

**AREA 12 COMMITTEE**  
**MAY 18, 2023**  
**ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT**  
**DELAWARE AREA PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY**

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- Mini-Conference held during the April 15, 2023 Area Assembly at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Dover.
  - Doors & registration opened 9:30 AM though a number of GSR's DCM's and members came early to help and fellowship
  - There were 96 attendees:
    - i. 6 Area officers;
    - ii. 3 Committee chairs (two were past delegates and one a DCM);
    - iii. 7 DCM's/ Alt. DCM's;
    - iv. 5 Past delegates (1 from another Area);
    - v. 64 GSR's/Alt. GSR's;
    - vi. 2 Intergroup liaisons;
    - vii. 12 AA members at large.
  - Guest speaker – Phyllis H., past delegate, past trustee and past General Manager of GSO spoke on carrying the AA message of service.
  - Coffee, donuts & lunch were served; round tables of eights were used to facilitate paper handling, note taking, and food/drinks.
  - Assembly concluded ahead of schedule, before 3 PM.
  
- Pre-cursor to the mini conference:
  - Mini-conference preceded by 4 online meetings on March 9<sup>th</sup>, & 23<sup>rd</sup>, and April 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Meetings were an open forum for DCM's, GSR's and AA members to share experience and ask questions regarding preparation for the mini-conference. Districts & groups encouraged to follow prior experience which demonstrated that those who held extra business meetings to discuss agenda items had a better awareness and more informed discussions.
  - Three of the four meetings were attended by the Delegate who provided information and answered all relevant questions on the issues facing this year's GS conference.

- GS conference agenda items were provided to the Districts via Dropbox links.
  - Only agreed upon/assigned/requested agenda items were provided through the links.
    - i. At NERAASA:
      1. Each District has an assignment,
      2. 2 agenda items - BB plain language, 12x12, and 1 other agenda item.
- Agenda items discussions:
- All Districts considered agenda items relating to the changes in the 12x12 and the simplified language BB – presentations for discussion made by District 4 at the mini-conference.
  - Sponsorship of persons in custody considered and presented for discussion by District 1.
  - Pamphlet for the mental health professional and whether the pamphlet titled “a Member’s-Eye View...” should be retired considered and presented for discussion by District 2.
  - Safety in AA service publication considered and presented for discussion by District 4.
  - Expanding limits on bequests and personal contributions considered and presented for discussion by District 5.
  - Participation of online groups in the service structure considered and presented for discussion by District 6/7.
  - Anonymity in social media considered and presented for discussion by District 12.
  - Fifth edition of the BB and limiting changes to the first 164 considered and presented for discussion by District 13.
- Mini-conference method:
- Utilization of PowerPoint via projector and overhead screen effective tool showing summaries of agenda items in discussion, followed by questions for the assembly to respond to.
  - Published agenda with time allotments for each topic instrumental.
  - Timekeeper was key element to keeping conference on track.
  - Presentation format was a 2-7 minute presentations (length dependent on topic) followed by open mike discussion, 2 minutes per person.

- Length of discussion predetermined and dependent on topic and overall time allotment – our timekeeper, Tom S. was key to success.
  - There were some variances in time allotments due to some topics not garnering the discussion anticipated.
  - Sharing microphone placed front and center of (facing) the assembly, near the podium.
  - No voting on all items; Delegate needs to know the sense of the Assembly on issues. Voting limited to very hot topics.
  - Desired experience: GSR's, being Trusted Servants who carry the right of decision, like delegates at the Conference, take the voice of their groups but may come to know new information and need to make decisions for the good of AA.
- Expenses:
- Significantly over budget due to hall rental.
  - Budgeted \$1,380 based on last year's total expenses.
  - This year's total was \$2,295, \$900+ increase:
    - i. Hall usage almost doubled (\$1,613) – Church sub-let hall with whom we had to contract.
    - ii. Space rental \$750; Audio visual with tech \$500; stage \$150; janitorial 150; and processing fee (\$63)
    - iii. Lunch - \$476
    - iv. Remaining amount for donuts, coffee, supplies, (\$134) and printing (\$71)