

A.R.T.S. Anonymous Inc.  
Conference Reports  
2013

# A.R.T.S. 2013 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

## MINUTES FROM 2012 CONFERENCE

PARTICIPANTS (present):

Trustees

Frank Lagerstedt  
Don T.  
Ed S.  
David P.

WSMRs

Victoria S. (NYC)  
\*Dave H. (Eugene, Oregon)  
David S. (NYC)  
\*Debbie (Montana)  
\*Jennie (Missouri)  
\*Denise R.

Office Manager

Cori F.

Abigail B., Founder

*\*Indicates phone participant*

1. The meeting convened at 12:00 p.m. and opened with the Serenity Prayer.
2. A.R.T.S. Chairperson Frank Lagerstedt opened the meeting and welcomed all participants to the A.R.T.S.'s third phone-in Conference, and thanked everyone for their support of the program.
3. All attendees introduced themselves and gave a brief report on the status of their meeting:  
Name,  
art,  
how long have they been in A.R.T.S.  
how many members in their meeting,  
meeting format,  
how old is their meeting,  
do they pass a second basket for ARTS World Service

David S.: Saturday Artists' Way, NYC. In existence since 1995, 61 people on email list with an average of 5 to 6 attendees per meeting. The meeting passes a second basket for WSO and is in good health.

Victoria S.: Friday P.L.A.N. In existence for 18 years, with 12 to 14 participants per meeting. We pass the second basket.

Dave H: Eugene, Oregon, Thursday Night. The meeting began in the late 1980s and has attendance of 12 regular and 12 to 15 occasional members. Format is Traits/Tools, Steps/Traditions and ArtShares. It passes a second basket. The literature questions and discussions has impacted on sharing.

4. The Minutes of the previous Conference were read and approved.
5. Frank stated that the Trustee Reports were included in the information that was emailed to all WSMRs and asked the trustees simply to add any additional comments that they would like to make as they introduced themselves. The Trustees and their positions are listed below.

Frank Lagerstedt, Chairperson (non-A.R.T.S. Trustee)  
Eva A., Trustee, Special Events  
Margi Briggs-Lofton, Acting Corporate Secretary and non-A.R.T.S. Trustee  
David P., Trustee and Treasurer  
Ed S., Conference Trustee  
Don T., Worldwide Fellowship Liaison

Treasurer's Report – David P. recapped the 2012 financial reports. The total income for the year was \$17,961.94. Total expenses for the year were \$17,668.31. The net was \$293.63. This is the first time in many years that ARTS has not had to draw money from the Prudent Reserve. The meetings donated \$3,152.23 and that is a significant increase over the previous years.

2007	\$1,020
2008	\$1,838
2009	\$ 713
2010	\$1,141
2011	\$2,005
2012	\$3,152

The 5-Alive campaign to get more meetings passing a second basket for ARTS is a success. Trustee Ed S. who is managing this campaign welcomed suggestions on how to get all the meetings participating.

The Conference participants then reviewed the operating budget and questioned various expense items.

David S. asked if we could get a bulk rate for postage when we do mass mailings to the fellowship. Abby said the ARTS mailing list is below 500 and to purchase stamps in bulk, you have to buy more than 500 From the P.O. Someone asked if there was a non-profit postal rate?

David S. suggested that ARTS reduce our printing costs by not using the copy shop and going to a professional printer. Abby said years ago, around 1987, ARTS went to a printer and made 500 copies of our entire inventory of 4 pamphlets. For many years we had stacks of boxes of these pamphlets. It took a decade to sell 2 of the 4 pamphlets: The Basics and Facing Avoidance. We are still selling stock for the other two: The Anorexia of Avoidance and Guidelines to Anonymity. Since then, ARTS prints very small batches of literature based on meeting demand. Every effort is made to keep costs as low as possible and still keep A.R.T.S. functional.

David S. wanted to know if we could get our envelopes donated. The office manager would have to check this out. It would consume a lot of her time. ARTS would pay more in salary than would be gained from those donations.

Someone asked to have our non-profit listed on the website.

#### Special Events – Convention Report

Trustee Eva was not in attendance. The upcoming Convention will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May. There will be an antique car show on Main Street. The Saturday ARTShares will be in the Francis Asbury Manor. PayPal has not worked well for some members – they cannot get through. Recently, ARTS switched out of PayPal and went to Stripe which is much easier to use.

Conference Report: Discussion revolved around reaching out to the meetings. It was suggested that we send email blasts using Don T.'s email list. Ed promised to send out the minutes 60 days before the conference.

David H. from Eugene, Oregon asked that the minutes be emailed out 90 days after the conference. They also wanted the Agenda sent out at the same time.

The suggestion was made that the Conference delegates poll their meeting members for topics of discussion with the Trustees.

The group discussed ways to attract more meeting delegates to the conference. Phone meetings are not being represented. It was pointed out that all the meetings must now register on the website and when they do, they have to include their contact person – it is a required field. Emails need to announce the upcoming Conference using both the office contact list and Don T.'s email list. In addition, the Conference needs to be announced on the website. Years ago every meeting had a delegate and an alternate.

#### World Wide Fellowship Liaison Report

Trustee Don said he had nothing more to say than was presented in his Trustee Report.

#### Non-ARTS Member Trustee Margi Briggs-Lofton

Margi was not there due to business commitments.

#### Non-ARTS Member Trustee Frank Lagerstedt, Chairperson

Frank said "I have jumped tall buildings in a single bound, out run speeding locomotives and I have been seen dissolving ice cubes in my mouth. My primary function is to make sure board members do not run with scissors."

#### World Service Office

Abigail B. introduced Cori, the new office manager and a fellow ARTS member. Don T. said he is grateful to have Cori as the new office manager.

#### Literature Report –

Abigail B. reported that because she is training a new office manager and working closely with the consultant who is automating the office, she will not have the 12<sup>th</sup> Step Essay ready by the May Convention. However, she has begun to edit all the ARTS pamphlets with another ARTS member who is a great editor.

David S. requested a copy of the literature that Abby gets a royalty on. See attached. He also wanted to know if there will be an editing committee formed to put together the ARTS Big Book? Abigail said "yes."

### Comments, Questions, Answers and Motions combined with New Business

Victoria, NYC: Wants an awareness campaign to get more members in meetings. She suggested in keeping with "attraction versus promotion" that we promote the website and easy access to the phone meetings. That we reach out to doctors and therapists. Put up post it notes in our laundry rooms, and the MTA subway system. Feature a headline: "Are U an artist?" Make up cards that can be handed out at other meetings. Give out a pamphlets for members to hand out. Suggest new meetings make use of free listings in the local press announcing new meeting. She offered to run this campaign.

David S. offered to put a link to the ARTS website on his emails. Said he will make an events list an attachment to his meeting's email blast that announces the date of their next ARTShare meeting.

He asked that we post the ARTS bylaws and the I&E on our website. Frank said that anyone can email the office for a copy of the bylaws. And he wants a copy of all the literature that Abigail gets a royalty on.

David pointed out that our bylaws require that all ARTS member Trustees attend ARTS meetings regularly and asked if all the Trustees who considered themselves ARTS members were doing this? All the Trustees who were at the Conference said they were. He said that the non-ARTS Trustees are supposed to be the minority on the board. Frank assured him that there are only two non-ARTS member Trustees, himself and Margi. Last David asked if Abigail, as Trustee Emeritus, is now a voting member? Frank said the Conference in 2008 voted to do away with term limits and Abigail then became a voting member of the Board at that time. Frank pointed out that it is hard to find NYC members capable and willing to take on a Trustee responsibility and that a Trustee who both knows his "job" and is committed to it. Training a new Trustee when it is not known if they truly will be committed is time consuming. Right now there are seven Trustees on the Board, each of whom has a "job" and does the "job."

Don T, Trustee, asked if anyone has a phone meeting format that can be followed on the phone meetings. Wants to put that format on the website.

Cori, Office Manager, wants the dates of the Convention listed months in advance on the website. Wants an email blast that announces new meetings to the entire fellowship. Wants a welcome packet to go out to the founders of new meetings that includes a generic meeting format and mentions our 5\_Alive campaign..

Someone asked if there is an FAQ on the website? Yes.

Ed S. Trustee, said he would send out an events email to meeting leaders 4 times a year along with his reminders about the 5\_Alive Campaign.

David H., Eugene, Oregon, asked that the Trustees remember that some out of town ARTS members could help. That all they need is a back and forth communication.

David P. Trustee Treasurer, summed up that the Board needs to have better communication with the meetings. That ARTS needs new members. He also noted that last year we had more out of town Conference delegates. Don' T, Trustee World Service Liaison, wants us to get the Conference dates out earlier.

Cori, Office Manager, was asked to check the accuracy of our meeting listings that one can currently download from the website. How does ARTS say thank you to those who give us money? Do we do an email blast to every one of our email addresses announcing every new meeting? Would she tell us next year how many new meetings started in 2013.

The Slate of Trustees was presented for a vote.

Frank pointed out that the delegates vote is of "dis-approval" for the entire slate of Trustees. They do not vote for or against each Trustee. Their vote is a vote of confidence in how the Board is handling the ARTS business or not. None of the delegates expressed their "dis-approval" of the way the Board is handling ARTS business.

#### Check-Out

David H. Eugene, Oregon said he was grateful for everyone and wished all a good year.

#### Closing

Frank thanked all participants for their participation in the conference. It is much appreciated and he hopes that A.R.T.S. will thrive as a result of everyone's efforts in the coming year.

Abigail B, Founder, thanked everyone from her heart for their commitment to ARTS. She said ARTS exists because of the members who do service.

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Serenity Prayer

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.