

# Kentuckiana News

AREA 26 NEWSLETTER – THE VOICE OF KENTUCKIANA – SUMMER 2009

## Beating the Summertime Blues



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The next topic will be "Acceptance, Fall, or Change." Please submit your stories by September 1, 2009.

You may email your contribution to [kentuckiananewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:kentuckiananewsletter@yahoo.com)

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To submit articles, you must be an alcoholic and your subject should pertain to the theme of the upcoming issue. If your story is not within the theme, it will be archived for later issues. By submitting articles, you authorize us to edit for traditions, length, and language. Thank you for your support.

## Beating the Summertime Blues

Back in 1958, Eddie Cochran and Jerry Capehart wrote the song "Summertime Blues." The lyrics had this refrain: "Sometimes I wonder what I'm a gonna do, But there ain't no cure for the summertime blues."

Something must have struck a cord (literally), because several individuals and groups picked up the song and recorded their own covers of it. (The Beach Boys, The Who, Alan Jackson, Olivia Newton-John, Buddy Holly, Cheech Marin, Rush.)

I'm surprised that various AA groups haven't used a version of this song as their summer anthem. When I think about it, however, imperfect members of AA (that would be all of us) don't need a season or a song for the blues. What we need is a way to get through the blues without picking up the booze.

Is there a cure for the summertime blues? Here are a few tips: Read the Big Book. Go to meetings. Call your sponsor. Sometimes the old clichés contain the best answers. Perhaps this summer we can put a new spin on each of the big three.

*Read the Big Book.* Last summer I read the BB backwards. Meaning what? I started at Chapter 11 and worked my way back to the preface. It was amazing to see old phrases jump out at me in fresh ways. A few summers ago, I decided that I would sit on my front deck and read the BB out loud. Reading the book to myself made me aware of each word of the wonderful "suggestions" and stories that have worked for so long in this program. A couple of friends of mine call each other on the telephone each morning at the same time. Every morning one of them reads a few pages to the other. An old timer I know read the BB into a tape recorder and listened to himself (a favorite thing for us AAs!) each day. Invent your own new way to see and hear the BB in a fresh way. This is a great way to kick-start a summer holiday season.

*Go to meetings.* A few suggestions are

in order around this old saw. First, don't neglect your home group. You have an obligation to go there. You can, however, try to see the meeting from a different perspective. Sit in a different part of the room than you would normally sit. You'll actually "see people in a different light." If you like to talk in meetings, shut up. If you are hesitant about speaking, tell the chair ahead of time that you'd like to say something at a particular meeting. Go to different meetings.

You might even plan a summer outing by picking a meeting in a town nearby that you'd been meaning to visit. Drive out, have a nice meal, go to a meeting, and when they ask if there is anyone from out of town, raise your hand. You'll make new friends. (This is a promise.) Decide to make a week for special meetings. Get your local meeting directory, and go to a meeting you've never been to each day of the week. There is an old saying that says, "Familiarity breeds contempt." We couple that with "Contempt prior to investigation." So, why not investigate new meetings and the "contempt" (i.e., your summertime blues) might just melt.

*Call your sponsor.* Bill Wilson used to take on a sponsor based on his need at the moment. If he felt he needed a deeper spiritual approach to the program, he found someone deeply spiritual. When Wilson began to think he was the most humble person in AA, he sought out someone who was truly humble to follow for a bit. In other words, when he had a need, he found someone who exemplified the answer.

Don't give up your regular sponsor (unless it is time to do that), but take a "Summer Spiritual Inventory:" Who, What, Where, When, How. *Who's* program have you admired and would like to develop a relationship with? *What* has been lacking in your spiritual life? *Where* would you like to grow this summer? *When* is the best time to start these changes? *Why* have you put off doing one of the steps more fully? *How* will you begin? Write out the answers and then do something about it.

Maybe Eddie Cochran was wrong. Perhaps there is a cure for the summertime

blues. There is the chance that the answer was given to us in the very first days of our sobriety: Don't Drink, Read the Big Book, Go to meetings, and Call your sponsor. I suggest that this will prepare you for a wonderful fall season and even a life that is "happy, joyous, and free."

Lee W.

Louisville, KY

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Gotta Beat those Blues!

When I was practicing my "Chosen Career" (drinking), hot summer days and outdoor activities made my mouth water for a cold beer—make that MANY cold beers.

I had bought into the idea that drinking alcohol was a great way to have Big Fun with friends and others: in a bar, at an outdoor concert, a picnic, lounging around the pool, at a sports event—a romantic and irresistible ingredient of summer in the good old U.S. of A. Life's always a party with alcohol, right? Maybe that's true for some normal drinkers, but for a genuine alcoholic like me, it was soul-poison.

Don't misunderstand; alcohol was fun for many years. At least, that's how it seems in my memory. I was a potential drunk who was afraid of everyone and everything, full of anxiety and a malignant self-consciousness. So taking a few drinks made me feel deliciously relaxed, uninhibited and daring.

Although my dance moves were probably closer to frog-in-a-blender than Madonna, in my besotted mind yours truly was the coolest girl on the floor. Why, I was suddenly the center of attention! Life of the party! It didn't occur to me until later that there is always a certain morbid fascination, at least for men, in watching a woman get sloppy drunk. (Think "Girls Gone Wild.")

My poor husband was embarrassed and angry on the occasions when he witnessed this behavior. It embarrassed me too and made me feel ashamed later, but that didn't stop me from repeating it over and over. I was totally enslaved by self and by the

tyrant alcohol.

Sincerely, I thank God for allowing me to hit rock bottom several 24 hours ago. Alcoholism had worked me over, but good. Thanks to extreme misery, depression and desperation, I had finally become teachable. Treatment and many A.A. meetings followed. Over time, God has provided me with two great sponsors who led me through the Steps. The promises began to come true in my life and sanity returned!

My sponsors taught me to substitute healthy behaviors for my old, toxic ones. Lemonade became my drink of choice. At first when I went to those summer events, it was essential to park my car in a spot where I could make a fast getaway if I became "restless, irritable and discontented." (*Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, p. xxvi, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.*)

My choice of companions, activities and hangouts had to change. It was very important for me to spend *fun*, social time with recovering alcoholics or other folks who have a stake in my sobriety--my family, for instance.

My sponsors taught me that accountability to others is important, and it keeps me honest to this day.

Today, as long as I stay in fit spiritual condition through prayer and meditation, attending meetings and serving others, I can go nearly anywhere and enjoy myself. I try to adhere to the advice given in the chapter, *Working with Others*: "Do not think of what you will get out of the occasion. Think of what you can bring to it." (*Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 103, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.*)

Recently my husband and I went to Germany to visit our daughter & son-in-law. Al fresco dining is very popular there, and virtually every adult we saw at these bistros was drinking the famous German beers or other spirits. What other people drank didn't bother me. I sipped my mineral water and took pleasure in the scenery and the good conversation and company of my family. We had a great time and want to go back.

Dependence on the God of my understanding and practicing the principles of AA helps me beat the Summertime Blues!

MB

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It was a sunny Fourth of July. I was supposed to meet a bunch of AA's on the Riverfront in Covington for a picnic and to watch fireworks. More than two hundred thousand people showed up for the fireworks. In the midst of such a crowd I could not find my friends. After searching for hours I gave up and headed for the Promises Club to catch a meeting.

I only found three people at the club and only one was there for a meeting. He had come in from Indiana and I felt bad that he didn't find a meeting. The two guys running the bar said it looked like there wasn't going to be a meeting since it was almost 8:00 P.M. and only the two of us were there. I asked the barkeepers to call another nearby club to see what was going on there. Turns out only two people showed up there, too, and they were about to go home. We decided to get together with the two people at the other club and have a meeting.

We rode over in my new friend's car and got there at about five till 9. We talked for a few minutes and found we'd all been sober a few years and none of us really needed a meeting badly. We had all come hoping to offer some help to a newcomer. About five minutes after the hour, we decided to have a meeting anyway. We had no sooner finished the readings when a guy walked in and said, "Boy, am I glad you guys are here. I've only been sober about five weeks and I sure need a meeting."

Suddenly we knew why we were there! God knew this newcomer was going to need a meeting and arranged for us to be there. It was like a breath of fresh air blew in the door and filled the room with peace and serenity.

Another Summer I was sharing a mobile home with my dad, an arrangement that has never worked for us. We had a big

fight over nothing. I was getting a divorce from my second wife, and was in a dead end job. Well nothing was going very well. So without thinking I headed out the front door to walk to a store about a block away and buy a twelve pack. As I stepped onto the front porch a friend pulled up and said, "Hay Jon, you want to go to a meeting?" Still not thinking, I went to the meeting and got over whatever it was that was bothering me.

Then came the summer I worked as a cook at the Waffle House. Not a bad place to work, if you can cook, but I couldn't cook! After five months, it still took me three eggs to get one right at times. I felt really bad for the servers who no doubt lost tips because of how the food was cooked. I have no idea why they kept me around, but they did. I was sharing an apartment with my girlfriend and I knew she'd be upset if I quit a job without another one lined up. Finally one night on the way to work I decided I had enough and just wouldn't go to work. I'd just quit.

I found myself full of fear, shame, self-loathing--basically a bad case of the "poor me's." You know, poor me, poor me, pour me a drink. I had not forgotten I was powerless over alcohol; I just didn't care. After a while I realized my boss would call to find out why I was not at work. Reluctantly, I called my girlfriend so she would not worry. I told her my plans to get drunk and how I didn't care what happened. She reminded me I was supposed to chair a noon meeting the next day. So I went home to face her. To my surprise she was very understanding.

Next day I went a little early to the motel restaurant where we held the meeting. Our regular server asked me what was wrong. I guess she could tell I was feeling down. I told her I'd just quit my job and was looking for another one. She told me about three job-openings right there in the motel. The restaurant was looking for a dishwasher, which didn't sound like something I wanted. There was a factory interview in one of the meeting rooms in the motel, which I thought might be OK. The motel was also looking for a van driver for a shuttle that ran back and forth from the airport. I interviewed for both

and took the van driver position. It turned to be a great job with very good tips and easy work.

So I guess my answer to the summertime blues is to **go to a meeting**, preferably before you decide to get drunk!

Peace & Love,  
Jon S., Web Site Committee Chair  
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Everyone looks forward to the summertime and all the activities that come along with it. In sobriety we have learned to pick and choose people, places and things carefully in order to thoroughly enjoy and savor life to the fullest.

Fresh smells, tastes and adventures are waiting for us. Everything is blooming and the sunshine and rain are enhancing nature as we mature in this new way of living. Life is at its best in sobriety. Each new day brings a new opportunity to be happy, share the hope and encourage someone else to spring into action as if this was the first day of life.

We can go on picnics, have family cookouts and visit someone we haven't seen for a long time. As the new person evolves from within, all sorts of dreams begin to come true. At last we are free from the grip of secrecy, nightlife and doing things in our hidden cells of doom and gloom.

The light of the Spirit is upon us and we can walk and even run among the living. We can host get-togethers and look people in the eye when we talk to them. We don't have to be in a hurry to leave or try to deceive people into supporting our cravings. We can make plans for future events and actually show up and contribute to what's going on. We have become a part of our families and society.

Personally, I beat the summertime blues simply by being seen in public, letting everyone know that I am alive and well and by sharing my newly found way of life with the newcomers. I also volunteer at local centers and visit sick and shut in seniors. I've started a service to aide children of recovering alcoholics and addicts. I attend

community meetings and I'm furthering my education. Life on life's terms is not a bed of roses, but it sure beats the dungeon of destruction that I crawled out of. I notice the world around me today. I smile at children, I speak to strangers, I lend a helping hand when I see another person in need of one and I enjoy seeing my family.

So whether it's the summertime blues, spring fever or winter meltdown, we can be grateful today for a new shot at life. We have been saved, from ourselves and for the program. As we become links in an ongoing chain of hope for the future, we also become the fertilizer of encouragement for those who will sprout behind us. As new life enters their hearts and minds we will watch them change like the seasons and we all will beat the blues of using and abusing the life we were created to live.

Peace - Love & Blessings to all. Ellen S.  
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The Jaywalker; 2009 Version

This is the story of Dave. Dave likes to drive, and Dave likes to drink. In his early years these two obsessions weren't that much of a problem, or so he thought. A driving under the influence charge every five years was the norm. Did these charges worry Dave? No, because Dave likes to drive, and Dave likes to drink.

One night Dave was driving and Dave was drinking. On this night Dave had a passenger, his best friend. Dave had a wreck, killing his best friend. Should this have been a wake-up call? Of course it would be, to any normal person. Did this change Dave's behavior? No, because Dave likes to drive and Dave likes to drink.

Time passes, and Dave totals two more vehicles. The last wreck should have killed him...again. Dave was told he was traveling in excess of 100 mph on the interstate. Dave lost control of his Ford Ranger and flipped it end-over-end for a quarter of a mile. Dave awakes in the hospital bloodied and bruised, but alive. Did this impress Dave? No, because Dave likes to

drive and Dave likes to drink.

One more time, Dave gets pulled over and arrested for DUI. Fortunately (?), his blood alcohol level is only .09. Therefore he was not given a urine test. If they had, the police would have also found other drugs in his system. A DUI every five years becomes every two years.

Did this matter to Dave? Yes, it did. Finally! His driving career is put on hold. No car, no license, no job, and no hope. Dave thinks that suicide is the only escape from the pain of his life. But Dave cannot go through with it. By a quirk of fate he ends up at the Healing Place. Doubts still run rampant. But now Dave is willing to try anything to achieve sobriety.

My name is Dave. I am an alcoholic.

Dave M  
The Healing Place  
Louisville, KY.

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The AA Grapevine

My name is Jeff and I am an alcoholic. I'm a happy, joyous and free alcoholic. My sobriety date is October 20, 1990 and my home group is the Secret Meeting in Breeman, Kentucky. The meeting got its name because it is located in the middle of nowhere and is extremely hard to find. I don't even think GPS would help.

My home group is extremely service-oriented. All of us consider service work to be part of our recovery.

I'd like to tell everybody what I have discovered since I've been in AA. The AA symbol is a triangle within a circle. That triangle has three sides. Side one is recovery--working the 12 steps, living the 12 steps in your life on a daily basis. The second side of the triangle is unity--being a part of a home group, being an active member of AA. The third side of the triangle is Service--being of maximum service to God and your fellow man, and trying to carry the message of AA wherever you go. If you're working on all three sides of that triangle, you can't help but be happy, joyous, and free. It just happens.

When I got here, I was pretty well beaten-up by alcoholism and had gotten to a point where my life was going down the tubes. I had begun losing things: my job, my self-respect, and I had gotten a grand total of 8 DUIs. (Got one of those DUIs while riding a moped and was real proud of it.) Fortunately, I had not lost my family—they stuck by me through thick and thin.

It was suggested that I go to treatment. I did, and that helped a lot. Before I got out of treatment, I had already found a sponsor. I have been blessed with a number of really good sponsors. My last sponsor, Billy, (who is now deceased) was amazing. He taught me and all the other guys that he sponsored that the highest goal we could ever have was sobriety, and I totally believe that to this day.

For me, recovery is based on being involved and being part of service work. I got into service work at 6 months sober. My home group decided to make me their GSR, or as I like to call it, The Gizzard. They sent me to district meetings and then I was asked to go to State meetings and through that process I got more involved with AA. Two friends and I managed to get a prison meeting started and that meeting still goes on every Monday night. It's an absolutely amazing meeting.

What came out of that for me is God doing for me what I couldn't do for myself. Because of starting that jail meeting, I got a job as a caseworker at the prison, then after a few years of working as a caseworker, then

a job as a substance abuse counselor in the prison. AA gave me a complete career change.

I am very thankful and have a lot of gratitude towards AA because it gave me a better life than I had before. I realize every day that I am blessed.

I need to make a conscious effort to help another human being every day, because I believe that is what we're here on earth for--to help each other. If I can help another alcoholic to get sober, that is a big plus.

Being involved in service work, I get to do a lot of things that others don't get to do. People who aren't doing service work are missing out on something really special.

I have served as DCM for my district. I'm Chairman for the Owensboro Host Committee and I'm also the Grapevine Chair.

Ten years back, when I was the Corrections Chairperson, I got to serve on two different committees at the Area level. I'm really thankful and really appreciative that the people of Area 26 trust me enough to ask me to chair committees.

I have heard it said that we committee chairs are but trusted servants, and that the true heart of AA is the group. "Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside-down organization because "the ultimate responsibility and final authority for world services resides with the groups..." (*Reprinted from Twelve Concepts For World Service Illustrated, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.*)

Committee chairs are much lower down the food chain. We are just servants trying to help wherever we can. Since I've been involved with the Grapevine, there are a lot of people who do not realize what the Grapevine has given us, such as the Serenity Prayer, the 12 traditions, and a number of slogans. One of the big things it has given us is the Responsibility Declaration.

My recovery depends on intensive work with other alcoholics. If I'm not working with one of my sponsees or my sponsor, someone in my home group or even someone at the area level, there's a chance I might

lose my sobriety. I truly believe we're only one drink away from being drunk.

I am fortunate enough to have not had a relapse, yet. I want to put "yet" in there because I do have a relapse in me but I also believe I have a terminal disease. I chose not to let that happen. I believe in working and living the steps on a daily basis so that you don't have to go back out again. Sometime in my recovery, the craving for alcohol left me.

I have been asked to talk about the Grapevine. The Grapevine is the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is also called our "Meeting in Print." The Grapevine is a wonderful piece of literature for anybody in AA. We can use it in so many different ways. I recently had some surgery. I read every last Grapevine I had four of five times just in case there was something that I may have missed. That really helped me.

A lot of people don't understand what you can do with the Grapevine. You can use some of the stories as discussion topics in your home group. If you want to try to pass it on, leave it on a bus, put it in a doctor's office, in a barber shop, beauty shop, lawyer's office (a lawyer's office is a really good place to leave one). Some of us find our way to a lawyer's office way before we find our way to AA. I'm one of those cases. I found my way to a lawyer's office before I found my way to AA, a number lawyer's offices. For me, any way I can serve AA is important to me. Any way I can give back what was freely given to me is what is important in my life today at all times remembering the most that the highest I could ever be is sober, and my chance to serve Area 26 and the people of Area 26 is very special to me and it's a blessing. I chose to be happy, joyous, and free. That helps me get there a lot quicker.

Jeff N.  
Grapevine Chair

## **Other Events**

District 21 Annual Picnic and Speaker Meeting  
Cook-out! Fun! Fellowship! A.A. And Alanon  
speakers!  
Sunday, September 13, 2009, Noon 'til 5:00 p.m.  
Wilborn Park Located on Head Lane west of  
Hoffman Ln., LaGrange, KY  
(502) 241-9701; (502) 321-0058, or (502) 743-1067

65<sup>th</sup> Southeastern Conference & 54<sup>th</sup> Area 1  
Convention  
August 13-16, 2009  
Riverview Plaza Hotel, 64 South Water Street,  
Mobile, Alabama  
1-866-749-6069, 1800-922-3298, (251) 438-4000  
[www.riverviewmobile.com](http://www.riverviewmobile.com)

49<sup>th</sup> Annual Tri-state Convention  
November 13-15, 2009  
KY Dam Village State Park, Gilbertsville, KY  
Greg H. (270) 556-9575, Bob T. (270) 994-8661  
Margie D. (270)- 836-8138

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## **Central/Intergroup Offices in Area 26**

Bluegrass Inter-Group Office  
1093 S. Broadway  
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Bowling Green Central Office  
1337 US 31W Bypass  
PO Box 20033  
Bowling Green, KY 42101  
Phone: 502-782-5267

Louisville Central Office  
Greater Louisville Groups  
332 W. Broadway, Room 620  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Phone: 502-582-1849  
Visit us online at [www.louisvilleaa.org](http://www.louisvilleaa.org)  
Email: [glgi@bellsouth.net](mailto:glgi@bellsouth.net)

Northern Kentucky Intergroup  
1727 Madison Ave  
Covington, KY 41011  
Phone: 859-461-7181  
Toll Free 1-877-257-7856

Owensboro Central Office  
302 E. Third Street  
Owensboro, KY 42303  
Phone: 270-683-0371

Western Kentucky Intergroup  
210 W Pierson St.  
Fredonia, KY 42411  
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Tom B.	Public Information	(502) 425-8216	tombech@bellsouth.net
Salem V.	Kentuckiana News	(270) 303-9380	kentuckiananewsletter@yahoo.com



## **ATTACHMENTS: DCM Reports**

### **District 1 -- DCM: James G.**

I would like to thank District 5 for hosting this weekend. I am glad to be in Bardstown. Due to health problems the last few months I have been unable to participate with the District and the Area like I would have wanted to, but all and all District 1 as a whole has survived. I was able to attend the workshop on January 31<sup>st</sup>. It was a huge success and I would like to at this time thank all the other districts for taking up the slack. District 1 has changed the day and time of our meeting, we now meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 3 pm at The Icehouse located at 1400 Shelby Street. Again, thanks to District 5 and I hope to see each of you at our next meeting in Bowling Green in July. Yours in Service.

### **District 2 -- DCM: Diane S.**

Not present. No report given.

### **District 3 -- DCM: Kelvin H.**

Like to thank District 5 for hosting this weekend. We in District 3 have been very active in making plans to host the Area in July, we have a host hotel, the facility is not confirmed at this time, as soon as it is we will get flyers out, also post on website, send to all DCM's and Standing Committee's. Spring of the year is a wonderful time; we also have the Sponsorship Rally coming up Memorial Day weekend. The Men's group has a campout weekend coming up also; the Women's Group does a campout, to help show newcomers and others things to do in sobriety. We in District are learning that hosting the Area is a big job; it makes us appreciate all the work that goes into it. Yours in Service.

### **District 4 -- DCM: Charles W. report by Jill D.**

Thank you to District 5 for hosting this Area Assembly! Our last District meeting was held on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was at the Serenity Club in Elizabethtown. We had 9 GSR's present which is half of the 18 current GSR's. From the 8 groups represented: our groups are holding steady attendance; 1 group remains small with 6 to 8 in attendance; the last group fluctuates up and down from 8 to 30 in attendance. Due to the ice storm some meetings were closed and attendance was down in the month of February. In Irvington there is a new recovery club called "The Acceptance Place" which has 4 new A.A. meetings a week. Out of these 4 meetings, one new GSR has been elected; Mike O. of the Retread Group. The McDaniel's Group celebrated a 5 year anniversary on February 8 in McDaniel's, KY. The New Beginnings Group also celebrated a 5 year Anniversary on March 3<sup>rd</sup> in Cloverport, KY. A new Drug Core facility will be opening this year in Leitchfield. I'm sure when this occurs; our groups will have questions about the papers they will be signing. Our district is planning to have a CPC Workshop. The workshop will be at the Serenity Club in E-Town. The date is unknown at this time. Our next district meeting is May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Serenity Club. May God Bless to all who serve Him!!

### **District 5 -- DCM: Joe O.**

10 GSR's, 1 Alt. GSR, the DCM, Alt. DCM, Treasurer, Secretary and 6 visitors attended the last district meeting. The Saturday night Surrender Group has a new GSR, Starr F... Campbellsville is looking for a member to take an A.A. meeting to the jail. Also Nelson Co. jail looking for person to take meeting in there. Jail people need meetings too.

Leanne and Charlie will be giving a workshop at the meeting. Mark at the Sunday Morning Campbellsville Group is doing well, Breakfast is good, come on over. Kellie with the Bardstown Thursday night Group says the meeting is flourishing. Al-Anon is doing well. Waiting on State about starting Al-Ateen. Marvin at the Friday Night Camel Group is doing well, they are passing out literature. Average 50 to 55, court ordered people doing okay. Rick at Wednesday Hodgenville Group says 10 – 15 average attendance, one new member, one group has died. Joe with Tuesday night New Hope Group has 3 new members. Francis celebrated 39 years. The group celebrated 10 year anniversary. Buster celebrated 1 year. All is well. Dean at Columbia Thursday night says the group is holding their own. Charles with Wednesday night says a member celebrated 17 years. They are trying to get people to help with Area Assembly. GET INVOLVED. Leanne at Sunday night Greensburg are holding their own but asking for support. Richard at Tuesday night Springfield says their attendance is strong; they have 1 new group member. Buck at the Monday Night Lebanon Library says it's a happy group, doing good, young people are coming in. Starr with Saturday night Surrender group says meeting is well, Willie celebrated 15 years, and Neil celebrated 5 years, average of 15 to 18 members. Bonnie at Friday night Campbellsville group is doing well, like to get more members involved. Kenny at Sunday Night Bardstown group is going good, average attendance is 50, mixed Alanon and AA. Wednesday night group at Nazareth is doing good. Kynewsletter chair Leanne asked for stories for the newsletter. CPC chair Buck passed out Grapevines at Dr. Offices. Archives chair, Marvin has been getting archives from group. He's

learning how to preserve any tapes and old papers. A member asked Marvin about how to get in touch with the person from Lexington to help with Archives. The person has been dealing with the Webmaster. They have been dealing with computer on details of home groups. Joe announced that anyone interested in seeing the Archives, It's the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month or you can schedule an appointment, see Marvin if interested. Corrections: Richard G. need for person to take meeting to Nelson County jail. Campbellsville jail needs contact – would like to have a link to Area. Old Business: Area assembly, Joe O. asked about getting brochures from visitors' center and also pins. Groups agreed. The hospitality room, if not available, a room will be reserved for 2 nights as agreed by the groups. The Bardstown Sunday night group is responsible for overseeing coffee, snacks and drinks. The Hospitality room is at the Quality Inn in The John Fitch Room. Setting up the meeting: David, Buddy and Rick will be greeting and there for signups. Also setup tables for gifts for the raffle. The groups decided that each home group should donate \$25 gift for the raffle if possible. Joe is responsible for setup. Bonnie is responsible for raffle. Kellie wants to help. Rooms: Groups ask for a total of twelve breakout rooms will be needed. One room needed for Al-anon. Dinner: Marvin had an offer from Walmart for \$600. That's chicken and all the fixings, plus 200 doughnuts. Deserts and drinks brought by the groups. Neil C. had Kroger bid for basically the same thing but they cater, setup forks, napkins and etc. for \$655. Group voted for Kroger and the Saturday night Surrender group is responsible for lunch. Bonnie asked about potluck with lunch – group voted no. Deserts were suggested for lunch; Kellie M. is

responsible for deserts. Pat V. is responsible for soft drinks. Leanne is responsible for lemonade. Bardstown Friday night group is responsible for coffee at the assembly. District setup: Marvin K. is to find out if possible to get in the school for the District to setup. Group agreed to pay extra for this convenience. Joe is responsible for getting in touch with Secretary. Dean M. is responsible for direction signs from motel to school. Group voted to give Marvin K. a check for holding of school. Speaker for Saturday night will be Bell P. the Springfield Tuesday Night group will be responsible for chairing meeting. Joe O. said he would be responsible. A.A. and District 5 would like to thank all the home groups, all the volunteers, Bardstown High School and their board, and Quality Inn for all their support in helping make this happen. The next district 5 meeting will be held at the Coffee Club on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.

**District 6 -- DCM: Bob R.**

Attendance at the district meeting is average with about 10 per meeting. We have 14 A.A. groups with an average attendance of 19 to 22. The 3L Group campout/picnic will be on July 25 and 26 at Kincaid Lake State Park. District 6 will host 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer Picnic – location to be announced. DCM of District 6, Bob R., along with District 18 and District 35 will present a bid to host the Area Assembly in October in Northern KY.

**District 7 -- DCM: Mitch M.**

Thanks to District 5 for hosting this meeting. Unfortunately District 7 is only being supported by 2-3 groups. We have 2 of those members in attendance, would they please stand up to be recognized. One of our old timers, Jackie S., is undergoing treatment for cancer. We'd like to ask you to keep him in your prayers.

**District 8 -- DCM: Donna D.**

Not present. No report given.

**District 9 -- DCM: Buzz T.**

Thanks to district 5 for hosting this weekend. Our Corrections Chairperson, Bob G. has been busy – with meetings at the Floyd County Detention Center in Prestonsburg, Johnson County Regional in Paintsville, and Big Sandy Maximum Security Prison in Inez. Bob has been working actively on New Pike County Jail in Pikeville with a new member from Florida. We have had a little bit of a surge in attendance – men and women – it is most welcome. District 9 will not be bidding to host the October Assembly. The Intergroup decided to try hosting non elections fall quarterly – possibly next year. Thanks for the opportunity to serve.

**District 10 -- DCM: Nick S.**

We continue to have good attendance at our district meetings. We meet at the Care Center in Louisville at 1:30 on the first Sunday of the month. Katie E. and Tom M. put on a great corrections workshop, again at the Care Center. That was on March 7<sup>th</sup> and there was a good turnout. Louisville Intergroup and Bridge the Gap also had a Singleness of Purpose workshop on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Care Center. I would like to thank all who came to Louisville for the State Convention. Yours in Service.

**District 11 -- DCM: Phyllis C.**

I would like to thank district 5 for hosting this area meeting. We held a district meeting March 8<sup>th</sup> with 9 GSR's in attendance. Among those GSR's were about 4 new to area service. Two of our home groups are in need of support; the Garden View Group on Friday night at the Jeff Token Club and our Wednesday night Beginner's meeting at

8 pm in the back room at the Jeff Token Club. District 11 is in the planning stages of hosting a sponsorship workshop. The workshop will be held May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Jeff Token Club. Lunch will be provided and we are going to have a raffle. I will send a flyer to the Area 26 website. Thanks.

**District 12 -- DCM: Kate D.**

District 12 is continuing to grow and become more active. For the first time in many years. We have chairs for five committees at our district level and are trying to fill the others.\* We have elected a new Alt. DCM Eddie B. and a new treasurer, Mark H. We have currently 13 GSR's and 6 group contacts out of 32 active groups which is the most we've had in many years. Active members of the district are trying to at least get a contact for the rest of the groups so information can be distributed. We recently hosted our first of three annual events. Mardi Gras celebration with a gumbo dinner and a speaker on the legacy of recovery, we had somewhere between 75-80 people who attended and had a great time. Thanks for allowing me to be of service. \*As a district, we are trying to figure out the role of these committees in our district as related to Intergroup committees.

**District 13 -- DCM: Chris W. –  
Report given by Rory W. Alt. DCM**

My name is Rory, and I'm an alcoholic, the alternate DCM for district 13. I would like to thank district 5 for hosting this weekend. We have 42 active groups in district 13 with 26 GSR's. District 13 committee has met twice since our last area 26 meeting with our average attendance being 15 people. We participated in the 3 legacies workshop held on January 31<sup>st</sup>. The program was awesome and the attendance was

reaching 90 people. Working with the other districts in the Louisville area on these types of events is setting a strong Legacy of Unity for us all. At our last district committee meeting we had a lengthy discussion on the agenda item for tomorrow, regarding the webmaster committee. We feel that the webmaster committee should copy that of the GSO and be a part of the PI Committee with reimbursements allowed to attend Area 26 business meetings. We also discussed the idea brought up by our delegate to participate in a Regional Service Conference on the years that the Southeast Forum is not held. We believe that we need more information on what the financial obligations would be to participate in this endeavor. In the coming months District 13 will be contacting the other Louisville districts to plan the annual Unity Picnic and Delegates report. Yours in service.

**District 14 -- DCM: Judy K.**

I would like to thank district 5 for hosting this assembly. Thank you for the preparation and hard work. Several from our district attended the KY State Convention in February. The Committee Meetings, Workshops and speakers were great. We have several standing committee positions open. Hopefully these will be filled soon. It is with great sorrow that I announce the passing of our special needs chairperson Gayla B. Gayla had over 20 years of sobriety. I would like to personally thank Kathy B from Lexington for keeping me informed on Gayla's condition during her illness. Our last district meeting was March 21<sup>st</sup> in Midway. GSR attendance was down. However, we do have a new secretary, Bruce B. from the Versailles Group, Welcome Bruce. Our area delegate attended and discussed upcoming agenda for the KY State Conference. District 14 guidelines were passed out to

those in attendance to share with their home groups. Also discussed district workshops and a district inventory. Hopefully, I will be attending a district inventory in May that will be put on by district 2. I will be going as an observer only to learn as much as I can. Our district meeting will be May 30<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort. Sincerely.

**District 15 -- DCM: Gordon R.**

Southern Fayette and Jessamine Counties. Thanks to district 5 for hosting this area 26 meeting. We are well aware that much time and many volunteers are needed to keep us all comfortable and well fed during our deliberations. During the last quarter, several new GSR's have joined our ranks some representing groups not recently represented. At a recent district meeting, Drew L stepped forward to fill our H & I chair position. Also through the fantastic energy of Carl B. Jessamine County is beginning to be represented at our meetings, and the news about new meetings there is most heartening. Also our corrections committee continues to work with Fayette and Jessamine detention centers bringing outside AA members to participate in the meetings there. At Fayette County detention center AA speakers are being identified to share experience strength and hope in some of the general population units there. At our March meeting, with the help of Danny C and his laptop computer, we were able to present to the GSR's and Committee Chairs present some idea of the daunting task that Barbara faces at the end of this month when she carries with her our instructions and our trust that her years of service will enable her, after considering our instructions, to "act on her own conscience in final conference vote's. referred to concept III this "right of decision" is granted to

all trusted servants from coffee makers and other home group officers to the trustees of General Service board. Barbara, as you journey to "The Big Apple" to join the many voices of the conference, carry us with you in your heart, and trust your intuition to always search beyond "The Good" to find "the Very Best" in all the work that you and the others do there. I ask for your continued kind thoughts and (if you prefer) prayers that district 15 will continue to grow. To avoid conflict with Easter Day and Mothers' Day we have moved our April and May meetings to the third Sundays still at the Alano Club at 6pm. In Love & Service

**District 16 -- DCM: Amy B.**

Thanks to district 5 for hosting this area assembly. Alcoholics Anonymous is alive and well in district 16 and several recent developments continue to prove to all of us the importance of our program, steps and traditions. First attendance at district meetings continues to rise and there is now usually at least one new face at every meeting. Second for the first time that we are aware of district 16 has a prudent reserve in the bank. Finally the groups of district 16 will host an all day workshop. The workshop will be on Saturday May 2, 2009. Each group participating will be responsible for presenting an AA topic of their choosing and most of the day is filled with the final two groups to decide this weekend on participation. We invite you to join us for what is sure to be a lively and flyer are on the table in the hall. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

**District 17 -- DCM: Jeff P.**

District 17 would like to thank district 5 for hosting this meeting. I have some what of an understanding of how much work that is put into making something like this possible – so from me

personally, it is much appreciated. Our district would also like to thank every officer and committee chair who devote so much of their precious time in order to keep our area alive and strong. It is hard enough to balance family life, the job, and one on one work with drunks. If you throw this kind of service in as well – which demands a whole lot of time, patience and effort – it makes it very hard to remain spiritually fit. So with that being said...Thank you very, very much! District 17 in my opinion is in a very good place. We need help! We have 20 active groups in our district – only 7 GSR's come to the monthly district meeting. Only 1 of those 7 contributes money to the district on a regular basis. On top of all of that – our district has a new DCM – me – and also a new Alt. DCM – Steve C., which couldn't make it this weekend – but is very excited about his new position. Both of us are new to this, so to go back to why I think our district is in a good place – because we have so much room to grow. It was suggested to me to go to all of the groups and introduce myself- in addition I have been suggesting to the groups to attend the district meetings and also to donate money to both the district and central office. I've explained to the groups that I have visited so far how vital both are to the AA community. This was also the topic of discussion in our district meeting itself – and was probably the best district meeting we've had since I've been around. A lot of questions were asked with many good answers – hopefully this was a beginning to something awesome to come! Thank you.

**District 18 -- DCM: Ed C.**

Thanks to district 5 for hosting. We have been extremely busy in district 18. We have purchased numerous cases of

Big Books for correction and for treatment. Both chairs have been extremely active and are to be commended. Additionally our CPC chair, Kathy L. has been very active as usual and has developed a solid relationship with most of the doctor's offices in our district. Kathy is here – thanks to all.

**District 19 -- DCM: Jim K.**

I am Jim K. and I am an alcoholic. Thank you district 5 for hosting this assembly. I know that it is a lot of work and I appreciate you doing it. District 19 has 10 meetings and 4 of these have GSR's. We are presently having monthly meetings on the second Sunday of each month at the Token III Club in Louisville and we are trying to get the district organized. Thank You.

**District 20 -- DCM: Jeffery H.**

District 20 would like to thank district 5 for this weekend's meeting. We are hoping to hold a district meeting in May to collectively discuss amongst the GSR's how the message can be carried. This district meeting may be held in conjunction with the Morehead Into Action Group's summer picnic. The Morehead Inspiration Center rehab facility continues to need speakers to give a lead on Monday's and Wednesday's at 6 pm. This is certainly a good opportunity for service work for people inside and outside the district. Both Sunday West Liberty meetings and the Thursday and Saturday Frenchburg meetings have been receiving little attendance. Both meetings are considering closing their doors. Hopefully a push in the district to support these meetings will see greater attendance. The Morehead Into Action Group continues to carry the message to the West Liberty prison. Again, district 20 would like to thank district 5 for hosting this weekend's events. In

love in service.

**District 21 -- DCM: Bernie O. – Report given by Greg R. Alt. DCM**

Thank you district 5 – the food was great and the facility as well. District 21 does not have a lot to report this quarter – as with all, the ice storm has hurt some members – but we survived – attendance seems to be on the rise. We have a new meeting on Thursday in Bethany and its growing. As always we are asking our groups for more support by sending up GSR's for those who haven't and we plan to push this harder in the election year. Thanks.

**District 22 -- DCM: Eric B.**

Thanks to district 5 for hosting us this weekend. Since the last Area meeting, our literature committee as verified which libraries in our district have copies of the Big Books and Twelve and Twelve. We have purchased books for the libraries that did not have multiple copies of both books. We have 4 new GSR's. We will be putting on another workshop in June and have asked groups in our district to submit topics for the workshop. AA members in our district have expressed intent in starting a Traditions meeting. We are working with volunteers who want to get the group started. We have 2 new groups: Floyd Memorial Hospital – Saturday 9 am and Burning Desire Friday 10:30 pm FC Token. We also discussed forming a committee to organize a group to attend the International Convention in San Antonio next year. We are open to other districts who would like to participate. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

**District 23 -- DCM: Gregg S. Report given by Dave K.**

DCM Greg S. regrets not being able to attend this weekend and asked that I

thank our host for their hard work that has made all this possible. There has not been a district meeting in quite some time but reports from attendees indicate that our meetings continue to carry the message and grow. Efforts to start a women's meeting at the Boyd County Detention Center have been successful with several young women making a commitment to ensure our message of hope reaches this population. Thank you.

**District 24 -- DCM: Charlie S.**

District 24 would like to thank district 5 for hosting this area meeting. District 24 along with districts 1, 10, 11, 13 and 29 hosted a 3 Legacy workshop on January 31<sup>st</sup>. This workshop was well attended with a much better than expected turnout. The inclement weather posed a threat to the turnout but it was not a deterrent after all. We had over 90 people attend with some attendees from Lexington, Northern Kentucky as well as Darryl from Central Kentucky. We started with a panel discussion on the 3 legacies where each legacy was discussed. Then the group split into three groups. Colleen Y. conducted a workshop on Recovery; Darryl M. conducted a workshop on Service and Lynda R. conducted a workshop on Unity. I would like to thank the host committee for coming together to ensure that this event was successful. In the planning and budgeting phase we did not think to include a budget for literature. Once this was realized we were able to assemble the appropriate literature for each workshop. This helped greatly with conducting the workshops. It was discussed how in the past workshops were held more often and how helpful they have been to our fellowship in understanding our recovery program better. We were also able to assist in conducting a correction

workshop on March 7<sup>th</sup> where we learned more about the needs of those who are coming to us through the court system. It was revealed that there is a greater success rate from members who attend a meeting within the first 24 hours of being released. On March 28<sup>th</sup> the Louisville Intergroup hosted a workshop on Bridge the Gap. It was suggested that we read the Concepts at the opening of our district meeting so that we get a better understanding of the 12 Concepts. We have reviewed the first three concepts and will be reviewing the fourth at our next meeting. I am glad to report that district 24 is doing well with both finances and attendance. Respectfully submitted.

**District 25 – DCM: Pat R.**

Thank you district 5 for hosting Area 26 this weekend. District 25 is going along as usual. All meetings in district 25 are open meetings even the Big Book studies. We need some closed meetings because we have not done what we need to do to have some closed meetings (i.e. start some new meetings that are closed). Casey County Group celebrated the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary meeting on March 17, 2009 (St. Patrick's Day). Norm W. from Danville shared his lead. He did an excellent job but he has 53 years of sobriety. I have not had much luck getting people involved in service work. Jim E. from Liberty is hanging on; he celebrated 43 years sober in March. He has not been able to attend meetings lately. Thank you, your trusted servant.

**District 26 -- DCM: Sarah C.**

We would like to thank district 5 for hosting this meeting. We continue to have 3 groups active in district 26. Cadiz Sober Group had a Chili Supper in January that was well attended. Cadiz Sober Group continues to have 2

meetings weekly. Hungry Spirits and East End together participated in a Spring Cleaning at Rebos in March, the women from the new Trilogy Center helped also. We took a traditions workshop into Volta, our local treatment center this week. Traditions 1, 3 and 5 were discussed. We currently have a group of alcoholics getting together on Friday nights for a study of the four absolutes. We will have our next district meeting in May. In Service.

**District 27 -- DCM: Tim P.**

We in district 27 would like to thank district 5 for hosting the April Area meeting. Our last meeting was March 15, 2009. We had 10 of 17 groups in attendance. We discussed the upcoming 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Howl at the Moon, everything is going as planned and will be held June 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, & 21<sup>st</sup> at Barren River State Park for more info. See me of Mark D. Flyers should be around this weekend. Marie with corrections in the Barren County Jail women's side says things are going as normal for a jail meeting, she received the Big Books; the district furnished her with these to use in the meetings. Mike H. and Andrew are checking on getting a meeting started on the men's side of the Barren County Jail but they don't really want to let us in the men's side for some reason but we're still trying. We discussed a district picnic to be held August 29<sup>th</sup>, more will be revealed on this at a later date. We went on to talk about money and voted to send all over prudent funds on to the Area and GSO. District 27 set a check to GSO for approximately \$279 and I gave Gary a check for \$486.19 so this should get our money business in order. Our next district meeting will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30 at E.B. Terry est. in Cave City, KY. Thanks for letting me be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

**District 28 – DCM: John M.**

We have had a lot of committee movement over the past quarter. We have a new Group Awareness chair, Angie, and a new Corrections chair, David. However, we have lost our alternate DCM and Treatment Facilities chair. Our Public Information committee has been active, reaching out to the district through flyers and our Corrections committee is actively seeking volunteers to carry the message into the Fayette County Detention Center. We have had one new GSR, Bob, from the New Starting Over group. After much deliberation, district 28 officially passed a motion to recognize e-mail as a legitimate form of communication among its members with the condition that the communication be blind carbon copied and sanitized. Everything else is going well.

**District 29 -- DCM: Dalton D.**

Districts 24 and 29 believe that the motion that was passed at the October assembly to make the website committee a permanent standing committee should be rescinded. We feel that the person serving as Webmaster expenses to attend Area meetings and assemblies should be paid by the Area. In 1951 the General Service Conference established the system of standing committees and new committees have been added as necessary. The AA Service Manual defines the committee system by describing the duties, districts, areas and the General Service Conference. Currently there is no website or webmaster standing committee at the General Service Conference. The Alcoholics Anonymous website is maintained by a Public Information having oversight of what the website committee does. The General Service Conference did not feel

it was necessary to create a new standing committee to maintain the website. The AA Service Manual defines the responsibilities of the Public Information committee as "creating greater understanding of - - and preventing misunderstanding of - - the AA program through the public media, electronic media, PI meetings, and speaking to community groups." Clearly, this gives the PI committee the responsibility overseeing the website. We do not believe Area 26 should take it upon itself to create standing committees that the General Service Conference has not found necessary. Additionally, the webmaster is highly technical position and it may not be in the Area's best interest to have this position rotate every 2 years as will be necessary. If the webmaster remains a standing committee chair. Therefore: "districts 24 and 29 move that Area 26 rescind the motion to make the website committee a permanent standing committee. We further move that the webmaster shall be a member of the PI Committee and shall attend the PI Committee meetings held at the Area Meetings and assemblies, with his/her expenses to attend Area meetings and assemblies being paid by Area 26 pursuant to the current financial guidelines. Respectfully submitted.

**District 30 -- DCM: Brian H.**

There is a buzz around the AA community of district 30 about certain groups defecting or starting another district. As of today, our district has 8 groups. I believe this is a real concern that needs to be addressed. I've talked to a few people in service who believe a unity workshop or picnic would be of some benefit. I agree. We are in no position to make demands, but we are requesting any and all help with our

next district meeting being held Friday night at 9 pm at the Episcopal Church in downtown Maysville, KY. We need an overhaul and direction. My name is Bryan H. and I represent district 30. The previous DCM stepped down and I was the alternate. I wasn't elected to this service position, so I will fill in until a replacement is elected. I hope to represent the groups of district 30 with integrity. Our groups want what's best for their members. Every group is emotional and enthusiastic. Attendance is at an all time high. However, there are many concerns about the health of our district. Differences of opinion and personalities have brought about grudges that seem to be severe and permanent. AA is still very much alive in our district but it may seem more like tribes than a fellowship to onlookers or newcomers. I feel I speak for the groups when I say that our district is "disgruntled" or "sore". It would be impossible to put into words the atmosphere of the district. It would be fair to say that there is a definite problem that calls for a solution. I don't feel I'm prepared to foster a solution to this dilemma. I'm 3 years sober and I don't feel like I have the confidence or trust that this position requires.

**District 31 -- DCM: Chip A.**

Thanks to district 5 for hosting the Area meeting. Our last meeting was March 1, 2009. District 31 has had average attendance. Our district meeting attendance has been constant. Our district continues to move forward as the economy and groups feel the financial crunch. We have created a district dinner committee responsible for the planning and set up of dinners on behalf of each group. Each group will have a district sponsored dinner. Sherise K. has volunteered to chair this committee. Our district maintains a

treasury balance in excess of our prudent reserve. We anticipate making another quarterly distribution to W.KY Intergroup, Area 26 and GSO. We are maintaining a status quo and continue to look for people to fill our vacant committee positions and for our alternate DCM. WARD continues to prosper and graduate people from their program. Fair-weather group has moved from Erlington, KY to the Serenity House in Madisonville, KY. Corrections are planning a workshop in Hopkins County during the month of May. Yours in Service.

**District 32 -- DCM: Harry M.**

Not present. No report given.

**District 33 -- DCM: Mike L.**

I would like to first say how much I appreciate all the members of district 33 that helped me to get through the loss of my mother this last month. I truly witnessed the unity of this fellowship and will never forget the caring and kindness shown to me during this hardship. District 33 is doing well and membership is growing according to the reports of the GSR's. In our last district meeting 8 of 11 groups were represented by their GSR in that meeting. Our next district meeting will be April 11<sup>th</sup> of this year. A second meeting will be carried into the maximum security facility in Eddyville on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Ray B. will now be chairing the meeting at the Corrections Farm Center in Eddyville. He will be leading a Big Book study group there, and we are currently working on raising funds to get more Big Books into that facility. Our work in the Marshall County facility continues to show results as we have new members joining our ranks as they depart that facility. I would like to express my gratitude to the members who endeavor to carry the message into

all these facilities. Thank you district 5 for hosting this event. Yours in Service.

District 34 -- DCM: Jeff N.

Not much is happening in district 34. All the groups seem to be doing well. A group of AA members have started a noon meeting in Central City. It meets on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The Bremer Group (a.k.a. The Secret Meeting) had its 23rd anniversary, lots of food and an excellent speaker, Randy R. from Louisville. Everyone had a great time. District 34 is looking forward to being involved with the 2010 State Convention. Thanks.

District 35 -- DCM: Jerry D.

Thanks to district 5 for hosting the Area meeting. There is plenty to report since the last Area meeting. We have a new alternate DCM and his name is JR J. he was voted in unanimously. Since he was Newport AA's GSR, Chris M. took his place. We thank them both for their service. We had a Grapevine workshop March 14th. Jeff N. came from the Area and did a wonderful job. Thanks again Jeff. Attendance was great. I have updated group info. To the best of my ability for the new directory. Our past two district meetings have been focused on structure. I guess it was in place; it just was never typed and given to the GSR's. I got a hold of the person that was in charge of completing the structure, I asked her to come and explain to the district how it came about. She did and what had happened was the secretary that was in charge of typing has stepped down. So the task wasn't finished, so now I am working with the secretary to get it finalized and given to the groups. This all came about because of miscommunication about our districts financial guidelines. Our district had to eat the cost of hotel rooms that shouldn't have been stayed in. We are

all on the same page there. I think I took over 3 months ago and I have spent the past 3 months trying to get the district organized. Fortunately for me there are plenty of people that are willing to help. We are all willing to get things in order so that whoever takes our places there is a smoother transition. I am grateful that God let me get sober for awhile and understand the principles of AA before I was thrown into service. Also our treasurer has updated our account. He had to take former signers off and add new signers since it has been musical chairs the past few months in our district. We currently need to fill our corrections and PI chairs. Our former corrections chair resigned and also resigned as her home group's GSR. The new GSR for Rebounders Group is now Kelly S. and we thank her for stepping up and representing her homegroup. I want to thank you for letting me serve.

#### Host Committee and Intergroup Reports

Louisville Host Committee – James G. Again, I want to thank district 5 for hosting this weekend. The Kentucky State Convention was held February 20th – 22nd at the newly renovated Crown Plaza Hotel (formally Executive West). The Theme this year was "A Vision For You". Attendance was slightly down from years prior. There were approximately 1346 people in attendance. Outgoing expenses were also slightly increased due to 15 of 20 percent increase in the service charge at the hotel. But all in all it was a very successful weekend. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Area 26 for their participation and also thanks to all those who put in so much hard work to make the convention a success. But special thanks to Lynda for her hard work organizing the workshops, great

job. Total expenses for 2009 convention was \$19,500 Total revenues for 2009 convention was \$20,900 Total net revenue for 2009 convention was \$1,400. Due to increase in prices I suggest we look at increasing the registration fee. I have enjoyed my time as Host Committee Chairperson and thank everyone for their help and support. Yours in Service.

Owensboro Host Committee - - Jeff N.  
Good News! We have found a home for the 2010 State Convention. It will be held at the Owensboro Sports Center on January 29th and 30th. We can only have 2 days due to circumstances beyond our control. Because of this we will be having 2 speakers on Friday night. The host hotel will be the Ramada about 3 miles. Rooms will be \$79.00 a night. Overflow hotel will be the Days Inn about 6 miles from the Sports Center at \$69.00. We will get a flyer put together as soon as possible. I will email it out to DCM's and Area 26 Committee Members. It will have a registration blank on the flyer. Please do not contact the hotel until we get the flyer out. Thank You.

Northern Kentucky Intergroup/Central Office – Barbara B.  
Greetings from Northern Kentucky. The IGR meetings held every third Wednesday are pretty well attended. It helps so much to hear the needs of the groups in Northern Kentucky and to help in any way we can. Once again this year Intergroup sponsored a steak dinner to benefit our Correctional Facilities. Three districts are given cases of Big Books and this year they also received meeting schedules to pass out. As in the past, thanks to those who worked so hard to make it a huge success. Just recently an

updated twelve step list was compiled thanks to our cell phone operator and Bill E. our office manager. Carol has been doing a fantastic job but like so many in AA sometimes we can get burned out. As many of you know trying to find willing and dedicated members can be a real chore. One item that has aroused interest in Central Office is the fact that all literature is purchased at cost plus tax. Price lists were circulated and a lot more literature is being sold. In the beginning of 2008 an audit and inventory of Central Office was taken and shared with the IGR's. Now that we have fulfilled our tax obligations we will begin the audit and inventory for 2009. On behalf of all in Northern Kentucky best wishes are with our Delegate as she prepares for the General Service Conference.

Western Kentucky Intergroup - - Chris

P.

On behalf of Western Kentucky Intergroup, I would like to thank district 5 for hosting the Area 26 quarterly-assembly. We have rewritten our Structure and Financial Guidelines and had them approved by the groups in our service area. We have also moved into a Central Office that is staffed on weekends on a voluntary basis. We have an Ad-Hoc committee that is tasked with establishing workshops to familiarize future staffing volunteers on procedures and practices for Central Office operations. We are continuing our outreach and information meetings to the various groups in our service area. The recent ice storm created a few awkward situations for us such as loss of power and communications. We also experienced a computer failure that dumped our meeting and contact data base. With God's help and the patience and tolerance of our members these short term obstacles are being resolved.

For those who are not familiar with Western Kentucky Intergroup, our service area consists of 5 districts composed of 50 groups spread across 26 counties located in the purchase area of Western Kentucky. We provide meeting and contact information via a 1-800 number, a central literature distribution center, as well as liaison activities between groups to facilitate coordination of workshops and group activities. We shall try to continue to grow in service to our service area, Area 26 and AA, and to help other Alcoholics achieve sobriety. The Western Kentucky Intergroup picnic will be held September 12th, 2009. Archive room is also being remodeled and available for any and all districts of Western Kentucky Intergroup to donate historical artifacts.

Bluegrass Intergroup – Brenda K.  
Thank you to the host committee for being of service to bring us this Area Assembly. Bluegrass Intergroup ended 2008 with a net profit of \$776.76. All standing committee chair positions are filled, however our Intergroup Treasurer resigned in March in his 2nd year of service on the Intergroup. Intergroup elected a new treasurer at our April 2nd meeting. Our Intergroup Picnic is scheduled for June 6 and our speaker will be Suzanne W. from Cincinnati, Ohio. A new computer tower has been purchased with mostly donated funds, and will be uploaded soon with the data needed for the point of sale system to be functional in the Intergroup Office. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Greater Louisville Intergroup  
– William F.  
No written report given.