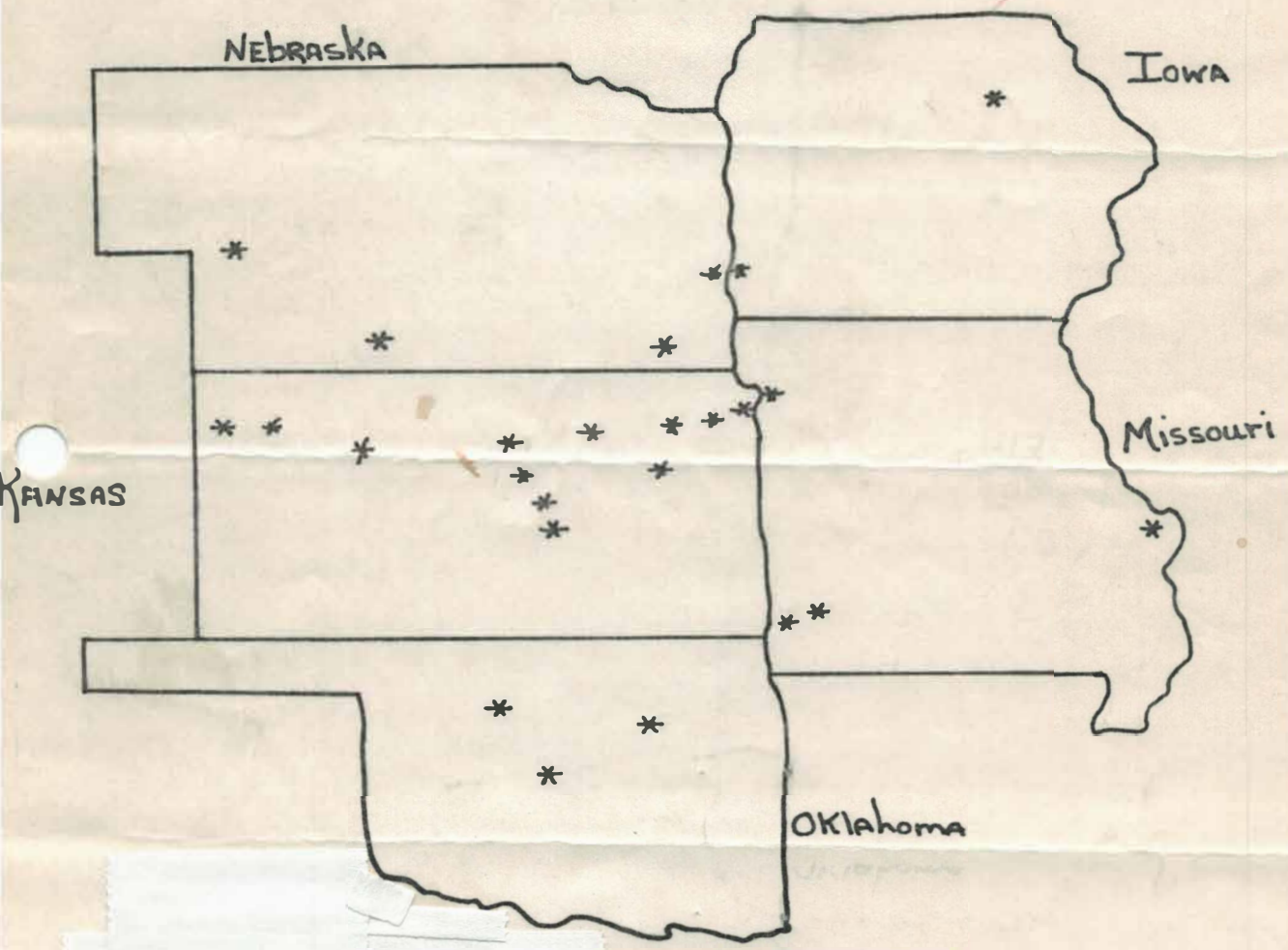


MID-AMERICA Newsletter MARCH 1981

"GOING AND GROWING THE NA WAY"



MID AMERICA REGIONAL OFFICE
P.O. Box 1191
Topeka, Ks. 66601
913-273-4894

REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY A.M. MEETING: States and Groups broken into areas.

KANSAS: 1. Kansas City, Emporia, Lawrence, Topeka, Junction City.

2. Salina, Newton, ElDorado, McPherson,

3. Colby, Dodge City

4. Wichita

OKLAHOMA: 1. Tulsa

2. Enid, Norman, Oklahoma City

MISSOURI: 1. Joplin, Springfield, ElDorado

2. St. Louis

IOWA: 1. Iowa Falls, Waterloo, Cedar Rapids.

2. Omaha, Council Bluffs, Kearney

NEBRASKA: 1. Lincoln

2. North Platte-Western Nebraska

Provisionally formed 12 Areas, to be voted on at the Regional Business Meeting later in the day.

AFTERNOON BUSINESS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Jean, Springfield, with the first order of business being the introduction of members present. Purpose of the morning gathering: definition of the area service structure by representatives from Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Iowa.

Cindy P., Topeka, Kansas, reminded those present that each group should make a practice of sending \$2.00 on a monthly basis as per the last Regional Business Meeting, held in Joplin, Mo., Cindy further reported on the pre-planning meeting held in Topeka earlier in February, and on plans to form a Provisional Service Committee, which could facilitate communication and problem solving among groups and areas.

As representative from the Regional Office, Cindy P., reported that the Regional Directory is now in print (cost: \$1.50) and asked that groups keep the office informed of any births, new groups, deaths, etc.,

Ron D., Topeka, Ks, Regional Service Office, emphasized the need for keeping the Regional Directory current. Order forms have been made available for a regional newsletter, and groups are encouraged to subscribe now.

Closing remarks-chairperson, Jean, Springfield, Mo., Broke for lunch.....

AFTERNOON BUSINESS MEETING

PRESENT: Cindy P., Topeka, Ks. and Ron D., Topeka, Ks. Regional Service Office. Nebraska-0, Oklahoma-3, Kansas-18, Missouri-12 and Iowa-2.

Called to Order: Debbie, Springfield, Mo., opened with the Serenity Prayer and N.A. Preamble. OPENING REMARKS: Cindy P., Regional Office
OLD BUSINESS: Official Opening of the quarterly business meeting. Cherylyn, Oklahoma, reported that Oklahoma has voted "yes" on the issue of entry into the region. MOTION: To offer official recognition of Okla. as the newest state in the region. Moved by Debbie, Springfield, Mo. seconded: Ron, Topeka, Ks, Carried unanimously.

MOTION: To close region into a 5-State area, including states with current regional status. Moved by Rich, Joplin, Mo., seconded Mark Z., Wichita. Carried Unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Cindy P.

- A) Newton, Kansas grand opening for new clubhouse.
- B) 11th WCNA-Miamie, Florida.
- C) Jean, Springfield, announced workings of the regional meeting activities at hand.
- D) Ron D., Topeka, Ks., announced transportation for WCNA-11

There was a reading of the previous meeting minutes. Motion to accept as read, Julie W., Wichita, Ks. Seconded, Ron D., Topeka, Ks. Carried Unanimously.

Financial Report: Cindy P.--assets to date \$715.21. (note: literature Fund contributions recorded on a seperate ledger but are added to this figure.)

Discussion of Regional Office finances, how money should be spent, etc.

MOTION: To direct the Regional Office to spend \$100.00 as allotted by 10-WCNA for the specific purpose of purchasing a typewriter. Moved by Mark Z., Wichita, Ks, seconded Gary H., Junction City, Ks., discussion on the motion followed, Motion carried, one opposed.

Further discussion followed regarding need to send money to W.S.O., and the possibility of dividing this proportionately.

MOTION: That 10% of all incoming Regional funds be sent (on a monthly basis) directly to W.S.O.. Moved by Bill O., Kansas City, Mo., seconded by Jim, Iowa, motion withdrawn.

Suggestion: that an agenda be planned for future meetings, to be distributed throughout the region prior to each Regional Quaterly event. Cindy P. then read an empromptu agenda, for the purpose of clarification.

MOTION: To accept the area service structure as tentatively established earlier in the day. Moved by Mark Z., Wichita, seconded, Gary H., Junction City, Ks., discussion followed. Point of clarification: Ron D. read excerpt from Service Structure Manual. Motion Carried, one opposed.

MOTION: To change proposed structure to the extent that the K.C. Metro area be defined as a single area, to include Olatha and Spring Hill. Moved by Bill O., K.C., seconded Dave, K.C., motion carried unanimously.

Suggestion: That the Regional Office contact all areas to inform them of their area, the decisions of this body regarding the area servie structure.

Cindy P. read excerpts from the N.A. Service Structure manual pertaining to the formation of a regional service committee, i.e. Regional service Rep. & Alternate, Officers and members at large.

MOTION: To elect a representative from each area present, in an effort to define and elect a Regional Service Committee today. Moved by Mark Z. Wichita, Seconded, Jim, Iowa. Point of Clarification-discussion, motion withdrawn.

MOTION: That 12 volunteers be accepted by this body as the provisional service committee. With a friendly amendment by Mitchell, Joplin, that this committee work in the coming year to fulfill the aim of unifying the area and implementing its service structure and that the membership of this committee be expanded to include a 13th representative (criteria undefined) moved by Ron D., Topeka, seconded by Julie W., Wichita, Motion failed, 2 in favor, 5 abstentions

MOTION (by anon.) that positions be irrevocably tied to the areas-Died for lack of 2nd.

MOTION: That this body select a provisional regional service committee made up of one representative (each) from areas present, and that this format be maintained for the time being or until all areas are

represented. Moved by Mark Z., Wichita, seconded by Rick, Joplin, discussion of motion, motion carried with one abstention. The body then broke into area caucus, to choose representatives who will serve on the provisional Regional Service Committee. When the membership reconvened, announcement of representatives made as follows:

Joplin-Rick Patton
Iowa-Jim Ward
Okla.-Cherlyn Davis (Tulsa)
K.C.-Bill Overfelt
Wichita-Mark Zimmerman
Topeka-Ron Dieker

McPherson/Newton-Dennis Ostland

This committee will be responsible for eliciting response from persons in areas not represented today for the purpose of filling membership of said committee.

MOTION: That the primary goal of the region for the coming year be stated as the establishment of the area structure and its corresponding service committee.. Moved by Gary H., Junction City, seconded by Ron D., Topeka, Carried unanimously.

Next order of business revolved around the issue of choosing a Regional Service Representative and Alternate (the former, to serve in the coming year: the later, to serve for the upcoming 2 years. Cindy P. read excerpt from Service Structure which defined the role of the R.S.R.

MOTION: That this body make(it) its business today to elect the R.S.R. and alternate for the coming year.

Friendly amendment-Jean, Springfield, about the alternate for the region to be chose also. Moved by Mark Z. wichita, seconded by Jean, Springfield, discussion followed qualifications read from Service Structure. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: That the region accept direction to alter "clean time" criteria for this meeting, from WSO guidelines of 5&4 years to 4 & 3 respectively. Friendly amendment-Jean, Springfield, Mo., that duration of this enactment hold official leverage for coming 2 year period. Moved by Ron D. Topeka, Ks, seconded by Dennis O., McPherson. Motion carried unanimously. Cindy P., Topeka, Kansas elected Regional Service Representative-gave a beautiful acceptance speech. Julie W., Wichita, Kansas, elected Regional Service Representative Alternate, who will serve for two years, one as alternate and next year as RSR, by acclimation.

Discussion of location of Regional Office Leterature dump. Motion: That we leave literature store in the same location, Regional Office in Topeka, Kansas, until the next Regional Business Meeting. Moved by Debbie, Springfield, seconded by Don, Topeka, Ks., Carried unanimously.

Cindy P. gave literature tally, including posters, bumper stickers, chips, etc.. Note: Regional Service Office has placed order for 1,000 pamphlets.

Additional note: W.S.O. requests that the Regional Office not send out starter kits to new groups, rather that we leave this business in the hand of the W.S.O. so that they may continue to charter all new groups. It was announced that a problem has been cited regarding new groups and poor distribution of literature. Solution posed: These needy groups may write to the RSO, for literature independent of starter kit/charter order. Cindy then discussed the financial aspects of being R.S.R. delegate to the World Service Conference. Delegate will need approximately \$339.00 for

for plane fare to the W.S.C. MOTION: That Cindy P., duly elected to the W.S.C. for 1981, buy her plane ticket immediately so as to save money, as per instructions given by the group Conscience (and stated in the minutes of the last meeting) at the last regional quarterly meeting. Moved by Rick, Joplin, seconded by Jean, Springfield, motion carried unanimously. Next order of business: Problem of transferring funds and check signing, Motion: That Cindy P. be elected director of the Regional Service Office, to be directly answerable to the Regional Service Committee. Moved by Mark Z., wichita, seconded by Jean, Springfield, Discussion followed, Mitchell, Springfield, suggested that we clarify the nature of support from the region in terms of finances and authority. Motion carried unanimously. Motion: That the director of the R.S.O. be responsible for the business of the R.S.O. (along with the Regional Service Committee), and that this person be given a ceiling budget to operate within, this amount be decided at the discretion of the Regional Service Committee, and that (friendly amendment: Mark Z., Wichita,) until the R.S.C. becomes functional, said director be given \$100.00 monthly for operating expenses. Moved by Mitchell, Springfield, seconded by Jean, Springfield, motion carried unanimously.

Motion: That 1 year clean time be specified as the requirement for signature power. Moved by Don, Topeka, seconded by Gary, Junction City, discussion centered on the need not to have two persons from the same household as check signers. Agreement on this issue was reached consensually. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: That the signatories of the Regional Service Office account be reassigned, moved by Mark Z., Wichita, seconded by Mitchell, Springfield, discussion followed and motion carried unanimously. Nominations were then opened for new signatories and the following persons were chosen: Cindy P., Regional Office Director; Bill O., Kansas City, Representative from Regional Service Committee; Zane B., Topeka, member at large and GSR, Topeka group. These members were elected by acclamation.

Next, discussion centered around the distribution of funds collected by the region. Body was reminded that the W.S.O. guidelines are flexible and indicate that the regions need send only what they feel they can responsibly afford, after dealing with the concept of a "prudent reserve" needed for operating expenses. MOTION: The the R.S.O. maintain a prudent reserve in the R.S.O. bank account, and that what is named as that prudent reserve be determined by the Regional Service Committee. Moved by Mitchell, Springfield, seconded by Dave, Kansas City, motion carried unanimously.

Last order of business- deciding date for regional meeting. Consideration of 4th of July campout and time scheduling problems.

MOTION: That Topeka, Kansas hold the next Regional Meeting on the 8-10th of May. Moved by Ron D., Topeka, Ks, seconded by Jean, Springfield. Motion carried unanimously. More discussion followed. MOTION: That we hold off from holding our Regional Meeting until July 4th, at the time of the campout. Moved by Ron D., Topeka, Ks., seconded by Rick, Joplin, discussion followed, motion withdrawn.

MOTION: That we have a business meeting every three months, on a regular basis. Moved by Mitchell, Springfield, seconded by Bill O., Kansas City, motion carried unanimously.

Closing Business: Announced that donations to the amount of \$40.17 were collected during today's proceedings, to be placed in the Regional Account. Meeting closed with remarks from Debbie, chairperson, Cindy P., Regional Service Office, and Julie W., acting secretary: followed by adjournment and the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Julie W. Acting secretary.

WHAT'S HAPPENING???

IOWA: Des Moines is delighted to announce that they have started three meetings a week. They have received alot of strength and support. Also, a hot line service is in the making. Their mailing address is: P.O. Box 4597, DesMoines, Iowa, 50310.

Waterloo has told us that there are two new groups. One in Cedar Rapids and another in Iowa Falls. They also told us that their group has elected officers. Information will be up-coming.

KANSAS: Junction City has started a new meeting. Their first meeting was held December 21, 1980. Address of this meeting will be on seperate sheet attached. Best of luck to you all, keep up the good work.

McPherson is going strong, taking it step by step. They tell us of the great feeling watching the fellowship grow. Newton sent us a report as follows: HELLO FROM NEWTON... Our grand opening of the Club 12 was on February 14th. The attendance and support from area groups was fantastic. A BIG THANKS to all for coming. We raised \$340. at the auction that evening. To those of you who spent your hard earned cash- we voted to send \$75. to the Literature Committee for the BIG BOOK. And a \$25. to our Regional Service Office for doing such a good job - along with a \$75. order for literature to the Regional Service Office with hopes that they'll cintinue doing a good job by filling our order promptly. Even after spending that we'll have a nice nest egg to keep the house running. Thanks again. Be sure and stop in again next time you are in Newton. Our meetings are:

The Club 12, 321 West 6th, Newton
Monday, 8pm, Women's N.A., open
Tuesday, no meeting
Wednesday, 8pm, Step and Traditions, closed
Thursday, 8pm, Men's N.A., closed
Friday, 7pm, N.A., closed
Saturday, 8pm, Candlelight meeting-open
Sunday, 2pm, N.A.-closed

For more information or directions, call Vickie T., 316-283-7415, or Glenda P., 316-283-3529.

TOPEKA has a new meeting too. This meeting at Washburn University met for the first time Monday, March 2nd. A group conscience was taken and we are going to take the time to review the N.A. Book as a group effort during this time. Everyone is looking forward to listening and enjoying our book. We are also busy preparing for the Regional Meeting in May, which we hope will help bring us all closer together. Our first fund raiser will be a Italian Feast, Friday, March 13th. Dinner will be from 6:30 to 8:30pm, Open Meeting Following, Eddie from Kansas City will be the guest speaker, also we will be having a raffell and we hope that all will try to attend to share food and fellowship. The address for this is Potwin Presbyterian Church, 400 Washburn, Basement. As for our regular meetings they are still growing and working for many.

MISSOURI: JOPLIN group is doing quite well. We are beginning a public information campaign for public service announcements on radio, T.V. and newspapers and we be making a private mailing to

judges, lawyers, doctors, sheriffs, probation officers, and ministers next month. We also keep a stack of cards and literature at the emergency rooms of our local hospitals and the local mental health clinic. This reported by Bob R., Joplin. Joplin shares with us that a new group is being started at the Columbus Group Home in Columbus, Ks. More information on this at a later date. Birthday wishes go to: Monty M., 2 yrs.: and John K., 1 year.....

ST. LOUIS is now active, or has been for a while, we just hadn't found out the info. They are growing and have five meetings a week. Their mailing address is NA in St. Louis, P.O. Box 1866, St. Louis, Mo. 63118. By next newsletter we will have the meeting information. Welcome.

SPRINGFIELD has reported that they are still in commission after the Regional Meeting. They reported that there were some trying times during this event and prior to but they have learned and will go on. They also sent the following:

I have just a single minute;
Only sixty seconds in it.
Didn't make it, didn't choose it,
But I'll suffer if I lose it.
I have just a little minute,
But eternity is in it.

Lyn M.

KANSAS CITY reports that everything is getting on with them. They are getting closer to making the dream of a club house, a reality. Their groups are still growing and much involvement in Regional Events is evident. The following is a bit that someone from K.C. wanted to share:

No longer detached
I am now a part of a very special group.
Having found friends I feel supported,
Finally expose my troubled soul
and still feel accepted.
Feeling a part of others, I found
the best part of myself
In tune with my peers,
Music fills my soul.
Given a box of crayons we gather,
Free to color our new world with
brilliant hues.
We create a grand mural, and
intertrvine our lives with love.
Reborn, now able to begin living
overflowing with hope.
I am joyful to be alive today.

An Addict, Kansas City.

NEBRASKA: Reports show that they are growing strong, with the establishment of their new clubhouse in Lincoln and all of the outstanding work they contributed to the NA BOOK.

OKLAHOMA: Norman NA is really growing, they now have three meetings and will soon have a fourth. About thirty to forty people are attending the meetings. The group is also starting a 24hr.

hotline. More new meetings which we will have information on by the next newsletter.

OUTSIDE THE REGION: FLORIDA reports they are busy preparing the WCNA-11, which many of us know how difficult it is. The following is an update on their progress:

Registrations are trickling in from across the country, Georgia California, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, Minnesota, Kansas, and from outside our borders, Ireland, (we are very fortunate to have scheduled during the convention, a founding member of the only N.A. group in Ireland) The sooner we receive your forms the more able we are to prepare to meet your needs (we hope) Do it, now!

Any input from a fellow member will be gratefully received and appreciated.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Atlanta area fellowship for their eagerness to sponsor fund raising events benefitting the 11th WCNA. God Bless You.

T-shirts, lighters, bumper stickers, and other slogan memorabilia will go on sale very shortly and will be available during the convention.

Any information you can send, regarding groups that may not be receiving information on the convention - we would like to add them to our list.

The south Florida area is experiencing a beautiful phenomena of growth in the N.A. Fellowship. We are proud to be able to serve as hosts of the convention focusing our efforts towards the suffering addict everywhere. Together, we will, carry the message, or the individual will surely, die.

Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress, Working together is success. In loving service, George H. LeeB., P.R. Chairman W.C.N.A.-11. Their address is WCNA-11, P.O. Box 694594, Miami, Fla., 33169.

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY WILL BE HOSTING "GLAD TO BE ALIVE", 2nd East Coast Convention of N.A., June 26th - 28th, 1981, at Trenton State University
REGISTRATION: 2nd East Coast Convention of N.A., P.O. Box 1136, Doylestown, Pa. 18901.

NA VICTORIA RALLY--1981....2nd Annual British Columbia NA Rally
September 26 and 27th, 1981, James Bay Community Center, 140 Oswego Street, Victoria, British Columbia....REGISTRATION: NA Roundup Committee, P.O. Box 6146, Depot C, Victoria, B.C. V8P5L4

Easter Weekend Retreat, April 17-19, 1981, YMCA Camp Elphenstone Gibsen, B.C. REGISTRATION: Vancouver NA Area Service Committee P.O. Box 48533, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V7X-1A3.

****We are grateful for the Portland/Vancouver Newsletter for sharing this information and their experience, strength and hope.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LETTER THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE RSO FOR PRINTING IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

Dear Fellow Members,

I want to share my experience of the 3rd World Literature Conference with you. A one word description is "WOW".

My experience with the Conference began Saturday, Jan. 31st I got off the bus in Memphis and was greeted by a guy from Memphis and another guy from Georgia.

I knew I was in the right place as soon as I was hugged.

We arrived at the Conference Center in Richardson Towers, Memphis State University. People from all over the country were still arriving. The people from Georgia, including our chairman, arrived and we had our first Group Conscience, twenty-seven people representing nine states were present. We discussed the earlier conferences, established goals for our conference, and discussed our reactions to being here. We started to work immediately.

We worked around the clock for the whole conference except for the first night. A flow chart was put on the chalkboard to record our progress. The progress of the book ranged from a fairly complete Chapter 1, to a very incomplete Chapter 10. Slowly, surely and steadily the chapters were typed, revised and retyped until they were finally approved during the last hours of the Conference. One of our sayings, "WE ARE WATCHING A MIRACLE IN PROGRESS".

The feelings I felt, the people I've met and the spiritual growth I experienced will hopefully always be with me in my heart and mind. I'm very grateful that I was chosen to participate in the Conference; the memory itself may keep me clean someday. I hope that everyone will take the time and effort to read the final draft when it comes in the mail. We need everyone's participation in the review process. We want the book but we can't have it without you.

Love,
A Grateful Member

NEW MEETINGS:

JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS-302 Flint Hills Blvd.
8:00pm Sunday

MAILING: NA

P.O. Box 1024

Junction City, Ks. 66441

WATERLOO, IOWA -Serenity House, 1202 Sycamore Street

WEDNESDAY *8:00-MAILING: Jim Ward

14303 Kline Rd.

Laforte City, Iowa 50651

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA-

Thursday 8:00, 221 South Jeffers

Mailing: William Schynider

520 West Forth

North Platte, Nebraska 69101

TOPEKA, KANSAS...Monday 8:00, Washburn University, 1700 Washburn
Sunflower Room, Washburn Student Union Bldg.

MAILING: Washburn NA

1700 Washburn

Topeka, Kansas 66621

Waterloo mailing changes: Mailing now goes to Sue Stumma, GSR, 1232 Vine Street, Waterloo Iowa 50703. This is for the Thursday group not the Sunday, it stays the same.

OMAHA: Saturday, 8:00pm, Chaplain's Quarters, 3612 Cuming St., Epply Hospital. GSR, Karen Fisher, 4325 Leavenworth, Omaha, Neb., 68105, phone: 402-558-7879.

REPORT FROM THE MID-AMERICA REGIONAL SERVICE OFFICE:

Dear Fellow Members:

I can't believe how much our region has grown, both in area and responsibility. We have had approx. 100 calls this month from people all over this region. WOW! We are trying to find some semblance of order to follow as we grow....I can't tell you how exciting it is.

Anyway, we now have pamphlets!!!!, so if your group need them they are available. We are also going to try to get a mailing out that will include the up-dated list of prices and items available. This will be done within the next month. Also, we will hopefully get back on track with the newsletter so that it will be sent out on a monthly basis. Sorry that we have had the delay but we are not that organized yet, but many new people have started helping and for that we are gratefull, THANKS.....

One of the most exciting things is that this newsletter is and has been typed on OUR NEW TYPEWRITER. We found a really good deal at Sear's here and so we now have it.....I can't tell you how much time and temper it saves. We have also been working on a index for all of the groups and their officers. I would like to appeal to each of you to let us know in writting or by phone, of any changes or additions to your groups. This will help us here in letting the rest of the region know. It's quite a job getting all of this organized (seing as I am not one of your most organized people) but it's coming along nicely due to the help of other dedicated members. I also hope that we have not left out anything and that if we did not get your information in please contact us and we will make sure that it gets in the next newsletter.

As a last minute note, I would like to thank you personally for electing me as RSR for this Region, it will be something that I will never forget and I hope that I can fill this position for the next s year, remembering that we work together, for the good of NA. Again, Thanks.

So for now, keep those cards, letters and phone calls coming in. You are all important and you all have something to contribute.

My Love to All,

Cindy
Cindy P., RSR, Manager of M.A.R.S.O.

*****2nd ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING FOR MID- AMERICA REGION*****

MAY 22 thru 24, 1981

at

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY, TOPEKA, KANSAS
STUDENT UNION BUILDING, KANSAS ROOM

**The reason for the change in date was that when we elected the date at the last Regional Meeting, no one at that time realized that we had chosen the weekend of Mothers Day, which would have presented a problem for many. In addition, when we started scouting places to have this event, we were very fortunate to find that Washburn University would allow us to have it there, and also make available the dorm rooms at \$4.00 per person, per night, this was one offer that "we couldn't refuse", if you know what we mean. School will be out at that time so we will more or less have the campus to ourselves.....We do need to have a count to give the DEAN so if you could fill out the attached form that will be going out on the fliers, we can arrange everything to meet your needs. Plus, we MUST give them an estimate as time grows nearer.

THANKS.....