

AREA 14 NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014

Message From Your Area Chair:

WOWZA, what an Assembly we had in April! Thank you all for a weekend filled with fun, education and marvelous memories. You know what it means when we get to the July Assembly in our second year. We are almost to Rotation!!

In July, you will have your first opportunity to stand for office. You may obtain an Officer Service Resume from our website at www.aanorthflorida.org. We will be having a special meeting at 1:30 pm on How The Area Works. Come see how the Area works in between the Assemblies and be ready to ask questions.

Maybe your interest is in the Service Coordinator positions, contact them and ask them about their job. Speaking of Service Coordinator's, they are available to come to your Districts and share their information, help kick off a committee meeting, share ideas on how to reach the still sick and suffering alcoholic!!!

So you find the workshops fun and interesting on Saturday at the Assembly? There are two different types of flyers for the Assembly on our website, take them around and find out if others want to enjoy free fun!!

I know we did not discuss it much this past Assembly, but don't forget the Literature Challenge. I know I have learned a lot more about items I have not read, or some things I have not read in a long time. I did think I could challenge myself to read some of the pamphlets in Spanish....well you try it.

ASSEMBLIES

I understand there is some concern about an email regarding the North Florida Area Conference not meeting our room block for the Assembly. The North Florida Area Conference would be charged an attrition if we are unable to meet our room block. However; due to the contributions by the Groups and Districts, we are currently able to absorb this cost.

The North Florida Area Conference does encourage the Groups and Districts to continue participating in the contribution structure. These are the monies that would cover any incurred debt by the Area.

Las Tradiciones: **a language we can all understand**

Have you ever watched or listened to someone speak in a foreign language and wondered what in the world they were talking about? Well, during the Las Tradiciones Workshop session little is left to the imagination. This is due in part to the work of District 33 along with a fine translator. District 33 our linguistic district in Area 14 has presented an on target Workshop series on the traditions which is growing in attendee numbers and aroused dialogue. Attendees are treated to headsets so if inclined to listen in English while the Workshop is presented in Spanish you can do so. For those of us who struggle after using the only common conversational term in Spanish we know – Hola! the headset translation connects the dots between the presenter's dialogue and its English translation.

Quite evident in April's workshop was the fact that no matter what language, we are all quite passionate about our Traditions and we may all have an opinion. Participation at the microphone was lively and the discussion enlightening. What a great way to bridge the gap where language barriers might otherwise exist but the Language of the Heart prevails.

Lori P.

District Events

Please check the area website for upcoming events. When your District has an event scheduled, please send a flyer to the website chair and have it put on our website. Not only does it give others in North Florida an opportunity to attend your event, but it allows visitors to know also.

Area Website

I encourage everyone to keep checking our website at www.aanorthflorida.org as often as possible. I wonder if you knew the July Agenda has been up for a couple of weeks. I have found it interesting to read the minutes from the archives on the password protected area and become familiar with our past. That is also where you find the updates from the General Service Conference.

Speaking of websites, if you haven't checked out the new www.aa.org website for our General Service Office, please take the time to look it over and begin to get familiar with it. I found it very easy to use and productive. Of course, I had to check every single part of it, so it took me some time. I thought that if I became familiar with this website, it will aide me in directing professionals and others where to find information or find the information to pass on. Enjoy searching it all over for fun!

SOCIAL MEDIA

Hopefully most of our body has had the opportunity to see our young people hanging out in the lobby. They are not just "hanging out", they are our greeters!! They have been helpful in many ways and I am sure you have seen them in the workshops.

BUT, did you know they can help you with addressing any concerns you may have with Facebook and other social media. I believe the telephone was one of the first ways we began using social media! I had the opportunity to attend a workshop they sponsored and learned so much, I was amazed at how I can work with social media and protect anonymity also.

In 2005, the General Service Office received 248 complaints about anonymity breaks per break, and in 2012 they received 1200 per week.

Maybe it is time for all of us to learn how to use social media in a way that protects our Traditions!

RESPONSIBILITY PLEDGE

"I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

This is the Declaration of the 30th Anniversary International Convention, 1965, Toronto, Canada.