eTech Report: NAATW

North Florida Area 14 Assembly
April 5th @10:00AM
Lake Mary, FL

blaine@naatw.org

eTech Team

Who, What, Why?

- *No Special Authority – We are AA Members*
- *Not affiliated with GSO – We are invited guests*
- *Financial Resources are limited*
- *Team is small and have "Day Jobs"*
- *Have broad experience across technology fields*

*Here to **SERVE** regarding **TECHNOLOGY**, but*

HOW?

eTech Participation

2012 4/2: AAWS ad-hoc Technology Team formed - San Francisco, CA
  ✓ 6/8 - Presentation to A.A.W.S. Board - re: eBooks, Web, etc. *(1st)*

Workshops (A.A. and Advancing Technologies)

2012 11/9: Southeast Regional Forum - Boca Raton, FL *(1st)*

2013 3/1: Pacific Region AA Service Assembly - Boise, ID *(1st)*

2013 6/8: Northeast Regional Forum - Cromwell, CT

2013 9/7: West Central Regional Forum - Bloomington, MN

2013 10/12: Southwest Regional Forum - Oklahoma City

2013 10/26: Intergroup Manager's Seminar - Palm Springs *(1st)*

2013 11/16: East Central Regional Forum - Fort Wayne, IN

Reports

2014 4/5: Intergroup Workshop, Area 14 Assembly - Lake Mary, FL *(1st)*

Events

2014 8/8-10: NAATW #1 - St. Louis, MO

What we do <u>NOT</u> do

- Create software to SOLVE all AA's problems

- Create a central IT group to DECIDE things

- Provide a LIST of "conference approved" technologies and vendors

- Do the job of EXISTING AA Service committees

- Tell AA groups the CORRECT way… what their requirements should be

What we <u>DO</u> do

- Encourage sharing of solutions that prove useful and related EXPERIENCE

- Suggest roles to focus on this area of SERVICE

- Trust our TRUSTED SERVANTS

- Offer experience to AA Service COMMITTEES

- Evolve deeper service GUIDELINES and insights applying our TRADITIONS

Is this really necessary?

A.A.'s Legacy of Service Bill W. (1951)

- Our Twelfth Step - carrying the message - the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives

- …but one question: "Is this service really needed?" If it is, then maintain it we must, or fail in our mission

~ Service Manual S1

"…guides to progress."

Tradition 5: *"Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."*

"The measure of technology value in AA is its support of 12 Step progress"

~ Brouck H, 4/3/2012

New Service Opportunity?

Problem:

We seem to have exhausted our ability to deliver Advancing Technologies

Suggestion:

Focus a new service "channel" on the Management & Delivery of Technology

"Management" Problems

- No role in AA for focusing on technology

- Experience is collected across committees

- Service may require Special Knowledge

- How to share technical experience?

- No common language for sharing experience

- Slow implementation and long delivery lifecycle is way behind the always changing technology market

Delivery Problems

- Requests for technical solution have become more complex than ever before

- Q: Can we reduce the duplication of efforts?

- Our model for implementing technology is as varied as the number of groups we have

  - Nobody has been "asked" to provide central services: Upside-Down Organization

  - We have not agreed to the requirements

  - How would we fund them if we did?

- Little trust that AA can produce adequate technology

Providing Definition & Scope

Technology Service in A.A. should be defined by those *trusted servants who participate*.

Little if any *Shared Experience* has been found on how to do this, so we ask…

…What are the *Principles & Responsibilities* involved for addressing technology service in the fellowship?

→ eTech *Suggestion*: 12 Statements of Technology

12 Statements of Technology (v4)

1. We suggest implementing technology only **where it supports our primary purpose** of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers

2. We are responsible and assess value when using **self-support** funds for technology initiatives

3. We are responsible where **anonymity** is more vulnerable to a wider audience with increased speed or new sensation

4. An **informed** group conscience is paramount to technology decision-making

5. We strive to understand where **Individual versus Group values** are different

6. We perform due diligence and rely on **demonstrable A.A. experience**

7. We record **non-technical requirements** before making technology choices

8. We take care to understand the **property value** and **legal** implications of technology used for A.A. purposes before making binding decisions

9. We are responsible for **transparency** in discovery, process, & implementation

10. We use technology to make information **available**, not to limit it

11. We consider how best to **Pass it On**

12. … (Keep it Simple)

All that just to handle the Website?

Areas of Scope (v2)

Special Focus on "Self-support"

- **Communication**
  - E-mail / Fax
  - Phones / Devices
  - Remote work / Broadcast
- **Content**
  - Web / Cloud
  - Publishing / Documents
  - Multi-lingual
  - Retention / Recording / Retrieval
- **Software Applications**
  - Programming
  - Design / Usability
- **Information Security**
  - User / Password / Identity
  - Encryption
  - Intellectual Property / Copyrights

- **Operations**
  - Monitoring
  - Maintenance
  - Storage / Hosting
- **Management**
  - Committees
  - Contracts
  - Vendors
  - Projects
- **Systems**
  - Inventory
  - Connectivity
- **Support**
  - Inter-committee
  - Member users
  - Non-member users

First Thing's First

Establish the National AA Technology Workshop (NAATW)

NAATW.org

Track 1:	Track 2:
Using Technology in Service	Creating Technology for Service
• Inter-committee Work	• Geekery
• Traditions	• Mayhem
• Steering	• Shared Experience

Purpose Statement

The National AA Technology Workshop (NAATW) is committed to helping Alcoholics Anonymous service workers who are also bound by the spiritual principles of our Fellowship to...

- **DEMONSTRATE** and **SHARE** technology related experience, strength, and hope with each other

- provide a **CONSISTENT INTERFACE** to the fellowship on technology and assist members where practical

- offer a useful medium for willing members and non-member friends with specific **TECHNICAL EXPERTISE** to help A.A.

- **SERVE OTHER A.A. SERVICE GROUPS** or committees with their technology concerns

Mission

Work in progress...

The National AA Technology Workshop (NAATW) is committed to helping Alcoholics Anonymous to help the still suffering alcoholic <u>where less technological alternatives may be limited</u>.