

Plains States' Zonal Forum

January 30th, 2011

www.pszfna.org

Amanda opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The 12 Traditions – Steve P., 12 Concepts – Carol P., and Service Motivator – Steve P.

Roll Call:

- Iowa- Amanda M. & Bob K.
- South Dakota- Carol P. & Steve P.
- Nebraska- Pat W. & Mark B.
- Mid-America- Misty K.
- OK- RCM - Gary V. & Bobbi B.
- Best Little- David S. Chair of Best Little
- Web Servant- Barry
- Treasurer-Sandi H.
- Secretary-Pat W.
- Facilitator- Amanda M.

VISITORS PRESENT:

Jerry W., Paul, James, Angie, Tom, Anglia, Cindy **If I missed any visitors...I'm sorry but welcome!**

Review of Minutes/Approval:

- **Minutes Approved as written with amendments**

Reports:

- **See Reports at the end of the minutes**

Elections:

- **PR Coordinator position** – Nominated Barry for position. Barry accepted nomination. Barry gave verbal resume and answered questions given by Zone. **Barry accepted as PR Coordinator** (Will send resume via email to me)
- **Web Servant position** -- Shane has been spoken with regarding this position. There was some miscommunication with outgoing RD. He was under the impression that he was already removed and replaced. He apologizes for not being here. He feels he has already served and is willing to step down to other nominees that want this position. He hasn't received information for quite awhile. He does feel bad about the situation and the misunderstanding. Guidelines read. Barry will continue Pro-temp. Discussed some members that may be interested but don't have 3 year clean time requirement. We don't want to just put warm body in to serve. Ilian L. is interested in the web servant position. Clean 12 years. Ilian L. nominated and accepted nomination. Ilian L. answered questions and

gave a verbal resume. (Will send resume email) **lian L. accepted as Web Servant. Barry off hook.** (Note as of April 20th, 2011 did not receive lian's resume)

Open Forum:

- **Please make sure no names are given in reports**
- **Question** – Do we as a body want to have Barry make the web site so any one can use it – The zone body said yes they would like that. Barry gave out the web site that Iowa uses for their web site construction.
- **Workshop Facilitator Volunteer list** – Contact information minus the mailing address. What they would prefer Facilitator or PR. – I disagree I believe we should have all of their contact information cause you can certainly mail packets. – We should have language on there to understand if they are capable to help in other areas. – We should not have any ones contact information on the web site. – We will do a form and then put on web site. – It was asked if the Workshop Facilitator Volunteer list and the PR Volunteer Resource list were considered the same list and the answer is yes due to the fact that members will be filling out which area they would like to help out with.
- **Issue brought to one of RD's:** If we have all this money and a region needs some money to do a booth that we should use money to help them. – How do we do this, how would the region request the money for the help? – It seems like in the past people would come with a proposal and ask for help then this body would approve it. If we are looking at the conferences in our region we know what is happening ahead of time and what we need to ask. – Barry reports that that was going to be one of his first tasks, to research who needs help and make a list. – Sandi read guidelines regarding treasurer for the hosting region getting help. – I really like being able to do that, but if more then one region has an event going who do we chose. I think if we bring those proposals we will have a clear idea on what would work. The new structure suggests project planning. – Sandi reports that Mark was talking about project planning. In order to plan ahead we would need a project plan for each event. – You are on track with this, but this is what I know, some of our regions have the income and some do not. – We need to decide what we need to do as a zone for a project. – If we have certain conferences that we were invited to or wanted to attend then we would have a better idea about what we need. We need to attempt to get that information from our regions and stay in contact with Barry.
- **Question asked:** Who do we serve? It sounds like we serve world and our selves. – According to our service structure, an area would request the region first and if the region didn't have the income, then the area could ask the zone.

- **Prudent Reserve Discussion:** When we go to regions we need to inform them about our requests. We will have to fund this as a fellowship. Not just that zone has \$500 bucks we can use. PR is about coordination. – You know it was brought up earlier, if there is going to be annual events there could always be a rotation. – We need to be really careful that it's not about money. We don't always have money. We are here more as a pool of people not as a pool of money. – Two years ago we had less than \$100. We are not in the fund flow from region and we need to look at that. If our region needs assistance, we need to increase our fund flow. – If we bring our things we want to do at the zone we deal with it at that time. We get our money from our functions and regions. Each time we meet assess situation at that time. – According to our guidelines, we are supposed to have \$1,000.00. I propose that we sent that amount on to world. – We had a motion to hold off sending off to world until we figure out what our bills are. – Agreement was made, we will hold off till Sandi can come back to next zone with information. – We are at over \$3,000.00, can we donate down to amount to have \$2,000.00. – We will address a little later in New Business.
- **Fellowship response to service system proposal** – I have done several workshops with the projectors. I encourage people to fill out your input sheets and get involved. Also to point out this is just one part of the problem. – When I did my presentation I was asked to get feed back. In SD they really like the idea of an intermediate body due to travel since we are such a rural area. Our region wouldn't change. Zone representation was totally negative. – They were open to the other ones in KS but not Zone representation. – The US Service Conference is still part of the structure. In Dallas I got the impression of sell, sell, sell.—In Ok the response from our region was that they didn't like what was shoved down their throat. – In IA we did our workshop as just presenting in format not selling. We got a lot of mixed responses. It's a mixed bag. Some of the things they were willing to work with others they didn't like. All questions issued to world.
- **Literature Translation:** I asked World why we don't start language translations for indigenous people. World said that's way down the to do list. – Don't most of them speak either English or Spanish, so as a priority I would vote to translate into languages where the members don't have the ability to have a language that is already spoken. Our language needs are met here, and the needs in some of these other countries that is not the case. I know overwhelmingly, 99% of the people in my region have access to some form of our language that they can use. – Misinformation is out there. There is misinformation by the world board also. It's my understanding that there hasn't been a motion that has come from a region that has been passed. These regions do struggle, and we as a nation do have issues. Maybe we need to look at how we do approach different jobs like translation. I'm not going to go against the spreading of the message EVER!!! If we can separate some of that crap and still deal with it other areas, its better.

Old Service/Business:

- **Zonal Expense Information (Operating Expenses vs. Prudent Reserve)** Sandi had a little bit of information in her report. She did not have the receipts to evaluate what our prudent reserve should be. Sandi will evaluate for the next zone.
- **Projects – PI/PR Efforts (Upcoming projects in each Region)** In our region right now our PI is not working on any large projects. We will have our chair get together with Barry and start coordinating. – Our Region also does not have any big projects besides the booth at the state fair during Sturgis. Banner to put in NA booth is really cool. Barry is okay with regions giving PI chairs his contact information. – Iowa has several members that are questioning the effectiveness of doing the state fair booth. We staffed the booth and it seemed like a lot of money put out with not much results. We do get some expense. It's more of a manpower issue.—The experience we had was that we did not get the people at the state fair booth that we thought we would. We were right next to the sheriff's booth and that's why we thought attendance would be so low. South Dakota fair is an extreme family orientated type event. We saw a lot of parents come by. – I think we get better results when we go to the professionals vs. a place that is at the state fair. In Mid-America region the conferences do a lot better. The treatment facility that I have contact with is deluged with questions about their options. – I really thought that with our region the state fair was good the first year then after that not so good. I also felt that it pulled away from our participation in other conferences. – We have a couple of the conferences that are coming up but we didn't put them in our budget. So I really don't know where we stand. – I know at one point at IOWA we have talked about an unmanned booth but the expense would still be there.

New Service/Business:

- **Workshops for next Zonal** -- Ideas for workshops: ** Workshop on a newsletter possibly, **Workshop on Internet Anonymity, ** Workshop on service system/US fellowship assembly (Can we ask a world board member attend – there is a world board member living in Texas. **Decided to skip it right now and consider it at CAR.** We have had these workshops to be trained on this and we should do this.) It would help if the different regions bring auction items!
- **This Body (Plain States Zonal Forum) agrees to close the account at Peoples Bank and Trust in McPherson Kansas, and authorizes Sandi L. Hodges to do that. And we will open an account at the Bank of America, Enid Oklahoma location. Signers on this new account are as Follows: Facilitator: Amanda Murphy, Secretary: Patricia Wilkinson, Treasurer: Sandi L. Hodges**
- **US Fellowship Assembly** -- March 4th, 5th, & 6th 2011. It is the same weekend as close encounters. US Fellowship Assembly web site at www.usscnaformingcommittee.org -- First weekend in March in Wichita.-- If my

region wants me to attend I will, otherwise I probably won't. – I will go even though I also have mixed feelings. We don't know it might be something great. – One of my fears is what is the motivation behind this. I don't know who put this together or what's behind it. I will go and welcome members of our fellowship. If it winds up being some back stabbing thing on the fellowship then I will let them know. – Who ever is doing this needs to clarify what this is all about. I want the fellowship to thrive. –If you really want to know about it, go to discussion board. – Agenda is also on the discussion board. – If I'm not mistaken it was a few cycles back there was a motion made in the car to have a delegate assembly. I thought most were on board to have that. You will not be able to make a motion and not have it dissected. That's why this needs to be talked about. When you go to world you realize that we have several global issues. Not to make it us vs. them. This is how NA grows sometimes out of resentment. We need to keep an open mind.

- **Donation to World:** We need to remember that the money is not in the bank yet. I just wanted to clarify that that money from the \$200 check is not out yet. – Having had been treasurer for both my group and area. Money that is brought in for that day is not official for that day until the end of day. – I really get that concept, but we are not going to meet for several months. We make policy then we ask people to manipulate to meet that policy when not realistic. We don't meet once a month. – Our existing policy or guidelines state that anything over \$1,000.00 go to world. I'm willing to moderate that and say that anything over \$2,000.00 goes to world. – Much more discussion on the correct way to decide how much to deposit – Regardless of that we know we won't be below any prudent reserve – **Decided that \$701.77 be donated to World.** – There might be checks in that bank that may bounce that needs to make it to the bank...
- **Next Meeting** (Best Little...May-June) I have in my 09 notes that we meet two times instead of three. – When are we going to meet in Texas? – Maybe we could move it back a few months. – BLR has been discussing this in May or June. You don't really want to be in Texas when it's 109. We would like it to be in May. – **May 13th, 14th, & 15th 2011 in Lubbock Texas. We will send out email.**

Announcements:

- **NEXT PSZF MEETING AT Lubbock Texas in May.**

Motion to close –

Reports:

Iowa Region report to PSZF

January 30, 2011

Greetings Zonal Family,

It's great to see everyone this weekend. Our Region has been fairly active since we have last seen each other and has some exciting projects coming up this year. We had elections in November and Amanda is now the RD and Bob K. is the RDA for Iowa. Please welcome him aboard officially.

We are in the planning stages of an event in October to celebrate our region's 30th anniversary. More will be revealed. Also, our state convention, IRCNA XXVIII, will be in Davenport July 2-4, 2011.

Our PI and H&I subcommittees are looking at moving to a PR Subcommittee. We had a discussion about it at our November Region and are planning to try it out in February with the two subcommittees bringing their goals and expectations to the PR forum. Most people seem ready and excited for it.

Also on a PR note, our website continues to undergo awesome changes to make it more user friendly for addicts seeking recovery, the public, and NA members involved in service to coordinate and communicate with each other better. We are also looking into getting a statewide 1-800 phone line number to serve the whole state more efficiently and effectively and hopefully carrying the message into communities that either lack a phone line or have one that isn't functioning as well as it could be. This will be an ongoing discussion and will probably be awhile before it would be implemented, if at all. PI also has a questionnaire online and was given to each area to give input on prioritizing projects. We should have results of that at our February region. A number of Iowa addicts have been talking to some addicts in Minnesota to get guidance and ideas on how they tackle PR projects. They have been extremely supportive and helpful. They also have a statewide phone line, so we have been using them as a resource on that issue as well. They have a rockin' website that have given our region some great ideas. If you haven't been on it, check it out.

We will be having a Regional Service Assembly on Sunday February 20th, with workshops from the WSC and other pertinent topics. We are very excited for this, as we have not been holding regional assemblies in Iowa. We are going to see how it goes and if people like it we may try to incorporate it on a more regular basis. If anyone has any guidance on how you do yours in your regions, we would love your input.

Finally, we hosted 4 statewide workshops on the service system proposals in November and December. Some were well attended, others not so much, but all who were there participated and gave some great input. We submitted all the input and questions to NAWs.

In love and gratitude,
Amanda M. RD Iowa, Bob K. RDA Iowa

**Zone Report
South Dakota Region of Narcotics Anonymous
October, 2010**

We had our 13th convention last month. It was sparsely attended with only 55 addicts sharing the experience. Of those who attended, the overall perception of the convention was that it was the best ever, with each person getting to know each other on a personal level. Ron M. World Board member from Florida was one of the speakers. He shared on the topic of fellowship development. The reason I asked him to come was for him to experience rural NA, and the difficulties we encounter sharing the message and expanding our fellowship. He also got to experience South Dakota fall, as our high temperature was 54 degrees that weekend. Financially the convention was a loss, but spiritually it was awesome.

Our region has a strong fellowship on the western edge, but the eastern side of the state is fractured. There is no unity within our fellowship. Hopefully the concepts within the service structure changes will help to provide a focus of unity. I have spoken to the West River Area about the service structure, and will provide a workshop in November at our next ASC. At that time we will also complete an area evaluation of our services.

The next SD region meeting will be held on November 6th. At that time I will be able to share what I have learned here, and set times for workshops throughout the region.

Yours in service,
Carol P- RD
Steve P-RDA

**January 30, 2011
SD Region RD report:**

November and December were busy months, and January seems to follow suit. In December we put on a workshop on the proposed Service Structure in Rapid City as well as in Sioux Falls. We also facilitated a workshop on the history of NA held in Sturgis. The review of the final chapters of "The Journey Continues" was also held in December in Rapid City. West River Area completed an Area Inventory and will meet in February in Lead to plan our direction of services in an Area Planning workshop.

The convention committee is hard at work planning the September 16-17-18th event. We are looking for speakers both for workshops and main speakers. The convention will be located in Rapid City this year.

West River Area is hosting a retreat April 1-3 in Lead, SD and East River Area will host the Lake Kampeska campout the second weekend in June.

The region recently completed a PR mailing of over 100 packets to penal institutions, health care professionals, counselors, etc. from across the state. Hopefully we will receive feedback on these efforts. I have been actively seeking members to be of service

at the region level in the HI/PR committee, as this position has been vacant for the past two years.

As for upcoming events for possible PR distribution in April on the 18-20 the SD Association of Addiction & Prevention Professionals will meet at Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, SD. The SD State Fair takes place in Huron, SD over Labor Day Weekend, and there's always Sturgis Motorcycle rally.

In service,
Carol P –RD
Steve P –RDA

**Nebraska Region:
Plains States Zonal Forum**

January 30th, 2011

Pat W. RD wilkies_lady@hotmail.com (402) 840-2873

Mark B. RDA pokecycles@cox.net (402) 880-5424

Hello to everyone here at the Zone.

In our region we have done three of the World Structure Workshops, with a fourth World Structure Workshop coming up in February, just for informational purposes. These workshops have taught both Mark and myself that our communication process in our different areas and our region is actually better than we thought that it was at first. We have received some really good input from our members regarding the different topics. Mark was able to tell you a little about the Primary Purpose Project. If you have any questions or want to contact Mark regarding that his information is at the top of this report.

Our region continues to reach out to the addict still suffering. We carry our message through H & I and PI commitments. We continue to have some meetings that could use support due to the fact that they struggle due to lack of attendance.

Several of the areas in our region have either recently or plan to do an inventory of their area, in our attempt to reach out to the addict and make sure we are doing everything that we can to reach out to them.

Our region is also planning on starting the inventory process of our region at the next region in April.

We have several activities coming up across the state, you can go to www.Nebraskana.org to look up the times and places.

ILS

Pat W. RD

Mark B. RDA

Mid-America Regional Report January 30th, 2011
Plain States Zonal Forum

Greetings Zone!

Hope this finds you all well. We have been busy in the Mid-America Region this winter. There are about 260 meetings a week happening in 8 areas around the region. Hospitals and Institutions are holding meetings in multiple institutions and we are seeing many new members in meetings.

In the last few months we have held several Service System Workshops. There have been mixed feelings but it is getting easier to workshop and I am anxious to start workshopping the new information. I know many members from the region provided input.

There was also much interest and participation in the Living Clean Project. As the chapters came out they were reviewed and input sent to the committee. We hope everyone spent the time to offer input and be involved in the literature development process.

Our regional Steering committee is still working on policy and is close to completing the project. Our policy had needed updated for many years and our subcommittees have been working diligently to provide guidelines for their respective committees.

Our regional H & I committee has been working on several different projects to serve the facilities in our region. We purchased Introductory Guides for each area to distribute as the decided. In my area they were divided among the county jails and juvenile facilities. We felt that as we are not able to hold meetings in all facilities, are resources would be best used by placing literature in those facilities. We are grateful to the P3 Project for their support of addicts in our region. We are looking at ways we can support the project financially.

The Mid-America Regional Convention is being held April 1,2,&3, 2011 are Hutchinson, KS. We hope to see you all there!

In Loving Service,

Misty K. RD & Dewayne K. RDA
Mid-America Region

January 30, 2011
Best Little Region of Texas report to PSZF

He, y'all !!

We want to thank all the addicts who helped with the Sioux Falls PSZF meeting - it has been awesome !!!

BLR currently has no RD and our RDA was unable to travel, so we are represented here by BLR chair David S. and Diamondback Area RCM James S.

The Best Little Region held its 22nd convention, BLRCNA XXII, in Amarillo the first weekend of November, 2010. Attendance was approximately 300 addicts. All agreed

the convention was highly successful and deeply spiritual. BLRCNA XXIII will be held in Lubbock the first weekend of November 2011.

Our Regional website is once again functional !!! This has been a challenge for us for the last several years, and we hope the solutions we were led to will ensure our continuing and current internet presence. The address is blrna.org, and of course includes meeting schedules in our 4 areas.

Best Little Region in the process of revising our P&P, and 2 P&P committee meetings have been held so far. We expect this process to (hopefully) reach completion this year.

At our last RSC, we spent quite a bit of time hearing reports from the Tulsa PSZF, and the Service Workshop in Grapevine, concerning proposed changes in the Service System/Structure. Our consensus is summarized by "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" in reference to the group/area/regions, and that answers to WSC concerns need to be addressed at the World level. Also, some suggested investigating formation of a USSC, and after learning of the US Fellowship Assembly meeting while here this weekend, we plan to take this information to the next BLRSC, Saturday, 2/5/2011, and sincerely hope to have a presence in Wichita in March.

The Best Little Region is next in rotation to host the PSZF in May/June. Discussion at our last BLRSC indicated the strong possibility this would be held in Lubbock, Texas !! We will work to make arrangements quickly, and disseminate this information promptly.

In Loving Service,

David S. BLRSC Chair
James S. RCM Diamondback Area

Plaines States Zonal Forum

January 30, 2011

Treasurer's Report

Hello Family,

I am starting with a beginning balance based on the bank statement dated 9-30-10 due to lack of previous records.

Balance 9-30-10:	\$ 2,601.77
Deposit 10-12-10 (OK Region):	<u>100.00</u>
Balance 10-29-10:	\$ 2,701.77
Balance as of 12-31-10:	\$2,701.77

To set a prudent reserve for PSZF will require the help from each hosting Region. If, after each event the hosting RD will email me a list of expenses, I will be able to set up an Income Statement which will help in establishing a prudent reserve.

I would recommend moving the bank account to Bank of America for more accessibility. There is a Bank in Enid, OK and in McPherson, KS. I will set up an online account and provide user information to all signers on the account.

ILS,
Sandi H.
PSZF Treasurer
580-231-0417
slhodes02@yahoo.com