

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

June, 2020

We, in Alcoholics Anonymous, have been experiencing changes similar to those going on in the world outside. Will things ever return to the "old normal"? No one can say. The General Service Conference has taken place on Zoom and we have found that the most high profile (should we say contentious?) items were referred to committee for future consideration. Next year should be a blast! Today we face many challenges brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, we also reap the benefits of the technology which has enabled us to stay connected.

Reopening our meetings is currently underway. Before we can do so safely, I would encourage groups to check out three items on the area website <area8aa.org>. The "Group Reopening Document", the "Safety Card", and the suggestions on conducting a "Sharing Session". As there is a lot to consider and in order to reach a group conscious on the subject, it might require supplemental business meetings in a sharing session format. State and local rules as well as restrictions placed on us by our host facilities need to be considered.

At the present time all Area functions are being conducted on Zoom and I would encourage all entities (districts, standing committees, etc.) to have their current meeting information AND Zoom instructions posted on the Area website and in the Calendar.

The Membership Survey is underway. The information it generates will allow us to better tailor our efforts to provide services to the Area membership and to maximize the efficiency of expending our 7th Tradition funds. The survey information is posted on the website with links to both the individual member and group secretary pages.

Several exciting events are coming up in the near future. Sunday, June 28th will be the Four-Area DCM Sharing Session, this year hosted by Area 93. A flyer with Zoom information is posted. Saturday, July 18th will be another Four-Area event, a Unity Day Celebration. Information on that will appear soon.

Looking forward, we have our Big Day Assembly scheduled for September 12th. Although no one can predict the state of our reopening efforts at that time, no doubt there will be a need for Zoom. However, the possibility of returning to a live assembly is real and will be pursued by our hosting districts – 6, 8, and 11.

Please stay Safe and Sober!

