

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – ACM JULY 2021

15 July 2021

Well, we are in the Summer of A.A. The excitement of the General Service Conference has passed, the planning phase of the budget process has taken place. We still have two months to go before our next assembly. That is a most important one as the Area will choose the officers who are to serve us for the following two years. Yes, Panel 72 is almost upon us.

I do get a sense that there is a bit of a lull in the activity of General Service. Attendance has been down, even at this monthly meeting. Likewise, the attempt to have our DCMs and our Committee Chairs get together on a regular basis has seen a minority of those participating. The good news is that the hand of A.A. is still out there! I have noticed a steady influx of newcomers at both the in-person and virtual meetings which I attend. And a substantial number of those newcomers are sticking around and picking up chips for months and even a year of sobriety. It still works! I am encouraged by the fact that the Grapevine/La Vina Committee and two districts (6 & 19) are planning workshops for next month.

Tonight, we have two very important items on the agenda (of course they are ALL important). The 2022 Area 8 Spending Plan will be formally presented to this body. At that point it can be widely disseminated and taken to the Groups for discussion. Of course, the final say will come from them at the November Budget Assembly.

We will also receive the proposed draft of the Updated Area 8 Structure and Guidelines. This document has been under review and undergoing updates for more than 2 years. The updates reflect motions and activity which have taken place since the current S&Gs were adopted in 2017. Perhaps you do not have the time or are not currently inclined to read through this document. Please DO read the short (2+ pages) cover memo which explains the process and addresses some of the significant changes. It should be understood that this is a fluid document. As noted in the memo the Policy Committee is still asking for your input. Additional information including a workshop on it will take place between now and the anticipated final vote in November.

It is Areas 8's turn to host the Four Area DCM Sharing Session this year. Saturday July 31<sup>st</sup> 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon is the selected date and time. The content will focus on the theme and items from next year's General Service Conference. DCMs from the participating areas have decided on a PRAASA like format. There will be two speakers, our own Tiffany G., Armed Services Committee Chair, and Billy N., Past Delegate from Area 19 and a Past Class B General Service Trustee. Following the speakers there will be three sessions of open mic sharing on topics for the 2022 Conference.

Zoom for this event: ID: 919 2712 1685 PW: 2021DCM4

Thank you all for your service!

