

# MIDWEST ZONAL FORUM

September 17-18, 2011

Indianapolis, IN

## I. Opening

- A. Moment of silence. 8:25 am. Serenity Prayer
- B. Reading of the Servant Worker's Prayer – Read by Les.
- C. Introductions
- D. Roll Call. Will wait until 10am since the agenda time was changed.
- E. 7th Tradition – Will take later
- F. Reading one of the Concepts from booklet. Read Concept 2.
- G. Special Business/Review-Adjust Agenda  
Service Structure Workshop – Service System Project will be done by Dave and Michael J.

## II. MZF - Trusted servant reports

- A. Co-Facilitator A – John. Made agenda and talked with Michael about set up. Concerns that there was no flyer for this event were made and he apologized for not doing that.
- B. Co-Facilitator B-J.J. – Not present.
- C. Secretary – Dianne. I have copies of the minutes and phone list. I also have a sample tri-fold to explain what the MZF does. I will be unavailable from Nov. 15 – February and the group will need to find a new secretary if there are projects that need to be done besides the minutes and to take minutes for February. I will not be back for the February meeting. (Note- Les, Michael J and Dave said they gave me a written report from last meeting. Minutes will be revised if copies are sent to me again.)

Treasurer – Blynn. The register and fund flow is attached. My reimbursement is covered with the web contact's request. We will have the same issue this meeting with signing trusted servants checks, the requests will be submitted by the Co-facilitator and Web Contact and will be signed by the Secretary and Treasurer. In the interest of transparency I want to let everyone know that because I forgot to mail a deposit we were charged in "insufficient funds" fee. I covered the cost of the fee because it was definitely my fault and both the fee and my payment are included in the register. I will finish bringing the MZF "history" on the web page up to date. In loving service, Blynn M

- D. Web Contact – Bob. Between March 2011 and June 2011 there were 369 visits to the MZF website by 301 individual visitors. 73.98% of the views were first time visitors to the site. The 301 visitors viewed 1548 separate pages on the site.

During the period between August 15 – September 15, 2001 there have been 166 visits to the MZF website by 131 individual visitors. 69.83% of the views were first time visitors to the site. The 131 visitors viewed 836 separate pages on the site.

During the past two months we have seen improvement in response time getting things posted to the site –especially event flyers, agendas etc. The current problem is getting expired files and information off the site. In order to facilitate this, our Web servant has given me administrative privileges to the site. It is now up to me to learn how to utilize this access without damaging our site. Jason has agreed to work with me on this, but I need to do a little up-front research to optimize the time he spends working with me. I'm excited about the potential that this will open up for us. As the potential for our site grows, developing a functional Web Committee will become a necessity. To date, there has not been much for a working committee to do. I anticipate that will change during the next quarter and plan to reach out to some people who have been involved with the MZF in the past who have experience with web development and cutting edge communication.

Our site's discussion boards continue to be underutilized. I neglected to add posting instructions for using and subscribing to the discussion boards to the mailing list, along with instructions on how to immediately unsubscribe to the MZF Mailing list to my "MZF To Do" list so it did not happen. I will rectify that oversight. Some members requested that I initiate a number of discussion threads after the last meeting. To date, they have not been used.

As always, I welcome any suggestions on how we can make more effective use of our website.  
ILS, Bob M.

## III. Regional reports

- A. Chicagoland – Kathy, RD. Verbal report.

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B. Greater Illinois- Sally. Greetings to all! Hope everyone is doing well. Our region recently purchased the PSA's and are awaiting their arrival so we can go out to the television stations and hopefully start seeing them on our local stations soon. Our regional convention is right around the corner – November 4-6 in Champaign, IL with the theme of Seek...Connect...Understand hope to see some of you there! Emails went out today from our Regional Chair to seek willingness to chair the next convention for 2012 in Bloomington, IL. Some of our Areas are really struggling with the spirit of rotation and willingness to serve so we are talking about having some mini learning days and small groups to “light the fire” in the newer members and wake up the old folks who may have gotten complacent. In loving service, Sally J. and Lee C.

C. Indiana Michael D, RD. Verbal report. Lots of events happening in the state. Welcome to Indiana.

D. Metro Detroit- Gene, RD. Verbal report.

E. Michigan – Les, RD. Michigan Region's MZF Report

Hello Family, hope you all have been doing well since last we met in Upper Mid West. The Michigan Region has been moving along on new and ongoing projects. Our Regional Convention, MRCNA, did very well financially this year. We replaced \$5,000 seed money for next years Convention and paid \$2,000 in back tax's our new treasurer found out we owed. I believe we still had \$8,833 to deposit. We should have final figures by our next Meeting.

We've updated our Convention Guidelines that eliminated Additional Needs and placed their duties into other committees. Our obtaining liability insurance is still ongoing, as is our Regional phone line, but after years of work, we are very near in our phone line endeavor. It has been in the trial stages for a few months now and we haven't been able to crash it. I believe we will not have the participation we expected when we first started the project, but it will be available for those who may want to come on board later. Another ongoing issue is our looking into liability insurance. Our treasurer is doing a wonderful job in his new position. We have also put into new business talking about re-creating subcommittees for H&I, PI, and whatever may work out better than one contact person under the PR umbrella. It just seems like we lost a lot by doing that! Any feedback would be appreciated.

We sent a favorable response about the US Delegate Roundtable letter that was sent to all of us, and probably need to discuss here if we're willing to give up our Zonal time slot??

We have a motion/discussion about reimbursements; only ½ of hotel room, and only if it's 90 miles or more. All mileage, but must be 90 miles or more also.

We sent a \$100 donation to the MZF after our June Meeting, and are waiting for final figure from MRCNA and an estimate of our RDA's Conference budget before sending a extra World donation out of the Convention profits. ILS, Les P.

F. Minnesota- Not present

G. Ohio – Dave, RD. Read report and had copies for everyone. He thought he sent me his report from the last MZF and will get that one to me as well. Ohio Regional Report to Midwest Zonal Forum – Sept. 17, 2011. Hello Midwest Zonal Family and Greetings from the Ohio Region, Since our last Zonal Forum meeting, the Ohio Regional Service Committee (RSC) has met only once – on July 9th & 10th, in Fairborn, OH with only nine of our fourteen areas represented. Elections were held for regional trusted servant positions, and only 2 positions remain open (Vice Treasurer & Vice Webmaster). We'll be meeting again in two weeks in Troy, OH.

We briefly discussed the additional information we've gathered regarding the United States Fellowship Assembly / US Service Conference “movement”, and re-affirmed our decision to send representation to the next meeting of the USFA on Oct. 28th-30th in Tulsa, OK – not to endorse or oppose this “movement” or participate in any decision-making, but simply to remain aware & informed. There has been some level of dissent with this decision that has been expressed from members within the Region but, as yet, the Regional body feels that it is prudent to send someone that will bring back first-hand information.

We have assembled a list of upcoming events in the Ohio Region. Information on these and other upcoming NA functions may also be found on our Region's website – <http://www.naohio.org>. One

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of these events will be the MZFNA / Multi-Regional CAR/CAT Workshop which will be held the weekend of Feb. 10th-12th at the Holiday Inn Express in Perrysburg, OH. At our last MZF meeting we developed a suggested agenda for the weekend, and a request for participation from Narcotics Anonymous World Services (NAWS) and/or World Board (WB) has been sent and approved. Copies of the flyer & draft agenda are attached.

We have brought with us a donation to the Midwest Zonal Forum in the amount of \$100.00.

Thanks again to our higher power and Narcotics Anonymous for another day clean, and for allowing us the opportunity to serve our Ohio Region and the Midwest Zonal Forum.

In Loving Service, David L., ORSCNA RD & Charles F., ORSCNA RDA

Following is a list of upcoming events in the Ohio Region:

- Sept. 23-25, 2011 HAMASCNA's Recovery In The Woods  
Aaron's Canoe Livery, Morrow, OH
- Sept. 23-25, 2011 SASCNA's "The Keys To Freedom" Area Convention  
Quality Inn Conference Center, Springfield, OH
- Oct. 1-2, 2011 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting, (MVASCNA Hosting)
- Oct. 7-9, 2011 Ohio Region's 24th Annual 12 Step Spiritual Retreat  
Tar Hollow State Park, near Chillicothe, OH
- Nov. 25-27, 2011 GCASCNA's "Unity Weekend II"  
Kings Island Resort & Conference Center, Cincinnati, OH
- Jan. 6-8, 2012 COACNA XXIII (Central Ohio Area Convention)  
The Columbus Renaissance Hotel, Columbus, OH
- Jan. 14-15, 2012 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting, (COASCNA Hosting)
- Feb. 10-12, 2012 MZFNA / Multi-Regional CAR/CAT Workshop  
Holiday Inn Express, Perrysburg, OH
- Feb. 17-19, 2012 TACNA XV (Toledo Area Convention)  
(location to be determined)
- April 14-15, 2012 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting, (SASCNA Hosting)
- May 11-13, 2012 Ohio Region's 5th Annual 12 Traditions Retreat  
Tar Hollow State Park, near Chillicothe, OH
- May 25-27, 2012 OCNA 30 (Ohio Convention) – hosted by Ohio Region  
Crowne Plaza Columbus North, Columbus, OH
- July 6-8, 2012 DASCNACC IX (Dayton Area Convention)  
Crowne Plaza, Dayton, OH
- July 14-15, 2012 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting, (MOASCNA Hosting)
- Aug. 28-30, 2012 GCASCNA's Abnormal Weenie Jam  
Kincaid Lake State Park, near Falmouth, KY

H. Upper Midwest – Not present

I. Wisconsin – Bill, RDA. Will email his report.

J. Other visiting regions – Buckeye Region. Craig. Considering joining the MZF.

BRSCNA Midwest Zonal Forum Report. 9-17-2011. Hello Family, We are glad to be attending today representing the Buckeye Region. I am Craig S. our RD from Canton, Ohio. Also attending today is Doug S. from Cleveland, Ohio.

For the past number of years, perhaps a decade our region has sent delegates to the Northeast Zonal Forum. In recent years we have discussed the merits of attending this forum. As a region we are looking for a zonal home and some of us have assumed that perhaps attending the Midwest was an appropriate option to consider, considering our shared geopolitical boundaries.

Some things about the Buckeye Region:

Our 7 areas include the Northeast Ohio Cities of Cleveland, Akron, Canton and Youngstown.

We meet at our regional business meeting the second Saturday of each of even month in Kent, Ohio.

Our meetings are usually about 2-3 hours. Our committee typically has one half to three quarters of

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positions filled and 2 to five of our 7 area are typically represented. RCM attendance has improved in the last year.

We have approximately 188 meetings and 50 H and I panels are held each week.

We conducted 6 workshops with about a total of 80 participating members on the Service System Proposals over the past year. We gave input directly to the Board via the input form at na.org. in late December. This issue was the cause of great concern and interest from many members last fall and early spring. The resulting discussions have resulted in identifying problems with information distribution around the region about WSC process and content. As a result additional focus on helping trusted servants improve lines of communication via workshops, learning days and special segments at area meetings as well as through informal discussions among members took place. We have struggled with money issues in the past year. Due to a PO box change leading to missed bills our phone line operation was briefly at risk of being shut off. Recently the proceeds from our state convention added sufficient funds to secure our phone line and zonal and WSC attendance for the next 10 months or so.

Some other region issues: Sometimes challenging regional meeting environment. Guidelines for convention created to address conflict with area regarding proceeds distribution.

H and I going well without regional position filled for awhile.

Some great participation and interest in workshops.

Workshops and region discussion leading to more accurate communication between world and local fellowship. Recovery Meetings going well. Some regions increase participation in recent year. Some due to hosting convention. IIS, Craig S. Buckeye RD

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Service Structure Workshop – Service System Project was chaired by Dave and Michael J. from 1pm to 3pm. This workshop was on the MZF agenda but not the convention agenda. No one from the convention attended. Two RCM's from Chicagoland attended so the workshop was held.

Meeting reconvened at 3:40. Roll call was done and the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition was passed.

### **IV. Subcommittee/Adhoc Reports**

None

### **V. Prioritize list of topics for discussion**

Tri-fold of what the MZF does - 1

WSC Report - 7

Nominations to send to World - 2

Time slot for USSC meetings - 4

Subcommittee- contact person - 5

Service workshop and attendance - 3

USFA info - 6

### **VI. Basic Services**

- A. Approval of minutes. Corrections: Added Bill, WI RD, report to minutes. Add Les, Michael J and Dave's and then approved as amended
- B. Elections – Need Secretary. Dianne resigned.
- C. Financial decisions – Should a donation be made for the room. Yes was consensus. Per treasurer based on our balance, the consensus was to donate \$150 to Indiana hosting.
- D. Next meetings. Ohio (agenda done), and then the conference.

### **VII. Topics/ Discussion**

1. Tri-fold of what the MZF does
2. WSC Report – Bob is drafting a PowerPoint.
3. Nominations to send to World – Bob was nominated and accepted as the MZF's referral for the co-facilitator position for the conference.

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4. Time slot for USSC meetings – A lengthy discussion took place regarding a letter from south Florida that was emailed to RD's requesting if the zones wanted to give up conference time to discuss the service structure within the US. The letter was separate than the USFA project. No consensus was reached after the discussion was stopped.
5. USFA info- Covered in the discussion above
6. Service workshop and attendance. – Food. Naming the workshop so it doesn't sound like service. Advertisement and promotion. Starts with one on one and then group level. Workshops that are well planned. (Bob has a project plan if anyone wants it.) Disguise speaker meetings with a speaker that talks about service. At the area level, change agenda around to keep people at the meeting. Subject of the workshop being controversial brings in more people. Get areas to fund RCM's to come to workshops and MZFs. Service workshops at conventions do not mix well because most of the service people are running the convention and the NA members are at a convention for other reasons than service meetings. MZF business meetings are not attractive at a convention for people who have paid registration fees to participate in the convention. The lingo in the service meetings can be confusing. We could have a table or booth to talk about us. If the workshop had a dedicated time slot with a workshop room, people tend to come. A catchy title like, "Confessions of a Coffee Maker" (Les). All levels of service will require a different approach to get people sparked up about attending workshops. Do different topics. Invite different people from other areas.
7. Subcommittee- contact person / Profile use from NAWs Get the pool list from NAWs from our region so we can also utilize the skills of those people. Get the resumes on the web site.
8. Bill, WI, needs some information on what is needed to plan a planning meeting. He was directed to get together with the co-facilitators. The planning meeting is the first meeting after the WSC. The planning meeting is not an event. We need a full day to do the MZF planning. A multi-regional workshop would require a full day. After Wisconsin is Chicagoland so we can plan for it to be in Chicago in 2013.
9. NAWs cash – Discussed the transparency of the salaries of the director and assistant director. Thought to be \$240K and \$180K respectively. Extravagant parties for the BOD were observed by some NA members. The actual numbers are thought to be kept private but the range is probably given to the fellowship in reports. Financial reports are hard to read. Financial tax reports are public but hard to find for the average person. NAWs lease is up so they should look at moving out or at least partly out, of California to save money. Everyone should check out the facts before spreading information, which includes the information in this paragraph.

**VIII. Closing business (Announcements, Next Meeting, Hugs, Prayer...)**

Book your hotel early for the MZF meeting in Ohio.