

DELEGATE'S NEWSLETTER

Mel C., Panel 63 Delegate, Area 83, Eastern Ontario International

Vol. III - Fall 2013

Delegate Remarks

Hello friends, my name is Mel and I am an alcoholic. I am a very grateful member of The Hill Group in District 12, Toronto Southwest. If you're ever looking for a meeting at 8:30 pm on a Thursday night (or 7:30 pm on a Monday), come on out and I'll introduce you around to a really great Group Of Drunks.

The summer for me was VERY busy, scurrying around giving Delegate Reports here, there and everywhere. I got to tell the AA's in Cornwall about our decision to publish a 75th Anniversary Big Book and I got to tell the members in Barry's Bay about how we are not going to change Tradition 11 to read "Press, Radio, Film and the Internet". I got to tell the people in Toronto about the first leg of the 3 year inventory the General Service Conference is taking and what questions I had input into. I got to tell the people in Ottawa about how we decided against a Face Book page for A.A. and I told the people in Peterborough about the narrowing of three choices for the 2025 International Convention to Montreal, St. Louis and Vancouver. I have been blessed beyond belief to have the honour of this position and believe me, I know it.

Our Fall Assembly in Kingston fast approaches - the gathering of the clans for us. As always it will be held the last full weekend of October - Oct 25-27. 26 Districts will be representing approximately 19,000 alcoholics in our Area and it is a must-attend for anyone interested in service. Friday night's open meeting is followed by a full Service Day on Saturday with workshops going three an hour, choc-a-block all day long. The Banquet on Saturday night is a formal affair and I've got a surprise for the speaker portion. A first for Area 83 I think! C'mon out and see what that might be! Sunday's Assembly, the business meeting of our Area is the reason for the meetin' and in addition to hearing what's going on in all the other Districts and with the Area Sub-committees, this Assembly we will be holding an election to elect our Area's candidate for the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee who will be elected in April 2014 at the next Conference. And I'll be there to be a part of it. Did I mention I was blessed? Man...

I hope you enjoy this little newsletter. I've tried to make it interesting. As always, I wish you another 24 hours of contented sobriety; may your dry date never change...

Yours in Love & Service,

Mel C.
Delegate, Area 83,
Eastern Ontario (International)

Service Term of the Day

The 6 Warranties attached to Concept 12

That Bill, he could just NOT stop writing! After he and Dr. Bob hammered out The 12 Steps and after he pretty much single-handedly created The 12 Traditions and turned the running of the fellowship over TO the fellowship, he recognized the need to codify just HOW the leadership of A.A. was to comport itself in the world. How our Board, Directors and Service Corporations were to act, and react. What authority ought to be delegated to who, always of course with our Higher Powers in the room.

The 12 Concepts are a set of principles to which our General Service Board and The Conference hold themselves rigidly. Sometimes far-reaching and as a collection they embrace nearly every fundamental aspects of our society - the real scope and sway of the principals can be seen in the final 6 statements of Concept 12 - called the Warranties. Here they are to guide YOU in your journey. If we can stick to these laudable guidelines in everything we do, A.A. never need fear (for) its leadership and will continue always to be a relevant and inspired society.

The 6 Warranties in Concept Twelve

The Conference:

1. Shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power;
2. That sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle;
3. That it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others;
4. That it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
5. That its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy;
6. That it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

News from our **GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE**

Official Conference Report

I handed out our official Panel 63 Conference Reports on September 7, 2013 at our Area Committee Meeting in Belleville, over 900 of them! If you want one and did not receive one, please see the DCM of your District. Everything that occurred in April 2013 at the General Service Conference in NY is there. Well, not everything, it didn't record my three visits to the dessert table that first night there, but MOST everything else is in there!

2014 Conference Inventory Questions

The questions below were first presented to you in last quarters (Summer 2013) Newsletter. I am going to keep them in until I attend next years General Service Conference in NY. I welcome your questions and discussion on any of these topics to help better prepare me to participate!

(Re-Post): As part of a 2012 Conference Advisory Action, the General Service Conference is taking its Inventory - over the course of three years. At the Panel 63 Conference, I was part of 1 of the 15 groups that examined 15 questions. Next year, at the 64th, I will again be placed in a group and I will participate in examining more of the inventory questions. In general, the questions in 2014 will come from the following areas:

1. Effectiveness of the Conference/Conference Process Overall
2. Composition of The Conference
3. Committee System
4. Yearlong Process Effectiveness
5. Conference Preparation (background, content, delivery etc.)
6. Conference Week Schedule
7. General Service Board/Corporate Boards (A.A.W.S. & Grapevine)
8. Leadership

News from our **GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE**

- Newly elected Chair of the A.A.W.S. Board Gary L. opened the June, 2014 meeting
- Phyllis H., GM of GSO announced that Adrienne B. will retire at the end of November this year and an additional staff person will be required.

- From a large pool of applicants, 6 candidates were scheduled for interviews in September to fill the Corrections Staff position when Eva S. rotates in January 2014 to the 2015 International Conventions desk.
- In early May, Mary Clare L., on the International assignment, and Phyllis traveled to the Ukraine for the Ukraine's 15th General Service Conference.
- The Northeast Regional Forum was held in June in Cromwell, CT, with 582 members in attendance.
- The summer issue of *Sharing from Behind the Walls* was published. Staff met with Canadian corrections committees to discuss extending the reach of G.S.O.'s Corrections Correspondence Service to Canada (or to discuss implementation of a Canadian Corrections Correspondence Service.)
- The Publishing Department is moving forward with the editorial and production requirements of the facsimile edition of the first printing of the First Edition of the Big Book, to be published in April 2014.
- The Board discussed the process for sharing group contact Email information with A.A. Grapevine, and will review a final procedure for approval at their July meeting. In addition, the Board reviewed the initiatives from the General Service Board plan pertaining to A.A.W.S., and discussed implementation.
- Eva S. and Julio E. coordinated the A.A. meetings held at the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention which took place in Vancouver, British Columbia, July 5-7, 2013. The theme was "Celebrating Worldwide Unity." Of the approximate 4000 attendees, 400 or so were A.A. members (one was my Sponsor!). Eva and Julio had a wonderful showing of 90 A.A. volunteers to help them out.
- The Board priced the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Edition of the first edition, first printing of *Alcoholics Anonymous* (to be published April 2014) at \$12.00.
- Regarding the 2020 International Convention in Detroit... *"Gregg (Talley) assured the committees - based on an earlier site visit to Detroit - that a vital re-growth is taking place within the inner city, and that financial and safety concerns were not a factor in the areas the International Convention will be using. More recent information confirmed the findings of this report.*
- Several outside organizations have proposed to the U.S. Post Office that a commemorative stamp featuring a full face photo of Bill W. be issued. It was also suggested that this stamp would be introduced at the 2015 International Convention of which there is no truth. Letters have been written and sent to the U.S. Post Office and all Conference members that this proposal does not come from or have the support of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

- Once removed from YouTube at the request of the A.A.W.S. Board, an original version of a video about the 2010 International Convention has been reposted on YouTube. This production has the General Service Office erroneously named in the credits. We have once again asked that this version of the video be taken down from the YouTube site.

News from our **EASTERN CANADIAN REGION**

Eastern Canadian Regional Trustee Election

As Donald C., our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee will rotate out of his position at the conclusion of the Panel 64 Conference (next April), the position of Eastern Canada Regional Trustee becomes vacant. Each of the 10 Eastern Canadian Areas (Manitoba to the east coast) are asked to choose a candidate from their Area for consideration. Toward that end, at our coming Fall Assembly in Kingston, we will conduct an election and vote for those that let their name stand.

Once our Area's candidate is determined, it is the Delegate's job to submit that persons resume no later than Dec 31, 2013 to GSO. This is a very important deadline and I promise to make sure I get it in on time!

At the Panel 64 Conference we will whittle the 10 candidates down to 4 then the 4 down to 1. All very exciting. I will get to read our candidate's resume to the Conference.

ODC 2014 UPDATE

As some know, our Area (because of rotation) is responsible for hosting the 2014 Ontario Delegate's Meeting. We will be doing so in Toronto in February next year. Preparations are underway for this event and more information will be available soon!

CERAASA 2015 UPDATE

After a call-out for volunteers to fill the committee I am ecstatic to announce that 28 members have stepped forward, from all over the Area! From Ottawa to Oxford Mills, Pembroke to Toronto, Pickering to Oakville, we've had enthusiastic supporters step forward to offer up their three T's - Time, Talent and Treasure. Ok, not so much Treasure, but I'm sure that'll be coming. (They register for a ticket at least!).

The Agenda will be full, the fellowship great and an historic time will be had by all in 2015. More information will be made available as it is developed. If you have an interest in helping out, please email me. Anything that will help ensure your sobriety for another 18 months has to be a good thing!

News from our Area, AREA 83, EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

I've not got a lot of NEW news to report on from our Area. Everything seems to be humming along quite nicely. We have multiple sub-committee Chairs and Area Officers attending multiple events all around the Area - too many service days to list and new initiatives coming online almost daily!

If you are receiving this newsletter and would like to get involved in some aspect of our Area's activities, why just mail me! I will make sure you get hooked up with an area of service you're interested in or with someone who could use your help. Everything you do, in the end of course, will help a still-suffering alcoholic - and you will have some fun along the way yourself - I guarantee it!

Showcase a Selected DISTRICT

This season's showcased District is District 36, Kingston & The Islands

District Number	36
Name	Kingston & The Island
First became a District	1993
First DCM	Joe D., 1993-94
Current DCM	Lynn H., 2013-14
Rough District location	Alexandria Bay - Deseronto - Sharbot Lake area
Size	1,668 square km's
Perimeter length	193 km's
No. of registered groups per GSO	40 registered
Number of active groups at Table	24 active, 1 merged, 2 unknown
Estimated AA's in District 36	489

DCM Comment

"District 36 Kingston & the Islands can be a busy town for its 300 or so members. We have twenty active groups and three unregistered groups providing meetings every

morning and a couple each night. We have four federal institutions, each of which hold weekly meetings. There are two treatment centers holding three meetings a week. Kingston also houses three hospitals and three post secondary institutions. For a smaller town there is no lack of opportunity for service. Thanks to the members who tirelessly support AA and to those newer to service, we hold out the hand of AA as best we can for today."

Lynne H., DCM

Picture of the day



**"Here lies a Hampshire Grenadier
Who caught his death
Drinking cold small beer
A good soldier is ne'er forgot
Whether he dieth by musket
Or by pot"**

In Passing

It is with great regret that I announce the passing of a very good Area 83 friend of A.A., Tim D. Tim passed way on September 18, 2013 and on this day we lost a real service gentleman. Tim was a past Panel 57 DCM for District 34 Quinte East, was married to Dot D., our Panel 57 Delegate (whom he tirelessly drove to events referring to his role as "Driving Miss Daisy") and was always ready to drop whatever he was doing and come to the aid of an Alcoholics Anonymous member in need. R.I.P. Tim, we will miss you dearly.

An great Article by a District 10 (Toronto City-Centre) member (Re-printed with permission)

Barbara H. of the Rox Glen Group in Toronto wrote quite an interesting piece in "The Better Times", the newsletter of the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup. I thought it was very well written and asked her permission to include it in our newsletter. She was willing and I was delighted - here then are her thoughts...

"So many of us in service close our communications with the words, "Yours in love and service". I did it because my service mentors closed that way. I didn't give a thought to how those words came to be used. And recently, I've often shortened them to "Yours in service."

I was so moved to discover that the words "Love and Service" come from Dr. Bob's last talk at the first AA convention in 1950 in Cleveland, Ohio. He said, "Our 12 Steps when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words Love and Service."

So in closing this way (as I've come to believe), we pay homage to Dr. Bob. We acknowledge that we recover through the 12 steps and we pass it on to others. We come to love ourselves and others in the process.

I learned all this while attending the Akron Homecoming – a weekend conference hosted by Dr. Bob's Home. What a fabulous weekend – hearing speakers share their experience with a particular step, visiting Dr. Bob's home and seeing the kitchen table and coffee pot (and all the places where Dr. Bob so cleverly hid his booze) and most importantly saying the serenity prayer with fellow travelers from Toronto at Dr. Bob's graveside. And I have a new appreciation for the words in Love and Service. I plan to use them as a touchstone to the memories of that fabulous weekend and as well to my love and gratitude for all those on this never predictable, often challenging and always heartwarming journey."

Yours in Love and Service,

*Barbara H.
Rox Glen Traditional Group*

ITCHY FEET?

October

3-6—Rancho Mirage, California. So. CA Conv.
Write: Ch., 710 S. Myrtle Ave., #121,
Monrovia, CA 91016; www.aasocal.com

4-6—Troy, Michigan. Tri-County Conf. Write:
Ch., Box 4324, Troy, MI 48099;
tri.countyconference@ymail.com

4-6—Tacoma, Washington. Western WA
Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 1822, Auburn, WA
98071; www.assembly2013.com

5-6—Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Area 35 Fall
Assembly. Info: areachair@area35.org

11-12—Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada. Congrès
du Dist. 88-02, 88-15. Écrire: Prés., 1621 rue
Yvan Gosselin, Sherbrooke, QC J1G 3E5

11-13—Angeles City, Pampanga, Philippines.
18th Internat'l Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box
308, Manila 1099, Philippines;
angelescityaa@yahoo.com

17-20—Atlanta, Georgia. 60th GA Pre-paid
Conv. Write: Ch., 4780 Ashford Dunwoody
Rd., Ste. A PMB #161, Atlanta, GA 30338-
5004; www.aageorgia.org

18-20—Mackinac Island, Michigan. 25th
Mackinac Island Fall Wknd. Write: Ch., 1915
E. Michigan Ave., Ste. D, Lansing, MI 48912;
www.aalansingmi.org

18-20—Bouctouche, New Brunswick, Canada.
Area 81 Fall Assembly & Roundup. Write:
Ch., 4 Kilburn Ave., Moncton, NB E1A 3N6;
www.area81aa.ca

18-20—Rocky Point, Sonora, Mexico. Rocky
Point Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 10756,

Glendale, AZ 85318;
www.rockypointroundup.org

24-27—Hagerstown, Maryland. 29th MD Fall
Conv. Write: Ch., Box 20177, Baltimore, MD
21284; www.marylandaa.org

25-27—Mesa, Arizona. ASCYPAA. Write: Ch.,
Box 40124, Mesa, AZ 85274;
www.ascypaa.org

25-27—Pughtown, Pennsylvania. Downington
Young People's Conf. Info: www.dypcaa.org

25-27—San Antonio, Texas. TX State Conf. of
YPAA. Info: www.txscypaa.org

November

1-2—Cornwall, Ontario, Canada. Cornwall
Dist. 50 Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1984, Cornwall,
ON K6J 1B6; www.cornwallaa.ca

8-10—Santa Maria, California. 52nd Dist.
Central Coast Roundup. Info:
www.centralcoastroundup.org

8-10—Framingham, Massachusetts. 50th MA
State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 121, Blanford,
MA 01008

14-17—Honolulu, Hawaii. HI Conv. Write: Ch.,
Box 23434, Honolulu, HI 96823; www.annualhawaiiiconvention.com

22-24—Manchester, Vermont. Woman to
Woman New England. Info:
www.woman2womanne.org

29-30—Newark, New Jersey. XXVI Conv.
Hispana de NJ. Inf: www.convencionaanj.org

29-1—Diamondhead, Mississippi. 23rd
Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 7851,
Gulfport, MS 39507; www.aagulfcoast.org

**THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST!
I HOPE TO SEE MANY IN KINGSTON IN THREE WEEKS,
IN THE MEANWHILE - BE SOBER AND BE HAPPY!**

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