

# Plains States' Zonal Forum

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

[www.pszfna.org](http://www.pszfna.org)

Ⓢ Misty opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer

Ⓢ Various members read the 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, and Service Motivator

Ⓢ **Roll Call:** ] Iowa- Jamie F. & Amanda M., ] South Dakota- Rita F. & Jenn S., ] Nebraska- Mary R. & Pat W., ] Mid-America- Tim S. & Misty K., ] OK- RCM (no RD)- Gary V., Best Little-(absent), Web Servant-(Vacant), ] Treasurer-Rita R., Secretary-Pat W., ] Facilitator- Misty K. **OTHERS PRESENT:** John S.- Road Show, **Visitors:** Paul M., Brent L., Michael S., Connie M., Gary M., Carl E., Teresa E., Burt M., Mark W., Christy M. **If I missed any visitors...I'm sorry but welcome!**

## Ⓢ **Open Forum:**

- An Area in Mid-America needs some guidance on how to deal with the following situation: One of their groups only has (2) members, these two group members are doing all positions including their own PI and H & I work, this Area would like some input on the situation. (Brought up by Tim S.) .....**Thoughts put forth--** If at least two NA members, they really aren't breaking any traditions or guidelines—If not directly under an ASC then it would not really be an H & I meeting/presentation—Probably should have booklet that is put together Road Dog Show to help guide the members participating—Question—Are they unwilling to join their own ASC's PI or H & I? Do they feel that they do better on the Group level?---As NA grows and progresses over the years, we are straying away from the norm more and more. Maybe this is one of those areas that we are straying away from the norm.—They need to reform their PI and H & I subcommittee's to fit the areas needs—If it is working for the group to hand PI and H&I, don't try to fix what isn't broke.
- The question has been brought up if it is okay with the PSZF for merchandise, other than merchandise where the proceeds go back to PSZF, to be sold at PSZF functions. This question was asked of the Nebraska RD & RD ALT for yesterday's fundraiser. (Brought up by Mary R.) ....**Thoughts put forth**—Do we really have an opinion as a zonal?—If the activity is a fundraiser for zonal then unless we are getting part of the money, it should not be sold. Especially if it is a fundraiser for zonal—If other merchandise is sold it should definitely be sold after the raffle—This issue has been brought up before and usually we allow each region, that is putting on that function, decide if other merchandise can be sold before, during, or after---I believe that having the region that is holding the function decide is a little like asking someone to vote themselves into a service position. It should be decided ahead of time of the entire zonal committee—It does distract from what is really going on. We need to decide as a zonal and just keep it that way.
- It was brought up about the PSZF prudent reserve. Our prudent reserve is set up for \$1,000.00 and anything above that goes onto World. We currently have over \$1,000.00 do we want that amount sent on to World? (Brought up by Rita F.) ....**Thoughts put forth**—Before we decided if we are going to send the extra funds on to world we need to decide if the Road Show is going to continue, because that could effect the funds available to send to World. The Road Show did start out as an adhoc committee.

- It was asked for Zonal to give some input on how it is going in the different Regions, regarding the Discussion Questions. (Brought up by Rita F.)...**Thoughts put forth**—Mid-Nebraska reports that a lot of Areas in their Region couldn't care less about the Discussion Questions. Maybe if we had a big ole hog roast they would have more of them. The RD Alt pointed out that sometimes just a few members are making the decisions for the many, and that is too bad. All we can do is keep trying—As long as we have even 10 members show up to discuss and learn about the Discussion Questions, our Region will have a voice at World. We can't really do anything about the members who aren't interested in putting forth their voice, we can only do what is asked of us—We just need to keep putting the information out there—Make sure the information filters all the way down to the groups or I guess that would be up to the groups—Our service structure is great if it is utilized right—Nebraska Region reports that there are only (3) Area's in our region that ask for any information on Discussion Questions. We are just grateful for the Area's that are interested in participating—Unfortunately some times the best way to get members interested is to tell them they have no say so.

Ⓝ **Next Meeting:** Oklahoma September 2009 (*tentative location*) – there was much discussion on the meeting location, Oklahoma- RCM Gary V. believes Oklahoma will be able to have next zonal, since Gary V. not RD, Chair- Misty K. will check with the Oklahoma RD to see if Oklahoma will be able to host next Zonal. Also, discussed at this time if we wanted to hold Zonal two times a year or three. It was decided at this time to only hold Zonal two times a year.

Ⓝ **Old Service/Business:**

- Refund Check to Zonal in Barry's name .....(Jamie F.) ...reports that the check has been found and it was written out to Barry. Jamie F. –asks what we should do with the check....(Tim S.) ....Was it suppose to come back to zonal? .....(West F. ) ...If the check is over a year old is it still good? ... (Rita) ....If Jamie sends the check to Rita she will check to see if still valid and take care of depositing if it is....also, we need something in place in our policies so we do not end up with this situation again....(Jamie F.) ...Our Zonal policy does say that our Zonal Treasurer is our point of accountability of all money, and I believe that covers this type of situation as well ... (Rita) ... This situation as a little different because we did agree as a zone to have the check signed over to Barry ... (Jamie F.) ...I will mail the check to Rita ...**Decided that from now on all money issues go through Zonal Treasurer.**
- Excess Literature from Rosebud ... (Rita F.) ...World brought out 20 cases of litt. and it was my understanding that we as a zonal was to set that up as a regular zonal event...when a member made contact with world, world reported that it was their understanding that the material was only for South Dakota events...also that this material has sat in a members basement for the last 2 ½ years...I believe a decision needs to be made....Inventory needs to be made....RD's need to speak out, especially if material is needed.....(Misty K.) ...I believe in the last minutes there was a consensus that all monies/items that came from the zone be returned back to the zone...Does any one here have information on materials....(Carl E.) ...I know where the material is, it is not in a members basement, and if I had known people wanted it here I would have brought it...This material was meant for the Native American people from World, so if other individuals in other Regions need this material, let me know..Many discussed that it would be good to give the material to other Regions ... (Jamie F. ) ...Point of information...who exactly was this material given too, does any one know ....(West F. ) ....We need to discuss just how expensive it will be for zonal to mail out this material to the different Regions ...we do need to keep shipping costs down .... (John S. ) ...It was my understanding that the material was brought to the zone... specifically targeting the efforts in SD for the Native Americans...but there are some needs in other regions....a report needs to be made with an inventory...Carl can send his reports to

secretary and then maybe the material can be divided up ... (Jamie F. ) .... We need a point of accountability.... (Carl E.) ... Most of the material is already handed out, not much left, but I do have record of all material handed out... Much more discussion went back and forth... ***Decided that Carl will send out an e-mail to secretary with report regarding material handed out and inventory, any decisions that need to be done after that can be done at next zone.***

- Next Topic the Web Servant—(Mary R.) .... I spoke with Shane, who is interested in doing the Web Servant position and he did look at the web site. He feels that it would be no problem for him to handle this position, but before he takes the position on he needs to speak with his sponsor. Mary will report back to everyone as soon as he gets word back to her.... (Tim S.)... Asks if there has been any communication with Barry (the past web servant) at all .... (Jamie F.) .... Reports that he did have communication with Barry who told him that he would be willing to do the web servant position... but he did not do anything at all with it... he did indicate that if someone else became the web servant he would be willing to give them the passwords.... (West F.) ... I believe that if the new guy does say yes that we give him permission to start right away.... (John S.) .... I suggest that we give Mary a vote of confidence to move forward so he can start right away ... I don't believe it is fair to us or to Barry to rely on Barry from this point on... (Deb S.) ... Asks if we really know who this new guy is ..... she further reports that not knowing him does make her feel a little uncomfortable.... (Mary R.) ... He was taken around yesterday during the fundraiser and introduced to everyone ... Much discussion followed about whether or not the Web Servant actually needs to be present at every Zonal, as long as his work is being done... discussed possibly rewriting in policy regarding how many of the Zonal meetings the Web Servant should attend ... ***Decided that Mary has the zones vote of confidence to tell Shane to go ahead and start right away, if he reports back that he will be the Web Servant.***

#### **New Service/Business:**

- Guidelines – Brought forward by Jamie F. – Jamie asks if the guidelines are okay—he reports that he just cleaned them up and added the already approved #9 to them – Every one agreed that they looked great .... ***Since all Jamie did was clean up zone decided that no approval really needed....*** (Jamie F.) ... also reports that if any changes needed now would be a good time... ***Subjects that need to be added to policy as follows:***
  1. Web Servant and how many times he needs to be at zonal... Discussion follows.... (Gary V.)... In our region the only time our web server shows up is to explain when something has gone wrong... (Misty K.) ... I don't feel that if we vote someone into a position it is too much to ask them to show up .... (Rita F.) .... A while back we as a zone said that we would offset people for travel expenses... up to \$100.00.... (John S.) ... That was a gentlemen's agreement that was never intended for policy... that discussion was for secretary, road show, treasurer travel and only if a RD absolutely could not get to zone... the web servant would be included in that.... (Amanda M.) ... If we are going to ask this guy to do this we need to figure out how many zones he is going to be expected to attend and if he is going to be paid to travel ... (Tim S.) ... The Web Servant position isn't a one or two year term, he will be in this position as long as he is willing to do this position... we could put in the policy that although we would like him to be at each zone, it is not required for him to be at each zone ... (West F.) ... I agree with what Tim S. said... also he could send his report in on the web or to the secretary ... (Mary R.) ... I spoke with Shawn and he is willing to travel to zone with me ... but I would also like to point out that in our Region our own web servant never comes to our region he just sends in reports if needed.... (John S.) ... Let's give Jamie a vote of confidence to add to the policy that the web servant may or may not appear at zone as long as a report is given at each zone... included in this should be any financial impact... and another person besides the web servant should know the passwords... possibly the zone secretary .... (Mary R.) In

regards to the passwords, Shawn could get them from Barry himself as he knows Barry and talks to him regularly...(Rita F.) ...Just a reminder that any account has to be in plan state zonal name and not in an individuals name....***Decided that Shawn will get passwords from Barry, and Jamie will add above discussed web servant requirements for attendance into policy and bring back to next zone.***

**2. Non-Zonal Merchandise and when or if to be sold as zonal functions**—(Brought up by John S.) --Discussion follows—(Brent L.) ...The first shirt I sold last night at the zonal function, I kicked money back to zonal ...(Misty K.) ...I think it is really important that we be specific on this issue ...(John S.) ...We can talk on this subject for the next two hours... let's just have Jamie format it for us into the policy and bring it back at the next zone...

***Decided that Jamie would add into policy and bring back to next zone.***

**3. All money trails need to start and end with the treasurer** – Discussion follows -- Brought forth that this is already in the policy...in the past that part of the policy was not followed and it needs to be followed ... problem already resolved...Rita and each treasurer after her will pass on there experience, strength and hope ...

**4. The Road Show—Adhoc or Permanent Committee** –(Brought up by John S.) – Discussion Follows—Much discussion regarding the benefits of the Road Show to the NA members – Financial issues discussed –PR started out \$5.00 in the hole...Our current balance is \$1,676.92...this includes the PR money ....It was suggested by West F. that since the Road Show is running low on Literature Stock that we stock up on that Literature.....Also discussed that ideally...all regions would be trained to do the Road Show themselves and in the future it would not be needed....***Decided that the Road Show should continue on...*** Much discussion also put forth regarding whether or not we should order Literature from World for the Road Show or if John S. should see if World wants to donate Literature for the Road Show...many members pointed out that often world would like to donate Literature for these projects...then when they receive a donation from the zone, World can apply it in the area that most needs the donation. Instead of them having to apply it towards Literature. (West F.) **Motion on the table...that the amount that normally would be sent on to World be placed on hold for John incase he needs for Literature...Motion removed by West...New Motion put forth by Jamie F. that the amount over \$1,000.00 (676.92) be placed in PR account, on hold, till John S. can find out how World would prefer to have this done.** Intent: If World does not want to donate the Literature to the zone, John will have the funds available to order the Literature materials needed for the Road Show. ***Motion passes----***

**5. Prudent Reserve** – (Brought up by John S.) – Discussion Follows – (John S.) ...When we picked our current prudent reserve of \$1,000.00, it was a sufficient amount at that time...Now \$1,000.00 does not cover our needs...I believe that it should be increased to either \$1,500.00 or \$2,000.00...so we can support ourselves...(Misty K.) ...Asks when was the last time we had \$2,000.000...(John S.)...Prudent reserve is really not the right term...we should call it “operating funds”...(Jamie F.)...We do not really have the term prudent reserve in the policy...Our policy simply states that all over \$1,000.00 will be sent on to World...I can change the policy to read that all over \$1,500.00 goes on to World...(Tim S.) ...Asks that we be specific about how we are going to treat this money...Are we going to treat it as a prudent reserve or as operating funds...there is a difference...(Amanda M.) ...Asks if we want to be more specific then it currently states in our policy....Much discussion followed regarding the terms prudent reserve and operating funds...(John S.) ...pointed out that in the old days many regions wanted the zone to become fully self supporting and not have to tap into the individual regions for extra funds...(Tim S.) ...Pointed out that according to our current fund issues...all functions except for the conference should be fundraisers—(Mary R.) ...points out that it is also important to consider where each fundraiser is going to be held in that

region...some areas have better turn out then others...for example...if we would have had yesterday's fundraiser in Omaha or Lincoln...the turn out wouldn't have been as good... sometimes just because an area is bigger it does not mean your turn out will be bigger.... (Jamie F.) ... need to make sure that the region hosting the next zonal knows that it is a fundraiser... **West F. Makes motion that 8D be changed from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00 .....** **(Tim S.) objected to motion due to fact that we need to look at how we set up our funds first...MOTION FAILS...**

- Much discussion regarding fundraiser money that did or did not come in from fundraiser on 3/07/09....(Rita F.) ...reported all funds that were due to come back to zone did....(Jamie F.) ...pointed out that how the funds are handled is already in our policy....(Mary R.) ...pointed out that Norfolk area called this a donation to zonal and did not request funds that put in back....(John S.)...also pointed out that the \$200.00 fronted by zonal is for the RD/RDA to secure a site.

Ⓢ All members of zone are to consider the “Prudent Reserve verses Operating Funds” issue and the amounts and be prepared to discuss at next zonal.

Ⓢ **Reports:**

Ⓢ **OK Region:**

Quick verbal report from RCM (Gary V.) from Oklahoma...no official report....Things are up in the air right now...many new elections of officers at region level coming up...so the RD that is spoken to today regarding the next zonal...may not be the RD that will be at the next zonal.

Ⓢ **Iowa Region:**

Hi family, it is exciting to be here at the zonal forum as the RD from Iowa for the first time. This means we have a new RDA and I would like to introduce her to you. She is Amanda M. from the Iowa River Valley Area of NA (aka IRVANA) in Iowa City. Please extend a warm welcome to Amanda as you had done for me.

The Iowa region is doing well in spirit and service as we had a two day regional in February so we could do a consensus based decision making workshop. This is an ongoing issue at this time and there is no consensus to move to this way of doing business yet. More will be revealed. The Iowa region is struggling in the fund flow area right now. We have many projects and commitments we fund but as the flow of funds has lessened from the fellowship it is getting difficult to do all these things. In my reading of the latest NAWS News it looks like we aren't the only ones spending more than we are taking in. We are in the process of a simple questionnaire inventory at the regional level to take a look at how we serve the areas and how that can be improved. The Iowa Regional Convention of Narcotic Anonymous will be held July 3,4, and 5 in Des Moines, Iowa at the Airport Holiday Inn.

I cleaned up and added the items I was asked to do in our Zonal policy and sent it to all of you I had email addresses for. You can decide how you want to proceed with what I did. Next I will report on the items I was tasked to do concerning Barry B. I have found out that the refund check from the Governor's Conference went to the Iowa Regional PO Box and was lost by our current treasurer. I discussed this with her and she did actually have it in her hand and it became lost somehow. I think what needs to happen now is we put measures in place to prevent this from happening again. If someone from the zone wants to do some detective work and see if we can get another check is an option. Secondly, he stated that he gave a receipt to Rita for the 07 conference and that he never got one from the 08 conference. Again I recommend we look at our procedures for this kind of thing and put measures in place to prevent this from happening again. Having the treasurer as the contact for all of

this might have prevented these issues as the check and the receipts would have come directly to them. We can continue to discuss the problems but I think it is time to move on to the solutions side of this. Lastly, I discussed the website with him and he was willing to continue and said he would update it with minutes and such. Last I looked it hadn't been updated and to me that answers the question on what to do about the website. We need to find someone else to administer the website. We can discuss this in business today if you would like. Hope this answers your questions and thank you to all of you for being a part of my recovery.

ILS,

Jamie F.

Iowa RD

**Ⓝ Nebraska Region:**

March 8, 2009

Greeting Zone,

Mary R. RD [maryriyana3@cox.net](mailto:maryriyana3@cox.net) (402-699-4984)

Pat W.RDA [wilkies\\_lady@hotmail.com](mailto:wilkies_lady@hotmail.com) (402) 840-2873

Things are going well in the Nebraska Region Sure is great to be here with you all, here is what is happening in our region:

We have passed out all the information that World recently sent us - they have all been given copies of the discussion questions for this cycle. We are setting up workshop times to get everyone on the same track. We have done three workshop already and have plans for three more.

Our web site was down for a few weeks because the sever crashed but it up and running now and hopefully this has gotten worked out and won't happen again. Our region forwarded \$100.00 to Plains State Zonal.

The Nebraska Region is holding about 176 meetings a week in nine (9) areas and some areas are struggling with attendance and lack of trusted servants. But all is well and with help from addicts it will be what it is Some areas are doing several new H&I and PR commitments. Our region was able to purchase insurance again that would cover the regional functions, areas and groups! We had no claims against the policy. "Hurrah "All positions are filled at region level.

Close Encounter was last weekend here it was a great time with a lot of recovery. I can't tell from my own experience because, I was in sunny California attending a World Wide Workshop. I will share the information received with my region at workshop.

NRCNA 26 in 2009 will be in the SENANA Area which is Lincoln, on October 2-4 there are several functions going on across the state, please go to [www.Nebraskaana.org](http://www.Nebraskaana.org) to look up time and places. We are looking at having the World Board at the convention.

In love and Service

Mary R RD

March 7, 2009

Hello NA Family,

Thanks Nebraska for a wonderful weekend, we are glad to be here.

We had our first workshop on the Fellowship Discussion Questions in USA Area. They have invited us back to continue. WRA will be hosting their own workshops and we are working with them, sharing information.

We developed our guidelines for Treasurer and are in the process of review/input and change of our guidelines. We are also in the process of updating our Regional meeting list. Our Regional website has been down for months and will be back up and running tomorrow at SDRNA.COM instead of dot org.

We have been in contact with the World Board Member, Ron Miller a few times, which is in the pursuit of effective communications and partnership. The Board had recently made a decision, (which was talked about at WSC 2008) to establish direct engagement with the Regional Delegates.

We have discussed bringing World Board to our region to maybe assist in a convention we would host. We have started talking about a Regional Inventory (which we obtained examples from Ron M). So far this has been tabled. We are in the process of discussing a Regional Assembly, which has also been tabled. We have set up a literature review committee for review and input of In Times of Illness, Self Support, & Living Clean Book.

ERA is doing well. Madison group shut down and some meetings have minimal attendance. They are having an annual campout June 12 – 14, 2009. They are also putting up a website at [narcoticsanonymouseastriverarea.com](http://narcoticsanonymouseastriverarea.com).

SFMANA is doing ok. Groups are maintaining. They continue to meet service needs as they arise. Their focus is on the NA primary purpose, carrying the message of NA through its meetings and H&I meeting.

USE Area is doing good with meetings and attendance. They had some money stolen out of a locked drawer and are recovering from it.

WRA is growing in leaps and bounds. A group from Nebraska joined their area. They have established a newsletter and are having a 3<sup>rd</sup> annual retreat in March.

H & I is an open position. PR is updating the meeting list and discussing finding a new system for region help/phoneline. SD Regional Convention is October 2009 at Kelly Inn in Yankton. Web servant is restructuring the region website. The new site, SDRNA.com, will be up and running tomorrow. Unity/Activities is an open position, we are working on our yearly campout at Sheridan Lake during the Sturgis Rally. Literature is developing a review and input committee. Policy is working on review, input, and change of region policy.

The contact person for the material from Zonal meeting in Rosebud, SD is still Carl.

We are here to donate \$72.00 to the Zonal Forum.

In Loving Service,

Rita F. RD  
Jenn S. RDA

 **Mid-America Region:**

## Mid-America Region Report

3/8/2009

Hello family,

Other than being in a state of confusion over an inventory we are starting, Mid-America Region has been somewhat quiet. We did purchase a new copier that will be available at all RSC meetings and regional workshops plus has the capability of scanning to PDF, which will aid in our archival and website projects.

We currently have 90 groups in our 8 areas providing approximately 300 meetings a week. Our policy has been in a major overhaul and it could be sometime before we see a finished product that has been approved. One of the issues with that is our history has been scattered throughout the years and policies passed, procedures set by precedence, and motions that contradicted other policies but never corrected, all have been filtered out over time. Our current policies are extremely vague and have caused more controversy than productivity. We still get things done and have been able to grow though so not all is bad.

We meet quarterly, February, May, August, and November, and provide a fundraiser dance the night before. In the past, the fundraisers went toward three of our functions and the fourth to the Activities committee. We recently changed that to fund four sub-committees, Public Information, Outreach, Hospitals and Institutions, and Literature. We feel this will better direct the region to provide services in a more responsible way.

MARCNA XXVI is March 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> in Wichita, KS. And coming up this 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend is our 31<sup>st</sup> annual free campout held once again at Wilson Lake. Both will be fun filled and information packed. Hope to see you there!

Gratefully serving NA,

Tim S. and Misty K.

RD RDA



**Treasurer's Report:**

**PLAIN STATED ZONAL FORUM OF NA - TREASURE STATEMENT!**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK # FOR</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PR -</u>
5/12/2007	BALANCE - TURNED OVER TO RITA!			\$1,672.06	
5/12/2007	550Barry Barhour - web site	\$14.23			
5/12/2007	601National Council on Problem	\$400.00			\$400.00
9/16/2007	602Swina Activities-Zonal meeting in IA-start up	\$50.00			
9/16/2007	603Quality Inn Metro - start up money IA	\$150.00			
9/24/2007	604VOID - VOID - VOID -- VOID				
9/25/2007	DEPOSITED FROM SDRNA		\$100.00		\$100.00
9/25/2007	605NAWS - WSO	\$672.06			
	BALANCE OF 9-25-07			\$485.77	
20-Oct	Donation from OK #2743		\$80.00		\$80.00
10/20/2007	Donation from Iowa		\$80.00		\$80.00
10/20/2007	Donation from Neb		\$80.00		\$80.00

Expenses/Intake for the weekend

10/20/2007	Function start up	\$20.00
10/20/2007	Door money	\$313.20
	Raffle	\$275.00
	Coffee donation meeting	\$10.00
	selling pop	\$71.30
	Band DJ Dusty	\$150.00
	Expenses- pop - decorations	\$113.82

10/21/2007#606 Tim Stewart - Zonal start up money - KS \$200.00

**BALANCE**

\$911.45

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK #</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PR -</u>
1/1/2008		BALANCE			\$911.45	
1/5/2008#607		MidAmerican Region -	\$100.00		\$811.45	
1/5/2008#608		NAWS - sent back with Chris	\$300.00		\$511.45	
1/6/2008#609		Barry Barboure - Mid State Governors	\$300.00		\$211.45	\$300.00
1/6/2008		copies - paid cash	\$4.50		\$206.95	
		Function - Door		\$145.00	\$351.95	
		Raffle		\$134.00	\$485.95	
		Auction		\$166.00	\$651.95	
		Lunch		\$126.00	\$777.95	
		Return of start up money is		\$42.90	\$820.85	
		DJ - paid cash - Reid sign for it	\$100.00		\$720.85	
		<b><u>BALANCE IN CHECKING ACCOUNT</u></b>			<b><u>\$720.85</u></b>	<b>\$360.00</b>

**Expenses for weekend**

Day Light Donuts	\$34.71
Dillons	\$20.52

Dillons	\$8.10
Dillons	\$12.45
WalMart	\$113.66
City of McPherson	\$70.00
Function - Door	\$145.00
Raffle	\$134.00
Auction	\$166.00
Lunch	\$126.00
DJ - paid cash - Reid sign for it	\$100.00
Return of start up money is	\$42.90

The column you wanted me to add is the last column of this sheet - current we are minus \$360. For PR functions.

10/1/2008	Balance		\$720.85
10/6/2008	610Rita Ford - start up money for 10-08 Zonal	\$200.00	
10/9/2008	611Rita Ford - cash - event 10-08 Zonal meetin	\$100.00	
	SATURDAY NIGHT EVENT		\$116.00
10/9/2008	<b>EXPENSES FOR WEEKEND</b>		
	Chamber of Commerce	\$100.00	
	WalMart - coffee - cups	\$46.51	
	Dakoto Mart - donuts	\$15.83	
	Kum and Go - ice	\$3.37	
	<b>TOTAL OF EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$165.71</b>	
	<b>LEFT OVER</b>	<b>\$34.29</b>	
	Cash LEFT OVER- event start up money		\$50.29
	Cash - Left over from weekend - given to		

NEB - Mary - for next start up money of

Zonal for 3-09 \$200.00

PR Functions - receipts from John S.

Barry sent him \$140. \$140.00

Gas \$100.00 \$100.00

Gas \$57.00 \$57.00

Total cost of \$157.00

John requested no monye returned to him.

**BALANCE AFTER THE WEEKEND IN**

**CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE \$421.14**

**CASH - RITA HAS \$50.29**

**TOTAL BALANCE \$471.43**

11/17/2008	Deposit from Misty's Area	\$300.00	\$721.14	
3/1/2009	Deposit from OK Region	\$300.00	\$1,021.14	\$300.00
3/5/2009	Deposit from SD Region for PR	\$72.00	\$1,093.14	\$72.00

**STARTING OUT BALANCE 3-09 \$1,093.14**

3/5/2009 612Rita Ford start up cash \$50.00

BALANCE \$1,043.14

PR FUNCTION IN THE BLACK \$5.00

found \$5.00 in the bag \$5.00 \$1,048.14

NEB - 3-09 COST

given \$200. On 10-09

Knights of Columbus \$100.00

no receipt at this time - signed off

DJ Dance \$100.00 receipt

total cost of \$200.

Door	\$287.92
Raffle	\$241.00
NEB Region Donation	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSIT</b>	<b>\$628.92</b>

**BALANCE AT END OF MEETING** \$1,677.06

Rita has \$100. Cash for event fund for next

function in OK 9-09.

**TOTAL OF ALL MONEY** \$1,777.06

 Secretary Report:

Hello family,

I really don't have a lot to report at this point. Thank you to every one for your vote of confidence in putting me in this position. Sorry it took a while to get the minutes out, but I had to wait for every one to get their reports in to me. I still have not received the report from Carl on the material that was discussed. As soon as I receive that report I will send it out to every one separately. Also, Mary R. from Nebraska informed me that Shane did get back to her and he will take the position of the Web Servant. He will get the passwords from Barry and start right away. In Loving Service,

Pat W. PSZF Secretary

 **Road Dog Report:**

Dear Family:

We haven't been idle since our last meeting. The Oklahoma RDA contacted me to see if I would be willing to do a workshop at the Oklahoma GSR Assembly in Glencoe (Stillwater), and off we went. I basically did the same workshop that I did here in Norfolk, NE. It was well received and I got a lot of contacts. I did go as the Plain States Zonal "Road Show". I have made contact with Matt B. from the Show Me Region and he thought that Show ME would or could not handle the next Mid-West

Governors Conference that will be in Kansas City this year??? There have been (3) small presentations that lasted less than an hour. These three presentations were basically “Basic NA” information meeting; as well as an opportunity for Training NA members willing to join in on The Road Show. As far as the Literature for the Booth, we have enough Literature for (1) major event and maybe another medium size one. (650 units or packets).

I’ve also started the Business Card project – We formatted Mid-America, Oklahoma, Iowa, Nebraska, and Best Little Region, but couldn’t or didn’t do South Dakota Region because the website was down. The Layout (Tilling etc.) is being done by a professional and checked by (3) of us. I feel they look good, hope you saw them yesterday.- Mid-America has funded \$20.00 to offset the cost for local use. Speaking of local events – The Juvenile Justice Authority Conference and the SRS/APPS Recovery Conference have been scheduled and Funds for registration were allocated.—The Road Show will set up at the booth.

The Zone needs to decide on the future of “The Road Show” and if we do want to continue for a while we will need more Literature--???

*In Loving Service*

*JGS III*

785 – 865 – 9999

[stanley001@embarqmail.com](mailto:stanley001@embarqmail.com)

Ⓝ Zonal Sign up sheet—did not include address as it would not fit....

<i>Service position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>E-Mail</i>
RD	Tim Stewart	Mid-America	(785)819-4806	<a href="mailto:timandeb@cox.net">timandeb@cox.net</a>
RDA/ Chair	Misty Keen	Mid-America	(785)819-6482	<a href="mailto:mkeen_298@att.net">mkeen_298@att.net</a>
Treasurer/ RD	Rita Ford	South Dakota	(605)360-2529	<a href="mailto:naiouone@sio.midco.net">naiouone@sio.midco.net</a>
RDA	Jenn Sieling	South Dakota	(605)360-2648	<a href="mailto:mustangttfn@yahoo.com">mustangttfn@yahoo.com</a>
Member	Wes Ford	South Dakota	(605)360-2529	<a href="mailto:naiouone@sio.midco.net">naiouone@sio.midco.net</a>
RD	Mary Rose	Nebraska	(402)699-4984	<a href="mailto:maryriyana3@cox.net">maryriyana3@cox.net</a>
RDA	Pat Wilkinson	Nebraska	(402) 840-2873	<a href="mailto:wilkies_lady@hotmail.com">wilkies_lady@hotmail.com</a>
Member	Jerry Wilkinson	Nebraska	(402) 417-9139	<a href="mailto:jeralddean@hotmail.com">jeralddean@hotmail.com</a>
Road Dog for Road Show	John Stanley III	Mid-America	(785)865-9999	<a href="mailto:stanley001@embarqmail.com">stanley001@embarqmail.com</a>
RD	Jamie Foy	Iowa	(641)420-7557	<a href="mailto:jfoy14@mchsi.com">jfoy14@mchsi.com</a>
RDA	Amanda Murphy	Iowa	(319) 621-4815	<a href="mailto:Catlady10598@yahoo.com">Catlady10598@yahoo.com</a>
RCM	Gary VanEvery	OK	(909)261-9929	<a href="mailto:nagary@att.net">nagary@att.net</a>
Member	Gary Martinez	Kansas	(602)506-7469	<a href="mailto:gpingry@cox.net">gpingry@cox.net</a>
Outreach/H &I	Carl Erickson	South Dakota	(605)440-0799	<a href="mailto:sicanguwicasanaway@yahoo.com">sicanguwicasanaway@yahoo.com</a>
Member	Teresa Erickson	South Dakota	(605)440-1237	<a href="mailto:sweet_custer@yahoo.com">sweet_custer@yahoo.com</a>
Member	Paul M.	Nebraska	(402)710-8374	NONE
NE RSC V. Chair	Brent Lambley	Nebraska	(402)750-2633	<a href="mailto:brentl68@yahoo.com">brentl68@yahoo.com</a>

Member	Michael Schmitz	Kansas	(785)393-9822	<a href="mailto:badclown_081600@yahoo.com">badclown_081600@yahoo.com</a>
Member	Connie Ming		(605)786-3165	<a href="mailto:constancem_782@msn.com">constancem_782@msn.com</a>
NE RCM	Burt Morris	Nebraska	(402)317-2156	<a href="mailto:pointoffreedom@yahoo.com">pointoffreedom@yahoo.com</a>
NE ASC Chair	Christy Morris	Nebraska	(402)317-2243	<a href="mailto:cbajer004@neb.rr.com">cbajer004@neb.rr.com</a>
Member	Mark Wagner	Nebraska	(402)640-7522	markw12stpn@yahoo.com

Sorry these are long and drawn out but here they are...some members requested they be added.

Plain States Zonal Notes at Norfolk

Saturday 7, 2009

Topics to be discussed at today's workshop

\*\*\*\*OUTREACH\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*PR\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*WHAT IS ZONAL ABOUT\*\*\*\*

Moment of silence

Readings

--Outreach—by Scott S.

- Scott started off explaining about what is in the starter packet.
- Once a meeting has started and you know who the regular members are, then officers need to be voted in so you have some consistency in the meeting.
- Scott was asked if there was a hotline or main number where he could be reached, but he explained that members can get numbers to call from other members in the meetings, from counselors sometimes, word of mouth also works great. What is important is to get the information to the service body, and if that area has an outreach subcommittee then it would go to them. There is no phone number in the regional meeting list at this time.
- West brought forth that people have sometimes contacted the names found on flyers and those addicts contact the area or put those people in touch with a member that can help them.
- Gary from Oklahoma —reports that it has been his experience that if you want to get in to the prisons, get a hold of the ministers, they are the ones who get all the literature turned over to them.
- Dave-SENANA- Reports that he has found that the easiest groups to focus on are groups that are in a isolated location. But what about the groups that are in the cities that have a lot of other meeting in them but have still dwindled down and don't know what to do. Does that still fall into outreach, when they are within the city...*Scott reported back that yes it does...in fact they have a group in his area that has that same situation, and it has been outreach that has given the support.*
- Carl from SD also reports that it helps if members get out of their comfort zone and reach out to others.
- Jennifer – Omaha ...Reports that she would like to get support for the outlying areas that don't get a lot of members going out to them...also the Spanish speaking meetings...her area has a great need and there is a language barrier...*Scott reports that he helped getting a Spanish speaking meeting going...He took someone who was bi-lingual to help translate, who was not part of the fellowship, and that helped with the language barrier. Often these small meeting just need you present for support, the language problems can be worked out Smaller outlying areas often don't have outreach, but that is where they are needed the most. The biggest problem in the big cities is that they have resentments or judgments possibly, and just don't want to travel that mile out of the city to reach out to a meeting.*
- Another member talked about banner meetings....A banner meeting is when 4 people take a banner out to an outreach meeting...6 bring the banner back.

- Kerri... Reports that what he has seen with Spanish meetings, is that people get frustrated, then they quite. Members who start a meeting or support a meeting need to give it at least a year. In Omaha people complain about driving through the hood, but the same members didn't have a problem driving through there to get their drugs. I think we have got lazy. *Scott comments that he had that same thing happen, a meeting that he helped to get started only lasted about 18 months then fell apart. Another meeting that was falling apart, had a banner meeting brought to the meeting, there were so many people that one member didn't know what to do.*
- Mary... Reports that she has heard of flood meetings where they get together and go to these out lying meetings for a month to help them. A lot of times, addicts in the bigger areas don't know about the outlying areas that are having problems. If your meeting has problems with needing support go to the bigger areas and let them know.
- Gary from Oklahoma reports that sometimes as outreach we do need to operate as the NA police... sometimes they have a great meeting but because they use other litt. that is not NA, it's not really an NA meeting. This is often because they don't know better and they just need to be taught the correct way. Once there was a small town that wanted both an H & I meeting and a NA meeting. The area decided to go with an NA meeting. But they are having some issues, one issue is that the Treatment center has asked that there be no cussing. The Treatment center does not realize that we don't restrict members during there sharing in that manner. After much communication between the members and the treatment center the treatment center is finally starting to understand. But they did pull their members out of the meeting for a short while due to lack of understanding.
- Dave SENANA... Reports that to him it seems the key factor to a meeting failing is that there was only one member that wanted to start that meeting in the first place then when that member gets bored the meeting fails. It really needs to be started with more then one member and started for the right reason.
- John then read... we work in teams... 2 or more people can offer support... provide suggestions... answering questions... members have to be informed what's going on in your area... be familiar with the subcommittees... contact numbers... how to get a hold of WSO if needed... sometimes crossing those geographic boundaries is part of the deal. Sometimes outreach should call the area they are going to visit so it is not a shock when they show up and it also helps to improve communication. My first experience with reaching out to other communities was at RSC and the subcommittee was called outreach... it became all about addicts on asphalt... whether you understand the meeting or not... if you are there you are part of the support... I need to get off my ass to do something like that... people did that for my group so I return the favor... making it attractive is the key... and not forcing it on other people... offer lots of support is another key... outreach needs to have a plan... I made a plan and the other members that wanted to start up the meeting had a plan and both sides needed to commit and stay committed and that needed to be part of the plan... now the group is going strong... we have to be patient and committed... overlapping of services is later... we have to show support... language barrier or not... you have to have a committee and a little structure yourself... and report to your area so you have accountability... organization is key too... they can help to make it affordable... outreach is what is going to have to happen
- Scott---there is no better feeling then when you see the expressions on the members facing when your supporting their mtg
- Skit---Gary Oklahoma---pretended to be a person with facility calling for H & I presentation---Scott says we dress in our Sunday best because we need to look professional... get together with the warden... ask if PI can come in and speak with warden... after PI talks with warden... they contact H & I and that is very important... Outreach should be there to follow up because we need to make sure we have the people that we need to show up
- Gary from Oklahoma asked why would an institution contact outreach instead of PI or H&I... *John says that it doesn't really matter who they contact... the three subcommittees should work together... I know*

*situations where all three subcommittees showed up just so the warden would only need one meeting... Outreach can support the other subcommittees*

- Scott---Reports that one of the meetings going in the prison...it was at the work release...they decided to make their own standing meeting...so H & I had to back out of there...It was neat to see a meeting standing on their own.
- That meeting at the prison that while it was not an H & I meeting....it would be known as a special interest meeting because only members who had the badge to enter into the prison could go into the meeting.

John wanted to make a point – sharing a little bit about outreach...He had a friend who went to a smaller area that had Na on again off again...he started a meeting...The two of them made a commitment to go 2 yrs to work on this new meeting...on our way to the meeting each time we had a lot of fellowship...we kept going for about a 1 ½ yrs and then those members at the new meeting made commitments...and the meeting is still going...and growth spread out ...we didn't know what we were doing...the benefit is that we all stayed clean..we are also connected...since then I've learned the value of the volunteer list, report to an area, groups that are registered, if I keep connected that fosters more communication, if I report that I've made contact one addict to another, it shows other members the benefits of reaching out, there are also many benefits for me. There was also another situation where an inpatient women's facility wanted H & I too or a meeting. --In both situations we needed a coordination's of the different members and subcommittees and the facilities. The benefits of having an outreach subcommittee has fostered that idea that it is safe to go to the mtgs...and we did this with a subcommittee of two with half a dozen women volunteers. I report to the area and continue communication. It is a WE thing.

- Amanda—if you have an outreach subcommittee does that also fall under PR or is it its own entity--- John-- it could be part of PR or separate it depends on your area or region -- get a plan together...then see what kind of commitment you can get together –
- Wanda – our region does have outreach – I think Gary felt that he wasn't getting any support and I would like his input
- Gary D. – I tried flood mtgs with no support – I'm trying something new –wrote up a flyer maybe he can get into the mtg list maybe he can get more support
- Gary Kansas – H & I and PI has basically become an outreach—I carry a message of faith and hope into the prison and jail – any time someone calls and says I can't go—I get my lazy butt out and serve—the benefit is God sent
- John – page 21 PR handbook is read re: how outreach works, this reading works for all three subcommittees.
- Dave – I have been involved in getting a mtg started is you have to have a plan, get members involved in the beginning who have some experience, use those members as a resource, don't try to swim against the current
- Gary—I carried litt. To this prison before they let me carry the message into the facility, but I wanted to make sure the seen was planted. Appearance and how you present yourself is a big part of the acceptance also, but don't give up.
- Scott – I love outreach, I don't look at the sinking ship...I look at the new ship just put in the water... look at the people who are already traveling...they would make a good outreach person...banner works well...addicts on asphalt where they have a rock works, but all of these take a commitment. I know there is people in every group and every area that are interested to do that.

**BREAK FOR NA MTG AND LUNCH BE BACK AT 1:15PM**

**PR Presented by John S.**

Moment of silence

Serenity Prayer  
12 Traditions Read

John began to set up display and started to teach members at the same time. John asked who had experience with PR or PI. In everyday with we deal with PR. Public interactions all the time. Part of this display would be good for professionals, at state fairs, etc. Usually there is an attraction thing, I've learned when watching those people, it is definitely an attraction thing. You never want to dress with something that will offend someone. Also learned, that if you show up at the hotel early you might be able to get the best table which is the one close to the coffee. I set up early, then I visit the other vendors. Treatment centers, pharmaceutical companies etc. I've learned that I need to keep my opinion to myself. I need to actively listen so I know what is going on around me. In PR and PI we have a lot of different aspects that we do every day. We have a whole host of things that we can do to be attractive to the public. There is several things that you can do to be a part of, you can volunteer on the phone line, pick up after an activity, remind other addicts about their cigarette butts, connecting with professionals, etc. This presentation is a constantly changing process. I'm still learning and I am not above using professionals to learn even more. The books are fake because too many were walking away. I am not computer alliterate. Technology is such that I don't know everything about it. I get online and investigate. I use to download all the surrounding regions mtg list and then they would out of date. Now I use general announcements. We are there to answer questions about NA. We are there to make the connection with the rest of the therapeutic community. We have no opinion of outside issues. We follow our traditions. It is pretty cut and dried. When we show up usually the program director hand delivers the next pre-registration. They want us back, which says something about our efforts. World has these little folders that you can put a card in, but we can't afford them. So I sat in my basement, figure red how to set up a little handout, with a rubber band around it and it works just as well but does not cost as much. I have little cards that have a number that people in each region can put on them so they can be handed out at the presentations. Don't push information on people, but I do make eye contact and say hello. Be nice to people, that is attractive. When I play well with others it comes back. This is one aspect. I also have a sheet that I can write down any questions that I don't know, so that I can get back to them with the correct answer. Sometimes I need to make some phone calls to get people connected.

- Who do you contact to find out what conferences there are available? *In Kansas the probation office is a good source. Call the hospitals and Sheriffs office. The correction facilities are also a good place to contact. Also, treatment facilities. World services is also a good place to contact, click other for resource material.*
- West—those little packets...how many do you hand out? *The biggest one was 190 packets.*
- I've heard that when we go into a conference we have to have permission...how do we do that? *Contact your region, area or committee. If you decided it is too big for you...call me and I will come out to help. Just keep going up the line tell you find someone that can do it. Best thing to do is to keep everyone in the loop. Just make sure you don't lie to the people. Practice on the members around you. The more you practice the better you will get.*
- Have you videoed any of your presentations, if so are they available, if not, why not? *I don't mean this to be a put down, I just think that you would be a good example. I am willing to come in person. That's why I haven't thought about video. I don't even like photos, its not about me. Individual communication is more valuable.*
- Wanda – I believe that truly we are untapped resources---we could go to community colleges—adolescent centers—fairs—we just all need to get together and brain storm. *You have reminded me about something I talked with another addict earlier—if you look in the yellow pages how much potential is there for drug abuse—endless supply or opportunity for PI or PR. Do we need to be invited....sometimes....what kind of contact do we initiate and what kind on contact do we wait to be initiated.*

- Wanda—I know in Platte Co. we actually have people calling NA and asking if they can have NA speakers. *In Kansas we take down the total numbers and literature. The contacts have gone down (number of packets) because they know us in Kansas and know about us. That's a good thing. IT means we are doing our job. I'm trying to develop my paperwork so it fits who I am and what I do, not make it harder on myself. The smaller presentations that have 8, or 20 are good opportunities to bring people in like sponscees to give the presentation to let them have some experience.*
- Gary –Oklahoma—it's an us and a we thing but sometimes the us doesn't know about the we. You have to have that communication. About 6 months ago, contacted by WSO, they get to do the big ones, they get trickle down, they have contact person in that region or area to handle trickle down. I got an email about 6 months ago, they are going to have a dept. of corrections in Oklahoma City, if your region can put something together we will pay for your registration, we put a booth together that three of us did. We had a jar that they could put their cards in and we also had a sign up list. We ended up with well over 400 contacts. When we first arrived they weren't real glad we were there but by the time we left they asked us if we would come back and talk for about ½ hour. Wish we had knowledge of John's presentation. *We need to come out of the closet as far as the fellowship. We need to be proactive in our efforts. Everyone here can be an advocate. We need to have the cards available. Maybe a little business card.*
- The way you set this up and present yourself is just amazing. What did the set up cost you to build? *Don't do what I did. I had my own opinion and decided to do this on my own. I was wrong in doing by myself. I should have approached the zone first. But it has a great reaction...thank God. The big blue book \$300.00 Each rack \$33.00 And there are some other expenses. IT could get expensive. John S. 365-865-9999 (The big green bus)*
- Normally it's just the people doing the presentation showing up. *NO!!! three guys bring three guys who bring three guys. Take as many people as you can is better.*
- Mary – I have been to a lot of different areas and a lot of different PI and PR, we down play the importance of PI and PR. You need to get PI in before H & I goes into a facility. We need to start in our home groups and talk about PI. I don't see a lot of that. Maybe we can have a bigger PI committee. We need to get people interested. *If each home group took say 10 copies of flyers about NA, got permission to hang up and hung them up, it would spread NA around.*
- I actually sat in on a presentation at an adolescent wing. It was interesting because you hear things during the presentation that you hear all the time. *Those 7 cards you hear at the beginning of the meeting.*
- Presentation...Hello my name is John and I am an addict...Introduce your members or people...thanks for inviting us we are really happy that you invited us. Brief History of NA... example...After several starts our fellowship finally got stronger. We are now up to 150,000 meetings a week. Tells about Kansas meetings. Talk about our primary purpose, and what NA means..."any mind or mood" altering drug. Roles of groups in our fellowship. Simple abstinence does not equal recovery in our fellowship. We need to uncover the core of each addicts disease. In respect to what you are looking for "the audience you are speaking to" I go over the core of each of the 12 steps in a language that audience will understand. Talks about our litt., mtgs, sponsorship, service to our communities, increases our chance of long term recovery. Spiritual not religious program even though we do use the word god. Our fellowship is based on the principals of love, caring, experience, strength, and hope. So we can grow into that productive member of society. How can we be found... we will hand out litt. There is a WSO addy and number that you can get a hold of plus mtg lists. We are really glad you invited us. Are there any questions for us?
- Talked about the PI power pointes available from WSO. But these are specific to our needs. The majority of our zones are smaller then what the power pointes are set up for.

- Gary Oklahoma was contacted by WSO...but the best contact is the delegate teams...that's the best communication. Ultimately it would be great if the road show didn't have to go on the road any more because all the areas can do it.

## BREAK

- Mary started back up with moment of silence....serenity prayer....zonal starts back up tomorrow at 8am at hotel conference room.
- Next part is what is Zonal about....Tim...Bryan...Gary....John...Zonal Form...1993 changes happened in WSC...one of the changes was how often the conference would be. That changed a lot of the zonal structures. Zones in particular...our world made up of 11 zones...our zone comprises 5 to 6 states...some people think that zonal created by resolution A...that is not the case...meetings every where were growing fast....word started spreading...a lot of the country's couldn't afford to send delegates...now a delegate within every region that is seated is funded...back then no one was funded...so back then the ones that could afford...spread the word...zones started wanted their own voice at the conference...their was much discussion about that...Time read what the memo said that was sent out by World about what zonal's were...outreach came out about a year after that statement came out... zonal was the first form of outreach...outreach adhoc lasted until 1998...result 3 separate hand books...our zone...conference decided to make some free time available at conference....in the old days our days were 9am until sometimes 11pm...with a lot of emotional decisions...decided this free time so zones could get together and discuss things...Iowa to midstates...co...mid America...ne...didn't belong to one zonal...so we just hoped around to the separate zonal's...then we decided to put our own zonal together...8 people attended our first zonal...because we were small...2<sup>nd</sup> mtg fell through because we were small...showme decided to stay with their own zonal...co decided not to join because there were mountains between us...1999 resolution caused a change over....we had one world board...resolution left us to decide...this zone has tried to come up with solutions to work with resolution A...came to a decision that all zones were helping RD's and Alt. RD's do a better job and have a better resource...that's what our job is really about....evolution is happening....this zones purpose has remained intact...we pull our resources together all the time for different things...this zone has been going since 1995 and has had a lot of problems but it has still been going....
- Brian---can only tell of personal experience....what it's been for me is a big learning place....a pool of resources...your job as an RD is to help when needed...PI I'm not any good at...used my resources...I didn't have those resources or the knowledge of those resources until I participated in the zones...we all deal with the same type of problems....I've watched our zone grow...As an ALT. RD the first thing I did was to corner the world board members and ask them why they didn't follow resolution A all the way through...answer...the way we are doing now actually works better...the zone has been one of the greatest tools that I can use to communicate with the fellowship...my home group has changed in just the last two years...now they actually come to the asc...due to the things I've been able to learn and communicate to my home group...members of zone guided me through the situation...the resources of the people that come to the zone are endless...sometimes I felt like I was crazy and people at the zone gave me the tools I needed... service people have taught me never to say no to NA ...that's why I'm here today...often the resources that I find in zone aren't available in my area...information found at zone is then taken back to area and groups...it's an honor to serve at this level...
- John ...when first started in 96 only had 9 months clean...bought car to attend...did workshops... disagreements throughout day...went to dinner with members had placed on pedestal got to know people and pedestal disappeared....I kept informed after that...kept driving to different NA activities/functions...decided that I was going to be a part of on every level...I decided to make a

comment...we did only do that years discussion topics for a long time...then we started talking about structure...policies...and things like that...I hope the product that was presented today was valuable to you guys because that is what the zone is about...we don't get together as often as we would like...because it takes a lot money these days to get everyone together...we bridge the gap as a zone...we show members that as individuals everything in service is possible...drafted some policy for zone...that was adopted...I had some help for other RD's to help...now we have elected officials...what we are doing today is communicating with you

- Gary D. I missed a couple too...the changes are just starting...service structure not set in stone... your vote counts so much more then other countries because of your resources...in future that will change...when the other countries start dividing up like the US is how much our vote counts will change...our service structure will change, grow, and evolve...we have a tendency to panic with changes...but changes are coming....there are more areas in some regions then there are groups in this region...there are some regions that are project regions that only concentrate on a project at a time...called task orientated rather then structure orientated...
- West...I used to be an RD....one thing that I have learned...every other year we go and do the CAR and CAT...if we didn't have zone...we wouldn't get that big of an understanding ...we get lots of ideas from lots of members...last zonal supported a new mtg ...that mtg had support from 5 different states to support that new mtg...that was due to zone...zones are a big pool of information...helps us get out of our area and get new information...
- Mary ... my experience with zone....I saw other people in zone that I could relate too....zone helped me to understand that I was not alone...that helped me to stay in the rooms...
- John ... It is a we thing....no matter what position we are in....
- Tim .... I mentioned that there are 11 zones through out the world...we can fit the zone to fit whatever this area needs...we used to provide a service called multiregional learning day...it ended up being weeded out...then the zone was formed...we choose a different topic each time....there was a long time we didn't have those topic discussions...I glad to see that our topics were kept fresh this time...other zones like Canadian which goes coast to coast...they are expanding....tomorrow I will bring up a topic that was brought up to me and zonal allows us to do that
- Gary D. what was the topic....there is a grp...that has two members...they are doing PI work... needs some input
- James...as gsr I don't believe just my vote is the grp conscious....*the grp elected you to carry their conscious...if they are not showing up to the business....they are okay with your vote...*
- Jerry –Oklahoma...there seems to be a lot on problem with grp conscious...I don't believe that the grp conscious should ever be used to violate the concepts...I believe that GSR's should carry their grp conscious not their own agenda...change will happen either through evolution or revolution... I'm an old-timers...I don't believe that I will ever be able to violate a grp conscious that has told me a way to vote....traditions aught never be negotiated .. I hope everything goes according to Gods will
- Misty .. when I am in the situation that I do not have a grp conscious I abstain or a no vote....
- Dave ... doesn't that take the GSR's opportunity to vote
- Misty....I believe that I should vote their grp conscious
- Keri ... there has been two for the last ten years....sometimes you need to vote ...
- Kevin ...I ran into that same problem but I had no voice to really carry...a lot of the time the only vote is my own...our home grp is about 10 people...we made a decision to actually call each member to get an opinion
- Keith ...We call members of our grp to get a vote too
- Carl ... two groups that got started....I gave them all the material needed....they were not interested in that and still aren't....they just want the meeting...but all this don't interest them....this amazes me because service work is great for me but they are just not interested....I've watched our area go

from chaos to organized chaos and in my mind it shows me that this program works...we all need to throw our input in

- My position of RD is to really get the pulse of heartbeat of my region...that's my job...that way when I go to world I have an idea of how the members in my region feel about different topics....
- Tim ...I agree with a lot of what was said...I believe in the 12 traditions...I also believe in the 4<sup>th</sup> concept...everything I do is about the fellowship...is it good or bad...if I abstain I'm not carrying the vote for any one....
- John ....you have to elect the people that you trust....
- Brian ... before people are elected you need to ask them the hard questions and believe in them... people you could trust
- Misty ... the member was talking about being a new gsr....not getting anything to listen too
- Jerry ... some years ago I met a lady and complained about this situation...lady told me that she held grp conscious paid for her steak
- Jerry ...Oklahoma...Plain State zonal best kept secret....how can zonal be more informative to different areas instead of Region
- John...region gets information....RCM's take to areas...we still have some of the problems of the past with communication...zone can show up more....better word of mouth....
- Jen ...the website helps
- Kerri ...I've never seen list that asks what different regions, areas can do to help you
- John ... that was a project that I kind of initiated....then it died two years later
- Gary ... Oklahoma...our area grp sent us up here today....our area didn't even know about zonal... but I do carry our grp conscious...I'm glad they told us to do this...we are struggling as it is....we can't even get our own region to help us get litt. Our region is sitting on a lot of money and our area is a couple of hundred in the hole...our groups are small but we support our groups strongly...our recovery is awesome but most of our members are young...we don't have representation from our Region
- Rita....I remember back when I first started coming to zonal...7 yrs clean...I learned that I can provide you with information, but it is every members responsibility to read the reports. When Keith was RD he would write these lengthy reports. It was still my responsibility to read them...I think we have selective hearing...we end up causing problems...because of turf wars....we travel to different things...I need to get off my ass and do my report.....
- Gary ... Oklahoma...the communication has no connection...I am not getting the stuff I need from my Region.
- John...the job of RCM is to report back to the area what happened....it is the RCM'S job to take notes and report back to their area ....not the secretary's job to bring information back to area.
- Brian spoke about service work and the fact that those of us that want it, will find a way, and those of us that don't won't ever be able to find a way.
- Pat W. talked about Tabbeey S., a NA member who lives in Alaska and their area members drive 8 ½ hours to get to their ASC meetings.

Mary closes....hug up and third step prayer

