



EL FAROLITO

Official Newsletter of New Mexico Area 46 Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous

OFFICERS

Delegate

I just want to express my gratitude to all of the members of District 16 and Area 46 for all your efforts to put on and attend such a great Area Assembly. The business of Area 46 must continue, and to do that we need assemblies to be successful. This assembly looked, felt, and appeared to be the same as our traditional in-person assemblies. We just looked at each other on a screen. I think we can all rest assured that the business of Area 46 can be successfully conducted on a virtual platform. Thank you to all.

As of Wednesday September 9, GSO announced the launch of a newly redesigned online contributions experience available to all groups and members in the United States and Canada.

This new redesign comes with significant improvements, including the ability to contribute without registering for an account and to receive instant email acknowledgments. For members who choose to register an account, both their contribution and webstore details will be available in one unified view. The contributions link can be found on the top of the *AA.org* homepage.

Also, as of Wednesday September 9, GSO announced the launch of the new A.A.W.S. webstore for business-to-business (intergroups and central offices) and all other customers. This newly designed webstore features many improvements in efforts to make the purchase of our literature easily accessible to all who need and want it. The link to the on-

line bookstore can be also found on the top of the *AA.org* homepage.

Conference reports are winding down and preparations for the 71st General Service Conference are beginning. If you or your group or district have a suggestion for an agenda item for next year's General Services Conference, please feel free to contact me for more detail on how to get that idea submitted. Deadline will be December 15, 2020.

GSO continues to need our support as a result of the impact of COVID-19. As was mentioned before in my May report:

This is unprecedented time in the world and a pivotal moment for AA.

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Delegado

Sólo quiero expresar mi gratitud a todos los miembros del Distrito 16 y del Área 46 por todos sus esfuerzos para poner y asistir a una tan gran Asamblea del Área. El negocio de Área 46 debe seguir, y hacer esto necesitamos Asambleas para tener éxito. Esta Asamblea parecía, sentía y pareció ser la misma que nuestras Asambleas tradicionales en persona, solo miramos el uno al otro en una pantalla. Pienso que todos

podemos estar seguros de que el negocio del Área 46 puede ser llevado a cabo con éxito en una plataforma virtual. Gracias a todos.

Además, a partir del miércoles 9 de septiembre, GSO anunció el lanzamiento de la nueva tienda web de A.A.W.S. para negocios a negocios (intergrupos y oficinas centrales) y todos los demás clientes. Esta tienda web de nuevo diseño cuenta con muchas mejoras en los esfuerzos para hacer que la compra de nuestra literatura sea fácilmente accesible para todos los que lo necesitan y lo quieren. El enlace a la librería en línea también se puede encontrar en la parte superior de la *AA.org*. Página principal.

Los informes de la Conferencia están terminando y comienzan los

preparativos para la 71a Conferencia de Servicios Generales. Si usted o su grupo o Distrito tiene una sugerencia para un punto del orden del día para la Conferencia del próximo año, no dude en ponerse en contacto conmigo para obtener más detalles sobre cómo obtener esa idea enviada. La fecha límite será el 15 de diciembre de 2020.

La OSG sigue necesitando nuestro apoyo como resultado del impacto de Covid-19. Como se mencionó anteriormente en mi informe de mayo:

Este es un tiempo sin precedentes en el mundo y un momento crucial para A.A. Ahora es el momento de que esta generación de

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Alternate Delegate

I hope this report finds you well and in good spirits. I want to thank everyone who had part in the Area 46 September Assembly. Starting with District 16, thank you for hosting. It wasn't like going to Silver City, but maybe you will put in a bid to host an Assembly again and get us all down there soon. We would love to come visit you guys in person. Also a great shout out to the Tech Team that greased the wheels and kept the Assembly going. Great job team.

My first duty at the September Assembly was to host the New GSR Orientation which I thought went well. For my assembly report I talked about the Zoom meetings we Southwest Region Alternate Delegates had with the SWRAASA com-

mittee. I explained how it was solely up to the SWRAASA Committee to cancel the SWRAASA event. Also, I shared how a first-time National and Canada Alternate Delegates Zoom meeting took place. Not all Alternate Delegates attended the meeting but 56 of us did including six from the Southwest Region. As a new starting committee we had a few decisions to make: do we want to meet again, and when and how often? Yes we will meet again to discuss issues and happenings in our areas and on the first of every month. I am so looking forward to this new National / Canada Alternate Delegates Committee.

On the Area 46 Service Forum which I co-chair with Kerri K. our Area Web Chair, Edwin L joined us

as the elected Spanish co-chair along with Manuel P. from District 17. Not Manuel Popcorn P. who many of you know. Welcome guys. I am glad to have District 17 on board. Our forum meetings take place on the second Saturday of every month at 3:00 p.m. Please join us. Ray R., our Service Forum Program chair, is having the program meeting on the first Monday of every month. I'm sure the info for both meetings is on our Area website *nm-aa.org* or contact me at *altdelegate@nm-aa.org* or Kerri K. at *webchair@nm-aa.org*, also if you would like to join one of our committees.

Yours in Service

Eloy M.

Alternate Delegate Panel 70

Chair

Greetings,

I want to thank everyone that participated in the virtual assembly that we held in September. We had a great turnout and it went on pretty well. There were a couple of glitches but man if it were not for Kerri and her team of techs, it would not have turned out the way it did. May we all give Kerri and her team a big applause for all the hard work that they put into it to make it happen so smoothly. Diana L. from GSO staff gave her story Friday night and then talked about the GSO on Saturday

night. Both nights were great.

I hope everyone is well. It sure seems like this social distancing and staying at home is here for some time yet. I know it is tough to do but I believe that our Higher Power will keep us safe and protected. We should also be responsible to help protect others by following the CDC guidelines which at this time states we should not have gatherings of more than 10. At this time, we are not classified as an essential business or drug and alcohol treatment. Let us keep the good name of AA in mind

and be responsible.

The area planning meeting for the December assembly is still scheduled for October 24. At this time, we do not know if it will be a virtual meeting or if it will be in person. More will be revealed in the future.

Stay safe, stay healthy. Hope to see you all soon.

Yours in service,

Kurt K.

Area 46 Chairperson

**Tradition
of the
Month**

TEN

“Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.”

Treasurer

Thank you to all who attended our first full virtual assembly. I thought it was a great success and we accomplished a lot. It's good to know we can still do our work and carry the message during these difficult times.

As I mentioned in my report at the assembly, the pandemic has required us to suspend many of our planned expenses, such as assemblies, planning meetings, travel to convention, and SWRAASA. I expect that by the end of the year we will have only spent about 30% of our budget. In the meantime, our contributions have been on pace with our three-year average. While I am grateful to all the groups that have contributed, this means our contributions will far surpass our expenses for 2020. If you consider the prudent reserve as a

“measure of good health” this situation puts us in an unhealthy position and it's likely we will end the year with a significant amount of excess funds.

I believe that the 7th Tradition of “self support” is an important part of our recovery and it is always our responsibility to contribute. But I believe that it is also our responsibility to know when and where to contribute and to contribute wisely. I would like to encourage all our groups to examine the financial statements of the service entities to which we con-

tribute and make informed decisions based on those statements. If you have questions about that information or would like to know how to get the information, please contact me and I would be happy to be of service.

The print version of our *El Farolito* contains my financial report as of September 10. These are the same figures that I reported at our September assembly.

In service,
Christoph, Area 46 Treasurer

Send Contributions for Area 46 to:
NM Area 46 AA
P.O. Box 587
El Prado, NM 87529

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Accessibilities & Remote Communities

Five people attended our committee meeting. This was the first ARC committee meeting held in this rotation. Our discussions focused around some of the obstacles and new opportunities that have surfaced as a result of health restrictions and their impact upon members' and a potential member's ability to get to a meeting.

Jacqueline, District 12, talked about a project that she has begun for her district to create a pamphlet as a reference guide for available meeting options. Specifically, they have been focused on getting information to nursing homes and rehabilitation centers in their area. Chris D., District 9, advised us that some of the members in his area have to travel two to three hours to get to a meeting because even the ability to get to on-

line meetings is sometimes difficult due to a lack of internet availability in the area. Desiree', District 16, reported that they have Zoom meetings seven days a week and that they have been well attended.

Our Delegate, Bill L., who is serving on the Accessibilities and Remote Communities for GSO this year, let us know that there are several prototypes already available for us to use as a guide in creating a tri-fold type reference for our area. Bill also expressed his hope that home groups will continue their commitment to ensure that online meetings continue even after the health restrictions are lifted. The online resources have proven to be a viable resource for many who cannot otherwise get to a meeting. We talked about including Zoom meetings in schedules, but that

it's also necessary to ensure that they have hosts committed to chairing the meetings. Additionally, he reported that GSO is in the process of creating a new Accessibilities workbook.

Although we were a small group, we got off to a good start! We shared contact information and will be communicating on ideas for moving forward. I will be in contact with DCMs and GSRs to invite others to join us in helping to improve our accessibility to all! If you are interested or have any questions, please call me at 575-317-4998 or email me at accessibilities@nm-aa.org

In love and service,

Jennifer W.

Accessibilities & Remote
Communities Chair

OFFICERS

Delegate

➔ *continued from page 1*

Now is the time for this generation of our membership to demonstrate what self-supporting really means –

We as a fellowship will be obligated to decide if we want to continue forward depending upon literature sales as a portion of our revenue plan.

With ever-decreasing hard copy literature being utilized in our society, do we want to continue to be dependent upon literature sales? What cultural shift can we make to become less dependent on literature sales? Historically, our custom has been to place our 7th Tradition contribution into the group basket and allow the Circle of Love process to take place. This process takes a portion of our contribution for group expenses, then maybe for a Central Office, and then a portion for our district, and possibly the area. Sometimes *El Farolito*, or Corrections are supported, and final-

ly some percentage is forwarded to GSO. This is as it should be, and has been for many, many years. Previous versions of some of the self-support pamphlets have suggested that 30% be sent in to the GSO. This means that typically, 1/3 of what is left over after expenses is ultimately sent in to GSO, probably less than ten cents of any dollar that you put in the basket. I wonder if our fellowship truly would like to shift away from dependency on literature, could we change the culture from Circle of Love contributions to more direct individual contributions? What if more members began to make their contributions to GSO personally, and directly to GSO? Instead of ten cents of each dollar going to GSO, all 100% of that dollar would go to GSO. As has been mentioned in the past, the cost of services spent by GSO on each individual has been either side of \$8 for a few years. What if individuals would contribute \$10, one time a year directly to GSO? Individually, we would be self-supporting. Or skip a \$5 Starbucks coffee two times a year

and send that \$5 to GSO? How about the Birthday Plan? Send in a dollar a year for your sobriety. By year eight, we become self-supporting. Maddy and I send in a penny a day for each birthday. I know that we feel good on the inside knowing that we contribute more to GSO than they spend on us. We have no problem supporting the program which has saved our lives, and so tremendously enriched them. I invite each of you to consider this cultural shift and whether you would like to adopt it as your own.

I would like to remind everyone that the Young Peoples video "Young and Sober in A.A.: From Drinking to Recovery" which was made here in Area 46 in 2016 – 2017, and approved by the 68th General Service Conference in 2018, was finalized and released by GSO in February. It is still the featured home page video on the aa.org website.

In Love and Service,

Bill L., Area 46 Delegate

Ad Hoc Committee About the Books

We had a wonderful turnout at our Assembly committee meeting this September 12. Over 70 people came to hear about and contribute to our progress.

First bit of good news is we now have official word from Bernalillo County that AA Area 46 can do what we wish with the books.

Second bit of good news is our committee has now examined all five of the original options and we are ready to either discard, combine or recommend one or more of these options to the area.

There may be other options we haven't considered so our work isn't done yet.

In this report I want to share the traditions we are most concerned with:

Tradition One: Whatever we recommend it is our prayer that the recommendation foster unity within our area.

Tradition Two: That our recommendation come from an informed group conscience and substantial unanimity.

Tradition Three: That we do not limit our definition of who has access to these books. Any alcoholic anywhere can benefit.

Tradition Four: That group autonomy is primary and caution should be taken that no group's decision affect AA as a whole. For instance, as these books have no monetary value, they cannot be sold.

Tradition Five: Our groups' primary purpose with the books is to help the alcoholic who still suffers.

Tradition Seven: How does the distribution of these books line up with our pledge of self-support through voluntary contributions

Tradition Nine: Our disorganization is an asset. There cannot be pressure from the bottom of the upside-down triangle to the top on what to do with the books.

Over the next few months we will meet every other Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom to come to some final recommendation to Area 46. At this point we welcome your participation for any ideas which go beyond the original five options so we may have a fully informed group conscience. Please contact me at *chairahcab@nm-aa.org* if you want to participate.

In love of service,
Kristina F.

Archives

Wow! Once again we are experiencing history in the making. Hats off in respect and gratitude to all who worked so hard to make our Area 46 virtual assembly a success. Website committee and the members who continue to give to AA are awesome. You are the example of what I want to be today.

There were 10 participants, representing seven districts in the Archives committee meeting. We are reaching out to Area 46 members to get those oral and group histories done. I am available to help in any way I can.

Dennis T. from District 16 is working on three long-timers for an oral history. I will continue to work with him to get those interviews, either separate or as a group, through the area Zoom account.

The idea of recording personal and group accounts specific to our current pandemic situation was discussed. Let's get it recorded.

We are putting out a request for back issues of *El Farolito* 1970 through 1997 and *Grapevine* issues containing New Mexico contributors, 1997 through 2010. Please make announcement at your district meet-

ing and group meetings. Please keep your eyes open for these and contact Michelle T., our Area 46 Archivist.

Next meeting will be Friday October 2 on Zoom. The meeting information will be on the Area 46 website. We are looking for district Archives chairs. Anyone with an interest, please contact a member of the Archives committee.

There has been zero spending from the Archives committee budget. 😞

In Love and Service,
Patience B.
Area 46 Archives Chair

November Edition Editorial Deadline: **Thursday, October 15 @ 11:59 p.m.**
Please email to *elfarolito@nm-aa.org* and to *timmomd@gmail.com*

Delegado

➔ *continúa de la página 1*

nuestra membresía demuestre lo que significa realmente el autoapoyo –

Nosotros, Como un Compañerismo estaremos obligados a decidir si queremos seguir adelante dependiendo de las ventas de literatura como parte de nuestro plan de ingresos.

Con cada vez la literatura impresa decreciente siendo utilizada en nuestra sociedad, ¿queremos seguir dependiendo de las ventas de literatura? ¿Qué cambio cultural podemos hacer para volvernos menos dependientes de las ventas de literatura? Lo Históricamente, nuestra costumbre ha sido colocar nuestra 7a contribución de la 7a Tradición en la canasta del Grupo y permitir que el proceso del Círculos del Amor tenga lugar. Este proceso toma una parte de nuestra contribución para gastos de grupo, entonces tal vez para una Oficina Central, y ellos una parte para nuestro Distrito, y posiblemente el Área. A veces El Farolito o Correcciones son soportados, y finalmente un porcentaje es enviado a la OSG. Esto es como debe ser, y ha sido durante muchos, muchos años. Las versiones anteriores de algunos de los folletos de autoayuda han sugerido que el 30% se envíe a la OSG. Esto significa que típicamente, 1/3 de lo que queda después de que los gastos son por último hechos pasar a OSG. Probablemente menos de 10¢ de cualquier dólar que ponga en la canasta. Me pregunto “¿Si a nuestro compañerismo realmente le gustara cambiar lejos de la dependencia de la literatura, podríamos cambiar la cultura del

Círculo del Amor a contribuciones individuales más directas? ¿Qué pasa si más miembros comenzaron a hacer sus contribuciones a la OSG personalmente y directamente a la OSG? En lugar de 10¢ de cada dólar que se destinara a la OSG, el 100% de ese dólar se destinaría a la OSG. Como se ha mencionado en el pasado, el costo de los servicios gastados por la OSG en cada individuo ha sido de 8 dólares durante unos años. Qué pasaría si las personas contribuyeran \$10, una vez al año directamente a la OSG. Individualmente, seríamos autosuficientes. ¿O saltarse un café Starbucks de \$5 dos veces al año y enviar esos \$5 a OSG? ¿Qué tal el Plan de Cumpleaños? Envía un dólar al año por tu sobriedad. Para el año 8, nos volvemos autosuficientes. Maddy y yo enviamos un centavo al día por cada cumpleaños. Sé que nos sentimos bien por dentro sabiendo que contribuimos más a la OSG de lo que gastan en nosotros. No tenemos problema apoyando el programa que ha salvado nuestras vidas, y tan tremendamente los ha enriquecido. Invito a cada uno de ustedes a considerar este cambio cultural y si le gustaría adoptarlo como su propio.

Me gustaría recordar a todos que el Video de los Jóvenes «Jóvenes y Sobrios en A.A.: Del Beber a la Recuperación» que se hizo aquí en el Área 46 en 2016 – 2017, y aprobado por la 68ª Conferencia de Servicios Generales en 2018, fue finalizado y lanzado por la OSG en febrero. Sigue siendo el video destacado de la Página de Inicio en aa.org sitio web.

En el Amor y el Servicio

Bill L., Delegado del Área 46

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DISTRICT 5 AA HOTLINE

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505 425-3577

DISTRICT 7 (ROSWELL)

575 622-6560

DISTRICT 8 (FARMINGTON)

505 327-0731

DISTRICT 9 (GALLUP)

505 722-4818

DISTRICT 10 (HOBBS)

575 397-7009, 392-5259

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575 887-0119

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*Please email changes or corrections to
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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. Groups are the primary source of support. Individual AA members and Inter-Groups are encouraged to contribute.

CPC

Greetings from Taos! I would like to thank District 16 for hosting the September Area 46 Virtual Assembly. Your hard work is deeply appreciated! We had 16 AA members attend the CPC Committee meeting on Saturday September 12. I provided an overview of CPC functions: how we inform professionals about AA — what we are, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do. CPC committees attempt to establish better communication between AAs and professionals, and to find simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating.

We had the privilege of having a staff member from the AA’s General Service Office from New York, Diana L., CPC Coordinator, share with the participants CPC service opportunity examples. Lawrence reported on a presentation by committee member, Osha H. to the staff of Oxford Houses in Albuquerque before the pandemic crisis. Also, Janet A. provided past and current work in District 18 with UNM Medical School and Presbyterian Medical Services.

Lawrence provided an update on the status of AA under the New Mexico governor’s public health orders

for social distancing and building occupancy. AA has not been declared an essential service and that Area 46 officers have written a letter to the governor asking for essential service status but have not heard back from the governor at this time.

For more information on CPC, I welcome you to join the Area 46 monthly CPC committee via Zoom on October 5 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at cpc@nm-aa.org.

In the Spirit of Service,
Lawrence M.

Corrections

Hello Area 46,

I hope everyone is in good health and you are enjoying the final days of summer. I attended the virtual September Area Assembly and was privileged to chair my first Corrections committee meeting. Several area members in attendance provided some valuable insights and a few great suggestions for carrying the message to our brothers and sisters that are incarcerated. Although not much has changed in being allowed physical access into the prisons and

jails, we can do a couple of things to help carry the message. One great idea is to join the Corrections Correspondence Service through the GSO by contacting them and providing a few details about yourself. You are paired with an offender in a state that does not border your home state and you begin communicating to them from the outside, a fairly simple way to help someone on the inside. I am creating an Area Corrections Contact (ACC) card so when an offender is being released, they are

given an ACC card which lists local meetings in the area they are going to live in. When they arrive at their first meeting, they can show the card and ask for help in their recovery and any member may volunteer to help the individual. The ACC cards will be sent in an email to all Area DCMs in October. More to follow on that idea.

Gratefully yours in service,
Jimmy F.
Area Corrections Chair

Literature

The Literature Committee meeting had seven people present at the September Assembly and this fact alone allowed us to have a great sharing session with everybody able to share their thoughts. The topic I chose was one that our delegate Bill L. gave to me to look at this spring prior to the conference. The topic was a translation of the Big Book into plain language. This is to make it easier to read, bringing the style and language of 1935 into modern times. It is a controversial issue as tradition

says the first 164 pages are not to be changed.

The Big Book has been translated into different languages, but this would be a translation that does change the wording. Does this really dilute the message? One thing that was noticed in the samples I shared is that the references to a Higher Power is now God as opposed to a gender specific “He.” Most of the people present supported the idea of a supplementary workbook as opposed to

a rewrite of the Big Book. If anybody would like more information about this please send me an email.

I would like to ask the area DCMs again to please ask for volunteers to join the Literature committee. We do a lot more than just sell books. I plan on starting online Zoom committee meetings in the very near future and I will be posting the times and dates when it is set up.

In love and service,
Dave F.

El Farolito

THANK YOU!

...to these groups for their recent contributions to *El Farolito*

<i>Rcvd. Group</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Rcvd. Group</i>	<i>Amount</i>
July Hobbs Original	9.93	Aug. Foothills Group (Albuquerque)	129.73
July Upon Awakening (Edgewood)	50.00	Aug. Cloudcroft Group	11.40
July Cosmopolitan Group (Albuquerque)	20.00	Aug. Tuesday 12x12 (Rio Rancho)	30.00
July Downtown Lunch Bunch (Albuquerque)	50.00	Aug. Dawn Patrol (Albuquerque)	16.06
July Serenity Group (Albuquerque)	84.00	Sept. Sunrise Catchers (Albuquerque)	35.00
July Dawn Patrol (Albuquerque)	12.12	Sept. District 3	100.00
July Boozers in Bathrobes (Santa Fe)	16.93	Sept. Jemez Springs	30.00
July One Day at a Time (Bernalillo)	50.00	Sept. Boozers in Bathrobes (Santa Fe)	19.55
July Straight Pepper Diet (Albuquerque)	20.00	Sept. Early Birds (Roswell)	20.00
July District 11	49.57	Sept. Red River	100.00
Aug. Experience, Strength & Hope (Taos)	28.80	Sept. Sober at Sunrise (Las Cruces)	25.00
Aug. Cedar Crest	20.00	Sept. Early Birds (Las Vegas)	25.00
Aug. District 16	100.00	Sept. Ruidoso Arid Group	20.00
Aug. Sober at Sunrise (Las Cruces)	50.00	Sept. Foothills Group (Albuquerque)	14.40
Aug. Early Birds (Roswell)	20.00		

Please send contributions to: *El Farolito*,
P.O. Box 1242, Taos, NM 87571

Did your group make a contribution that has not been acknowledged? Did you send a check that hasn't cleared? Please let me know by e-mailing elfarolito@nm-aa.org. Thanks!

After a late-summer touch of winter in much of the Land of Enchantment, it was a beautiful day to have a virtual assembly committee meeting on September 12.

While it is a continually unsettling and weird year, the September Assembly was an incredible success, thanks to the amazing work of so many in Area 46. I want to particularly mention Kerri K. and the web team. What an incredible organizational effort! Thank you.

The *El Farolito* committee held a productive meeting during which I presented the financial report for the *El Farolito* account for the six months ending August 31 (see page 11). With the decision to move to a virtual-only issue during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the continuing generosity of several groups and districts, *ELF* finds itself in fairly good financial shape heading into the last months of 2020. Our expenses

are running about \$100 more per month than our contributions as we're once again printing and mailing every issue. But with continued group support, we're able to continue planning to print and mail full issues of *ELF* into the fall and winter.

This is not to say that we don't need group contributions! They are still very much needed as we only have about two months worth of monthly expenses in our *El Farolito* prudent reserve. Thank you, Area 46, for your support for YOUR newsletter.

The desire to continue to have *El Farolito* in printed form in the future was expressed by a majority of committee members. While one committee member said she routinely prints out the digital issue for distribution among her group, others greatly preferred continuing the printed and mailed issues.

If your group wants to host a two-

hour "mailing party" for a future issue, please email me at elfarolito@nm-aa.org.

Please also see the larger-than-usual list of recent group contributions – I mistakenly left out about 10 donations made in August in the September issue. These are included in this month's monthly "Thank You" list – along with new ones received as of September 21.

As my two-year rotation comes to an end soon, I'd like to know of anyone interested in taking on all or part the *El Farolito* editor service work for the 2021-2022 term. The position can easily be divided into an Editor, who also serves as the Committee Chair, and a "business office" position, if someone wants to do one part of the job but not another. Contact me for more details!

Thanks,

Tim M.

2019-2020 *El Farolito* Chair

Finance

We had four items on the agenda to discuss.

- Online contributions
- Status update of the non-profit
- 2021 draft budget
- A little extra money

We discussed getting a platform set up to accept contributions to Area 46 on the website. Paypal and Venmo were suggested but it is clear some homework needs to be done to determine what the best platform will be for our needs, should the motion pass. One person asked if they would still be able to make contributions like they always have. The answer is yes, this would just be an additional way to send contributions to the area. We also discussed making sure we had a way to identify the groups or individuals the contributions came from. One member said that when they added online contributions at their home group, contributions have gone up.

I gave an update on my commu-

nications with a couple of different CPAs concerning our looking into filing for 501(c) non-profit status. I have talked to two different CPAs who basically told me, "yeah, you should do it." I feel like I have been unable to get clear non-biased answers to present to the Assembly so that we can an informed group conscience around this. On one hand this seems like a no-brainer but other members have raised concerns about this setting us on a path that will create ongoing time and expense that may not be necessary. I will have a much clearer picture for us to discuss in December.

After Christoph gave a brief Treasurer's report I presented the 2021 draft budget. There were a couple suggestions for changes and a few explanations of how certain figures were obtained. I said I would make those changes before I presented the draft budget to the Assembly. All in all it was fairly straight-forward.

As Christoph informed us in his report it appears we are going to end the year with a fair amount of cash.

Christoph said he feels like too much or too little cash above or below the prudent reserve is unhealthy and we should look at finding a purpose for that money. Suggestions were made to allocate some of that for potential fees around the non-profit work and other professional fees we may incur. Another suggestion was made to send a contribution to GSO. It was pointed out that even though the AIP states that excess monies not spent should stay in the area treasury there is a precedent for excess money to be sent to GSO (other than for a convention overage.) It was also mentioned that if you tell groups to stop sending in contributions it's sometimes difficult to get them to start sending contributions again. It was also mentioned that there are probably lots of good things that could be done with this money.

In short, there is a lot of work for the Finance committee to get done. That's it for now. See you in December.

Thanks. Julio

Public Information

Hi Everyone!

I'm glad that we made it through another virtual event for the September Area Assembly. It was great to see all your smiling faces once again

Thanks to District 16 and the Webchair and her Tech team for jobs well done. I am grateful to all who had made the assembly and had shared their experiences and suggestions for the betterment of the Area 46 Fellowship; and in carrying the AA message to all in need of guidance and direction.

I was happy to see such a great

turnout at all the various breakout sessions. With us in the P.I. committee, I believe that those of us serious about this service work will each find our way of carrying the AA message and give a hand to those reaching out for help. It is through the media, television, radio and word of mouth, the written word and the internet that we can continue to be effective in these times. As and for further information about the Public Information committee please visit, www.aa.org/pages/en_US/public-information-committee, to get the links for various samples of correspondence to agencies that

serve alcoholics.

For now, please feel free to contact me at (505) 315-7394 or email me at pi@nm-aa.org for more information. I'll now be busy with the District 9 Sobriety Gathering to be held on October 2-4 as a webinar. Contact us for registration at www.d9sobrietygathering.org or again call me at the number listed above. So, until I see you or hear from anyone of y'all, take care and stay protected!

In love and service,

Jerry F., Area P.I. Chair

Did you know *El Farolito* is paid for almost entirely through Area 46 AA group contributions?

Please consider contributing at your next group conscience. Mail contributions to:

***El Farolito* • P.O. Box 1242 • Taos, NM 87571**

Grapevine/La Viña

Greetings Area 46!

The *Grapevine/La Viña* committee meeting was held Saturday September 12, at the Area 46 virtual assembly with 12 attendees which included two past Area 46 *Grapevine/La Viña* Chairs.

We opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer and then with the first paragraph of the Statement of Purpose. It is important to know our purpose. It reads:

“AA *Grapevine* is the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Written, edited, illustrated, and read by AA members and others interested in the AA program of recovery from alcoholism, *Grapevine* is a life-line linking one alcoholic to another.”

We reviewed the tips for new GV/LV Reps as stated in the *Grapevine*. I reminded any new GVRs to register online at www.AAGrapevine.org, in case they have not done so. I would also like to be advised so I may get their contact information to include

them in any GV/LV notifications from Area 46.

We reviewed the small GV card titled “12 Ways *Grapevine* Helps.” This is a quick reference guide and as a reminder *Grapevine/La Viña* is a valuable tool in our 12th Step work.

I showed a slide of the *Grapevine/La Viña* display I have been working on which features *Grapevine/La Viña* editions for 2019 and 2020 with stories written by Area 46 AA members.

As always, everyone is encouraged to write and submit their stories, cartoons or photographs to *Grapevine* and *La Viña*. Information about the guidelines in submitting those to the *Grapevine* is on the website www.AAGrapevine.org.

Another discussion we had was about hosting writing workshops. We did have a GVR who is interested in doing so. I look forward to working with her on this event.

Grapevine has a promotion for

2020 about carrying the message. Please consider giving *Grapevine* or *La Viña* subscriptions as gifts. It could be a paper copy subscription or an online subscription.

The next virtual committee meeting is on Sunday October 18 at 4:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact me and I can send you the Zoom link. My email is grapevine@nm-aa.org. My contact information can also be found in the *El Farolito*.

We closed the meeting with the responsibility statement.

My hat is off to District 16 for hosting an awesome assembly and to the Tech Committee for doing an excellent job in providing us with all we needed to have a successful virtual assembly! Good job to all.

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this awesome service position!

In Love and Service,

Maddy L., Area 46

Grapevine/La Viña Chair

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Mail this form and a check or money order to: *El Farolito*, P.O. Box 1242,
Taos, NM 87571

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Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Treatment

I would like to share with you our meeting at the last assembly. The Treatment committee met in the second breakout session with 17 in attendance.

The focus of the committee was taken directly from the workbook "to carry the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers." The fact that Bill W. was a product of a treatment facility at Towns Hospital and Dr. Bob facilitated an alcoholism ward at St. Thomas Hospital was made as well as pointing out that 32% of AA members cite treatment facilities as a factor most responsible for them

coming to AA.

Emphasis was provided by the chair to take advantage of the resources on the Area 46 website (*nm-aa.org*) particularly the Treatment Workbook and pamphlets available online at no cost.

We recognized that we cannot provide out services currently as we have traditionally, however ultimately, we try and introduce AA and facilitate getting clients from the facility to a registered AA meeting. We can continue to do that by providing Bridge The Gap cards and discuss

implementing Zoom-type meetings inside.

Bill L., our Delegate, made a point that he sits on the committee at the General Services Conference that deals with treatment and, if there are any suggestions for modifications to the workbook, he is in a good position to move changes forward and welcomes the opportunity to improve our service to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Thank you for the opportunity to service.

Jeff B., District 18

Trusted Servants

Trusted Servants Meeting Minutes

By: Melissa R., Area 46 Secretary
September 12-13.

There were 25 people in attendance. Kurt started the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. We did introductions.

Kurt stated that he wanted to have better communication with the trusted servants.

Archives Chair, Patience

Archives started out slow but then started on Zoom and everything started to come together. She is currently working on the history of AA in New Mexico.

Ally T., Area 46 Alt. Chair

Ally asked if there was going to be any motions coming in from any Committee chairs. Kerri K., Area 46 Webchair, wants to bring up a topic for discussion. Julio the Area 46 Finance committee chair will be bringing a motion.

Robin, Area 46 Registrar

Robyn stated that she is having a hard time keeping up with all the emails and changes going on in Area 46.

Lawrence, Area 46 CPC Chair

Lawrence brought up monthly zoom meetings for all committee chairs.

Tim M., Area 46 ELF Chair

Tim said the ELF budget is good right now. His rotation is coming to an end. Discussion was brought up about discontinuing paper copies of ELF but they will not be discontinued. Please bring up the fact that they are looking for a new ELF Chair and help spread the word.

Kristina F., Ad-Hoc Committee Chair

Kristina stated that she needs people to respond to emails sent.

Christoph, Area 46 Treasurer

Christoph wants to encourage all committee chairs to use the 12th Step fund. It is not being utilized.

Kerri K., Area 46 Webchair

Kerri wants to make AA more easily found online. Also wants some suggestions on how she can be more helpful when it comes to tech support around Area 46.

Julio, Area 46 Finance Chair

Julio has stated that they have been unable to spend any money and therefore has a few ideas on to spend the extra money.

Steve, Area 46 Bridge the Gap Chair

Steve wants to do more outreach with the probation officers to get the word out. Also wants to work more with CPC and PI.

Bill L., Area 46 Delegate

Bill wants to see everybody using Zoom to try and have more options for people who cannot make it to the physical meetings. Also, to make them a standing meeting.

Kurt closed with the serenity prayer.

Web

Hello Area 46!

The September Assembly was a success! It was our very first full assembly conducted online. The assembly was well attended. I am so proud of group, district and area servants across our area who do not care for technology but made the effort to attend anyway. Well done! Our tech team worked hard to make it as easy as possible for everyone to attend and conduct Area 46 business.

Website Committee Assembly Report

The website committee meeting at the assembly was a busy one. I updated the committee on the work that has been done so far during this rotation. We then discussed technology needs for Area 46. Below is a summary of our meeting.

COVID-19 Project Updates

Between March 15 and September 11, meeting records have been touched over 1270 times.

Turnkey Production of Virtual Area 46 Events

- May 2 – Delegates Pre-Conference Forum
- May 30 – Virtual Assembly (modified short assembly)
- Sept. 12-13 – Virtual Full Assembly

Zoom Assistance

Provided Zoom set up assistance to several GSRs/tech persons for meetings (most groups figured out Zoom on their own.)

Provided Virtual Event training/guidance to:

- State Convention hosted by Roswell
- Taos Mountain Fiesta
- Women’s Sobriety Fest
- Website Screen shots for Area 46 Archives
- Captured screen shots of web-

Thank You Assembly Tech Team!

This assembly would not have happened without our tech team. I am so grateful to Melissa S. our Technical Lead and each team member for the wonderful work over the assembly weekend. You all are AMAZING!!!

site on various dates that reflect response to pandemic

Traditional duties for the Area 46 Website committee were continued.

Discussion: Technology Needs for Area 46

In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Area 46 has begun to rely more heavily on technology to conduct the business of Area 46 in addition to groups and districts holding AA meetings online. All of this reliance on technology contributes to the primary purpose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Area 46 currently does not have a committee to fulfill the technology needs of the area, so it has fallen to the website committee. Between March 15-September 11, the Webchair has spent approximately 450 hours on Area 46 Service related to the website committee. Additionally, 250 hours have been spent by team members.

The website committee discussed the following question:

How best can Area 46 support AA’s primary purpose by meeting the changing technology needs of our area?

Join the Conversation

I brought up this same question for discussion by the whole assembly during new business. If you have thoughts or ideas you would like to share regarding this topic, please email me at webchair@nm-aa.org.

Want to join the web committee?

We are building teams for the following:

- Website quality
- Zoom tech
- Email assistance
- Meeting updates on website
- Project management software

Upcoming Website Committee Meetings on Zoom

- Monday, October 19
- Monday, November 16

Contact Kerri K. at webchair@nm-aa.org to join the committee or attend a committee meeting.

In Gratitude and Service,
Kerri K.

Area 46 Webchair



**District 3 –
SW ALBUQUERQUE,
BELEN, LOS LUNAS,
SOCORRO ...**

District 3 wishes everyone peace and comfort during this pandemic. District 3 still has plenty of service positions and committee chairs available.

“It helps you to help others”

Your district has open committee chairs, look on Area 46 webpage for more information <https://nm-aa.org/>

Service Positions Available:

Accessibilities – CPC - *El Farolito* – Grapevine – Treatment

Please come be of service bring your sponsees and other members interested in doing service positions outside of their group!

We do it one day at a time. Keep coming back! – Francine M.

**District 10 –
CARLSBAD, HOBBS,
LOVINGTON...**

Howdy from District 10! We hope everyone is enjoying the final days of summer! Our August District 10 business meeting went very well, we are still using Zoom to communicate with one another because at this time it is the safest means to keep our interactions safe. There was some discussion about the December Area Assembly and we believe it will be a virtual assembly - the final decision will be made by mid-October. There are some new meeting updates to announce for the Hobbs Original Group: Mondays, Women’s Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. and a new local speaker’s meeting every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. And at the New Life Group a new Women’s Meeting every Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. The Carlsbad Group is hosting a Saturday Fellowship & BBQ Meeting Saturday, October 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Singleness of Purpose Group members went on a camping trip to the Guadalupe Christian Camp, where 26 members enjoyed fellowship and campfire meetings for an entire weekend. Take care and stay safe!

Gratefully yours in service.

Jimmy F.

**District 6 – LAS VEGAS, RATON, MORA,
CLAYTON, SPRINGER ...**

Greetings from Northern New Mexico. We have come together as a rural district to make sure we are supporting each other during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our district conducted our last meeting on September 5 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. Tom C. our district treasurer is asking groups to please send donations to P.O. Box 38 Las Vegas, NM. 87701.

Paul G. went to our Area 46 voting assembly September 11-13 via zoom. Thank you for being our District 6 voice and voting representative at the assembly.

Our next District 6 event is in the planning stages. We are exploring options for a picnic in Springer. Rick G. from HHH is our events coordinator. He will be sending out the information for the event. Due to COVID-19 all the guidelines must be followed for this in-person event.

Zooming Into Sobriety is our newest group in Las Vegas, NM. We are excited to be part of District 6 and look forward to serving our community. We will host a virtual speaker/birthday

meeting the last Wednesday of each month. Please join our noon Zoom meeting. ID# 819 199 9486 Password # 335434. Our next Zoom birthday/speaker meeting will be Wednesday September 30, 2020 at noon. Our speaker will be Paul G. who is celebrating 4 years of sobriety.

Our Early Birds group is holding a Zoom meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday. If you are interested in joining this virtual meeting please send Rick B. an email so he can invite you to the meeting at padres74@gmail.com.

We are pleased to announce a new group in Cimarron is doing well. They are having meetings every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

District 6 meetings are every FIRST Saturday of the month at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our next meeting will be Saturday October 3. We encourage all District 6 groups and GSRs to join our meeting.

In Grateful and Loving Service,
Kathleen V.

**District 9 – GALLUP, GRANTS, LAGUNA,
ZUNI...**

Oh heyyyy everyone!!

Hope all is well with y’all. At our last district meeting of the minds, we decided to bid for the March 2021 Pre-Conference Assembly - a unanimous vote from our Trusted Servants. This past weekend at the September Assembly we threw it out there and we got it! Not too sure if/when we’ll open up again but we’re looking forward to working on a hybrid/virtual platform. Thank you for this opportunity at hand.

District 16, thank you for hosting the September Assembly. It went smoothly and the music was on fire🔥 Kudos to y’all 🙌

In our District, we haven’t opened back up to physical meetings just yet. But we do have five groups on the Zoom platform. So look us up on nm-aa.org and join us.

Laguna Group has a physical meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Our 7th Annual Sobriety Gathering themed ‘Language of the Heart’ will take place on October 2, 3 and 4. Virtual of course!

We have a variety of amazing speakers. Check out our District 9 webpage for registration information. Hope to see your smiling faces there.

We would love to welcome Sean N, he stepped up as the Young People’s representative for our district. Thank you for your service!

Sobriety Birthday:

Chastity J., HG: Babysteps, 4 years on 9/4.

In love and Service,
Gallantry K.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 13 – SE ALBUQUERQUE, TIJERAS, MORIARITY, MOUNTAINAIR...

Greetings from District 13! We meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. We are in need of a Bridge-the-Gap chair and a Young People chair. If you are interested and available to serve in either of these positions, join us so you can be elected! Our next meeting is on Saturday, October 10. For the foreseeable future we will be meeting online via Zoom. Feel free to join through video or phone. Our Meeting ID is: 719-543-888 on the Zoom app or you can dial in: 1-346-248-7799, Access Code: 719-543-888.

Ariel celebrated six years in September. Congratulations!

Thank you to all who attended the Area 46 virtual assembly last month, and special accolades to the Website and Technology Team for all of the extraordinary effort to make it happen. The Assembly ran incredibly smoothly given the fact that this was new to all of us. Well done, everyone!

District 13 is continuing to focus efforts on providing more of a public information presence during the COVID-19 crisis. Our goal is to communicate to the public that Alcoholics Anonymous is here, both online and in person, if they or someone they know needs help with a drinking problem. We currently have GSO-approved public service announcements airing on a free broadcast, podcast and streaming radio platforms, and are working on submitting similar information to local newspaper outlets.

District 13 intends to put together a bid to host a 2021 Area 46 Assembly, however we are conscious that many venues are not yet communicating about booking space for large gatherings. In the interim, if you have any suggestions for a hosting venue in Albuquerque (S. of I-40 & E. of I-25), Tijeras, Moriarity, McIntosh, Willard, Mountainair, or Corona, please email

district13@nm-aa.org.

Please consider including District 13 when your group makes quarterly distributions. It is through your generous contributions that we are able to provide services to our local A.A. community. Checks can be made out to District 13, and mailed to P.O. Box 11134, Albuquerque, NM 87112. To contribute digitally, follow this link: <https://venmo.com/?txn=pay&audience=private&recipients=district-13>, or send contribution in Venmo to user: district-13.

We hope to see you at our next virtual district meeting in October. Your participation and your vote are very important.

In love & service,

Laura S.

DCM, District 13

district13@nm-aa.org

District 14 – TAOS, EL PRADO, RANCHOS DE TAOS, TALPA, QUESTA...

Greetings from Taos and surrounding communities!

Taos AA has done a great job adapting to these strange pandemic times, but there are some unique challenges that have arisen. For example, there are less service positions available to newcomers. A service commitment, anything from making coffee to chairing meetings, used to be a great way to get new people involved and engaged in their groups. It kept them coming back! To that end, our online meetings are trying to create new and helpful service positions to get newcomers involved, such

a Zoom meeting host, co-host, phone list keeper, etc. Also, receiving 7th Tradition contributions is proving to be a lot more challenging online. Most Taos groups are leaning towards the Paypal platform. Another dilemma groups are contending with is whether we are obligated (legally or morally) to continue to pay rent at meeting spaces that we haven't been able to use for the last few months. This is all uncharted territory and we continue to ask our Higher Power for guidance as to the right actions in going forward.

Also, our DCM arranged to have

Bill L. give his Delegate's Report on Sunday, Sept 20, on Zoom, in conjunction with District 15.

And finally, we were all looking forward to seeing everyone on Zoom for our Taos Mountain Fiesta, Sept. 26 & 27. There were great speakers, talent show entries, panel discussion on relationships, Al-Anon speakers, a meditation workshop, young people speakers and more! #LivingtheDream2020

Yours in service,

Kelly O.,

District 14 *El Farolito* Rep.

Send Contributions for
Area 46 to:

**NM Area 46 AA
P.O. Box 587
El Prado, NM 87529**

Send Contributions
for *El Farolito* to:

**El Farolito
P.O. Box 1242
Taos, NM 87571**