



Alcoholics Anonymous

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

DELEGATES NEWS LETTER – VOLUME 1 – SPRING, MARCH 2015

AREA DELEGATE

The delegate has a demanding job, not only because a large amount of time and work are involved, but because it is the delegate's responsibility to serve the US/Canada Conference as a whole. As voting members of the Conference, delegates bring to its deliberations the experiences and viewpoints of their own areas. Yet they are not representatives of their areas in the usual political sense; after hearing all points of view and becoming fully informed during Conference discussion, they vote in the best interests of A.A. as a whole.

Reprinted from The A.A. Service Manual, page S45

The 65th General Service Conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Time Square in Manhattan, New York from April 19 – 25, 2015.

This year the theme of the conference is:

“Celebrating 80 Years of Recovery, Unity and Service – The Foundation of Our Future”

As your elected Delegate, I will be attending the conference and have been assigned to the Policy/Admissions Committee. I am truly looking forward to this new adventure.

In the Service Manual Policy/Admissions is described as:

“Responsible for matters of policy pertaining to the Conference itself and for reviewing all requests for admissions to the annual meeting of the General Service Conference. All changes in the Conference plan, all steps in the expansion of the Conference, and all procedures affecting the cost of the Conference are taken to the Committee on Conference and Admissions. This committee has the job of approving or disapproving requests for additional delegate areas.”

In 2014 I attended the 64th General Service Conference, as an Alternate Delegate replacing our Delegate Mel C. who was unable to attend. I know firsthand what it is like to have to be approved or disapproved to attend the conference. My name was submitted to Policy/Admissions and the Committee presented me to the Conference asking if anyone disapproved of my request for admission. Although, I could not see a reason why the request could not be considered, it was nerve racking waiting for the approval from everyone. It was quite the experience. Luckily, I won't have to go through that again this year at the 65th General Service Conference.



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The committee is composed of not more than nine voting members and a non-voting Secretary. Our Secretary is Julio E., currently the Staff Coordinator at the General Service Office.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in December (as close as possible to the time of the A.A.W.S. Board meeting) in the presence of one trustee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and,

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

The new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting during the Conference session from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference.

Scope

Established by 1952 Conference: "That the Conference limit and define this committee's responsibilities to cover only matters of policy pertaining to the Conference itself"; enlarged in 1965 to include "and such other matters as may properly be placed before it." Further amended in 1974 as follows: "Accepted the recommendation of the Agenda/Admissions Committee that the 'admissions' function of that committee be transferred to the Committee on Conference Policy."

Admissions function: Is responsible for reviewing all requests for admissions to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.

The Admissions Committee was formed in 1955 when the Conference Charter was accepted as permanent.

Procedure

- 1.To meet as a committee during the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
- 2.To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
- 3.To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
- 4.To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.



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While reading the History and Highlights of Actions dating back to 1952 I noticed some very interesting actions. I would like to share a few with you.

1955 – That the Conference abide by the specific recommendation of Section 7 of “The Third Legacy Manual” -(**now called The A.A. Service Manual**) whereby no delegate succeeded himself. However, it was further provided in Section 7 that in rare cases, when a fully qualified person was not available, a delegate might be elected at a future date. The committee felt that the responsibility for this decision lay entirely with the local area.

In 1973 this was amended to read: “A delegate serves one term of two years. The Conference is on record in its attitude toward delegate rotation. However, the question has arisen: Can a delegate be reelected at some future date? The conference strongly recommends limiting the term of delegates to one two-year term, with the exception of an alternate delegate who, after filling one year of the delegate’s term, may be elected to serve his own term.

1956 – Ontario Request – Since a second delegate from Ontario had been established in the “Third Legacy” pamphlet, it was recommended that the request from the Ontario delegate for additional representation be approved. It was further recommended that the province be divided into Eastern and Western assembly areas, with the assembly points be determined by the provincial committee members.

1958 – Recommended that the suggestion of the name change from General Service Headquarters to General Service Office.

1963 – Recommended that G.S.O. continue to refer local matters back to the area involved, with the suggestion that they contact the local delegate, and that copies of all correspondence referring to such local matters be sent to the delegate.

1971 – That it was not necessary to write new delegates asking them whether they were willing to serve on the committee to which they had been chosen, but rather, in the interest of expediency, they would be informed of their committee assignments. In other words, delegates do not have a choice as to what committee they are assigned.

2013 – The timetable for the election of the delegate from Area 84, Northeastern Ontario, be revised to allow for two odd and two even panels in that province. The revised timetable for the election of the delegate from Area 84, Northeastern Ontario is to be accomplished by having the Panel 65 delegate elected for a one-year term with the understanding that this delegate would have the opportunity to stand for his/her own two-year term in the following Panel 66 election.



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The Agenda Items on Policy/Admissions are as follows :

- A. Approve request for a representative from the General Service Board of the Czech Republic to attend the 65th General Service Conference as an observer.
 - B. Review dates for the 2018 General Service Conference.
 - C. Consider proposed revision to the policy regarding General Service Conference audio recordings.
 - D. Consider request that a recording of the A.A. meeting at the opening dinner of the General Service Conference be provided to each member of the General Service Conference.
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The following are the dates already booked for Districts to hear the Delegates report:

- **May 24, 2015 – Districts 26 & 28 Alano Club in Oshawa**
- **May 30, 2015 – Districts 02, 06, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 & 22 at Information A.A. Day at 519 Church Street in Toronto**
- **June 13, 2015 – Districts 42, 48 & 50 in Cornwall**
- **June 14, 2015 – Districts 54, 58 & 62 in Ottawa**

Please come out and support your Area, District and Delegate.



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ATTENTION !

VIDEO SUBMISSIONS REQUESTED!





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A.A. VIDEOS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Video submissions from A.A. members are still being sought to carry A.A.'s message of recovery from alcoholism to young people in high school and college settings.

There is no set deadline; submissions are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

- ✓ Individuals submitting videos must be at least 18 years of age and must reside within the boundaries of the U.S. and Canada A.A. General Service Structure.
- ✓ Submissions should be in English, Spanish or French, and no longer than 7 minutes in length.
- ✓ Submissions should reflect and adhere to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Suggestions for content

- Use members' stories (what it was like, what happened and what it is like now) to help alcoholics identify.
- Focus on the experience of getting sober young.
- Emphasize what A.A. is and what it is not.
- Use your talent/imagination, modern technology, animation, puppets, etc. to make our message attractive. Search "Videos" on AA.org for examples!

Be creative and have fun!

Technical specs, how to submit, and all that stuff:

In general, videos should be shot in HD format, and can be submitted via hard copy through the mail, or digitally. For more details, please contact the Public Information Coordinator at G.S.O. via publicinfo@aa.org or by phone at 212-870-3119.

Important Legal Notice: If your video is chosen to be used by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (e.g., DVD, web site or other P.I. project), appropriate assignments of copyright provided by A.A. W.S. will need to be signed. Additionally, the A.A. member making the submission must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.



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Area 83 is currently looking for an Alternate Web Master. If you have an interest in the possibility of serving Area 83 in this capacity, please forward your resume to your Area 83 Chairperson, Rob, at chairperson@area83aa.org

Further information is available from the Area 83 web site at www.area83aa.org. Please consider putting your name forth!



Area Assembly – March 27, 28, 29, 2015 at the Ambassador Hotel in Kingston. Everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there.

**Area Committee Meeting – June 6, 2015 @ 10:00 A.m.
Westminster United Church – 1199 Wallbridge-Loyalist Road,
Belleville, Ontario K8N 4Z5**

Everyone is welcome to attend here too! We would love to see you there.



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Joyce S.
Panel 65 Delegate
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Please send your comments and or suggestions to the above email address. What would you like to read about? I welcome all suggestions.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO OR REMOVED FROM THIS NEWSLETTER'S ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION, PLEASE EMAIL ME AT THE ABOVE AND YOU WILL BE LOOKED AFTER IMMEDIATELY