

D.A. WORLD CONFERENCE
DALLAS, TX
OCTOBER 3, 1993

MINUTES FROM THE DA CONVOCATION

Opening of the DA World Conference Convocation occurred at 9:10 AM. The Conference acknowledged and applauded the Texas delegation for their efforts in hosting the World DA Conference.

Mary M., Chairperson of the General Service Board (GSB), honored retiring DA Trustees Marjorie M., former Chairperson of the GSB and Maureen, Coordinator of the General Service Board Office in New York City.

Mary M. also introduced Lee from Boston, who quietly honored Susan P., GSR from Boston, who died from lung cancer May 1, 1993.

Mary M. applauded the efforts of all GSRs in their committee work.

D.A. WORLD CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

SERVICE COMMITTEE: Barbara, Ellie, Chris and Diane Barb from Chicago gave the report for the Service Committee. First, acknowledgement was given to the 1992 Service Committee for its efforts to revise the GSR Pamphlet and create a Service Manual. Second, the Service Committee heard some of the concerns of GSRs who were attending the DA World Conference for the first time.

GOALS FOR THE SERVICE COMMITTEE IN 1993/94:

- 1.) Create a 3 ring binder system for GSRs and call it the "GSR Information Bank" handbook.
- 2.) Provide all GSRs in 1994 with an orientation packet including the PI Manual, Service Manual, Conference Charter, Financial Reports, Ways & Means, Literature Order Forms, etc.
- 3.) A new Service Manual will be written and a draft will be sent to all GSRs for their review in the Spring of 1994. Comments will be solicited and incorporated into a final draft. A Service Manual will be produced during the summer of 1994 and included in the "GSR Information Bank" handbook.
- 4.) The Service Committee will facilitate an orientation forum at the DA World Conference in 1994 for all GSRs.
- 5.) The Service Committee is requesting a spending plan of \$850.00 for the first six months of 1994.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the report of the Service Committee. Chrys from Chicago made a motion to accept the report and spending plan request. Fred F. from N.C. seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 59 GSRs voting.

SERVICE COMMITTEE

6 MONTH SPENDING PLAN FOR 1993-94

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1.) CONFERENCE CALLS: - 3 Calls on 11/7/93; 1/9/94; and 3/6/94.	<u>SUBTOTAL: \$ 600.00</u>
2.) POSTAGE & COPYING:	<u>SUBTOTAL: \$ 200.00</u>
3.) CORRESPONDENCE:	<u>SUBTOTAL: \$ 50.00</u>
	<u>TOTAL: \$ 850.00</u>

PUBLIC INFORMATION: - Joanna, Chair

The PI Committee's primary purpose is to: "Carry the Message to the Debtor who Still Suffers." The PI Committee's work is also guided by the 11th Tradition:

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films."

The PI Committee doesn't solicit news coverage or take out paid advertisements. What the PI Committee can do is share about the DA Program to other Twelve Step programs and the helping professions. The PI Committee discussed the issue of anonymity at the level of press, radio, television etc. and urged the fellowship to follow anonymity at all levels.

Manual Subcommittee Goals: Maureen & Leonard

The Manual Subcommittee is making some editorial and cosmetic changes to the PI Manual. Additions to the manual include: Four new sample letters to collection agencies, consumer credit counseling agencies, business consultants (CPA's and financial planners), and the IRS. In addition, some additional wording about visions is being added to the manual. The subcommittee will also work on the issue of DA members breaking their anonymity.

Communications Subcommittee: Rane, Peter and Nancy

The Communications Subcommittee will be responsible for coordinating outside inquiries to DA and responding with DA information. In addition, there is a DA Archives of Letters and Public Information, and the subcommittee will research articles and relevant information and update the files. The subcommittee will also investigate the possibility of using computers to network.

Outreach Subcommittee: Chris, Bruce, Christy, Paula & Dale

The Outreach Subcommittee will be actively involved in reaching out to prisons, parole officers, Employee Assistance Programs, bankruptcy officers, high schools, colleges and radio programs that could benefit from receiving a model DA Public Information press kit. A letter will go out from the DA Office in NY informing GSRs that this PI information is available for distribution. The subcommittee will also look into the feasibility of PSAs and videos as tools.

Regional Network Program: Julie & Dave

The Regional Network Program will identify regions where intergroups are established or where GSRs are located and investigate how press is being handled. Second, the subcommittee will distribute DA-Public Information members who are contacts to talk with the press as requested. Third, the Regional Network Subcommittee intends to create a speakers bureau regionally. Surveys were distributed asking for contacts.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the report of the Public Information Committee. Allan made the motion and Rob seconded it. The motion carried unanimously with 59 GSRs voting.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

SPENDING PLAN FOR 1993-94

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1.) MANUAL:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 118.40
- Duplication & Distribution	\$ 118.40
2.) COMMUNICATIONS:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$1,150.00
Phone: - Teleconference Calls	\$ 300.00
- Other long distance & FAX	\$ 250.00
Postage: - Mailings to Committees	\$ 100.00
- Mailings to Media	\$ 200.00
Duplication:	\$ 75.00
- Minutes/Agendas/Committee Reports	
Supplies: - Stationary/Envelopes/Disks	\$ 75.00
- DA Literature for response to media/outside organ.	\$ 100.00
- Clipping Project	\$ 50.00
3.) OUTREACH:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 402.00
- Development for Model P.I. Packet	\$ 25.00
- Research & develop video/audio/PSA's	\$ 127.00
- Outreach to outside organ.	\$ 120.00
- Conference calls	\$ 100.00
- Research Radio Recovery Prog.	\$ 30.00
4.) REGIONAL NETWORK PROGRAM	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 300.00
5.) CONTINGENCY FUND:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 200.00
	<u>TOTAL:</u> <u>\$2,170.40</u>

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Rob, Chair
Rob acknowledged his committee members, especially Cindy from Houston for her efforts with keeping and maintaining the DA data-base and Jayne B. from Michigan, who coordinates the pen-pal program. Norm from Southern California was also thanked for his efforts in researching computer bulletin boards. Rob also thanked the fellowship as a whole and his connection with other GSRs.

GOALS:

- 1.) Pens Pals: Jayne B. in Michigan has kept in touch with 25 people world-wide about DA.
- 2.) Computers: Norm from Southern California has extensively researched Computer Bulletin Boards and Electronic Mail and has compiled a one page summary that will be distributed in Ways & Means.
- 3.) Outreach: New groups/individuals or disbanded groups are being sought in order to update the DA data-base. There are 422 known meetings in the world, up 7 percent from 395 in 1992 and up 38 percent from 1991. 192 GSRs are registered. There are currently 99 orphan groups with no mail contacts.
- 4.) Ways & Means: There are 231 Ways & Means subscribers in 1993. However, renewals and new subscriptions dropped because of production problems. Deadlines for the publication schedule are 10/1, 1/1/, 4/1 and 7/1.
- 5.) Spending Plan Amount: Ways & Means postage & production is \$750.00 per issue or \$3,000 for the year.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the report of the Fellowship Committee. Allan made the motion and it was seconded by Norm. The motion carried unanimously with 59 GSRs voting.

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1993-94 SPENDING PLAN

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1.) WAYS & MEANS NEWSLETTER:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$3,000.00
- 750 sets printed per issue with mailing costs at \$.29 each for Ways & Means Only;	
- Costs includes printing, design, fold, collate, staple & envelopes	
- Cost per issue is \$750.00	
2.) CONFERENCE CALLS:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 600.00
- 4 at \$150.00 each	
3.) TELEPHONE EXPENSES:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 220.00
- Misc. telephone calls	
4.) DATABASE MAINTENANCE:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 135.00
- Mailing labels for entire DA Fellowship	
	<u>TOTAL:</u> <u>\$3,955.00</u>

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: Byron & Terri, Co-Chairs

There was much progress in the work of the Conference Committee this year. Last year every vote was 5 to 6. This year, the votes were almost all unanimous.

Review of 1992: The Charter was rewritten and restructured after the Conference from 1992, based on letters and comments. The Charter has been revised and will be presented to the fellowship in 1994. It will be mailed to GSRs early in 1994.

GOALS:

- 1.) Complete revisions of the DA Charter and send to GSRs worldwide in January, 1994.
- 2.) Create a Conference handbook for each host city.
- 3.) Examine the structure of the overall DA World Conference. A survey has been drafted and distributed and Conference attenders are being asked to make recommendations for the future work of the committee.
- 4.) Pass on the information from one host city to the next on a computer disk.

VOTES BROUGHT TO THE FLOOR OF THE DA CONVOCATION:

- 1.) Recommend the DA World Conference be held in New York City in September or October, 1994.

Mary M. asked for a motion on the first voting issue. Leonard made a motion to accept the Committee's recommendations. Nicole seconded the motion. The motion passed with 63 GSRs voting unanimously.

- 2.) Michigan was nominated to host for the DA World Conference in 1995.

Mary M. asked for a motion on the second voting issue. Fred made a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Rob. The motion passed with 60 GSRs voting YEA and 3 GSRs voting NAY.

- 3.) Recommend that the DA World Conference be held in June, 1994.

Mary M. asked for a motion on the third voting issue. Alex made a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Rane. The motion failed with 56 GSRs opposing the motion and 7 GSRs approving the motion. A number of comments were made to retain the DA World Conference in the Fall.

- 4.) Recommend that the DA World Conference be held in September,

1994.

Mary M. asked for a motion to ratify the fourth voting issue. Leonard made a motion to accept the motion. The motion was seconded by Rob. The motion passed with 58 GSRs voting YEA, 2 GSRs voting NAY, and 3 GSRs abstaining.

5.) Recommend that terms of GSRs be increased from two years to three-year terms.

The following discussion ensued:

Q: Would GSR terms be changed to three years for existing GSRs?

A: No. This would be up to each group to decide.

Q: How do you handle GSRs not performing the work of the group?

A: This would be up to each group to handle. Point of Clarification: The GSR is a trusted servant, and groups can make their own decisions.

Q: Can you have alternates?

A: GSRs would be asked to serve at three conferences.

Q: Are we violating the 9th Tradition to have rotating service.

A: Rob: It takes almost three conferences to get projects completed. Three year terms would improve continuity, and provide valuable experience.

Julie called the Question.

Mary M. asked for a motion on the fifth voting issue. Fred made a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Don. The motion carried with 53 GSRs voting YEA, 8 GSRs voting NAY and 3 GSRs Abstaining.

6.) 17 Intergroups are functioning worldwide, therefore the Conference Committee is recommending that each Intergroup be allowed to send one voting delegate to the DA World Conference.

The following discussion ensued:

Byron: Participating Intergroup representatives are asked to also attend a GSR Area Group. The Subcommittee believes that attendance at GSR area groups would help in addressing any conflict that might exist between the Intergroup and the GSR group. The Intergroup Delegate would then attend the GSR group, so better communication takes place and there would be a link to better participation.

Allan: This issue has come up often. There is a need for

coordination at all levels of service. This recommendation would require creation of a third voting designation in the Conference Charter.

Fred: Voting in favor of this motion is an effort by the Conference Committee to insure better communication with Intergroups and for Intergroup Representatives to receive a new role at the DA World Conference in a more official way.

Bill: Is this enmeshment? The functions of both the GSR and Intergroup are different functions that are equally valid. Opposed to this motion. Is this people pleasing?

Holly: Need clarification for the Intergroup Rep. as being the same as a GSR. Would this create a new level of service for the Intergroup Rep. and will this be too much? This could help all Intergroups communicate with each other.

Chrys: This is redundant and is a duplication of the work of GSRs. GSRs do communicate with Intergroups now.

Aishlin: Would the Intergroup Rep. be a working member? Would this be a 3 year term? This would have to be decided by the Intergroup itself.

Mary M. asked for a motion on the sixth voting issue. Alex made a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Leonard. The motion carried with 39 GSRs voting YEA, 14 GSRs voting NAY and 5 GSRs Abstaining.

Clarification of this voted upon issue is as follows: Every registered intergroup will receive one voting delegate representative at the DA World Conference beginning in 1994.

The question was raised as to whether the vote giving Intergroup Representatives a vote at DA World Conferences was a group conscience?

Leonard made a motion to take another vote to allow Intergroup Representatives to have a vote at the 1994 DA Conference. The motion was seconded by Jana. The motion carried with 39 GSRs voting YEA, 17 GSRs voting NAY and 2 GSRs abstaining.

At this point in the proceedings, Allan S. pointed out that the vote to allow a voting Intergroup Representative at future World Conferences requires an amendment to the Interim Conference Charter and that the Interim Conference Charter has no provision in it for allowing amendments. Therefore the vote that was just taken would have to be null and void.

The Conference Committee then made a motion to withdraw its motion

to include DA Intergroups as voting members at DA World Conferences. A friendly amendment was offered to incorporate such language in the charter that will be reviewed and voted on at 1994 DA World Conference.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the report of the Conference Committee. Leonard made a motion to accept the report of the Conference Committee. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion carried with 55 GSRs voting YEA, 0 GSRs voting NAY and 3 GSRs abstaining.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
SPENDING PLAN FOR 1993-94

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1.) CONFERENCE CALLS:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 300.00
- 3 at \$100.00 ea. on 12/6/93; 4/11/94; 7/11/94.	
2.) TELEPHONE EXPENSES:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 150.00
- Miscellaneous Calls	
3.) POSTAGE & PRINTING/COPYING:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 50.00
	<u>TOTAL:</u> \$ 500.00

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Jana, Chair

The Finance Committee members had 20 priorities for their committee work, but instead committee members decided to be realistic. The overall goal for the Finance Committee came down to clarifying and simplifying the Finance Report.

GOALS

- 1.) First, the Finance Committee will insure that there is a financial report in each Ways & Means.
- 2.) All GSRs will receive four postcards from the Finance Committee during 1993-94 keeping them informed about DA's finances.
- 3.) The Finance Committee will work to insure that GSRs remain informed.
- 4.) The Finance Committee asked each group to consider the following: If each group donated \$12.00 per month, this would raise \$63,000 for the DA General Service Board and \$20.00 per month could raise more than \$100,000 per year for DA.

The following discussion ensued:

GSRs are torn between supporting the General Service Board in New York City and feeling incredible financial pressure on their DA group to purchase literature and raise funds to send GSRs to the DA World Conference. As these issues remain unresolved, ongoing discussion is necessary. Furthermore, there are concerns about groups that can't or don't bring in \$12.00 a month.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the report of the Finance Committee. Leonard made a motion to accept the Finance Committee's report. The motion was seconded by Jill. The motion carried with 48 GSRs voting YEA, 4 GSRs voting NAY and 6 GSRs abstaining. The Conference Committee Report was approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SPENDING PLAN FOR 1993-94

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1.) CONFERENCE CALLS:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 300.00
2.) POSTCARDS:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 400.00
3.) MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 50.00
- Postage/Calls/Subcommittee Communication	
	<u>TOTAL:</u> \$ 750.00

LITERATURE COMMITTEE: Chair, Eric

Eric presented the overall report for the Literature Committee and introduced each subcommittee chairperson to give subcommittee reports as follows:

WORKS IN PROGRESS SUBCOMMITTEE: Nicole, Chair

Nicole presented the report of the Works in Progress Subcommittee. There are three voting issues for GSRs to consider.

1.) Service as a Tool.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept "Service as a Tool" description to be included as the 12th Tool for DA. Jana made the motion to accept "Service as a Tool." Jill seconded it. The motion carried with 51 GSRs voting YEA, 2 GSRs voting NAY and 5 GSRs abstaining.

2.) Awareness Pamphlet.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the "Awareness Pamphlet." The motion was duly made and seconded. The motion was defeated with 37 GSRs voting NAY, 19 GSRs voting YEA and 4 GSRs abstaining. Comments by Nov. 15, 1993 to Nicole L., PO Box 24399, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

3.) Visions Pamphlet

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the "Visions Pamphlet". The motion was duly made and seconded. The motion passed with 41 GSRs voting YEA, 13 GSRs voting NAY and 6 GSRs abstaining. The "Visions Pamphlet" was approved as new DA Conference approved literature.

UNITY SUBCOMMITTEE: Chair, Joe

The degenderization committee changed its name to the Unity Subcommittee and believes that its concerns are in alignment with the first tradition: GOD is not a he/him and this causes disunity in the fellowship. The Unity Subcommittee is therefore looking at the following twelve step literature.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions:

- 1.) GSRs are being asked to make "God as a he/him" change in the steps and traditions and are proposing the changes for a vote in 1995. The 5 changes would occur in Steps 3, 7, 11, 12 and in Tradition 2.
- 2.) The Unity Subcommittee will check with AA as to the question of copyright and ask for permission from AA to adopt the 12 steps and 12 traditions with the change as proposed.
- 3.) The Unity Subcommittee would like a Forum at the DA World Conference in 1994.

DA RECOVERY BOOK: Aishlin & Celeste

- 1.) The Recovery Book is underway and 35 pieces have been collected.
- 2.) The DA Recovery Book Subcommittee is asking the fellowship not to be book editors of the story contents. Instead, the stories are written as a sharing of prosperity by DA Members in the fellowship.
- 3.) The DA Recovery Book needs more stories.
- 4.) There is discussion on whether the Recovery Book will also include DA Pamphlets in addition to stories. Possible cost of the book would be about \$8.00 and includes the pamphlets. The subcommittee needs to determine the financial impact on the DA General Service Board, since the pamphlets are a major source of DA's annual income.
- 6.) Adopt a GSR.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the Literature Committee's Report. The motion was made by Leonard and seconded by Peter. The report was approved unanimously with 58 GSRs voting YEA.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE
SPENDING PLAN FOR 1993-94

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>CHAIRPERSON EXPENSES:</u>	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 500.00
Telephone:	\$ 250.00
Office Supplies:	\$ 250.00
<u>TREASURER EXPENSES:</u>	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 150.00
Telephone:	\$ 100.00
Office Supplies:	\$ 25.00
Postage:	\$ 25.00
<u>WORKS IN PROGRESS SUBCOMMITTEE:</u>	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$1,500.00
Teleconference Calls:	\$ 350.00
Telephone Calls:	\$ 100.00
Postage:	\$ 200.00
Copying:	\$ 430.00
Office Supplies/Secretarial Services:	\$ 20.00
Computer Processing:	\$ 300.00
Faxes:	\$ 100.00
<u>UNITY COMMITTEE:</u>	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$ 460.00
Teleconference Calls:	\$ 200.00
Telephone Calls:	\$ 100.00
Postage:	\$ 45.00
Copying:	\$ 50.00
Office Supplies/Secretarial Services:	\$ 65.00
Computer Processing:	- 0 -
Faxes:	- 0 -
<u>RECOVERY BOOK:</u>	<u>SUBTOTAL:</u> \$5,438.00
Teleconference Calls:	\$ 600.00
Telephone Calls:	\$ 200.00
Postage:	\$ 128.00
Copying:	\$ 200.00
Office Supplies/Secretarial Services:	\$ 100.00
Computer Processing:	\$ 60.00
Faxes:	\$ 50.00
Editing:	\$2,000.00
Legal Consultation:	\$ 200.00
Publishing Costs:	\$ 500.00
Copying entire book for GSRs & Postage	\$1,400.00
	<u>TOTAL:</u> \$8,048.00

DA FINANCIAL REPORT: Allan S., Treasurer

The 1994 Spending Plan will be created in the next 45 days. Included will be: conference committee spending plans totalling \$16,000 or 25 percent of the 1993 ideal spending plan. Projections in 1993 were \$65,000. DA will fall short by \$22,000 in 1993. Last year three board meetings were canceled in 1993. Instead, conference calls were made as a replacement.

1.) Process for Reimbursement for Expenses Related to DA:

Each committee in the next quarter can spend \$200 for their work. However, if a committee will incur a one time expense of more than \$100, then prior approval is needed by Allan S. so that funds can be monitored. This sets up a system for the DA committees. The Board are trusted servants, if the GSR's can't trust, then the board can't serve. Reimbursement is once a month, on a reimbursement basis, with a summary sheet, sent to Allan S. Expenses are reimbursed within a few days. Income has to be generated from the literature, audio tapes, and group contributions. The entire literature packet costs \$17.70.

2.) Outside contributions:

The \$500 annual contribution limit for an individual has been increased to \$1,000. The General Service Board does not accept freebies. We are paying our own way.

3.) Policy for Sales Tax on Literature:

Sales tax does not have to be paid on expenditures made in New York. General Service Board members are also exempt from paying sales tax on literature.

4.) Helping Groups to Become Nonprofits:

Continues to be an issue.

Mary M. asked for a motion to accept the Financial Report for DA. The motion was made by Fred and seconded by Byron. The motion passed unanimously with 58 GSRs voting YEA.

The 1993 DA World Convocation was adjourned at 12:17 PM.

Respectfully recorded and written,
Chris F. 11/17/93