

Dear Northern Illinois AA Members,

In AA, the Group Conscience is the ultimate authority over our AA business affairs and operating decisions. However, with respect to AA District and AA Area business, the voice of each group is only expressed through the elected General Service Representative (GSR) who attends and votes at both the local district meetings as well as the Area Assemblies. The collective voice of Area 20 is then expressed through our elected Delegate, who then carries the Area 20 conscience to the General Service Conference in New York each spring.

It is the goal of our Northern Illinois Area 20 committee that our Area 20 business be done in a way that provides maximum service to our Area Groups and Districts. Ideally, all the Groups in Northern Illinois would participate in our Area 20 Business so that our Area Conscience reflects the voice of as much of our membership as possible.

As in the past, Area 20 has occasionally conducted an inventory of itself, with input from our groups, to see where we can improve, make necessary changes, and better understand how we may be of service to our members. Our hope is that this inventory process will result in more Groups being represented and heard in our Area 20 Business meetings. AA works better when we have the participation from as many of our members as possible. We know through our AA experience that 'Participation is the Key to Harmony.'

Please take a few minutes to complete the following inventory questions. You may find it beneficial to review as a group in your next business meeting. We welcome as much input as possible from our Fellowship so that our Northern Illinois Area 20 business meetings can represent all of AA in Northern Illinois and we can 'join together in brotherly and harmonious action' to make sure our fellowship is preserved for alcoholics now and in the future.

- 1) What is your current AA service position? (@ Group, District, and/or Area)
- 2) Is your group represented at Area business meetings/Assemblies? If not why?
- 3) What could Area 20 do to make business meetings/Assemblies more efficient and productive?
- 4) Do you feel the Service Committee Break-out Sessions at Assemblies encourages participation and/or attendance?
- 5) What can the Area do to better support the District Service Committees?
- 6) If you attended Area Assemblies in the past and are no longer, would you please share why?

- 7) Does your group understand how the Area 20 agenda is developed?
- 8) Does your group GSR understand their role at Area 20? If not why?
- 9) Do you feel the GSR's are included in Area business? If not why?
- 10) Is your group represented at:  
☐ District      ☐ Area Assembly      ☐ Pre-General Service Conference Workshop
- 11) Do you know who your Area and District trusted servants are?
- 12) Does your group understand the issues that the Area and Districts address?
- 13) Do you understand Area 20's finance system called Primary Purpose Financing?
- 14) Is Area 20 accumulating funds for no stated AA purpose? If yes, please explain?
- 15) With 1 being most important, please rate the importance of the following sources in finding information about your service position.    \_\_\_ Area Handbook  
\_\_\_ Service Manual      \_\_\_ Area Website      \_\_\_ AA.org  
\_\_\_ Other internet resources      \_\_\_ past and present servants  
\_\_\_ District workshops      \_\_\_ Area workshops      \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) What can Area 20 do to make Area Workshops more effective?
- 17) What topics of Workshops would you like to see the Area sponsor?
- 18) Do you feel there are barriers to full participation by any member of NIA 20?  
If so please explain.
- 19) What is Area 20's greatest strength?
- 20) What is Area 20's greatest opportunity for improvement?

The next set of questions address the timing of the Area Events in the spring. In 2010 Area 20 combined the Spring Assembly and Spring Conference and created the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop as a stand-alone event. Currently the GSR is asked to attend 5 events/year: 4 Assemblies and the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop. Currently the Spring Assembly is combined with a Spring Conference and



the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop is approximately 2 weeks after the Spring Assembly/Conference. Your answers to the following questions will help our fellowship create an event or events that would best serve Area 20.

- 21) Does the current schedule of Area events encourage or discourage participation?
- 22) Does the current schedule of conferences and assemblies interfere with attendance at the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop?
- 23) The Spring Conference and Spring Assembly were combined in 2010 to increase participation in the Assembly. Do you think this has been effective?
- 24) Should Area 20 consider moving what is currently called the Spring Conference to a different time of year?
- 25) What do you currently attend? ☐ Spring Conference ☐ Spring Assembly  
☐ Pre-General Service Conference Workshop ☐ Summer Assembly  
☐ Fall Assembly ☐ Winter Assembly
- 26) Ideally what schedule of events would you like to see in the Spring?
- ☐ No Spring Conference
- ☐ Spring Conference without Assembly
- ☐ Spring Conference with Assembly
- ☐ Spring Conference program that includes the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop
- ☐ Spring Conference with the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop on Saturday and the Assembly on Sunday
- ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_
- 27) Is there any comment you would like to add, not addressed in this inventory?

Mail to: Area 20 Inventory, PO Box 163, Ringwood IL 60072

or

Submit answers on interactive form on the web: <http://aa-nia.org/>