

GRAPEVINE Roundtable – Friday, March 2, 2018

Introductions and Service Positions for Angela, Shannon, Pat, Ami, Roseanne, Justin, Gary, Jennifer, Ian, Gina, Tom, Amy, Bryce, Jamie and Ginger.

TOPICS – What topics would you like to cover?

1. Other Areas – Chairs, What is your commitment. Past Delegates promoting GV
2. Use of technology / social media – what GV is doing
3. What goes on a display, copyrights?
4. Gift subscriptions to get more than one copy
5. Is it appropriate to have GV literature at meetings? Discussion on decline of print and increase of on-line version.
6. Discussion of decline of print subscription and increase of on-line version.

1. Are GV Reps taking over promotion of GV from Past Delegates?

- Area Chairs is a GV position. The service structure wanted to add support with Past Delegates taking part in this – they are supplemental to GV chair.
- There are no quotas at any level of GV service. There is a handbook and it has a tremendous amount of ideas.
- Conference call was Agendas brainchild and it worked, it motivated as a way to connect.
- Goal of Area 18 to hit all districts, to encourage purchase, involvement and increase information about GV, Workshops, H & I, etc.
- Magazine, books, videos and all the different things available – inform your groups.
- Have fun with it – Goal of a workshop, district having a unity day, record your story workshop. Emphasis that its 12 step work to submit a story.
- GV Chair is available for district, assemblies, 3-4 writing workshops including La Vina. Make ourselves available – exciting and fun.
- There is no sobriety requirement to submit a story, record members of your group.
- Visit each district as a goal. Get together with PI and CPC to find areas that you can work in common. Buy 2 subscriptions and give them away.
- Area 42 appointed, give reports at Intergroup and sit in on steering committee meetings. GVR get cost of magazines “fronted” by Intergroup. Attend all events in the area – round up, gratitude day, bring literature with you.

- Take a clipboard from the PRAASA GV display room, get involved with this area's project.
- One year of sobriety = buy them a subscription, get them hooked and they will buy net one. Have the group buy birthday subscriptions.
- GVRs have a spiel ready to present during meeting announcements. What is involved is whatever you make the commitment to be.
- GV Writing Workshops – send the articles to GV at the end of the workshop.
- Invite Ami, get delegates involved on flyer and possibly a GSC member, maybe a recorded message or skype from someone from GV NYC.
- Trustees and non-trustee directors on GV board would be happy to hear from you and potentially get intimately involved.

2. Use of Technology

- GV You Tube channel with limited and interesting things. PSA videos, visit to printing plant. At the early stages and would love input and ideas. The conference committee is looking at instagram, Google for non-profits and other ideas like FB and Linkd-in.
- Membership feedback project coming soon.
- Media vs. Recovery Media. Fee? Control over Ads? Affiliation vs. the way Media works. Not formally announced You Tube Channel - FYI
- Opinion – it's an AA issue not a GV issue. Younger population gets all its information from phone and social media. This is where people are. We must go there. Email is old fashion. Text messaging? GV pop ups on Instagram? 50555 text AALV for Quote of the Week.
- Tens of thousands subscribers. SMS on an opt in basis works. Roll out requires opt in and we may be able to see it in a few months. Will GVRs be willing to give feedback on soliciting SMS?
- Business FB page. No comments
- Is You Tube reviewing only? Like/No Likes / No Comment
- 9 people produce the Grapevine! WOW

3. Copyright information on Display Boards

- Display from Website. Scanned covers from website.

- When in doubt, don't.
- Posters and post cards are there for us to use.
- Power point ok to drag and drop.

4. Free Subscription

- was told that free subscription/gift not available for 2 in the same house. He was told something not accurate.
- 30 pack of GV, carry the message project, gift cards
- Anyone with a subscription can find out if they have been delivered. The office is your office, we are there to help you.

5. Literature at table in Meetings

- Is it appropriate to have GV magazines and books on the literature table at meeting? YES. Each meeting is autonomous – also announcement are good.
- Grapevine Games – grassroots page of info available. Recording studio and lots of fun was had at the State Convention.
- Monthly Birthday raffle
- Put games in minutes to share ideas.
- Next books due out – AA and the Military ; Atheist and Agnostic stories. Also “One on One” book will be translated. Read stories at meetings or with sponsees.

6. Less people reading print vs. on-line. Balance changing?

- GV doesn't advertise or promote which has been central to this business. It is a shrinking environment, slower here than industry standards.
- GV digital = three years ago – launched the app – there was a migration and most wanted it like this.
- 30% get print and digital. Ageing Fellowship base but many copies go to institutions, etc. Majority of subscribers are print.
- Conference Topic this year is outside sales. ? Promote it to Box 459 folks.
- Presenting something is very different from Promoting something. Still not reaching out.

- A way to utilize AAWS data base – at international this was a huge infusion to subscriptions.
 - PSAs similar to You Tube information giving vs. selling. Information available.
 - Group list for opt in for text messages – 30 days must be given to change the nature of our permission agreements.
 - Something more interactive would be cool, with web pages.
 - Evolution of GV 3 yr plan – working on membership feedback, important to move forward.
 - Trade specific is being looked into.
 - Evolution of involvement with younger generation has these conversations of possibilities, that give us the opportunity to grow.
 - J pay defacto kiosk of how they receive media, we have to respond to them changing and revolutionizing our vista. This is a huge part of us changing.
 - AAWS and GV blending – um, lots of issues here. “It’s the Voice” although today there is much more cooperation.
 - Website is awesome. Activities, etc. research. New Website – will be even better. Gv store is new right now, 8 yrs ago these things didn’t even exist. Google Ad Wrods – we will be there. We will be easier to find.
 - Looking to have explainer, videos on you tube, basic how to for GV Reps.
 - Carry the message, developed out of workshops just like this one. Contributions vs. local area needs. Once filled out GV can use the funds. Other option is to call GV office and corrections has needs and a list of recipients. More understanding of the program is better. Its on the website.
 - Opt in for SMS can be done by all of us as home group members, pass around an “opt in” list.
 - Conference approves 5 new titles for new books, 12 month hiatus for discussion on penitential new books.
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GRAPEVINE ROUNDTABLE Sat., March 3, 2018

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

1. How to conduct a GV Workshop
2. Home Groups or District use to generate Enthusiasm
3. Technology vs. App
4. Grapevine Games
5. Incorporating GV into your Group Format

1. How to conduct a GV Workshop

- Advertise ahead of time
- Reading articles from local members that were published
- Explain how to submit your story
- Food – lots of food
- Website has guidelines for workshops, also audio recording workshops
- Invite members with experience by contacting from District to GSo members
- Include workshops on all AA events GV
- Tell member what happened to their stories once they are received
- Your stories can be published or can be posted on-line, participate with stories, art and photos.

2. Home Groups or District Use to Generate Enthusiasm

- Groups use GV books to choose topics to discuss at meetings with new stories
- Read one article from new books that could be very moving to the members.
- Use presenters on workshops with newsletter, audio, writing, cast, jokes.
- Raffle subscriptions of GV
- Play audios from archives or relevant topics or concerns ie atheist/agnostics
- Collect coins in a bag to save enough to buy a subscription and raffle it off.
- Reminder that GV can be used as a 12 step tool

-Write stories from members that just got out of jail, use or contact Corrections to share articles from members.

- Using GV as a gift for birthdays, using old issues as meeting topic generators.
- Grapevine is AA approved literature
- Always share your passion.
- Use Archives, Bill's writings in Grapevine, History of the Magazine and Background
- Use Serenity Prayer from the back of the magazine and remind people to renew
- Subscription Challenge – we need your support at GV, Inc. Your state could win , create excitement on this challenge.
- Call the office for whatever you need
- Grapevine meetings that can increase subscriptions and keep them informed.
- Have Chairs or coordinators register with Area Registrar to receive package.
- We discussed a little about when a GVR stops or is not capable to do their job. Be clear of what the position is and what the group expects, group autonomy comes 1st.
- Register with GV / LV and get the resources you need
- GV will be releasing anew book in April about AA on the Military
- Go to aa.grapevine.org

3. Technology vs. App

- Getting GV is easy, renewing het a little difficult. Android has some difficulties on how the app was designed
- If you have difficulties receiving your magazine please contact GV, more than 90% of the time, we get the problem fixed.
- GC website seems more efficient. You can get reimbursed for your purchase contacting GV Inc. AAWS can also refund your money for your app
- Trustee Committee approved the financing of the renewal of the Grapevine website.

4. Grapevine Games

- Language of the darts – throwing darts at balloons to win prizes from GV, etc. Contact Jaffer@gmail.com for more info

5. Incorporating GV into your Group Format

- Use GV topics or read one story as a lead
- 5 min discussion, talk about a reading
- Monthly meeting at Area – tool for 12 step work before sales; Read tradition from GV
- Step stories from GV
- You can hear topics you don't usually discuss in your AA group using the magazine and books.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD with comments

? How do we get La Vina subscription forms?

A GVR kits has lots of information including material, and lots of info with an 8 page description of what a GVR is and does. GV handbook is available from website to print.

? Will the App interfere with hard copies of the magazine to donate to H & I?

A. The App just gives you the magazine in your device. Some jails don't do paper anymore. We need to get the GV to the inmates any way we can.

- The GV one interest is to develop something to provide what we need.

- GV could look like GV is in need of more sales, GV Inc needs more money or jobs. It looks like that more than GV has a primary purpose

- GV doesn't take contributions, we need to constantly mention sales and support the GV, that means GVRs sound like sales people

- Maybe we need to do an inventory on how we work with Gv.