



TBRNA Regional Service Committee Meeting
11/08/2008
Coastal Bend Area: Anchor Club

*****The next RSC will be at the Agape Group in HCANA on February 7, 2009*****

Meeting opened at 9:37 AM with Serenity Prayer

Service Prayer: Jerry M
12 Traditions: Lezlie W
12 Concepts: James Mc

Facilitator: present	H&I: present
Co-Facilitator: present	BVANA: present
Treasurer: present	CBANA: present
Co-treasurer: present	CTANA: present
RD: present	EANA: present
RDA: present	HCANA: present
Recorder: present	HASCONA: present
Policy Facilitator: present	NASCONA: present
Archives: present	SETANA: present
PI: present	TTCANA: absent
Convention Chair 2009: present	RGVANA: present
Convention Chair 2010: absent	
Web Dude: resigned	Ad Hoc: excused

New Areas: none
Previous Minutes: accepted

Administrative Reports

RD Report:

As those of you who get NAWS News know, the sixth edition Basic Text is now available, along with the new bronze Roman numeral medallions. In min November a commemorative sixth edition basic text can be purchased for \$25.

NAWS is capturing the experience of long time members. They are developing the avenues to collect this experience by video interviews. They have asked for our help in identifying specific members who were significant in NA's early days in each community.

NAWS hope is that the online conference discussion boards may benefit from being moderated, so they are going to test a system that will provide this service.

NAWS would really like our input on the Issue Discussion Topics. It would be nice if we could arrange for workshops to discuss these issues. If you do have such a workshop, please send your collected data in to NAWS. I'm looking forward to the workshop in Victoria in December and there are plans in the works for one in Northside in January. All of the information, as well as handouts and detailed session profiles for all the topics, are available at www.na.org/IDT/IDT.htm.

There are a number of NAWS workgroups already convened and hard at work starting with the Business Plan Workgroup, Service System Workgroup, Living Clean Workgroup, Self Support Workgroup, NA Way Workgroup, Reaching Out Workgroup and the Translations Evaluation Group. All of these workgroups are formed immediately after the WSC. If your area has any shining stars, you can forward their names directly to NAWS. Work group members are selected by the World Board, NOT by the HRP.

I was contacted a few weeks ago by Steve R, the fellowship services team leader for World Services, about a box of letters they received from Adopt An Inmate. There was no letter of explanation and no cover letter, just a box with about 75 envelopes requesting books. The reason he contacted me was to get some clarity as to what we expected and if there might be more boxes coming. I made some inquiries and let him know that HASO sent those requests. The process at NAWS is that if an inmate sends a request to them, they will respond with the Little White Book and several IPs, along with a letter explaining that they can contact NAWS again if they want more information or a basic text. The inmate gets to be responsible for his own recovery. Since we are a program of attraction- not promotion, we should not be "advertising" this service with flyers or other items sent into the prisons or jails. I see in the agenda that there is going to be more discussion on this topic later, so I'll let this be addressed then.

Discussion:

- For work groups, a member needs to fill out the resume from the NAWS website.

RDA Report:

Hello family and welcome to Corpus. This has been a busy couple of months. I have traveled to Louisiana, made many phone calls and emails and with much help, planned our first Regional SZF Fall Learning Day. I have attempted to make contacts in the Ike effected Areas and requested information on what these Areas need to help meetings and groups carry the message. Hopefully we will hear more on that today.

We copied the Summer SZF CDs as requested and finally got those in the mail...I have heard from most that they were received. I brought with me Rio Grande Areas copy. Sorry that took so long, but without the help of my daughter I am afraid they never would have gotten done.

October 24, 25 and 26 I traveled to Covenington, LA for the SZF. Topics we covered this forum included a presentation over Leadership, Communication and Continuum/ Transition in Service.

We are talking more and more about how we can most benefit the fellowship in specific the Regions participating in SZF. We have a new SZF Rep, Keith N., who is very enthusiastic and wants to do a great job. Travis, our last rep was Great, and took the forum out to meet other forums and find out what others are doing....Our new rep who is Great in different ways wants to look at ways to spread our resources within our Regions. He has asked for direction from RDs and RDAs to what we want of him....I am accepting suggestions that I can take back.

In addition, SZF treasurer added up all the WSC donations from the participating regions for last year and reported that the total was \$90,000. We also were able to send \$900 to WSC this time due to low expenses at this last SZF.

SZF has a couple of positions open for those interested: including the treasurer position and the facilitator position. Please let me know if you know of someone that may be interested in either of these service opportunities.

We have our first SZF Fall Regional Learning Day planned as directed at the last RSC. This event will happen in Victoria at a Club House from 2pm to 6pm...it will be important that we get there on time and stay focused so that we can get the topics covered, as well as hopefully having open discussion time to discover future interest of the Areas. I have flyers on this event...we hope to get RCMs prepared to present this information within their home Areas.

Jerry and I have also been asked to present at the Tejas Convention over Discussion topics for this conference cycle which include Leadership; Communication; and Our Freedom, Our Responsibility.

In January, I will be traveling to Lexington, Kentucky for the SZF. We talked about future topics for the forum in Kentucky which include the Area Planning Tool, Our Freedom Our Responsibility and Who We Are and What We Do?

Also, I am requesting to go the World Wide Workshop in Oakland, California, February 27- March 1st, 2009. This workshop will include discussion over local and global recovery and service issues; medication and recovery; and new book project: Living Clean. The cost would include airfare (approx- \$400), 2 room nights at \$119 per night and food.

I would like to talk about the SZF CDs. This is a task that I am unable to continue to do, as my computer equipment makes one CD at a time and for the last forum that equaled 70 CDs... this is very time consuming. I have talked to Dickie, the recorder for the forum and he is willing to sell us extra sets at \$20 each. It may be important for us to discuss the benefit of these CDs and what direction we want to go at this point. I have also been offered help making CDs by Bob T.

Today I am turning in receipts for making copies of the Summer SZF CDs, travel to SZF and copies of my report that includes information from the last SZF as requested at the last RSC. My expenses included making SZF CDs -\$47.84; SZF travel expenses-\$429.22 and copies. I will also need to collect monies to pay for rent of the club house that we will be having the Learning Day on December 6th. We will need to discuss what a "fair" donation for this space should be as this is what is requested.

We have also been contacted by a representative of the Southern California Region as they are planning a cruise out of Galveston in 2010. They are looking for a local contact and requested a meeting Sunday morning 9 -10am in Galveston. Jerry and I have the contact information and have been working on getting that handled as we just found out Thursday.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Dawn E.
RDA
361.463.6838

Discussion

- Suggestion to put SZF address on meeting schedules
- All of the copies that the RDA made, are available at SZFNA.org
- SZF maintains the meeting information, but they include links to all the regional websites
- Jerry talked to California Rep yesterday. They want to coordinate with the fellowship in Galveston to put on an activity fundraiser before the cruise.
- Please contact the RD and RDA when your area elects a new RCM
- Please bring the copies you were given today to the learning day, that will help with the cost of copies for the learning day
- Money for the world workshop in February- approximately \$700-\$800
 - RDs are expected to come and its open to all members
 - Tabled till new business

Co-Facilitator Report:

Not much to report this quarter; I sent my report to the Texas State Convention Advisory Board which met in San Angelo this last time. Their next meeting will be in Austin on January 31st. The TSCAB minutes are attached:

Texas State Convention of Narcotics Anonymous
Advisory Board Meeting
Location: San Angelo, TX
October 11, 2008

Called to order: 2.12 pm by Louis T. with the Serenity Prayer
Service Prayer read by Cisco L.
Nine members were present

Roll Call

Reports

Advisory Board

- Chair – No written report. Louis addressed the idea for a form letter to be drafted by the Secretary for members' intent to serve. Also, Louis still wants to keep looking for solutions on the transition for not only convention – convention, but position – position.
- Vice Chair – No report given
- Secretary – Steve read the minutes Becky sent; approved with correction of the meeting place needing to state Dallas rather than Austin. Also the distribution of money needs to be removed.
- Treasurer – Ray B. read Cencelia's written report.
 - > It was stated that there are discrepancies in the report and the treasurer needs to be present to answer questions raised.
 - Steve received/presented a bank statement from Cencelia for the Convention Committee operating account and Advisory Board account. Louis T. also had a bank statement for the Convention Committee operating account. The balance for the advisory board as of 9/30/08 is \$4354.97.
 - It was requested by body for the Treasurer to submit a report to the advisory board within 30 days via email; Louis T. will contact Cencelia notifying her. Louis stated he will also speak with her concerning the bank card.

Current Host City (El Paso) / Convention VII

- Chair – Liz L. gave a written/verbal report
 - > Liz passed out registration forms, hotel information, and a logo. She asked the board if they provide forms for the convention committee, e.g. speaker release, merchandise, etc. There was the question posed about the trademark on the forms, and if a motion should be made to put the forms into policy. The hotel contract was looked over and accepted by the Advisory Board. Louis T. stated it will be signed after the close of the meeting. There was discussion about coffee and questions about Pay-pal.
 - > Liz also had a report for the Hotel Chair.
- Treasurer – Danny B. gave a written report.
 - > Discussion was held on a hot check
 - > The Advisory Board owes the Convention Committee \$95.40 for the web page since it was drafted out of the Convention Committee Account

Break: 3:30 pm

Reconvened: 4:26 pm

Regions / Areas / Subsequent Convention

- Best Little Regional Liaison – not present; no report
- Lone Star Regional Liaison – open
- Red River Regional Liaison – not present; no report
- Tejas Bluebonnet Regional Liaison – not present; no report
- Texarkana Area Liaison – not present; no report
- Austin Area – a written report was given by Gayla M. She reported that the Austin Area did not have enough information about the Advisory Board; they felt it was too early for Austin to get all the info that they needed and will wait until May 1, 2009.
- El Paso Area – Danny B. reported that they will be having an 'Event To Support' on November 1, 2008.

Members at Large

- Ray B. – stated his hosting group is grateful to have the meeting held here
- Wayne L. – said he has enjoyed his service on the board and apologized for missing the last meeting.
- Carl – reported his health is not so good but he is optimistic; he also said that he volunteered his services to the convention committee for registration.

New Business

1. Louis T. stated a friendly reminder that if help is needed, for it to be brought to the Advisory Boards' attention. Louis also mentioned the responsibilities / duties for the Member at Large position is needed.

2. *Liz asked about people from the Advisory Board helping with meetings and different convention committees*
 - a. *Liz discussed the idea that Members at Large could help out or fall into a position of a problem area*
 - b. *Discussion was held on this idea of changing the duties/responsibilities of the Member at Large position to include aiding problem or needed areas of the hosting convention.*
3. *Discussion presented about getting a Webmaster to fill the position. From this discussion, it was consensus that the body may need to hire a professional.*
4. *Wayne stated that the clean time requirements might possibly be a problem since many members that are willing to serve are not meeting clean time requirements.*
 - a. *Louis T. made reference to the Concepts; policy is not set in stone but to act as guidelines. His concern was that the convention committee is ultimately responsible for the money and should be careful with addicts handling money.*
 - b. *The board went over various scenarios about leadership qualities being carefully considered.*
5. *It was suggested they should personally contact each region and invite them to the Advisory Board meeting via written invitation*
6. *Louis T. talked about establishing a P.O. Box for the change of committee, but felt it should be tabled until more members are present.*
7. *Steve asked when we are going to have time to go over the information from the Ad-hoc Policy Committee; left open*
8. *Discussion held about opening an account for the incoming convention committee.*
9. *The body decided that the ad-hoc policy ideas need to be on the next meetings agenda!*

Elections

- **Policy Chair**
 - > *David L. was nominated.*
 - > *Duties and responsibilities were read by Steve*
 - > *David qualified himself and answered questions by the body*
 - > *David L. was voted in as the new Policy Chair*

- **Last Year Hosting City Treasurer / NA Member**
 - > *Hoyt G. was nominated (position is for 1 yr.)*
 - > *Hoyt qualified himself and answered questions by the body*
 - > *Hoyt G. is the new Last Year Hosting City Treasurer / NA Member*

Next Meeting

January 31, 2009 @ 2406 Manor Road, Austin, TX 78722 @ 12 pm

October 11, 2008

To: Texas State Convention Advisory Board Meeting (San Angelo)

From: Cencelia P. –Treasurer

First I'd like to relay my apologies for my absence today. There are some issues at my home group that requires my presence at our Group Conscience meeting today.

I received instructions and assistance from Myron B. this morning that allowed me to access the account information on-line. It is my understanding from speaking to Steve and Louis that the signatures on the account will be handled today and be finished when Steve and I connect in DFW.

I have received TSCNA's check stubs and copies from Myron. There were three unused checks (#1147-#1150) that I voided. I also have new checks ordered from #1127 to #1325.

I am certain we will address and resolve, in the near future, the transition delays that occurred not only with a change in Convention Committees but the changing of the guards on the Advisory Board.

I am attaching a printout of the banking activity for the Convention and Advisory Board. My apologies to Liz for not being able to give her the information she needed regarding the bank balance. Hopefully, this information will be helpful to her and her Committee. Going forward, I will be able to provide information as requested.

*Following is the information as it pertains to the funds from TSCNA VI:**Error! Not a valid link.***

All checks above have cleared the Advisory account. There was a returned item for \$589.00 from TSCNA VI. The check was issued by CHP Corp (214) 747-6400. There was a \$5.00 service fee assessed on our account for the returned item. Collection should be pursued.
 The account balance as of September 30, 2008 is \$4,354.97.

The following relates to the Transfers to the TSCNA VI seed money and account balance:

Seed money					
Additional assumed to be Pre-registration sales					
Balance left in the TSCNA VII Account					

The TSCNA VII Committee's account balance as of today is \$1,713.74.

I hope this information is useful to assist in conducting our meeting today. Please send me a copy of the minutes at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

A copy of the Final Report for the TSC in Dallas is attached on the following page. I will be attending the next TSCAB meeting in Austin on New Years Eve. I would ask that if any one has any input on the TSC to get with me so that I can present your input (concerns, questions, comments, or anything) at the next meeting in January.

I have been participating in the Ad Hoc Convention Policy Committee. I will not report on this committee, as that is California Steve's job.

In Selfless Service, Bob T.

Texas State Convention Of NA (TSCNA)
Final Report for TSCNA VI held in Dallas, Texas
www.tscna.org

August 7, 2008

Well we have completed one more year and the message was carried in a profound way. Addicts were willing to given of their time and effort to make possible what some had deemed impossible. Unity is real, alive and growing in Texas. Recovery is possible in Texas and the old lie is truly dead. We can work together and support each other even if we disagree. The Texas State convention is a resource for addicts in Texas and has the ability to become the avenue in which healing takes place. Our unity of purpose brought diversity. The first convention was held in May of 2003 which was an example of what could be possible. Over the past six years we have seen what is possible and the convention has been able to give back to the fellowship more than \$30,000.00 to help further our primary purpose. Because of the continued support of the fellowship the convention has been able to help provide more resources to help further our primary purpose.

Some information about the Advisory Board:

The Texas State Convention is a Non Profit Organization with a 501(c)(3) ruling from the IRS. The advisory board is composed of 18 seats. The advisory board meets 4 times per year and has been meeting in Austin. Every region in the state of Texas has a seat on the advisory board even if they choose not to fill that seat. The advisory board has also included two areas as part of the board and they are El Paso & Texarkana Area. These two areas are part of regions that are located in another state. If the regions and areas choose to participate as part of the advisory board they appoint their own members to the board all others are elected at the advisory board meetings. The question of "who the convention is accountable to" is asked often. Accountability is not the term used in our service structure, the term used is "responsible to". The convention is responsible to its members and its members are composed of every addict in the state of Texas. Another question that is asked often "is it part of the service structure and how". The convention can be hosted by any part of the service structure i.e. group, area or region which then makes it part of the service structure. The advisory board provides information and reports to the fellowship concerning the convention and conducts other business for the legal aspects of the convention. More information concerning the advisory board can be found in the policy which can be downloaded from the web site at www.tscna.org. We are always looking for ways to improve suggestions are welcome.

2009 Convention:

The convention will be hosted by the El Paso Area. The convention chair is Liz L. and her contact number is 915-256-6778. The Texas State Convention is supported only by donations from events to support. If your group or any part of the service structure is interested in hosting a event to support or would like to make a donation to the convention please contact the convention chair.

The financial statements for the month ending July 31, 2008, as prepared by the corporation's Officers, were approved. Highlights of the financial statements included: Amount to be passed on after the 2008 convention in Dallas, Texas is listed below. Payments will be mailed electronically online with Bank of America. All written reports will be sent out by US mail or e-mail.

	% or dollar amount	Amount
Best Little Region (BLRNA)		\$912.23
Dallas Area		\$912.23
Loan Star Region (LSRNA)		\$912.23
Red River Region (RRRNA)		\$912.23
El Paso Area		\$912.23
Tejas Bluebonnet Region (TBRNA)		\$912.23
Texarkana Area (TCANA)		\$912.23
World Service Office (WSO)		\$709.51
Total		\$7,095.12
Advisory Board	Toward Prudent Reserve	\$1,773.78
2008 Convention	Seed + Early Reg.	\$2,170.00
Grand Total		\$ 11,038.90

In Loving Service
Myron B. (Out going chair)

Web-Guy:

I will not be attending this region, and would like to submit my resignation. I tried to make this position a priority in my life over the past three months--but i was unable to meet my own expectations, let alone yours. I simply have too much going on, and by continuing to do this job improperly, I am harming NA as a whole. Please accept my sincere regrets; this is the first position I've held that I have had to resign, and I hope it will be the last.

I will remain as available as possible to help someone transition into this position.

Daniel S.
dankx0r@gmail.com
832-794-0183

Treasurer Report:

AVAILABLE FUNDS

I am always pleased to report that the computer, the bank account and the checkbook all balance. Our current balance before today's donations and expenses is \$2,483.26. This does not include our prudent reserve of \$2,500.00. If anyone is ever interested in viewing the bank statements and/or books, I always have them available for you to look over.

DONATIONS

I've attached a 2008/2007 YTD comparison report of all donations from the Areas and various groups. I received a final report and donation check from the Texas State Convention in the amount of \$912.23. I sent the report to the Vice-Chair since he is our liaison for this convention. At this time, this all I have to report. If anyone has any questions about anything relating to the Regional treasury, please feel free to contact me.

ILS, Kim S.
TBRNA Treasurer
(210) 589-5347 Cell
(210) 781-4459 Home

**Donations YTD Comparison
January - November 2008**

Group	Jan - Nov 08	Jan - Dec 07	\$ Change	% Change
1960 Group	\$41.05	\$310.24	-\$269.19	-86.80%
Agape Freedom Group	\$25.00	\$184.06	-\$159.06	-86.40%
Better Late Than Never	\$0.00	\$200.00	-\$200.00	-100.00%
Brazos Valley Area	\$100.00	\$200.00	-\$100.00	-50.00%
Coastal Bend Area	\$516.56	\$1,875.17	-\$1,358.61	-72.50%
Clear Lake Group	\$0.00	\$41.76	-\$41.76	-100.00%
Crossroads Group	\$149.17	\$0.00	\$149.17	100.00%
Central Texas Area	\$797.12	\$1,102.93	-\$305.81	-27.70%
Esperanza Area	\$957.66	\$1,275.00	-\$317.34	-24.90%
Gem City Group	\$106.00	\$43.00	\$63.00	146.50%
Houston Area	\$774.77	\$595.13	\$179.64	30.20%
Hill Country Area	\$1,380.75	\$804.01	\$576.74	71.70%
Keep It Clean	\$350.00	\$340.00	\$10.00	2.90%
Men of Hope	\$43.00	\$0.00	\$43.00	100.00%
Northside Area	\$164.00	\$583.00	-\$419.00	-71.90%
Serious Undertakings	\$0.00	\$50.00	-\$50.00	-100.00%
Southeast Texas Area	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	100.00%
Texas Unity Convention	\$0.00	\$88.85	-\$88.85	-100.00%
Texas State Convention	\$912.23	\$442.46	\$469.77	51.50%
Texas Tri County Area	\$436.76	\$3,597.07	-\$3,160.31	-87.90%

Totals	\$6,984.07	\$13,111.66	-\$6,127.59	-46.70%
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Discussion

- Treasurer would like to inform the body that a year ago she helped a group in her area get shirts. The group gave her a check, which was deposited in her personal account. The vendor was paid in full. She believes that she misappropriated NA funds and has made the appropriate amends and has never misappropriated regional funds. She needs to share this information with the region for a decision to be made accordingly.
 - The region appreciates the honesty
- Clarity of the monies on the report requested and explained
- Suggestion on the comparison sheet- it does not reflect the information of convention donations
 - Areas can send a separate check for the convention- please note on the check- and the treasurer can create a separate field for the convention donations
- Consensus of the region to continue the comparison sheet

Co-Treasurer: no report

Policy Facilitator:

- Handed out revised policies and policy proposals
- The RSC will discuss the proposals in new business; the RCMs can go ahead and take the proposals back to their areas. We will be discussing a couple of proposals at each RSC.

Archives:

Our regional meetings used to be fun where the RSMs used to be ACRs and would come and talk about what was going on in their area in the larger frame. Each group is a stand in supporting the fabric of NA as a whole. Without that fabric there would be no NA, we come to region seeking support. We do not come to region to worry about the money or how to change the rules. We come together in a spirit of cooperation to insure the survival of NA. In turn, those groups receive strength and support from all our services. Remember that today's decisions may affect tomorrow's members. When we think of solutions to our current problems, it is not hard to consider the needs of our group, our area, our region, or even the worldwide fellowship. Remember, it is about the newcomer and the addict that has yet to join us.

Convention:

The convention plans and progress are moving along well. All committees are in place and proceeding as planned. Arts and graphics have all their logos in place.

Merchandise has selected some nice items to sell at the convention along with some great things to go into your pre-registration bags. A new batch of t-shirts in black and red, both long sleeve and short sleeve will be available shortly.

Serenity Keepers are getting more volunteers weekly.

Entertainment committee has signed a comedian and hypnotist for the convention. They also have a Live band for the dance.

Now comes the tough part.....IT IS TIME TO GET THE WORD OUT.

RCM's- here is your chance to help this convention....big joke going around is "what's the best kept secret in texas? TBRCNA 9!" I am not laughing....

Truth is that we need you guys and gals to take the message of this convention back to your areas and make sure the GSR's in your area are promoting this event to their members....go to the meetings in your areas and listen to see if it is being announced. If it isn't announce it yourself or find out why its not being done...Every member of N.A. in our region deserves the chance to decide if they want to go to this convention or not, but first they have to know that there IS A CONVENTION IN CORPUS CHRISTI....so I ask you to please , please, please get the word out....It takes a lot

of money to put this on and one of the ways is through Registrations...so please encourage people to register...and register often.....

Look forward to seeing everyone at the anchor club...

I.L.S, Chip Gower

Discussion:

- There will be NO credit card machines at the convention. BRING CASH!
- The trademark has been included on the t-shirts
- Areas/ groups can have functions to promote registration
- Areas can link to the convention from their area website

Open Discussion

Concern as to if the regions should be involved in NA cruises:

- Feels they're advertising promotion, commercialism, and vacations while leaving out the real importance of the purpose and the message.
- Should the service structure be involved in promoting the cruise?
- Suggested to put this on hold until we get more information about the cruise; as of now we do not have enough information as to whether this will be a convention or not, or the purposes
- Some groups have expressed the same feelings about functions within their areas
- Some feel it is not our place, if you do not support it- then don't go. It is not necessarily our business.
- Activities are not about making money, they are about promoting unity- regardless of the finances
- The RD and RDA will not commit this body to any activity that the body does not want to participate in. right now the message from the California reps is that they will be in our backyard and would like to help. The RD and RDA will bring all decisions to the body first.
- But why is NA getting involved in "clean" vacations? It diverts us from our primary purpose and gives an implied endorsement

Recorder will most likely be absent in May due to pregnancy

Southern Zonal Forum CDs:

- The RDA does not have the time or resources to copy the CDs for all the areas
- CDs can be purchased at the SZF for \$20
- There is an issue with the quality of the CDs because they are recorded in a room with 4 microphones set up on the tables
- Bob has expressed a willingness to help, but he can only burn 3 CDs at a time. The SZF consists of 6 CDs total
- RCMs that have already listened to the SZF, believe they can utilize the information on the CDs
- If all the areas want them- purchasing them would be \$200 a quarter if we purchase them at the SZF
- Suggestion to wait until February to allow all the RCMs to listen to them and better assess the usefulness so we can make a better informed decision
- HASCONA would like to take the information to their area, to see if the area would like the region to purchase them
- Suggested to change the format and put on the regional site, we will need to check and make sure that its not a copyright infringement. It can be protected by a login for the RCMS and administrative body
- **Topic tabled until new business**

Break 12:00PM to 12:53PM

2010 Convention Report: sonny

Hello Family,

We're grateful for this opportunity to report to you. We've had our first meeting for this convention and we have filled most of the positions. We met on October 12 at the Agape Group and it was well supported. We will meet again on November 23 at 1pm at the same location. Please join us in loving service and be a part of this event.

The following positions have been filled:

Vice Chair: Loraine R
Hospitality: Leticia C
Merchandise: Mary W
Programming: Bob T
Registration: Lucie O
Serenity Chair: Fred Mc
Treasurer: Satchel Steve (possibly)

We are also still looking to fill the position of secretary. I believe California Steve has said he would be willing to take on the position of Hotel Coordinator because of his beneficial experience. In fact, he has already contacted the new hotel in San Marcos and has found out the room price as of now. The new hotel is a four star place with a ballroom that can seat about 1,200.

If you are interested in helping out, please come to our next meeting in November. Also, feel free to contact any of the trusted servants or myself. The theme for this convention will be the Fifth Tradition. We are all anxiously awaiting the new guidelines to be written, as we believe they will better serve not only this convention but all to follow and help us serve best the addicts that are being blessed to hear our message of freedom and hope.

Thank you all for this gift of being able to serve! Love you all!

Sunny V.

830 777 2942

Sunny-viola@yahoo.com

Area Reports

BVANA:

The Brazos Valley Area has eight meetings with twenty-four weekly meetings. There is a meeting every day of the week available for you and the newcomer.

One December 6, the area will hold elections for trusted servants

The area held an H&I Learning Day on October 25. Susen G came to help and Donated \$600 worth of literature to BVANA H&I.

There is a proposed Speaker Jam for March or April of 2009, we will keep the region posted.

Billy S. RCM1
979 451 0142

CBANA:

Coastal Bend would like to thank the region for the learning day support! It was very successful. Not much else to report; Jimmy C will be the new RCM for the area.

CTANA:

Greetings from the CTA!! Hope everyone is doing well and will have a great holiday season!

We have 46 groups meeting 89 times a month. We are pleased to announce that the Never Alone group in San Marcos has decided to return to the CTA .

We are having a holiday function the "winter holiday celebration and literature drive" on December 20th at Faith Lutheran church, 6600 Woodrow, Austin, Tx. From 6pm to midnight. There will be speakers starting at 8pm, food, fun and a raffle, plus a coffee and dessert bar! There will be a dessert contest, with a prize for 1st place, with desserts being auctioned off and eaten there! The main speaker Estaban, H&I chair from EANA. The main speaker is at 10pm.

We are continuing to work on our new area policy, we are reviewing a few sections at a time at our ASC each month, and we project a completed and approved document around March 2009.

We are also continuing work on implementing solutions for the issues discovered in our area inventory. Including a GSR handbook, literature bank guideline and ways to improve communication and diversify our fellowship.

Our webpage subcommittee is working on changes to our webpage to include a new server based email system for trusted servants, so we can better communicate and by emailing reports, agenda's, announcements. Also this will reduce printing costs by roughly 1000.00 per year, thus allowing us more funds to carry the message. Thank you all for being of service, and allowing us to be of service!

Allen E. and Bryan S.

EANA:

Good morning everyone, the Esperanza Area has 42 Groups, hosting 92 meetings a week. Crystal City's Hope Group started a book study meeting on Wednesdays as a result of the Building Stronger Home Groups Workshop.

We held elections, and most of our positions were filled, and at this time I would like to introduce our new RCM...Burt.

On Saturday, October 25th I travelled to Laredo, Tx. for another workshop. I was joined by a member from the Kenedy Group, a member from the Floresville Group, and two members from the Lytle Group. We caravanned to the border, and met with six members from Laredo and held our workshop. There was a lot of participation, and everyone had a good time as we went into overtime, so I would say it was a success.

Next on the list, is a meeting in Pleasanton, Tx, and then I'll be done with the outlying Groups, which will bring us to the Groups inside San Antonio, and the scheduled follow ups for the out of town groups. I am including a list of our functions which was made up by our secretary Kim...along with our most recent meeting schedule

Here are the results of our elections:

Chair...April R.
Vice Chair...Leeann K
Secretary...Kim S.
Treasurer...Jack D.
RCM I...Jose C.
RCM II...Burt B.
Activities...Mike T.
H&I...Esteban R.
Literature Bank...Mike H.
Literature Review Lynn S.
Newsletter...Mike H.(lame duck) position is still open
Outreach...open
Phone Line...Carl J.
Policy...Mike S.
Public Information....Carol W.

In Loving Service, Jose C.

HCANA:

Hill Country Area consists of 10 groups with 31 meetings a week. We meet in Center Point, Kerrville, Fredericksburg, New Braunfels, San Marcos, Seguin, and Universal City.

Not a lot to report this month; our HI and PI are up and running and we are expanding in those areas.

Our donation to region this quarter is \$407.54.

I've brought flyer's for the next Region to be held February 7th, 2009 in Kerrville, TX at Zion Lutheran Church at 624 Barnett St. The flyers have a map on them. I'm also including a list of hotels in the area.

I'm also bringing flyers for our 6th Anniversary which will be held in Universal City where the Phoenix group meets at Christ the King Lutheran Church at 1129 Pat Booker Blvd. It starts at 4:00pm on Saturday, November 15, 2008. We are going to have a smoked brisket dinner, two speakers, auction and a dance with live band performing. A map is included on this flyer.

I have also brought some of our Anniversary shirts with me. They are \$15.00 each.

In Loving Service, Fred Mc

HASCONA:

The Houston area is growing in number and in unity. We now have 33 active groups hosting 130 meetings per week. Elections will be held in January to fill all positions in the area, with the exception of the RCM positions.

Upcoming Area Events Are:

1. KISS Group Saturday Night Dance (Every Saturday Night)
2. The 1960 Goup will have a Thanksgiving Celebration dinner and speaker meeting on the 27th of November, beginning at 1:00 p.m.
3. Hugs Not Drugs will host its 4th Holiday Party on the 14th of December beginning at 12:00
 - The Houston area web address is www.hascona.com
 - The Houston area phone line remains the same 713-661-4200. It is manned 24 hours a day.

Hascona is financially sound and is carrying the message to the addict that still suffers.

In Loving Service, Bob R and James Mc

NASCONA:

Greetings from the Eight groups of Northside Area. Like most areas we continue to grow and change in spite of our problems and shortcomings. Six of the groups and seven trusted servants make up the body of the ASC. That body serves three H & I meetings and three Public Information projects. At this time we are taking nominations for trusted servants and already have elected a new RCM....Marty C.

Our problems are not unique, they include:

1. Two of our groups are inactive and don't participate in the ASC.
2. Donations have dwindled a little and we operate close and/or in our prudent res.
3. The learning day planned for November 1st was postponed till January.

The RCM....Ben C. waited too long and failed to make up flyers and promote the event and the collective fellows decided to wait until later to try and host the event. In new business we will be requesting the RD and/or RDA to facilitate a workshop on January 18th @ 1:30 till 5:30 PM at the Better Late than Never Group in Conroe. Topics will include - but not be limited to - "Leadership" and "Effective Communication." The said RCM, looks forward to learning more about those tools.

In loving Service, Ben C.

SETANA:

Hello Everyone, I'm an addict and my name is Royce. Our area is doing very well. Hurricane Ike interrupted us a little, but all of our groups survived. We still have only five groups. Our newest group and still the only group in Beaumont, the CCC group, is doing very well.

We had our area election in October; I am still RCM1 and we finally have an RCM2, Albert W. I would like to introduce you all to our new AREA PO chair, Carmen P. I am happy to let you all know that even though I've been coming to region for a year now, I've finally reached the actual clean time requirement of two years. I brought you all meeting schedules and the wonderful newsletters that I know you all enjoy. Our H&I, Activiti9es, PI, and everyone are all doing a great job. Our H&I is now serving 7 facilities with two more in the works for aftger the first of the year.

I do have some important business I would like to discuss with you all today:

- Our area would like me to find out how we could possibly get region to host a leadership/structure meeting workshop
- I was contacted by region asking if there was anything they could do for us after Ike. Two of our groups lost a lot of our literature due to water damage and flooding. They mentioned that after Rita, region helped replace lost literature. If there a possibility of the region offering any help right now?

- We, as an area, are asking for help funding our Adopt-An-Inmate program. The program was started over a year ago by the Agape Freedom women. The clearance was received on 9/11/08 by the TDCJ in Agape's name. The correspondence has been letters, which have turned into NA texts and other NA literature. The binder that I brought along today represents the organization and structure that will continue- if you so choose to allocate funds to help support this message of recovery we are trying to carry behind the walls.

TTCANA: *ABSENT*****

RGVANA:

The area has six groups participating in the area. A group in McAllen does not want to participate in this area and remains with the Coastal Bend Area. A new group in Brownsville started recently and meets at 7pm on Mondays and Fridays.

There are two H&I meetings at the Hidalgo County Jail every week.

Serenity in the Sand had about 40 members attend and went very well. Plans are under way for Serenity 2009.
In Loving Service

Discussion:

- Suggestion to have a "Building Strong Home groups" workshop

Sub Committee Reports

Hospitals & Institutions:

Hello everyone,

This has been a great quarter. I attended a service day that the Houston area hosted. It was a great turn out. All of the sub-committees worked well together to put on a day that was filled with recovery and fun.

I put on a learning day in Bryan this quarter also. There were about 15 or 20 people in attendance. That is a great turn out for an area that only has about eight groups. Thank you to all of those that came out and helped, I couldn't have done it alone. Brazos Valley is really enthusiastic about getting their H&I up and running again. They have several people that are being TDCJ approved today.

I attended another learning day hosted by Costal Bend Area this quarter. They had a fantastic attendance. 12 to 15 people showed interest in becoming TDCJ approved. The day was great.

I would like to do a learning day for Northside Area this next quarter. They have the highest concentration of prisons in our Region. I think it could be beneficial for us all.

I am going to be sending out letters to all of the prisons this quarter asking which ones would be interested in allowing us to come in and teach the inmates how to facilitate their own meeting. We could then support that meeting with a monthly speaker. This way it would not be a huge, time consuming commitment on this Region. At the same time it would benefit the inmates by getting a meeting on a weekly basis.

Attached you will find the proposal for "Adopt An Inmate" and the area reports.

In Loving Service,
Susen G.
512.743.5258

Discussion:

- Needs approval to purchase stamps in order to send out letters to all the prisons in the region for permission for H&I to come in and teach the inmates how to facilitate their own weekly NA meeting. H&I plans to still support the meeting with a speaker once a month.
- Houston, Northside, & Tri-County were absent from today's subcommittee meeting
- Proposal to expand the list of purchases that the H&I chair can purchase in the policy (specifically proposal)
- H&I would like to possibly use the CTANA address to receive responses

Public Information:

As always, Carol and I would like to thank this body for the opportunity to be of service to the Region . . . here is what we've been up to this last quarter.

- Carol and I provided a Learning Day in Brenham Aug 30th
 - There is not a current PI Chair for Brazos Valley

- Literature was ordered however I didn't receive it in time \$ 69.41
- Total travel expense . . . gas only \$ 70.60
- Plans are in the works to provide guidance and support to the Area
- I attended the High on Life Group's Celebration in Temple Sept 27th
 - I receive emails asking for info for Waco, Temple, and surrounding cities
 - It was a very helpful and productive trip . . . Travel expense for gas \$ 25.00
 - Heart of Texas is up and running
 - High on Life is no longer part of Brazos Valley
 - Learned of an event being held in Brazos Valley
 - Got email address for the current PI Chair
 - Lots of great questions and answers
- Carol attended Recovery in the Park Health Fair in Kerrville Sept 27th
 - NA members were either at Frolic in the Woods or Serenity in the Sand
 - Travel expense for gas \$ 25.00
- Travel expense for today's meeting . . . I was able to share some of the cost \$ 79.39

We started the Quarter with \$574.01

Total spent this Quarter \$273.90

Therefore returning today \$ 300.11

Now for today's Report . . . November 8, 2008

Attendance:

Brazos Valley	Area	<u>No Chair</u>	Southeastern Area	<u> X</u>
Central Texas Area	<u> X</u>		Tx Tri-County Area	<u>emailed</u>
Esperanza Area	<u> X</u>		Houston Area	<u>Absent</u>
Hill Country	<u> X</u>		North Side Area	<u>Absent</u>
Coastal Bend Area	<u>Abs w/n</u>		Rio Grande Valley	<u>emailed</u>

This the second time Houston and Northside were not here though I was told by Jerry (RDA) that Houston is working on their PI Guidelines. I will make more effort to encourage their attendance.

In Tx Tri Counties' report they talked about possibly working together with these two Areas to develop a Metro Area Schedule and are planning an Ad-Hoc committee to combine all three area's H&I and PI services to promote more unity, pool resources and be better informed.

In Rio Grande's report they stated that things are going well and that the Postering Days are helping. Mari has expressed concerns a few times about their meeting info not being listed correctly on the Coastal Bend meeting schedule . . . they were both absent with notice.

Hill Country expressed their concerns about their meeting schedule and how it is difficult to keep it accurate since they currently have CTANA and EANA meetings listed. The Chair is early in recovery and new to service and has asked for some support at their ASC meeting and for a Learning Day.

CTANA, EANA, Hill Country, and Rio Grande are in agreement that it is probably best if each Area list only their Area's meetings and then put wording about the other Areas and provide Helpline #.

SETANA has a new PI Chair and we had a great meeting because of her . . . lots of questions, tons of enthusiasm, and a good resource for her Area. There will be a Learning Day for the Area soon!

Brazos Valley still doesn't have a PI Chair . . . I plan to attend an event in the Area on Dec 6th and stay over to attend their ASC.

Concerns

- Inaccurate info regarding our meeting places
 - On meeting schedules and websites

Goals

- To have each Area represented at RSC
- Each Chair to compile a list of cities in their Area

- Update the Regional Booklet
- SPARK INTEREST IN PUBLIC INFORMATION

ILS, Mary B TBRSC PI Facilitator
marybna@yahoo.com
 512-461-4224

Discussion:

- Today, PI discussed how other areas will carry neighboring area info on their schedules. Suggested to keep the schedules area specific in order to avoid misinformation on the schedules
- Chair attended a meeting in Brenham in august in order to get some information about how they can contact and help that area's chair
- Never Alone group has returned to the Central Texas Area
- Expenses \$273.90 for the month
- Question about the Mexico meetings
 - Reported that they are shut down with the exception of one that is across the border in Eagle Pass

Convention Advisory Ad Hoc Committee:

Greetings from this adhoc committee, we have diligently moved forward with our tasks and have begun working on the TBRCC Guidelines and are about a quarter of the way through with this process. October was a slow month for progress due to scheduling and other commitments of mine. I am optimistic that we will have some preliminary documents ready by the next RSC. We have met twice using a conference call medium and are now going to try a web conferencing (both are free) so we may view the document we are working on while discussing it over the phone. I believe this will be the easiest way for all to participate without driving from all of the member areas to one central meeting place.

The next meeting (web conference) will be on this Tuesday November 11th at 9 pm CST. If you are interested in joining in please let me know and I will get you the necessary login information.

In Loving Service, California Steve

- Currently zoned the areas together so smaller areas can host the convention
- Also working on guidelines to have a group of previous chairs, that will rotate out, to operate as a body to help guide the next convention hosts to insure that previous information is not lost and to keep convention planning running smoothly
- Committee could use more volunteers
- Working on a set of *GUIDELINES*, not a policy- because policies can be crippling to the conventions functioning

Old Business

There is no old business this RSC.

New Business

Proposal from H&I to keep "Adopt an Inmate" in Texas (Similar proposal from Southeast Texas Area):

There has not been any accountability for this program in quite some time. I have tried on several occasions to get information on how much money was in the account, how many letters have been received, and how many texts have been sent out. I have received no information at all. We do have a solution!

First, we would like to change the name of the program. We do not actually adopt the inmate and it could be misleading. It was for me at a unit we had fliers at. I would love some suggestions of what we could call it. Maybe something like Texts Behind the Walls. Give me your personal input.

Second, we would like to get an account off the Tejas Bluebonnet that will reflect exactly how much money goes in and out of the account. Two trusted servants would have access to this account in the form of a debit card. No

checks would be needed. All transactions would be made online to purchase the texts and have them shipped. A monthly report from the bank would show all transaction therefore having 100% accountability.

Third, we would like to move the address to a post office box in Austin. We could either use the Regional mailbox or create another.

Cecil R. and I (Susen G.) are willing to make this our full time commitment. We will keep an Excel file of all letters coming in, what unit the little came from, when the text was ordered, and when it shipped. We have two options for sending the texts, one could be from World and the other being Lone Star. Both have systems in place to complete ordering 24 hours a day. A report will be given to this Region and every other Region in the state. A letter will be sent to every prison in Texas announcing the new address and to inform the wardens of this program. We will also send a letter to all of the other regions letting their H&I know about the program and spread the word on the inside.

The bank statements will provide accountability. Two addicts have stepped up to take on the full time commitment. And most importantly addicts on the inside will receive a Basic Text. Lets keep this program alive.

In Loving Service, Susen G.

Questions:

- Does AAI receive funds from anywhere else?
 - Yes- homegroups, individuals, fundraisers, etc...
- What about the service that NAWS offers?
 - NAWS provides large amounts of free literature to third world countries which is a chunk of their budget
 - This is coming from H&Is budget
- Clarification that this is only for PRISON inmates- and is sent to *INDIVIDUAL* prisoners to have their own book
- Monies come from the regional H&I funds
- This is the same program as AAI from Houston, it will just be transferred to Austin
- What is the clean time requirement for the credit card? Is this a good idea?
 - Yes there is a clean time requirement
- What will they do with letters that come in from the county jail?
- How much will this cost per quarter?
 - \$400 allotted per quarter
 - There is currently not a proposed
- Did AAI misappropriate NA funds?
 - HASCONA clarified this with previous area minutes, HASO report, and HASO treasurer's report
 - HASO will forward this money to the appropriate locations
- Does AAI serve the whole state? Clarification because this is a small region
- Is the debit card necessary? Or can we have an account set up with world or Lonestar?
- Clarification for the policy, where will these funds be distributed from?
- Weren't the RCMs supposed to go to their areas and bring back a decision this month?
- Who is in charge of AAI?
 - Regional H&I was allowing HASO to facilitate this
 - Now they're wanting to move it to Austin from HASO
- Clarification on this being a "lifetime" position
- This is a position that can be created and held accountable to H&I
 - This can be a super-sub-committee held under H&I
- Region can later decide if they would like to move/disband/change anything about this program

Reservations/Discussion:

- This should be something tied into the current body by creating a position for a single point of accountability *in policy*
- The cost of mailing books individually
 - Mail has to be sent to individuals- as a federal law
 - There is not an option to bulk mailing books into prisons

- This should be a separate subcommittee, elected by the body, individuals need to qualify themselves, there need to be term limits, and the treasurer needs to be a signer on the account- much like the conventions
- Books cannot be ordered in bulk because books cannot be sent into prisons from any address
- Creating a separate subcommittee creates more regional expenditures for travel to the RSC
- AAI money cannot be kept in the H&I account because of the donations
- Can preloaded mastercards be used?
 - Bank account is needed because of donations received in the form of a check
- Suggested to give H&I the go ahead to answer the current letters and the details can be ironed out by the next RSC
- Can H&I return next month with suggested guidelines? *YES!!*

Consensus: REACHED UNTIL THE FEBRUARY 2009 RSC

- Susen will take care of the letters for the next 3 months
- A new position will be created, as of today the H&I facilitator can serve both positions
- A separate bank account will be created- with the RSC as a treasurer- under the name "AAI"
 - Signers on the account will be Kim and Susen
- HASO will send a check to the new account
- AAI will get a separate mail box

Monies on hold: should we release money to AAI?

- **Tabled until next month *AFTER* there is accountability**

Proposal from Bob T. to form an Activities Subcommittee:

Purpose:

- Promoting unity
- Hold functions following RSCs
- Help the area's Activities Subcommittee

Questions:

- Can this be taken to the areas to send in nominations?

Reservations/Discussion:

- Members feel this isn't necessary
- Does the RSC need to be spending the money for another person to travel?
- More fundraisers could be held across the region for the fundraisers
- The activities chair isn't necessarily going to host region functions- but they will help the area activities, form a calendar to avoid conflict of activities, and share ideas of what to do

Consensus: REACHED

- We now have an Activities Subcommittee
- Areas need to send back nominations
- Requirements will follow those of the current subcommittee chairs

Proposal from Coastal Bend Area:

We propose to extend the two regularly scheduled regional service committee meetings that follow the Southern Zonal Forum to a two day scheduled event.

Intent: The intention of the proposal is to efficiently pass along the information gathered at the SZF to the RCMs

Effect: The 2 RSCs following the SZF would include an extra day for a workshop on the information gathered SZF. This would preclude having to send representatives to another gathering in order to pass the information. This seems more economically prudent because the representatives would have less travel expenses.

Questions:

- What about the areas that are hurting for money and will have to spend more in order to send the RCMs?
 - This will limit the number of trips the RCMs have to make

Reservations/Discussions:

- This issue was brought up several RSCs ago and the areas decided against it
 - Previously we talked about 2 day RSCs, this time we're addressing the SZF workshops in addition to the regular RSCs
- Some of the areas are ready to vote and some would like to take the decision back to their area

Consensus:

- Tabled until the next RSC so the areas can decide

Proposal to extend purchase and spending permissions of the subcommittees to include “business expenses”:

Questions/Reservations/Discussion: NONE

Consensus PASSED

Proposal to send RDA to the World Workshop:

Questions:

- The estimated total for travel expenses is \$800
- Can the payout be split between the two RSCs?
 - Yes, only asking for \$400 today- to purchase airline tickets
 - The rest will be reimbursed with receipts AFTER the event

Reservations/Discussion: NONE

Consensus: PASSED

Proposal for CDs of the Southern Zonal Forum

Questions:

- Should this be tabled until the next RSC in order to give the RCMs time to listen to the tapes?

Reservations/Discussion:

- If it is tabled until next RSC, the areas can make the decision if these tapes are valuable to the RCMs
- Can we decide today that if the RCMs find them valuable, we will go ahead and purchase them
- RDA still hasn't been able to make the copies of the LAST SZF yet
- Can't the areas that want them decide to purchase them?
- Our policy only requires that the audio files be MADE AVAILABLE

Consensus:

- Copies will not be made, the RDA will have them available to those who want them

Proposal for sending literature to SETANA for literature lost during the hurricane:

Questions:

- How much?
 - 20 basic texts per group- 5 groups would cost \$1,100
- Did the groups lost 20 basic texts?
 - Some lost more
 - Some lost their entire literature orders
- Did the area ask world, they can help also?
 - No, but they can ask world too
- Can we give the area half today?
 - They will be happy with anything

Reservations/Discussions:

- We are currently under are prudent reserve
 - We can give them a partial donation today and they can look into asking world also
- the spending will not be limited to basic texts only. A dollar figure will be given and the area is allowed to spend it on literature as they see fit
- the dollar amount requested today is \$600 made out to SETANA

Consensus: PASSED

- a check for \$600 will be made out to SETANA today

Proposal to change current language of “policy” to a set of “guidelines”; This is to allow flexibility so the concepts can be applied by the trusted servants. This was the original intent for this document. We do not need to keep the financial part of this document as a policy.

Reservations/Discussions:

- current term “policy” violates are concepts
- current policy says “policy guidelines”
- change in terminology will give us a bit more breathing room
- there are already many changes needing to be made in the current policy
- suggestion to form an ad hoc committee to go over the changes
- the term guidelines allows flexibility while policy implies set in stone

Consensus:

- tabled until next month

Appropriate donation for the workshop location:

- decision to give \$75 to facility
- check made out to the RDA to donate accordingly

Webservant:

- Tom nominated to serve as a “lame duck” until further nominations come in

Next RSC

- Conflict of dates for the next RSC and TBCNA 9
- We can move the RSC to Feb 7 or 21

Consensus: PASSED

- The next RSC will be held on February 7 in the Hill Country Area at the Agape Group in Kerrville

Final Treasury Report

Beginning Balance	\$2483.26
Incoming	\$3518.75
Expenses	\$4316.49
Total:	\$1685.52
World Donation	\$337.10
ENDING TOTAL	\$1348.42

Meeting closed with NA approved prayer at 5:10PM