

WCCNA

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RE: History NA Convention in GPRC

In 1983 was our first conference that gave us our first regional gathering of this type. This weekend was put together in thirty days with a small committee. The funds to begin a endeavor were minimal at this time. Attendance was two hundred eighty five addicts. We decided that we would continue this process and call it our regional convention. In 1984 at the Philadelphia Hershey Hotel we had a functional Regional Committee that supported the convention. This convention had 800 people in attendance from neighboring committee. At this time in our region we had a group formed called addicts anonymous. These people took from us a care group of our service committee. We then struggled to get our services back on line. There was a strong effort to unify our local fellowship. In 1985 was the Franklin Plaza hotel there a turn out of about 1200-1300 people. We were beginning our effort to spread the NA message through out our region by using the theme Celebration of life through fellowship. We hoped at this time the funds raised would help RSC grow. We also began to talk about a RSD or Incorporating the

convention. This convention was a success as had all of our celebrations had been. We were experiencing growth in our fellowship and we attributed some of this to our convention. In 1985 we new that what we wanted was to enhance growth even more, so we took as a theme Together we grow. Attendance was approximately 1500 with 1000 at dinner. We were able to further support our service through the efforts of the convention committee. We had a lot of addicts that got the service through serving on the convention committee. In 1987 we moved form Center City Philadelphia to a hotel just outside the city. There was 1800 addicts in attendance and we sat 1000 to eat. During this year the language was difficulty we were having in other regions. Through the convention we were able to focus on the step rather then fight about words. We also as a region decided to from a corporation to protect our convention. Although this did not occur until 1988. In 1988 we again stayed outside of the city and had to find a hotel that could handle 2000+ addicts. We sat a dinner for 1200+. This year we did quite well financially and spiritually. We started a RSO and gave them a limited budget to get started. Then they were on there own and we did not want to have to support our office through convention. This was the second year that our program was set up to have our local fellowship be the main speaker. In 1989 we were trying to help the fellowship grow and _____ was the miracles continues that year we had

approximately 2100+ addicts, we seated at dinner 1275+. This year help to bring NA closer in the inner city. In 1990 the committee formed and was able to put together a convention for NA that had better then 3000 addicts attend. We seated 1300+ for dinner. After the convention we felt we need to move our celebration to an area that could use the support. The next convention moved and we had 4500 addicts attend and seated 1500+ for dinner.

We had very little involvement with beginning and less convention/business experience but by the third convention we had begun by to unify and solidify our service and experience. Each year our merchandise and dinner and coffee break doubled in number. The experience we have had has been doubled every year by the amount of addicts attending. A lot of the regional convention committee members are still serving in the NA in our region.

Sincerely,

Bid committee

JRF/as