ask it Basket provided from-the-heart questions for Pat R and Larry J. We closed in the usual way.

Our next monthly meeting will be held at the Coppell Group on July, 1st at 2PM.

DCM 61

Jan L.

Greetings from District 61-

At our last District meeting, we invited PJ, our Area Treasurer, to give a presentation on Tradition 7 and self-support. She talked about the \$5.75 plan, and how our GSR's could encourage their groups to contribute to all of the service entities. Some of our groups have lost GSR's in the last few months, and we are trying to find ways of reaching out to these groups and to get them involved in the service again. Starting this month, we are getting together for a night out, to visit each of the groups. Hopefully with some fun and fellowship, we can get more involvement. We still have several dedicated and enthusiastic GSR's, who continue to make District 61 a wonderful District to serve.

DCM 64
Willie T.

It has been six months since I began to serve District 64 as DCM. I am pleased to report that GSR's and members within District 64 continue to be strong in the three legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is my intention to visit all the groups within the district over the next few months. This year has been extremely exciting for me as I celebrated two decades of sober living...one day at a time. The privilege to serve has always enhanced my sober life, from the top of the AA service structure (coffee maker for my home group) to my current position of trust. Sponsorship and fellowship combined with AA's 12 Steps, Traditions, and Concepts continues to provide hope to the lives of the hopeless and path to a life that is indescribably wonderful...as I have found. May God's Grace continue to bless and keep you safe throughout our journey.

Past Delegate (Panel 47)

Phil E.

Part 1

I originally submitted this article to be published in the Winter Assembly Newsletter and was informed that I had just missed the deadline before the material went to the printer. I feel that my article is still one I would like to share with Area 65.

First congratulations to all who have been elected, drawn from the hat, or appointed to a position of service throughout the Northeast Texas Area. From the AA groups down to the Area Committees and Area Officers, an awesome and exciting responsibility has been taken on by all who agreed to accept their position. Whether through election, the draw from the hat or by appointment your 'job' is vital to the Area 65 service structure, to the members, to the groups and districts you've agreed to serve. I pray each of you find the journey through Panel 57 a humbling and rewarding experience. There will be much advice and a great deal of it will be worth entertaining your attention to possibly help you serve and then there will be those times where you'll be the only one who doesn't know how to do the task your position requires. I read some excellent advice in the NETA Fall Newsletter (2006) that I don't believe can be improved on, other than learn just what the responsibilities of your particular position are and tend to them with zeal. This precious advice if you recall comes from Bill H, Alternate Chairperson (Panel 55) of the Literature / Intergroup Liaison Committee. "... old timers taught me by word and example that I must always place the welfare of AA above all else, that I can do by studying and adhering to the Steps, Traditions and Concepts, and that if I follow them as my conscience guides me, then at voting time I cannot have friends, enemies, allies or opponents, only principles."

I recall my first Assembly, it was the Spring Assembly of 1983. I had nearly six months in Alcoholics Anonymous and a sponsor who was our group's GSR. He had believed that attending the Assembly would be good for me. It was, the impression from that experience had a lasting affect that I embrace to this very day. My first reaction was WHOA look at me in the midst of our Area's "AA Hierarchy" – the people who ran the show. Today I sit here with a huge grin as I recall my naivety. At our first break I shared my awe and excitement to my sponsor and others around the table with having seen "the Bosses". They grabbed this moment to explain that these were servants, trusted servants – that they did not govern. It was the beginning of my becoming aware of AA's Traditions. Through the course of attending our Area's Assemblies I began to learn of the 'Third Legacy Procedure' and of what at the time I thought a very peculiar method of choosing someone to a service position as an Area Officer. After a certain amount of voting hadn't brought about a required number of votes – the names were then placed in a hat which one would be drawn to serve in that position. As I believe the Area had the opportunity to experience just that in the Fall Assembly 2006 elections.

Panel 57 Alternate Chairperson – Jana A. and Alternate Treasurer – Mo N. were elected in this manner. At that first Assembly in the Spring of 1983 I learned that there is no hierarchy, no elite class – I learned that our First Tradition shows us that AA is made of individuals who are but a small part of a great whole. It takes all of us. The Assemblies were in accordance to Tradition Three and Tradition Five, in the spirit and foundation of our Recovery Program, the ideals found in our Twelfth Step and Twelfth Tradition. I was assured then and my prayers are that this will always be so.

Part 2 to be in the Fall 2007 Newsletter!

Special Announcement

Hello All,

We hope you will join us for the 27th Texas State Conference of Young People in AA to be held October 26-28, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Select North Dallas. Please join us for great speakers, great workshops, and great fellowship this coming October in Dallas, TX at TXSCYPAA 27!!! Look forward to seeing you there.

In l/s, Aaron N

TXSCYPAA Advisory Council (Chair)