

CONCEPTS

NORTHERN ILLINOIS AREA LTD AREA 20 SERVICE LETTER

SPRING 2024 VOL. XLVIII NO.1

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Delegate's Corner

Greetings Area 20! -

It is certainly an honor to be serving as your Panel 74 delegate for the next 2 years. I am both grateful and humbled for this opportunity to serve our area. I'm also very appreciative to Chris D., our past delegate for his help and willingness to answer a bunch of my questions. I am also very pleased to work with Lisa S., our Alternate Delegate, as I know her enthusiastic AA spirit will definitely help me in doing the best job I can.

As spring is just around the corner, so is the 74th Annual General Service Conference. We use the term "panel" a lot in general service to indicate the time period for the particular service rotation. So, as your Panel 74 Delegate, I'll be serving at both the 74th and 75th General Service Conference. After my term is up, we'll be electing a Panel 76 delegate as Area 20 (Northern Illinois) elects its Area positions in even years. Other Areas, like the other 2 in Illinois, Area 19 (Chicago) and Area 21 (Southern Illinois), have their elections in odd years. So, at the General Service Conference in New York in April, there will be a mix of first year and second year delegates from across the US and Canada – 93 in total.

RECENT CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Last weekend (Feb 9-11) at the Conference of Delegates Past & Present, I had the opportunity to visit with a few of the past delegates from Illinois and our neighboring states along with the other 13 delegates from the other areas in our East Central Region. At this event, held in Muncie, Indiana, the new delegates including myself, participated in a **mock conference** and met with our Regional Trustee and GSO staff to ask questions and to prepare ourselves for the week-long General Service Conference in New York in April. I left the weekend conference feeling better prepared and encouraged by our past delegates.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

I recently sent out the list of the 83 individual items that will comprise most of the upcoming agenda at the General Service Conference. (At the time of writing this article, I have not yet received the background material on these items, although that will be sent out as soon as I receive it.) Across the US and Canada, our entire AA fellowship will have the opportunity discuss and give input on these agenda items between now and April 14. Each Area has their own process to coordinate this effort. In Area 20, much of the fellowship's input has historically been given and received at our Pre-General Service Conference Workshop. Over the last 4 years, our Area has also held a series of individual Zoom meetings a week or two prior to the Pre-GSC Workshop to allow for additional discussion on each section of the Agenda. Last year, for example, we had 11 additional meetings, totaling 21.5 hours, prior to our full day Pre-GSC workshop. While the use of these zoom meetings started in 2020 as the result of the pandemic, they seem to offer an efficient way to review these materials and I expect we may continue with this format this year as well. Lisa S. will be sending out a schedule for these meetings along with details of our Pre-GSC Workshop which is scheduled for March 23.

FUTURE THOUGHTS

Through the entire process, it will be my goal to hear from as many of our members as possible and understand the Area's thoughts, and experience on the items to be discussed at the General Service Conference. I would encourage all our area's groups, districts, etc. to pay particular attention to those items of interest to them and share their perspective. As reflected in our 4th Concept, the more participation we have, the more unified our fellowship becomes.

Lastly, I'd like to say to please reach out at any time if I can be of help or if there is something you'd like to share. I'll do my best to be accessible and to remain teachable.

Love in service,

Erik L.
Delegate - Area 20 - Northern Illinois, Panel 74
DelegateA20NoIIP74@gmail.com
630-809-7789

From the Chair...

Hello NIA!

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to chair Area 20. It certainly has been fun and busy so far!

-Dawn B.



My aim for the next two years is to inform and educate, especially at the district level. We have many wonderful people who are trying to do the best job they can, but aren't always informed of what that job actually is. I'll be trying to get to as many districts as I can, as many times as I can, to help fill in the blanks and to see how we can better serve them. Our Alternate Delegate Lisa will schedule workshops to also assist in the process.

Our new Technology Committee is working hard to move us along technologically, in every way that NIA needs it. There are many moving parts to this, from emails to the web to the proper equipment to both run NIA and for our Area Committee Chairs to do breakouts at Assemblies. We hope to move forward as quickly as possible into more seamless technology methods.

We also are having an Area Inventory this year, again aimed at "what don't you know about your job, and how can we help you with the information you need to be successful?". The committee has met once, and I'm sure they will be meeting frequently. I'm hoping to have results by the end of 2024, so that any changes that are possible can begin to be implemented in the second year of the rotation.

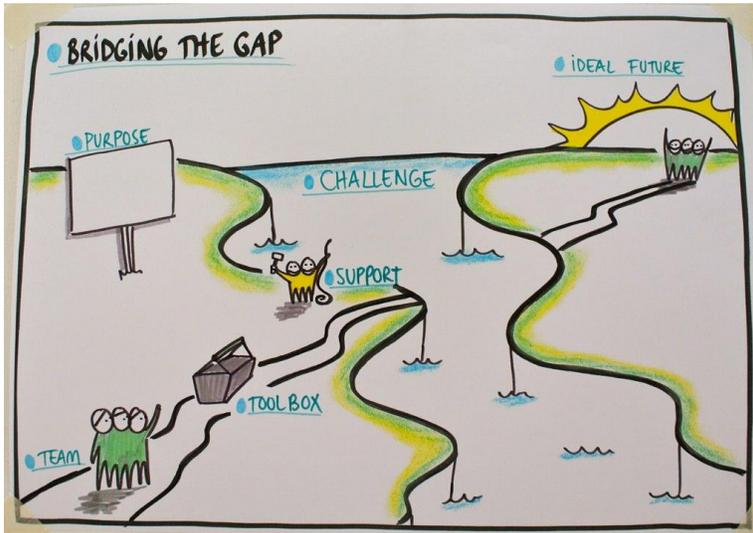
Please ask me to come to your District meeting, I'll be happy to schedule that for you. Please email me for any information you might need at chair@aa-nia.org.

See you at Spring Conference!

In Service,

Dawn Brandeis

NIA 20 Panel 74 Chair



BRIDGING THE GAP

NIA Spring Conference

Panel Presentation

Saturday 3/2/24

Jim T. NIA 20 BTG Chair

If you are not familiar with the way the **NIA** holds its **Spring Assembly** and the **NIA Spring Conference** together on the same weekend, here is some info you can use.

Because the **NIA Spring Assembly** is held on Saturday March 2, 2024 during the **NIA Spring Conference**, the **Assembly** schedule is shortened and the normal breakout periods for the Service Committees to meet and share information is condensed. If you attend the **Assembly** Saturday morning, please come to the combined Treatment/Corrections/BTG breakout session during the lunch period of the **Assembly**.

If you are registered for the Spring Conference you will be able to attend all of the Conference Panel presentations available, including the **BTG Panel** presentation on Saturday afternoon (exact time and room location TBD).

This **BTG Panel** will be of special benefit to those of you who are volunteers on the BTG, Answering Service, Treatment, and Corrections Committees. You will get valuable information on how you can enhance your 12th Step efforts to carry AA's message to people in a facility, and how to better help them when they are released.

Many changes to **BTG** have been made this past year so if you want more info on how you can help carry AA's message of Hope and Recovery, please plan to attend the **NIA Spring Conference!**

March 1-3, 2024



UNITED we serve



2024 Spring Conference & Assembly

Hosted by AA with Al-anon and Alateen participation | Districts 20, 21 and 64

Al-Anon | Alateen | Alcathon | Literature | Archives | Banquet | Dance

Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

1800 East Golf Road | Schaumburg, Illinois | 847.605.1234



ONLINE REGISTRATION
niaspringconference.com



RESERVE A ROOM

hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHIRW/G-NISM

\$119.00 PER NIGHT

Group Code: NISM

FRIDAY NIGHT
AA SPEAKER:
Narcisco R from
Ciudad Obregón,
Sonora

SATURDAY NIGHT
AA SPEAKER
Karl M from
Covina,
California

SUNDAY MORNING
AA SPEAKER
Racy J from
New York City,
New York

If you have questions or would like to volunteer go to
niaspringconference.com or email niaspringconference@gmail.com

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE | ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

ASL or language interpretation other than English or Spanish
Please specify _____

Special Needs | Accessibility Services
Please specify _____

Dietary Restrictions
Please specify _____

PLEASE SPECIFY

- AA ALATEEN
- AL-ANON GUEST

REGISTRATION \$40

SATURDAY BOX

LUNCH \$20

BANQUET \$50

Please choose one:

Chicken

Vegetarian

TOTAL \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:
NIA Spring Conference
District 21

Mail to:

2024 Spring Conference
P.O. Box 1003
Palatine, IL 60078-1003

40TH ANNUAL TRI-COUNTY SPRING CONFERENCE

“Just for Today”



SATURDAY APRIL 6, 2024

LAKELAND CHURCH

440 NORTH HUNT CLUB ROAD GURNEE, IL



**DAY SESSIONS \$1 SUGGESTED AT THE DOOR
NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

Registration	8:00 a.m.
Kick-Off	9:00 a.m.
AA Speaker Steve J., Kenosha	9:00 a.m.
Al-Anon Speaker Gary S., Libertyville	9:30 a.m.
Panels	10:30 a.m. hourly until 4:30 p.m.
Alcathon	All Day 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Chili Lunch!	Noon; \$2.00 per bowl donation
AA /Al-Anon Presentation	4:30 p.m.
Banquet	6:00 p.m.
Main Speaker Kris M., Waukegan AA	After Banquet

DON'T DELAY - THE BANQUET SELLS OUT EARLY!

Pre-registration and payment required by **Thursday March 21, 2024**



\$30 PER PERSON

For online registration go to tri-countyconference.com



Checks Payable To: Tri-County Conference
Mail To: Pam Lamb 1415 1/2 Arthur Ave Racine, WI 53405

(ONE PERSON PER FORM / PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Check One: AA AL-ANON ALATeen Other Guest

29th ANNUAL



FOX VALLEY

OPEN

SAT., May 11, 2024

New location: Lord of Life Lutheran Church
40W605 IL Route 38 LaFox, IL

Directions:

- Lord of Life is located at the corner of LaFox Rd and IL Rt. 38 midway between Elburn & St. Charles
- From St. Charles and Geneva take Rt. 38 (Lincoln Hwy) 3.6 miles west from Randall Rd.
- From Elburn take Rt. 38 (Lincoln Hwy) 3.3 miles east from Rt. 47

Doors Open 7p Open Speaker Meeting 7:30p

THERE WILL BE THREE SPEAKERS WITH SOBRIETY OF:

1-5 Years

Ry C.

Dist. 64, Aurora

6-15 Years

Chuck S.

Dist. 22, Elgin

16+ Years

Kelly K.

Dist. 61, St. Charles

≤ in District 61 N.I.A. ≥ Funded by the Seventh Tradition
For more information: please call [630-287-8722](tel:630-287-8722)



2024 ILLINOIS STATE CONFERENCE

LOVE • UNITY • SERVICE

August 23rd - 25th

Hosted by Area 21
District 19

Speakers	Activities	Hotel Info	Questions
Friday Night AA Speaker John H St. Louis, MO	Literature Archives Workshops Alcathon Panels	Northfield Inn and Suites 3280 Northfield Drive Springfield, IL 62702 217-523-7900	Email: Michael R Mjreeves23@gmail.com or istc2024@gmail.com
Saturday AA Speaker Matt M Norman, OK	Entertainment Fellowship Hospitality Room Fun	Double queen or King \$92 +tax and fees	To register and pay online 
Alanon Speaker Malenie D Springfield, IL	Ice Cream Social (\$5 at door)	Cut off Date July 24, 2024 Reference Conference when reserving	
East Central Regional Trustee Cathi C			
G.S.O. Speaker James H			

REGISTRATION (One Person per Form)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Group _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please specify: AA Alanon Guest

Registration \$32

Banquet Dinner \$40 Roast Strip Loin of Beef Tuscan Parmesan Chicken Vegetarian

Total \$ _____

Mail to: 600 South 2nd Street. Ste 400 Springfield, IL 62704 (Attn: Illinois State Conference)

Make checks payable to: Illinois State Conference (Mail in must be received before 08/07/24)

To register AND pay online, use QR code above or go to website:
<https://istc2024.wixsite.com/registration>

PRINT

A.A. International Convention
90 Years - Language of the Heart
July 3 - 6, 2025
Vancouver, BC, Canada



Save the Date for the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver, B.C.!

Taking place once every five years, the A.A. International Convention marks the anniversary of Bill W.'s first meeting with Dr. Bob and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. A.A. members and their families and friends from around the globe attend the event. At the International Convention people attend meetings, workshops, dances and events. A highlight is the traditional flag ceremony to celebrate sobriety worldwide. Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention. This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding. The International Convention will take place from July 3 – 6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium. As the Convention approaches, they (AAWS) will update the website with registration information. Let's celebrate sobriety together in Vancouver in 2025!

For more information about the 2025 A.A. International Convention:



SCAN ME

Visit the AA World Services website for more details:

<https://www.aa.org/international-convention> or



With a Digital subscription, you'll be able to read the new magazine each month, explore the Grapevine archive, send stories to friends, listen to the audio of each article in the magazine, listen to the podcast, enter your own sobriety date for a daily calculation, build your own spiritual maintenance daily checklist, and much more.

Subscribe to the digital magazine and archive for \$2.99 per month, or \$29.99 per year.