NEBRASKANEWS

Volume 34 January 2025 Edition 1
https://area41.org/ Hotline: 877-AA OF NEB (877-226-3632)

Area 41 Business Meeting

January 11th-12th, 2024 | Grand Island, NE

Grand Island Quality Inn and Conference

7838 S. Hwy 281, Building A, Grand Island, NE, 68803 308-210-2124

(To get the Area 41 reduced rate, reserve your room four weeks before the meeting.)

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Area, Regional, & International Dates:

Area 41 Business Meeting	Jan 11-12	2025	Grand Island, NE
Area 41 4 Corners Workshop	Jan 25th	2025	Saint Paul, NE
WCRAASC	Feb. 28-2	2025	Casper, WY
Area 41 Business Meeting	April 5-6	2025	Grand Island, NE
International Convention	Jul. 3-6	2025	Vancouver, BC, CA
WCR Forum	Sept. 19-21	2025	Omaha, NE

^{**}Note from the Report and Charter Committee: Any member that would like to receive a digital copy of this Newsletter can do so by emailing secretary@Area41.org. We still encourage all GSRs to attend their District meeting. **

This report is a confidential A.A. document, for AA members only; it contains members' full names and addresses.

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Saturday, January 11, 2025

* Please check with your DCM, area41.org, or email chairperson@area41.org for updated information, as agenda information could be subject to change.

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM	First Timer Orientation	Important for 1st-time attendees
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Area Committee Meetings	
Committee	Chairperson	DCM's
Agenda/Workshop	Cara G/Summer M	26/23/28
Archives/Archivist	Char S/Colleen P.	5/4/11
Cooperation with the Professional	Jeff W.	2/31/32
Community/Public Information		
Corrections	Marsha S.	1/12/20
Finance	Brian R.	25/9/30
Grapevine	Chuck S.	16/22/8
Literature	Mark S.	24/7/6
Report & Charter/Newsletter/Taper/Re	egistrar Erin O./Brock H./Dan	19/3/18
	W./Zach I.	
Treatment/Accessibilities/Remote Cor.	nmunities Dean G.	29/10/15
Technology & Communication	Sarah R.	13/14/21

All GSR's are strongly encouraged to attend the committee meeting (above) of their choice

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch *on your own*	Good Luck!
2:00 PM- 3:00 PM 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Area Committee Meeting GSR Workshop	DCMs/Committee Chairs/Officers GSRs
3:15 PM - 4:00 PM	Ad-Hoc FUNction Breakouts See Questions for breakouts Below *Items in Committee* 1.Business vs Workshops	All Members!!! Submit feedback: area41.org/function
	2.Shorter vs Longer Assemblies 3.Rotating Assemblies vs 4 Corners Workshops 4.Appointed vs Elected Committee Chairs	
4:15 PM- 5:30 PM	DCM Highlights	All Members!!
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Dinner *On Your Own*	Good Luck!
8:00 PM - 8:40 PM 8:40 PM- 9:00 PM	Archives Workshop Sharing Session	All Members!!
9:15 PM - Close	AA Speaker Meeting Tonia & Will M. Sioux City, IA	All Invited

Sunday, January 12, 2025

8:00 AM- 8:45 AM Open AA Discussion Meeting All Invited
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Officer/ Committee Reports All Members

10:45 AM - 1:00 PM Clarify Agenda Items - After Each All Members

Committee Report

Area 41 Business Meeting:
-- Old Business / New Business
-- Agenda Items Moved to Vote

-- New Agenda Items

OLD BUSINESS: VOTING ITEMS

(VOTE)

Agenda Item 2021-07-10 017 Agenda: Area 41 conduct hybrid meetings as an option for virtual, as well as physical, attendance at Area 41 assemblies and business meetings. The hybrid meetings will utilize some borrowed equipment from A.A. members for a period of one year. In addition to borrowed equipment, Area 41 would purchase equipment up to an estimated initial investment of \$450 including tax. At the end of this period, the hybrid meetings would continue with the Area purchasing additional necessary equipment. Collaboration between the Technology and Communications Committee and Agenda Committee is encouraged, with regards to implementation and service rotation.

Background:

The hybrid option for both virtual and physical attendance increases the right of participation for members of Area 41, by reducing barriers to participation. Well-known barriers include accessibility, accommodations, and remote communities. The hybrid platform would also support implementation of interpretation opportunities. Additionally, some voting members may not have the necessary financial support to attend in person. Allowing the option of virtual participation at Area assemblies helps ensure all voices are heard for our group conscience.

Virtual participation also provides an additional avenue for service work. E.g., a hybrid committee meeting may attract qualified servants who don't have voting roles at Area business meetings.

Applicable traditions include Tradition 1 that states: "each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die." Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

Also applicable is Tradition 3, which states, in part: "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism." In addition, Concept IV is applicable, stating, "At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a tradition of 'Right of Participation' allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge." As GSRs are the voice of their groups and DCMs are the voice of their districts, they have a right of participation. Area 41 previously assembled both online only, and hybrid (in person and online), in 2020 and 2021. Many Areas in the US and Canada offer hybrid assembly attendance.

The committee believes that most of the on-site support can be performed by existing servants receiving lodging assistance. The committee will work with the Finance Committee to offer additional lodging and transportation funding if needed. It is anticipated that Area 41 would need two to three in person servants and one or two online servants, to operate the hybrid meeting.

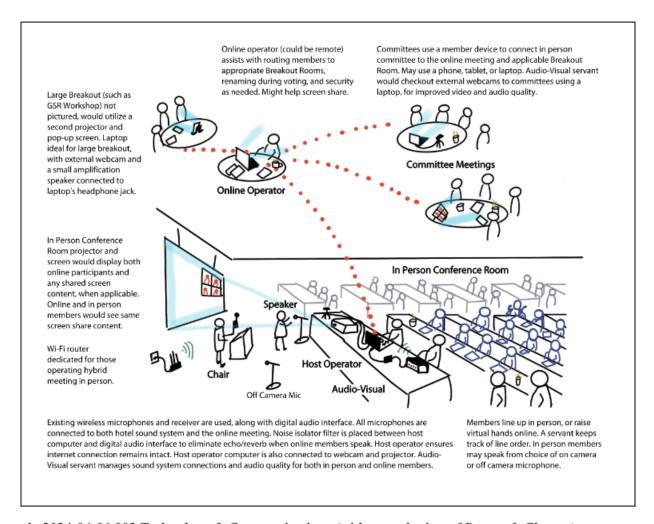
Area 41 already owns the following equipment to be used: Three microphones and receiver, digital audio interface, and a wi-fi router. Area 41 equipment to be purchased immediately: noise isolator filter (estimated \$38.99 before tax) and up to 10 webcams (bulk price estimated \$38.00 before tax)—one for main room and up to 9 for those committee breakouts utilizing member laptops—for an estimated maximum initial investment of \$449.37 after Lincoln, NE sales tax rate. This proposal assumes that each committee will identify a member owned device that can be used to connect to the online breakout for that committee meeting. The number of committees using a laptop that would benefit from an external webcam for improved video and audio quality will be determined prior to any purchases. Committee breakouts could also use member devices such as a phone or tablet, without the need for an external webcam.

Equipment to be lent by A.A. members for one year period: projectors, second screen (if needed), small amp(s) for large breakout (such as GSR Workshop), power strips, extension cords, and other misc. cables. Area 41 currently utilizes the

hotel's house sound, with the current approved contract extending through 2026. If the Area would choose to meet in other types of facilities in the future, additional sound system equipment may need to be considered.

At the end of the period utilizing borrowed equipment, the hybrid meetings would continue with the Area purchasing additional necessary equipment. The proposed list of equipment for purchase is suggested to be considered at or before the fourth hybrid assembly. This would allow time to determine what the Area's specific equipment needs are, to minimize any initial investment.

Note: The following image and notes are for illustrative purposes, and not intended to reflect the exact room or equipment layout



<u>Agenda 2024-04-06 002 Technology & Communications (with consultation of Report & Charter):</u>

<u>Dissolve the Taper service position and create an Audio-Visual service position. Because this position requires special</u>

skills and continuity, it ought to remain a six-year appointment. Area Chairperson to appoint a servant to serve through the remainder of 2025. The service position would be overseen by the Technology and Communications Committee.

Also amend the Area 41 Service Handbook to appropriately reflect these changes.

Amend budget to move Taper position lodging, mileage, and "Area Taping" expense lines from Secretary to Technology and Communications Committee, and rename appropriately. Update lodging to be for two nights per assembly, to allow servant to arrive on Friday with equipment.

Background: As the area becomes more and more modernized, the need for a person to manage several different pieces of technology instead of just recording assemblies has become apparent. This position could take on tasks such as, but not limited to, making sure the projectors are working, managing the microphones/sound systems, ensuring the meetings are audio-recorded, assisting with slide sharing, assisting with logistics and/or hosting for online or hybrid meetings, etc. This position may be expanded according to the needs of the assembly. The servant will ensure proper storage and adequate security of applicable equipment, and timely delivery and setup for area assemblies. Area 41 Service Handbook references

to amend include: update "Taper" to "Audio-Visual" in Paragraphs II.C.2, III.C.2.c.iii, IV.B, and IV.B.3; and remove "Taper" reference from Report and Charter Committee scope in Paragraph V.B.9.b.

EMERGENCY ITEM:

Agenda Item 2025 01-11 018: ELECT A WORKSHOP CHAIR

Background: Area 41 has an elected service position for a Workshop chair responsible for helping plan and support all 4-Corners Workshops, be a liaison to the Area 41 Reunion planning committee and sit on the Agenda committee, they are also responsible for finding a district to host the AA discussion meetings at Area Assemblies. This person is funded, a voting member and will serve on the regular rotation schedule. *This person would be eligible to stand for a continued term in October*

The purpose of a 4-Corners Workshop is to take Area 41 to the four sections of the state (defined later) and give local members a chance to learn about Area 41 and to meet and get to know the Area 41 Committee members.

NEW BUSINESS: ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE (10)

Agenda Item 2025 Report and Charter 01-11 016: Name Change for the "Reunion" to "Delegate's Report & Service Summit"

Background: The current name, "Reunion" may inadvertently give the impression that it is exclusive to those familiar with or previously connected to Area 41. This exclusivity may deter newcomers who are interested in service but may not know others involved in Area 41. Changing the name to

"Delegate's Report & Service Summit" could help convey that the event is inclusive and geared towards engaging individuals interested in service, regardless of prior connections. Emphasizing the event's focus on the Delegate's report and service opportunities may attract a broader audience and increase participation from new attendees. AGENDA ITEM 2025 Corrections 01-11 017: The Area 41 Correctional Facilities Committee recommends the name of the committee be changed to Corrections. The name change would mirror the General Service Board (GSB) service structure and reflect what Area 41 currently calls the committee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In the Area 41 Service Handbook, Eighth Edition, 2024; Page 2, Section V. B. 3, the committee is named, Correctional Facilities Committee, yet it is referred to as Corrections in the Area 41 Nebraska News (newsletter). The General Service Board (GSB) service structure uses the name Corrections. The name change would mirror the GSB and reflect what Area 41 is doing in practice. 2022-04-02 005 (cc) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Committee Comments

The Area 41 FUNction ad hoc committee has spent much time and research, and could continue to do much more ad infinitum. We do not claim that these recommendations are the best, as there are many great options. We do, however, agree that these recommendations are highly likely to be better, that change is necessary, and that we are honoring what we have been asked to do: "2022-04-02 005 Agenda Item Agenda: Review current practices and recommend changes, if necessary, to improve how Area 41 functions in order to best serve groups and individuals in the Area.

We are taking ourselves too seriously. We spend too much time arguing semantics, rules, and wordsmithing. Let's spend more time studying the concepts of AA, training future leaders, and enjoying ourselves, rather than spending too much time arguing about business. We believe that, as an Area, we need to change ourselves to be of maximum service to those around us. Many things that we do use up time that could be better used elsewhere. We have outlasted our previous structure & it is time for change. According to Concept 9, "If an idea looks like a good bet, we try it on — experimentally when that is possible." Some of these changes will need adjustments. As we all know, growing pains never really stop, but our current situation with hotel costs are becoming unsupportable, and we as a fellowship don't go out west together, and our newsletter cannot technically be done early enough, and we're missing a lot of groups voices at Area, and our stuff is out of date, and sometimes we have a lot of long boring stuff, which don't get us wrong, sometimes is necessary, but a lot of it might not be.

2022-04-02 005 (a1) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Change the format of Area 41 Assemblies by amending the number of Business meetings held at Assemblies from 4 to 2. This would begin the year after any hotel contract Area 41 has in place. If negotiations are taking place to renew the contract, then those plans supersede the timing of this Agenda item, and this item will not go into effect until after the newly contracted time. Business Meetings would take place in April and October. January and/or July would be one day Assemblies focused on workshops, fellowship, and helping to educate our members and trusted servants.

The passing of this agenda item shall suspend: AGENDA ITEM 2011-09-17 013 Agenda Area 41 consider scheduling Area 41 Business Meetings in January, March, August, and October with reunion meeting date to remain in June.

BACKGROUND: One reason people don't come to Area is the cost. Some groups or Districts cannot afford to send and/or spend money on hotels 4x/year in order to participate. It is thought that, perhaps, if there were only two 2x business meetings per year, the cost would be inclusive to more groups and/or districts to attend. Then, the non-business assemblies may be attended at a lower cost, or virtually if needed. The FUNction ad hoc can say, based upon the scope of our committee, and what we do know, that it would improve our Area 41 participation if we allow our members to virtually join our committees.

But also, Area 41 needs to consider its current financials and what is fiscally responsible. Meeting space used to come free at hotels & hotel rooms were \$70. Now, meeting space may cost between a few hundred to a thousand or more, and rooms have doubled. Some groups or Districts cannot afford to send at that current rate, and our business contracts are taking a much larger percentage of our total revenue. The ad hoc committee agrees that is a financial situation we are currently surviving, but is this really fiscally sustainable for our FUTURE?

The finance committee has been contacted and we will update if given any further impact statement.

2022-04-02 005 (a2) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Change the format of Area 41 Assemblies by varying the location of Area 41 Assembly meetings that are not conducting business. Non-Business Assemblies, known as "Service Assemblies" in this Agenda Item, would move to a different city than the "Business Assemblies," either rotating around the state or being in a permanent fixed location outside the city that hosts the Business meeting. This would begin the year after any hotel contract Area 41 has in place. If negotiations are taking place to renew the contract, then those plans supersede the timing of this Agenda item and this item will not go into effect until after the newly contracted time. Area 41 will secure a meeting space suitable for a day to host workshops, host fellowship, and to help educate our members and trusted servants.

The passing of this agenda item shall suspend: Jan. 2006 Motion that Area 41 Standing Committee meetings scheduled to run concurrently on Saturday morning of all Area meetings for 9am –noon, with appropriate breaks as determined within each committee.

BACKGROUND: Currently, we have not been able to afford moving our Area assemblies. Other Areas rotate their service days & look for smaller locations, such as schools, gyms, churches, etc. Perhaps this may allow for more participation and better unity throughout the Area. It would be nice to be able to eat at different restaurants around the state.

Also, Area 41 needs to consider its current financials and what is fiscally responsible. Meeting space used to come free at hotels & hotel rooms were \$70. Now, meeting space may cost between a few hundred to a thousand or more, and rooms have doubled. Some groups or Districts cannot afford to send at that current rate, and our business contracts are taking a much larger percentage of our total revenue. The ad hoc committee agrees that is a financial situation we are currently surviving, but is this fiscally sustainable for our FUTURE?

The finance committee has been contacted and we will update if given any further impact statement.

2022-04-02 005 (a3) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: For a trial run of 3 rotations, pause the 4-Corners workshops and its requisite service position at Area 41, if the agenda item voting to hold one day service assemblies in a separate city than the Area 41 Business Meeting passes.

The passing of this agenda item shall suspend: April 1990 Motion for the Area to sponsor having a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 4 one day workshops per year by any Area Committee that is asked for the four corners of the State utilizing Area funds.

BACKGROUND: We would suggest a temporary pause on 4-corners workshops to see if we have better unity as an area by getting many more people (hopefully 50+) in our area out to different and/or less traveled locales for an entire

assembly, as opposed to 8 Area Officers and Chairs for a few hours. The pause would allow the opportunity to do a cost analysis to see if the money is better spent bringing the whole Area to visit.

2022-04-02 005 (b) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Replace GSR & DCM Workshops with Topic Workshop(s). The passing of this item will repeal the GSR Workshop and alternate GSR Workshop positions.

BACKGROUND: The separation of GSR's & DCM's at Area 41 is a remnant of a time when GSR's didn't vote i.e. it is a structural leftover. If at any time a workshop is needed for only GSR's or DCM's or Chair's, the Area Chair can add it to the Agenda. The topics currently covered in the GSR workshops can be useful for all area positions. Multiple topics may give more people chances to participate in workshop planning. Area Chair and/or Agenda Committee will plan workshops or delegate workshop planning.

2022-04-02 005 (c) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: The Area Chair is to appoint committee chair and service positions from a pool of interested candidates, nominations, and anyone else that the Area Chair may identify as a suitable candidate. The final slate of candidates to be approved by the Area by a ½ vote.

BACKGROUND: We are losing people in rotation change. Many qualified people choose not to stand that would be willing to serve if asked. These people have been some of our Groups, Districts, and Area's greatest assets. Appointments could encourage these future leaders to serve when they might otherwise balk.

Having the Area Chair appoint committee chairs and service positions could also provide the Area with better rotation. Too often positions have been filled by acclamation because only one person was willing to stand at elections. Elections by acclamation are not "obtaining the best talent we can find," as per Concept 9. Selecting candidates beyond those willing to stand will allow for greater rotation.

Building leadership for the future is also a concern, but Concept 9 lays it out pretty clearly:

- "Good leadership cannot function well in a poorly designed structure. But weak leadership can hardly function at all, even in the best of structures. But once we have created a basically sound structure, that job is finished, except for occasional refinements. With leadership we shall have a continuous problem. Good leadership can be here today and gone tomorrow. Furnishing our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous activity. It is therefore a problem that in its very nature cannot be permanently solved. We must continuously find the right people for our many service tasks." It will continuously be difficult & we must continuously FIND the right people.
- "Fortunately our Society is blessed with any amount of real leadership the active people of today and the potential leaders of tomorrow as each new generation of able members swarms in. We have an abundance of men and women whose dedication, stability, vision, and special skills make them capable of dealing with every possible service assignment. We have only to seek these folks out and trust them to serve us."
- "We shall be in continual need of these same attributes tolerance, responsibility, flexibility, and vision among our leaders of A.A. services at all levels. The principles of leadership will be the same whatever the size of the operation.
 - Maybe this seems like an attempt to stake out a specially privileged and superior type of A.A. member. But it really is not so. We simply are recognizing that our talents vary greatly. The conductor of an orchestra is not necessarily good at finance or foresight. And it is quite unlikely that a fine banker could be a great musical performer. So when we talk about A.A. leadership we only declare that we ought to select that leadership on the basis of obtaining the best talent we can find."

If passed, the current chairs and service positions would stay in their current role until the next slate can be prepared, approved and in position. This would only apply for the transition into this system.

Note: this agenda item only applies to committee chairs and service positions - NOT to the officer positions.

2022-04-02 005 (d) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Area 41 should invite a speaker once per year from another Area, at the purview of the Area Chair.

BACKGROUND: Currently, our budget only affords the opportunity to have our West Central Regional Trustee visit once per rotation, usually at our Elections. Having a guest visitor/presenter/speaker, from outside our Area or even Region, or even from the General Service Office or a Trustee, would provide broader service experience.

2022-04-02 005 (e) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Keeping in mind the always existing right of decision of the area chair and agenda committee, and that sometimes special circumstances arise, the fellowship would like it known that they appreciate efforts to attempt business meetings on Saturdays.

BACKGROUND: During the various workshops, surveys, and questions for information that were done by the FUNction ad hoc committee, one of the most popular ideas to the fellowship seemed to be a Saturday business meeting. It may or may not work for the schedule & ultimately the Area Chair has the responsibility of making sure everything works out. But, this voting item says..hey...we like this if it is possible.

2022-04-02 005 (f) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: A Resolution,

We, the Area Assembly of 2024-2025, acknowledge that due to the existence of an ad hoc committee and some of the decisions of the current Area Chair, there have been adjustments to the agenda and workshops, unlike what we've seen, and it has provided the ad hoc committee some valuable insights. We affirm any future area chair's right of decision, but we also wish to formally document our experiences for the record.

Our experience with extended lunch and dinner breaks has been overwhelmingly positive. With these longer breaks, we have found that attendance at post-dinner workshops has significantly improved—rising from approximately 25%-50% to near full participation. Having topics at post dinner sharing sessions may have helped too, rather than just open sharing sessions.

Overall, we have observed reduced arguments, decreased stress, and an increase in unity and restfulness. These changes have contributed to a more generally positive outlook for our assembly.

While it is common for chairs and agenda committees to consider adjusting meal and break times, our experience suggests that the benefits of extended breaks are substantial. The relaxation and unhurried pace of meals have had a trickle-down effect, fostering greater unity and reducing unnecessary conflicts. This has led to increased engagement and attendance.

Regarding workshops, we prefer them to be shorter and more focused, with multiple presenters, and with opportunities for sharing sessions. We request that future topics be relevant and beneficial to our service positions. Thank you.

ITEMS STILL IN COMMITTEE (4)...

- -Agenda Item 2022-10-09 014 Technology & Communication: To create an Email Subscription Service
- -Agenda Item 2023-04-15 008b Technology and Communications: Create guidelines and answer Traditions questions for future Area 41 purchases of electronic equipment. Determine who Area 41 should purchase electronic equipment for, how the items should be handled, used, protected, stored or passed along. Address questions of ongoing costs (subscriptions, maintenance, etc.) have not been addressed.
- -Agenda Item 2024-01-06 #001 Report and Charter: Clarify the scope of standing committees to resolve agenda items in committee.
- -Agenda Item 2024-01-06 003 Report & Charter: Area 41 to form a new Area committee tasked with hosting the area reunions. MOTION TO COMMIT TO FINANCE TO CONSIDER FEASIBILITY

QUESTIONS FOR AD-Hoc FUNction Workshop

FUNction Ad Hoc Questions Jan 2024

Many Areas do more education & less business than us. Could we do less business and more workshops to learn principles and train GSRs and DCMs? Why?

(committee meetings could still occur)

a. Can we accomplish our work with 2 voting business meetings/year? Why or why not?

- b. Can we accomplish our work with 3 voting business meetings/year? Why or why not?
- 2. Do you see a use for a one or two day non-business assembly? Why or why not?
- 3. What would be an advantage, other than unity, to traveling around the Area for a non-business Assembly? If Area was in your neck of the woods, would more people show up? Why or why not?
 - a. What is your understanding of the intent of a 4-Corners workshop? Do you think it is serving this purpose?
- 4. "Good leadership cannot function well in a poorly designed structure. Good leadership can be here today and gone tomorrow. Furnishing our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous activity. It is therefore a problem that in its very nature cannot be permanently solved. We must continuously find the right people for our many service tasks." (Concept 9) It will continuously be difficult & we must continuously FIND the right people.

Do the Traditions & Concepts provide enough checks and balances for the Area Chair to appoint the committee chair and
service positions from a pool of interested candidates, nominations, and other suitable candidates? Why or why not?
More questions? $\Box \Box$ See agenda items assigned to committee in the Newsletter.

□ □ <u>2022-04-02 005 (cc)</u>, <u>2022-04-02 005 (a1)</u> - <u>2022-04-02 005 (f)</u>

Business Meeting Minutes: October 13th, 2024

Meeting opened and roll Call was taken with 77 voting members present.

- -: Trustee at Large Nomination
- **Discussion**: Erika H. was nominated and accepted.
- **Vote**: By acclamation.
- **Election Results**: Elect a new Alt Delegate (3rd legacy)
- **First Ballot**:
- Char: 14
- Jenny: 23
- Russ: 24
- Doug: 15
- **Second Ballot**:
- Char: 5
- Jenny: 25
- Russ: 37
- Doug: 6
- **Third Ballot**:
- Jenny: 24
- Russ: 49

Congratulations Russ S. is our new Alt Delegate.

- ** Emergency Agenda Item** Budget approval
- Amendments were made in committee and accepted.
- **Vote**: 68 in favor, 1 opposed.
- **Minority Voice Heard**: Yes, Brian said he should not be unopposed

Motion stands, Budget was approved.

Motion to close was made and seconded. Meeting adjourned.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Delegate:

Good morning, Area 41 - First things, first, hot off the press! Final Conference Reports from the 74th General Service Conference are here! Please take one for you and many for other members and GSRs at home. See Chuck or Mark at the back of the room. One error that I'm aware of - on page 51, there was one item that passed with a simple majority but the printed copy says none. The digital version available on www.aa.org has been corrected.

Since July, I submitted the three agenda items for the 75th General Service Conference the Area voted to submit. In a follow-up to our discussion on District 9's request, one group has moved to Area 76. It has been a busy few months of

traveling around the Area to meet with districts and groups. So far, I have gone more than 4,000 miles to share 19 delegate reports. I have 5 scheduled this quarter, 4 more are pending a district, and I haven't heard back from 7 districts. If your district or group would like a report or there's something I can do to serve you, please let me know.

I, along with more than a dozen delegates, submitted Concept 5 appeals to the General Service Board on a range of topics after this year's GSC. This is the first time in our history sitting delegates have submitted appeals. Most of the appeals focused on the Board's conduct and not allowing the Conference to finish the work of the Fellowship at the 74th GSC. These were discussed at the July Board Meeting, but to date, we have received no response from the Board. We did learn that the Board took no action on the floor actions that were left over after Conference. The Board cited respecting the Conference process as the reason. I haven't been able to find a trustee that can explain how that makes sense. Now for some updates from General Service:

- The Plain Language Big Book will be available November 1st. 70,000 units were printed and it will cost \$11 or \$11.99 for the e-book.
- If you have ideas for themes or workshop topics for the 76th GSC, please let me know!
- A Corrections Survey was just released from the General Service Office to gather shared experience on how
 A.A. members encourage and engage members in corrections. The deadline to participate is December 15. I
 will email out a link if you're interested.
- The Military Outreach Project has a landing page at www.aa.org and the GSO Treatment Desk has a call out for expereince from those who have had successful outreach to active duty and veterans. If you'd like to participate, please let me know.
- A new accessibilities project has been released! Videos in ASL for Alcoholics who are Deaf are now availbale
 on the Grapevine and La Vina Youtube channels. The people signing in the videos are not members of the
 Fellowship and disclaimers appear on the videos.
- The updated Black in AA and Bridging the Gap pamphlets are available!
- The Corrections desk at GSO is looking for members to participate in the Corrections Correspondence Service.
 This is essentially a penpal-style correspondence with a person in custody that would like to be in contact with an A.A. member. There is a specific need for women, spanish-speaking men, and members who identify as transgender or non-binary. Talk to me and I'll get you connected.
- The price of La Viña is increasing to \$18. Effective 1/1/25, this is the first price increase in 10 years.
- A new Literature Committee workbook is being created as service material from GSO, like the workbooks available for other committees.
- Young People Survey how we reach young people, give me feedback!

A few dates for upcoming events you won't want to miss!

- The 2025 WCRAASC is in Casper, WY. Flyer is being developed. February 28-March 2, 2025. This event is a
 great opportunity to connect with other members and discuss what's going on in A.A.
- Our General Service Board Chair, Scott H., from Canada, will be at our April Assembly. Scott is the first-ever Class B Board Chair of the GSB elected by the GSC.
- The 2025 International Convention will be in Vancouver, Canada July 3-6, 2025. Registration is open and
 rooms are still available. We've had over 22,000 members register so far! If you booked an extra room or want
 to adjust a room, do before 10/31 to avoid a cancellation fee. If you can't make it in person, there will be a
 virtual track available for \$35.
- The WC Regional Forum will be in Omaha next fall September 19-21, 2025. See me if you're interest in helping with the host committee! We only get to host every 16 years.

To wrap up, I've been thinking a lot about communication the last few months. From the groups down to the Board and all the way back up. Communication is essential in our service structure to ensure that information flows between groups and each of our service bodies. Each of our roles—whether as a DCM, GSR, committee chair, officer, or however we serve—contributes to the effectiveness of our work to serve groups and support their efforts to carry the message. By fostering clear and open dialogue in both directions, we can share experience, address challenges, and promote unity within the Fellowship. I encourage us all to think about how we can help increase communication. Thank you for allowing me to serve! In love and service, Nick.

Alternate Delegate:

Hello and Goodbye Area 41! This is my final report as your Alternate Delegate and it's with great honor that I thank you for this tremendous opportunity. It's been a fairly slow quarter this year. I have attended the monthly North American alternate delegates meeting and a couple of Delegates meetings with the Trustee and delegates for our region. In September, our region did a presentation on the 6 warranties that went very well. I really enjoyed getting to know the

alternate delegates in our region. The delegate came and presented a high level overview of the GSC to my home group which was very much appreciated. Again, I have been grateful to serve as your Alternate Delegate this last year and appreciate the many things I've learned and your faith in me. I look forward to supporting whomever the Area body elects to replace me. Don't think you are fully rid of me, I will still pop into Area as my schedule allows. Yours in service, Dawn Chair:

Good Morning Area 41, This last quarter I have received feedback about several agenda related topics. I love that multiple committees have come to me and asked for time to do workshops, asked to have space for surveys and other time at assemblies. If your group, district or committee wants time, just come talk to me, we can accommodate this. This is your assembly and if there's things you like, things you dislike, please bring it to me, so we can help make this assembly yours. This is your 7 th tradition dollars and your group's time, make it whatever you want it to be. As your area chairperson I get the opportunity to serve you by chairing the agenda committee and I have been super fortunate to have an agenda committee that is engaged and excited about this inventory process and experimenting with the schedule. So please keep us in the loop with what you think. The biggest trap we get in is doing something just because we've always done it when it truly doesn't serve our groups anymore. Feedback can be one of the best gifts even when it's hard to hear. Make sure to get your agenda items to me before October 23 rd so the agenda committee can meet and get those items assigned. You can send those via email to chair@area41.org or unicornsarereal14@yahoo.com also if you still have feedback on the inventory questions you send it there too or to area41suggestionbox@gmail.com! If you want to have input on the schedule for January, you can ask for the information to that virtual agenda committee meeting as well. Finally, committee chairs- we have an area zoom account if you want to use it between assemblies, come talk to me! I'll help you! Thanks for the opportunity to continue to serve and grow! Love and Service, Cara G.

Secretary:

Hello Area 41, Lets address the newsletter first. My sincere apologies that it was delayed, I did send out an extra email with all the voting items and budget included so that you would still have available the information to take to your meetings before the area and have time to discuss. It was my hope that you would be able to use that in the interim. I do want to report that I had several emails and calls, which is always welcomed. Please don't hesitate to call or email and I will do my best to get you a timeline and or the items you need for your groups or districts. It's a pleasure to get to hear from you in between areas, and a pleasure to serve the fellowship however I can! That being said, a friendly reminder that the agenda information, and the voting items do get posted to the website, side note, if you haven't checked out the new website what are you waiting for? Thank you to the folks who worked hard on it! The voting items will also appear in the area highlights sent out, additionally I'm here to serve the fellowship so please reach out if you need something before the newsletter comes out. I'd like to remind the fellowship, both Brock and myself are trusted servants and as such have to get the newsletter out in addition to our everyday lives and sometimes life gets lifey. The newsletter process requires a lot of trust from everyone that all the parts will come together. Lots of working parts to get it out, agenda committee will compile the agenda and voting items submitted to the chair, the secretary compiles all the reports and the newsletter person has to get them all to fit into the format which is a lot harder than it sounds, then it gets translated for the spanish version. There are things you can do to help! You can make sure you do not include any last names in your reports, as we have to go in and remove them before they can go online, you can also make sure you get your reports in a timely fashion, I really appreciate all of you that do that regularly, thank you!

I would like to thank District 15 for hosting their chili cook off during our dinner break, I really appreciated the time spent with members of the local groups, and the food was wonderful! I'm looking forward to the workshop in January and to see you all in 2025! Love and Service, Erin

Treasurer:

Area 41 Treasurer Report Fourth Quarter 2024:

Good Morning Area 41!! Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your treasurer. I had a pretty boring third quarter so (thankfully) this should be pretty brief.

After FULLY funded all accounts for the fourth quarter,

- Our Main account has \$26,753.47 in unallocated funds.
- Our Prudent reserve is \$18,000, 50% of the 2024 expenses.
- Our expenses for the quarter were \$10,695.51.
- Year to Date our expenses were: \$28,757.06.
- Contributions for the quarter were \$8,564.12.
- Year to Date contributions were: \$25,735.47

For contributions during the quarter:

• 92 unique groups contributed

- Average contribution was \$94.12
- Median Contribution was \$62.91
- 42 of the contributions were less than \$50.

Thank you to all of the small groups that make all this possible. I had the opportunity to work with the Technology and Communication in updating their budget to assist in all the great work they have been doing and am really enjoying the new and updated tools they are providing for us. I think most of the dust has settled from our bank's system upgrade; but please let me know if you are having any trouble. Speaking of the banking systems, I want to let all officers and committee chairs know that with the election of a new alternate delegate, we will all be receiving updated DocuSign requests as the alternate delegate is a signer on all area accounts. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, complaints, etc. Our new email system is working well – so please feel free to send to treasurer@area41.org. Thank you, Brian R, Area 41 Treasurer

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibilities, Accommodations, Treatment, and Remote Communities:

Greetings Area 41, The Treatment, Accessabilities, Accommodations and Remote Communities Committee met at 9:00am with 5 people in attendance. We opened with the Serenity prayer followed by Traditions and Concepts. After introductions we read the Scope of our Committee and the previous minutes.

We discussed the new Bridging the Gap function on the Area Website. This is where an individual in a Treatment Center can fill out a submission for a temporary A.A. contact. When the submission is received we locate an A.A. fellow from the Area that the applicant will be returning to after leaving Treatment. This fellow can provide an immediate connection to the Fellowship BEFORE an individual is released. The link for this is area41.org/BTG.

The website is up and running and we can move forward with sending an email to Nebraska Treatment facilities alerting them of this tool now available to them. A list of treatment centers is being compiled but we also discussed other locations that could benefit from the Bridging the Gap function. Huge shoutout to Sarah and the Technology & Communication Committee on all the work they have put into the Website. They have done a great job.

We discussed the boundaries of our committee working with Treatment Centers or other accessibility related facilities like Nursing Homes. How do we reach the still suffering Alcoholic without affiliating with the business itself? This led to a close examination of our Scope and Responsibilities. We discussed the Area 41 Inventory questions. Finally, we discussed the agenda items up for vote. There are no agenda items assigned to our committee at this time. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Dean G. T.A.A.R.C. Chair

Agenda:

Date: October 12, 2024 Attendance: 13 people

Opening: The meeting was opened by the Area 41 Chair and had the Daily Reflections read.

Reports:

- Workshop Report: Presented by the Workshop Chair.
- Minutes: Read by the Agenda Secretary.
- o Motion to approve the minutes from July 24, 2024. Motion seconded and approved.

Inventory Process Discussion:

The committee discussed the process for conducting the inventory, with plans to divide into six groups, each starting with an assigned question. Each group will have a self-designated facilitator, note taker, and presenter. Groups will submit notes via email to Cara.

- The full group discussion will allow a one-minute summary per person, with opportunities for multiple contributions.
- Trends identified in inventory items will be addressed with a report will be presented by April 2025 and a workshop in July 2025.

Agenda Item Discussion:

- Item 2024-10-12-015: Proposal to move DCM Reports to DCM Copy to focus on DCM issues with districts.
- o The Chair presented research indicating that DCM Reports are not required, and there is no mandatory time limit for reading them.
- o A discussion followed on whether reports should be read aloud, with consensus that the flexibility of placing reports on the itinerary should be preserved.
- o Motion to terminate further consideration of this item was seconded and passed unanimously. January 2025 Assembly Planning:
- - Ideas were discussed, including: workshops, speakers, extended lunch & dinner breaks.

Requests for workshops by committee chairs are being accepted. Next Meeting: Zoom meeting on Wednesday, October 23rd, at 6:30 p.m.

Closure:

- Motion to close the meeting was seconded and passed.
- The meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement.

In Service, Janine J, Agenda Committee

Archives:

Hello Area 41! Archives Committee meeting opened at 4pm with a moment of silence for the still suffering alcoholic, followed by the Serenity Prayer. 7 members were in attendance. Donna J was asked to read the Archives Report from the April 2024 Newsletter. We heard two members present their findings on the founder's that they chose to research. We spoke at length about why it was important to capture and preserve information for Archives. We discussed the progress and process of collecting oral histories from our Area 41 Longtimers. We went around the table and shared one pivotal moment from our personal early AA history to assist us in determining which questions we could be asking. Several ideas were brought up.

We discussed some information regarding the Archives Repository and are going to schedule and date/time where we can tour the facility as a group. *No agenda items in committee at this time. We closed at 4:59pm with the Lord's Prayer. In Service, Char S

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Public Information:

Hi Area 41, we had 11 in attendance opened with the serenity prayer

- 1) agenda item <u>2024-01-06 004</u> and we read the scope of the committee, some questions were who would pay for it, lots of driving around the state, is this an area, group or district position?
- 2) the 1800 number has been updated
- 3) area 41 business cards have been updated with a QR code will be here for the next meeting
- 4) Carry the message starts with all of us, jails, churches, hospitals, schools, probation offices, counselors
- 5) discussed state fair booth not enough support
- 6) how to get the message? billboards, bus benches, tv radio, newspapers, how about the traditions, attraction rather than promotion, anonymity

closed with the responsibility pledge, In Service, Jeff W

Corrections:

Greetings Area 41, I'm Marsha, I'm an alcoholic and the Area 41 Correctional Facilities Committee Chair. First off I want to thank the Technology and Communications Committee for all the hard work on updating our Area Website. I love cranes! Thank you to the Agenda Committee for doing the Area Inventory. Thank you to the Ad Hoc Functions Committee for all the time and hard work put into trying to determine what will work best for our Area. Russ and I got to attend the 27 th National Archives Workshop in Des Moines Iowa. What a wonderful event! Our Area 41 Archivist was there as well. The Correctional Facilities Committee met at 9:00 AM with 14 members in attendance. We opened with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. We had a productive meeting with lots of participation and sharing. We continue to compile the list of what AA meetings are being taken into which correctional facilities and when. More information was added to the list and we will be putting that list on the Area 41 Website. There are 10 Nebraska State Prisons and we take meetings into or are eligible to take meetings into 8 of those prisons. Quarterly requests were made to the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution (TSCI) to take meetings in with no success. We continue to focus on getting meetings into the youth facilities.

The Corrections Desk at the General Service Office (GSO) sent out a survey to gather information about corrections work. The link is https://www.surveymonkey,com/r/5J7PVS5 and was sent to the members of the committee. Our Delegate visited the meeting and encouraged everyone to complete the survey. Discussion began about the name of the committee. This committee is commonly referred to as the "Corrections" Committee but in the Area 41 Service Handbook the committee is called "Correctional Facilities" Committee. In the General Service Board (GSB) service structure the committee is called "Corrections." The committee will submit an agenda item requesting a name change to align with the GSB service structure and to reflect what is already being done. Area 41 Accessibilities, Accommodations, Treatment, and Remote Communities Committee Chair was asked to talk with this committee about Bridging The Gap (BTG) at the January 2025 Area meeting. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:45 am. Yours in service - Marsha S.

Finance:

Area 41 Finance Committee Report Fourth Quarter 2024: We opened with 10 members present and began with the serenity prayer. We started with a review of the proposed 2025 budget. After a robust and insightful discussion we determined to make 3 changes to the proposed budget.

- 1. The five hotel nights included in our contract will be applied to the budget. For simplicity we zeroed out the hotel rooms for the Delegate, 2 for the alternate delegate, chair and treasurer
- 2. The alternate delegate will be funded for a 2 night hotel stay and mileage for the reunion.
- 3.To add additional transparency and clarity, unallocated funds remaining in the main account will be added as income in the first quarter of the 2025 fiscal year.

After a brief break, we returned to discuss agenda item 2024-01-06.003. The finance committee was asked to do an assessment of the financial impact of this item on Area 41 finances. The discussion showed the critical importance of committee participation as the review done as a committee was far more thorough and accurate than the initial assessment done by the treasurer alone. We are sending the item back to assembly for vote with the assessment that the item will add \$4,108.72 to the area expenses based on mileage of 200 miles for all impacted committee chairs.

We spent the remainder of our session starting to look at the 2026 budgeting process using the workshop budget as an example of what clarification and updates will need to be discussed. As a committee, we will attempt to set a better cadence and adherence to a regular monthly committee meeting via zoom. We are tentatively set to next meet on November 12th at 7:30pm; but will have ongoing discussions via email to see if a better day and time can be arranged. If you would like to be included in the meetings or receive the meeting minutes, please let the treasurer know – treasurer@area41.org

Grapevine:

Greetings Area 41, This last quarter was slow for the Grapevine committee. There were no events up to this area that I was able to attend. In committee we opened with the serenity prayer with 4 members present. Minutes from the last meeting were read and motion was made to approve minutes as read and approved. In Grapevine current balance in checking is 2747.57, 423.52 in cash box total sales are 168.45, square service fee is 4.27. I'm willing to attend future events as my job will allow between assemblies. As a side note if anyone wants pocket planners or calendars for 2025 come see me I can mail them to you when they come in or get them to you at the next assembly if you so desire. Also if you purchased anything from me come see me we are going to draw random names next 3rd quarter and give away a few complete subscriptions so if you want to put on the list to draw let me know. In closing we closed with the Lord's Prayer. Yours in Service, Chuck S. Area Grapevine chair

Literature:

The Area 41 Literature Committee meeting opened at 9:05 AM, with Jim S. reading the 12 Traditions. We had three attendees representing Districts 6, 7 and 24. The committee reviewed and approved the previous committee report. The second "Pamphlet Challenge" of 2024 is under way. Iit began on 01JUL and will end on 31 DEC. When purchasing pamphlets please let me know what district your home resides in. We also have plenty of Newcomer, Correction, Service & Twelves pamphlet packets available. And the Spanish Paquete de Recien Llegado is also available. If you would like a listing of the pamphlets that are in each of the packets please send me an email at Area41literature@gmail.com or stop by the literature table at the next event you see me at, and I can provide you a listing. For quarter three of 2024, the Literature budgeted account (Hotel & Travel) balance forward was \$324.90 and the Area 41 deposited \$288.16. Hotel & travel expenses were \$329.72 leaving an ending balance of \$283.34. The Literature sales account balance forward was \$1227.00. Income was \$2264.65 and expenses were \$2279.32 leaving an ending balance of \$1211.33. Subtracting outstanding purchases that haven't cleared the account of \$14.75 and collected sales tax due to the state of Nebraska at \$434.12 gives us a working balance of \$762.46 The Literature Committee discussed and voted on pamphlets to include in the upcoming month's "Pamphlet Spotlight". The goal is to get us inspired to read more pamphlets. We have a ton of great literature. This "Pamphlet Spotlight" will hopefully challenge us to read more of it. The pamphlets we selected for the next four months are: November – P-44 "AA's Legacy of Service";

December – P-87 "A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues – and their sponsors."; January – P-91 "Experience has Taught Us: An Introduction to Our Twelve Traditions". All pamphlets are free to download at aa.org - just put the pamphlet number (i.e. P-13) in the search box on the webpage and hit the "View PDF" button. They can also be purchased at your local Central Office, online at onlineliterature.aa.org, or at your Area 41 Literature table. During the last quarter, I had the opportunity to attend the Area 41 4-Corners Workshop in Kearney, District 31's Annual A.A. Spanish Convention of Nebraska in Columbus & the District 24 picnic also in Columbus. Thank you to all the individuals that made these events such great successes. If you haven't got me scheduled to attend your group or district event, please contact me at 402-326-0871 or email at markjs2131@gmail.com. We closed at 11:35 am with the Declaration of Unity. Thank you for the opportunity to serve, Mark S.

Report and Charter:

Meeting opened at 9:03 with the serenity prayer and introductions. The meeting opened w/8 in attendance, including 2 at their first assembly. 2 joined later, one of whom was also at their first assembly. Nick K stopped in for a bit. The minutes were read and approved. 2024-04-06 002 Technology and communications with consultation of report and charter: dissolve the taper position and create a tech gopher position. The Technology and Communications Committee had asked Report and Charter to weigh in on a new "Tech Gopher or Squirrel" position, replacing the "Taper" position currently within our scope. Erin and Zach had attended a T&C meeting; Zach read his notes. The new position would likely not require more than basic technical skills, though this might change appreciably if hybrid assemblies were to be held. There was consideration of the alternate delegate storing the equipment, as only 1 night funding is available and set-up time might be a concern. Dan, the current recorder, felt strongly that the equipment should stay w/ the person holding the position. Possible terms discussed were a 6-year appointment and a 2-year elected position. No one opposed the R&C committee recommending the 6-year appointment. We also recommended that a very explicit list of responsibilities be provided. Dan left the meeting with information and shared it in the T&C committee meeting. Upon his return, he reported the only information that impacted his thinking was that a 2-year term could be beneficial when a secretary has a good relationship with the Gopher, which appears to be the current case.

Map Update: Zach did not find anyone that disputed the boundaries he had for the Lincoln districts. Mike to go forward with the Omaha boundaries and consult Summer on western NE. he will provide a document in time to be included in the January Newsletter

Agenda Item 2024-01-06 #001 Report and Charter: Clarify the scope of standing committees to resolve agenda items in committee. Discussion centered. Zach reached out to the item originator. Agenda item was in response to recent differences of opinion. Discussion centered around committees' already having appropriate rights of decision. Several options are already available for members to address concerns they have for a committee's decisions and actions. General consensus was that the Area could do more to educate members about current policies and procedures, and continue to promote and reinforce these. Workshops were mentioned and someone reported that such an event was on the Agenda/Workshop committee's shortlist. A motion was made to take no action on this item, it passed 9-1.

**In the Oct newsletter this item listed as still being in committee, which is correct. The R&C committee report in the same newsletter indicated that it was decided to take no action on this item at the July Assembly. It should have stated

Agenda Item 2022-04-02 #003 Report and Charter: Consider how to incorporate virtual groups that choose to participate in Area 41 into the Area 41 service structure.

**This item should not be listed as Still in Committee. At the July Assembly the R&C committee voted 11-0 to take no action, as reflected in our report.

Agenda Item 2024-07-13 008 exploring spanish translation

that the committee tabled the item during the July Assembly

Nick had used the Delegates mailbag to poll the delegates if they have any translation services at their assemblies and what the cost budgeted for them. Not a lot of Areas replied that they offered translation services. Some had volunteer services, but professional services are very expensive. Area 15 in Southern Florida had budgeted \$22,600 for 2024. The committee felt it was important to get a better understanding of the needs of the Area's membership and voted unanimously to table the motion while checking with members and other committees which may also have translation needs.

** The report as shown in the October Newsletter duplicates the agenda item. The top of page 15 will need amendment Past Actions Update

We quickly realized that we did not have sufficient background to proceed with this item in the short time remaining and voted unanimously to table the item while we gathered information.

Items still in committee:

2024-07-13 008 (with tech and communications and AARC)

2022-04-02 006 Agenda Item Report & Charter: Update the scope of the Area Secretary (Area 41 Service Handbook page 11) to add item iv, "Send out an electronic Area 41 highlights communication to the Fellowship, suggested within two weeks of each Assembly, to include the results of the voting items and the voting items for the upcoming Assembly."

Reunion: No Report

Technology and Communications:

Good morning, Area 41, The Technology and Communications committee opened at 9:02 with the serenity prayer and adjourned at 11:52 with the responsibility statement. We started with 12 members in attendance, and concluded with a total of 14, including one online. The July report was reviewed, along with working notes from all subsequent committee meetings and working sessions. Since July, we have met monthly as a committee, with the hybrid subcommittee also meeting monthly, as well as countless online working sessions with the website transition team, website mapping group, and informal wordsmithing sessions on our agenda items by many others. Therefore, for the sake of clarity, the remainder of this report is organized by item.

*****First, regarding our website rebuild and email hosting changes. The committee met on August 10 with 11 in attendance, and reviewed a website hosting proposal by JM Online of Omaha, NE. This proposal was requested in response to committee member suggestions that an individual A.A. member not hold the "keys" to our entire domain and website hosting, and that this is appropriately categorized as paid professional services in the context of Tradition Eight. The committee had advanced communication with the Treasurer and Finance Committee, to approve expenses for the website migration and initial hosting fees, and incorporated the future costs into our proposed 2025 budget. All August 10 motions carried with no opposition:

- * Accept JM Online proposal and move forward as able within committee's scope.
- * Accepted proposed budget for 2025, which includes a handful of hours of support by JM Online at \$120/hr, that would only be utilized if needed.
- * Go with a premium license for Gravity Forms, at a cost of \$78/year. Additional CONSENSUS:
- * Committee agreeable to website downtime for several days or a week, with temporary splash page to include: Nebraska A.A. hotline number, and links to aa.org/new-to-aa and aa.org/meeting-guide-app.
- * To pull Service Handbook OUT from behind the password wall. Pause to do our due diligence with the rest of the items behind the password. (E.g., Past Actions document would need additional sanitizing, as it contains several last names in past election results.)
- * Agreement to create a "WEB" version of scrubbed newsletter with additional sanitizing. The committee would prefer to pull all emails and phone numbers, and replace with links to respective committee or service position pages that each have an embedded contact form; for the moment, we are ensuring any email address that reveals a last name is redacted, and then printing the PDF to a "flat file" that is seen as an image rather than text—to the best of our knowledge, spider bots do not currently read images, but it may be beneficial to not publish our email addresses even in images in the future. The committee requests future collaboration with Newsletter and Secretary, to revisit the scrubbed newsletter process to see if it could also be web ready.

Over the next couple weeks (in August), our Website Transition Team (aka Tech Team) worked tirelessly to build the new desired taxonomy and get starter content in place. We were thrilled to pull back the curtain as scheduled on August 21, and continue to fill in our site content. Base structure and content are implemented. We are waiting on additional starter content from several committees, and districts, and I have yet to make direct contact with most service positions. Feel free to send over your desired content any time. Please consider base content such as describing your role, current projects and activities, day and time of recurring meetings. The watchwords for the purpose of our service content are: communication and participation. How can we inform all of the area the services and support we are providing, and how members can join in the work?

A few highlights: Our GSR and DCM resources are now located on area41.org. Using a plug-in, we can create a short URL directly to any page on our site, and a QR code is also available for every short link. These service resource pages can be accessed directly at area41.org/gsr and area41.org/gsr and area41.org/dcm. A similar short URL exists for our new Bridging the Gap form, at area41.org/btg, and I will provide the corresponding QR code to Dean. A fun item to share is when higher power moments show up in the details. The website mapping group, which worked hard since May, had settled on three key home page buttons: Need Help Now?, Find a Meeting, and Area 41 Service/Info. As it became time to build the new site, we realized that these three items fit A.A.'s three legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service. Not planned, and how cool? Check out these three buttons below the cranes banner on area41.org, and when you hover (on computer) or tap (on mobile), they change to a different image with the corresponding legacy.

All contact forms are working, and there is a form on every committee, service position, and district page. Please reach out with your desired page content, and to confirm where your forms are sent: email tech@area41.org. Please note that a few content requests between April and August may have slipped through the cracks. Check your meetings in the Meeting List and send any still-needed updates to webmaster@area41.org. We are corresponding with Lincoln Intergroup and Omaha Intergroup to determine the best way to communicate behind the scenes to ensure that applicable meetings are updated in multiple Meeting Lists.

In mid-August, additional committee consensus was confirmed regarding Google Workspace for Nonprofits. The committee voiced support of the ease of use of this platform, and increased ease with transferring the email accounts and stored documents between service rotations. Having confirmed that Google Workspace for Nonprofits is free (for eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofits) up to 2,000 users with 100 TB shared across all users, committee consensus was to proceed with this as our best option for email hosting alongside the new website.

We moved forward with confirming Area 41's eligibility for a free Google Workspace for Nonprofits account and activating hosted area41.org email. At the monthly committee meeting in September, the committee reviewed and concurred with the proposed "best practices" language to go out with New User invitations for Google Workspace. Invitations have been sent to all officers, service positions, and committees. About four district accounts remain to receive invitations, as contact details need to be confirmed. The "best practices" and intent with Google Workspace are summarized as follows:

Email (Gmail inbox)

- It is preferred that trusted servants access and send messages through the Area41.org hosted account, as this offers the most anonymity protection.
- While we invite you to use your area41.org email address for area business, you will still use your personal email address provided to the Registrar for accessing services through aa.org.
- This will also provide the most complete documentation for service rotation purposes.
- Please remember: when you are using your Area 41 email address, you are representing Area 41. Principled communication using the seven Cs is encouraged: clear, concise, concrete, correct, coherent, complete, and courteous. Drive (Cloud Document Storage with Sharing Options)
- Please start using Drive as a "virtual binder" for your committee documentation (rather than storing files on your personal device).
- If you would like assistance sharing any folder content with members, feel free to contact the Tech Team for help.
- If you utilize a physical binder, and would like scanning assistance to save backup copies to your Drive, the Tech Team will have a scanner available at Area assemblies to help.

*****Next, agenda item 2021-07-10 017: Area 41 conduct hybrid meetings as an option for virtual, as well as physical, attendance at Area 41 assemblies and business meetings.

The hybrid subcommittee met on July 20, August 24, and September 28, with additional discussion at monthly committee meetings. The objective was to prepare a proposal regarding necessary equipment, servants, and expenses to have a "hybrid" Area assembly-that is, a meeting simultaneously both in person and online. The subcommittee listened to a tech sharing session by Area 72, and reviewed additional documentation provided by other Areas, YPAA conferences, and West Central Region conferences. Upon confirming what equipment Area 41 already owns, much discussion was had regarding minimum starting equipment needs, and number of servants required. It was determined to use a "crawl/walk/run" approach, utilizing some member-owned equipment to start. Area 41 can utilize a simple setup, without any need for pan, tilt, and zoom robotic video cameras or controllers. As was done with previous Area 41 hybrid assemblies, having an off-camera microphone for in person members will remain valuable, if not necessary. We expect techie members to own personal laptops. Using Area 41's existing sound equipment and digital audio interface alongside some borrowed equipment, a basic hybrid setup is feasible with the purchase of a noise isolation filter and basic webcams. It was determined to also move agenda item "2024-04-06 002 (Tech with consultation of Report & Charter): Dissolve the taper position and create a "tech gopher" position." out of committee alongside agenda item 2021-07-10 017, with the intent that an expanded Audio-Visual service position with lodging and mileage support would be a crucial part of a hybrid assembly operator team. An informal meeting was held in early October, and the Report and Charter Committee also discussed and collaborated on this item on October 12. The primary discussion points were whether to have the revised position remain a six-year appointment and whether to recommend two nights of lodging per assembly. It was also discussed whether to have equipment stored and transported by the Alternate Delegate, or to have the Audio-Visual servant be responsible for their respective equipment. After much discussion and the recommendation of the current Taper servant, committee consensus was to suggest an Audio-Visual servant be responsible for the audio equipment and additional equipment for hybrid assemblies, as well as be supported to arrive on Friday with said equipment.

Two October 12 motions carried with no opposition, to move the following two items out of committee to a vote (resolution of "Recommend to the Area 41 Committee" per Area 41 Service Handbook): Agenda Item 2021-07-10 017 Agenda: Area 41 conduct hybrid meetings as an option for virtual, as well as physical, attendance at Area 41 assemblies and business meetings. The hybrid meetings will utilize some borrowed equipment from A.A. members for a period of one year. In addition to borrowed equipment, Area 41 would purchase equipment up to an estimated initial investment of

450 including tax. At the end of this period, the hybrid meetings would continue with the Area purchasing additional necessary equipment. Collaboration between the Technology and Communications Committee and Agenda Committee is encouraged, with regards to implementation and service rotation. Background: The hybrid option for both virtual and physical attendance increases the right of participation for members of Area 41, by reducing barriers to participation. Well-known barriers include accessibility, accommodations, and remote communities. The hybrid platform would also support implementation of interpretation opportunities. Additionally, some voting members may not have the necessary financial support to attend in person. Allowing the option of virtual participation at Area assemblies helps ensure all voices are heard for our group conscience.

Virtual participation also provides an additional avenue for service work. E.g., a hybrid committee meeting may attract qualified servants who don't have voting roles at Area business meetings.

Applicable traditions include Tradition 1 that states: "each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die." Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward. Also applicable is Tradition 3, which states, in part: "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism." In addition, Concept IV is applicable, stating, "At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a tradition of 'Right of Participation' allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge." As GSRs are the voice of their groups and DCMs are the voice of their districts, they have a right of participation.

Area 41 previously assembled both online only, and hybrid (in person and online), in 2020 and 2021. Many Areas in the US and Canada offer hybrid assembly attendance. The committee believes that most of the on-site support can be performed by existing servants receiving lodging assistance. The committee will work with the Finance Committee to offer additional lodging and transportation funding if needed. It is anticipated that Area 41 would need two to three in person servants and one or two online servants, to operate the hybrid meeting. Area 41 already owns the following equipment to be used: Three microphones and receiver, digital audio interface, and a wi-fi router. Area 41 equipment to be purchased immediately: noise isolator filter (estimated \$38.99 before tax) and up to 10 webcams (bulk price estimated \$38.00 before tax)—one for main room and up to 9 for those committee breakouts utilizing member laptops—for an estimated maximum initial investment of \$449.37 after Lincoln, NE sales tax rate.

This proposal assumes that each committee will identify a member owned device that can be used to connect to the online breakout for that committee meeting. The number of committees using a laptop that would benefit from an external webcam for improved video and audio quality will be determined prior to any purchases. Committee breakouts could also use member devices such as a phone or tablet, without the need for an external webcam. Equipment to be lent by A.A. members for one year period: projectors, second screen (if needed), small amp(s) for large breakout (such as GSR Workshop), power strips, extension cords, and other misc. cables. Area 41 currently utilizes the hotel's house sound, with the current approved contract extending through 2026. If the Area would choose to meet in other types of facilities in the future, additional sound system equipment may need to be considered. At the end of the period utilizing borrowed equipment, the hybrid meetings would continue with the Area purchasing additional necessary equipment. The proposed list of equipment for purchase is suggested to be considered at or before the fourth hybrid assembly. This would allow time to determine what the Area's specific equipment needs are, to minimize any initial investment.

-Agenda 2024-04-06 002 Technology & Communications (with consultation of Report & Charter):

-Dissolve the Taper service position and create an Audio-Visual service position. Because this position requires special skills and continuity, it ought to remain a six-year appointment. Area Chairperson to appoint a servant to serve through the remainder of 2025. The service position would be overseen by the Technology and Communications Committee.

-Also amend the Area 41 Service Handbook to appropriately reflect these changes.

-Amend budget to move Taper position lodging, mileage, and "Area Taping" expense lines from Secretary to Technology and Communications Committee, and rename appropriately. Update lodging to be for two nights per assembly, to allow servant to arrive on Friday with equipment.

Background: As the area becomes more /and more modernized, the need for a person to manage several different pieces of technology instead of just recording assemblies has become apparent. This position could take on tasks such as, but not limited to, making sure the projectors are working, managing the microphones/sound systems, ensuring the meetings are audio-recorded, assisting with slide sharing, assisting with logistics and/or hosting for online or hybrid meetings, etc. This position may be expanded according to the needs of the assembly.

The servant will ensure proper storage and adequate security of applicable equipment, and timely delivery and setup for area assemblies. Area 41 Service Handbook references to amend include: update "Taper" to "Audio-Visual" in Paragraphs II.C.2, III.C.2.c.iii, IV.B, and IV.B.3; and remove "Taper" reference from Report and Charter Committee scope in Paragraph V.B.9.b.

*****Our next monthly committee meeting is Sat, Nov 9, 2-3:30 PM central (online). All Technology and Communications committee meetings use Zoom Meeting ID 826 9447 5240, and passcode a41service.

Our other tabled agenda items in committee remain as follows:

- 2022-10-09 014 re. Email Subscription Service through Website, which was previously resolved, but then required debugging. Tabled pending new website rollout.
- 2023-04-15 08b (Tech confer with Finance): Create guidelines and answer Traditions questions for future Area 41 purchases of electronic equipment. Tabled pending the Area vote on item 2021-07-10 017 regarding hybrid assembly potential, so the committee is fully informed regarding actual relevant equipment.

Please feel free to contact me at tech@area41.org or 402.601.1327. In service, Sarah R.

FUNction Ad Hoc:

Thank you so much to everyone for coming back and talking with the ad hoc committee last night! We are grateful that people are willing to continue conversations about change, as we all know it's needed...but scary. You can check the April & October 2024 Newsletters for topics of discussion about what we've been talking about last night, but we are planning to "release the agenda items" soon. No matter what, we hope to have some workshop time at the next Area. Looking forward to working together with an Area full of awesome people on building a more communicative, unifying, & educational Area with all of you!! As always, you can contact us at: area41nebraska@gmail.com.

Forum Report

Here is the report on the 2025 WCR Forum:

The dates for the 2025 WCR Forum are September 19 - 21, 2025. The Forum will be held at the Hilton Omaha at 1001 Cass Street. Sleeping room rates are:

Single & Double - \$137/night

Triple - \$147/night

Quad - \$157/night

Registration for the Forum is free.

We will need to enlist volunteers for the hospitality committee, and we will start that process in September 2024. In Love and Service, Mike L.

SERVICE POSITION REPORTS:

Archivist:

Archivist Report, October 7, 2024, Hello everybody. Its great to see everyone again. Its been a year since Ive been here and I have missed it. Thank you for sending me to the National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop again this year. This completes the number of times that I am funded to attend during my 6 year term. Both of the workshops that I have attended have been delightful and educational.

Its hard to know where to start and how to report on the workshop without being too wordy. There was so much covered over a 4 day period. We began with a tour on Thursday that took us through the Iowa State Capitol bldg. We all got a workout there. I walked up at least 150 steps all together. It was a beautiful building with interesting history but when we were finished I didn't have a lot of energy left for the tour of the White House.

The White House is a beautiful old house that has been housing AA meetings, weekly bingo games, and other sober events for 80 years. They had their 80th Anniversary on the same weekend as the NAAAW. It's a spacious and beautiful old place that was red brick originally but shortly after it was purchased, they painted it white. That combined with the fact that it is located on Pennsylvania Ave in Des Moines leads to it being called The White House.

Thursday evening I had the pleasure of seeing my old friend Charlie H(our Regional Trustee) give a talk. Its been a while since I've seen him, but he looks pretty good without any hair. He might be lacking in hair but he is not lacking in enthusiasm for the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. I enjoyed the information that he shared about his previous experience at General Service Conferences in the past and look forward to hearing more from him throughout his term as Trustee.

On Friday I attended a presentation about Henry P. Hank, as he was known was an important person in early AA as he actually helped Bill write the Big Book. Hank was born in Marion Iowa. He eloped in 1917 and moved to Minneapolis. In 1925 he took a job with Standard Oil and moved back to Iowa. His job took him many places

geographically and he wound up in NY. He was a bit of a scoundrel and paid for hospitalization at Townes Hospital for numerous drunken playgirls. In 1935 he entered Townes himself. Bill came to see him there, and Hank became the first person that Bill sobered up in NY. Hank found a higher power with Bills help. Soon the writing of the Big Book began. Bill, Ruth H. and Hank had also started a corporation called the Honor Dealers which was a gasoline coop. The business eventually failed because Bill was spending so much time dictating the book to Ruth and Hank was busy writing and doing fund raising. As a fund raiser, Hank put together the "100 Men Prospectus" which sold subscriptions for .25 per share. Hank also wrote his story called "The Unbeliever" and he is given credit for writing "To the Employers".

In 1939 things started going bad at home for Hank. He had started drinking again. His wife threw him out and he moved in with Bill. He had an affair with Ruth H. but she eventually changed her mind about him. Hank blamed Bill. Bill made Hank sign a release of rights for Works Publishing which left Hank out of any royalties. Hank moved in with Clarence S. but that was a rocky relationship. Hank married Clarence's sister-in-law. Hank had such a bad resentment that he claimed to be "ashamed to have ever had anything to do with AA". Hank gets another divorce then marries an oil heiress. She died 2 years later. Hank starts having heart trouble but sends letters to his kids to get them set up with inheritance. He buys a chicken farm in NJ and remarries his second wife. The chicken farm burned down. He died shortly after in 1954. Sad story.

Later on Friday I sat in on a Archives Preservation session. Roy C, from Area 45 who plays a ukelele opened with a song. Then he goes into his talk about the things necessary for doing the job in Archives. He listed some of the necessary tools (laptop) and software (power point, email, windows) that he likes and the types of storage devices (SS Hard Drives). He talked about using Dropbox for cloud storage. He stated that it is free and gives a reasonable amount of storage. When I looked it up, I see a free plan that gives you 2 Gb of storage. I will need to do further research. He also talked about an HP Smart plan for printer ink that would be helpful if we had an HP printer, which we don't. But this still makes me wonder if Epson doesn't have a similar plan. Once again, I get to do more research. He mentioned an Acronym: LOSS meaning: Lots, Of, Copies keep things, Safe. And after that ole Roy finished by playing a John P. song on his ukelele. Because of that I went up to him later and made a new friend.

The next session was on Repositories and Storage. There were just a couple of things that got my attention here. First of all, the issue of pest control in the repository, especially related to bugs. More research again. The other things that I heard in this session was that Google Drive might be useful for storage and to NEVER put documents through a document feeder on a printer. Michelle from the GSO Archives did a great talk on Friday night. She is always so available and so prompt in meeting the needs of archivists around the country. I have a lot of respect for her and we are lucky to have her.

On Saturday I went to the Digitizing session. I got some ideas about software to experiment with and heard the dreaded term "AI" in there. That scares me. Also, an idea is to put our group history form on the website for groups and districts to capture and fill out. There were other ideas about organizing data that sounded helpful. They also went into storage devices, particularly the longevity of most devices and how often to replace them.

Because I attended the digitizing session I missed the Archives Trading Post which sounds fascinating and I will be checking into that soon. Later, on Saturday there was a great talk about the history of Women in AA. This session covered a lot of territory and I think it best that I write a separate report on that and send to everyone via email. I will also include the session on Bobbie B. who was a very important woman in our history who does not get talked about much.

There was a session on What its like to be an Archivist. My favorite quote from that session was this: It's a spiritual exercise to be willing to do Archivist work in spite of depressing and suicidal thoughts of messing up".

The last session of the Workshop was on Sunday morning and it was about the history of AA in Iowa. As you may know, our own old timer, Don F. was originally from Iowa. Not only was he important in the beginnings of AA in Omaha but it was him and a judge from Des Moines who started the first AA group in Iowa. When I read the last Area Newsletter, the archives report stated that the committee was talking about what items to bring to the NAAAW. After reading that and when nobody reached out to me for help, I assumed that Char would be attending and bringing her display. The only representation that Area 41 had in the display area was what Russ S brought from District 11. Russ had a lot of good stuff including a wonderful old manual for group Secretaries that GSO used to mail out. Even Michelle M from New York said that it was a very special piece of history. Thank you Russ for being such a great collector and historian. And thank you for attending the Workshop and sharing your items with the rest of the AA Archives world. If you would like more information on the women in AA or on Bobbie B., or if you would like to hear any of the presentations from the workshop, let me know. I purchased the entire workshop on a flash drive for storage in the Area 41 Archives and can make that available to anyone that would like to hear it.

Back at home I continue to organize district documents and digitize the group history forms that I have. Eventually, I want to get all of the district files organized in numerical order and separated into folders for flyers, histories,

minutes, newsletters, etc so that things are easier to find. I am making progress. I would like to complete this task before I start on the next task of digitizing the old newsletters. That is still on my list of things to do and I intend to get that task completed before the end of my term.

I have also given a little time to the Intergroup Archives in their effort to sort and digitize. They are a great resource for me and they have agreed to allow me to use their scanners. I try to attend their monthly meetings when I can as well. I attended the Old Timers Day in Omaha last month. It is always a fantastic time and the stories are so educational. The amount of long term sobriety in that room is staggering and the food is great.

This is a long report so I will end it here. I hope to send out some Archives information to everyone in the near future and will try to make it a point to do so regularly. One of the important parts of our mission in the Archives is to carry the message. And as Terry G says "I try to get the information out to the troops".

Yours in grateful service, Colleen P., Area 41 Archivist

First Timer Orientation:

First Timer Orientation opened with a few first timers from around the Area, and some members that have been, but not in a while. We had a good showing, and the GSR Workshop Chair was there to greet the new GSRs as well. We introduced ourselves, went through the Orientation sheet, looked at the fabulous new website, and answered questions. I appreciate being asked to serve. Thanks, Erika

GSR Workshop:

Greetings Area 41! We had a great turnout last night with 25 people in attendance, at least four of whom were at Area for the first time. We distributed the new website QR code cards for easy online access to service information. We also distributed copies of the Area 41 Handbook to those who wanted a paper copy. Our main topic of discussion was outside issues, particularly in light of the current election cycle. As we opened our discussion, it became apparent that this is a complex and challenging topic. Many different thoughts and perspectives were contributed and several traditions informed our conversation. I was again impressed with the ability of AA members to come together for a civil and respectful conversation about a topic with the potential to become divisive. Having arrived at no bright-line rules or answers, we then turned our discussion to challenges faced by GSRs in groups where the presence of strong personalities and opinions may make arriving at a fully informed group conscience difficult. GSRs offered their experience and we talked about the intention to arrive at substantial unanimity on issues, rather than choosing winners and losers.

In selecting the main topic of the next GSR workshop in January, we looked at the discussion of the assembly schedule and a request from a contributor for a GSR workshop on the topic of service sponsorship. We look forward to the GSRs sharing their experience, strength and hope as it relates to service sponsorship and their AA groups in January. In everything, I have been ably assisted by McKenna K., our alternate GSR Workshop Chair, for whom I am very grateful. McKenna and I are privileged to serve our Area 41 GSRs through the workshop and look forward to meeting again with the GSRs at the next Area Assembly. Please feel free to contact either of us between assemblies with any questions or suggestions for future workshop topics. Yours in service, Rebecca T., GSR Workshop Chair

Newsletter:

Good morning Area 41, my name is Brock, an alcoholic and I am your newsletter chair. I received everything I needed to make the newsletter in early August, and put together the first draft on August 8th. On August 14th I received updates and other information that needed added. On August 18th, I received an updated contact list for Area 41 and realized it was incomplete. To mitigate some confusion for me during this next cycle, if we could all double check our mailing addresses in the newsletter and let me and Erin know if it needs to be updated, that would be greatly appreciated. On September 4th, I completed the four versions of our newsletter and sent them to the printer. The printer so far this year has taken a week to get everything together. This time it took two weeks. I ordered 410 English copies and 15 Spanish copies which totaled \$748.56. This quarter, I ordered 100 bubble mailers on Amazon at the price of \$71.83. This was my first time having to order them and I suspect they'll last me through the next quarter. I packaged the newsletters while watching football and took them to the post office. Shipping this quarter totaled \$198.18. Again, if everyone could double check their mailing address in the newsletter and let me and Erin know if it needs updated, that would be so awesome. Yours in service, Brock

Registrar:

Greetings Area 41, I am Zach, an alcoholic and your Registrar. I continue to work on resolving/reducing the number of groups listed as "unknown" across Area 41. What is an unknown group? It is a group that does not have a GSR or a mail contact listed in Fellowship Connection. I sent out an email to all the DCM's with a spreadsheet documenting all of the unknown groups. If you are a DCM and did not receive an email from me, that means either I did not get your email address entered correctly, or you had no unknown groups in your District. Feel free to verify whether or not you have

unknown groups. You can do this yourself through Fellowship connection, or you can contact me. I am here to help assist you with this! I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to do so!!! Thank you to those that responded! Some of the unknown groups have been resolved. However, I have not heard from a significant number of the DCM's. I am going to start reaching out to you directly, probably by a phone call, to set up a time to talk or to meet virtually. Since the last Area meeting, I have been working with the Tech committee to add the forms for group changes and servant changes to the website. They are up and running. So far I have received no complaints. Please use this resource, and provide feedback if you think they can be improved. Your assistance in making this a good experience would be greatly appreciated. I will still accept forms in the paper version. I want your information. The how is not as important as getting it to me. Along with getting the forms on the website I have also been given an Area 41 email address to use. It is: registrar@area41.org Please start using this email to correspond with me. I will continue to check my personal email and respond as needed. I am also available via text or phone call. For clarification: changes to meeting times and dates need to be submitted to the webmaster - if you want it updated in the meeting guide app and on the website. Changes to locations need to be submitted to both the webmaster and the Registrar. New group information needs to be submitted to both the registrar and the webmaster. Changes to the trusted servants need to be submitted to the Registrar. Thank you to all who have provided information. Your efforts are not only appreciated but critical to keeping our information up to date to help serve the still suffering alcoholic. As always, I am available to help. Please reach out to me. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Yours in service, Zach I., Area 41 Registrar

Webmaster:

Greetings, Area people! Happy Saturday/Sunday!! Website transition is well underway, in fact for all intents and purposes it is completed except for some troubleshooting and fine tuning! Many thanks to Charlie S. for his years of dedication to the website and his continued willingness to learn and to help others to participate. His service took us from a time when the website was a nice addition to the Area, indispensable for those who couldn't travel from the far corners of the state, to a time when the website and electronic services have become indispensable to almost everyone an essential extension of Area information and service to all members and to the still suffering alcoholic.

On the new Wordpress site there are a host of new services available for Districts, Committees, and officers. We are working to develop these services as the need for them arises, but there will be dedicated pages available for each service committee and officer position—administrable by the people in that committee—and we are eager to hear from the fellowship about ways we can use the site to serve the Nebraska membership more effectively!! Google Workspace should be fully implemented and Area servants should be able to login using their provided credentials.

We need feedback if anyone discovers something which doesn't work as expected so we can investigate. There will definitely be some growing pains with the new site and approach to email but we expect that it will be more intuitive and familiar, and we have faith the fellowship will step up to help each other and we will have answers! If we have made things more difficult, we need to hear about it so we can fix it!

We have a list of known issues with the website we are working to address, including forms destinations, functions on the meeting finder (currently the list is not displaying as desired and contact buttons are not displaying), and refinements to the pages and improved contact options. The new site presents the opportunity for a lot of new service positions, including administration of email, administering pages on the site, managing events, and others we haven't even thought of. There is an endless opportunity for service available in AA, and we've added to it! If you need a small service commitment, please, please, please reach out! We would love to have you helping out. You can make us more effective.

Please reach out to me, the Tech Chair, or any Tech Committee members with any questions! Many thanks also to Sarah, Chris, and everyone who has been involved in the web/tech transition, including past members whose service faithfully brought us to this point and anyone who steps forward in the future to help carry the message to the still-evolving, still-suffering alcoholic. May the Taco Bar always be with you! \bigcirc Yours in Service, Loren R.

Workshop:

Hello Trusted Servants, Discussion is ongoing about workshops to focus on the three legacies. Specific to attracting groups to district 4 Corner Workshop topics is how to get group and AA information to where the alcoholic might be helping the groups, how to better use the new AREA41 website for AA events helping the district link to the groups and AREA41, and a focus on CPC/PI ensuring the UNITY of AA is available through AREA41 hotline. District 12, put together a SAVE the Date flier for Saint Paul, NE., for Saturday, January 25th beginning at 12:00pm there will be food and last until 3:30pm. Area41 Committee members have been sent information on September 15th, 2024 for January 25th, 2025 SAVE date by email, please RSVP so we can confirm the date for the district for a 4CornersWorkshop, so we can finalize the flier and who is coming from AREA41. Others in discussion for Workshops would like to do an event in February and March, this is all in the first quarter out in McCook and for the Spanish District in Omaha. In service for Unity, Area41 Workshop Chair, workshop@area41.org

DCM REPORTS:

District 1:

Greetings Area 41, I apologize for being unable to attend this weekend's business meeting, I had a school commitment to attend. The District 1 alternate DCM Jason K. is going in my place and is well versed in the happenings and our group conscience. While there is nothing major to report within our district for the last quarter. We do have two things we are considering on the horizon. We feel that a district inventory might be beneficial and help gain some participation within our district. We are also beginning to talk about doing your workshop soon. With how close and busy the holiday season is we were thinking that this will take place at the beginning of next year. We are open to suggestions on a topic and are hoping our groups will give us feedback, so it becomes of value to them. We spent the new business portion of our last district meeting discussing the agenda items for Area this weekend. Most of the conversation centered around the budget and the inventory items. We do have concerns about the budget because in keeping with our seventh tradition of self-support it is worrisome that currently Area 41 is projecting a deficit next year. Our district would like details on how the Finance Committee is going to rectify this with our tradition of self-support. As for the topics in the inventory we would like to share our top three priorities for Area 41 to fulfill. 1. Continue to elect delegates to participate in the general service conference. 2. For Area 41 to facilitate unity between the districts and connections between Alcoholics in different locations. 3. Two-way communication between the Area and the district including Area workshops. Allowing for knowledge of the availability and the access to resources available to groups from Area 41. In Service, Charles C.

District 2:

We are not busy. We are looking for 5 positions: Intergroup, CPCPI, Newsletter, BTG, Grapevine, we got a workshop chair and hopefully we will have more events. I was approved to go to Casper WY. We have a step 11 and a Grapevine workshop coming up. We have 50 active groups. Thanks, Beth.

District 3:

My name is Craig and I am an alcoholic. Steve S. is not here this weekend. He is the DCM for Dist 3. So, I do not have a report for the district, but want to say that Steve and district 3 are still working on plans for the Area Reunion next summer and will be here to help put that on at that time. That is all I have. Craig R, GSR

District 4:

Greetings Area 41, My name is Bob and I am the DCM for district 4. As DCM I have been visiting various groups in our District to try and get more people involved at the district level. As well as getting connected with people and encouraging groups without GSRs to elect one. Hopefully in the next area I will be able to bring more GSRs with me. Our last district meeting had only 8 people in attendance. We still have 4 open positions. Our district has only one jail meeting in Saunders county. I am looking into getting meetings into Washington county as well as other institutions in our district. Attendance at most of our meetings is good. Being a rural area we lose a few members because of harvest season but all in all we are doing well. We are brainstorming ideas for a district function in 2025 which we will discuss at our next meeting. The main purpose would be to make people aware of what we can do for them on the district level as well as having a little fun. We are currently meeting every 3 months but thinking about meeting every 2 months as well as maybe going hybrid to increase attendance and group involvement am looking forward to my 2"d year as DCM. And thanks for allowing me to be of service. Bob

District 5: No Report

District 6:

Hello Area41 Service Members, Our district met a week before Area41 once we received the Newsletters. We reviewed the items in the newsletter for inventory and went over the new website AREA41.org, thank you to Sara. R. for being available for questions. We did not have a social last month, but had a breakfast hosted at the clubhouse and are gearing up for our seasonal dinners hosted by Hastings Intergroups at the end of Nov and end of December. We have our midnight meeting to guide our meeting goers into the new year. You are welcome to attend the Hastings Clubhouse at 521 So . St. Joseph. We will be posting our events to the new AREA41.org website district page. Yours in Service, Wayne W.

District 7:

Greetings Area 41 My name is Cheri. I am an alcoholic. District 7 has been busy; most meetings are 8-30 members. In Mccook we have a moon potluck first Wednesday of the month and usually potluck/speaker meeting on Fri/Sat Night Alive with the Species on the third Saturday night with a Halloween party. We had Nick as Delegate, a guest speaker on Sunday morning and shared his experiences, strength and hope. Thank you Nick. We have a lot of newcomers at the women's meeting Saturday Morning, usually 10 members are listening to the CD'S from cornhuskers roundup. Currently our district is making sure all the jails which are 19 are Stocked with BIG Books yours in seven, Cherri F. DCM district 7 **District 8:**

Hello Area 41! We have had a great quarter with good attendance in our meetings. On August 11, our Area Delegate came out to North Platte to do the Delegate's Report with a surprisingly great turnout. Following the report we entertained a discussion regarding the publication on the Plain Language Big Book clarifying our questions. Later on, District 8 decided to submit an agenda item to the General Service Office to censure the General Service Board regarding the unaddressed 11 floor actions. And lastly, we will be celebrating our 80th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous in North Platte at the fairgrounds on December 7th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. For more details please see the flier on the Area 41 website. Yours in Service, Jaiden W.

District 9: No Report District 10: No Report

District 11:

Greetings Area 41, I'm Donna alcoholic, District 11 DCM. Our district consists of 6 Northeast counties; Dakota, Dixon, Cedar, Madison, Wayne and Thurston. We had 11 meetings in our district until recently had 2 more added to the Tuesday 4th dimension group and a group starting in Crofton on Monday nights. Our Sunday morning group changed to an evening meeting to hopefully increase participation.

We celebrated a couple birthdays in September, Brian with 36 years and Lyle 37 years, Also in September Russ S., our district archives chair, was able to attend the national archives workshop in Des Moines. In district 11 archives we have a leatherbound secretary's handbook from 1949. Russ reached out to Michelle, our Archives Director at GSO. She explained it is very rare to have such a treasure! In October Alfredo, a newer member, celebrated 3 years. We held our last district meeting October 12 with 14 in attendance and had supper and ice cream! Lots of business, fellowship and humor. Fliers for our New Years party and district meeting in Wayne! Yours in Service, Donna J.

District 12:

Greetings Area 41, Spalding group held the last District business meeting. Some groups have started doing an inventory. Broken Bow Pressey group elected a new GSR. David B. has been working hard to get a date set up with Summer for a 4 corners workshop and came up with January 25th. Attendance at meetings is good. Yours in service, Harlan A.

District 13:

Hello Area 41, My name is Bill M. and I am an alcoholic, DCM for District 13. I have been able to visit all the groups in my district, there are 8 active groups in the panhandle. My home group is the New Beginnings group in Sidney. Matt N. has stepped up to be alt DCM. The furthest group is the Wauneta group (256 miles). Travel in the panhandle is extensive. We had our district meeting on October 5th in Ogallala. We had a special guest, Nick, our delegate. He gave us feedback on the plain language big book. Several of the groups gave reports on the status of their meetings. Contributions are on a slight increase, attendance is flat. Friendship group in Ogallala has canceled the 6PM Friday and Saturday meetings. I have encouraged all GSRs to attend the next area 41 business meeting to be able to vote on the items that needed to vote. Yours in Service, Bill M.

District 14:

Hello Area 41, I'm Dan W. Alt DCM for district 14. Our DCM contacted me Monday To tell me he could Not Attend this weekend. I can't stand to see a Blank spot in the newsletter where the district Report Should be so I will Report that but Here 50% of our eligible Voters Present This weekend are blessed with the opportunity to serve. Dan W.

District 15:

Hey Area 41: My name is Ashley and I Am an alcoholic, and the DCM for District 15 which is here in Grand Island. We just wrapped up our annual chili cook off that went amazing. Thank you so much to Nick Brock and Jaiden who spoke on our panel. We have been busy getting our district involved in the fellowship. In August The Young Procrastinators group hosted A street dance where Chuck O came and shared his experience, strength and Hope with us. Our men's group hosted a workshop on the steps In September District hosted its annual Picnic and The Emotional Sobriety group hosted a Family Fun Day Everything has been going well with so much fellowship. Personally it warms my heart seeing everyone together and involving our family's in our recovery. Thank you for letting me be of service. Yours in Service. Ashley L.

District 16: No Report

District 18:

Greetings Nebraska!,

Mike B, DCM for District 18, in NW Omaha and Elkhorn. We have all our positions filled except for PCP/PI. If you know of anyone looking for service opportunities, they can attend our next meeting and volunteer. We meet on the 3 rd Sunday every month at 1:00 pm at Lord of Love Lutheran Church, 104 th and Fort, Omaha, NE. If you can't make it next week, come to our November meeting where you can hear the delegates report and enjoy a free ice cream sundae bar. If that's still not enough time, join us on February 22nd from 11:00-1:00 for a service workshop. We have completed an audit and updated our prudent reserve for the first time this century. We are on firm financial footing and are continuing to ask our

membership for ways to put our extra funds to use sharing our solutions with alcoholics still suffering. Last week we held our fall brunch which included a panel presentation on Living Sober. 80 drunks showed up to wash down a hearty meal with nothing stronger than juice or coffee. Lastly, we had a new meeting in District 18. Introducing the Wednesday 12 Step Study. It meets at the First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St, Omaha NE, Yours in fellowship, Mike B **District 19:**

Greetings Area 41, My name is Alex and I am an alcoholic. Our District is doing well and we were able to fill our Alt DCM position this quarter. However we are needing a few positions filled again. Our District hosted its annual picnic on Aug. 25th and had an impressive turnout even with the hectic construction around the park as well as the very hot weather. Our next District meeting is November 12th at 7pm. We are located at Hanscom Park United Methodist Church at 4444 Frances St. Omaha, NE, 68105 in the basement. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Alex P. DCM District 19.

District 20:

Gail K Alt DCM, Another successful cornhusker roundup was held August 16,17 and 18. District 20 workshop being held today October 12, topic is AA history with Terry G. District 20 has 4 open service positions including CPCPI, Hotline, Literature, Bridging the Gap. Yours In Service, Gail K.

District 21:

District 21 Report, Lisa V., DCM, 10/12/2024

Greetings, Area 41, We had our DIstrict 21 Unity Picnic on September 29. We had a good turnout, though somewhat smaller than in past years. In addition to hearing from our delegate, we heard from members of several groups from our district. There was a raffle, and lots of food. We have a dedicated group of GSR's who regularly attend our monthly meetings, the third Sunday of every month at New Visions Church. We considered hosting a workshop for Grapevine writing with another District, but tabled it for the time being. We have also been speaking with Districts 3 and 22 about a workshop on safety. We have also been discussing the possibility of hosting a workshop on sponsorship sometime this winter. There seems to be a lot of interest in and questions about this topic. I have been visiting as many meetings as I can, and wish I could go to more. In September, I was one of three panelists for the Sunday Night Workshop speaking on workshops, and how they promote and enhance service. There was a pie theme, and there were tables full to choose from. Great subject, and I learned a lot.

District 22:

Greetings Area 41, It's been pretty quiet the last few months. I was able to visit Women of the Roundtable and join their business meeting which was great. They had lots of questions about joining the service structure and have since elected a GSR! She was unable to attend the area this time but is excited to join in the future and connect their group with the district and area. We had to pause the Grapevine writing workshop for the time being due to scheduling conflicts but look forward to working on a workshop in the future. Sunday Night Workshop had a very successful "Workshop on Workshops" with a great turnout and of course, pie. Our district meetings are the 3 rd Wednesday of the month at 6:45pm at St. Matthew's Church on 24 th and Sewell in Lincoln. Last but certainly not least and grateful I can put this in the report as it was mentioned in our last District meeting but it's important that we support Grapevine and that we never let Dawn's candle flier die as an example of what not to do. Yours in service, McKenna K.

District 23:

Greetings Area 41 from District 23, I'm excited to report that our Delegate, Nick K visited District 23 on September 5 to provide an overview of his service work as our Area 41 delegate. He also reflected to attendees his experience attending the 74th General service conference. District 23 sponsored a Mini Workshop on September 5th featuring guest speaker Terry G who provided an interesting, educational and historical perspective. November 9th is our 35th annual Feast Fling and Fellowship event. Please visit our website at 23ne.org for additional details. D-23 monthly meetings are on the 1st Thursday of each Month. If you wish to learn more about upcoming events, Please visit our web site at d23ne.org. Thank you and In Service, Craig J - DCM Dist 23

District 24:

Greetings Area 41, I'm Jim and I'm an alcoholic. Our district picnic went well in August. The weather was very hot but we made the best of it. I was pleased that we had some of the area people at it also. The workshop is a work in progress. We have a committee put it together so I know we'll move forward. I still travel to all the groups in our district that are going very well. Thank you. Yours in Service, Jim S. DCM District 24

District 25: No Report

District 26:

Greetings Area 41, District 26 held its quarterly business meeting on Sept 21st. We discussed the upcoming voting items, group attendance and finances. The district held its picnic on Sept 28 in Aurora. This has not happened in many years and although attendance was low a great time was had by all with good food, fellowship and a great meeting. We are hoping to

continue this. As I have made my recent rounds to visit the meetings in our district they all seem to be doing well and attendance seems to be growing in the Clarks Tuesday night and Central City Monday night meetings. It also sounds like there is a possibility of a new meeting starting in York, more to be revealed, as I once heard. I am happy to announce that we have a more active GSR than when I was one. Hopefully we can continue to spark interest in service as we trudge this happy road. Yours in service, Jay

District 28:

Greetings from Bellevue and Plattsmouth,

Cass County Corrections has asked us to restart meetings for them inside their facility as soon as possible. We are continuing to seek volunteers to support this effort and anticipate these to begin in November.

Over the summer we had several milestone birthdays in our district with program attendance between 30 and 40 years. We successfully recruited, if you will, some fresh faces to chair our late afternoon meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays in Plattsmouth. Over the course of the last several months we have welcomed a number of newcomers wishing to live a better life without alcohol and have lost only a few. Thank you in advance for keeping us up to speed on the updates to the website. Stay the course. Life just keeps getting better. Doug, District 28.

District 29: No report

District 30:

Greetings Area 41, Our meetings are really doing well, attendance is between 25-30 people, we have newcomers coming in as DCM went to all the district 30 meetings full circle. Went to woodshed group in Ravenna, P-Town group in Pleasanton and over the hill gang group in Kearney. We had our District 30 meeting, we had a new person come into a position Public Information. Thank you Area 41 let me experience be a DCM, Love Service, Jeff DCM 30

District 31:

This report is made known about the activities and work of district #31 of this area. The district has 12 groups, most of which attend the scheduled meetings. We are very grateful to our delegate Nick for being at our Spanish convention last July giving his report in Spanish and also the literature committee. In our district the IP continues to work. Bringing information. The service of the Vina is being motivated since we do not have a coordinator for this committee. El grupo 21 de octubre invites us to its #27th anniversary on October 19, 2024, at 5:00 pm in the Guadalupe room located at 5005 s 23rd st. Omaha NE 68107, El companero Filemon invites us to his anniversary at the Nuevo Amanecer group located at 521 S St. Joseph Ave Hasting NE 68901, on November 2nd at 7:00 pm

The Lexington group invites us to their 24th anniversary on November 9th at 3:00 pm at the fair hall 1000 Plum Creek Pkwy Lexington NE 68850. We thank the Technology and Communications Committee for having put our District 31 web page on the Area 41 web page. There you can check all the groups we have, addresses and schedules, as well as the events we will have. Without any other matter to report, I thank GOD for the opportunity to serve in this responsibility and wish you a happy 24 hours of sobriety, love and gratitude. Fraternal Service: a legacy of the new generations Pablo Mcd of district 31 of area 41 alternate: Lauro website; https://aadistrito31.org/. email; contacto_distrito31@aadistrito31.org

District 32:

Hello Area 41. We here at District 32 keep trying to have some sort of event once every couple months. We have a Christmas party coming up in December and also we have a get together at Chances R for New Year's eve. Our meetings are going well. I myself just celebrated 9yrs sober on September 13th. Yours in service Terry.

Seventh T	radition
General Service Office James A Farley Station P.O. Box 2407 New York, NY 10116-2407 https://contribution.aa.org/	Area 41 Treasurer PO Box 642088 Omaha, NE 68134 treasurer@area41.org 402-590-6956 area41.org/contribute

The Responsibility Statement : I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

1965 A.A. International Convention in Toronto, Canada

Newsletter 2025 Budget	70	92	<u>03</u>	94	Totals		A	Area 41			
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WORKING TOGETHER, INCREASING TRUST

2025 West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference February 28–March 2

Best Western Downtown
123 West E Street
Registration Chair: Saxton P: 307-441-0257
Registration Chair: David K: 307-259-5560
Casper, WY 82601
Email: wcraascreg@gmail.com
Phone: (307) 439-2074
Preregistration must be received by 2/19/2025

ROOM BLOCK CUTOFF: 1/27/25 Preregistration Fee: \$25

Room Rate: \$99 Registration after 2/19/25: \$30

Room Block Name: West Central Regional

Register online at wcraasc2025.eventbrite.com or

mail registration to 2025 WCR - PO Box 846 - Casper, WY 82602

Name on Radge:

Registration Form: Please print clearly

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Address:	City:	State:
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Home Group:	Distric	ct Represented:
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Payment Method: Cash	Check Eve	ent Brite

Area 41 Assembly April 5-6, 2025



Share your thoughts on Current Issues in A.A. and General Service Conference Agenda Items with your Delegate

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Our Guest Speaker

Scott H.

Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada

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