

**Oregon Area Business Meeting Minutes**  
 Sunday, May 17, 2009  
 Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg, Oregon

**Note from Area Secretary:**

The following information is a written record of the business meeting. I have done my best to capture what actually happened and get it down on paper for you! The discussion notes for the motions do not contain all of the discussion that actually happened, but should convey a good sense of opinions both for and against the various motions. Paraphrasing is sometimes necessary. Any amendments of previous minutes shall appear below.

Thank you☺

**Call to Order:**

Chase B. called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Krystal, District 33 read the Preamble. Gayle from District 7 read the 12 Traditions and the 12 Concepts was read by Valentina from District 7. The New GSR's and DCM's were recognized as were the Past Delegates Darlene G, and Bruce L.

**Roll Call was read by Penny H.**

Absent: Eric K, Area Grapevine, Area Treasurer, Ron W, Hospitals Chair, Sandra V., DCM District 1, DCM District 29, DCM District 32.

Proxies: Fred D. Mill Creek and Larry Santiam

**Motion to approve minutes** made by Eric V, 2nd by Fran. Minutes approved unanimously.

**Area Officer Reports**

The following gave reports (copies attached)

Delegate	Dave A
Alternate Delegate	Anne M.
Area Chair	Chase B.
Alternate Chair	Gus P.
Registrar	Dave B <i>Report read by Penny H.</i>
Secretary	Penny H.
Treasurer	<i>Read by Samantha D</i>

Motion to approve Treasurers report by Eric and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray. Treasurer report approved.

**Committee Reports (3 minutes)**

The following gave reports (copies attached)

Finance	Ray R
Accessibility	James J.
Archives	Hal E.
Corrections	Kelly D.
CPC	Skip A.
Grapevine/ La Vina	<i>ready by James J.</i>
Hospitals	Mark C.
Newsletter	Martha V.
Public Information	Patrick B.
Translation/Interpretation	Lorena G.
Treatment Facilities	Fran P.
Website	David K.

## Area Chair Announcements

- 📖 Guidelines distributed...if you are a GSR, please pass these on. They are available online.

## Award Assemblies ~ Drum roll please

- 📖 February 2010 Assembly will be in Bandon
- 📖 May 2010 Assembly will be held in Hood River
- 📖 September 2010 Assembly will be held in Hermiston

*Bids can be awarded up to 2 years out so if you want to submit a bid for November 2010 all the way upto and including May 2011 , please contact Chase or Gus.*

## PNC Announcements

- 📖 PNC will be in Canada this year. See [pnc1948.org](http://pnc1948.org) for more information. Passport requirements have changed. If you are interested in going, enter the word "passport" in Google.
- 📖 We are next in line to host PNC, which will be in June 2011. Next month we will put in a token bid. If you are an interested District, contact Chase by the end of May.

## Announcements Related To Next Assembly

- 📖 September Assembly will be hosted by District 34 & 35 at Reed College. More information is available at [www.aa-oregon.org](http://www.aa-oregon.org).
  - AA This will be an election assembly, so GSR's remember we will be having our business meeting on Saturday. We will be electing four (4) Area Officers; Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Area Chair, and Alternate Chair.
  - AA We will be having a motion writing presentation/workshop Saturday night after the speaker meeting.

## Announcements Related to November 2009 Assembly

- 📖 November 2009 Assembly to be held at The Crown Plaza Hotel hosted by District 36

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## OLD BUSINESS

## NO OLD BUSINESS

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## NEW BUSINESS

### Motion #1

#### Motion submitted by District 36 to Oregon Area 58:

##### Motion:

That the display and/or sale of non-AA or non-Al-Anon published literature or media not be present at OR Area 58 Quarterly Assemblies. The wording of the OR Area 58 Guidelines would be changed to reflect this practice as follows:

“IVArea Policies, A. Assembly Bidding, Planning, and Hosting #6. Only AA and Al-Anon published literature and media may be displayed at Assemblies. AA published literature and media are to be displayed separately from Al-Anon published literature and media”

##### Current Practice:

Non-AA and non-Al-Anon published materials are frequently displayed and for sale at OR Area 58 Quarterly Assemblies. OR Area 58 guidelines state:

“IV Area Policies, A. Assembly Bidding, Planning, and Hosting #6. Only AA and Al-Anon published literature **and AA and Al-Anon speaker tapes** may be displayed at Assemblies. AA literature and **AA speaker tapes** are to be displayed separately from Al-Anon literature and **Al-Anon speaker tapes.**”

This wording allows non-AA or non-Al-Anon published speaker tapes to be included in material available for sale at OR Area 58 Quarterly Assemblies.

**Supporting Statement:**

This motion makes a change to the current practice by clearly stating that non-AA or non-Al-Anon published literature or media not be displayed or sold at the Quarterly Assembly. Our 6<sup>th</sup> Tradition states: “An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.” Allowing the sale of any non-AA or non-Al-Anon published material allows outside enterprises to use our Assembly as a retail outlet and is outside the scope of our traditions. We cannot allow our affection of people or desire for things cloud our understanding of our traditions. We run the risk of weakening our effectiveness when we blur the lines of our traditions.

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

2<sup>nd</sup> by Teresa

**Discussion**

Kathleen, District 31 asked the question does this motion eliminate the sale of coffee cups, raffles, CD and actual recording of Assemblies and Assembly speakers.

Wendy says the wording of the motion says display and/or sale...is a coffee cup, literature or media?

Kathryn, wants precise examples of what is being displayed.

Mark L says the material right now such as media, speaker tapes that are being displayed are examples of things that is not published by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) or General Service Organization (GSO) or Grapevine. We want to get clarification of language such that the materials that are on display is in fact AA Conference approved literature, AA grapevine, AA published material or AlAnon published material.

Kathryn says so the answer to my question is that we cannot have any speaker tapes or anything that is not published and taped by General Service.

Mark L, says that is correct.

*Chase interjects that we do have the timer set for 2 minutes for discussion per our practice so you have 2 minutes at the microphone*

Lee, DCM 18 thinks this is a GREAT motion. It will generate a whole bunch of discussion at the groups and at the District. Would love to table this motion and take it back to the groups and here what they have to say about it.

Josh, District 23 is in support of this motion primarily because of the conversational value and talk about what is AA and what is not AA at the District level. He is also reminded of what he heard on a speaker tape as he reads this motion and that is “what we do screams so loudly, I can’t hear what you say”. Anything we do here in an Oregon Area General Service Assembly in any way, that requires some sort of a “yea, but” explanation tethered to it, then maybe we ought to look at it.

Lisa, District 11 it’s a good idea to discuss the spirit of this motion but at first it does not ring true for me in carrying the message to every alcoholic. She feels that the speaker tapes that are out there can be very valuable resource for the newcomer and other people who don’t have their brain wrapped around what General Service is. We need to be a little more open minded.

Thomas said I would like to see discussion about keeping the speaker tapes.

Mike, District 36 this is not a soberfest or round up it is a quarterly business meeting and we do General Service business. Feels it is only right to allow General Service related material to be sold her. Regarding the speaker tapes there are a lot of groups that do sell them. There are home groups that only allow/require GSO printed material. Feels this falls along those lines.

Wendy – In favor of this motion as it speaks to our need to maintain our primary spiritual aim to our desire to maintain the integrity of our program for ourselves and for those yet to come. We cannot affiliate with outside enterprises no matter how great the cause. Our non AA published speaker tapes does not bring danger to the Area but providing a venue for re-sale for outside material is dangerous. This is affiliation, actual and implied. What message are we sending to our groups. That it's ok to make exceptions, that it's ok to not follow our Traditions when it suites us. Every group has the right to be wrong. If I am a member of that group I am obligated to stand up and state we need to correct our course. Wendy also states that someone she respects in the service structure once said that some of our practices are bad habits and we need to correct them and just because we have been doing it along time does not mean we need to continue it. We all want AA to be here for those that need it. We have a responsibility to preserve what we have been given and leave it better than we found it. As Dr. Bob said, lets not louse it up.

Eric, District 1...Food For Thought: What do they mean AA published material? Is it just the material that is conference approved or is it everything that is published w/GSO because not everything that is published by GSO is conference approved.

Cherie says if this passes, we cannot display a recording of this business meeting or the speakers from this Assembly.

Eric V against this motion. T-Mar tapes provides a very valuable service to us. They tape all our business meetings and the speakers. PRAASA & PNC also sell speaker tapes and they also provide a valuable service. Don't see that it is causing any problems.

Paula, DCM District 4. What caught me right away was I listened to Greg M at the last assembly and I bought 4 of his tapes to share w/GSR's because it was such a great advertising for GSO. That would not be available if we pass this motion.

*Chase asks to please have everyone at the mic that hasn't spoken yet come to the mic first. We want to hear from everyone as many people as possible. Then we will have people to take a 2<sup>nd</sup> run.*

Scott K. GSR, calls the question

Vote to end debate

Debate has ended

Urgent/administrative – No

Motion tabled

## Motion #2

Motion submitted by Scott K & Krystal J.

The 7<sup>th</sup> tradition be practiced in all marathon meetings and speaker meetings held at the Oregon Area 58 Assemblies.

**Current Practice:** The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket is only sometimes passed at the marathon meetings and never passed at the speaker meetings.

**Intent & Purpose:** The speaker meeting after the Saturday dinner and the marathon meetings held all weekend during the Assembly would make wonderful opportunities for members of AA to be self-supporting. Also making the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition a common practice at the Oregon Area 58 Quarterly Assembly AA meetings could eliminate the need to have raffles, silent auctions, and other fund-raisers to support upcoming assemblies.

**Budgetary Impact:** Unknown positive impact.  
2<sup>nd</sup> by rick dist. 14

Lee, DCM 18 asks the question does the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition funds get split up in pie chart or does it all go back to the assembly?

Scott says what the intent & purpose would be is it would eliminate the need for upcoming assemblies to hold raffles and other fund raisers so the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition would go to help the upcoming Assembly. His idea is for it to go the next assembly so on an so forth.

*Chase asks for clarification if it would be a contribution to the Area through the Host Committee?*

Scott says YES!

Robin says her district has put on a couple of assemblies and it is her understanding that we are supposed to be self supporting and our District is responsible for the facility and making sure everything runs. I've seen a 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition being passed when they are short, but it is her understanding that the District is responsible for the fund raisers and making sure everything comes off. It's not the responsibility of the body to do that.

Ray has mixed emotions. On the surface it sounds good but when we stop and think about it, it deprives the host committee districts the opportunity to become more unified.

Kathryn, District 10: I see positive and negative to this. Is this an attempt to get rid of raffles at the assembly?

*Chase says for clarification... "I do not see this written in the motion"*

Kathryn then follows up w/if we do pass the basket, I would not label it 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition. I would label it that we are passing the basket to help the next Assembly

Greg was the current marathon meeting and we like the way it is set up. We have an opportunity to donate when we register and we also get voluntary donations from home groups. It should be up to each Host Committee. They way it is set up right now we are allowed to do that.

Jeff said that even though Scott has already made his prayer list ...he is for this motion. *Then the mic turns completely off ... (crowd laughs)*. Each AA meeting is fully self supporting and we are having an AA meeting. Even though they are temporary, each one is individual. The speaker meeting has the same kind of definition and it gets to be self supporting. We are talking about contributions that we lovingly put into the basket. His experience as hosting a previous Assembly that was way over budget there was a really spiritual thing that happened and he had tell the body that they were \$1000 over budget.

Juan is against this motion based on the fact that we are self supporting through our own contributions and that is how we got here. Most of did not get a stipend or travel pay, all of us that attend the assemblies participate, but not all of us are GSR's, not everyone is a DCM. Everyone is a member at large. We just finished 12 Marathon Meetings. If we would have been tagging every one every time for the basket.....good grief! It's not about money folks. Its about carrying the message. If we get hung up on money then we have lost our purpose.

B.J. says in 2005 she moved here from Albuquerque where she was involved in General Service and the thing that struck her the most is that we did not take a 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition at these Assemblies. That as a member of my home group and when I put that money in the basket I am reaching out to support this assembly. Having experience from assemblies where they took 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition once in the morning, once in the afternoon, once after the speaker meeting and once at the marathon meetings. The Spirit was different in those rooms than they are here in these rooms.

Juave, DCM District 34 says every committee to is autonomous and is to be self supporting, therefore it is for every committee to decide whether or not they need this.

John - good motion. You can contribute if you want and the money goes to whoever is getting that contribution. How can you loose on something like this.

Cricket - District 18...requests amendment to the motion to reflect clarity that is being provided regarding the intended distribution and purpose of the money .

Wendy being host chair for the upcoming 2009 Assembly...We have wondered about even having marathon meetings as we do not have the space and this would preclude us from passing a basket. The intention is good and we need to know that our money is putting on this assembly. We are self supporting. The district that is hosting is just providing the place. We are not here to provide income for Area. We are here to provide space to perform our business. Assembly planning guide section is called fundraising. It has a list of ideas. One of them is passing the basket. (she reads from it the ideas that have been used in past assemblies....passing the basket) that is a suggestion.....that the host committee looks at and says do I want to do that. Both events are optional.

Dave District 5 asks Area committee officers; do the host committee of these assemblies do they fall under the traditions that we create service boards and committees directly responsible to those they serve. Is that the same relationship? (*Chase says everyone is looking at me.*) Dave goes on to say that in that relationship that it is really the responsibility of the Area and the host committee to make sure that the assembly is a success. *Chase says YES*

Eric F does not support motion. It takes away the autonomy from the Host Committee.

Leslie District 10 - called the question.

Vote to end debate

Debate has ended

*Member asks for point of order. Cricket has asked for an amendment to the motion. Chase states that the author of the motion did not respond to it.*

Urgent/administrative - NO  
Motion tabled.

Kathryn, point of order....please no cameras or pictures taken during the AA Assembly

**Final Treasurer Report ~ given by Samantha**

Starting Balance:	\$18, 122.74
Checks Written:	\$15, 812.06
Closing Balance:	\$2,310.68

Ray R., Finance Committee announced that we are under \$7,000.00 threshold. Take it back to your groups and districts let us build it up.

Motion to adjourn by everyone.

11:30 AM

Yours In Love And Service

Penny H., Area 58 Secretary