

## January 2026 District 36 Business Meeting

Call to Order

Twelve Traditions - Paul

Introductions and AA birthdays - Greta

GSR sharing – Grace Sunlight of the Spirit, looking into budget for 2026 to send GSR’s to the Assembly in October.

**Area 72 Business Quarterly January 2026** – Friday night I participated in an area inventory.

We broke down into groups (less than 8

people each) and did 4 questions from a list of 16. These were assigned to 16 groups in a matrix. We then reported on the results from our inventory group to the participants.

New format for me but it worked well for a large group. We got good feedback and discussion in the small groups. We also sent our notes to the secretary to compile. The Chair will form an ad hoc committee to collate and review the results with a report to the Area.

### **Special housekeeping motion**

The Area Alternator Treasurer, Derek N, stepped down from his position before the quarterly. The first discussion was two parts: can we as the Area committee, decide on a replacement for Derek or does this need to be put before a special vote of the full Assembly? We decided because of time constraints (the need to replace Derek because of the workload for the alternate), the concepts around delegation of authority for service positions, and the trust that most groups have in their DCM to take care of this type of business that we would as a committee figure out the best replacement without a full vote of the Assembly. The discussion turned to who would and could replace the alternate treasurer. There were three options put forward:

1. The second-place vote getter from the 2024 Assembly (Don N our current Secretary).
2. A past alternate treasurer who is currently not holding an area position but is available for service (Eddy M-M).
3. Open the position to nominations from the floor.

We made a motion to replace Derek N with Eddy M-M and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Discussion Topic #1: Area Website Geofence**

District 25 asks that the Webservant and Web Steering Committee use alternate tools to ensure the website’s normal operation and reduce the geofence restrictions as much as possible.

Several years ago, the Area 72 website experienced downtime as a result of spam attacks. To prevent continued attacks, the Area Webservant set up a “geofence” - a firewall that prevents access to the website from outside the United States and Canada. Due to this geofencing, members who travel or reside internationally are not able to access the website.

Conclusion We ask that the Webservant and Web Steering Committee use alternate tools to ensure the website’s normal operation, and reduce the geofence restrictions as much as possible.

Floor discussion points

- Wording is kept as open as possible to give web and tech flexibility in implementation.
- People are able to use Area 72 web site outside of US/Canada via VPN or static IP that the web servant can register with web site. Both take a bit of work and are specific to each user.
- District 25 told us that this is impacting their business via members outside US/Canada who cannot fully participate in general service without the resources on the web site.

### **Discussion Topic #2: Sound Chair Appointed Process**

The Tech Steering Committee recommends that the appointed position of Sound Chair for each rotation be by recommendation of the Tech Steering Committee before selection by the Elected and approval by the Area Committee.

Background: In 2022, Area 72 voted to establish the Technology Steering Committee due to the technological complexity in providing hybrid functionality to Area Quarterlies and Assembly with the addition of online District 25 and to promote cooperation amongst the different technology focused committees. A process has been developed over the last five years that requires a rotation of training before one is qualified to chair the technology operation of an area quarterly. Very similar to the Area Archivist, the Technology Steering Committee believes the Area Sound Chair is now a position that requires more technical expertise than what may be available through the standard appointed selection process by the elected. It recommends at least one rotation of training before being qualified to serve in the positions. Therefore, the Steering Committee is in the best position to make a recommendation of who is most qualified to serve in the Sound Chair position following rotation.

Floor discussion points

- This follows the archivist model who is also a specialist and the archives committee has a well followed process for recommending archivist
- Most DCM and Assembly don't know how the recommendations are made or completed for appointed so this could be implemented without feedback from assembly. The chair noted that we are talking about it for transparency.

### **Discussion Topic #3: Third Legacy Standing Committee**

Discuss creating an Area Third Legacy Standing Committee to support the District Third Legacy Chairs.

Background: As of date, 14 out of 34 districts that responded to our 2025 Chair's poll have Third Legacy Chairs. Several of these chairs and DCMs have begun attending a monthly roundtable hosted by District 25's Third Legacy Chair. The roundtable is intended to create a supportive environment where District Third Legacy Chairs can share their experience, strength, and hope with each other as they fulfill their responsibilities—encouraging service work within their districts and assisting with the various challenges of general service work. Many Third Legacy Chairs are past DCMs with experience at the Area Committee level that can benefit an incoming District

rotation. We believe the District Third Legacy Chair can be a valuable position for any district.

Purpose: Establishing an area standing committee, along with standing committee quarterlies, will support existing District Third Legacy Chairs and their DCMs and may help other districts recognize the value of this role and establish their own Third Legacy Chairs to engage in and contribute to the committee's work.

No Annual Cost: If the Third Legacy Standing Committee Quarterly meetings are held on zoom, there would be no Quarterly cost. And if the committee was chaired by the Area Alternate Delegate or a Past Delegate, there would be no need for an Appointed Position and therefore no cost to the Area for an additional appointed position.

What is a District Third Legacy Chair? The purpose of the Third Legacy Chair is to inform and educate those coming into District service. The Third Legacy Chair assists DCMs, GSRs and committee chairs in understanding their responsibilities based on past experience. They are or become familiar with the Traditions, Concepts, Service Manual and District Handbook. Other examples of Third Legacy Chair responsibilities may be coordinate with GSRs and committee members to encourage service within the District or work on special projects; coordinate workshops and roundtables; and attend all district meetings and be available for questions.

Floor discussion points

- Most committee members who have and use 3rd Legacy chairs support the idea of an area committee to share and support 3rd legacy work
- It was not clear to some if this is different than what the Alternate Delegate does already (with GSR/DCM workshops and DCM roundtable).

#### **Discussion Topic #4 Should Area 72 Welcome International Groups to District 25?**

Discuss whether the participation of international groups in District 25 aligns with Area 72's group conscience.

Background Information

- October 2021: Area 72 passes Motion 21.3, creating a district for online groups and defining its boundaries as "all of Area 72." Concerns are raised about authority and the inclusion of members from outside the Area.
- October 2022: A group from another Area (Florida) joins District 25. The Assembly discusses whether out-of-Area groups should participate in Area 72. Some express concern about voting and representation.
- October 2023: Area 72 passes Motion 23.2, affirming that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries. Some members express concern that including groups from outside the U.S./Canada may exceed Area 72's authority.

Current Status

- District 25 has 52 groups, with an average of 45–47 GSRs, Alt GSRs, or stand-ins attending business meetings.
- Two groups are based internationally—one in Spain, one in Ukraine—and are primarily composed of American A.A. members (ex-pats, military), with some

local members. A third group from Colombia has attended District 25 business meetings as a visitor but has not officially joined.

- These international groups joined District 25 to participate in A.A. service due to the lack of online districts or online Areas in their regions.

- District 25 identifies fully as part of Area 72 and does not seek to form an online Area. Prospective groups are encouraged to attend a business meeting and understand that participation means contributing to Area 72, not just their own group.

Floor discussion points

- Is it the business of the Area committee to police membership at the district level? Is there really a process to confirm where a group resides before they join a District? Even if Area decided to restrict membership how would it be enforced?

- The conference is US and Canada. Does Area 72 as a conference member have the authority to allow membership from groups outside of the conference geographic area.

- The groups want to do service in Area 72 because they cannot do it within their locale for a number of reasons. If they had a path to service via international AA they would prefer that. Also, this is only a small number of groups (two right now).

- Two past delegates brought up info published by GSO that seems to restrict groups from joining who are outside US. One was a recommendation on the

website that international groups contact their own service org for registration or GSO for help in finding that info.

- The groups that are outside the US – Ukraine and Spain already have GSO group IDs so seemed to have been accepted already.

District Chair reports

- **Archives – Allison** - No Report

- **Corrections – Natalie** – Brought more literature to Echo Glen, having guest speakers come in from dist. 36. Looking to have a corrections workshop in early 2026. Looking into a pink can (separate donation for corrections literature) at Hope Hall.

- **ESIG Rep – Patrick** – \$6132 in pink can donations for 2025. ESIG started November \$29,000 and ended with \$29,000. There was discussion about getting rid of Zoom for ESIG. Next open meeting Jan 8<sup>th</sup> will discuss policy and procedures for ESIG.

- **Events – Jerry** – Gratitude tree lighting was held in December at Hope Hall. Alcothon on Christmas and New Years, brought in \$170 for the district between both events.

- **Grapevine and Literature – Erik** –

We (Myself, Jerry and Natalie) organized the literature at hope hall into Dist 36 Lit and

Corrections Literature. There is a brochure rack for events (I am guessing) and some other random AV equipment. Dwayne donated some old-school 12 Trads pamphlets. I am going to inventory everything and keep a log in the closet so we can keep track and be more strategic with what we buy and stock. Due to flooding, I did not attend the quarterly, but plan on making the next one.

- **Gratitude Dinner – Natalie** – created a survey about the gratitude dinner to go out to groups. Please email these to Natalie or return to them at the next meeting. Will hold a debrief meeting with the committee in February.

- **Web and Digital – Tami** – No Report

- **Young People – Jeremiah** – No Report

District Officer reports

- **Secretary – Greta** – Minutes accepted for December. Asking for feedback about weather groups are receiving meeting minutes via email.

- **Registrar – Tami** – A new schedule has been updated with a time change for Stillwater Serenity.

- **Treasurer – Dwayne** – Checking PO BOX twice a month, so some checks from December did not get deposited until January. See Treasurer Report at the bottom of this report.

- **Alternate DCM – Jeff** - No Report

- **DCM – Mike** – Still getting Bridge the Gap calls looking for volunteers to field calls.

Old business

- District 18 ask - any info on groups/individuals that want to print newsletter
- Hope Hall Storage – stage, other items – no need to get rid of the stage and other items as the cost for storage doesn't change because the price is based off of the closet.
- Hope Hall Storage – books - see literature report
- Open positions, volunteers for service

Accessibility – John wants to volunteer for accessibility because he has a lot of experience in the challenges that differently abled persons face when looking for and attending meetings. Nominated and accepted.

Bridge the Gap/Treatment – still needed

Cooperation with Professional Community/Public Information – still needed

Third Legacy – Paul – Most of general service is GSR & ALT DCM, has also served at the group level. He is interested in this position because his recovery has always benefited from service. Nominated and accepted.

New business

Area Email address for all service positions

District to host Eastside events (pre-conference, report backs, pre-assembly)

### **• Five takeaways for this month's business meeting**

1. We have more volunteers for service. John C. Is our new Accessibility Chair and Paul A will be our District 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy Chair

2. Our Gratitude Dinner Chair (Natalie C) would like your feedback on our Gratitude Dinner. She has a feedback survey (one pager) that will be provided to groups.
3. Our 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions were \$3381 for 2025.
4. District spending for 2025 came in under budget by close to \$2000 (final figures to be presented in February).
5. The DCM (me) provided discussion topics from the Area 72 January Quarterly. Discuss with your groups and help form our district conscience as these move through the quarterly process.

Close the meeting

**Balance Sheet ending  
December 31st, 2025** Income:  
**\$47.14**

12/3/2025	District 36th - 7th tradition	contribution	\$22.00	
12/31/2025	account transfer (savings to checking)	keep acct active	\$25.00	
12/31/2025	interest checking	Interest	\$0.30	
12/31/2025	interest savings	Interest		\$0.11

Expenses: **\$113.53**

12/19/2025	Kewn J (chk # 1431)	Gratitude Dinner	-\$70.00	
12/23/2025	zoom	technology	-\$18.53	
12/31/2025	account transfer (savings to checking)	keep acct active		-\$25.00

2025 Budget								
	Budgeted	Actual						
DCM	\$800.00	\$	557.59	April quarterly \$64, July quarterly \$242.59, assembly in October \$251				
Alt DCM	\$800.00							
District workshops/events		\$	50.00	district host 8/6/25 - \$50				
district technology, printing	\$300.00	\$	248.25	printing for Gratitude dinner 101.90 sept 3/2025				
Online technology	\$400.00							
Secretary	\$25.00							
ESIG	\$25.00							
Treasurer	\$75.00	\$	42.88	Stamps				
Bridge the Gap	\$25.00							
Grapevine and Literature	\$150.00	\$	81.47	Grapevine and AA pamphlets				
CPC/PI	\$100.00							
Treatment	\$100.00							
Accessibility	\$75.00							
Registrar	\$50.00							
Alcothon	\$50.00	\$	51.74					
Workshops	\$200.00							
Events	\$300.00	\$	464.90	campout expense \$209.72/District picnic expense 255.18				
Gratitude Dinner	\$1,500.00	\$	1,446.00					
Corrections	\$100.00	\$	64.78					
Storage	\$480.00	\$	480.00					
Rent	\$240.00	\$	240.00					
PO Box	\$182.00	\$	182.00					
Young People in A.A.	\$100.00							
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,077.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,909.61</b>					
<b>Total Budget PR</b>	<b>\$1,719.25</b>							
<b>Rounded</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>							

## Gratitude Dinner 2025

<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
Rental fee	\$1,000.00
Coffee supplies	\$ 176.00
Babysitting	\$ 200.00
AA books	\$ 28.00
Event insurance	\$ 134.00
plates and sternos	\$ 173.20
Snacks	\$ 70.00
	<b>\$1,781.20</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
Raffle	\$ 670.00
50/50	\$ 365.00
Tickets at Door	\$1,000.00
SignUp Genius (Oct)	\$ 185.90
SignUp Genius (Nov)	\$ 445.38
PayPal Ticket/Raffle/50-50	\$ 85.43
	<b>\$2,751.71</b>
<b>Gratitude Dinner Earnings</b>	<b>\$ 970.51</b>