

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Area Assembly Minutes

MARCH 29, 2015



Alcoholics Anonymous Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

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Area Assembly – March 29, 2015

1. OPENING

Good morning everyone. I'm an alcoholic, a member of The Kedron Group in District 28, and my name is Rob M. I have the honor and privilege of serving as Area 83 Chairperson for the term 2015 - 2016. Can we open this meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer please.

Moment's Silence – Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions read by: Colin C., General Service Representative for Garrad Road Group in District 26.

12 Concepts – Short Form read by: JoAnn P., General Service Representative for Courtice Twelve & Twelve Discussion Group in District 28

Welcome everybody to the spring Assembly. Did everyone enjoy the Service Information Day yesterday? And how about the banquet last night? Perhaps we can give a hand for the Service Information Day Committee and for the catering staff. And thank you Julie for your wonderful talk last night.

Introduction

This is our first Assembly of four in this term. During the next two years, we will be working together to provide continued strength and direction to A.A. in Area 83. Our common goal during this term is to keep Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 vibrant and strong. Working together is the key for continued Unity in our Area. The A.A. Service manual defines an Assembly as follows: "The Area Assembly is the mainspring of the Conference structure – the democratic voice of the movement expressing itself." Just as most District tables meet monthly to oversee the affairs of A.A. in the District, and home Groups usually have regular business meetings, to handle matters that require a group conscience decision, the Assembly is the business meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83. Area 83 stretches from Oakville in the West to Ottawa in the East, down to upper New York State and up to Algonquin Park and the Ottawa Valley. At last count, we have 597 Active Groups. Some of us have been here before as General Service Representative or Alternate, as District Committee Member or Alternate, or as visitors. For some, it will be their first Assembly and from personal experience it can seem overwhelming! How many of you are here today attending your first Assembly? Could you raise your hand? That's great. Being in service is a great way to give back to AA. You will not be expected to learn or understand everything the first time or even second time. It takes time but it will make sense. Many of us didn't understand what was going on at meetings at first, but in time it we started to understand. Service is much the same way. So please keep coming back. – welcome and enjoy the rest of the assembly.

Over these two years, we will make decisions on a variety of topics. The Area Assembly, like the General Service Conference, strives for substantial unanimity through ample discussion. Before a vote is held, plenty of time is taken for full discussion and questions. It is my hope that you will return to your Groups and Districts with the feeling that you have done your part in keeping Alcoholics Anonymous strong and vibrant in your area and that you have had a strong voice in Area 83. With a spirit of love and cooperation, we will be able to get things accomplished and have some fun while we're doing it. At the end of today, I hope that each of us returns home with a renewed belief that A.A. is alive and well in our Area and that our message of hope is being well carried to the still-suffering alcoholic.

I would like to remind all those present who will be giving a report today to give whatever highlights are important, but that their written reports, if submitted to our Secretary Dan N will be transcribed in full in the minutes for all in Area 83 to share.

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At this time I would like to introduce to you our Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, Immediate and Past Delegates, appointed individuals and other visitors. If you could hold your applause till the end of each section it will speed thing up a bit.

DELEGATE	Joyce S
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Kim S
SECRETARY	Dan N
REGISTRAR	Sue B
TREASURER	Kimberley M
IMMEDIATE PAST DELEGATE (not here today)	Mel C
CHAIRPERSON	Rob M

Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Public Information	Elaine H
Cooperation with the Professional Community	Gary C
Correctional Facilities	Robert B
Treatment- Special Needs/ Accessibility	Herb W
Grapevine	Jim A
Self-Support	James O
Archives	Linda D
Service Information Day Committee	Ray R

This is your elected Area Committee Officers and Chairs for the 2015 and 2016 term.

I'd like to now introduce Past Delegates, people with appointed Area Service Positions and longtime Service visitors. Today we have with us as Past Delegates:

Panel 51 Delegate	Joe D
Currently serving as a Class B Trustee of the General Service Board and Director of AA World Services	
Panel 53 Delegate	Roy R
Panel 59 Delegate	Sandy S
Panel 61 Delegate	Robb W

We have with us serving in Appointed Positions:

Area Archivist	David T
Area Webmaster	Jim R

This is your Area executive, committees and visitors for this, our First Assembly of the term.

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HOUSEKEEPING

Registration

- ◆ Please ensure that you have signed in to the folders at the Registration area in the Atrium. These will be available only until lunch time and are vitally important to our Registrar Sue B.

SMOKING AREA

THE ONLY SMOKING AREA is outside, please use the butt containers provided by the hotel. It's unfair to expect the hotel staff clean up after us. If you leave this room for a smoke or any other reason please do so quietly, and please do not congregate just outside the doors.

NAMETAG HOLDERS

When you leave for home this afternoon or evening, please leave your name tag holders in the boxes provided near the doors. We recycle them to keep our costs down.

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

I think it's worthwhile to review the schedule of meetings for this term, for both this Assembly and the Area Committee:

The Assembly meets twice a year – Usually the last full weekend in March and October. This afternoon we will decide on a date for the Fall Assembly. The Area committee, which is comprised of the Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, and District Committee Member's, will meet three times this year. We have already met in Quinte West in January and will meet again in June and September.

SEVENTH TRADITION

I know it seems that the coffee and drinks provided this weekend are free, but the hotel charges us a flat rate of \$11.00 per person for the weekend. Rather than have honour buckets beside the coffee urns, we have chosen to use the Seventh Tradition to cover these costs. We had a Seventh Tradition Friday night, again at the speaker meeting last night and we will have another one today. At recent Assemblies the total 7th collected has been significantly less than the amount paid for refreshments. Please keep these costs in mind when the 7th is being passed around.

WHO VOTES?

Only members of the Assembly may vote. These are:

All Area Officers, including the Immediate Past Delegate, but not the Chair.

All Area Sub-Committee Chairs

All District Committee Members of Districts in Area 83; in their absence, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote.

All General Service Representative's of Groups in Area 83, in their absence, the Group's Alternate General Service Representative. In their absence, a member of the registered Group may vote. This includes the General Service Representatives of recognized Correctional Facilities groups.

- ◆ There is one vote per person.
- ◆ After lunch, which is when we would expect to conduct Old & New Business, I would ask those with voting privileges to sit at the front, those without votes please sit at the back section. This will make it easier for us to count votes.

A.A. HAS ALWAYS PROTECTED THE VOICE AND OPINION OF THE MINORITY

- ◆ When we have a vote, unless the voting is unanimous, or if the vote was to cover items such as acceptance of minutes, I will ask if anyone would like to speak to the minority. To be able to do this, you must have voted with the minority on the motion. This next part may be unique to A.A. If, after the minority has spoken, someone from the majority side of the vote wishes to change their vote, that person may make a motion to reconsider. If this is seconded and passes by a simple majority, we start discussion again on the original motion.
- ◆ The pace at which A.A. makes decisions may seem slow, but in truth it is measured. The goal is always to achieve a substantial unanimity, and the process is in place to prevent hasty, emotional decisions.

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CALLING THE QUESTION

- ◆ During the discussion on a motion, a member, once recognized by the Chair, may move to “call the question”. This is a motion to end discussion and move to the vote. This motion needs to be seconded, is not debatable, and requires a 2/3 majority to pass. If it passes, we go directly to the vote of the motion or amendment we were discussing. I would caution you not to use this privilege too often or too early – many good points and opinions will come out in any discussions, and if discussion is prematurely cut off, we will not get to hear them.

WHO MAY ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY?

- ◆ **Only voting members of the Assembly have a voice. This is important for two reasons:**
It keeps the focus on the fact that the Assembly is the business meeting of the Area – Assembly members are carrying and presenting their Groups' wishes, rather than their own.
And it maximizes the time available for those members to voice their Groups' opinions and needs.
- ◆ All who are attending may say their piece during sharing time. I would ask for your cooperation on this. If you don't have a vote, as I just described, please keep your input for sharing time, which is scheduled for later this afternoon. At that time everyone is welcome to participate and their opinions will be listened to.
- ◆ On the topic of sharing time, please, if you can, stay until the end of the Assembly. I realize that many of us drive a long way to get home, and that Monday morning comes early, but the Assembly truly isn't over until it's over. We have asked our guests and visitors to have their say during sharing time, and as hosts, it's polite to stay and hear their views. It's also quite possible that something important will be said.
- ◆ To allow me to facilitate discussions, when you are ready to speak, please use one of the microphones around the room, and identify yourself by name, position, Group and District number.
- ◆ **If you are making a floor motion for the Assembly to consider today, it would be much appreciated if you would write your motion out and give it to our secretary Dan before standing at the microphone.**

HOW DO WE VOTE?

- ◆ Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by ‘substantial unanimity’. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority – 2/3 of the votes cast each time. As we cannot control who is in the room at the time of each vote, it is impractical to use the roll-call as the basis for the 2/3 calculation.
- ◆ I believe that the early part of the agenda today can be handled under simple majority – 1 vote more than 50%. I will advise you when I believe we should move to 2/3. If, at any time, you think that we should move to a 2/3 majority before I indicate it, remember, this is your meeting. Don't hesitate to make the motion.
- ◆ To facilitate the voting, which today will be by show of hands, I have asked a number of non-voting attendees to help me as hand counters. When we return from lunch, I would ask those with a vote to sit in the front, those without to sit at the back. Ultimately, it will speed things up.
- ◆ At times, I may ask for a show of hands to get a ‘*sense of the meeting*’. This is not a vote, and anyone can raise his or her hand.
- ◆ Again, when you are ready to speak please identify yourself by name, position, Group and District number.

1a) MAY I HAVE A MOTION TO OPERATE ON SIMPLE MAJORITY?

Moved: Linda D., Area 83 Archives Chair
Seconded: Milner G., District Committee Member, District 48
Discussion: None
Vote: In favour, unanimous
Motion: Carried

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2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Does anyone have revisions to the Agenda as distributed with respect to old business?

None

OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

None

NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

None

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA

Moved: Kathy T., General Service Representative for the Kedron Group in District 28

Seconded: Bill H. General Service Representative for the Whitby Group in District 26

Discussion: None

Vote: In favour, unanimous

Motion: Carried

Breaks and Lunch are not shown as Agenda Items. With your permission, I will call for these as necessary.

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF THE FALL ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, 2014

Does anyone see any **ERRORS OR OMISSIONS** in the minutes as distributed to bring to our attention?

None

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED

Moved: Don M., District Committee Member for District 14

Seconded: Elaine H., Area 83 Public Information Chair

Discussion: None

Vote: In favour, unanimous

Motion: Carried

4. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

(Sequence of reports have been Pre-drawn from the hat)

The District committee members' verbal reports are limited to 2 minutes. The 2 minute time will be controlled by the timer that was built by Denis D., a past Delegate. It cycles between green, yellow, and red lights and ends with a buzz. If you get the buzz you stop speaking. Written reports, which are also requested, may be as long as needed, and will be included, in their entirety, in the minutes of this assembly if a copy is given to Dan, our Secretary. To help keep things moving along, we have 5 chairs up here at the front to my left and I would ask that as the District reports are given, the District Committee Members who are "on deck" come up and wait until it is your turn. Again, I would request that all please respect the time allotted to them.

District 02 - Malton

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Last Chance Group, serving as the district committee member for Malton District 02, my name is Ray R. Our district is doing fairly well, with our table positions, and all chairs positions filled. We do however, have some alternate positions open, but hopefully they too will be filled in the near future.

The table officers and committee chairs are all registered with the area, and it's just a matter of time before the GSR's are registered as well. Financially, we are fit, with groups making regular contributions, we're able to meet all our commitments, and we will be discussing a split at our next district meeting.

We continue to serve our treatment and correction facilities, by bringing in meetings, and put on regular big book studies. We also cooperate with other districts in putting on a joint service meeting. We are, how ever, continually trying to strengthen our bridging the gap program.

Our alternate Shane H has been visiting our inactive groups, and has been quite successful at encouraging some of these groups to participate at the district level. Public Information, and Cooperation with the Professional Community are working with

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other districts to put on workshops and presentations. That is ongoing. Grapevine, Self Support, Access-ability and Archives are all holding their own as well.

There's good energy in our district, members are active, and eager to participate, which may explain why we've been celebrating some long term sobriety lately, of course we still have some struggling members, but by the power of examples being displayed in our district, and the willingness to serve, we remain hopeful that the still suffering alcoholic, has a decent chance at recovery.

Yours in Love and Service Ray R., District Committee Member for District 02, Malton

District 06 – Mississauga

Good morning friends, member of the Streetsville and Panel 65 DCM for District 6 Mississauga, I'm an alcoholic, my name is Chris H.

At the Area Committee meeting in January, the number of District ADCM's in attendance bodes well for the Panel 67 Area Committee. Congratulations to Ray and his Service Information Day Committee for continuing the tradition of interesting and informative workshops.

At the District level, we should fill the remaining 3 vacant committee chair position at our April meeting. Attendance at district meetings and group contributions are trending downward. With the assistance of ADCM David B, we continue to reach out to groups that don't attend regularly to see what assistance we can provide. In April, we will be discussing motions to change district procedures including quorum requirements and assistance for attending area assembly and area committee.

I would like to thank Sean K, DCM District 10 for co-hosting a joint service information day on March 7th. Based on comments from first time attendees, the event was a success. Thanks also to all those who made presentations as well.

Last but not least, volunteering at CERAASA 2015 was a great way to meet people and I look forward to attending CERAASA 2017 in Moncton, NB.

Yours in love and service, Chris H., District Committee Member for District 6 Mississauga

District 10 - Toronto South Central

Good afternoon friends; I am a grateful Alcoholic, member of the Mount Royal Group, Serving as Committee Member for District 10; my name is Marty. For those of you who don't know, District 10 is located in the centre of downtown Toronto. It's that little slice of heaven that so many people love to visit; where the traffic isn't bad and there's lots of free parking.

Okay, this is an honest program so that's not really true. Yes we are the smallest District in terms of size but the 21 groups in District 10 have a lot of heart. We love service. When we do our service commitments at the District table, if you are a GSR and want a commitment for your group; you gotta be quick, because they go fast. It's really cool to see and to be a part of.

District 10 is financially stable. We were able to help support three GSR's with funding to come to the Assembly this weekend, otherwise they're group would not have been able to afford to send them. All of our positions are full except CPC, Self-Support, and now Grapevine, but we hope to fill them soon. Our usual attendance is 14 out of the 21 groups in District 10, that's 67%. I plan to visit those groups who aren't sending a GSR and extend an invitation, that we would like to have them at the table.

I want to share some good news with you. Some of you who were at CERASSA might of already heard me share this, if so bear with me.

Last summer we did a District inventory. Some great ideas were shared. Afterwards we formed a small ad-hoc committee to re-work and update our Operating Procedures and Guidelines. One fantastic change we made was our actual meeting format. It is now just like the inverted triangle; immediately after we do the service commitments, the GSR's get to share first, then the Treasurer & Registrar reports, the sub-committee chairs, then the ADCM and lastly the DCM. Then we go over any old business, new business etc. It seems to be very well received, and after all that's who the meeting is for; the GSR's.

This year is a very special year for the city of Toronto. As you all know the Pan-Am games and Para PanAm will be held here. What does this have to do with Alcoholics Anonymous? With the 7600 athletes and another couple of thousand coaches and support staff, that's close to ten thousand people participating. With them there will be tens of thousands of visitors in the city. There's a good chance that some of those visitors might be in the program and you know what we do when we travel. We need

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to find a meeting. So I've put the word out to the groups that around July 10-26 and August 7-15 our meetings could have a lot of extra people. This is a good thing of course but we might want to look into some extra chairs or an extra break out room if need be.

Also last but certainly not least, the venue for this year's INFO AA Day will be in District 10 at the 519 Community Centre at Church and Wellesley. This event is put on every year by the Eight Districts within the Greater Toronto Area. It's going to be a great day with panels on service, a talk from our Delegate and we will have sharing from a guest from GSO. It's only \$5.00 and that includes lunch. It's an awesome deal and you all are welcome! I have tickets if anyone is interested.

Other than that all is well and I am very grateful to have the opportunity to serve and glad to be here, thank you.

Yours In Love And Service, Marty M., District Committee Member for District 10

District 12 - Toronto South West

Good Morning, I'm an alcoholic, member for The Prince Edward Group, District Committee Member for District 12, Toronto Southwest and my name is Sean K.

We are starting out term with most of our active groups at our District table. There are a couple of Groups coming back to the table which is really great to see. Our Finances are improving. All of our sub-committee chairs are filled with the exception of Archives and Access Ability. I'm sure they will be filled in the not too distant future.

Myself and a few others from the District attended CEREASSA this past February. It was a great weekend and good to see what is going on within the Areas in Eastern Canada.

Our District took part with District 6's Service Day held earlier this month and despite a low turnout it was really good to hear most of the Sub-Committee's Reports as they get started into this new Term.

And lastly, we as well as the other Districts in the Toronto area will be taking part in Information AA Day in Toronto. This year's event will be at the 519 Church Street Community Centre on Saturday May the 30th. Our guest this year from the General Service Office is Racy J. who currently sits on the Cooperation with the Professional Community desk at the office. I am the Chair for this event and its shaping up to be a great day. Hope to see most of you there.

That's my report. Have a safe drive home later this afternoon and thank you for my sobriety.

Sean K., District Committee Member for District 12 Toronto Southwest

District 14 - Toronto North Central

I am an alcoholic serving as District 14's District Committee Member and my name is Don MacP. All Officer and Sub-committee Chair positions are all filled for the 2015/16 term. Most of our sub-committee chairs are attending the meetings at GTA Intergroup. The York Regional Police literature program continues to run well and we fulfilling our other service commitments.

This year, District 14 started facilitating the service meetings at Southlake Hospital previously being done by a local AA group. We are continuing to get good support from the groups in our District for all of our hospital meetings.

While donations from the group Self-Support cans continue to be steady, overall contributions by the groups to the General District Fund are down from previous years. However, we remain able to meet our financial obligations and will continue to monitor the situation in hopes that we will once again be able to make periodic donations to Area 83 and GSO as funds allow.

The latest attendance at our monthly District Meeting was 60% of our active groups and 72% of our District Officers. We welcomed the "Breaking Bad" group to the District table in January, bringing the number of active groups in our District to an even 30.

Our District 14 Service Workshop was held last November and I would like to thank all the speakers from other Districts who participated, including Kim S., our Area 83 Alternate Delegate who was our Key Note speaker.

District 14's Alternate and District Committee Members are both attending the Info AA Day 2015 meetings and have attended the Joint Sharing meetings.

Yours In Service, Don MacP., District Committee Member for District14

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District 16 - Distrito Hispánico de Toronto

Good morning my name is Cesar I am an alcoholic. My home group is group unidad (unity) second legacy of AA. As a DCM of district 16 Linguistic district (Spanish language)

Our district represent seven Spanish groups in the greater Toronto area and now we welcome one more Spanish speaking group from Kitchener and we are looking forward to add TWO more GSR from Hamilton and Welland. We have a busy schedule ahead through the service committees to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic. Since this is our first area meeting as a DCM hope next time I will have more information to share. I just want to thank area 83 and district # 16 to allow me to serve as a DCM.

Love and service, Cesar H., District Committee Member for District16

District 18 - Toronto City East

Good morning! My name is Katrina, I am an alcoholic, member of Joy in Sobriety group in Toronto, and have responsibility and privilege of servicing as District Committee Member for District 18, Toronto Area East.

All our Officer positions for the District were filled in the election in the fall. Our ADCM unfortunately had an accident last October and hasn't been able to attend our meetings since then. We hope he recovers and is able to return to the table soon as he has been an active member of the table for many years.

We elected chairs, and in some cases alternates for Accessibility, CPC, Corrections, PI, and Treatment since the start of the term. We are still looking for Chairs for Archives, Grapevine and Self-Support. Other members of the table, including myself are involved in GTA Archives activities, but we hope people will step up and take on the open chair positions soon.

Our Area is doing OK financially, and recently sent financial contributions to Area and GSO.

We have a number of service commitments in the District – 2 hospital service meetings, 1 detox, and a parole board meeting. All the commitments are covered but there is one hospital meeting which is on the north-eastern border of the district which has been difficult to keep covered. The Treatment chair has suggested he may look at another method, perhaps a group of committed people, rather than having groups put it on, as it has been difficult to get groups to commit to this meeting. Most of the nearby groups meet on the same night. We've also been approached by another hospital in the district, closer to downtown, which has expressed an interest in having a meeting on site, so that is being followed up as well.

Yours in love and service, Katrina E., District Committee Member for District 18

District 22 - Scarborough

Good morning everyone. I am an alcoholic, a member of the Beaches Group, the DCM for Scarborough District 22 and my name is Eddy G.

We have 20 groups in our District and around 75 % of the groups attend the District meeting. The average attendance at the table is 26. We are financially sound and we are able to meet all our commitments.

Our District Officers positions are filled: Secretary- Nina A., Treasurer- Tom S., Registrar- Lynn E. and Alt. DCM- Angus M.

The Sub-Committee Chairs are filled with the exception of Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community and the Grapevine. Almost all (9 of 10) Alt. Chair positions are still open.

Planning is in progress for the 37th Annual District 22 Service Day which will be held in September. The date has not been finalized.

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Planning is in progress for the 10th East Toronto Archives Breakfast held jointly with the District 18 Archives Committee. The Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday June 7th, 2015 at Qssis Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Rd. (just west of Markham Rd.). Flyers were put out in the atrium. I have tickets and they are \$20.00 each. There is going to be fellowship, a buffet breakfast and a great guest speaker.

Also planning is in progress for the 2015 Information AA Day held with the 8 Districts & GTA Intergroup. This year the event will be held in a new location - downtown Toronto at 519 Church Street. The date will be on Saturday May 30th, 2015. Traditionally what takes place is how the 8 Districts and GTA Intergroup work together, sub-committee panel presentations, our Delegate with give their General Service Conference Report and a GSO Staff Member is invited to share their story and working at GSO. Flyers were put out in the atrium. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

District 22 is looking forward to continue with the process of Carrying the Message to the Still Suffering Alcoholic at the Group, District, Area, GSO & GTA Intergroup levels.

Thank You, Yours in Service, Eddy G., District Committee Member for District 22 Scarborough

District 26 - Lakeshore West

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Liverpool Group and my name is Amy. It is my honour and privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 26, Lakeshore West. District 26 is doing well. We had some delays in filling some of our subcommittee chair positions, and a little louder call out from the GSRs to our groups at large about the vacancies we have managed to fill all subcommittee positions except for our Grapevine chair. Service is infectious in District 26, and I have faith that this last position will get filled. Attendance at the District table is around 60%. A couple of groups have yet to attend the district meeting, and I look forward to dropping into their meetings and make sure they know that they are welcomed and missed.

Our Cooperation with the Professional Community committee has had a very rewarding term last year, and established good relations with Durham College and UOIT (University of Ontario Institute of Technology) where they have offered presentations to future professionals who may come into direct contact with Alcoholics or their families. The CPC committee has already received requests to return for these types of presentations this term. Our new CPC chair, Shannon J, just joined the Table this month, and we are all supportive and open to seeing how this committee evolves in the upcoming term.

Our PI committee has directed their first efforts to discover ways to carry the message with minimal cost. This might be in the form of public service announcements on radio and TV as well as identifying how the message could be carried in local newspapers.

For some time now a hospital in the Ajax/Pickering area has been requesting our district to encourage a group to put on regular meetings in their facility. We used to do this, but the commitment from participants was too onerous and was no longer supported. In the theme of Easy Does It, our current Treatment chair is mulling over ways to streamline the responsibility load and get this meeting back up and running. Our Corrections Chair and a small crew of volunteers stand ready and willing to put on meetings at the Lindsay jail, but are up against the forces of unpredictable Lock Downs due to labour negotiations. This has brought Bridging the Gap efforts to a grinding halt until contracts are ratified. We hope for a speedy resolution.

We've just had a person stand for our Archives position, Donny M. who feels that this service position will be a great fit for his personality and interest in AA. Our Self support chair continues to make himself available to any group, any where to talk about our 7th tradition in all of its forms.

Most groups continue to take turns putting on meetings in the Renascent House in Brooklyn. Many groups also participate in Interchange, putting on meetings at other groups for the first open meeting of the month. The fellowship within District 26 and with District 28 is very strong as evident by the success of our jointly sponsored efforts. May 24 the Lakeshore districts with District 82 will be holding a jointly sponsored Service Information Day to hear the Delegates report. Coming up in summer will be the 43rd Annual Lakeshore Districts Conference. It will be held at the Polish Hall in Oshawa on August 21-23. The Conference theme will be Recovery Rocks! And boy does it ever!

Yours in love and service, Amy L., District Committee Member for District 26

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District 28 - Lakeshore East

Good morning all! I'm an alcoholic, proud member of the Courtice 12&12 and my name is Tom L. District 28 is alive and well with strong attendance at our District meetings. We are still looking for two important sub-committee chairs. Hopefully after this weekend someone either catches the service "bug" or at least passes it on.

Our Annual Spring Round-up, the first weekend of March was well put on by the committee and well attended, not attending and missed this year were two long-time members Audrey G and Lionel H. I cannot speak for Audrey, but Lionel was home resting up for his 55 year medallion coming on Monday April 13, 2015 at the Hampton New Life Group.

The clients from the Renascent House in Brooklin continue to attend open meetings in both Lakeshore District 26 & 28.

Volunteer members also continue to carry the message to both Lindsay Jail and Brookside Youth Detention Centre.

Looking forward to the service information day on Sunday May 24, 2015 at the Alano Club (200 Thornton Rd.N.) in Oshawa where our delegate Joyce S. will give her report from the 65th General Service Conference District 26 & 28. All are welcome.

Due to the Pan-Am Games, the Annual Lakeshore Conference is one week later this year. It will be held August 21, 22, 23.

Hope to see you there, if not before.

Yours in Love and Service, Tom L., District Committee Member for District 28

District 30 - Quinte West

Good morning, my name is Miles C. and I am an alcoholic and I have the honour and privilege of serving District 30 as their District Committee Member. District 30 is alive and well. All positions are filled except CPC. Plans are well underway for our Round-up May 16th at Trinity St. Andres Church, Prince Edward Street in Brighton. Speakers are from District 48 Seaway Valley and District 36 Kingston and the Islands. TOYPAA from Toronto and District 25 Al-Non are also attending. The main speaker is our Area Grapevine Chair Jim A. All welcome. 7th tradition/ Pot Luck. Check our website for more information. Hope to see you all there!

Yours in love and service, Miles C., District Committee Member for District 30

District 34 - Quinte East

Good Day Folks. I'm a alcoholic, sober today by the Grace of God through the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, I belong to the Foxboro Friendship Group and my name is Les M. It is my privilege to have being selected to be District Committee Member for District 34. All is running smoothly in our District, all our positions are filled except Self Support, I along with the rest of the table will try and have that position filled soon.

Now for our finances, we struggle a little in February with the expenses of different committees starting up in the new term and also with the CERAASA expenses, but with the Groups contributions were in pretty good shape, the nerves can have a rest.

I'm having a great time this weekend, being a member on the Service Information Day Committee, when I first was elected, I thought to myself you're in over your head here, but what an experience it has being so far.

If no one told you today that they love you, let me be the first.

Yours in Love & Service, Les M., District Committee Member for District 34

District 36 - Kingston & the Islands

Good morning friends I am an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Get Well Group, and my name is Mac. It is my honour and privilege to serve as District Committee Member for District 36 – Kingston and the Islands

Before I begin my report, as the DCM of District 36 (your hosting District) I would like, on behalf of all AAs in Kingston and the Islands to wish you all a very warm welcome to this Spring Assembly. Many of you have come a long way and we thank you for that. If there is anything we can do for you please just ask anyone wearing a name tag with District 36 on it. And now on to my report.

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District 36 is very much alive and growing. Just this week at our District Meeting a new group came and asked what they had to do to become a group. We explained that they needed to give all the information to our Secretary and she would send all the info to GSO. They get a registered and get a number. A Bingo they are a new Group. There are meetings available morning, noon and night. We are very excited to announce that we have a new webmaster and a new webpage. Take a few minutes to log on and browse around. You will find us at; www.kingstonaa.org.

We will be hosting an Archives Day in Kingston on April 18, 2015. Our Archivist was just elected last Wednesday! And we will also be holding our Second Annual Founders Day Roundup on June 7.

Both our Corrections and Treatment Chairs are kept busy scheduling members to carry the message into several prisons and treatment facilities. The number of spiritual retreats and gratitude meetings attended by our members reflects in their spiritual progress a day at a time.

Yours in Love and Service, Mac B., District Committee Member for District 36

District 42 - St. Lawrence International

My name is Milner G. and I am an alcoholic. My home group is the Fall Island Big Book Study Group in Potsdam, New York. I am privileged to serve as District Committee Member for District 42 St. Lawrence International.

Our District 42 elections resulted in all service positions being filled prior to the beginning of the new panel, an uncommon occurrence for us. Since then our Treatment chair has resigned. And our Literature/Grapevine chair is resigning due to health concerns.

We are grateful to our 2013-14 District Servants, many of whom are continuing in other positions.

Our new District 42 officers and committee chairs;

DCM - Milner G., Alt DCM / District Chair - Ted R., Secretary - Jenny M., Treasurer - Melanie L., Registrar - Patrick L., PI / CPC - Louise T., Corrections - David W., Treatment Facilities – [open], Literature / Grapevine – [open], Telephone Coordinator - Allan C., Webmaster / Meeting List - Milner G. Patrick L. and David W. are all new to service at the District level - we welcome them to "the best kept secret in A.A." Patrick is here attending his first Area Assembly!

We restructured the job descriptions for DCM and Alternate DCM. I suggested this as a condition for me to stand as DCM, as my work commitments and other community commitments have increased over the last two years. As DCM I am primarily the connection with Area 83 -- traveling to the Area Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings. I will make these reports to Area 83 and report back to District 42.

The Alternate DCM is chairing the monthly district meeting, preparing the agenda with collaboration from myself and our District Secretary and is the general "home" connection within the district.

Ted R. is leading efforts to evaluate our meeting procedures. Our aim is to keep the length of our meeting to 1:15 if possible, or a maximum of 1:30. On a trial basis we have also changed our meeting time from Sunday 1:30 pm to Wednesday 6:00 pm. We hope that more members will attend during the week than have attended on a Sunday.

In February we adopted Operating Procedures for District 42. This has long been a goal for our DCMs (including me in both my previous DCM terms) as a means to describe how we operate.

We have also created a District 42 Info Brochure, which details how we operate, what we do to serve the groups, and the support we need to accomplish that. Our goal is to encourage greater participation at our District table, in terms of both time and money. District table members are equipped with the brochure to take to meetings and make service announcements.

In advance of our March meeting I presented the General Service Conference agenda topics and selected background materials provided by Joyce. We started discussion so that members could take the info back to their group business meetings to report back at our April meeting. I will then summarize the group conscience decisions for Joyce for her consideration at the GSC.

I am grateful for the chance once again to serve A.A. and to help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Milner G., District Committee Member for District 42

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District 48 - Seaway Valley North

Good morning, I am an alcoholic and member of the last chance group and I am the district committee member for district 48 seaway valley north and my name is Bryan M.

On February 7 we held our annual round up and it was a very good day with good attendance. Thank you to all who came out and to those who helped, thanks again to Joe D for sharing as our main speaker.

At our district table most of the positions are filled with some members taking on two committee chair positions. We have an archives chairperson for the first time. Linda M and she has started collecting information on the early days in our district. Next we have the Delegates report in June with districts 42 and 50. Our P.I. and C.P.C chair Margaret S is getting information into the schools and to the professionals within the district.

We are fulfilling our commitments and financially we are stable for the time being.

Yours in Love and Service, Bryan M., District Committee Member for District 48

District 50 - Cornwall

My name is Wendy and I am an Alcoholic presently serving as District Committee Member for District 50, Cornwall and my home group is, Monday night St. Columban's.

Our District has 11 groups and only 2 are in need of some support for attendance. At District table, the attendance is running at 60-70%. We have a few chairs still open but we are confident that they will be filled soon. All is well in our little spot on the map. It is District 50's turn to host the Service Day this year and we share this with District's 42 and 48 and it will be held on June 13th 2015. It will run from 10-4 and will be a pot luck lunch. I have a couple more speakers to round up and will be sending out a flyer to all the DCM's and Area Committee shortly after the Assembly. We hope to see you all there.

YILS, Wendy E., District Committee Member for District 50

District 54 - Ottawa Rideau

Good morning. I am an alcoholic and a member of the Tuesday night Beacon Hill Group, currently serving as the District Committee member for District 54 and my name is Darlene. We are pleased to report that all service positions have been filled for the 2015\2016 term. It has been a positive experience as we transition into our new year. Attendance has been encouraging with a large percentage of the groups represented.

The 2014 Alkathon was extremely successful. Many attended, the feedback was excellent and the committee donated a portion of the proceeds to the Districts. We would like to extend a special thank you to District 62 for hosting a General Service Workshop facilitated by Sandy S. on Jan. 12th, 2015. A Longtimers Luncheon was held on Feb. 28th. It was well received with 2 speakers of long term sobriety sharing their stories. A wonderful day for Fellowship.

We welcome everyone to join us in the upcoming events which include the Spring Conference April 11th for a day of workshops and speakers as well as the Vanier Roundup on June 6th. Both days highlight the importance of personal recovery and group unity. The opportunity to attend Ceraasa was made available and many from the Ottawa area were in attendance. See you in New Brunswick in 2 years!

As part of the new term we have included into the agenda an opportunity for the G.S.R.'s to share about their groups activities and concerns. It was a rewarding addition to the meeting.

With Gratitude for Service, Godspeed

Darlene K., District Committee Member for District 54

District 58 - Ottawa Bytown

I am an alcoholic, ADCM for District 58, and my name is Michel D. I am reading this report on behalf of the DCM, Frank K., who could not be here today. Things are going well at the district. Although our district has always had difficulties filling all of its positions, we have never failed to fulfill our service commitments. As such, we continue to send representatives from our groups

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to the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Centre, NewGate 180 Recovery House, and the Mamisarvik Healing Centre. We also have the CFT liaison who comes to the district table.

The 2015 Gratitude Day in Ottawa is organized by district 58 this year and it will be held at City Hall on Sunday, June 14. Our delegate to New York, Joyce Saunders has graciously agreed to come and share at the event. I can't think of anyone better placed to come talk service to A.A. members in Ottawa. Finally, our Spring Conference will take place on April 11 at the downtown Marriott Hotel. Hope to see you there.

I would like to end by saying that both Frank and I are grateful for the opportunity to serve district 58.

Yours in service, Michel D., Alternate District Committee Member for District 58

District 62 - Ottawa West

I am an alcoholic, a member of the Saturday Morning Westboro Group and am currently serving District 62 Ottawa West as their District Committee Member. My name is Patrick G.

It has been an easy going start to the new term thus far with committee chairs still learning the ropes and getting familiar with their new roles. In recent weeks two positions have become available due to personal commitment issues. Archives rep and Intergroup liaison, which we hope to have filled in the not so distant future.

The district is doing well financially we hope the upward momentum continues. The budget for the 2015-2016 term was tabled at our last district meeting and was passed with general ease.

A few events to mention: The Archives Luncheon was held on February 28th with a great turnout and the fact that the regular Saturday morning meeting happening just down the street had to cancel due to a burst water pipe was just a coincidence.

We have the upcoming Spring Conference on April 11th at the Downtown Marriot in Ottawa. Come on down if you're in the area.

District 58 will be hosting this years' Service in Recovery day for the Ottawa area on June 14th and we look forward to helping out in any way we can.

A topic that has been put forward to the groups for discussion given that District 62 is the largest district in the area is the thought of district splitting. Ideas and opinions have already started to flow in. I welcome any feedback from all of you who may have experience with things of this nature. Yes, I want your two cents. This will be a long process to get through. We'll keep you posted as things progress.

Yours in service, Patrick G., District Committee Member for District 62

District 66 - Golden Triangle

Hello my name is Terry K. and I am an alcoholic currently serving as the D.C.M. for the Golden Triangle District #66. My home group is the "New Hope Group" which meets Monday night at 8:00 pm in Smiths Falls.

From my "working life" I know that people who are good at what they do, are that way because they have surrounded themselves with good people. I did not choose the people, I serve my District with. So I must Thank my Higher Power for surrounding me with great people.

Thank You "God" as we understand Him, thank you the Alternate DCM - Jenny C, thank you the Treasurer - Sue S, Thank You The Secretary - Pat L, Thank You The Registrar - Heather M, Thank You All the Sub Committee Chairs

It has been a very busy start to our term with District – We have finalized and approved our newly updated/revised policies and guidelines.(see attachment #1) We have a new District G.S.R Kit that is ready for distribution. (see attachment #2) Thanks to the Ad-Hoc Committees for your work on both of these projects. We also have an Ad-Hoc Committee currently looking at our Web Site content as well as updated the computer workings. The District Table is also looking at ways/incentives to get more members involved at the Group, District and Area Levels. We hope to have a car load of members at our June 6th Area meeting. And lastly I hope to see all of you at our 2015 Round-Up. The experience Strength and Hope Round-Up will be held Saturday April 11th at the Lombardy Fair Grounds which is located on HWY 15 just south of Smiths Falls. (see Flyer – attachment #3). Thank you for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous and District 66.

Terry K., District Committee Member for District 66

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District 70 - Renfrew Pontiac

No report

District 74 – Pembroke

No report

District 78 - Madawaska Valley

As I am unable to attend, this report is being given by Norbert C.

Hello everyone, my name is Irvin W. and I am an alcoholic. I am presently serving as District Committee Member for Madawaska Valley District 78. All of our 6 groups are doing well with lots of newcomers and all are financially sound as is the district. We were able to send our PI rep Barbara C. to CERAASA, just waiting to hear her report.

Unfortunately not all is well in our district as our Alternate District Committee Member, Claude L. found it necessary to resign and we have not found a replacement as yet. Hopefully we will soon. Also we have not been able to find a Grapevine rep but we are working on it.

Our Conference Chair Jerry C. is working on our Festival of Colors Roundup to be held on Saturday October 3rd, 2015 in the Combermere Community Centre. I will have flyers and tickets for the June Area meeting.

Thank you for allowing service work to enhance my sobriety. Your humble servant,

Irvin W., District Committee Member for District 78

District 82 - Victoria Haliburton

Good morning, I am an Alcoholic a member of The Sunday Nighters' Group and a grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous and my name is Jim S. I have the privilege of serving Alcoholics Anonymous and District 82 Victoria/Haliburton as DCM. This is my second go round as DCM and I can't tell you how happy I am to be here with you again. Financially and spiritually our District is doing well. For the first three months of this year attendance at the District table has been averaging around 65%. Not the greatest, there are many groups in the District that do not send representation to the table and I feel it is part of my responsibility as DCM to try and encourage these groups to elect a GSR. Every member of AA who is a member of a registered group has the right to be represented at the District table.

We have all the District table positions filled except for two, CPC and Grapevine. We are working toward filling these positions as soon as possible.

Our District Conference will be held on May 2nd at the Armouries in Lindsay. The theme is "Living In The Solution." There are flyers in the Atrium and several members here including myself have tickets. Our Conference Committee is still working hard to put on a good day for the fellowship.

The meetings in The Central East Corrections Centre are still a challenge since they changed having meetings from at night to the afternoon. With the labour problems going on at the jail it is really hit or miss if a meeting takes place. Lockdowns are still a problem mostly because of a staff shortage. But both the male and female Corrections Chairs have arranged members to put on the meetings, and the members are willing to do them if they can get in, so as long as this continues to happen then AA is fulfilling its responsibility.

That is all for now, stay safe and well.

Yours in the Love and fellowship of AA, Jim S., District Committee Member for District 82

District 86 - Kawartha

My name is Dave and I am an alcoholic the DCM for Kawartha District 86, member of the Liftlock Group, Peterborough. AA is strong and well within the District, We have 22 Groups all with GSRs and 36 group and service meeting a week. For the District there are 8 sub-committees and all but one have chair persons

We are pleased to be joining District 86 for a joint Service Information Day, May 24. Thank you to Amy, DCM District 26 for spearheading the event. I would also like to invite everyone to our annual Kawartha District Conference – Celebrate the Miracle on June 26 and 27 at the Evinrude Centre in Peterborough, There will be AA and AL-ANON speakers and panels, Saturday lunch and banquet. For more information go to www.peterboroughAA.org, all are welcome. In District 86 all is AA okay.

Dave H., District Committee Member for District 86

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5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Committee member's reports are not time-limited. Rather, we rely on the member's humility and compassion to keep their reports as brief as possible while still giving the Assembly a description of their activities in our Area. As with the districts, written reports are requested. I would ask each committee member to remain at the podium after their report to answer any questions from the floor.

a) Public Information Report

Elaine H.

Good morning, everyone. I am a grateful alcoholic, a member of the Streetsville Group in District 6 Mississauga and my name is Elaine H. I have the privilege to serve Area 83 as Public Information chair for the Panel 65 term.

First I would like to thank everyone who attended the Public Information workshop yesterday and for your input on General Service Conference topics that will be passed on to our delegate Joyce. And thanks to those who attended the combined PI/CPC meeting last evening. The PI message is definitely being carried throughout Area 83...

At the moment I have contact information for about 15 Districts and have been receiving minutes from a number of Districts. Please add me to your District's distribution list – this is a great way for me to stay up to date on PI information in your area.

Earlier this month I had the privilege of attending and presenting at the District 6 and 12 Service in Recovery Day – it was a well-organized day - excellent presentations and fellowship. I welcome the chance to attend and give a Public Information presentation at any District – please get in touch with me and we can work out details.

In January I was invited to attend the meeting of the GTA Public Information Committee and at their invitation I plan to attend future meetings. It is a good way to find out what is happening in PI in the GTA – it is an active group with attendance at local events, speaking at non-AA events, distribution of literature, etc. I look forward to attending future meetings.

District 26 is planning a joint PI/CPC workshop next month on presentations to non-AA events and they have invited me to participate.

And I was invited by GSO to volunteer with other Area PI Chairs to staff the GSO PI booth for the first "Carry the Message Pavilion" at the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta – I am very excited about that opportunity. I have few details – but I certainly have accepted the invitation.

I do have Public Information Kits available for those who may need them.

Lastly, I look forward to being of service to Area 83. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. My email address is pi@area83aa.org and my phone number is 905 601-2801.

Yours in Service, Elaine H., Area 83 Public Information Chair

b) Cooperation With The Professional Community

Gary C.

Hi everyone, I am an alcoholic, my name is Gary C. and am a member of the Stonewall Group in Peterborough in District 86. I have the honour and privilege of serving as your CPC chairperson for the 2015-16 term. I would like to welcome all new Service Members and look forward to sharing with you over this term.

I did receive my CPC binder from GSO and have been reviewing it.

So far, I did take part in the Districts 6 and 12 "Service In Recovery" Day on Saturday, March 7 in Oakville. Although not strictly an Area function, I did have the Area CPC display at CERAASA in Mississauga. I managed to get to one meeting of the Toronto Intergroup CPC Committee so far. There are a lot of exciting events coming up there. So, thank you for the opportunity to serve!

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We did have a CPC Workshop at the SID yesterday and that went well. I'd like to thank Mark B. of the Toronto Intergroup CPC for his part in that. I found the joint PIC/CPC Committee meeting last night to be very informative and thanks to all of you who attended and shared your experiences. We had a good attendance of 17.

I am looking forward being a part of your District Service events when invited! I would also like to encourage and thank all Districts for sending me a copy of your minutes which I do read. My email is cpc@area83aa.org which you can find on the Area83 website.

In closing I say, Let Gratitude be your Attitude. Cary C., Area 83 Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair

c) Corrections Report

Robert B.

Who will be your District corrections contacted person for 1 Jan 2017? Establishing list CF Chair/correctional contact person has been first priority working with Dan N. area83 secretary. List is still not complete new list will be sent out.

We had an exhalent correction meeting at 9:00pm last night in the London room. Thank all the CF chair who took part in the corrections work shop. Bob E, Dave P, Neil W, Jim D, Sherri H, Wayne L, Richard F, and Jim S. As well Dave from district 14 for distributing big books. Thank District 6 for letting me share at their service day.

At upcoming 65th General Service Conference

- A. Discuss the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.).

This will focus more on the lack of male Correspondence AA volunteer on the outside (in the US)

- B. Discuss ways to engage members in Corrections service.
- C. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

Establishing Corrections Correspondence here in Canada is becoming hot topic (I believe) in area83, "where there is minimal awareness and participation in the Corrections Correspondence Service".

We had a discussed on Correspondence in Canada with Peter N. Dave T. and others area correction chair and Delegate at CERASSA. I can only say it is a work in progress.

Upcoming Article in Box 459 about the need to have an Appointed Committee Member (ACM) from Canada, who has Corrections experience to aid in the development of Corrections Correspondence Service in Canada. "Where there is minimal awareness and participation in the Corrections Correspondence Service".

We are in the process of making a list of all area 83 correctional facilities and who is the AA contact person for that facility for members interested in volunteering. A list for Toronto and surrounding area is complete.

Note; Toronto South Detention Center (TSDC) in D6 contact person CF chair D18 and Toronto Intermittent Centre (TIC) had no affiliation with any district or intergroup.

Bridging The Gap in Area83 seems to be going well. I would like to thank all CF chair who have stepped up to the plate and taken on their responsibility in bridging the gap.

Thanks Robert B., Area 83 Corrections Chair

d) Treatment- Special Needs/ Accessibility Report

Herb W.

Hello everyone, my name is Herb and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Redwood Sunday Morning Breakfast Group in Trenton in district 30 Quinte west and have the honour and privilege to serve as your Area 83 Treatment Facilities- Special Needs / Accessibility Chairperson.

It is so good to see you all here at the Assembly again, especially those of you here for the first time – Welcome!

This is a new year and a new term and I am excited to have the challenges of a new position as the area has voted to add Special Needs / Accessibility to the Treatment Facilities position.

Since being elected to the position in January, I have attended the District 48 Roundup and would like to thank everyone there for the great day, good food , good sharing and an event that keeps getting better every year!

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March 7th I had the privilege of presenting at the District 6 and 12 Service Information Day in Oakville and will be at the Info A.A. Day in Toronto May 30th.

I have the updated contact list and am familiarizing myself with all the resources given to me to make bridging the gap a practical and effective way to help the still suffering alcoholic. I see a few hiccups on the road but am finding communication and patience has already yielded benefits!

Bridging the Gap requests are being passed on to me and I am getting quickly acquainted with the District boarders and am able to pass names along in a very timely manner.

Please send me your minutes and feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or need help with anything. I may not have an answer but I am sure I can pass your request to someone who does!

If you have an event you would like me to put on a presentation try to let me know well in advance if you can as I try to plan my personal travel around Area event to save travel expense.

I would like to thank Jim A and Shane for their help in my workshop on Saturday, without your help the workshop would not have been as good as it was!

At the Treatment – Special Needs / Accessibilities meeting in the Windsor room this morning we had good attendance but group conscience decided that we will have the meeting Saturday night at the next Assembly.

Thank you for the privilege to serve you! With Gratitude, Herb W., Area 83 Treatment- Special Needs/ Accessibility Chair

e) Grapevine Report

Jim A.

Good morning, bonjour and Buenos dais everyone. Or Giddy since I am back in Eastern Ontario. My name is Jim, and I am an alcoholic. I have the honour of serving as your Area Grapevine chair. And welcome to the world of Grapevine.

Thank you's go out to: Those who attended yesterday's work shop and for their input, to the SI Day committee and our Webmaster who made everything go smoothly, District Secretaries who include me on their distribution lists, and to the enthusiastic bunch know as district GV chairs, it was nice to finally meet you in person this morning. I look forward to working with all of you. It is a small bunch but i am hopeful that more districts will be finding GV chairs. We had a very productive meeting this morning. One idea was to have GV products in large print. Special thanks to two former GV chairs, your experience was tremendously valuable.

What is Grapevine?

"I heard it thru the grapevine" is a euphemism for overhearing a story; or a classic song by Marvin Gaye or CCR.

And with the Audio GV Project we can hear our grapevine too. See aagrapevine.org for the link. This is an initiative that started in 2013 as an effort to record our stories in 7 minute segments. Details on how to do this can be found on the website.

I read it in the Grapevine is something we are all more familiar with. Most would say it's a magazine. But it is more.

Grapevine = Twelfth Step. Our as one of the District GV Chairs said this morning GV is our unsung hero.

It's a meeting set-up in every magazine - preamble, steps and traditions, all you need to chair a basic AA meeting.

How many have a subscription? And if not why not? How many have sent in a story or a photo? And it got published?

Ok here is the first challenge I wish to make: "Grab your pen or mouse, click your cameras, or do a 7 minute story thru the GV audio project. Let's take the shotgun approach and submit a multitude of material to GV, flood it with our stories. Please send your stories and pictures to gveditorial@aagrapevine.org or go thru the website.

Somehow somebody from 83 will get published during this term. If I know that a sobriety friend's material is going to be published in the near future, i might just buy a copy of the magazine

And it's not just a magazine. It's books and now eBooks too. That's the one area we would like to focus on this term. "A rabbit walks in to a bar" a collection on our humour. Titles like Emotional Sobriety – The next frontier. No Star Trek fans, yours is "Space the final frontier". And like Star Trek it has a sequel Emotional sobriety 2, which boldly goes where you have not gone before! There are books and eBooks on sponsorship, daily quotes, early or long sobriety, compilations on previously published articles.

For a little history, go page S85 of the service manual, available at the back of the room for \$4.25. Since 1944 GV has been the International Journal of AA. Available in English form since then, and since 1995 it is also available in a Spanish issue known as La Vina. La Vigne, is a similar but unaffiliated publication in French, sold in Quebec.

Bill W. published about 150 articles and editorial in Grapevine, including two sets of essays introducing the Twelve Traditions. These writings have been compiled to create "Language of the Heart".

What is a Grapevine rep? And what do they do?

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The GV rep for a group or a district is the GO TO person for all things Grapevine. One part of the position is to encourage group awareness of GV. Everything you wanted to know, a job description if you will can be found by going to the GVR tab of the website to see all the tools that are available to assist you to carry the message of GV, which is our stories of how the message was carried, and applied.

- The monthly GV Newsletter that announces new publications, details about event such as the subscription Drive (more on that later).
- Under tools and resources is a GV workbook, FAQs
- A display gallery, mostly of Area displays. The D18 display was used at the recent Ceraasa and a picture of it will be posted there soon. Gives GVRs ideas on what to put up on a display.
- There is downloadable poster, which I have some copies. I have filed one in each DCM's folder already. Photocopy as needed. I will be having Area Webmaster Jim R upload this and few other items soon.

So what do we do? We are available to answer questions about the magazine and all other GV products, promote the value of all this literature as a great tool for recovery; assist other committees especially Corrections. A GV mag has no staples. Promote the attraction. Raise awareness. Actions: Ask "did you read that article on blah blah in the newest GV. Or have you read the latest GV book you know the one that just came out "YAdda yadda YAdda". Or its sequel. Tell a joke you read in "a Rabbit walks into a bar" or AT Wits End. Follow the antics of the third most famous person in AA, Victor E.

A new GV is a tangible piece of hope on the inside. Time after time we hear about an inmate eyes light up when they get a new copy of GV. Perhaps a lockdown has prevented the regularly scheduled meeting from happening. This magazine becomes a vital lifeline. Perhaps your group or district could follow the example of Toronto Intergroup, who has purchased 50 subscriptions to be used in GTA correction facilities.

Encourage recycling of old GV magazines in your district. Make group or district collection of GV, donate to other committees, or drop off a copy at your Dr's. One idea I picked up at Ceraasa was to give a newcomer a (current?) copy of GV if they all ready have a big book. Make the announcement at your home group or wherever you are asked to make a presentation i.e.: medallions or group anniversaries. Create more awareness, reaching out to group contact person or GSR. Even group librarians would be a great resource for info and becoming potential GvRs.

Where is GV going in the new age of media?

Publishing as we know it is experiencing a huge sea change. And GV is no different. According to Ami B., editor of GV our magazine is experiencing the industry average 5% drop in subscriptions annually.

Despite this environment, GV has been able to contribute \$250k to the Reserve fund for each of the past two years. So it is a viable business. It just has to keep pace with technology.

But there is no other magazine like it. No ads, our recovery in our words.

The subscription drive contest

I had the privilege of meeting Ami B. the chief editor of AA Grapevine at this year's ORC; and Linda B. Grapevine director at the recent Ceraasa. Both are passionate about GV and the tremendous role it plays in our sobriety and for those yet to come.

So, as Linda put it: "Let's see if the egos of Areas, of states and provinces can be harnessed in a friendly competition".

GV will be tracking new subscription and gift subscriptions of GV and LV geographically from Feb 1st to Dec 20th 2015. For the province or state that has the largest % increase, a special section of a 2016 magazine will be dedicated to story from that particular place.

As of Feb 28th, Ontario (all 4 areas) is showing an increase of 9 new Gv subscriptions for a paltry .33% increase. One of those is mine, and two were from Ottawa. We are lagging behind the rest of the country, so let's get moving. Get out the pens and start writing, snaps some photos, and start clicking your mouse at aagrapevine.org at the "Subscribe" tab.

When you do that you will see that 3 types of subscriptions are available, the \$25 hardcover version mailed to you in a discreet black wrapper, for \$35 or an online version that gives you 5 stories a week exclusive to online subscribers and access to the GV archives of every issue since 1944 (a great research tool); or for \$50 and finally a hybrid of 1 and 2; something in the mail and something online AND La Vina online.

New products

End of March 2015: eBook version of Language of the Heart

General service conference topics w.r.t to GV

The spring Assembly is called a pre-conference Assembly. Our GV workshop was dedicated to topics for General Service conference in NYC this April. Joyce has sent me 60 pages of background material regarding Grapevine.

- A) Audio strategy: GV began collecting audio recordings of our experiences in recovery in January 2013. GV has phone software that allows a member to phone in and leave a 7 minute recording. By Jan 2015, 144 stories have been submitted thru the "Simply voice Dial-In" telephone service, and 66 have been sent in on disks. ICYPAA events include an audio get together for people to gather and record. The idea is to create compilations on various subject matters, with a resale price of

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\$9.99 or \$130-\$1.75 each. Sold in form of a CD which can be reformatted to MP3, downloaded to a PDA or Smartphone or tablet. Please see all the details on the website at the audio Tab. Nine free stories are on the website, for listening and as a template for how to record and a comprehensive list of topics.

B) La Vina: La Vina is an interesting creature, a hybrid entity. It was started in 1995 as request from that years GSC. Read by 14% of the Spanish AA market (GV only by 5%), it is sold like a magazine (gets revenues) but will never turn a profit in the conventional business sense. It continues to run aa annual deficit .It has been deemed to be a service to the fellowship by the General Service Board and therefore supported thru the General fund of the GSB. Its continued existence is not in doubt. For this year's GSC : Review a new business plan for la Vina.

So you have a magazine with increasing subscriptions (2014 was 10,379) that runs a constant deficit? What can we do next to make it self-supporting? Short answer is that we are doing all that we can, and it is operating well.

I talked to District 16 DC Cesar last night about this and he tells that La vina is very popular in Toronto Area.

One thing we can do is buy a gift subscription for a group. Perhaps in another country. Because of that silly embargo thing from 1962, it was in all the papers, it prevents direct mailing from U.S. to Cuba. When I was in Cuba a few years ago I was given a business card with the groups address. I have a La Vina delivered to me in Canada, and then re-mail to that group.

And remember to recycle old La Vina's and GV when you go vacationing anywhere. Leave them in the cruise ship's library, or at a church, or if you actually find a mtg leave it there.

No translation is required when you see the smiles. Gratitude is a universal language.

C) Review the revised text of the pamphlet AA Grapevine and la Vina P52: The Advisory committee reviewed suggested changes from AAGV Board and made two more suggestions 1) re-edit for consistency and grammar (no issues there) and 2) that subtitle be changed to "Our meetings In Print and other media" on the cover.

So after a flurry of emails back and forth; the suggestion above was withdrawn. By including the additional words "and other media" limits rather than reflects the variety of media that AAGV uses, or will use. Issues here: None.

D) Encourage members and groups to purchase GV Gift Certificate subscriptions: Again, Raisin Awareness. Talk about it repeatedly and eventually our ears of stone will react. Go to the website and subscribe please.

E) GV Book topics for 2016 and later: The Conference committee on GV annually reviews a list of proposed new items at least one year in advance. This year's GSC will hear about proposed items for 2016 publication.

Items under consideration for 2016:

- 1) Armed Forces members AA stories. [Soft cover 10.99, eBook \$9.99]. Getting sober and staying sober while in the military, from previously published GV mags
- 2) Voices from Early AA Stories from the earliest days of AA and GV all previously published [soft cover 10.99, eBook \$9.99].

F) Review GV WORKBOOK: This is done annually, to keep up to date and relevant. This also includes the e version found on the website.

And the big one!

G) Increase organization wide support for GV and LV: A new and positive way of speaking about GVLV is needed.

During our workshop lots of input about how to increase awareness.

- focus on the mission to carry the message rather than all the financial aspects.
- refer to GVLV as the internationals Journal of AA. Rebranding or renaming, a change in the mind set.
- advocate that funds for AAGV subscriptions be included in local/committee budgets. District GVChairs need to lovingly promote this idea. You can buy a box of 50 back issues for an institution, or at least recycle past issue. Ask for old ones to bring to district table.
- support gift certificate subscriptions. For person, a committee a sponsee....
- participate in the 2015 subscription drive.
- have record your story workshops like is done at ICYPAA events.
- spread the word about Archives including the GV Story archive. Keep talking about GV Raisin Awareness.
- have a regular section of Box 459 set aside for GVLV.
- have regular time slot dedicated to GVLV at local events. Invite local chairs to attend and or speak.
- Include a GVLV link on local websites. We do this now.
- obtain permission to include GVLV content on local websites.

But he most important one is people! Please make sure that the group contact person has registered for AAGV and Your Group email and all other email from the website. If you build it they will come, not so much as Hello is there anybody out there. GV needs a wider network of contacts. This one major way to develop a larger base of potential users/readers/subscribers. This tasks that GSRs can fill or help complete. For those groups without a GSR, but a contact person, district registrars can lend a hand. Working with people leads to partnerships. With other committee's especially CF, TF, PI, and CPC.

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Going for ward: I am looking forward to the may 16th service day in Brighton. And as usual, there will be 2016 pocket planners and calendars, which we will order in September for October assembly delivery. Price points will be released soon, pray for a better USD rate. Likely to be a bit higher than in the past, which have been typically \$4ish for pocket planners and \$8-9 for calendars.

AS always, you can reach me at grapevine@area83aa.org, YILAS, Jim A., Area 83 Grapevine Chair

f) Self-Support Report

James O.

My name is James and I am an alcoholic. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how grateful I am to be your trusted servant for Self Support in Area 83. The year started off with a bang at the CERAASA in Mississauga. What a great event, well attended, warmly hosted by us and something the whole Area should be proud of.

Where I have been...On March 7th I attended and presented at the District 6 & 12 Service Day and on Saturday March 21st the Primary Purpose Group in District 10 invited me to chair their group inventory.

Where I will be....The Church Street Group has extended me an invitation to chair their group inventory on April 11th and Marty from District 10 has hinted that he would like me to come by for a visit to speak to the table about Self Support.

This morning's Self Support was attended by 8 out of 25 districts. We discussed many topics such as SS cans, prudent reserves and large cash amounts that are not being forwarded, the practice of corporate poverty, the 3 "T"s of SS – Time, Treasure & Talent and much idea sharing. I am happy to say that those in attendance were active in SS in their districts. It was pointed out during the meeting that up until that point we had only been talking about money. Money is but one aspect of SS and I was grateful that we could redirect the meeting to other areas such as sponsorship and other ways we can keep AA growing and healthy.

Thank you for all the District minutes that I have received. It is a great way for all of us to stay connected.

I am at your service to come to your District table and present on Self Support and also love to be part of group or district inventories. Feel free to contact me at selfsupport@area83.org. If you forget what I just said or can't possibly write that fast fear not! Just go to the Area website <http://area83aa.org/about-area-83/contacts>.

In closing, – from shaking hands at the door, to making coffee, to putting that little bit extra in the 7th because maybe the next guy can't afford to, to paying for and answering the phones, to all the different ways 12th step work manifests itself in our beloved fellowship... just like peace and love, let Self Support begin with me.

Yours in Love & Service, James O., Area 83 Self Support Chair

g) Archives Report

Linda D.

Good afternoon, my name is Linda D. I am a member to the Land O'Lakes group in Sharbot Lake, I currently have the privilege of being the Area 83 Archives subcommittee chair and I am an alcoholic.

Although I have been invited to attend a few events my work schedule has not allowed me to do so and I would like to say thank you to David T, our Area Archivist, for stepping up and helping me out.

For the first year of my term as the Archives subcommittee chair I would like to have a theme, that theme is going to be "HOW IMPORTANT IS IT".

So now to the explanations -

How important was it that someone along the way thought it would be a good idea to keep a record of Bill and Bob's journey as founders of our program?

How important is it to those who are sceptical about AA that they can go onto the internet and just type in AA history and be able to see how things have evolved over the years?

How important is it that we know that prior to 1957, Ontario was one Area and the delegate's names were easily obtained by contacting GSO Archives.

I have the list posted in the Archives display room if anyone would like to see it.

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With a quick show of hands I have 2 questions

- 1- How many people here have actually sat down with a member of their district and given an oral history of their journey in AA?
- 2- How many people know the history of their home group?

I was the first District 34 Archives subcommittee chair and although everyone wanted us to have archives, very few wanted to take the 15 or 20 minutes to answer the questions about their journey in AA.

Remember, how important is it that you, as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, continue the legacy of our forefathers by ensuring that those to come know how we got here.

Yours in Service, Linda D., Area 83 Archives Chair

h) Service Information Day

Ray R.

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the last chance Group, District Committee Member (DCM) of Malton District 02 , and currently serving as chair of your Service Information Day Committee, my name is Ray R.

Once again, here is your Service Information Day Committee: Amy L District 26- Lakeshore West, Jim S- District 82, Victoria Haliburton, Don Mac- District 14, Les Mac-District 34, Quinte East, Bryan Mc-District 48, Seaway Valley North. I would like to take this moment to thank the Committee for a job well done. It is a great Committee and I thoroughly enjoy working with each and every one of them.

They brought so much to the table, first of all their honesty, when the committee was first assembled, fear came over me, and the first thought was, what have I gotten my self into? I later shared that with the committee, and as we connected, I was relieved to know that I wasn't the only one who had those feelings, which helped me to relax.

They brought open mindedness. There was initially a bit of confusion as to which workshops would be appropriate for the spring assembly, and who we felt was best fit to present it. As the emails flew back and forth, with respect to each others opinion, decision were made, and we were able to put the agenda together in a timely manor.

And the willingness, to step up and take on roles, no matter what their comfort level, weather it was making phone calls, sending emails, facilitating workshops, or organizing the sale of literature, their eagerness made my role as chair so much easier.

A very special thank you to the committee who came before us, for they left us with an easy to follow blue print that took a lot of the guess work out of our task of setting up this assembly. moving forward, we plan to add our experience to that blue print, and pass it on to the next committee

It was quite the experience putting on our first Service Information Day. The Committee meets "electronically" which is a new concept for me, but one that I caught on to very quick, and with the committee being scattered all over southern Ontario, I guess there was no other way. The Committee truly hopes that you have enjoyed yesterday's Service Information Day. We will read over all the surveys that has been submitted in hopes of gaining new insight on how we can improve the next assembly.

Just a note... When checking out of the Hotel, I hope you will book your rooms for our fall Service Information Day and Area Assembly. Please bring back to your groups and district, the excitement and information you experienced here, in hopes that it will encourage others, perhaps your Sponsor or Sponsee, to come along next time. All members are welcome to attend.

Yours in love and service, Ray R., Area 83 Chair for Service Information Day

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

KIMBERLY M.

Hi friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Ajax Area Group in District 26, and my name is Kimberley M. I have the privilege to serve Area 83 as your Treasurer.

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Thank you to everyone who attended the Treasurer/Self-Support workshop yesterday. I hope you found the information useful. Thanks also to those who helped sell banquet tickets, total tickets sold was 189. The hotel charges us \$11 per person this weekend for coffee/tea/pop which is what the 7th we collect goes towards. Please keep this in mind when the 7th comes around. In the District Committee Members mail folders I placed 3 Area 83 contribution envelopes. Please share these with your District Treasurer for future contributions. Several of the envelopes are available on the side table, please help yourselves. When your group or district sends in contributions you will get back a thank-you letter and a receipt. Emailing these to you costs the area nothing. Mailing them however requires a stamp, envelope, receipt, paper and ink. Please encourage your treasurers to include an email address with your contributions. You will also get your receipts in a more timely fashion. Please make cheques payable to "Eastern Ontario International Area 83".

Also in the DCM mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders I placed copies of the financial statements for the period ending March 11, 2015. Copies of these are available on the side table and I would like to go through the numbers now. Page 1 is a financial summary. It shows our reserve account, which is set aside for unforeseen circumstances, has a balance of \$20,000 and is in the form of a GIC paying 1.4% interest maturing September 11, 2017. Total income for the period is \$9 204.22 and total expenses for the period are \$6 307.15 to date our expenses are \$2 897.07 lower than our income. Please note however that I have sent \$4000.98 less to the General Service Conference for the Assessment than last year at this time. As our finances allow, I will send more, as long as it doesn't affect our prudent reserve. The goal being, to send the full amount before the year end.

Thank you to the 49 groups and 4 districts that have made financial contributions to Area 83.

As of March 11 2015 all cheques received were deposited and receipts along with return contribution envelopes were sent out. The bank opening balance as of January 1, 2015 was \$ 18 927.31.

Total income of \$ 9 204.22 less expenses of \$ 6 307.15 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$ 21 824.38 as of March 11, 2015. The March bank reconciliation has been done and the balance in the operating account is accurate. The Page 2 shows details of expenses. Here we see an itemized breakdown of expenses for the period for each Area Committee Member. There is one minor correction that I will make under CERAASA which is to put \$116 under Meals and change Misc amount to \$35. This does not affect the totals. The corrected report will appear in the minutes. Page 3 shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from the District, as well as Groups within the District.

This weekend's 7th Tradition was; Friday \$382.10 Saturday \$1086.50 and Sunday \$1227.60 for a total of \$2696.20 collected over the weekend. Thank for your generous contributions, and thanks to everyone who helped collect and count the 7th Tradition.

Yours in Love and Service, Kimberley M., Area 83 Treasurer

[See Appendix A - Treasurer's Financial Reports]

Seventh Tradition

7. SECRETARY REPORT

DAN N.

Good morning everyone. I am an alcoholic, a member of the Royal York Group in Toronto and name is Dan N. I have the honor and privilege of serving you as Area 83 Secretary for the term 2015 - 2016.

As Secretary, I am responsible for recording the minutes of the Area Committee Meetings and Area Assemblies, compiling and updating rosters of Committee Members, as well as information on all 25 districts in the area. I also forward all Area Assembly and Area and District Committee information to the General Service Office, hold and maintain all records of Assemblies and other duties that may arise from time to time.

There's a lot of information and paperwork that gets disseminated in this position and with the use of electronic devices, I started off with a goal of saving money. So far this term I've been both successful and not so much. I've saved some trees and dollars with the number of copies of minutes from the last Area Committee. But not as well with copies of the agendas yesterday and today where we ran out. I'll get better.

As mentioned at yesterday's Secretary and Registrar's presentation, the Area Secretary takes care of the district's officers and the registrar takes care of the group's information. The secretary and registrar are the "information hubs" of our area and in order to do our work effectively, we really depend on receiving your timely information.

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Most districts have sent in their information, although some districts were quite late and not all information made it on this weekend's rosters. I'll be updating these rosters with all the information I've received the last few days. This is a gentle reminder that a full and complete mailing address is needed in order to have this information inputted into the GSO database. Whenever there is a change, just use the District Change Form found on the Area website under resources and email it to me at secretary@area83aa.org. Please be mindful that we need current information so that our Area Chairs can do their service work effectively and that GSO can send out appropriate information. When you have a change, simply pull up the District Change form and input the new information you want me to change.

On the agenda today there is a business item that will be voted on concerning Service Information Guidelines and I have placed copies of the Report on the Ad Hoc Committee on Service Information at the side table of the room. This is an agenda item to be discussed and voted on later today and I urge you to take a copy for your consideration for the vote.

Thank you for the trust and confidence that you have placed in me as Area 83 Secretary; it is an honour and I will work hard on your behalf.

Yours in love and service, Dan N., Area 83 Secretary

8. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

KIM S.

Hi my name is Kim, I am an alcoholic, a member of the St. Clements Group and I am your Panel 65 Alternate Delegate for this term.

As Alternate Delegate I am the Remote Communities person for Area 83. There are not really any remote communities within Area 83 that I am aware of. If anyone has any knowledge of any within our Area 83 boundaries, please let me know. During a conference call Area 85 expressed an interest in help from Area 83. They need big books and 12 & 12S to go into remote area. Any other books are helpful also. He can arrange someone to pick them up in Toronto. Please take this back to your groups and Districts. Please contact me if you have any donations. Area 85 is Northwestern Ontario which includes, Kenora Timmons, Lakehead and Thunder Bay. They have a lot of remote communities.

As Alternate Delegate I am the Intergroup liaison Officer between Area and Intergroups. I will be attending all sharing sessions between Intergroup and districts. They are held every three months. This year they will be held in February, May, August and November.

Here are some events that I have or will be participating in.

- January 19 – Remote Communities Conference Call
- January 27 – Participated at Toronto Intergroup Service Day
- February 3 - Joint sharing with Intergroup & Districts
- Feb 20-22 - CERAASA
- Feb 27-Mar 1 - Ontario Delegate's Conference in Hamilton
I presented on Diversity and Inclusion in AA
- March 7 – District 06/12 Service Day
- March 16 – Remote Communities Conference Call
- April 18 – East York Roundup
- May 5 – Joint Sharing with Intergroup & Districts
- May 18 – Remote Communities Conference Call
- May 30 – Info AA Day

I do plan on attending some if not all Service Days where our Delegate, Joyce will be giving her report. Thank you for allowing me to be of service to Area 83 and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in loving service, Kim S. Area 83 Alternate Delegate

9. DELEGATE'S REPORT

JOYCE S.

Hello, everyone. I am an alcoholic, member of St. Clement's Group in Toronto, District 10. I also have the honour of serving the fellowship as Panel 65 Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International and my name is Joyce.

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It is with tremendous gratitude that I have been elected as your Area 83 Delegate! What an honour! This is a journey which I hope many of you will be able to experience, one which I look forward to for the next 2 years.

Those of you who are here for your first assembly may not be familiar with how yesterday's Service Information Day will help me to take your viewpoints and opinions to the General Service Conference, which I will be attending in New York from April 19 to April 25th. The agenda and most of the background material for the conference has been emailed to all the District Committee Members, Officers, Sub-Chairs and Past Delegates. If you have not had a chance, to go over these documents, please do so. There is so much information which is very interesting and may have an effect on A.A. as a whole. I will be your voice at the conference and need to know how you would like me to vote on items which are on the agenda.

Since this is my first year to attend the conference as a Panel 65 Delegate, I will be reading the 2 minute highlights which I have prepared. I have been timed and I have .10 of a second left, so hopefully I won't get buzzed when I give the report. I would like to read you what I will be saying about our area:

Area 83 spans from the Quebec border, West to Toronto, North to Algonquin Park and South to New York State. Currently our area has 25 Districts. In 2014, 1 district folded and 2 dark districts which were in upper New York have since joined neighbouring areas. There are 641 groups with 15,000 members. We have 5 Intergroup Offices, one of them being in our linguistic district which serves an active Spanish population. We also have 7 standing area committees, active in carrying the message, as well as putting on workshops at assemblies and within the area.

We hold 2 assemblies each year supplemented by 7 Area Committee Meetings over the term. We have now designated our Spring Assembly as a pre-conference assembly. This gives our membership the opportunity to contribute their thoughts and views on agenda items.

Area 83 hosted the second bi-annual CERAASA in February. We had a full agenda with most of the other Delegates in Eastern Canada participating. We were also pleased to have our Eastern Regional Trustee, Richard B. in attendance. Also, in attendance were current and past Board Members and Trustees.

Our area has been so blessed to have our Panel 51 Delegate, Joe D., serving as a Class B Trustee of the General Service Board and Director of AA World Services. Our Panel 55 Delegate, Barb K. has served as the Trustee-At-Large/Canada for the last 4 years. We couldn't be prouder of them both.

I am truly humbled and honoured to represent Area 83 Eastern Ontario as their Panel 65 Delegate by giving back which has been so freely given to me.

My activities so far this year are as follows:

- My first task as Delegate was to send a reminder letter to a member in Toronto for breaking his anonymity at the public level. In following up on anonymity breaks, the General Service Conference recommended that the staff member on Public Information pass along the basic facts to the appropriate area delegate. In this way, I was asked to send a friendly reminder to the member whose anonymity has been broken, sharing with them the significance of our Eleventh Tradition of personal anonymity at the public level. A guide letter was supplied, which I sent to the member.
- Attended the Canadian Eastern Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (CERAASA) at the Nova Hotel in Mississauga from February 20th to February 22nd. What a great weekend it was for those of you who attended. There were approximately 303 in attendance with all 10 Eastern Canada Area Delegates and the Alternate Delegates (except one), our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee, Richard B., our Trustee At Large for Canada, Barb K., Linda B. A.A. Grapevine Director and of course Joe D., Class B Trustee and Director of AA World Services. I am able to share with you, since I was the Treasurer for CERAASA that we are in a position to forward the original \$2,500.00 seed money to Area 81, plus any excess. Area 81 will be hosting the 2017 CERAASA in Moncton, which I am sure you will be hearing about for the next 2 years. Please plan on attending this great event.
- The following weekend, I attended the Ontario Delegate's Committee Meeting in Hamilton which was hosted by Area 86 Western Ontario. This is where the four Ontario Delegates and Alternates prepare for the upcoming Conference. Oddly enough and this does not happen very often, all 4 current Delegates have already been to last years' 64th General Service Conference. I went to the 64th Conference when I was Alternate Delegate in place of Mel C. our Panel 63 Delegate who could not attend. The 4 Delegates and Alternates have been discussing at the last 4 ODC's how we can possibly incorporated this meeting into the CERAASA when it falls within the same year. It is a financial

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burden to our Northern Areas 84 & 85, not to mention the expenses incurred by myself and our Alternate Delegate to attend both events.

- On March 7th I took part in the District 06 & District 12 Service in Recovery Day. I was asked to present on the Twelve Concepts of World Service. Although, the event was not well attended the day was very informative, especially for the 5 or so new members to service. I was so proud of the 5 area sub chairs who took part. They were all prepared with their presentations and it was evident they spent considerable time to go over their positions. I look forward to seeing more of the enthusiasm they showed.

For upcoming events I will be attending the following:

1. Invited to facilitate a group inventory on May 2, at Whitby Saturday Group
2. Booked for giving my conference report on May 24th for District 26, 28 & 86
3. Information AA Day in Toronto ON May 30th, for Districts 02, 06, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 & 22
4. Combined district service day on June 13 for Districts 42, 48 & 50
5. The next day, June 14th, I will be in Ottawa for Districts 54, 58 & 62.

I really appreciate these districts which have co-ordinated these service so close together so that I am not traveling to the same areas more than once. This was a request of mine in order to save the area travel expenses. I am sure this will make our Treasurer, Kimberly very happy.

I am looking forward to sharing with the members of Area 83 what I learned at the conference.

I have not been contact by the following districts – 30, 34, 36, 66, 70, 74, 78, 82. If you are planning a service day and would like me to attend, please contact me as soon as possible.

On a final note, please have your District Secretaries to continue sending me your district minutes. I enjoy reading what is happening in your districts. They can be sent to delegate@area83aa.org

Thank you for the opportunity to serve alcoholics anonymous and thank you for being here.

Yours In Love and Service, Joyce S., Area 83 Delegate

10. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

SUE B.

I am an Alcoholic, a member of the Parkwood Hills Group in Ottawa – West, District 62. My name is Sue B. Welcome to those of you who are new to the Area Assembly. I hope you have enjoyed yourselves so far, and that we have helped in making you feel a part of, and right at home.

All Group Change and New Group forms that I have received to date have been completed and are up to date. The email address to submit changes and new group information to the area registrar is registrar@area83aa.org. Should your Group require any of these forms, you may obtain them from your District Secretary/Registrar, or they are also available on our Area 83 website under the District Resources tab and are easily downloadable. GSR kits are usually mailed out within 2 weeks of receiving the updated group information. If this is not the case, and GSR's in your Districts have not received their GSR kits, please let me know and I will follow up for you.

This year, a new Regional Directory will be made available to the membership. It is the responsibility of area registrars to ensure this Directory is up to date. I need to have all submissions for this Directory inputted into the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) program by May 8th. Therefore, to all District Committee Members, and District Secretaries/Registrars, please ensure that I have all of your District Group changes no later than Friday, April 24th. Anything received after that date will not make it into the Directory.

The Regional Directory is a compiled listing of AA contacts for people who are travelling. The GSR and Alt/GSR who have given permission, are listed in this Directory. The Directory is usually made available sometime in July. This Directory can be ordered from the General Service Office by calling them directly (212-870-3400), by visiting their website, or, if it is available, from your Intergroup Literature Office.

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To all District Committee Members - in the District folders in the Atrium, I have placed a printed copy of all Active and Unknown groups in your folders. I kindly ask that you please confirm all members' names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses; to also cross-reference the Unknown Groups to validate accuracy. Many Unknown groups may still be active, however do not have a GSR, Alt/GSR, or a member listed for mail contact. For the GSO, all a group requires is just one of the positions mentioned above to be filled, along with the members name and full mailing address. To ensure groups receive mailings from GSO, and with the Directory deadline fast approaching, please review these lists and send me Group Information Change forms with the **edits/changes only** no later than **Friday, April 24th**.

A few things before I call the roll call. Great consideration is given to the vote and ensuring that those who are entitled to vote, are given that right. There is only one vote per Group allowed.

As per the Area's Operating Procedures, please note the following as to who votes:

- All members of the Area Assembly, **except** the Area Chairperson, shall be eligible to vote on all matters brought before the Area Assembly.
- If a General Service Representative is absent from a meeting of the Assembly, the Alternate may vote.
- If both are absent another member of the same group may vote.
- If a District Committee Member is absent from a meeting of the Assembly, the Alternate may vote.

In closing, I would like to thank District 36-Kingston and the Islands, for all their help this weekend. It has been greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your trust in me, and with the opportunity to serve Area 83.

Yours in Love and Grateful Service, Sue B., Area 83 Registrar

**We now reach Item 11, Old Business. At this point, I recommend going to 2/3 majority.
May I have a motion to that effect**

Moved: Bill H., General Service Representative for the Whitby Group in District 26

Seconded: Patrick G., District Committee Member for District 62

Motion: **Carried**

11. OLD BUSINESS

We do not have any old business carried over from the Fall.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12(a) Auditors Report

Tom L., DCM District 28

The Operating Procedures for Area 83 require that the Current Treasurer and auditors approved by the Area Committee shall audit the previous term's financial documents.

The audit that took place on February 1, 2015 where we reviewed the documents for the years 2013 and 2014. The purpose of the review is to satisfy ourselves and to be accountable to Area 83 members that the revenues and expenses reported have been recorded properly and that they balance, and that there were no major discrepancies in these practices.

Specifically the Audit committee reviews the financial documents from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014 in order to evaluate:

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

- 1) Completeness and accuracy of the recorded transactions,
- 2) Completeness and accuracy of the reporting,
- 3) that all recommendations from previous audit Review Committees were implemented.

Each of the committee members reviewed an entire month's transactions from each year, covering 6 of the 24 months in the term. The months chosen were selected to reflect various types of situations: a month with an Assembly, a month with an Area Committee meeting and the last month at random. During this process; large items like GSO Assessments, Ontario Delegate's conference expenses, Ambassador Hotel bills, and Grapevine seasonals were reviewed. We reviewed October June, July, and October of 2013 and March, April, July and November of 2014.

Bank reconciliations were review with income items traced back to bank deposits and to group and district contribution files. Expenses in a given month were reviewed and traced back to the Area 83 cheque register.

The expenses for the following trusted servants were reviewed for accuracy. in the year 2013 Delegate, Alternate Delegate, CPC, Archivist, Registrar and all submitted expenses for the Service Information Day committee.

For 2014 the expenses for the Secretary, PI, Corrections, Treasurer, Webmaster, Grapevine, and Immediate Past Delegate were reviewed.

To the best of the Audit Committee's ability, all available records were reviewed and found to be in order, with no major discrepancies noted.

The only recommendation that the committee has is to remind subcommittee chairs and officers to include all receipts for expenses claimed with their expense sheet. On a few occasions, receipts were not submitted with the expense claim. Double check the calculations prior to submitting claims to the treasurer, in a few instances the claims were off by as much as 2 dollars!

Kimberley M. Area 83 Treasurer, Amy L., District Committee Member for District 26, Tom L., District Committee Member for District 28

Would someone like to make a motion to accept the Auditors report as presented?

Moved: Marty M., District Committee Member for District 10
Seconded: Don M., District Committee Member for District 14
Vote In favour, unanimous
Motion: Carried

12(b) 2015 Financial Guidelines

Kimberly M., Area 83 Treasurer

The purpose of the proposed spending guidelines is simply to give us a rough idea of what the expenses for the year might be, and the income required to carry out the services provided by Area 83. Some actual amounts will turn out to be higher than the guideline, and some lower. Predicting expenses is difficult because of several factors.

Typically, the proposed guideline has been forecasted using the average expenses of the past 4 years. This was also what I used as a starting point. I made some adjustments based on last year's actual amounts.

The GSO full assessment is estimated to be \$7500 US which works out to be approximately \$9562.50 at a recent exchange rate. Assuming we are able to pay the full amount by the end of the year, the actual amount will depend on the exchange rate at the time of payment.

Grapevine Seasonals also appears at the top of the page under income. These values may vary slightly because the grapevine chair must determine costs for pocket planners and calendars months before the payment is made to Grapevine Inc. In that time the exchange rate can change drastically as happened last year.

Under Fall and Spring Assembly, looking across to Miscellaneous is the amounts for the projectors and AV equipment used this weekend, for the set up of this room and for the Archives Room.

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Accommodation, meals and travel for the various positions is very difficult to predict accurately so these are just a guestimate. Some actuals will surely be higher and others lower. Some districts may absorb some of these costs by financially supporting Area Officer and Committee Chairs that they invite to service days etc.

Back to page 1 under income, beside Contributions is an amount that is NOT based on the 4 year average. The amount here is the Contributions from groups and districts that would be required to cover the proposed amounts to effectively carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic throughout Area 83.

Chairperson: Yours in love and service, Kimberley M., Area 83 Treasurer

Would someone like to make a motion to accept the Financial Guidelines as presented?

Moved: Peter N., General Service Representative for Bayview Group in District 14

Seconded: Sean K., District Committee Member for District 12

Discussion: Steve S. of District 6 highlighted that operating funds have declined by some 45% over the last 4-5 years and thought that showing GSO contribution of \$5- 6k less would reduce contributions and it would be more prudent to show GSO assessment less.

Vote: More than 2/3 in favour, 5 opposed, 0 abstained.

Motion: **Carried**

12(c) Destruction of 2011/2012 financial records.

Kimberly M., Area 83 Treasurer

In the past it has been the practice of Area 83 to destroy the financial records of the Area after each Audit has been completed when there are no major issues arising. It is impractical and unnecessary to store these boxes when each Treasurer will state that they are never looked at again.

It is important to keep the immediate past terms financial records for reference in case a situation should arise. It is also important to note that even though the Treasurer's financial records are destroyed, the Area still has the financial reference in each set of minutes since its inception.

Yours in Love & Service, Kimberley M., Area 83 Treasurer

Moved: Kimberly M., Area 83 Secretary

Seconded: Wendy E., District Committee Member for District 50

Vote **In favour, unanimous**

Motion: **Carried**

12(d) Recommended by the Area Committee to accept the three recommendations as presented by the Ad-Hoch Committee on the Service Information Day Guidelines.

Robb W., Ad Hoch Committee Chair

Robb W. read the report verbatim (attached).

Discussion: Robert B. Area 83 Corrections Chair will be voting against the motion as he does not like the idea of changing the workshops in any way. These workshops have been successful for many years. Ray R., District Committee Member for District 2 suggested a Workshop on Service Information Day would be a good idea. Michel D., acting as District Committee Member for District 58 would be voting against the motion as the District Committee Members would be paid for attending the Workshop by their District. James O., Self Support Chair asked for clarification on how Area Assembly paid for the Service Information Day Chair in the past. Herb W., part of the Ad Hoc Committee, gave clarification that some Districts might not be able to pay for the Service Information Day Chair expenses. Kim S., Alternate Delegate, explained the reason why the committee was set up was to make it clear that the Service Information Day Chair would be reimbursed for attendance on the Friday and Saturday nights if their District were not doing so. Arwen H., General Service Representative for the Welcome Group in District 10 asked why the 3 recommendations were being presented all at once and not individually and asked for a friendly amendment. Linda D., who made the original motion, agreed.

Being voted on one at a time:

Area Assembly March 29, 2015

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

1. **The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the Area Committee** that the following line be added to the section “Friday night open meeting” on page 3 of Appendix Two; *“When selecting a speaker for the Friday night open meeting, it is suggested that no sitting member of the Area Committee be chosen so as not to give any implied advantage to anyone with regards to upcoming elections at the end of the term.”*

Vote: Overwhelming majority in favour, none opposed, 1 abstained

Motion: Carried

2. **The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the Area Committee** that the following line be added to the first point in the section “Spending Guidelines” on page 6 of Appendix Two; *“As each committee member is also serving as a District Committee Member for his or her District, it is expected that the District will reimburse any other reasonable expenses for attending the Area Assembly.”*

Vote: Overwhelming majority in favour, 5 opposed, 8 abstained

Voice of the minority spoke

No change in voting

Motion: Carried

3. **The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the Area Committee** that the following point be added to the section “Spending Guidelines” on page 6 of Appendix Two; *“The Chairperson of the Service Information Day Committee will be entitled to be reimbursed for their room Friday and Saturday night as well as meals for Friday night and Saturday. The Area Chairperson will manage the room reservation as part of their responsibility.”*

Vote: More than 2/3 in favour, 1 opposed, 8 abstained.

Voice of the minority – none spoke.

Motion: Carried

12-e) Discuss Area 83 involvement in the Eastern Canadian hospitality suite at the 2015 International Convention in

Atlanta

Joyce S., Area 83 Delegate

Joyce S. presented for discussion a request made by Michael C., the Coordinator of the Canadian Eastern Region Hospitality Suite, for a united Eastern Canada approach at the Conference with 5,000 buttons and a 2 x 6 foot banner for the Hospitality Suite. He has a quote for the cost of the buttons of \$1,369.00 Canadian (including HST and shipping) and \$888.70 Canadian for the banner. Joyce is requesting input on this concept. Michael identified some areas are offering up to \$250 U.S., some \$400 U.S. and one area \$150 U.S. Would Area 83 like to contribute? Michael is asking \$250 U.S. from our Area (approximately \$350 Canadian). Joyce was asked to present this to Area 83 for informational purposes.

12-f) New Business Added From The Floor

Moved, **“That Area 83 send \$250.00 U.S. to support the Eastern Canada Region endeavor to purchase buttons and banner for the 2015 International Conference.”** by James O., Area 83 Self Support Chair; Seconded by Debby H., General Service Representative for Saturday Night Group, District 66.

Discussion: Friendly amendment to pay for one tenth the actual costs of buttons and banner. Declined.
Friendly amendment to have an anonymous AA member pay \$125 U.S. towards the buttons and banner and Area 83 pay the other \$125 U.S. Declined.
Peter N., General Service Representative for the Bayview Group in District 14 mentioned the cost involves approximately \$1.25 to \$1.50 per group in the Area and suggested the trusted servants could vote on this.

Motion to call the question:

Moved: Lizo M., General Service Representative for the Love and Tolerance Group, District 10.

Seconded: Linda D., Area 83 Archives Chair

Vote: 154 in favour, 13 opposed.

Question called

Vote on Motion:

Vote: 131 in favour, 36 opposed, 2 abstained.

Motion: Passed

Voice of the Minority spoke

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Motion to Reconsider:

Moved: Angus M., representing District Committee Member, District 22
Seconded: Kate W., General Service Representative for Second Chance Group, District 36.
Vote: 105 in favour, 33 opposed, 4 abstained.

Motion to reconsider: Passed

James O., Area 83 Self Support Chair; made a friendly amendment to change the motion to \$250.00 Canadian dollars, seconded by Debby H., General Service Representative for Saturday Night Group, District 66.

Discussion: Friendly amendment to change the dollar amount to \$140.00 Canadian declined.
James O., who made the initial motion, made a friendly amendment to change the motion to \$250.00 Canadian dollars, seconded by Debby H., General Service Representative for Saturday Night Group, District 66. Accepted.
Friendly amendment to change the motion to pay for one tenth the actual costs of buttons and banner in Canadian Dollars. Declined.
Peter N. highlighted the 'healthy' nature of our Area. Steve S. highlighted the time spent in talking about \$250.00.

Motion to call the question:

Moved: Sharon Y., General Service Representative for 12 x 12 To Serenity Group in District 66.
Seconded: Barbara C., General Service Representative for Barrys Bay in District 78.
Vote: More than 2/3 in favour; 7 opposed; 1 abstained

Vote on Motion.

Vote: 99 in favour, 53 opposed, 8 abstained

Motion: **Not carried**
Voice of the minority spoke

Motion: **Defeated.**

Moved, "That Area 83 give \$150.00 Canadian for making the buttons and banner to support the Eastern Canada Region endeavor." by Michel D., acting District Committee Member for District 58; Seconded by Leslie S., General Service Representative for the Glenhome Group in District 12.

Discussion: Friendly amendment to pay for up to \$250.00 Canadian expecting accountability for funds expensed. Accepted.

Motion to call the question:

Moved: Dave T., General Service Representative for New Hope Group in District 66.
Seconded: Sean K., District Committee Member for District 12
Vote: Over 2/3 majority in favour; 3 opposed.
Motion: **Passed**

Vote: 106 in favour, 18 opposed, 6 abstained
Voice of the Minority spoke.
Motion: **Carried**

No other new business from the floor.

On January 31st, 2015 a call letter to fill the vacant appointed position of Alternate webmaster was sent out to all Area Committee members and all District Committee members. Anyone interested in filling this position can email me at chairperson@area83aa.org to receive more information. All resumes must be received by May 15th 2015.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

13. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

A number of items were presented for the benefit of AA.

14. DATE AND PLACE OF THE FALL ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE DAY

As Chairperson, I would recommend the next Assembly be held October 23rd, 24th, and 25th, 2015 here at the Ambassador hotel in Kingston. Would someone like to make a motion to accept these dates for our Fall Assembly?

Moved: Bill B., General Service Representative for the Cobourg Group in District 30
Seconded: Johnathan C. from the Fellowship Group in District 22.
Vote: Over 2/3 majority, no opposed, 1 abstained.
Discussion: None
Motion: Carried

15. CLOSING

I would like to thank everyone for staying and especially to those who volunteered to help make this weekend amazing.

AS A REMINDER - Our next Area Committee Meeting is in **QUINTE WEST at Westminster United Church on June 6, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.**

Have a safe drive home and I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly.

Chair called for a motion to close the Assembly:

Moved: Barbara C., General Service Representative for Barrys Bay in District 78
Seconded: Tom L., District Committee Member for District 28
Discussion: None
Vote: In favour, unanimous
Motion: Carried

CLOSE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION:

Meeting was closed at 4:07 pm with the Responsibility Declaration...

I AM RESPONSIBLE.....

**When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that
I am Responsible**

Appendix A – Financial Reports

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83 AS OF: March 11, 2015

RESERVE ACCOUNT		Actual
January 1, 2015 Opening Balance		20,000.00
Interest		
Transfer to Operating Account		0.00
RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE		20,000.00

INCOME		
7th Tradition		224.40
Cost Recoveries		0.00
Flow Through to GSO		0.00
Grapevine Seasonals		
Group & District Contributions		8,979.82
	TOTAL INCOME	9,204.22
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		9,204.22

EXPENSES		
Accommodations		0.00
Meals		10.00
Travel		1,130.85
Long Distance		0.00
Postage		124.51
Printing		280.73
Literature		0.00
Stationery		0.00
Miscellaneous		1,119.85
Area Web Site		0.00
	Total Committee Expenses	2,665.94
Ad Hoc Committees		0.00
Area Contribution to GSO		0.00
Area Committee Meetings		291.65
General Service Conf. Assessment		2,557.50
Bank Service Charges		0.00
Forums		0.00
CERAASA		378.70
Grapevine Seasonal		0.00
GSO Flow Through		0.00
Ontario Delegate's Conference		413.36
	Total Other Expenses	3,641.21
TOTAL EXPENSES		6,307.15

OPERATING ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2015		18,927.31
Total Income & Transfers		9,204.22
Total Expenses		-6,307.15
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE		21,824.38

Alcoholics Anonymous — Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Annual Guideline	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
Delegate	0.00	0.00	66.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.50	3590.00	3523.50	1.85%
Alt. Delegate	0.00	0.00	66.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.50	2080.00	2013.50	3.20%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	970.00	970.00	0.00%
Chairperson	0.00	0.00	96.60	0.00	0.00	43.44	0.00	0.00	198.35	338.39	1070.00	731.61	31.63%
Secretary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2090.00	2090.00	0.00%
Treasurer	0.00	0.00	105.70	0.00	124.51	169.50	0.00	0.00	86.81	486.52	1540.00	1053.48	31.59%
Registrar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	67.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	67.79	1390.00	1322.21	4.88%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	0.00	10.00	147.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	157.00	1710.00	1553.00	9.18%
Archivist	0.00	0.00	65.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.80	1640.00	1574.20	4.01%
Archivist	0.00	0.00	199.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	199.50	2060.00	1860.50	9.68%
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1310.00	1310.00	0.00%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	0.00	124.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	124.25	1530.00	1405.75	8.12%
Grapevine	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1010.00	1010.00	0.00%
Public Information	0.00	0.00	127.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	127.40	1360.00	1232.60	9.37%
Self Support	0.00	0.00	131.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	131.60	1310.00	1178.40	10.05%
Treatment Facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1260.00	1260.00	0.00%
Service Info Day Cmte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	834.69	834.69	3230.00	2395.31	25.84%
Spring Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7300.00	7300.00	0.00%
Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7300.00	7300.00	0.00%
COMMITTEE EXP.	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 1,130.85	\$ -	\$ 124.51	\$ 280.73	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,119.85	\$ 2,665.94	\$ 43,750.00	\$ 41,084.06	6.09%
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15.00	15.00	0.00%
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	291.65	291.65	900.00	608.35	32.41%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250.00	250.00	0.00%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,840.00	1,840.00	0.00%
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	378.70	378.70	0.00%
CERAASA	227.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	151.00	378.70	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,558.48	4,000.98	39.00%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00%
GSO Flow Through	291.54	47.12	56.70	-	-	-	-	-	18.00	413.36	4,779.93	4,366.57	8.65%
Ont Delegates Conf.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 519.24	\$ 47.12	\$ 56.70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 460.65	\$ 3,641.21	\$ 19,843.41	\$ 16,580.90	18.35%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 519.24	\$ 57.12	\$ 1,187.55	\$ -	\$ 124.51	\$ 280.73	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,580.50	\$ 6,307.15	\$ 63,593.41	\$ 57,664.96	9.92%

March 11, 2015				Change
		YTD 2015	YTD 2014	
Income To Date		9,204.22	10,139.27	(935.05)
Expenses To Date		6,307.15	14,330.00	(8,022.85)
Net Change To Operating Account		\$ 2,897.07	\$ 4,190.73	\$ 7,087.80
		Contributions	\$9,462.82	-\$483.00
		Contributing Groups	49	0
		Contributing Districts	8	-4

Income Summary	
March 11, 2015	
7th Tradition	224.40
Bank Interest	-
GSO Flow thro.	-
Contributions	8,979.82
Cost recoveries	-
Grapevine Seat	-
Total Income	\$ 9,204.22

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

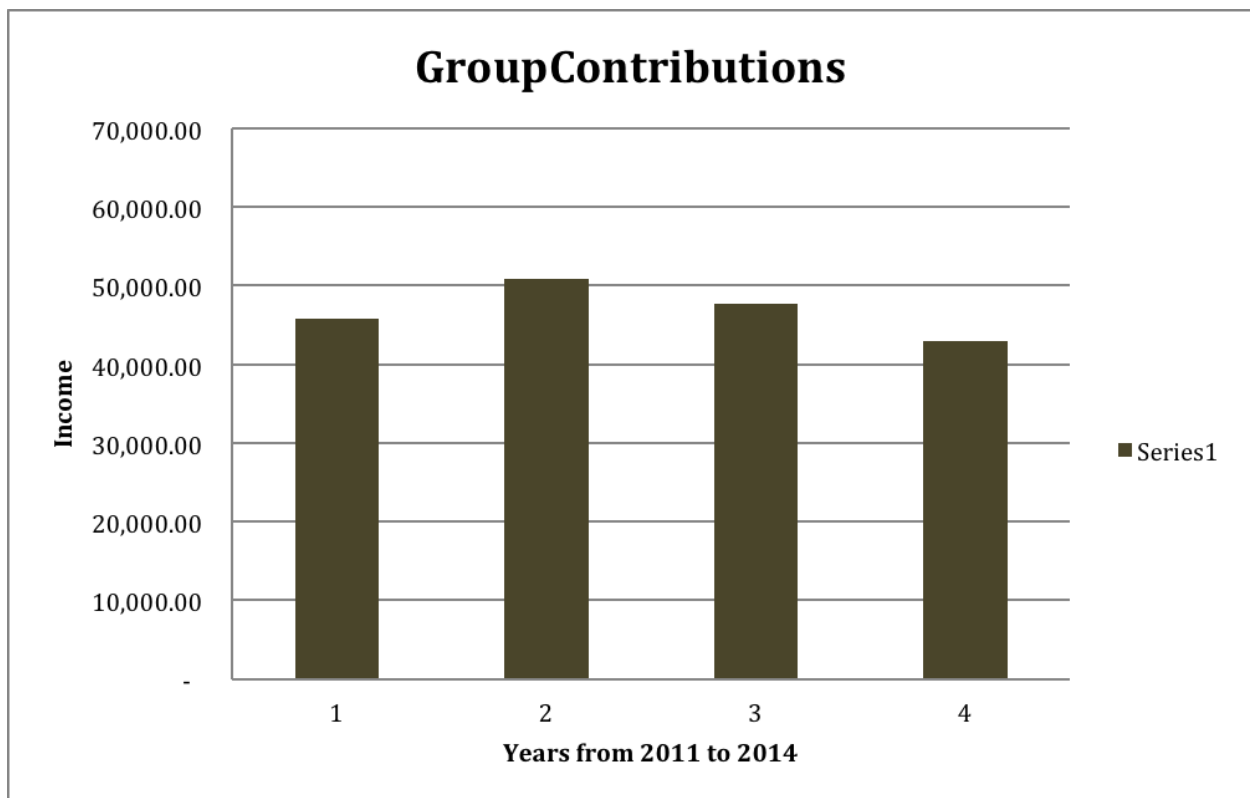
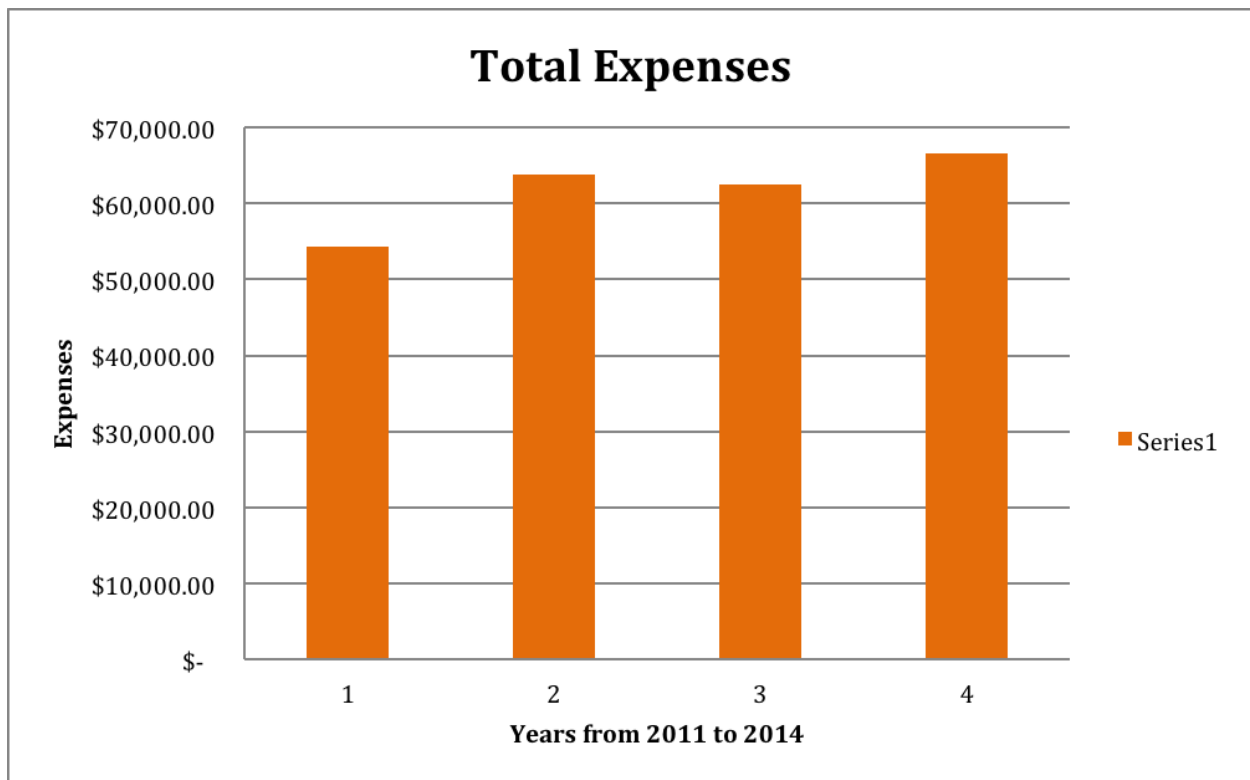
GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS AS OF March 11 , 2015

District	00	Unspecified	\$0.00
District	02	Malton	\$1,041.43
District	06	Mississauga	\$425.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$600.00
District	12	Toronto South West	\$109.50
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,375.00
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$0.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$55.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$610.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$609.19
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$683.01
District	30	Quinte West	\$350.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$400.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$350.00
District	38	Thousand Islands	\$0.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$92.02
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$0.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$0.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$100.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$98.15
District	62	Ottawa West	\$457.00
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$850.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$0.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$280.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$150.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$275.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$69.52

Total Contributions YTD: \$8,979.82

Total from Groups	\$7,526.87	49	
Total from Districts	\$1,452.95	4	Groups Contributing Districts Contributing

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International



Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Appendix B – Proposed Spending Guidelines

Eastern Ontario International Area 83 2015 Proposed Spending Guidelines Summary

Income	2015 PSG	2014 Actual
7th Tradition	5,800.00	5,687.51
Bank Interest	-	936.13
Cost Recoveries	500.00	226.00
Grapevine Seasonals	4,500.00	4,274.60
Contributions From Groups And Districts	53,491.99	42,995.57
GSO Flow Through	1,000.00	905.00
Total Income	\$ 65,291.99	\$ 55,024.81

Expenses	2015 PSG	2014 Actual
Accommodation	9,185.00	8,920.12
Meals	13,680.00	11,888.63
Travel	15,750.00	16,694.27
Long Distance	50.00	48.80
Postage	300.00	275.64
Printing	2,345.00	2,650.34
Literature	1,200.00	1,426.82
Stationery	230.00	119.78
Miscellaneous	4,390.00	5,182.82
Total Committee Expenses	\$ 47,130.00	\$ 47,207.22
Adhoc Committees	300.00	-
Area Committee	950.00	1,402.33
GSO Contribution	-	-
Bank Charges	250.00	389.49
CERAASA	689.51	726.47
GSO Assessment	9,562.50	6,558.48
GSO Flow Through	1,000.00	905.00
Ontario Delegates Conference	909.98	4,659.93
Grapevine Seasonals	4,500.00	4,680.47
Total Other Expenses	\$ 18,161.99	\$ 19,322.17
Total Expenses	\$ 65,291.99	\$ 66,529.39
Net Change To Operating Account	\$ -	\$ (11,504.58)

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Appendix C – Spring Assembly Tally

District	DCM	Alt-DCM	Comm	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Delegation	Total Groups Attending	Total Votes	Total Groups in District
02	1	1	4	6	1	0	10	6	7	22
06	1	1	5	20	3	8	34	22	23	35
10	1	1	1	9	0	1	12	9	10	22
12	1	1	3	4	2	1	12	6	7	20
14	0	1	1	12	2	3	19	14	15	32
16	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	1	2	9
18	1	1	5	5	2	3	14	6	7	24
22	1	1	5	11	5	4	23	12	13	20
26	1	1	2	8	1	0	13	8	9	23
28	1	1	5	6	2	0	15	8	9	24
30	1	0	3	8	2	0	15	8	9	16
34	1	1	3	9	2	4	18	10	11	35
36	0	1	3	12	3	16	35	13	14	18
38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
42	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	30
48	1	1	2	5	0	0	8	6	7	17
50	1	0	1	2	2	3	8	4	5	13
54	0	1	0	3	2	1	7	4	5	22
58	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	2	3	33
62	1	1	4	20	7	11	44	25	26	50
66	1	1	1	8	4	9	23	10	11	30
70	1	0	3	5	3	2	11	5	6	19
74	0	0	1	4	1	2	8	5	5	17
78	0	0	1	2	0	1	3	2	2	6
82	1	0	1	4	1	2	8	4	5	21
86	1	1	4	12	3	8	27	13	14	24
CF				3	1	0	4	3	3	13
ALL	19	16	59	181	50	80	378	207	229	600
Area Committee							15		14	
Appointed Positions/Past Delegates/Visitors						3	8		1	
Total	19	16	59	181	50	83	401	207	244	600
Oct. 2013	21	16	52	187	38	94	411	212	246	608
Mar. 2013	21	15	75	163	45	111	411	204	239	600
Oct. 2012	24	18	55	188	63	114	449	237	272	599
Mar. 2012	24	18	77	173	51	113	422	231	269	

Alternate GSR without a GSR registered under the same group is counted as the GSR

Committee Column is for Committee Chairs only

District Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, Conference Chair or Accessibility Chairs are not counted under Committee Column.

They are included under the total delegation column.

Those positions should also include their home group.

Appendix D- Ad Hoc Committee Report

Good afternoon, I am an alcoholic and my name is Robb W. I am a member of the Harmony group in Hamilton and I have had the honour of serving Area 83 as its panel 61 delegate.

On November 19th, 2013 the Area Chair, Kim S., struck an ad hoc committee to review the Area Service Information Day Guidelines. The committee consisted of Herb W., Area Public Information Chair; Rob M., Area Treasurer; and myself as chair. The scope of the committee, as outlined in the November 17th email from the Area Chair was: "To make an assessment of and recommendations around Area 83 Eastern Ontario International Service Information Day Guidelines as they apply to our Service Information Day at our Area Assemblies"

The term "Guideline" as defined by Merriam Webster is "a rule or instruction that shows or tells how something should be done". Concept X states that "Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority". It is this concept that gives the Service Information Day Committee the authority to suggest and schedule the workshops and/or presentations for the Service Information Day. This authority is vested in the committee of 6 DCM's when elected in at the first January Area Committee Meeting of each term.

Your Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the current Guidelines for the Service Information Day Committee with these two ideas in mind. The Committee reviewed the current guidelines and felt that, on the whole, they provide excellent direction for a new Committee just beginning their term as well as continuing guidance over the four Service Days during their term.

While it is expected that DCM's who choose to let their name stand for election to the Service Information Day Committee will have a good understanding of the duties and responsibilities of the Service Information Day Committee, ***the ad hoc committee suggests to the Area Committee*** that the Area Secretary prepare printed copies of the Service Information Day Committee Guidelines for the first Area Committee Meeting of the term in order that the new Service Information Day Committee members receive a copy as soon as they are elected.

These guidelines have been in use in our Area since January 5, 2002. The recommendations in this report are not time sensitive and, if passed today, should be put on the agenda for the Spring Assembly.

Your Ad Hoc Committee, after meeting a number of times and discussing the Service Information Day Guidelines, respectfully makes the following three recommendations:

14. **The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the Area Committee** that the following line be added to the section "Friday night open meeting" on page 3 of Appendix Two; *"When selecting a speaker for the Friday night open meeting, it is suggested that no sitting member of the Area Committee be chosen so as not to give any implied advantage to anyone with regards to upcoming elections at the end of the term."*
15. **The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the Area Committee** that the following line be added to the first point in the section "Spending Guidelines" on page 6 of Appendix Two; *"As each committee member is also serving as a District Committee Member for his or her District, it is expected that the District will reimburse any other reasonable expenses for attending the Area Assembly."*
16. **The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the Area Committee** that the following point be added to the section "Spending Guidelines" on page 6 of Appendix Two; *"The Chairperson of the Service Information Day Committee will be entitled to be reimbursed for their room Friday and Saturday night as well as meals for Friday night and Saturday. The Area Chairperson will manage the room reservation as part of their responsibility."*

Your Ad Hoc Committee would also like to put forth two additional considerations:

1. **Should the Area make the decision to officially designate each Spring Assembly as a "Pre-Conference Assembly"**, the following wording be added to the section "Workshops/Presentations" on page 4 of Appendix Two; *"As the Spring Assembly has been designated a pre-conference assembly, workshops that are presented by the different*

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Area Sub-Committee Chairs shall focus on issues that Alcoholics Anonymous will be addressing at the upcoming General Service Conference. Any “alternate” workshops shall be informational workshops that deal with General Service and/or the General Service Conference specifically.” or words to that effect.

2. **In the interests of passing on shared experience**, the Area Committee should explore ways to pass on the shared experience of past Service Information Day Committee members to the incoming Service Information Day Committee. Some suggestions might be a Service Information Day workshop at the last assembly of the term or a portion of the DCM workshop be dedicated to the responsibilities of the Service Information Day Committee.

On behalf of Herb, Rob and myself, I would like to thank our Area Chairperson for the opportunity to serve the Area in this capacity.

Yours in Service, Robb W., Herb W., Rob M.