

Delegate's Report
June 6, 2004
Saline, MI.

I'd like to welcome everyone to Saline, MI. Before we get into our Conference portion of this assembly, I do have a number of things to report on.

I've been asked to relay this information about the 25th East Central Regional Conference which is being held in Indianapolis, Indiana August 13-15, 2004. There are rooms still available. All the main speaker meetings will be American Sign Language interpreted and Spanish translation will also be available. Also, there is a full Spanish language workshop on the structure of AA. with a G.S.O. staff member participating.

There will be a vacancy for Non-trustee Director of A. A. Grapevine Board in 2005. The opening will be following the General Service Conference in April 2005. Completed resumes should be submitted by August 13,2004.

There will be a vacancy for Non-trustee Director on A.A. World Services Corporate Board in 2005. The opening will be following the General Service Conference in April 2005. Completed resumes should be submitted by August 13,2004.

We will be electing three new Class B (alcoholic) Trustees at the General Service Conference in April 2005: Class B regional Trustees from the East Central and Southeast Regions and Class B Trustee-at-Large/U.S. will be elected to serve four year terms.

We received our Area Group Contribution Statement for the first three months ending March 31,2004. We show 564 groups in our Area, unfortunately we show 30 groups unknown. 20% of groups contributed in 2004, compared to 18% in 2003. Our total contribution was \$10,359.14.

Bill A., our Conference Coordinator for the 54th General Service Conference was admitted into the hospital following the Conference. He was expected to have surgery last week. I haven't received an update on his condition as of last week. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Dates to Remember

East Central Regional Conference	August 13-15, 2004	Indianapolis, IN
Delegates/Past Delegates	February 11 -13, 2005	Detroit, MI
International Convention	June 30 - July 3, 2005	Toronto, Canada
53rd Michigan State Convention	August 26-28 2005	Mt Pleasant, MI

Dennis S., Delegate Panel 53, Area 32, Central Michigan
Bay City, MI 48708-9659

54th General Service Conference Delegate's Report

My wife, Cindy, and I arrived in New York City early Friday morning, April 16,2004. As soon as we checked into our room, Cindy called her friend Paige to make plans to see some of New York. We met Paige and her husband, Mike L., Delegate from Area 24, Iowa and took a "double decker" bus tour. We saw all of Manhattan and most of Brooklyn on a two day bus pass. We had dinner with three other

couples Friday night. My Panel 54 Delegate Buddy, Perry G. Area 63 South Dakota also joined us for dinner.

The Hospitality Room was full of excitement as I met and greeted old and new friends Saturday afternoon. During roll call on Sunday afternoon we were told two Conference members were unable to attend because of illness: Class A Trustee Allan Ault and Class B Trustee Charles B. Two Conference members were admitted to the hospital during the Conference for medical problems: G.S.O. staff member Doug R. and Don M., Area 81, Delegate from New Brunswick, Canada. Both of them were able to rejoin us before the week was over. Our Conference Coordinator, Bill A. shared in his opening remarks to the conference that he had a canister of marbles with him and that if any Conference member felt like they were losing their marbles during the week, please feel free to take some of his.

Once again the presentations were excellent. The International Convention Report stood out and during the report on Archives by Judith Santon, we were able to listen to two recordings of phone calls which featured Bill and Lois W. and Dr. Bob and Anne S. As we discussed agenda items Wednesday night through Friday afternoon, things got pretty emotional and perhaps even a little tense. Words spoken on the Conference floor such as mistrust and betrayal, were answered with phrases like "we love you" and "we understand your passion on this subject". As a Conference, we came together and finished our business late Friday afternoon.

Cindy and I attended a Friday night Yankee game against the Red Sox with Hank S, Area 56 Delegate from Southwest Ohio and his wife Helen (Yankees lost). Our trip to Stepping Stones on Saturday was awesome I would recommend everyone visit there.

After all is said and done, the following two examples remind me what it is all about.

1. I attended the Tuesday night A.A. meeting around the corner after the "Delegates Only" Meeting. About thirty to forty Conference members attended. But after some of us shared it came down to a young female newcomer who was struggling with staying sober and trying to figure out how to live sober. Some Conference members talked with her after the meeting and then I saw her the next morning at the open meeting in our hotel.

2. One of the Delegate's adult daughters was in New York with him and one night she had too much to drink, blacked out, and was missing for a number of hours. The next morning he asked for our prayers and as he was the chairman of his committee, he put his daughter in God's hands and presented his committee agenda items to the conference. The next day, Friday, he shared how she was found and was being taken to an AA. meeting by a G.S.O. staff member.

These two events during the week: one in the beginning of the week and one at the end, just reinforced the spiritual nature of A.A. business during the 54th General Service Conference. Once again, I thank Area 32 for allowing me to be of service as your Area 32, Panel 53, Central Michigan Delegate.

Dennis S., Panel 53, Area 32, Central Michigan Delegate
General Service Conference April 27 - May 3, 2003
Panel53Delegate@cmia32.org