

## February 2013 Midwest Region GSR Teleconference Minutes

February 16, 2013

Vice Chair opened call. Group recited Serenity Prayer in unison. Vice Chair read Tradition 2 and Concept 2.

Attendees: Homewood IL  
Elmhurst IL  
Naperville IL  
Shawnee KS  
Maryland Heights MO (GSR and Alternate)  
RSC Members: Vice Chair  
Delegate  
Secretary

**Teleconference Minutes.** Teleconference minutes from January were unanimously approved as submitted.

**Treasurer Reports.** Treasurer Reports were unanimously approved as submitted.

### OUTREACH

**Cabin Fever 2013 Review.** This convention was held at Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, the first weekend of February. Was attended by approximately 800 NA members. There were a number of very valuable workshops available via rotation. Nine Nar-Anon members attended. These individuals attended workshops as well as helped staff a Nar-Anon literature table. This was the first NA meeting attended by Maryland Heights GSR where there was an expense to have a literature table (\$25). There was a request that reimbursement of this expense be discussed during the next meeting of the RSC. Vice Chair committed this would be added to the March RSC teleconference Agenda.

**Outreach Committee Update.** Outreach Committee Chair was not on the line. The February Monthly Challenge was created by the Outreach Committee. The details of the challenge were distributed to all GSRs two weeks prior and they were asked to share this information with their NFGs.

### Upcoming NA Conventions

- Indiana State NA Convention, South Bend Mar 8 - 10
  - Is a good convention and is well attended. This meeting does move from year to year, changing location in order to increase access to convention resources throughout the state.
  - Planning for a literature table a minimum of 1 day (possibly more).
- Philadelphia Nar-Anon Conference March 1 - 3
  - Good meeting. Break out sessions and guest speakers provide excellent content.
  - Historically attended by approximately 200 – 300 Nar-Anon members.
- MARCNA, Lawrence, KS Apr 5 – 7
  - KC Nar-Anon will be supporting with their attendance and will have a literature table
- RRCNA, Rockford Apr 26 - 28
- Kentuckiana, Evansville, IN Mar 29 - 31
- World Convention for NA and NarAnon, Philadelphia Aug 29 – Sept 1
- St Louis Area Convention for Narcotics Anonymous, St Louis Nov 15 - 17
- GIRCNA, Galesburg, IL Nov 15 – 17

- An individual from GIRCNA (the Convention Chair) visited the Nar-Anon literature table at the Cabin Fever and expressed his desire to have Nar-Anon support this meeting
- **WSO Website.** Improvements are being made. GSRs were asked to visit the site to insure their meeting information is accurate and complete. To visit, go to [www.naranon.org](http://www.naranon.org). GSR feedback was that it was a well organized site.
- **Regional Website.** Rod S and Teri S are working to get domains transferred. There has been discussion on design. Hope to have something for GSRs to review by next month's teleconference.

## UNITY

### Planning for 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly.

- This meeting will be held on October 19, 2013.
- There is still a search underway to identify volunteer home groups.
- Homewood GSR is certain a location could be found – but there is a minor concern as to whether the space would accommodate the Assembly.
- Hotels in Chicagoland can be expensive and if not, can be located in less than desirable areas. Work will need to be done to find economical accommodations for those travelling in.
- There have been some conversations among the groups but no commitment has formally been made in terms of hosts, co-hosts.

**Problem and Solution Discussion.** The **Issue:** what can be done when Newcomers want info on good rehabs, good sober living homes, information on meds; how can the discussion be re-directed. GSRs shared potential **Solutions.**

- NarAnon does not make recommendations – but if there is interest in discussing further, individuals can share their personal experiences after the meeting.
- Resource lists of treatment programs, halfway houses were compiled and made available to members. Lists contain no Nar-Anon logo and it is clearly stated that these are in no way recommended by the organization but instead individuals must do their due diligence in making a decision as to what may be appropriate in their situation.
- Refer newcomers to a non-biased third party that acts as clearing house for information (NCADA and/or "First Call").
- If there are direct questions from Newcomers regarding meds, it is suggested that this be addressed after the meeting in one-on-one conversations with other members.
- Added language to their scripted comments regarding the fact that Nar-Anon does not support or endorse any specific treatment facility or halfway house.
- If the group conversation moves to this type of discussion, any group member has the right to suggest that the discussion be held until after the meeting.
- Secretary requested that anyone who has compiled resource documents forward them in and they will be distributed to other GSRs as "For Your Information".
- Any suggestions for Problems/Solutions for future calls, please forward them to Secretary for consideration for inclusion during future calls.

**Showcasing Home Groups.** Wish to continue this practice. Vice Chair requested a volunteer. No one came forward.

## ACTION ITEMS

- GSRs are encouraged to visit the WSO website and confirm their meeting information is accurate and complete ([www.naranon.org](http://www.naranon.org))

- Chicagoland GSRs are asked to talk with their home groups about potential interest in hosting or co-hosting the next Annual Assembly. The date has been set -- October 19, 2013 – and now we need hosts/co-host NFGs to commit.
- GSRs are asked to forward any resource documents they have created to Secretary. These will be shared with other MidWest Region GSRs.
- GSRs are encouraged to provide Problem/Solution topics for future calls. These are to be forwarded to Secretary.
- Any GSR willing to Showcase their home group during the March teleconference should alert Chair of their interest.