

NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



March 5, 2022
John S., Sparks
Central Office Volunteers
Speaker at 7:00
Silver Legacy Silver Baron Rm 1-6

March, 2022

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GENERAL WARRANTIES OF THE NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

In all its proceedings, the Intergroup Association observes the spirit of AA Traditions, taking great care that the Intergroup Association never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus a reserve be its prudent financial principal; that none of the Intergroup Association members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decision be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that no Intergroup Association action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Intergroup Association may act for the service of AA Groups in the Northern Nevada area and parts of Northern California, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Intergroup Association itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

(The above is adapted and modified from "The AA Service Manual", and AA Co-Founder Bill W's. Twelve Concepts for World Service; Concept XII, as adopted by the General Service Conference on April 26, 1962. This adaptation of copyrighted AA material has been approved by the General Service Board)

CENTRAL OFFICE

436 S. Rock Blvd.,
Sparks, NV 89431
Monday thru Friday
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

24 Hour Answering Service:

(775) 355-1151 Fax: (775) 355-1560

EMAIL: officemanager@nnig.org

Web Site/Meeting Schedule: nnig.org

The Bracer: nnigbracer@gmail.com

THE BRACER



NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

A Clear Sign

For some, a spiritual experience arrives as a miracle and can even happen at 65 mph

I believe in miracles, not coincidences. But it hasn't always been that way. Allow me to elaborate.

One day, before I quit drinking, I held a loaded revolver to my head. But before I could pull the trigger, I passed out. That moment is what finally brought me through the doors of AA. When I came to, I literally got on my knees to beg a Higher Power I had abandoned years earlier. "God, please help me," I prayed.

He did. Within a few weeks, I was a sober member of AA. That was a miracle.

That same God allows me to laugh at myself today—even when relating such stories. Recently, I shared my loaded revolver incident with a fellow recovered alcoholic, who broke into laughter. "Let me tell you what brought me into AA," he said. "I thought there was nothing that could save me, so I closed the garage doors, started the car and waited for the fumes to take me out of my misery. The car ran out of gas!"

We both laughed. God had given us both the gift of sobriety and the gift of laughter. I'm convinced beyond any doubt that God had something else planned for us both. Perhaps spiritual experiences are also miracles. Again, I am convinced.

Just a few years ago, I had an incident that shook me to the core. At the time I did not believe in spiritual experiences. One day I was riding my motorcycle home, right behind a big truck. All of a sudden, I had a thought—call it a vision—that something fell from the truck directly in the path of my two-wheeler. "Ridiculous," I said aloud. For some unknown reason, however, I took note of traffic around me and what escape route I would take. Then it happened. The truck's rear doors sprang open and a huge four-foot piece of lumber bounced out and onto the highway pavement directly in my path.

I was traveling about 65 mph, but managed to veer into the lane that moments earlier I had seen was devoid of other traffic. I missed certain death by no less than a foot. Disaster was averted.

Literally out of breath, I pulled over to the shoulder to collect myself. I was visibly shaken, not so much by what had just happened, but because I had actually envisioned it before it took place. Coincidence? Not sure. Miracle? Maybe.

I don't share this story very often because I think people will scoff. After all, not everybody believes in miracles.

I do. I've been sober for 34 years. Now that's a real miracle! **BY: PAT S. |**

MINDEN, NEVADA

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A A's

**Recovery
Step Three:**

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."

Three

**Unity
Tradition Three:**

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

Legacies

**Service
Concept Three:**

"To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.-the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives - with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Concept III – Right of Decision Applies to all Levels of Participation in the Structure of A.A. World Services.

Right of Decision means that our A.A. trusted servants are expected to interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each problem situation or decision as it arises. Concept 3 makes it clear that when we are elected or appointed to a service job, we are given the responsibility to both represent the body that elected us while also making decisions based the best and most complete information available, and on what we see as best for A.A. as a whole. Here are two examples of situations where a group representative is called on to exercise this right of decision.

First: When presented with an issue or matter of concern, the service representative decides whether to bring this to the group he or she represents, based on such judgments as importance, urgency, whether the matter might or might not be of interest to the group, or whether the group's judgment is important in the overall decision of the Fellowship.

Second: After taking a group conscience about a matter, the representative follows up by taking the group's view to the next service level. In doing so, it is important to discuss and listen to others outside the represented group who may have additional knowledge, information, or views on the matter. When it comes to a voting decision at this next level, it is important to consider both the represented group's viewpoint and to be open to new and different ideas. By listening to all sources of information, and relying on his or her own principled judgment, the representative is able to make a more fully informed decision. In this sense, Concept 3 requires a representative to both speak up for the group and to listen closely and carefully to what others have to say.

Bill grants that the "right of decision" can be abused, but also discusses several methods of correcting abuse, inefficiency or ineffectiveness among our trusted servants. He is confident that we need not have the slightest fear of granting this right of decision to every level of world service.

If a trusted servant votes or otherwise decides differently from the conscience of the represented body, it is important to report this action back to that body, along with the reasons for it. I offer an example from my own experience as a GSR. I was asked to take a matter to my group, which I did. They expressed a group conscience to me. When I returned to the next service meeting, however, more information was presented. This changed my view on the topic and the way I voted. I explained how and why I voted this way at the next group business meeting. Some members of the group agreed with my action and others did not. Still, I was confident that I did my job as a trusted servant effectively as I was clear in my own conscience that I voted for what was in the best interest of A.A. as a whole.

As Bill says in his writing on the Concept, the right of decision is what makes us trusted servants in A.A. rather just group messengers.

This is a 12 part series written by members of the 12 Concepts Study Group in Reno, Nevada. Efforts were made to use simple, everyday language. Each concept is written by an individual member of the group and is not necessarily the opinion of AA as a whole or NNIG. We hope this series will help our community to understand the Concepts and bring interest to those wanting to know more about them. Revised May, 2017.

The Bracer is a monthly publication intended for members of Alcoholics Anonymous and their families only. It is about, by and for members of the fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of A.A. as a whole or NNIG. For article submissions or comments, email the Editor at nnigbracer@gmail.com

Deadline for submission is the last Friday of the month.

NNIG & AREA EVENTS

EVENTS HOSTED BY NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP TO SUPPORT CENTRAL OFFICE

NNIG Monthly Speaker Meetings
Silver Legacy – 407 North Virginia Street, Reno 89501



Monthly Speaker Meeting
Doors open at 6:30 PM
Speaker at 7:00 PM



All meetings located in Silver Barron Room 1-6 Unless otherwise noted

March 5, 2022

Host Group – Central Office Volunteers
Speaker – John S. – Sparks NV

April 9, 2022

Host Group – Pyramid Way Group
Speaker- Larry T. – Seal Beach CA

May 14, 2022

Host Group – Carson City Happy Hour Group
Speaker – June G. – Oxnard CA

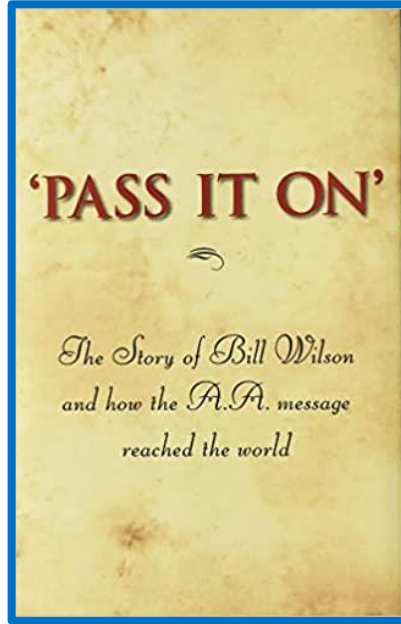
June 11, 2022

Host Group – Alano Jaywalkers
Speaker - Barbara M. Sparks NV

Speaker Chair – Kevin B. (775) 470-4614
Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 355-1151
Join us for dinner at Cafe Central inside the Silver legacy @ 5pm

BOOK OF THE MONTH

\$2 OFF



PAMPHLET OF THE MONTH

\$0.40



A member gets a morning reminder to appreciate our spiritual diversity

“The phrase ‘God as we understand him’ is perhaps the most important expression to be found in our whole AA vocabulary. Within the compass of these five significant words there can be included every kind and degree of faith, together with the positive assurance that each of us may choose his own.”

From “God As We Understand Him: The Dilemma of No Faith”

—Bill W., April 1961

As I’ve grown older in AA, I’ve had to resist the urge to grow set in my ways and become closed-minded about differing viewpoints. When the above quote appeared in my inbox as the Grapevine Quote of the Day, it reminded me that Bill grew in the opposite direction, and that the lifetime course of his writings challenges me to do likewise. As a young man, Bill wrote the first draft of the Steps using the narrower language “God” and strongly emphasized his “hot flash” spiritual experience in writing the Big Book. As he grew older, he became more and more accepting, urging members throughout the ‘50s and ‘60s that the best thing they could do for AA was to “raise the bottom.”

Viewed against the backdrop of the phrase “God as we understand him,” Bill’s idea of raising the bottom far surpasses the emotional, physical, material and spiritual bottom where I became willing to consider the Fellowship of the Last Resort as an alternative to my former self-driven life as an active alcoholic. More broadly, raising the bottom challenges me today to open the door all the way, so any alcoholic can enter, dwell and remain comfortable for as long as he or she needs, regardless of the flavor or intensity of personal spiritual taste. Who am I to judge whether an agnostic, an atheist or any other kind of theist or deist, possesses the spiritual basics needed for recovery?

Once upon a time, “spiritual diversity” sounded to me like a New Age watering down of “true religion.” Now, I recognize spiritual diversity as so much healthier than its alternative—which would be spiritual inbreeding. If I can’t trust my Higher Power to protect AA from any ill effects that might arise from diversity of spiritual experience among our members, then I don’t have much of a Higher Power, do I? **BY: B.C. | NEW MARKET, MARYLAND**



Central office report from Ronda H. March 1, 2022
Volunteer hours- 118 hours
Calls into Central Office:

- **Calls for GG help - 12**
- **Calls for Glanon/Glateen - 1**
- **Meeting information- 49**
- **Retail / merchandise- 8**
- **Other 12 step programs- 4**
- **Events - 7**
- **Business/Central office- 69**
- **Total calls - 152**
- **Visitors - 241**

1. **March speaker meeting Volunteers are hosting.**
2. **Book of the month is Pass It On, this is \$2 GFF, pamphlet is Experience Has Taught Us: Our Twelve Steps Illustrated \$0.40**
3. **Meetings on line and printed schedule will be updated.**
4. **The website had 18,516 pageviews. Two minutes is the avg.**
We have been having old timer interviews printed in the Bracer if you would like to be interviewed, please call me at the office to set up a time.

Ronda
Central Office Manager



Previous Birthdays February

December
 Sean S. - 32 Years
 Mystery Person!!
 - 34 Years

November 2021
 Rich A. - 35 Years
 Shawn - 30 Years

October 2021
 Sharon F. - 37 Years
 Nancy A. - 36 Years

September 2021
 Phil S. 45 Years
 Mike 26 Years

August 2021
 Linda G. 29 Years
 Danny S. 19 Years


JULY 2021
 Barbara M. 46 Years
 Joanne P. 9 Years

JUNE BIRTHDAYS
 Donn T. - 31 Years!!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS
 Joni S. 26 Years
 Ron T. 10 Years
 Ann G. A LOT

MARCH BIRTHDAYS
 Kent L. 39 years
 Kimmi 44 Years

Skip 22 YEARS



Bailey

Maybe eating
 taco's wasn't
 cheating on my
 diet. Maybe
 going on a diet
 was cheating on
 my tacos....

Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the A.A. Birthday Club? Sign Up today and be featured in the Bracer Birthday Club section of the Bracer. Show your Support for your NNIG & Central Office, Join the Birthday Club. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety. Envelopes available at Central Office, NNIG Business Meeting or Intergroup Representatives

Please respect all meeting place mandates about face coverings.



Alturas Hilltoppers

Sunday, Monday,
 Wednesday, Friday
 8:00 PM

Alturas GA

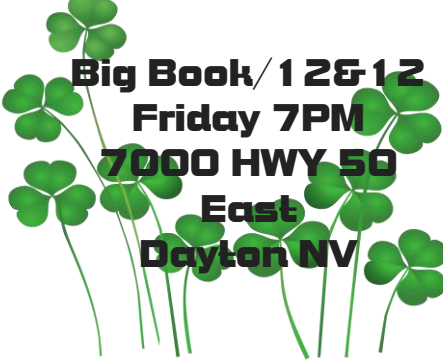


Dawn Patrol

Monday-Sunday
 7:30AM
 Prater Way
 Sparks


AA ANSWERING SERVICE NUMBERS

Reno, Sparks, Carson City and all of Northern Nevada: (775) 355-1151
 Las Vegas and all of Southern Nevada: (702) 598-1888
 Mammoth Lake: (760) 934-3434
 North Lake Tahoe: (530) 546-1126
 South Lake Tahoe: (530) 541-1243
 Susanville, CA: (775) 355-1151
 White Pine County/Ely: (775) 296-0656 Jim C.



Big Book / 12&12

Friday 7PM
 7000 HWY 50
 East
 Dayton NV



Eye Opener

Monday-Friday
 8:00AM
 820 Plumas St.
 Reno

N.N.I.G. STEERING COMMITTEE
 Last Tuesday of each month, 5:30 PM
 Central Office, 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

N.N.I.G. BUSINESS MEETING
 First Tuesday of each month, 6:30 PM
 Alano Club, 1640 Prater Way, Sparks

**N.N.I.G. MONTHLY
 SPEAKER MEETING**
 7:00 PM Silver Legacy - Silver Baron A
 2nd Saturday of the month

N.N.I.G. H&I
 First Monday of each month, 5:30 PM
 Central Office 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks



District Meetings

DISTRICT-2 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30 Central Office
 Zoom # 91904741396 Password D2

DISTRICT 4 First Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM-
 Zoom ID: 876 7717 4234 PW: District4

DISTRICT 6 2nd Sunday of even numbered months-
 For information email
district6@nevadaarea42.org

DISTRICT 8 First Sunday, 3:30 p.m. on odd months
 Call (760) 937-8407

DISTRICT 10A Third Sunday of every other month, 1:30 PM
 680 River St. Elko, NV

DISTRICT 10B Dark since 2017

DISTRICT 11 Only holds meetings 4 time a year, call DCM

DISTRICT 12 2nd Saturday of each Month at 5:00 PM- 457
 Esmeralda Street Wolf Center, Fallon NV

DISTRICT 14 3rd Wed of each "Odd" month at 6:00 PM -265
 Bear Street in Kings Beach CA

DISTRICT 16 Meeting is held 3rd Tuesday of the month
 Sparks Family Christian Church 510 Greenbrae
 Blvd 6:00PM-7:00PM

DISTRICT 18 DARK DISTRICT

DISTRICT 20 Third Saturday of Jan, Mar, May, Aug & Oct
 10:30 AM- Contact DCM @
district20@nevadaarea42.org for location

DISTRICT 22 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month 6:30 PM @
 Central Office

AREA CLUBS

Reno / Sparks Clubs
 Alano Club Sparks, 1640 Prater Way (775) 359-2727
 Driars Club Reno 345 S. Wells Avenue (775) 324-9210
 Triangle Club Reno 635 S Wells Avenue (775) 324-7977

Clubs outside Reno/Sparks Area
 Alano Club Carson City, 1800 HWY 50 East (775) 882-0443
 Bishop Alano Club (760) 873-6700
 Elko Alano Club (775) 738-4747
 Las Vegas Triangle Club (702) 435-0597
 South Lake Tahoe (530) 541-1243



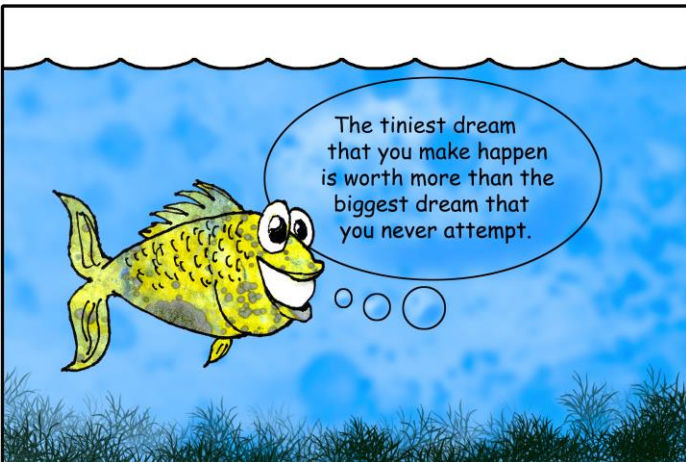
3RD STEP PRAYER

"GOD, I OFFER MYSELF TO THEE—TO BUILD WITH ME AND TO DO WITH ME AS THOU WILT. RELIEVE ME OF THE BONDAGE OF SELF, THAT I MAY BETTER DO THY WILL. TAKE AWAY MY DIFFICULTIES, THAT VICTORY OVER THEM MAY BEAR WITNESS TO THOSE I WOULD HELP OF THY POWER, THY LOVE, AND THY WAY OF LIFE. MAY I DO THY WILL ALWAYS!" (P. 63 BB) GOD, TAKE MY WILL AND MY LIFE. GUIDE ME IN MY RECOVERY. SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE. AMEN (THE STEP ON P. 59 BB)

Drink Like A Fish by Rick M.



Drink Like A Fish by Rick M.



What We Were Like

Fragments Of AA History - The AA Preamble

The words contained in the AA Preamble are perhaps the most often repeated words throughout the AA Fellowship. Used to open many meetings around the world, the Preamble encapsulates the essence of AA's Traditions and gives an overview of the practices and principles so vital to AA life.

Yet, where did these words come from? Who wrote them, and why? Following the first major surge of AA membership in the early 1940s, due in part to the Jack Alexander article about AA in the *Saturday Evening Post* and subsequent media stories about AA, there was an increasing and widespread interest in AA, both among potential candidates for the Fellowship and among those nonalcoholic family members, friends, and professionals who dealt with alcoholics in their daily lives. With the hope of providing a concise definition of AA for such interested people, the June 1947 Grapevine carried the original version of what is now known throughout the AA world as the Preamble. It was written by Tom Y., the Grapevine's first editor, who borrowed heavily for the phrasing on the following paragraph in the Foreword to the first edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*:

"We are not an organization in the conventional sense of the word. There are no dues or fees whatsoever. The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking. We are not allied with any particular faith, sect or denomination, nor do we oppose anyone. We simply wish to be helpful to those who are afflicted." The Preamble, initially referred to as "the AA Definition," took its place thereafter in each monthly issue of the Grapevine, and soon began to appear in Conference-approved literature and many other AA publications.

The phraseology from the Big Book regarding "an *honest* desire to stop drinking" as "the only requirement for membership" was carried over into the original wording of the Preamble. However, at the 1958 General Service Conference, a delegate asked about the words "honest desire to stop drinking," suggesting that since "honest" does not appear in the Third Tradition, it might be deleted from the Preamble. In discussion, most Conference members felt that as AA had matured, it had become almost impossible to determine what constitutes an honest desire to stop drinking, and also that some who might be interested in the program could be confused by that phrase. Who was to determine what was an "honest desire" anyway? Thus, as a part of the evolution of AA, the phrase had been dropped from common usage. The mid-summer meeting of the AA General Service Board ratified the deletion, and since then the Preamble has read simply "a desire to stop drinking." At the same time, the phrase "AA has no dues or fees" was clarified to read as it presently does: "There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions."

Over the years, as the Preamble caught on within the Fellowship and with nonalcoholic friends of AA, it has been translated into many other languages--Russian and Danish being the most recent. In addition, the Preamble has been used in television and radio public service announcements, has been adapted (subject to copyright approval) by many other "twelve step fellowships" as a concise definition of who and what *they* are. It has also been cited in many research papers, self-help books, masters theses, and has appeared in the occasional doctoral dissertation.

Such is the brief history of the AA Preamble--this shining beacon which draws so many sick and suffering alcoholics into its light. And no matter where the Preamble may end up, it will always be best known as the beginning of yet another meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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They'll Ruin AA!

IT IS BECOMING increasingly apparent that the "pure alcoholic" is a thing of the past. The 1977 AA survey showed decisively that newcomers to AA more and more are approaching this program with the problem of alcohol--and something else. This situation is not a novel one. Years ago, when ex-convicts began coming to AA, the cry was "Oh, we can't handle their problems. AA is only for alcoholics." Very effective AA hospital and institutions committees resulted from these newcomers. Later, when newcomers who still had jobs came to the program, the cry was "But they're not *real* alcoholics." The upshot of these persons' impact on AA was to raise the alcoholic's "bottom" so that future newcomers could identify earlier in the progression of the illness.

More recently, newcomers began arriving at AA's doors in their early twenties and even teens, and the cry was "I spilled more than you drank. You're too young to be an alcoholic." But these young people were somewhat different and formed their own groups in AA. Then persons with different sexual preferences appeared, and the attitude was "They'll contaminate us. We don't need them." Again, separate groups have formed for these persons. Now, we're seeing alcoholics with dual drug problems, combining, for example, pills or hard drugs with alcohol; and once again the cry is "They'll ruin AA." It's time we bring to mind with some force the Third Tradition: "The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking." This Tradition is the direct result of mistakes AA members and groups made over the years in denying help to the suffering alcoholic who was "different." Fear, the difficult-to-remove character defect, reared its ugly head, along with false pride, which said, "They have to do it my way!" Each of us seeks sobriety and an understanding of the Power greater than ourselves, but the way can be devious and full of stumbling blocks for some. Are we deliberately creating another obstacle for the newcomer to AA by our judgmental attitudes?

Over the years, the kinds of persons seeking out AA for help have changed, and this has caused a change in AA's approach, because we try to meet the newcomer "where he's at." So long as we maintain at the individual and group level the AA basics--the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, the view of alcoholism as a threefold disease, the spirituality of our program--AA will survive and readily absorb these AAs with "new" problems. AA does change as the people in AA change--but the basic foundation remains firm and unchanging, providing a broad program to handle almost any new problem through the one-to-one sharing at the group level, and the more personal sharing of sponsorship. **BY: D. K. | OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**

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NNIG Intergroup Office

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2022 FAITHFUL FIVER CLUB

- Joanne P. Linda G. Tom E.
- Paul E. Skip P.
- John I. Tom E.
- Ann G. Deanna S.
- Carl H. Donn T.
- Barb P. Ron T. Paul M.
- William F. Cheryl Z.

We are members of Alcoholics Anonymous that want the hand of A.A. always to be there in Northern Area 42 Community with Central Office Services. It's Easy to Join!
Use a Check or Credit Card to pay monthly, or one time. Easy ways to contribute- pay in person at the office (so we can see your pretty face) mail, online at nnig.org or phone Central Office for a one time card charge over the phone. \$5.00 per month or \$60.00 per year!
This membership directly supports 12 step work in Northern Area 42, Group Services and Central Office Operations.

