

# December ACM Delegate Report

It has been a great pleasure to service this area in this capacity. When I first started and became a GSR, I had no idea what I was in for. I didn't plan on being here for any length of time. Once I became a DCM, I was sent a half a page of the duties of the position. This wasn't nowhere near all the duties of the position. I didn't know anything about the service manual. I attended my first ACM meeting, and I didn't know what to think. I was so confused and couldn't participate in the discussion. The more I listen the more I begin to be apart of.

It was suggested that I visit some of the other districts and watch as they conduct their meeting. I was able to pull a little bit from each district that I attended. The more I stuck around the more interesting life became. By this time GS had its hooks in me. Even though I didn't know it at the time, I wanted to stick around.

I became an area officer and continued to meet some wonderful people during GS. They served with dignity and honor despite what life had too through at them. This helped to shape my recovery and build the attitude that no matter what happened, just don't drink.

As an area officer, I attended committee meetings and workshops. When I was going thru something, I would get the answer to what I was going through without saying anything. For me, this still happens. The more I stayed the more my foundation became solid. I begin to grow more and more by listening to people that have done the work before me.

Being of service has grown my friendship with people and allowed me to be a member of my community. My friendship has expanded to other areas and states. Being invited to PRAASA and Regional Forums allowed me to be open to hear input from other members of the fellowship. This broadens my understanding of how GS worked and didn't work in other areas. My things were not only in our area, but it was also happening all around or only in one section. I begin to see that we were not excluded or different, we got to be on the lookout if something was to happen and how we get thru life when it shows up.

When I became Chair, I congratulated and stated you will do well. When I became a Delegate, I was told to hold on and enjoy the ride. I didn't know what they meant. Now I do, I have loved serving as the Delegate. It worked and changed my life. This position is very time-consuming. If you do not have time, do not stand, and try to carry out this position.

Being the Delegate changed my outlook on certain things. Armed with a full team both past and present, has allowed me to have a full arrangement of people to call on and ask for help. For me, this humanizes me that I do not have to know everything. I get to run my beautiful ideas by someone else and ask for help. I received help sometimes without asking.

With the conference being a year-round process, we get to be involved in my different areas. My committee recently met and was asked to give input on some of the agenda items for the conference. I have learned some much from this process and I am very grateful.

Some things that ae still in motion:

PRAASA will be in March 2024. If you haven't booked your rooms or registered, please do so as soon as possible. If you are planning on driving, don't. Public transportation is strongly

encouraged in San Francisco. Parking is limited and priced at an outrageous amount. Richard will be looking for participation from a diverse group of individuals.

There will be several events in person and online that might be helpful for you to attend about some of the conference agenda items. Be on the lookout. This will be a great way to find out more about the agenda items to make a collective decision.

The "Plain Language" has been assigned to the Literature Committee. They will review and if it passes, it will come to the conference floor.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Edition is still in review. Around 2600 stories were received. They are reviewing and trying to get everything read. The current stories are being review as well. Its possible that you might not see your favorite. There is discussion to have a new "Experience, Strength & Hope" to have the stories available. More will be revealed.

Area 8 has given me the gift of a lifetime. I am honored to be able to receive something that has changed my life. GS works in all areas of my life. It connects me with the groups and the members that attend those groups. Being able to see how they conduct their meetings no matter what I think of them being right or wrong.

If you would have asked me 20 years ago, what will you be doing, this is not what I had planned. This has turned out to be the best 13 to 15 years of my sobriety. It has helped to improve and advance me further on this path. I am honored to have been selected to serve Area 08.

This is not goodbye. This is moving on to the next phase of my recovery. I will miss being apart of the area assembly and area committee meeting. Thank you for enriching my life by making a few suggestions which has taken me of my head. This has given me the ability to think more of others than just myself.

Wishing each of you a very happy holiday season this year and many years to come.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service!

Monty Cavalier

Delegate Area 08 P72