



Here's an idea: When registering for the workshop list a topic you would be able to share on at the event as it relates to BTG, H&I, TCP, TFC, CFC, CPC or PI service work. If you have experience with "carrying AA's message", making "Bridges" to the potential new AA member or workshops and skits that make 12 Step work possible or other topics that can be helpful let us know. We thank you in advance for your willingness and dedication to helping us help the still suffering alcoholic with the opportunity in transitioning from the dark to the light along the path we have found in AA.

## **BTG in California**

Bridging the Gap in California Northern Coastal Area, District 10 (Marin), has been busy!!!

In the last year, BTG has expanded, adding three new locations where presentations are given:

- Monthly at Marin Services for Women – 3 month residential treatment facility
- Bi-monthly at Ohlhoff House North – 3-6 month men's residential treatment facility
- Quarterly at Kaiser Early Recovery Program – 3 month outpatient treatment facility

The response from all the new facilities has been very positive and encouraging to the "gappers".

*In December, BTG participated in a joint presentation with PI/CPC at a local medical clinic. The audience was Medical Assistants and clinic staff. Information on alcoholism, the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and how BTG could facilitate patients going to their first few AA meetings, was provided to a group of 25. Both the BTG volunteer and the PI/CPC volunteer shared a little of their own AA story with the group. Future presentations are planned for two other clinics in Marin County.*

To better facilitate any newcomer getting in touch with BTG in District 10 (Marin), we now provide a dedicated BTG phone number associated with a voice mailbox service. The newcomer can leave a message on the voice mailbox and BTG will give them a call back within 3 hours to arrange a BTG contact to take them to a meeting. The phone number and the description of what BTG does is on our White Cards that we provide at any location where we give a presentation. In addition, our BTG White Cards have been provided to the local county Probation Office and a local DUI class. Currently District 10 (Marin) BTG is working with District 06 (San Francisco) to jointly use the phone number as the telephone area code applies to both districts.

Mary Lou Miller  
California Northern Coastal Area 06 BTG Alt-Chair  
CNCA 06 District 10 BTG Chair

## **BTG in Minnesota**

Since my last article submitted in early February... I met with Mary L., CPC Chair for District 8 to give her a supply of our Area 36 TCP brochure. Her committee decided to start handing it out at the events her committee attends as there are usually so many professionals from or that work with treatment facilities and halfway houses. Her committee distributed many of them at the MSSA (social workers)

conference in March. I agree with Mary that this is a very good way to increase awareness of the TCP!

I met 2 new District Treatment Facilities Chairs at the Delegates workshop in April: Bruce O. from District 16 and Jennifer R. from District 19. Both are excited and enthusiastic about working on the TF committee.

I was contacted by a professional from a treatment facility in Winnebago who was looking for contacts in Mankato as this facility serves many clients from that community. I confirmed with Andy D., our TCP Desk Coordinator that we do have willing contacts in Mankato, so I e-mailed the TCP Request form to the professional who I hope will use it.

Also, Tom C., TFC for District 18 agreed to attend the Regional Forum this September as my alternate (in addition to representing his district) as it is the same weekend as the annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend I'll be attending in Kansas City. Thank you Tom and District 18! The Saturday morning 05/16/09 standing committee meeting...

The District TF Chairs present were Vince B. from 13, Jennifer R. from 19, Steve S. from 24, Ryan H. from 7 and Al M from 9. Also attending were Pete, alt. TFC from 7, Bill R., District Secretary from 3, and Manuel S, a GSR from District 18. Our main focus of discussion was increasing participation in the TCP by facilities. It was pointed out that the language of the TCP brochure is geared for in-patient facilities. It was suggested that we take a look at tweaking the language to make it more inclusive for outpatient facilities and halfway houses. Another suggestion was the removal of the street address on the TCP request form which isn't really necessary for making the contact.

I have 2 District visits planned to do a short pitch on the TCP program and stir up some excitement about the TCP and working with facilities. I always point out the U.S.

Department of Health website link <http://dasis3.samhsa.gov/>, a useful tool for locating facilities in your area. If you're a DCM and would like me to visit your district meeting please contact me at [treatment@area36.org](mailto:treatment@area36.org) or call me at 612-275-5825.

Yours in love and service,  
Robert

## **BTGWW Contact Requests via the Website**

At the 2007 BTGWW we voted to approve the website and guidelines to implement this new phase in our technology. You can access this secure site at <http://www.BTGWW.org> The Webmaster states there has been traffic through the website. We continue to urge the fellowship and others referring potential alcoholics to AA to use the site for BTG contact requests.

## **BTGWW 2011 Host Site Bids Available**

If any Area has an interest in hosting the 2011 BTGWW request a host bid form. The form is a guide to help with what questions to ask the hotel staff you may be looking at having the workshop at. If you have experience with organizing events for AA you might have a head start on securing a bid?

Once you complete the bid form or have a bid proposal you can postal mail or email it to the BTGWW Coordinator and Alternate to be submitted for vote at the 2009 workshop. At the business portion of the 2009 BTGWW we would ask that you present your bid to and take questions from the attendees. If you are unable to attend this years event but want to submit a bid send as much information as possible to the Coordinator and Alternate so we can present the bid for you.

A reminder, the BTGWW Coordinator and/or the Alternate should be signing contracts for BTGWW not host site committees.

Thank you for your interest and support of BTGWW.

### ***THE RESOURCE LIBRARY becoming a Digital Library***

Yes, this is a repeat of the May newsletter! It is vital that we work together on this task.

We will move forward to condense the library to digital. Look forward to coming to assist in this monumental task at this year's workshop. We ask that you come with ideas to forge ahead with this project. If you have new or old library items that are on CD or that could be emailed, please send them to the BTGWW Coordinator and Alternate at the email addresses listed on the previous page.

Our goal continues to be to preserve the integrity of the library and to reduce costs of shipping these resources in the future.

**In the past years we have requested articles for inclusion in this newsletter. If you have an article that we could use in future email it to the BTGWW Coordinator. Thanks to everyone who has helped with sending articles in the past and sharing how BTG is working around the conference area and abroad.**