

***Editor's Note:***

Due to computer (and time) problems, the Newsletter wasn't published since September.

Thanks to Teffany H, Alternate DCM from District 20, and Eric K, Alternate Delegate, for their contributions on activities at the September Assembly

Look for news of the November Assembly in the January Newsletter. I apologize for the delays.

*Greg S*  
*Editor*

# Oregon Area

## ***NEWSLETTER***

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### *September Assembly*

## ***Four New Officers Elected at September Assembly in Salem***

*By Teffany H*

*Alternate DCM, District 20*

This year at our September Assembly four officers were voted in and a Trustee at Large was nominated. These were very exciting elections, as our Alternate Secretary declined nomination, and two of the ballots went to "the hat".

As an introduction to our voting, Bill I read the 3rd Legacy Voting Procedure out of our service manual. Then our current Secretary Chase B read about the service position of Secretary. Patrick B, Dale S, Tim A, Bill I, Alan U, Suzanne B, Pat D, Martha S, and Michael G made themselves available for this position, and each gave a brief service resume.

The first ballot was spread between many candidates, but after the second vote only Suzanne B and Dale S remained. On the 4th ballot, Suzanne B was the clear winner with over 2/3 of the vote.

The next position to vote for was Alternate Secretary. Kim L read about the duties of this position. Eleven people made themselves available for this position, including Kaye G, Julie W, Linda L and Robin W, along with almost everyone who ran for Secretary. Kaye G and Dale S both received many votes right from the beginning, and were the only candidates left by the 3rd ballot. After the votes were counted for a 4th time with no clear winner, the assembly voted to go to "the hat." This means that

each name is literally put into a hat once, and whichever person's name is drawn out gets the position. In this case it was Kaye G, so she will be our new Alternate Secretary when rotation happens.

Kaye G, our current Treasurer, read the qualifications for Treasurer, which ushered in the quickest election of the day. The eight people who made themselves available were Gus P, Patrick B, Dale S, Julie W, Bill I, Alan U, Linda L, and Pat D. Gus P, our current Alternate Treasurer, was elected on the first ballot, with 150 of the 201 votes cast.

Now it was Gus P's turn to read about the duties of Alternate Treasurer. Eleven people made themselves available, including three who hadn't been candidates yet that day. These were Ron W, Roy H, and Glen H. By the 3rd ballot, the candidates were down to just Patrick B, Dale S, and Ron W. On the 4th ballot, Dale S and Ron W were the choices. When these votes were counted and the assembly still had no clear winner, they voted once more to take it to "the hat." Dale S was chosen and will be our new Alternate Treasurer.

The last election of the day was not so much an election as it was a nomination for whom we would like for the position of Trustee at Large. Darlene G and Don J, both past delegates, stood for the position, and on the 4th ballot, Darlene got 2/3 of the vote, and is now our nominee.

## September Assembly

### ***Assembly Votes on 11 Motions***

By Teffany H

Alternate DCM, District 20

There was much to be discussed at this past September assembly. Two motions which had been tabled were voted on. The first was that the Corrections Chair and Alternate Chair each serve a two year term. This motion passed, the body heard the minority opinion, and since the body didn't want a revote, the motion stood as passed.

The other motion under old business was that past delegates be funded to attend the assemblies. This motion also passed, the body heard the minority opinion, and the motion stood as passed.

There were then nine motions of new business to be discussed. The first was to increase the archive rent budget line item 30 dollars. There was some discussion on the floor, and by the archivist, and the motion passed. No minority opinion was offered.

Motion 2 was to increase the Alternate Chair's budget \$265.90, \$200 for operating expenses and \$65.90 for expenses incurred while attending Host Committee Planning Meetings. The motion passed, we heard the minority opinion, the Alternate Chair spoke to the minority, and since there was no revote, the motion stood as passed.

Motion 3 was to give \$1200 in additional seed money to the Host Committee of the February 2005 assembly, raising the total amount to \$1500. The finance committee reported that we do have the money. The motion passed, the minority opinion was heard, and the motion stood as passed.

Motion 4 asked for a one time increase of \$250 to the Corrections Literature budget, to purchase *Big Books* for the Spanish meeting at OSP. There was quite a bit of discussion and after the motion passed and minority opinion was heard, it was amended to transfer the money from the Corrections committee to the Corrections literature budget. This passed, and with no minority opinion, stood as passed.

Motion 5 was to accept the budget distributed at the May Assembly. There were concerns about the Access, Archives, and Corrections Literature budgets, and after discussion by the Chairs of these committees, the body voted to increase the Corrections Literature budget from \$800 to \$2500, amending the total bottom line budget to \$60,915. The motion passed, and with no minority opinion stood as passed.

Motion 6 was for the February 2005 Assembly Host Committee to be given flexibility in choosing

the weekend for this assembly, to be any weekend from February 18th to March 19th except for PRAASA weekend. The Greenwood Inn unilaterally cancelled the contract for the February Assembly, leaving the Host Committee with fewer options to find a hotel large enough to accommodate the Assembly. This motion also passed, and with no minority once again, the motion stood as passed.

Motion 7 was made by the Archives *ad hoc* Committee to accept the Oregon Area Archives policy. Currently there is no policy. Hal E, the Archives Chairperson, spoke and said there had been much discussion with GSO and other Area Archive committees. Lots of discussion and questions from the body were answered by Hal. This motion was tabled to take back to the groups.

Motion 8 was to cancel the panel on Sunday, September 19, titled "Christianity in AA." After a great deal of discussion on this motion, the motion failed. There was lots of minority opinion expressed, with several people deciding to change their vote. Re-discussion began, and eventually the motion was voted on once more. It failed, though, a second time.

Motion 9 was to amend the current budget restrictions so that our Spanish language interpreters could use their funds to cover meals, in addition to lodging and travel. The motion passed, minority opinion was heard, and the motion stood as passed.

## September Assembly

### ***Annual Inventory Worthwhile***

By Eric K

Alternate Delegate

"We absolutely insist on enjoying life" was the theme, and boy-oh-boy, did we ever have fun at the assembly in Salem September 19th!

We spent approximately 90 minutes Sunday morning doing the 2004 Oregon Area Inventory. It was a spot-check inventory that required no advance preparation on the part of the body, other than the preparation of topics and questions.

Our Chairperson, Dave A, had asked me to facilitate an Area Inventory, using a new format. It was our intent that the body would find it to be entertaining and inspiring. The feedback we got leads us to believe that it was. One hundred and eight members participated and hopefully some will find the format helpful in their home groups and districts. I sure would love to come facilitate an Inventory for you!

We all voted to select which topic and questions

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### *Annual Inventory – from Page 2*

would be discussed. After we picked a question, each person had the opportunity to answer the question. First, members wrote their answer briefly on a transparency. Then, while the answer was displayed on an overhead projector, he or she had up to two minutes at the microphone to persuade all present that it was a valid suggestion. After everyone who wanted to answer the question was through doing so, we voted on each of the answers. The topic that was chosen was “How can we improve our services to the districts?” Two specific questions were selected. “How can we improve our GSR Schools? and How can we improve our Website?”

Every member present had a vote. We had service positions, such as timer and vote counters. Everyone who wanted to be a presenter was encouraged to go up to the microphone. There was lots of laughter and good natured chaos. Perfect for alcoholics! Lots of good information was exchanged. It was a hoot!

Below is a list of the topics and questions, followed by the results.

#### How can we improve our GSR Schools?

1. 80% Consensus --- A. Offer a workshop on the Service Manual to GSRs, B. Explain to the new GSRs more about why their service is valuable and what responsibility they carry.
2. 74% Consensus --- Have a GSR School at September assemblies on Sunday.
3. 64% Consensus --- When two or more districts are close together geographically have one GSR School for both.
4. 58% Consensus --- Have GSR Schools at every assembly.
5. 44% Consensus --- Getting Information on importance of GSR to groups that don't have a GSR.
6. 40% Consensus --- To have past GSRs or DCMs to step forward to tell new GSRs how to get started, temporary or permanent service sponsors.
7. 30% Consensus --- More emphasis on service committee's roles at Area and District interaction.
8. 26% Consensus --- A new GSR packet of information.
9. 17% Consensus --- GSR Orientation (label) does not infer teaching or times to learn what the GSR does, how and tools to do the job effectively. Also, on the registration form make note of this opportunity to inform GSRs of this educational opportunity.
10. 16% Consensus --- Have GSR Schools on a rotating schedule – each district/intergroup hosting one each year.
11. 16% Consensus --- Partnership between District and Area for presentation, e.g.: PI Area & PI District.
12. 8% Consensus --- Area contact each district to schedule a GSR School.
13. 4% Consensus --- Area provide districts with available school/classes and the appropriate contact.
14. 2% Consensus --- Newly registered GSRs could be contacted with information regarding GSR Schools.
15. 2% Consensus --- Have a set month in my Area for GSR School so we could plan for it instead of getting the information from monthly district meetings.

#### How can we improve our Website?

1. 76% Consensus --- Include information in Spanish on how to contact District 34 and the District 34 Intergroup office.
2. 66% Consensus --- Get information out for assemblies earlier.
3. 65% Consensus --- Put on the Website a GSR bulletin board that would allow GSRs from other districts to communicate with each other on issues with the group, rooming at assemblies, workshop ideas, etc.
4. 59% Consensus --- Service assembly calendar --- Minutes posted sooner.
5. 58% Consensus --- A. Information – agendas, schedules – to be supplied to the Webmaster promptly, B. Website to be updated as soon as information is supplied, C. Check that links work.
6. 37% Consensus --- Put on the Website “Group Update Forms” to be “interactive” for both Oregon Area and GSO.
7. 17% Consensus --- Put on the Website accounts for DCMs to access a full Area Roster.
8. 6% Consensus --- Add a link to Area Roster with basic information: Group – Contact – Phone.
9. 2% Consensus --- Put on the Website the principles behind each Step in AA --- info on DCM and their role at the Assembly.

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