

Do you know what you're a part of? Would you like to?



Concept VII

Long Form:

The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the By-laws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

Short Form:

The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A.'s purse for final effectiveness.

= = = = =
The Twelve Concepts for World Service were written by A.A.'s co-founder Bill W., and were adopted by the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1962. The Concepts are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure as it emerged through A.A.'s early history and experience.

Concept VII - The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

[The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve, Concepts for World Service (BM-31)]

My interpretation is as follows - the next few sentences re-state Concept VII in different ways:

1. This means the Trustees manage all of the world service affairs, but if the delegates (who make up the Conference) disagree - they pull rank. The power of the Conference will nearly always be superior to the legal power of the Trustees.
2. The Trustees hold the Conference accountable by the law, and the Conference holds the Trustees accountable by Tradition. The Trustees are trusted servants. Tradition Two states, "Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."
3. It's like the president of the United States' power to veto congress. 99% percent of the time, the President does not use veto power because congressional legislation largely meets the president's approval.

Therefore, if the Trustees keep in mind that the Conference is the real seat of service authority, we may be sure that neither will be seriously tempted to make a "rubber stamp" out of the other. We may expect that in this way grave issues will continue to be resolved, and harmonious cooperation will be the general rule.

- Malcolm F.



Daily Reflections: July 1st

THE BEST FOR TODAY

The principles we have set down are guides to progress.
— ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 60

Just as a sculptor will use different tools to achieve desired effects in creating a work of art, in Alcoholics Anonymous the Twelve Steps are used to bring about results in my own life. I do not overwhelm myself with life's problems, and how much more work needs to be done. I let myself be comforted in knowing that my life is now in the hands of my Higher Power, a master craftsman who is shaping each part of my life into a unique work of art. By working my program I can be satisfied, knowing that "in doing the best that we can for today, we are doing all that God asks of us."

From the book Daily Reflections
© Copyright 1990 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.



DISTRICT 18 OPEN COMMITTEES

- Archives

"Carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic" and practicing "self-support" includes giving of our time as well as our money. **Please contact our DCM (District Committee Member) at d18dcm@gmail.com** if you or anyone you know is willing to give of your time to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous is around for future generations.



NOTE: All contributors to this newsletter share their experience, strength, and hope in order to be helpful, informational, and to help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

A note from your District 18 Newsletter Chair:

It is my intent to include all Officer and Committee Chair reports in each Newsletter. I will print what is turned in each month.

DCM Report July 2014

Hello District 18 !

We had an Area committee meeting on Saturday June 28th . It took place in Maplewood, Mn.

Lots of highlights from the committee meeting- 7th Tradition Presentation highlighted possible budget/ changes we could make to who is reimbursed for WCRSC- (further info coming to GSRs to discuss with their group).

Dan J., our CPC Chair gave a good presentation on misunderstandings professionals have regarding AA. Some of his list included:

- Do you get a referral fee?
- Is it religious?
- "I thought you were government funded"

Dan shared that he has found it helpful to use our "preamble" in telling professionals who we are. In addition, use the Traditions to tell how we do it.

Lastly he shared the 3 types of professionals he has ran into most often-

- One who know who and what AA is
- People that don't know and really don't care
- People who think they who we are and are wrong

Steve H. presented on "AA appears religious to many" – Highlights:

- Many pamphlets are available to use when presenting to people to help show them why we are not religious. He has a good AA info talk sheet that highlighted these points.
- Many people think we are religious because – many meetings are in a church, use of some biblical prayer, use of word-GOD etc.

Also a great presentation by Katy C. – Anonymity in social media

We have upcoming commitments at the State Fair.....be ready to volunteer and be the best example you can be. Carrying the message to those at the fair- answering their questions and being the positive light shining for all to see. I will continue working on the Rusc committee as we prepare for the 2015 January event.

I am available anytime (well almost anytime) to help- answer questions etc, just call!

In Peace and Service, Karl R.

**D18 Remote Communities and Special Needs
July 2014 Report**

In the last month we delivered literature to the Hennepin County library and sent Braille books to the MN Braille & Talking Book Library in Faribault.

In May the committee was approved to spend up to \$164 on literature. Last month we spend \$119.75 on literature from the GSO.

District 7 split the costs with us so the cost to D18 was:
\$59.88 Literature
\$16.26 Braille shipping
\$76.14 Total cost to District 18

At the end of this month we will be meeting with others in RCSN to give input on what should be included on the new RCSN website which will be hosted on the Area 36 website.
Brad E. - RCSN Chair

A Note from your District 18 Newsletter Chair:

The purpose of the District 18 Newsletter is to keep District 18 A.A. members and groups within District 18 informed

- Do you have a suggestion about the content of this newsletter?
- Are you willing to share your experience, strength, and hope as it relates to the Three Legacies?
- Does your group want more information about General Service and how it implements the Responsibility Statement, ensuring that AA is around for future generations?

If you or your group would like to make a suggestion or need a large-print version, please email me at D18Newsletter@gmail.com

**Polite suggestions will be considered.*

- Thank you for your time, Sarah S.

District 18 Events:

**District 18 meetings take place every 2nd Thursday at 6:30pm ~ Location: Plymouth Congregational Church 1900 Nicollet Ave MPLS 55403*

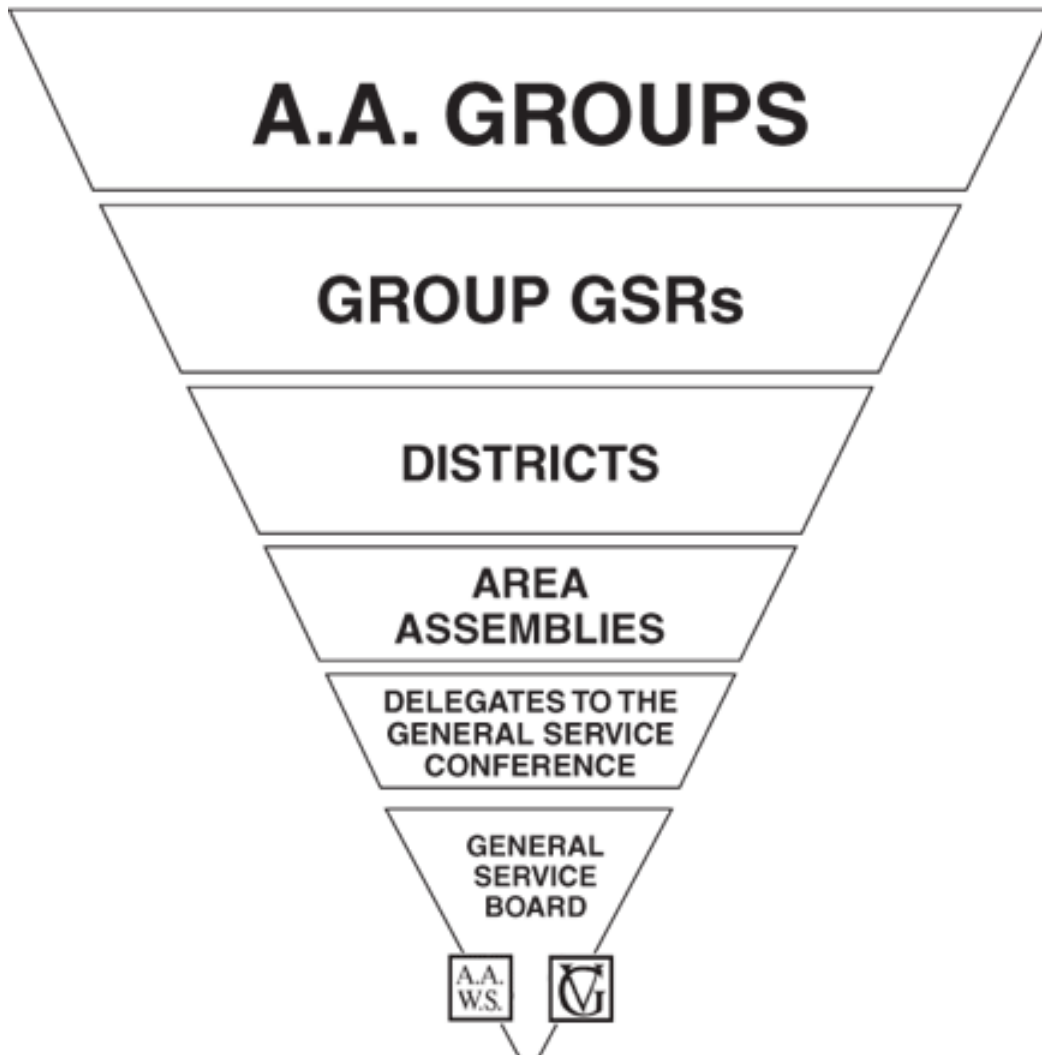
- *The next three dates are: August 14th, 2014, September 11th, 2014, October 9th, 2014*
- *October 4th, 2014 | District 18 Workshop | Sponsorship | The Alt DCM needs volunteers for this workshop. If you are interested in volunteering please email our Alternate District Committee Member (DCM) at: d18altdcm@gmail.com*

**For more information related to District 18 & AA go to <http://www.district18mpls.org/>*

Did you know that the leaders a.k.a. trusted servants of Alcoholics Anonymous do not govern the fellowship? Check it out...

***There are several resources to refer to:** The illustration below, Traditions 2 & 9 in the book titled “The Twelve Steps And Twelve Traditions” or at this website:
http://www.aa.org/bigbookonline/en_appendicei.cfm

STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE (U.S. and Canada)



What is District 18's geographical area?

District 18's Boundaries....

Inner Metro; the Ramsey/v County lines, east of France Avenue, a line following East Hennepin Avenue, from the Ramsey/Hennepin county line, westward across the Mississippi River and north to West Broadway Avenue (County 81) to James Avenue North and south to Golden Valley Road (County 66) west to the Minneapolis/Golden Valley city line then south to France Avenue South and north of Crosstown (Highway 62).

Area 36 Event Calendar

**Area 36 contains Districts within Southern MN, for more information go to www.area36.org.*

- August 9th, 2014 | Area Committee Meeting | Best Western Hotel | 1111 Range St | Mankato, MN 55006
- September 20th, 2014 | Area Inventory | Wooddale Church | 6630 Shady Oak Rd. | Eden Prairie, MN 55344
- September 26th-28th, 2014 | Area 63 (So. Dak) Fall Conference | Ramkota Best Western Inn | 2111 N LaCrosse St | Sioux Falls, SD
- October 18th, 2014 | Area Election Assembly | New Ulm Community Center | 600 N German St | New Um, MN 56073

**For more information related to Area 36 & AA go to: <http://www.area36.org/>*



Other AA Related Events Calendar

**Area 36 contains Districts within Southern MN, for more information go to www.area36.org.*

- August 8th-10th | Keep It Simple Weekend | Camp Chicagami (South of Eveleth, MN)
- September 5th-7th, 2014 | "Bridging the Gap" (Corrections in AA.) Conference | Kansas City, MO | Bridging the Gap 2014 Spring Newsletter | For the registration flyer go to: www.district18mpls.org

**For more information related to Area 36 & AA go to: <http://www.area36.org/>*



District 18 would like to thank...

the following groups for their participation in our primary purpose and their generosity through practicing the Seventh Tradition...

GROUPS THAT CONTRIBUTED IN July 2014:

**I do not have a list of groups to print at this time.*



NOTE: All contributors to this newsletter share their experience, strength, and hope in order to be helpful, informational, and to help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Intergroup Events and Announcements

- **Orientation Meetings & Intergroup Representative Meetings** are now held at:

*Mizpah United Church of Christ
412 5th Avenue N.
Hopkins MN 55343*

**For more information related to Intergroup or AA go to <http://www.aaminneapolis.org/>*



Contact Us

Mailing:

District 18
PO Box 582111
Minneapolis, MN 55458

Email:

DCM (District Committee Member)
d18DCM@gmail.com
Alternate DCM (District Committee Member)
d18AltDCM@gmail.com
Secretary
d18secretary@gmail.com
Treasurer
d18treasurer@gmail.com
Archives Committee
d18archives@gmail.com
Cooperation with Professional Communities Committee
d18cpc@gmail.com
Corrections Committee
d18corrections@gmail.com
Finance Committee
d18finance@gmail.com
Grapevine Committee
d18grapevine@gmail.com
Group Records Committee
d18grouprecords@gmail.com
Literature Committee
d18literature@gmail.com
Newsletter Committee
d18newsletter@gmail.com
Public Information Committee
d18publicinfo@gmail.com
Remote Communities and Special Needs Committee
d18remotecommspecialneeds@gmail.com
Treatment Facilities Committee
d18treatmentfacilities@gmail.com
Website Committee
d18webchair@gmail.com



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.