



Vol. 47 No. 1

Keep the Little Light Burning

January, 2017

# EL FAROLITO

Official Newsletter of New Mexico Area 46 Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous

## WELCOME TO 2017

### *Chair*

“The willingness to grow is the essence of all spiritual development.”  
As Bill Sees It, p. 171. Reprinted with permission.

Happy New Year! January is always a time of reflection on the year past and anticipation of the year to come. In looking back on 2016 I feel incredibly blessed. Just being a witness to all the great service work that so many people devoted their energy and love to overwhelms me with gratitude. I can't wait to see 2017 has in store!

We will all be busy the next couple of months getting ready for the pre-conference assembly, but I hope you will also take a little time during your district meetings to start talking about the workshops you would like to hold this year. Our area committee chairs are all anxious to help with workshops. Also, please remember that bids for the March 2018 Area Assembly will be accepted during the March Assembly in Albuquerque.

Thank you District 10 for hosting the December Area Assembly – it was fantastic! And thank you to all the GSRs, DCMs, and district and area committee chairpersons for diving in and getting it done. I'd also like to thank you for your patience with me as I ever so slowly figure out what I'm doing.

Since the Assembly, I've had the pleasure of attending the business meetings for District 4 in Carlsbad, District 11 in Albuquerque, and District 16 in T or C. In addition to some great potlucks and fellowship, I was really moved by the many GSRs and district committee chairs who are helping their groups get involved in carrying the message in their communities.

I'd love to hear how things are going, answer questions, or help you out in whatever way I can. So call me anytime or drop me an email at [chair@nm-aa.org](mailto:chair@nm-aa.org). Your grateful servant, Teresa J

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### *Secretary*

In early sobriety when all I knew about service was making coffee and picking up chips and literature for my Home Group a friend of mine drug me to an Area Assembly. I went to some of the morning committee meetings but then I had no idea what to do as I wasn't a GSR or DCM or TS and really had no idea what all these initials even stood for. So he took me to the Trusted Servants meeting. I was impressed at that meeting with the care and concern for our fellowship and with the spirit of cooperation. I continue to be in awe of the dedication and spirit of cooperation that exists in these brief Saturday morning meetings.

There was discussion on how to improve the March 2017 Pre conference Assembly to

(Continued on page 3)

# Area Trusted Servants and District DCMs

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**February Issue Deadline: Midnight – Friday, Jan 20th**

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### **Secretary...**

make it smoother. How do we get the word out to the DCMs so they can share it with their groups? How do we make it relevant for the Committee chairs and not take too much time away from their regular committee business? We even had input from David H the Delegate from Area 66. Jim expressed his appreciation for last year's efforts as it gave him a better feel for the sense of the Area. He thought it was interesting that one of our hot topics in March 2016 never made it to the floor. We also acknowledged that while he can carry that "sense" with him we appreciate that he has the "Right of Decision"

We also discussed briefly how to improve the timing of the first group of committee meetings on Saturday. With the exception of the GSR meeting which is generally held in the main room it seems that finding and starting that first go round of meetings on Saturday is somewhat akin to Blind Man's Bluff. We'll look at some options at the Assembly Planning Meeting January 21 at SOTV. There was more but I'm at my word limit. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. Rosie F

### **Summary of Minutes Dec 2016 Area Assembly Carlsbad NM**

**Disclaimer: the full minutes are available at [nm-aa.org](http://nm-aa.org). this is a condensed version to aid you in sharing the "sense" of the Assembly .**

The Assembly was held Sat Dec 3 and Sunday Dec 4 2016 in Carlsbad, NM

There were 96 voting and 33 non voting members in attendance...7<sup>th</sup> Tradition on Saturday \$378.69 Sunday 372.25 and AIP contributions \$142.06...On Saturday morning there were breakout meetings for all Area Committees as well as GSR orientation, GSRs, DCMs Trusted Servants and Past Delegates.

On Saturday afternoon the Secretary and Treasurers report were accepted. ..Bill L, Jim H and Teresa F all discussed SWRAASA during their reports which was held in Ark this year and will be in Branson, Mo in 2018 There were 573 in attendance from 7 states and 11 areas but only 5 from NM this year. There were presentations on Traditions and Concepts. Teresa F presented on Traditions 8 & 9 There were 30 workshops on various aspects of service as well as presentation on the .Concepts by past Regional Trustees. They all encouraged generating some "buzz" around the 3 day free event for 2018.

**Registrars report:** Bill L reported registration numbers and said there are still 40 "unknown" groups in the Area. Please see him if you have any info on any of these groups.

**Delegates report:** Jim H also discussed that he with the help of other Trusted Servants hope to have the Agenda topic items for the GSC out earlier and in a more relevant form this year. There is a very short period of time from when he receives them from GSO and our March Assembly.

**Alternate Delegate report:** Teresa F was on fire for SWRAASA. Please read her article in both December and January issues of the El Farolito about this amazing event.

Announcements of upcoming events in the AA Community were made as well as reports on the Convencion Hispana de Nuevo Mexico July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend 2017 in Albuquerque and the upcoming Convention June 2 – 4 2017 in Ruidoso, the March 4 & 5 Assembly in Albuquerque and the Sept 2 & Election Assembly in Las Cruces. **Full details of these events available at [nm-aa.org](http://nm-aa.org) and in upcoming issues of El Farolito.**

**Bids and Motions were presented on Sunday and vote was done on Sunday. I have reported the result of the vote at the end of each.**

Bid for 2018 Convention hosted by the 6 Alb Metro Districts **(accepted)**...Bid for Dec 2 \* 3 2017 Assembly by D18 Albuquerque **(accepted)**

Motion to invite Al Anon participation at 2018 Area Convention **(motion passes)**

Motion to accept 2017 budget as amended **(1 opposed no minority opinion motion passes)**

Motion for seed money for a one day Service Assembly in July 2017 **(for 55 opposed 22, minority opinion was expressed. Motion to reconsider was 45 for 35 against. Revote was 46 for and 37 against. Motion passes)**

Motion for \$500 to make improvements to the data base used for meeting schedules on Area website**(motion passes)**

There were 2 motions made on Saturday that were withdrawn. One was changing funding for Spanish translation at Assemblies and Conventions and the other for a change in voting at Area Assemblies.

Jim H Delegate presented Ray R past delegate as a candidate for nomination as Trustee at Large at the Conference in April 2018. His nomination was approved.

Teresa J Area Chair presented Jeffrey H D for disapproval as El Farolito Editor for 2017 – 2018 rotation. He was approved. **The mailing address for contributions remains P O Box 35876 Albuquerque NM 87176**

On Saturday evening there was dessert and a rousing game of AA Jeopardy followed by a presentation on Traditions by David H Area 66 (west Texas) Delegate. On Sunday we returned for voting and Committee, GSR, DCM Trusted Servants and past Delegate meetings **(These reports will be in January issue of the El Farolito)** There was also a drawing for a Grapevine door prize, one Ask it Basket question as well as the Sobriety Countdown. The signed Big Book went to Phillip with 30 days by Diana T with 40 years. We held hands, prayed and scattered to the far corners of the state to carry the message. Next Assembly March 4 - 5 2017 in Albuquerque. Watch [nm-aa.org](http://nm-aa.org) and El Farolito for location and details. Assembly Planning Meeting January 21 2017 at Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church Albuquerque.

# Trusted Servant Reports

## *Registrar*

*Gradually we saw that the unity, the effectiveness – yes, even the survival – of A.A. would always depend upon our continued willingness to sacrifice our personal ambitions and desires for the common safety and welfare. Just as sacrifice meant survival for the individual, so did sacrifice mean unity and survival for the group and for A.A.'s entire fellowship.*

*Reprinted from (AA Comes of Age – Bill W pp 287-288), with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.*

As we all enter a new year, let us reflect on the year past. Did we do all we could for A.A.? Do we have a “New life of Wondrous Possibility?” Are we grateful for our gift of Sobriety? Are we contributing in A.A. as part of a Society in Action, to carry the message? Are we willing to sacrifice some of our time and effort for A.A.? The joys and rewards of service are available to us all. Consider a resolution to get involved in Service. Go to your District Meeting and ask around and see what Committees might need some assistance. Come to the Area Assembly in March. Watch for event Flyers and workshops near you and attend. Come see what all the fun is about.

Planning is in place for the upcoming Directory which will be printed and released in March. I am currently asking DCM's to assist in reviewing and updating current GSR information. If you are a GSR, and do not hear from me regularly about upcoming Assemblies and events, please reach out to me and provide your current contact information, phone and email. I would like to make the Directory as accurate as possible. I will need all new information returned to me by Mid-February to be included in the March Directory.

The Registrar's page has a number of helpful documents posted there for your convenience. The Downloadable PFD Group Information Forms and New Group Forms on the Area 46 website were all reviewed and modernized. If you are a new GSR, or if you start a new group, please visit the Registrar's Web Page at [nm-aa.org](http://nm-aa.org) and download a Group Information Change Form, or a New Group Form, and have a look at the guidelines for naming a group. Please submit your completed information to [Registrar@nm-aa.org](mailto:Registrar@nm-aa.org)

In Love and Service,  
Bill L

**Save the Date:**  
**Saturday February the 18th- 2:00 p.m.**  
**Group-History/ Archives Workshop**  
**Our Lady of the Valley Church (Don Felipe & Coors)**  
**District 3- Lunch included**

## **EL FAROLITO.**

*Founded in 1970, is the official publication of the New Mexico Area 46 Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous. El Farolito is self-supporting through contributions and subscriptions made directly to the newsletter.*

*Contributions from groups are the primary source of support and are gratefully accepted.*

[elfarolito@nm-aa.org](mailto:elfarolito@nm-aa.org)

## *Treasurer*

I must apologize for not putting my report in last month's ELF. The deadline came and went before I realized it. I hope to not have that happen again in the future even though this is the second time it has happened.

Our group contributions were down just a little bit from last month but was above what we did a year ago. The Taos Mountain Fiesta sent us a contribution from their proceeds this year. I would like to thank District 14 and their fiesta committee on doing a great job.

I would like to thank Ruth and all her efforts in putting together the budget for 2017.

The contributions and expenditures are listed in the table that is also submitted and if you have any questions about income and spending just get hold of me and I will be glad to answer them.

Travel expenses to assemblies and planning meetings: \$210 Service expenses: \$37

Yours in service, Kurt K.

## *Finance*

Thank you to the Finance Committee and the Assembly for allowing me be of service.

There were 9 members in attendance at the Finance Committee. We de-constructed the budget during the first hour with a lot of discussion about the various budget items. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> hour we discussed several important issues; prudent reserve, the number of standing committees, and convention overage numbers. Because these topics are difficult and require a lot of time and effort, we will be meeting in Santa Fe during the month of January. Depending on the outcome of the meeting we may make a suggestion to form an Ad Hoc committee to investigate the issues.

Kurt and I re-did the budget Saturday night but could not get enough copies made for the entire assembly. Bill Lewis, Area Registrar, will make copies and send out to everyone in a PDF format. If you do not have access to a computer please call me (my number is in the ELF), LEAVE A MESSAGE, and I will make sure you have a copy of the budget as it stands on 12/03/16

The budget is a living document and changes every month depending on contributions and expenses. We do our best to make sure it is as transparent as it can be. If you have a questions or concerns, please contact me. If I don't have the answer I will find it and get back to you.

In grateful service, Ruth G Finance Chair

# Service Committee Reports

## *Archives*

Hope everyone has celebrated the holidays and come out unscathed! The Archives Committee at the Area Assembly in Carlsbad had 16 attendees, representing 7 districts. After introductions, the web page updates were presented: the inventory of the file drawers, state conventions, books, pamphlets and photos have been uploaded. The room itself has been reorganized so that one file cabinet was removed. As requested at the September Area Assembly, the Archives Room, located at the Albuquerque Central Office, will be open next Saturday, December 10, from 11-3. (I had one visitor – thanks Alaina!)

Olivia O, the Archivist, was in attendance and spoke for a few minutes about the progress that has evolved since she was archives chair, beginning with everything in boxes and a mass sorting party. A lot has been accomplished since then. She is working on a document outlining items that Archives will accept from districts. It will be distributed early next year.

I reminded the attendees of the GSC encouragement for more group histories and shared my experience with having an old timer pass within months after participating in a meeting the District 2's archives committee. Copies of group history guidelines and other documents from GSO were available for attendees.

Grapevines from 1970-2013 were available for a donation; the suggested amount was set at \$2/issue. Look for the month and year you, a sponsor or sponsee go sober! In a short time almost \$300 was contributed for the Grapevines, which will be used for archival storage items.

A reminder – I am available for workshops, presentations or the JeopAARDy game of AA's history. JeopAARDy was played before the evening session – thank you Bill L for your assistance! I was great fun! Attended District 5's Holiday Party on December 18, and played it again! And again, great fun!

Gratefully yours in love and service, Michelle B

## *Bi Lingual*

What an interesting Assembly, being a part of our Third Legacy in action!

Thanks to the ten members from the Groups that attended the Bilingual Committee meeting on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.

These are the four topics that were addressed and written down by Gillermina R., who volunteered as Secretary from El Perdón Group in Albuquerque:

(There were no incorrect or correct answers: only the experience of each one sharing.)

- 1) **ENTHUSIASM:** A. Encourage - B. Communicate - C. Motivate - Attend - Participate – Unify.
- 2) **COMMUNICATION:** Understanding my colleagues of Alcoholics Anonymous in service for the common welfare of A.A. as a whole.
- 3) **UNITY:** Is important to understand and know the members and ourselves in sobriety.
- 4) **SPONSORSHIP IN SERVICE:** it begins when you are humble enough to ask for guidance from a fellow member who has been (or who is) involved in service.

We will meet again for the Planning of the March Assembly on January 21, 2017. It is our incentive, our hope and our responsibility.

With Affection and Love for Service, Ana G., Bilingual Committee Chair

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**Bi lingual...**

¡Qué Asamblea tan interesante, siendo una parte de nuestro Tercer Legado en acción!

Gracias a los diez miembros de diferentes Grupos que asistieron a la reunión del Comité Bilingüe el sábado 3 de diciembre de 2016.

Estos son los cuatro temas que fueron abordados y fueron redactados por la Compañera Guillermina R., del Grupo El Perdón en Albuquerque, quien prestó servicio voluntario como Secretaria en esta reunión del Comité Bilingüe:

(No hubo ninguna respuesta incorrecta o correcta: solamente la experiencia de cada uno al compartir.)

- 1) **ENTUSIASMO:** A. Animar - B. Comunicar - C. Motivar- Asistir - Participar – Unificar.
- 2) **COMUNICACIÓN:** Entender, escuchar a mis Compañeros de Alcohólicos Anónimos dentro del Servicio para el Bienestar Común de A.A. en su totalidad.
- 3) **UNIDAD:** La Unidad es importante para comprender y conocer a los miembros y a nosotros mismos, en sobriedad.
- 4) **APADRINAMIENTO EN EL SERVICIO:** Se comienza por tener la suficiente humildad para preguntarle a un Compañero que ha servido (o está sirviendo) para que nos guíe.

Nos veremos de nuevo en la Planificación de la Asamblea de marzo el día 21 de enero del 2017. Es nuestro incentivo, nuestra esperanza y nuestra responsabilidad.

Con Cariño y Amor al Servicio  
Ana G.,  
Silla del Comité Bilingüe

## *Corrections*

Another fabulous Assembly, thank you Dist. 10 for hosting.

There were 29 members at the Corrections Committee meeting, with 11 Districts represented. We discussed the different training, background checks and requirements necessary before taking a meeting into a jail or prison. Then we discussed what information to take in with you. First and foremost always ask the people at the prison or jail what is allowed. Grapevines, meeting schedules, AA pamphlets, are usually free and allowed in. With some help from the Groups, Districts or the Corrections Committee Big Books and 12 and 12s are always a good ideal, and don't forget Bridge the Gap. I am careful about giving my personal phone number only to those who seem serious about recovery.

The upcoming times, dates and locations for volunteer training for the state can be found at [cd.nm.gov](http://cd.nm.gov) or give me a call and I will get them for you.

There is \$282.32 in the Area 46 Corrections account. My total expenses for 2016 are travel to 3 Assemblies \$325.00 Travel to 3 planning meetings \$265.00

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

As always if there is anything I can do for any of you please call or email.  
Love and Service David D. Area 46 Corrections.

# Service Committee Reports



Greeting to all,

I am grateful to have the opportunity to attend the Area assemblies and be a trusted servant.

In summary the CPC Committee was one of the first committees to meet, the meeting was well attended with four more districts represented then the September Assembly. Our discussion covered several topics, from Claire D's article, to cooperating with other committees and Approaching the professionals. David H. National CPC CO-chair (also Area 66 Delegate) was present giving us some insight on up and coming agenda topics that will be discussed at the March Assembly. The three that were discussed are the pamphlets "Three talks to the medical society" and "Problems other than alcohol" the third topic was LinkedIn, keeping up with technology. Please read the pamphlets and do some searching on all three of these topics for the March Assembly.

Practicing the principles one day at a time.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.  
Mikel W, Area 46 CPC Chair.

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**PO Box 35876**  
**Albuquerque, NM**  
**87176***

*Send contributions for the Area to:  
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**DISTRICT 7 (ROSWELL)**  
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## *Grapevine*

I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding, as I have not been as visible and available as I would like. Some of you are aware that I have busy comforting my father as he battled cancer. Thanks for all the prayers as he passed the morning of December 2nd. As in true AA fashion and fellowship Molly from District 11 stepped up to the plate to conduct business in my absence. She did an awesome job, as I knew she would.

Grapevine committee report held December 3rd 2016 Carlsbad NM

Old business discussions; A Display board can be created for as little as \$15.00....Giving a GV as a gift and the a second Sub. for \$13.00...Raffle of GV Books...Include a GV with newcomer packets....make sure your group has a Subscription.

There will be a La Viña writing workshop February 25th hosted by Grupo #3. Time will be from 3-6 on 4th and Menaul. Translation will be available for English speaking members. Visitors from Arizona will be in attendance. Contact Edvin for more information. Kurt K won the GV door prize

Respectfully Submitted, Molly , Alice M Area 46 GV Rep.

## *Literature*

Thank you to all that participated from Carlsbad to host a wonderful Assembly. The facility was very nice, and we really got to know each other a little better with sometimes a little congestion in the main hallway where the literature table, Convention table & the Grapevine table's were set up.

\$382.00 of literature was sold, a \$500.00 order will be made thus avoiding postage fees.

The DVD's & CD's were a hit & I will order more. Please do not confuse DVD's with CD's and vice visa, be sure of what your purchasing. These are AA produced and basically low budget. The DVD's are documentary themed and meant to be educational, not so much entertaining per say, and the CD's, not all, but some of our founders, were originally recorded on reel to reel tape recorders, just letting you know again. Some Spanish big books were sold, and more Spanish literature will be ordered too.

My apologies for some material getting wet. I had placed a tarp over the bed of my truck over the literature on Friday evening upon arrival but with the rain some boxes on the floor board of the truck got wet from the bottom up, most of what had gotten wet was sold at discount, 4 12x12's & a bigbook. Some wrinkled pamphlets were donated to our treatment person that takes meetings to the Turquoise Lodge. I inventoried and about \$40.00 total damaged in all.

The Literature break out meeting at the assembly was very positive, we discussed having literature available at district, & group meetings, & all the types of literature available from GSO. Members from rural areas of NM, Laguna, Edgewood & Ft. Defiance in Az. were present, the Alt delegate of Area 66, El Paso, Texas attended our meeting also, we discussed how to meet literature purchasing needs, stocking needs, and having a central literature contact in their areas.

The trip to Carlsbad began with a possibility of 4 different passengers and, or hotel room mates & as it turned out I went alone & took notes for 3 different GSR's that didn't make the trip. It's the end of my first year as Literature Chair, one year to go, and it's been a learning experience. Thank you for your confidence.

Congratulations to our incoming trustee at large.

Thank you Area 46 for a productive 2016, and looking forward to a great 2017.

Manuel P Area 46 Literature Chair

# ***Service Committee Reports***

## ***Public Information***

Ray B, Dist. 18 PI Chair filling in for Mike Dole, Area 46 PI Chair, Opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

1. Passed out a copy of Oct. 2016 Area PI report published in December 2016 El Farolito.
2. Presented an overview of what PI does from PI Work Book.

Examples: A. literature distribution to hospitals, parole office, etc. (see list in PI Workbook)...B. Attend Health Fairs to provide AA information in the form of pamphlets, schedules, and ourselves

3. Discussed breaking anonymity with individuals such as hospital representatives, parole supervisors, etc. to get permission to leave AA literature at their locations. One District said they may present cards to police, EMT, etc. showing Central Office telephone # to give out to public as they see fit.

4. Discussion ensued over Special Needs impacts on PI....Example: Professional interpreters preserving anonymity - they must observe their code of conduct that insures this.

5. Additional discussion involved providing AA information to battered woman's shelters & assistant living facilities, etc.

6. GSO PI Kit for PI Chairpersons was presented. Available on GSO website for a price although the PI Work Book is free. Go to literature tab at AA.ORG...Closed with Responsibility Statement

## ***Special Needs***

Thank you to District 10 for hosting the December Area Assembly! Grateful for the wonderful fellowship. Special Needs Committee discussed Districts and Groups that have submitted their surveys. It is our goal to heighten awareness in all districts to inventory how they are addressing those with special needs and accessibility to meetings. District 14's DCM shared they decided to organize an ad hoc committee to complete the survey and found that it was best to have a point of contact instead of creating a new committee, which will meet the needs of a smaller District. Each District is different; therefore, we encourage others to complete the surveys and share with the Area. It was also discussed that Districts' PI and CPC chairs to help get the word out on special needs.

We discussed old business related to the purchase of a hearing devise; however, the budget does not allow at this time. We will continue to explore other avenues to raise the funds to purchase. There was discussion on the recent name change related to "Special Needs" to "Accessibilities" at the GSO level. At the March 2017, we will discuss as a committee and possibly may make a motion provided there is a consensus from the committee. We discussed the possibility of creating a bookmarker to help get the word out on Special Needs to Groups and Districts. Members were asked to come up with some ideas and bring them to the next Assembly. Another great gathering in Carlsbad and look forward to the March Assembly in Albuquerque. If your District is in need technical assistance and/or would like a workshop, please feel free to contact me. Happy New Year!!!

In the spirit of service, Lawrence M., Area Special Needs Chair

## ***Treatment***

The Treatment meeting at December 2016 Assembly was very well attended. We had 30 members in the meeting. About half of those are involved in treatment work. We started the meeting with introductions and had one district with a new treatment chair person. After the introductions we passed out the A.A in Treatment Settings brochure and the list of facilities that are on the New Mexico website so we could update the list with new information.

I opened the discussion talking about how I started working in treatment and how it has benefited me especially through the

*(Continued on page 11)*

(Continued from page 10)

### **Treatment...**

tough times. I also thought it was important to let people know that a person does not have to have been in treatment to carry the message into treatment facilities, we all have something to share.

We opened the meeting up for questions on issues people encounter at treatment facilities. One ongoing question is how to carry the message in a facility that has alcoholics as well as addicts. One thought is that we can use this as an opportunity to explain our singleness of purpose so it can be a teaching moment rather than a point of contention. We discussed the difference between taking meetings in from the outside and actually having a registered AA group holding the meetings in a facility. We also discussed the importance of consistency and how groups maintained consistency by having several people that work together communicate to make sure our commitments are met.

Overall it was a very productive Assembly and meeting. The Area Bridge the Gap and Corrections chairs and I just participated in a workshop for district 18 at Nativity Church which was very well received. We have new people willing to go into treatment facilitates as well as a few facilities looking for people to speak at or take meetings into so we will try and make those connections soon. The list of treatment facilities on the New Mexico AA website was just updated, so drop into the New Mexico AA website and take a look!

*I spend a great deal of time passing on what I learned to others who want and need it badly. I do it for four reasons: Sense of duty. It is a pleasure. Because in so doing I am paying my debt to the man who took time to pass it on to me. Because every time I do it I take out a little more insurance for myself against a possible slip. (From Doctor Bobs Nightmare in the AA Big Book)*

In Service Paul P Treatment Chair

## *Web Committee*

The website committee had 25 people in attendance in Carlsbad. We discussed the project identified for this coming year, for redesigning the Area Website Meeting Database. We had great discussion on Solutions and ways we can make this work better for your districts, out of towners, and newcomers looking for meetings.

Most of the meeting focused on the website redesign project that was supported by the website committee followed by a motion asking the area for funding to hire a programmer to help integrate multiple meeting databases. The result of which will be a single custom integrated database that will be designed for maintaining the integrity, security, and functioning of the website meeting database. The result will be a secure, easy, and simple to operate meeting database that will serve the Area

We are looking for anyone who has any experience with website development, programming knowledge, or anyone wanting to help on this project. I look forward to updating you all in the coming months.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve Area 46. I have grown up watching wonderful examples of sobriety helping me find myself along the way. As always if there is anything I can do for your districts or groups please let me know.

In Love and Service,

Ally T Area 46 Webchair [Webchair@nm-aa.org](mailto:Webchair@nm-aa.org)



## *UPPA*

I hope everyone is doing well and had a happy holiday. I want to thank district 10 for hosting a wonderful assembly. At our meeting we had 21 people and had several discussions. We talked about what was going on for people in their districts and some of the challenges they were facing. One member explained that even though there were a lot of young people in their town there was no young person's meetings. We were able to give her some information on YP meeting in some of the surrounding areas, and get her a contact nearby. We also talked about making the frequent committee meeting more accessible with call in and video call options, as well as a traveling committee meeting. We decided we would have a committee meeting in Las Cruces in April. Our YP district 4 committee chair had volunteered to host this meeting. We also discussed the pamphlet we are trying to develop that discusses anonymity and social media.

A good portion of our discussion was regarding the upcoming workshop we are planning. We will be putting on our third annual three legacies workshop January 28th at Shepard of the Valley church in ABQ. The workshop will start at 8am with a potluck breakfast that will be followed by a panel discussion about each of the three legacies. We have 9 speaker, 3 for each panel, and the speakers are from all over area 46. There will be Spanish and deaf interpreting available.

God Bless,  
Mike L.

## *Ad Hoc Assembly Development & Fun Raising*

21 people attended our Committee meeting on Saturday morning at the December Assembly. We were gratified to have a number of Spanish speaking attendees present and two of them are joining our committee!

We discussed the pamphlets which our committee has developed describing the year-round General Service Conference process. We hope all DCMs will focus on the pamphlets in their upcoming district meetings and that GSRs will be developing creative ways in which to introduce Conference agenda topics and background material to their groups.

The second agenda topic was our proposed motion to approve an area-sponsored Service Assembly/Forum next July, and seed money in the amount of \$500, which will be repaid. We clarified that this assembly would include interesting and informative general service topics, and would not mimic the committee business meetings which are held during our Assemblies.

While nothing is definite yet, here is a sampling of the topics which we are considering: "Why should I have a Service Sponsor?", "Technology and AA", "Are we spending our Money Wisely?" We are also thinking about practical workshops such as "How to conduct a Meeting", or "How to prepare a motion for presentation at an Assembly".

Those attending our committee meeting overwhelmingly supported the motion and on Sunday the motion was approved by the Assembly. So, we will be moving forward with our planning immediately. If you have ideas for topics, or would like to volunteer for this event, please let us know.

The third topic of discussion at our meeting concerned ways to provide advance information about motions that will be introduced at assemblies. This would allow GSRs to discuss motions with their groups, questions could be answered, and the Assembly would be more informed before our members vote. Stay tuned for a motion on this topic at our March Assembly!

In love and service, Jaclyn S., Chair, [dandfr@nm-aa.org](mailto:dandfr@nm-aa.org)

# District Reports

## *District 2 - Santa Fe*

Hiya from District Two AA, Santa Fe. Happy holidays to all! We've had some wonderful pre- and post- meeting gatherings to celebrate the season, our recovery, and each other. A big thanks goes to all who have helped make those special events possible.

District 2 needs to fill the Event Entertainment/"Fun-Raiser" chair position!! If you're interested, please contact Kristina F., email address: [district2@nm-aa.org](mailto:district2@nm-aa.org)

Please continue to keep in mind that meetings can be brought to homes and hospitals for individuals who cannot make it to meetings. People are eager, ready, and willing, so call the Central Office when in need! The Treatment Facilities Committee is also looking for groups to host meetings at the Sobering Center and Recovery Center. Send an email to [district2@nm-aa.org](mailto:district2@nm-aa.org) to learn more, and Philip will be happy to come meet with your group.

We are looking forward to the many 2017 AA events. Here are a few that are on our calendars:

Three Legacies workshop taking place in Albuquerque on January 28.

2017 Area 46 Convention in Ruidoso, June 2-4, 2017

"Fun in Service, WHAT??!!" workshop, July 15, 2017 (join us to discuss topics such as "What are the concepts and why do I care?!" and "Self-centeredness: the mother of all character defects")

District Two would like to thank Gloria and Kit for their dedicated service as secretary and fun-raiser, respectively. Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm! Thank you Stacey for taking on the role of secretary, and John for officially becoming treasurer.

Lastly, District Two would like to say thank you, Jay, for your hard work and dedication as ELF editor. It has been a pleasure working with you and happy to hear your continuing your service as the alternate editor!

In joyful service, Kate T.

## *District 4 - Las Cruces*

District 4 wishes to thank the following outgoing District Chairs for their outstanding service to Alcoholics Anonymous: Ty S. – Website...Amanda L. – Women's Corrections...Lisa E. – Newsletter

District 4 further (gratefully) welcomes the following New District Chairs: Cammy M. – Website...Theresa V. – Women's Corrections...Ryan B. – Newsletter...Thank you so much for having the willingness to serve.

At time of press, we anticipate Theresa J, our Area 46 Chair will be attending our District Meeting this Sunday (December 18<sup>th</sup>). Thank you Theresa for taking the time to share your experience, strength and hope with us. To all the people who showed up to help with the folding party, I can't thank you enough! WE tore that up!! District 4 is THE BEST! Thanks! The pot luck wasn't bad either J I hope our new Area 46 ELF mailing record of 16 minutes stands strong for a long time. 5:30 Happy Hour Group at the Arid Club welcomes support. Please attend if you can.

Congratulations December Birthdays... IT WORKS really good!

Theresa V. 12-28-08 8 Years...Mike B. 12-25-07 9 Years...Jeff B. 12-28-03 13 Years...Robin B. 12-1-92 24 Years...

Nina 12-7-88 28 Years...Jan P. 12-13-83 33 Years...Dave M. 12-1-82 34 Years

Thanks for helping me get to 24! Service keeps us sober, Robin B. ([robin12192@hotmail.com](mailto:robin12192@hotmail.com))



# District Reports

## *District 8 - Farmington, Shiprock*

The annual District 8 banquet was held at the Civic Center in Farmington on December 17. It was a festive occasion, the food was delicious (thank you Dan), and raffle items were imaginative and plentiful. Our speaker, Kathy B., shared things new to me about her story. Summer J., our new juvenile jail representative, has five women interested in helping to carry the message. Their applications will be processed, and when the administrative work is finished, meeting time and day will be announced. If you are interested, contact Summer.

Men's jail meetings under the direction of Dirk D. are still in the planning stages. Also, we need a women's jail representative. Ernie Z. has stepped up to administer the District 8 website and get the online schedule up to date. Thank you for your service! The B-Hill Group in Bloomfield will celebrate its 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Thursday, January 26, 2017, with a pot-luck at 6 PM followed by the meeting. It's a great occasion for fellowship.

Yours in sobriety, Andrea G

## *District 9 - Grants, Gallup, Zuni, Laguna*

Greetings from District 9. We held several very successful and very large meetings to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday here in our district. Zuni and Fort Defiance held their monthly speaker meetings and potlucks in which over 50 people were in attendance at each event with lots of great food and good speakers. Wings of the Storm in Gallup also had their traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner/potluck after the regular noon meeting with about 40 people able to eat and enjoy sober fellowship. The Spiritual Awakenings group held their monthly potluck/speaker meeting in December early this month and I am able to report that there was also a very large turnout despite bad weather and threats of snow. Thank you to Larry F. for sharing his experience, strength and hope with us that evening. There are several events coming to pass for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays which will occur after the press deadline:

The Wings of the Storm will have hosted their annual Christmas pot-luck on Christmas Day following the noon meeting at Serenity House in Gallup, NM. Zuni's 4<sup>th</sup> Dimension will have hosted their regular Last-Friday-of-the month speaker meeting and potluck beginning about 6:30 p.m on December 30<sup>th</sup>. Wings of the Storm will have hosted their mini-marathon from 7 p.m. to after midnight on New Year's Eve and the Spiritual Awakenings will have hosted their New Year's Day AA marathon beginning early in the morning for all of us sober and clear headed that day with pot-luck lunch and dinner, ending at 9 p.m. It is a joy to see how our District provides the extra support and fellowship which is so important to so many of us at this time of year. Thank you to everyone who gave of your time and energies to this much-needed service work. Coming up: The spiritual Awakenings group will be hosting a Step One and Tradition One Workshop on January 6, 2017 from 6-7 p.m. at their home group in Ft. Defiance, AZ.

And there are at least 2 groups in our District 9 who claim Howard P. who has 45 years of sobriety on December 28. Howard still attends groups on a very regular basis, speaks when asked, sponsors other men in the program, and shares his many years of experience, strength and hope. He is an Elder in the very best sense of the term and has enriched many of our meetings and our recovery by working his program, suiting up and showing up. He is much loved and much respected here in District 9. Congratulations to Howard on 45 years and many more!

In gratitude and service, Beverly T., El Farolito Rep

Birthdays: **4<sup>th</sup> Dimension, Zuni, NM** ... a belated B-day to Beverly L. who celebrated 33 years on November 8<sup>th</sup>  
For December: Keith B. - 7 years...Alvina L. - 1 year...Brady B. - 7 years...Brandon b. - 7 years ...Kevin D. - 1 year  
Russell W. - 37 years **Spiritual Awakenings, Ft. Defiance, AZ** – December Birthdays Makida R. - 1 year  
Alroy B. - 7 years Velma S. - 26 years Tim – 5 years Kee – 6 years From Wings of the Storm in Gallup:  
Timothy – 1 year on Dec 14 Tohatchi, NM Pat B. - 12 years on Dec 7

## *District 10 - Hobbs, Carlsbad*

Greetings from district 10! We made it through the holidays.

Not a great deal going on. The HOG had it's 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday happening with, Rob H., sharing his journey. Thank you Rob. Also at the HOG we have taken what we discussed at the assembly and decided to have a group inventory to start the new year. So, the voice of the assembly is truly heard. Thank you to our friends in Carlsbad for putting it on and keeping us focused. The assembly was an absolute success.

As always thank you for allowing me to be of service! Love and Service, Jason O.

## *District 14 - Taos, Red River, Embudo*

Happy New Year from District 14! After a memorable Thanksgiving potluck in November, the Taos A.A. community continued the spirit of the holidays in warm solidarity with our annual Christmas dinner and meeting. Thanks to all who contributed and participated—it was lovely!

Another news item from December of 2016—District 14's DCM, Christoph E. attended the Area 46 Assembly in Carlsbad, NM. He was grateful for the opportunity. He reports that the meeting was informative and among other things learned that the area is financially healthy.

Lately, the Area 46 Special Needs Committee sent out surveys to groups in all districts. Our December district meeting included a presentation from the committee's chairperson, who informed us that the return on these surveys from our district was impressive, and very helpful. If your group missed out on the survey somehow, or did not find time to return it, it's not too late! You can still get the information back this month, or find a copy of the survey on the Area 46 website: <http://www.nm-aa.org/forms/special-needs-survey/>

Our district has had a breakaway group discuss the state of special needs accommodations at our local meetings, and is making plans to address items such as creating more accommodations, and offering more information for the new or visiting member with special requirements.

Again, we wish you the very best for 2017—stay warm and stay sober!

## *District 16 - Silver City, Demming, Columbus*

Greets and Happy New Year from District 16. Our December District Meeting brought to light the need for an informative workshop potluck before the Area 46 Pre-Conference Assembly. The TGIF and Via Con Dias are willing to host this workshop. The date will be Saturday February 25. Time and location will be announced in the February El Farolita. Congratulations to all with January sobriety dates. Our next regular District Meeting will be Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30. Location to be determined.

In Love and Service, Evie B District 16 DCM



# District Reports

## *District 17*

We had our District Meeting for December, encouraging District 17 in its Service goals. We are working on the A.A. Group Information Change Form for the incoming G.S.R.'s, so that the groups can be listed in the A.A. Directory, and motivating the G.S.R.'s to attend the planning meeting for the March Assembly.

A La Viña workshop is set for February 24, 2017. The workshop will be held at Tercera Tradición Group. **2411- 4th St. NW - Albuquerque, N.M. 87102** from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. everyone is invited. A warm thanks to our companions celebrating their group's anniversaries! Antonio C, D.C.M.

Saludos de parte del Distrito 17:

Tuvimos nuestra reunión del distrito para diciembre, alentando Distrito 17 en sus objetivos de Servicio. Estamos trabajando en el formulario de cambio de información de grupo de A.A. para los R.S.G.s. entrante, para que los grupos puedan ser incluidos en el Directorio de A.A., y motivando a los R.S.G.s a asistir a la reunión de planificación para la Asamblea de marzo.

Un taller de La Viña está programado para el 24 de febrero de 2017. El taller será sostenido en el Grupo Tercera Tradición. - 2411 4th St. NW Albuquerque, NM 87102 - sábado 25 de febrero, 2017 de 3:00 P.M. a 5:00 P. M... Todo el mundo está invitado. ¡Un cordial gracias a nuestros Compañeros(as) celebrando sus Aniversarios de Grupos! Antonio C., M.C.D.

## *District 18 - Rio Rancho, Corrales*

District 18 would like to welcome several new service members; Randy S – Treasurer, Raymond B – Intergroup Rep, and Maddy L – El Farolito Rep. The District now has all the committee positions filled. There is an enthusiasm and an excitement in the air in our District. Service opportunities and commitments abound. What an exciting time to be a part of such an active District.

District 18 was awarded the December 2017 Area Assembly, so the beginnings of that service project are underway. District 18 is now a part of the multi-district association that will collaborate for the 2018 Area 46 State Convention. One of the District 18 Young People's groups (Children of Chaos) bid for and was awarded the 2017 NYMCYPAA State convention to be held in Rio Rancho in July 28-30. District 18 always hosts an Intergroup Speakers Meeting in the Spring each year, and early planning for that event is just getting started. As always, we have a Founder's Day picnic in June, and a Fall Workshop.

All our committees are active and always need volunteer help. Corrections can always use more folks to carry the message behind the walls and Bridge the Gap is always ready to help those being released. PI and CPC are carrying the message all about town and letting people and professionals know that AA is alive and well. Treatment is taking meetings into various facilities around town, and supporting meetings out on the northern Pueblos. Archives, Young People's, Grapevine and Literature committees are also involved in projects and can always use help.

If you are even the slightest bit bored in AA, or are just looking to add a lot of fun and service to your life, District 18 has a full slate of activities in the works. Service is such an integral part of our 12<sup>th</sup> step and is such a rewarding joy to be a part of.

Come to our District meetings the Second Saturday of every month, 10:30 AM, at the United Methodist Church, 136 W. Calle Don Andres, Bernalillo, NM 87004 and get involved. We can use the support, and you will benefit greatly from giving back to AA and being in Service.

Looking forward, 2017 should be a fun filled, service filled year. Come join us!

In Love and Service, Maddy L District 18 ELF Rep

## *Bridging the Gap*

We had 34 members in attendance and I passed around sign in sheets so I could update the contact list. I explained how to use the AIP with the area map and break down of the districts along with the cards and the contact list to find who you need to help Bridge the Gap for our newcomers. We talked about the use of smart phones and snapping pictures to send via text and email verses mail, also how to make BTG cards for your district. As always length of sobriety is a topic of discussion, please take newcomers with you to do BTG it is never to early to get involved in service. We talked about helping newcomers understand what BTG and AA is and isn't. We closed with the Responsibility Statement and the 3rd Step Prayer.

I would like to thank District 18 for inviting David, Paul and myself to be speakers at a corrections, treatment and BTG workshop on December 17th. We had a great turn out and lots of support from all of the ABQ districts. You guys are amazing. Thank you for allowing me to be of service and helping me stay sober for one more day. Any other districts interested in hosting workshops in the upcoming year please get with us, we are here to serve you!

I would like to say a special thank you to Jay M. for the amazing job he has done as the Elf editor!

Happy New Year In Love and Service, Nicole R.

## **Trusted Servants Committee Meeting Dec 3 2016 Area Assembly Carlsbad, NM**

There were 25 in attendance including the Delegate and alt Delegate from Area 66.

Eloy asked if there would be any motions being presented this afternoon as a result of committee meetings this morning. Ally Thiel web chair will be presenting a motion for one time funding for creating a single custom integrated data base that will be designed for more efficient functioning of the website meeting database. There are currently 3 separate databases used to enter the meetings. She asked for assistance in crafting the wording of this motion. Other items discussed included preparing for the March Assembly pre conference assembly. We are dependent on when Jim receives background info from GSO. This year we will limit committee assignments to 1 or 2 items and when possible they will be relevant to the Committee. The registrar will disseminate info as soon as it is received from Jim. Will include only summary of relevant items to that Committee. This afternoon all DCMs and GSRs will receive the brochure the Never Ending Conference to assist them in digesting this info and sharing it with their groups. David H the delegate from Area 66 shared that he has dinner with the Area T.S. on Friday night and goes over the items to be discussed on Saturday. It was mentioned that while this gives our Delegate a sense of the Area that we are not telling him how to vote as he has the Right of Decision at the Conference. Jim mentioned that the hot topic at last year's Area Assembly (the plain language Big Book) never made it to the floor at the Conference.

Lawrence M asked if there was some way to adjust the agenda/schedule in the future and the first committee meeting of the day seems to lose 10 or 15 minutes of their allotted time as people scramble to find the right room. Teresa F suggested that this be discussed at the Assembly planning meeting in January.

The Special Needs Committee continues discussion with Jim on the advisability of changing the name of the committee to Accessibility to be consistent with GSO and to better represent the mission of the committee. No motion at this time. He also reported that the Alb Area had produced an anonymous ASL video and is researching how to best share this with the fellowship.

We held hands, prayed and went to lunch.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service. Rosie F Area 46 Secretary 505 280 0489

# Birthdays

District 7 Birthdays past and present: Dean S - 6-6-16--15yr...Alan R - 6-10-16--36yr...Bill G - 6-12-16--10yr...Diego - 6-22-16--22yr...Kirk K - 6-23-16--31yr...Larry C - 7-4-16--17yr...James H - 8-23-16--30yr...Sandy G - 9-4-16--37yr...Larry O - 10-5-16--30yr...Lorenza - 10-14-16--22yr...Gayle - 10-22-16--8yr...Lucia H - 10-23-16--16yr

Cosmopolitan group November birthdays. Jonathan D. 10 months, Gary J. Seven years, Steve R. 10 years.

Group - Morning Serenity - Bernalillo...Bill L. 22 years (1/23/1995)

Birthday night ARID Ruidoso: Rodney K 28 yrs 11/18/88...Austin 1 yr 11/01/15

Isleta Group November 2016 Sobriety Birthdays

Evan 60 Days...Scott 60 Days...Adonai 60 Days...Dorothy 90 Days...Stephanie 6 months...Lori 7 months  
Fermin 18 months...Tom 3 Years...Jacob 5 Years...Juanita 9 Years...Alfred 10 Years...Rosanna 16 Years...Joe J. 16 Years  
Little Johnny W 24 Years...Lonny 29 Years

## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Area 46

# 3 Legacies Workshop



WHEN:

Brought to you by:

January 28, 2017

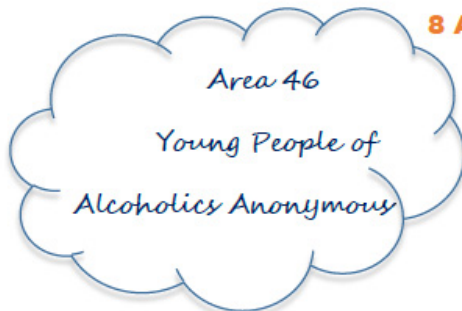
8 AM - 9 AM POTLUCK BREAKFAST

9AM - 12 PM WORKSHOP

WHERE:

Shepherd of the Valley

1801 Montano Rd. NW ABQ





**ISLETA'S  
ANNUAL ALKATHON  
24-HOURS OF SOBRIETY**



**Starting:  
SAT 12/31/2016 --@ 12:00 P.M.  
To  
SUN 1/1/2017--@ 12:00 P.M.  
Join us for  
24 Hours of  
Experience, Strength and Hope**



**In Addition  
There will be a Potluck,  
Speaker Meeting & Dance  
Sat. 12/31/2016**

**\*\***

**6:00—Potluck  
7:30—Speaker Meeting  
9:00-12:00—Dance  
Bring in the New Year with  
Your Fellows**

**\*\*\*\***

**(Please sign up to bring a potluck dish  
on the sign-up sheet provided)**

# CARRY THE MESSAGE TO TEENS LOCKED UP

Facility Tour Wed. January 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm

4000 Edith Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107

**Interested volunteers must be added to a list no later than 1/11/17 otherwise, you will be denied entry. Please contact Amanda P. 505.907.6052**

Albuquerque AA has a long history of working with the incarcerated youth at the Camino Nuevo Juvenile Facility (Behind YDDC). This is the only co-ed correctional unit in the state and most, if not all, of these teens, ages 14-20, are serving 1 to 2 year sentences related to

## VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

their addiction.

The approval process is simple but can take three to six months for final approval.

- Minimum 6 mo. sobriety
- Pass background check- *DUIs and some past offenses okay*. Cannot be on parole or have criminal offenses of abuse or crimes related to children (*case-by-case*).
- Available to chair or co-chair **at least one to two meetings per month** at a set time.
  - Being able to relate to these kids is very important!

If you attend the Tour your next steps will be:

1. Complete background paperwork with Volunteer Coordinator
2. Once initial background check approved, get fingerprints taken (no cost to you)
3. Once secondary background check is done, complete online courses
4. Badge is issued and a regularly scheduled meeting time is confirmed with a Unit

# Hobbs Original Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Happening

Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 2017  
19U J4 5013

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Happening

The Hobbs Original Group is hosting 2 of our friends from Cleveland, OH who will be sharing their journey to Recovery in one of the oldest fellowships in our history!

Welcome  
Greg F. and Kelly S.

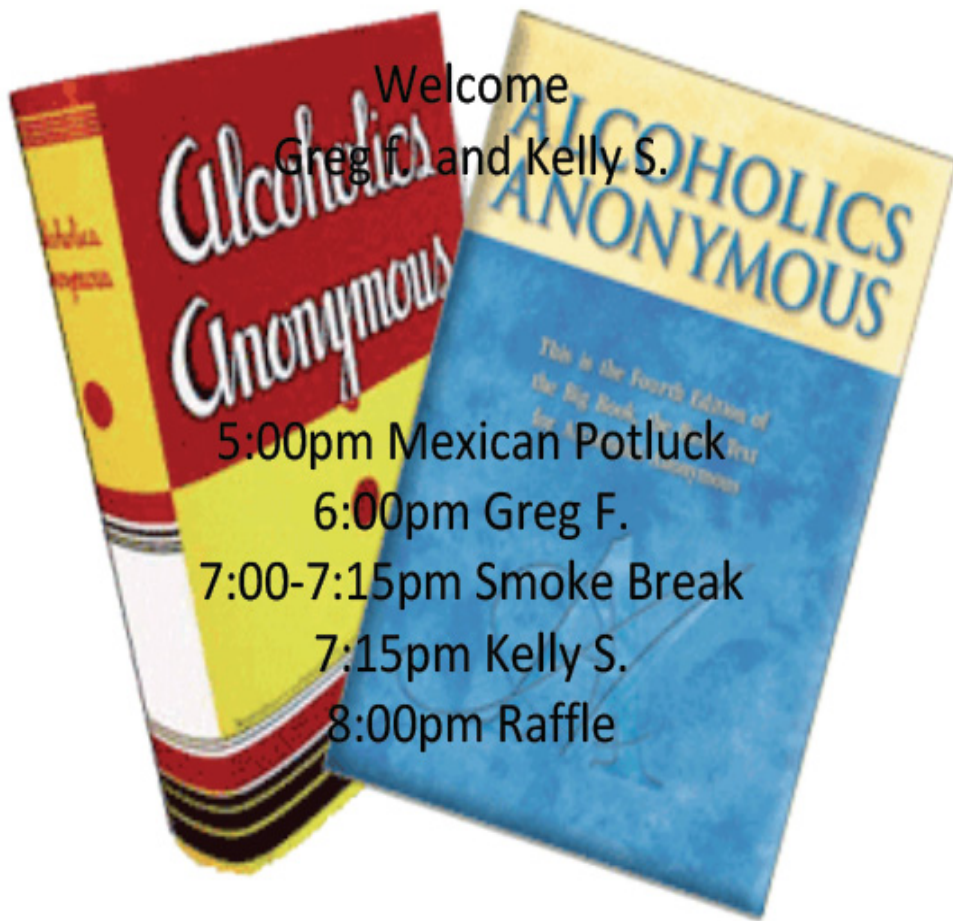
5:00pm Mexican Potluck

6:00pm Greg F.

7:00-7:15pm Smoke Break

7:15pm Kelly S.

8:00pm Raffle





## From the Editor

During the lunch hour of the December Assembly in Carlsbad I was taken aback. In the cold rain of the parking lot the serpentine belt broke on my minivan. I wasn't going anywhere. Within five minutes of cracking the hood, a mechanic and go-for parts person were standing in the rain with me. In an hour and a half they had the engine running again. Thank you, Henry and Jason.

Later that afternoon, I had the honor of failing a disapproval vote to become the new El Farolito Editor, 2017-2018 rotation. Thank you everybody for your confidence to serve. In February you will see a few minor adjustments in format and font changes. Nothing to bend any eyebrows, I hope.

Jay M. has been a blessing for Area 46. He has organized the monthly process of production for El Farolito beyond anybody's expectation. A national magazine would be pleased with his organizational talent.

Jeff H.





El Farolito  
PO Box 35876  
Albuquerque, NM 87176

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