Alt-Delegate Report / July 2024 ACM / Pacific Regional Forum / SDIAA-Area 08

To my Esteemed Servant Peers,

I apologize for this report being late and not being in attendance at this past week's ACM. It was time for me to detach from all that was part of my everyday life so that I could receive a little restoration of eagerness and motivation towards A.A., work, and home-life. I understand that we have retained the Big Day Assembly date of September 21st, which I am strongly in support of. I have yet to be caught up on the discussion surrounding the proposed 2025 Area Spending Plan. I do hope that there was some talk of shifting the perspective on the importance of accurate accounting of our service work. I once subscribed to a different train of thought than I do now concerning the principle of reimbursing our servants.

The biggest highlight since my June ACM report is my attendance at the Pacific Regional Forum in Las Vegas. My wife and two of our closest friends made the drive from San Diego on Thursday. It was good to have some time before the event to unwind and decompress from the truncated work week. On a personal note, this was my first time in Las Vegas and spending time in a casino since getting sober. This is notable because gambling played a significant role in me reaching my bottom. It really felt like my life coming full circle, and for the record... I did not gamble a single penny while there. I would say that I am proud of myself, but most of the credit goes to this program and God.

There were some familiar faces from New York that I saw at my first Regional Forum in Salt Lake City in 2022. We were all introduced to the new General Service Board Chair, Scott H., and the first Class B to ever fill that service position. His presence actually remakes the composition of the Trustees of the General Service Board; increasing the total number of Trustees from 21 to 22, and Class B (Alcoholic) Trustees from 14 to 15. Yet again, Bob W., the GSO Manager, lifted his leg on top of the podium to show everyone his Bert & Ernie socks. I too was gifted two pairs of new socks from Las Vegas and my vacation in Utah that I will be showing off in the coming months. Although, I will be lift my pant leg to show you all, not lifting it on the podium.

I was asked to participate in the Workshop on Safety in A.A. that our Delegate facilitated on Saturday. The request of me was to take notes on the sharing done by the attendees (my least favorite thing to do in A.A....). Richard emailed out these notes and a summary from the workshop within the last week for all of us to use as a resource. There were several different perspectives offered, in addition to a variety of solutions. The ideas shared can be implemented at the Area, Group, and personal level. The second work shop that I attended was entitled H.A.L.T. for Humility, Acceptance, Love, and Tolerance. There were some impactful shares, but my favorite was an acronym shared by a past Delegate and Trustee, B.L.A.H. - Broke, Lonely, Angry, and Horny....

One of my favorite stories shared involved 7th Tradition contributions and they far reaching effects that they can have. A District in Bend, OR made a motion, that was passed by GSRs, to use contributions to purchase literature and leave pamphlets & books in neighborhood lending libraries. One of the GSRs shared a story of a woman coming to their meeting as a result of some literature that she found in one of those libraries. This an an example of how an open mind and utilizing 7th Tradition funds responsibly and effectively can reach Alcoholics in varying and sometimes unorthodox ways.

Finally, I have drafted a Proposed Agenda Item that I will be presenting at the August ACM for discussion. I look forward to seeing some/most/all of you then.