

MIDWEST ZONAL FORUM
September 28th, 2014
St. Louis, MO

I. OPENING- 09/28/2014

- A. Moment of silence. 10:32AM Serenity Prayer—Opened by John
- B. Service Worker's Prayer: Patti
- C. Introductions
- D. Roll Call: Conducted by Secretary: Sherry E.

Position	Names	Attendance
Co-Facilitator B	John	P
Co-Facilitator A	Open	A
Treasurer	Dave L.	P
Secretary	Sherry E	P
Web Contact	Kevin	P
Chicagoland	Louis (RD) Yulanda (RDA)	P
Greater Illinois	Stacey (RD)	P
Indiana	Michael (RD)	A
Metro Detroit	Greg (RD); Wendell RDA	P
Michigan	Pattie (RD); Marty (RDA)	P
Minnesota	-----	A
Ohio	Charles F. (RD); Brian F. (RDA)	P
Upper Midwest	Jeremey (RD); Tom (RDA)	P
Buckeye	Elmore	P
Wisconsin	(About) 6 Participants from this region Leah, Matt,	P
Florida (World Board Member)	Bob G.	P
Chicagoland (World Board Member)	Jim	P
Metro Detroit	Stuart	P
	Ms. Kitty	P
	Mindy	P

- E. 12 Concepts—Concept 7:..—Brian F
- F. 7th Tradition - Passed
- G. Special Business—Review/Adjust Agenda
- H. Elections
 - Facilitator A: Wes or Stewart—Vote was for Stewart
 - Elections: Dave L.—Yes
 - Secretary: Sherry E.—Yes

II. MZF - TRUSTEED SERVANT REPORTS

- A. Co-Facilitator A—No Report
- B. Co-Facilitator B—No Report
- C. Secretary— Hello Family,

It's a great day to be clean and be of service. And usually this is a generic greeting appreciate for a report but after this weekend it truly has more meaning and depth. It is a privilege and an honor to be able to serve this body and NA as a whole. There are 10 paper copies of the July Minutes available and they were sent out via email on August 11th. Due to the Mailing list still not being able to be updated I did not send the minutes out via the mailing list. There are many people that are still on the list that do not wish to receive emails so I decided to forgo annoying those poor folks any more.

I did attend some of the workshops this weekend. I figured since not everyone could attend all of the workshops I would share some of my notes.

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Narcotics Anonymous: A Vital Resource in Our Community

The attendance from the outside professionals was outstanding. The communication was open and discussion was productive. Some topics discussed were:

- Most of the workshop consisted of the a presentation to the professionals
- The signing of court cards/meeting sheets:
 - o Advise clients if some meetings will not sign court cards.
 - o Areas could list on their schedules if a particular meeting does not sign court cards.
- Drug Court NA Meetings: The professional said that they had such a hard time with members attending outside meetings that they started their own meetings which the clients are chairing.
 - o One member suggested that the Drug Court contact their local H and I committee that they could bring members in to do the meeting.

Inspiring Young People to Serve and Service Motivators: The Good, the Bad, the Ugly.

- Properly preparing the people to serve:
 - o Information Packet and Training Packets
 - Guide to Local Service
 - Policy Manual
 - A Service IP pertaining to that position or service body.
 - o Mentoring the Alternate: the alternate is not always trained and is thrown into service when the RD or RCM can't attend.
 - o Sponsoring into Service: invite sponsees to serve and teach them. How can we expect newcomers to get involved in service if they don't see us serving?
- Stop spreading the negative stigma of service bodies. Example: Area circus instead of Area Service. We are discouraging people to serve when we do this.
- Stop shutting people down when they try to do the same things we did. Help them gain their own experience.

Reporting Tips for GSRs, RCMs, and RDs

I attended this workshop but did not take too many notes since there was a PowerPoint handout.

Getting Out of the Box: Communicating and Collaborating in New Ways

- Where there is willingness God will find away.
- Successful Interaction starts with trust. Making information accessible, understandable and clear amplifies trust and ignites for possibilities.
- In a motion, the wording is more important than the idea. In a proposal, the idea is more important than the wording.
- Global Thinking: Shifting the focus from the local to a worldview.
- Unified Communication Protocol:
 - o Using Skype, Trello, and other technological resources to substitute physical meetings and supplementing some interactions.
- Changing the stigma of the addict. Being mindful of your interactions with professionals and the image of NA we portray.
- The impact that our opinions about service have on the newcomer thinking about service. What we say can encourage or discourage others to serve.
- Keeping Meeting lists with NAWs updated.
- There was a focus on the Mentoring and sponsoring newcomers into service.

Need input on Traditions 7-12

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I will be seeking reimbursement 50.00 for the cost of the hotel Saturday night that was shared with the MZF treasurer. I did not effectively note the consensus regarding the MZF pamphlet. We did have 500 copies and Dave L. has those details. This has been corrected in the July Minutes

In Loving Service,
Sherry E.

D. **Treasurer**— Attached

It has been requested from the treasurer to hold donation checks and bring them to MZF rather than send them via mail. Discussion was had and the conclusion

E. **Web Contact**—

Notes from last meeting

- Discussion boards have been removed
- Minnesota has been removed from all locations I found
- Regional text matches pamphlet
- New logo was incorporated prior to end of meeting
- Buckeye Region has been added
- Calendar is current with what's available
- Homepage typos corrected

Virtual conferencing options

- Skype looks to be the best free option for us. It allows for more participants and full file sharing functionality.
- Elmore from Buckeye was the only member not able to attend today I heard from that was interested in participation this time. Although I don't believe the email list I used was complete, please refer to the next section.

Ongoing issues

- Mailing list still inaccessible. I will dig deeper into this before the next meeting
- Banner in header still not working

Upcoming

- I plan on exploring the possibility of migrating the current site to the WordPress platform. This is a more user friendly platform for a no technical person to be able to interact with. Doing so would allow other members the ability to make minor changes and additions if needed. It will also be beneficial to whomever follows me in this position be better able to fulfill the duties required.

ILS,
Kevin G.

III. REGIONAL REPORTS

- A. **Buckeye**— Received copy of last Buckeye regions minutes. It appears that all is going well. Positions are being filled, events are happening, and the message is being carried.
- B. **Chicagoland**— Greetings from Chicagoland!
ILS,
Louis H., Chicagoland RD
Yulanda T., Chicagoland RDA
- C. **Greater Illinois**— I have nothing to report. In loving service, Stacy M.—217-419-2203—slippery_frog@yahoo.com
- D. **Indiana**—Indiana region continues to function well and all positions in the region are filled. We now have 12 areas in the region, due to seating a new region named East Central Area of Narcotics Anonymous (Anderson, IN). We have continued to make contributions to NAWA. Based on the information obtained at the WSC on zonal representation the region has a motion to contribute funds to the MZF on quarterly basis. This motion will be

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brought to the October regional meeting. Our region continues to have some ambiguity about the SSP, but were planning to have some workshops to inform the areas of the SSP. We have passed out flyer's for all the current and future activities in our region and hope that other regions will support these activities if possible. The Indiana regional PR chair and Central area have joined to facilitate a PR & H&I Learning Day on October 11, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN. The flyer is posted on the IRSC website. We are currently planning for the ISNAC XXII convention on March 6-8, 2015. The address to the Radisson Hotel is 800 East 81st Avenue Merrillville, IN 46410. All of these events and future events can be viewed on the IRSC website.

E. **Metro Detroit**—

- F. **Michigan**—Hi family The Michigan region is doing ok. I was officially voted into the RD position at our last regional meeting in June. At that meeting we voted to meet every 3 months instead of every other. Not sure how that's gonna work. We will see. Our regional convention was over the July 4th weekend we had 1100 registration packets and we ran out. So attendance was a great success. We do have an alternate delegate name Marty D. He was unable to attend. Hopefully he can go to the symposium cuz I may not be able to. However I'm gonna try because I don't like to miss anything. We do and will contribute 100 dollars to the mzf. Our phone line is doing great. Saving areas lots of money. We are also inventorying our archives. We are still doing the sponsorship behind the walls and its been kinda busy lately with sponsor request. And usually only one round of correspondence transpires. Which is discouraging to the sponsors. That's all for now. Thanks for the opportunity

G. **Minnesota**—Not Participating at this time.H. **Ohio**— Hello family

ORSCNA is alive and well still with 16 areas, the RDA and I are changing the RCM/RD mtg in an attempt to make it more productive for our RCMs and Groups.

Brian and I are in the planning stages for the next MZF which we are planning to inc with the TACNA Conv. Feb 14/15, using what we have learned from the MZSS weekend, we will especially focus on the GSF and GSU, and how to encourage and inform Groups on some of the benefits that have come from the testing of the SSP by NaWS, we are sincerely hoping to have some definite direction for our Zone for the current cycle to show our members what we are capable of in service to our individual groups.

ILS, Charles F.—ORSCNA RD

I. **Wisconsin**—J. **Upper Midwest**: Hello all Ya'll,

We do not have much to report regarding the Upper Midwest Region other than current struggles we have been facing. Issues mostly consist of lack of trusted servants; such as no one stepping up to take the Chair position of the Activities Committee for our convention that takes place in November, low attendance at the RSC, difficulty filling positions such as Chair of the RSC, and members holding more than one position. Several of the UMRSC members have been talking about having recovery events before or after the UMRSC meeting, in the past this has boosted our attendance however have gotten away from such events.

One reason as to why the UMR has not been in attendance as of the last year is due to concerns and distractions with financial issues from a major loss in funds after a recent event, along with the concerns mentioned in the above paragraph. There are several members that have been attending the UMRSC who believe attending the MZF is extremely important and will be speaking in favor for the attendance of the UMR at the MZF.

In Grateful Service,

Jeremy T. & Tom W.

Regional Delegate Team

Upper Midwest Region

K. **Other visiting regions**—No Reports from Visiting Regions

IV. Subcommittee/Adhoc Reports

None

V. Prioritize list of topics for discussion

- A. Workshop: Excellent Regional Service
- B. Conference Planning Cycle
- C. Meeting Virtually More Often vs. Face-to-Face Meetings: Brian and Kevin will be collaborating to create a Skype account to get this processing.
- D. The possibility to move to zonal representation. Bring back from your regions how you voted at the last Conference so we can compare what we look like as a zone. Do our votes match up?

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VI. Basic Services

- A. **Elections** -Done in the of the meeting
- B. **Financial decisions**—
- C. **7th Tradition**: Already Passed
- D. **Financial Announcement**
- E. **Next meetings**—Our next meeting will be held at Toldeo Convention of NA.