

Newsletter – Friday, March 2, 2018

Reviewed guides and opted for an open discussion instead

- Area 17 and 72 are newsletter editors
- Area 17 uses word, pdf, print black on white 8.5 x 11, ten pages, double sided
- Area 72 was 8.5 x 11 paper, previously lithographs, used to put mailing labels on by hand. Suggested 72 go back to the 8.5 x 11, more like Box 459. 1100 distributed in English and 20 in Spanish – 10 to district D1 and 10 to D 57, by hand
- Nice to have color, monthly theme, like a meeting topic. Karina was asked to do something with the format, as the format had become stale. At the beginning of the panel people were not reading the newsletter. Received stories, published them. Began prompting with a lengthy topic. Helped differentiate between business reports and articles – like meeting shares.
- Area 17 publishes 7 times a year. Budget for 160 copies. Area 17 has 14 districts. DCMs get 10 copies each, pdf on-line. Minutes not published in newsletter, published on-line.
- Area 72 tried to create by attraction, April 2017 quarterly presentation encouraging and prompting people to leave articles on voice mail as well as email. In Area 72 we have 41 (43) districts. We are half the state, well populated, in meetings. Observed the group copies, people have access but opened them and saw nothing of interest.
- April topic – completely give yourself to this simply program
- Lots of contributions, members can contribute articles. Submissions need to be related to AA.
- Area 17 – We have Area17 email list, sends out reminds. Entire state of Hawaii, deadline – one week prior to assembly or business meeting.
- Area 07 11 x 17 stapled in the middle, folded, mailed out, emails pdf . link, limited to multiples of 4 pages 12 pages, 16 pages.
- Area 72 fills empty space with content from Grapevine content. Includes a table of contents. Tries to vary the age of Grapevine articles.
- Concern about flyers for a retreat. What is the edition? Wants to publish content, not censure, put a disclaimer with flyer, wants to be inclusive
- Area 07 to 72 – sound like previously acted like inter-group by printing flyers Business stuff?
- Area 72 suggested at start of rotation to change content format. New people can contribute; additional content, area secretary and quarterly are published as well.
- Area 07 – We also publish in Spanish
- Area 17 – We don't have Spanish speaking population but we publish one story in pigeon English. Inter-Group in HI publishes in color.

- Area 72 No content editing, will copy edit. District 18, new treasurer cause near USPS addresses, P O Box was expensive, now use Greater Seattle Inter-Group(GSIG) which is interesting.
- F – has a great archivist, wants to build on – 1956 archivist sharing Grapevine from 1955 convention issue. If we can harness the power of the archives, they are such a resource.
- Area 72 – personal sharing plus business. Hope people find experience, strength and hope. Area72aa.org. Our email addresses are in printed editions, not on-line.
- Area 17 – Area17aa.org
- Area 07 – CNIA.org. Elections, brief pass it on, difficult to fill spots for translation. Doing a couple of pages at a time.
- AREA 72 **Translation Method** – We contacted a local translation expert. Found a vendor. Fed vendors computer with Area 72 content for 6 months to prime the computer aided translation system.
 - 1) Searched for repetitions translations with a one to one match. Spanish Matches English.
 - 2) Human reviews
 - 3) eliminated human touch
- Language parity is much closer, send out to Costco then ten translated copies go to each Spanish speaking District.
- Vendor educated on our Traditions.
- F – in Box 459, example of how groups can use ATM card was published. Encouraging 72 to publish translation methods in Box 459.
- Area 72 – Editor reviews, can catch some of the off-translations and bring them to the Spanish speaking members then return to the vendor which helps improve the machinery learning. Our vendor is asking if there are others who need this type of translation service. Issue – we in Area 72 now has a language coordinator. The role of translation for newsletter will shift there.
- Tools to be used – Machine translation such as bing or google. Cat tool – computer aided translations.
- Area 07 - Word document – then “find and replace” translations.
- F – worldwide number of languages is large, need a plain language big book.
- Area 72 – What if we create a plain language book – it might be easier to understand.
- F- EEO disease – always getting new people.
- Area 17 we are expecting articles from PRAASA attendees on experiences @ PRAASA by March 31st.
- Area 72 – potluck edition was fun. Encourages people like what if ... 100 people sent in for “I went to AA, got sober, life is good...”

- Area 17 – would love feedback. Click on Mynah Bird – share experience, strength and hope with all Hawaii Area 17. Mynabird@area17aa.org
- Area 07 using mail Chimp – there is an issue between number of people who sign up and number of actual readers.
- Area 72 – Registration manages mailing list, submission deadline is same day as mail list for printer.
- ? Do mailing addresses get cleaned out at the end of rotation? Area 72 – No, registrar uses excel and maintains list.
- F- downloaded all groups in Area 72. District 29 shows 37 meetings , DCM says we have 27. 10 were defunct groups.
- Area 07 – GSO database, FNV, groups are active, closed, merged.

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Carina – WW Area 72 – Word format, newsprint tabloid format biggest issue was 52 pages, 1100 printed monthly and also on-line. Sent bulk mail. Has a calendar, includes an article, 4 business meetings a year and one assembly. Gave a presentation in one then introduce a topic such as “Carrying the Message” communication tool for the area, priority given to area events. Then added flyers with disclaimers, include everything that is submitted. Announce next month’s topic. Increased subscription and content received, recipe collection. Translate to Spanish four times a year. Area started with software for on-line translation with a language coordinator, now using a professional translator.

Angela AZ Area 03 – strictly informative, administrative and area assembly minutes, treasurer report, 8 times a year. Hope to make it more fun, sanitized, un-sanitized versions of Spanish translations, and Area events flyers. Bulk mail and on-line. Opt in with Area Registrar who handles the mailing list but I get the returns.

Don – Area 09 Communications Chair and Central Office Officer – newsletter editor is the past delegate. Interest in a translation solution, currently done by volunteers.

Vickie – Area 09, Dist 05 Newsletter – quarterly evolved from 2 pages to 10 pages. Incorporates contribution list, shows Area 09 map, office contact information, sobriety birthdays, new GSRs, volunteer commitment info for information for events. New section – Q & A – spotlight a member, crossword puzzle – online tool. Step, Traditions, Concepts 1-3 in first quarter. Info about founders, group contributions, encourage GSRs.

Kandyce -CNIA Area 07 – newsletter editor. Monthly email pdf. And mail, works with Area Chair. Minutes, treasurer Report, area events, greetings and letter from Chair and Delegate. Translate to Spanish – appointed Chair that is bi-lingual.

Don- Area 09 – asked committee chairs to clean up web pages, request reports from DCMCs and DCMs.

Oscar – Area 09 Alt GSR visiting round table

Carina – sections for each coordinator and position, 4 times a year includes minutes and size increases. Language coordinator chair is Phil. Topics – email reminders, create web format, contact info, glossary of common terms

Ask Spanish members if the translation effective? Quality and timing of newsletter to have an informed group conscience. How many people actually read it?

Don – Area 09 – Online versions are available monthly

How can we make it more like the Grapevine, more enjoyable?

Gilbert – Harbor Island Central Office – Area 09 – uses publisher software, online only or go to central office and get it for \$1.00.

Tanya – Area 08 Secretary – Liaison – Newsletter committee is struggling, getting revived, has a translation committee of volunteers. Voice to text for stories – teach technology.

Relay a message of Passion for our service to AA.

To see Newsletters

area7211.org

msca09.org

area03.org

hacoaa.org

aainlandempire.org