

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Area Assembly Minutes

October 25, 2015



Alcoholics Anonymous Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Table of Contents

1.	Opening.....	1
2.	REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA.....	5
3.	REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF Spring Assembly – March 29, 2015.....	6
4.	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS (Sequence of reports to be drawn from the hat).....	6
	District 02 Malton.....	6
	District 06 Mississauga.....	6
	District 10 Toronto South Central.....	7
	District 12 Toronto South West.....	7
	District 14 Toronto North Central.....	7
	District 16 Distrito Hispano de Toronto.....	8
	District 18 Toronto City East.....	8
	District 22 Scarborough.....	9
	District 26 Lakeshore West.....	9
	District 28 Lakeshore East.....	10
	District 30 Quinte West.....	10
	District 34 Quinte East.....	10
	District 36 Kingston & the Islands.....	10
	District 42 St. Lawrence International.....	11
	District 48 Seaway Valley North.....	12
	District 50 Cornwall.....	12
	District 54 Ottawa Rideau.....	12
	District 58 Ottawa Bytown.....	12
	District 62 Ottawa West.....	13
	District 66 Golden Triangle.....	13
	District 70 Renfrew Pontiac.....	13
	District 74 Pembroke.....	14
	District 78 Madawaska Valley.....	14
	District 82 Victoria Haliburton.....	14
	District 86 Kawartha.....	14
5.	COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS	
	a. Public Information Elaine H	15
	b. Cooperation With The Professional Community Gary C	16
	c. Corrections Report Robert B	16
	d. Treatment/ Accessibility Herb W	17
	e. Grapevine Report Jim A	17
	f. Self-support James O	19
	g. Archives Report Linda D	20
	h. Service Information Day Ray R	21

Area Assembly October 25, 2015



Alcoholics Anonymous **Area 83 Eastern Ontario International**

6. TREASURER'S REPORT	Kimberly M	21
7. SECRETARY'S REPORT	Dan N	23
8. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT	Kim S	23
9. DELEGATE'S REPORT	Joyce S	24
10. REGISTRAR'S REPORT	Sue B	25
11. OLD BUSINESS.....		27
12. NEW BUSINESS.....		27
12-a) Report from Ad-Hoc Committee on Area Inventory		
Patrick G., DCM District 62		27
12-b) Interim Election of Area 83 Secretary for the 2015- 2016 Term		
Robb W., Panel 61 Delegate		27
12-c) Motion "To enable on-line contributions on Area website"		
James O., Self Support Chair		27
12-d) Motion "To have Assembly Scent Free"		
Wendy E., DCM District 50		28
12-e) Motion "To add words 'Special Needs' to precede Accessibilities		
to the current title Treatment/ Accessibility		
Herb W., Treatment/ Accessibility Chair.....		28
13. SHARING TIME – WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?.....		28
14. NEXT AREA ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE DAY		29
15. CLOSING		29
Appendix A - Financial Reports	Kimberly M.	30
Appendix B – Area 83 Secretary Tally	Robb W.	33
Appendix C – Self Support Documents	James O.....	34

Area Assembly October 25, 2015

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Area Assembly – October 25, 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: Rob F., District 26 Treatment Chair

12 Concepts – Short Form read by: Tiffany P., Alternate GSR, Streetsville Group, District 6

Welcome everybody to the Fall 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 Luc for your wonderful talk last night.

Introduction

This is our second 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 592 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 this two year term, 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.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

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/ 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 57 Delegate	Dot D
Panel 61 Delegate	Robb W
Panel 63 Delegate	Mel C

We have with us serving in Appointed Positions:

Area Archivist	David T
Area Webmaster	Jim R

We also have with us today Luc T., Delegate Area 90 North West Quebec.

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

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

INVENTORY SURVEYS

A box has been placed on the side table to deposit your completed inventory questionnaires into.

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:

Dates for 2016

Year	Date	What	Where
2016	January 2	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2016	March 18,19,20	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2016	June 4 <i>tentative</i>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2016	Sept 10 <i>tentative</i>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2016	Oct 28, 29, 30 <i>tentative</i>	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2016	December 3 <i>tentative</i>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

The Assembly meets twice a year – Usually the last full weekend in March and October. The proposed date for the Spring 2016 Assembly will be earlier than usual because Easter falls on the last weekend in March. This afternoon we will decide on a date for the Spring Assembly. The Area committee, which is comprised of the Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, and District Committee Member's, has met three times this year and will meet four times next year in Quinte West in January, June, September and December.

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 which translates to about \$4400. At recent Assemblies the total 7th collected has been significantly less than the amount paid for refreshments. We have decided to try placing contribution cans beside the coffee urns. Contributions are absolutely voluntary. We had a Seventh Tradition Friday night, again at the speaker meeting last night and we will have another one today. 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 Member's 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.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

- ◆ 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.

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

- ◆ 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.

MAY I HAVE A MOTION TO OPERATE ON SIMPLE MAJORITY?

Moved: Linda D., Area 83 Archives Chair
Seconded: Elaine H., Public Information Chair
Discussion: None
Vote: In favour, unanimous
Motion: Carried

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

There are two items to be addressed under New Business

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| a) Report from Ad-Hoc Committee on Area Inventory | Patrick G.
DCM District 62 |
| b) Interim Election of Area 83 Secretary
for the 2015–2016 Term | Robb W.
Panel 61 Delegate |

NEW BUSINESS ADDED FROM THE FLOOR

Are there any items to be added from the floor-

- | | |
|---|---|
| c) Motion "To enable on-line contributions on Area website" | James O., Self Support Chair |
| d) Motion "To have Area 83 Assembly Scent Free Male and Female" | Wendy E., DCM for District 50 |
| e) Motion "To add 'Special Needs' to precede Accessibility to the current title Treatment/ Accessibility" | Herb W., Treatment/ Accessibility Chair |

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA

Moved: Don McP., District Committee Member for District 14
Seconded: Eddie G., District Committee Member for District 22
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.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF THE SRING ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY MARCH 29TH, 2015

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: Sean K., District Committee Member for District 12

Seconded: Amy L., District Committee Member for District 26

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're 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 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 is 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 Group, I am an alcoholic and my name is Chris. It is an honour and privilege to serve District 6 as its Panel 65 DCM.

I am pleased to report that our recent fall roundup was a success. Thank you to the roundup committee for another great day of fellowship. The District also co-sponsored an event with TOYPAA, the Toronto Ontario Young Persons in AA. It was a first time event and proved to a good day of fellowship. The District looks forward to co-sponsoring this event in future.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

After a period difficulty attaining quorum for district meetings late last year. I am pleased to announce that attendance has returned to its historic levels since March.

In attendance at our October district meeting were Kimberley M, Area Treasurer and Rob M, Area Chair and immediate Past Treasurer. Discussion centered around the guidelines process at Area. Many district GSR's expressed thanks for clarification of the process and Kimberley and Rob agreed that a four year average for revenues as well as for expenses should be considered.

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

District 10 - Toronto South Central

Good afternoon everyone, I'm a grateful alcoholic member of the Mount Royal group and I am privileged to serve as committee member for District 10; my name is Marty. This year began with all of our key positions filled, however, personal circumstances have resulted in some of our table members having to step down. The position of Alternate DCM and most recently Treatment chair became vacant. This was very short lived though, and thankfully some like-minded, service driven members did in fact rise to the occasion. I'm happy to announce that these positions were easily filled. The next rather unfortunate is finances. We are covering our expenses, but not much more than that. We have made small contributions to Area and GSO leaving us with our prudent reserve. Our GSR's have delivered this message to their groups and things are starting now to turn around.

On a more positive note, our round-up committee is still actively planning for District 10's annual event to be held on Saturday November 21st at 'The 519' Centre. This year's theme is '**Celebrating Diversity in AA**', we are excited to have Joe D come and share his experience on how G.S.O has embraced Diversity in the fellowship. Our District meeting attendance has been up and down lately, during the summer months; 50 to 60% and now were up to 75% of the 21 groups represented.

All in all; I am still very happy to call South Central Toronto AA my home.

I am truly blessed for this opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

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 have excellent representation for almost all of the Groups in our District. There are 13 active out of the 17 total groups in the District. The active Groups have both there GSR's and most of their alternates in attendance at the table. Most of our sub-committee chairs are filled with the exception of Archives, Grapevine and C.P.C. I'm quite sure they will be filled in short order. Our Finances are improving and we are in a good position to send funds to both the Area and to the General Service Office. 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

Our Officers and Sub-Committee Chairs are attending their meetings at GTA Intergroup. The York Regional Police literature program is running well and we are fulfilling our other service commitments. We had attendance of approximately two-thirds of our active groups at our most recent District meeting.

In July, District 14 was able to send on \$1,000 to Area and an equal sum to GSO. In addition we were able to fund our new Archive Chair, Rick O's attendance at an International Archives Conference held in Ohio earlier this month. On the Self-Support side, our balance remains healthy thanks to the contributions from our Groups' 12-Step cans and our Self Support Chair Karen C. has been able to co-ordinate these funds to purchase literature for our committees.

We have been able to recruit Ron S. as our full time registrar and fill the positions of Archives with Rick O. and Access-Ability with Jai Jot L., however our Grapevine Chair Paul L. has moved out of the Area, and we are actively seeking a replacement. Public Information Chair Will H. and CPC Chair Diane M. have a busy slate of activities in the coming months, carrying the AA message at Catholic Schools and Medical Conferences respectively.

District Treatment Chair Michael O. has informed us that we will no longer be chairing the Gift of Life Meeting as it has a new home in District 2. He added that the issue AA groups have had to deal with regarding Liability Insurance will soon be coming to District based on a request of at least on hospital for such coverage.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Our Corrections Chair Jake E., has been busy assisting with coordinating volunteers for meetings at O.C.I. and other institutions and has also been encouraging volunteers for the Bridging The Gap Program.

Our Liaison Pauline S. is attending the monthly meetings at GTA Intergroup. Our Secretary Des D. does a great job putting our minutes together and circulating them to District and Area. Our Treasurer Dennis F. ensures our bills are paid and that we keep up with periodic contributions to Area and GSO, when funds on hand permit.

Sandra M. our T.O.Y.P.A.A. liaison has reported on the exciting developments in the world of the younger members of our program, including their recent Conference held in Toronto. She stresses the need for more seasoned members of A.A. to volunteer to help on T.O.Y.P.A.A. Committee as they will always welcome the experience.

On October 4, I attended the 4th Annual Georgina Archives Brunch held in Keswick. Thanks to the organizers, including our Alternate DCM Dave B. who co-chaired, and to long-timer Ben who spoke. It was a special day full of heartfelt shares from local members and an insight into the history of A.A. in that region.

On October 17, District 14 held it's annual Service Workshop in Thornhill. While attendance was a little low, those who made it were treated to some eloquent service sharing from each of our District Committee Chairs and an inspiring talk from our Keynote Speaker, Area 83 Delegate Joyce S. Thanks to Alt. DCM David B. for organizing and chairing this event.

Finally, I would like to pass on our collective thanks to outgoing Area Secretary Dan N. He has done a great job of keeping us informed of all the Area information that we in turn pass on to our District Committee Chairs and Groups. We wish him well in this new chapter of his life.

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

District 16 - Distrito Hispano de Toronto

Good morning everyone attending area 83 assembly. My name is Cesar I am an alcoholic. I am a proud member of group UNIDAD and DCM of district 16 Linguistic district (Spanish language). Our district represents seven Spanish groups in the greater Toronto area and one more Spanish speaking group from Kitchener Distinct Amanecer. But most groups provide financial support to the district 16.

At the moment we have blessed with four GSRs. There are three committees up and running, CPC committee, la Vina, and Archives. La vina committee is ordering 30 vinas every two months we try to order through the Area 83 Grapevine Committee but it was not possible. CPC committee just became active last month and Archives. Also you can check out district 16 website for more information of events we continue to share the service experience with the groups of district 16. Also the Spanish intergroup is active preparing the annual dinner party to be held the 19th of December at 1900 Davenport Road from 6:30 to 11:00 pm always lot of food and dance music hosted by DJ Latino . Spanish intergroup is supporting. Also public information is active providing information to the community centers and any institution that requested information for the Spanish community. And they continue to announce AA thru the local Spanish newspaper. District 16 continues to support Area 83 and GSO. We continue to work hard to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic. I want to thank Area 83 for your support 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

Hi, I'm Katrina E., District Committee Member for District 18 Toronto East, and I'm an alcoholic. Our District table is fairly well attended but we still only get about 50% of the groups in the District attending. I was recently able to resolve two of the "unknown" groups in the District, and we now have contacts for them. Both are very small groups, so we probably won't see them at the table either.

We still have two chair positions not covered - Grapevine and Self-support. The CPC chair also resigned recently but we are grateful that someone, a new alt GSR, stepped up for that position at the next meeting.

As for our service meetings, we had trouble getting one of the hospital meetings, Scarborough Grace hospital, covered by groups, but individual members have taken on the commitment to keep it open. We are still trying to work with a rehab Hospital in the district to open a meeting, which they had requested. I recently heard from someone who was in that hospital while still active, and she told us stories about alcohol deliveries and drug runs, so the need is there!

District finances are in good shape. We have made contributions to Area and GSO recently along with meeting all our commitments in the district.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

District 22 - Scarborough

Good morning everyone. I am an alcoholic, a member of the Beaches Group, the DCM for District 22 Scarborough and my name is Eddy G. We have 21 groups in our District. Approx. 75 % of the groups attend the District meeting. The May (Mothers Day) & June meetings there were 62 % of the groups represented. The average attendance at the table is 27. We are financially sound and we are able to meet all our commitments.

Our District Officers positions are filled and they are doing a great job. Secretary- Ed H. our Access Ability Chair has been filling in for Nina, Treasurer- Tom S., Registrar- Lynn E. and Alt. DCM- Angus M. All our Sub-Committee Chairs are filled. Grapevine is open however, the Alt. GV Chair is looking after the position. Five out of ten Alt. Chair positions are filled. Regarding Public Information (PI) there are three members- Bryan, Tony & Austin who are checking & restocking literature display racks at 19 locations: 7-Community Recreation Centres, 6-Community Centres, 2-Libraries, 4- Churches.

Regarding Treatment Facilities (TF), recently, the Birchmount Residence a homeless shelter for older men requested & received from the GTA PI Committee an AA Information Session. A District 22 GSR is now coordinating with the staff on how AA can serve this facility & these men.

We held our 37th Annual District 22 Service Day on Saturday September 19, 2015 at the Oakridge Community Centre, 63 Pharmacy Ave. (East of Victoria Subway Station). It was a successful day & all the members at the District 22 Table did an excellent job. Approx. 85 people attended (slightly down from last year with just over 100 people).

The 10th Annual East Toronto Archives Breakfast held jointly with District 18 & 22 Archives Committees was held on Sunday June 7th, 2015 at Qssis Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Rd. (just west of Markham Rd.). It was a great & successful event in bringing awareness & the importance of AA Archives to members. There were 114 people in attendance (slightly up from last year with 96 people).

District 22 will have their District Inventory on Sunday November 8th and our Delegate Joyce S. will be conducting this inventory. District 22 continues 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. Our District is doing well, our finances are holding and attendance has been around 80% at the table with all of our Service Positions filled except for Corrections. Regrettably our Corrections Chair just stepped down.

Our committees are hard at work, the CPC committee will be holding the Annual "*Bring a Professional Event*" on November 11 at the Unifor Local 222 Hall in Oshawa. At the same time they continue to spread the message of AA at Durham College and UOIT among the young professionals including presentations to the Practical Nursing and Dental students. The PI committee continues to distribute literature to doctor's offices, shelters and high schools. Once a month PIC is also as arranged to have young people share their story in a youth Hostel in our area. Partnering with Al-Anon the PI committee will be holding a public forum in the Whitby Public Library in the March 2016. It will be called "*Get to Know Us*" to present to the general public what the programs of AA and Al-Anon are all about.

Our Treatment Chair continues to schedule groups in our district for meetings in the Renascent House in Brooklin as well as being on call for Bridging the Gap needs in Durham Region. Efforts continue to find more BTG contacts from within our district. The Ajax Hospital in our district is looking to have an AA meeting back on site. District 26 used to hold weekly meetings but the logistics started to become too onerous and eventually fell on the shoulders of just a few individuals until it lost all support from the groups. Our Treatment chair is working to rekindle the relationship with the Hospital and willing members to find an arrangement that will work. We do have a couple of groups in the District who are calling out for help with their attendance and I look forward to talking with them to see if there is anything that the District can do to help.

District 26 will be having a District Inventory in November under the care and guidance of Jim S. from District 82 who will facilitate inventory. As with all inventories, it will be a great opportunity for inward reflection. As is often the case (even in our

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

personal lives), we can get so involved in taking the message somewhere else, that we can overlook the messages that are coming from within.

Grateful for the opportunity to serve.

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

District 28 - Lakeshore East

Good morning everybody, I'm an alcoholic, my Home Group is The Courtice 12 & 12 and my name is Tom L. It is an honor to serve as DCM for District 28 Lakeshore East for this term. The two committee chairs that are still vacant at the District Table are grapevine and Archives.

Thanks to Grant M for taking on the Treatment & Corrections Chairs. With his volunteers they are able to carry the message to Brookside Youth Detention Centre and Metro East (Lindsay jail). Groups from both Lakeshore 26 & 28 Districts chair the Friday-Nite Men's meeting at Brooklins Renascent House.

Our Self-Support Chair Tamara B has been active in creating interest and increasing group donations. The 28th Annual Newcastle Round-Up at the Newcastle Town Hall will be held Sat. Nov. 14th. I see the flyers are all gone but I do have a few tickets left.

After the District meeting on Dec. 13, 2015 our Delegate Joyce S will lead our District Inventory. Thanks to the Ad Hoc Committee for setting this up. Just two months from today the Annual Christmas Alkothon at the Alano Club will be finishing up. Groups from both Lakeshore East and West share these meetings.

A safe, happy and sober holiday season to all. Thanks to our Secretary Dan N- you will be missed.

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

District 30 - Quinte West

Good morning- my name is Miles C. I currently have the privilege of serving District 30 as their District Committee Member. All but 2 positions are filled and all committees are active. We are currently updating our Operating Procedures. Our last business meeting had 86% of groups represented. We will be soon staffing to make plans for our May Round-Up which will be held in Brighton on May 28th, 2016. More info to follow.

Any Area Officer or Committee Chairs who aren't receiving our minutes please email me and we will correct this. Also, any Districts who wish to exchange minutes let me know. District 30 is alive and well.

Yours in sobriety, Miles C., District Committee Member for District 30

District 34 - Quinte East

I'm an alcoholic, sober today by the grace of God, through the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, belong to the Foxboro Friendship Group and my name is Les M. It is a privilege and honor to represent District 34 Quinte East as the DCM. The District is spiritually and financially sound and we are able to meet our financial obligations. We still need a Self-Support Chair.

All our sub-committee chairs and officers are working hard to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic and fulfilling the needs of our District. It's an honor to be part of such a great service group. We'll be doing a District Inventory at our October meeting and Linda D, Area's Archives Chair will facilitate it. Attendance at the District table is about 25- 30 per meeting which I think is very promising; we can handle a full house. The Belleville Round-Up is Nov. 21st.

On a closing note, 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 in Kingston and my name is Mac. It is my honor and privilege to serve as District Committee Member for District 36 - Kingston & the Islands. Due to a previous commitment I am unable to be with you this morning. Our Alternate DCM, Tibrata G., is also unable to be here. She sends her best wishes for all. I've asked our Past DCM, Lynne H., to give my report.

District 36 is alive and well. Since the Spring Assembly we have held our Second Annual Founders Day Roundup which was very well attended. Our Archivist, Kathryn F., hosted an Archives Day in Kingston which was attended by Archivists from Toronto and Ottawa. The Districts 34/36 Annual Conference of AA and Alnon was held in Napanee. This Conference is noted for its

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

famous Roast Beef dinner as well as its panelists and speakers. Our Treatment Facilities Chair, Ted S., has been working hard to schedule members to carry the message into the Detox Centre and Treatment Facilities as well as two new service meetings in the Kingston General Hospital. Our Corrections Chair, Martin St. L., has been very busy providing AA meetings in all the prison institutions in the Kingston area. They also provide escorts for inmates to attend meetings in the city. Our PI/CPC Chair, Jeff L., has been very busy working with Professionals and others throughout the District. Jeff's committee has been providing AA literature for doctors' offices, schools and libraries. Our busy Secretary, Monique H., is coordinating all the greeters and volunteers at this Assembly. And our dedicated Treasurer, Tony A., keeps us financially in the black. Finally, the number of spiritual retreats and gratitude meetings attended by our members reflect 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.

District Organization:

We have discussed and updated District Operating Procedures to designate Webmaster, Hotline Phone Chair, and Meeting List Chair as voting members of the District.

Literature/Grapevine:

Our Literature/GV chair, David D., is preparing for our semi-annual District 42 literature order from AAWS. Groups may place their orders with David by our October District meeting on the 28th.

Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community:

Louise T., our CPC Chair, organized an Information AA Day for Professionals in our Community in September A.A. Literature was displayed and discussion panels on "How alcoholism has affected our lives" and "How our meetings work". Panelists included members of both A.A. and Al-Anon. Several professionals in attendance expressed their thanks.

District Website:

Bob S. has assumed our Webmaster position, with David D. as his alternate.

Correctional Facilities:

David W., our chair, has been active in encouraging participation to carry the. We are grateful to Robert B. for his assistance and forwarding donated Grapevines for David to distribute into the various facilities.

Adirondack Inter-District Initiative:

Our District's membership in Area 83, which requires a border crossing to attend Area events, has been the center of discussion recently. In the past we have explored affiliation with one of the two adjacent Areas – 47 Central New York and 48 Hudson Mohawk Berkshire. While we would avoid a border crossing, we would most time have to travel a greater distance to attend those Area's assemblies and service events.

I obtained a copy from GSO of the requirements to form a new Service Area, which could be called Adirondack NY. We discussed the possibility of combining with 3-4 other districts now in Area 48 and 1-2 in Area 47. An initial event could be a joint Adirondack service event at a central location – Saranac Lake or Lake Placid – to get people from around the geographical area to meet each other. A further possibility for affiliation, short of, or as a step towards, forming a new Service Area would be an Intergroup or Inter-district structure.

We may never apply for, or be approved for, a new Service Area. But in exploring that possibility we hope to encourage service participation and enhance the 12th step activities in the North Country. More will be revealed.

Halloween Day of Sharing and Scaring

This is planned for October 31 (naturally) with service panels, recovery skits, a covered dish supper, A.A. Speaker Meeting, costume prizes, and a non-district-sponsored dance. Patrick L., chair of the planning committee, has arranged for members of the New York and Northeastern "YPAA" organizations to put on a panel on young peoples' experience of A.A.

Milner G., District Committee Member for District 42

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

District 48 - Seaway Valley North

Good morning. I am an alcoholic currently serving as the district committee member for district 48 Seaway valley north and a member of the Last Chance Group and my name is Bryan M.

Attendance at our district table has been very good with everyone participating in the meeting. At our last meeting it was discussed about having a bring a friend meeting or a bring a professional meeting and we will be looking into that in the near future. Plans have begun on our annual round-up which will be held February 6th and there are flyers here this weekend.

As some members had two positions at our district I am glad to say that Dave B has taken on the commitment of treasurer, our alternate DCM Pam Y had been filling that position so thanks Dave. Contributions from the groups have been very good and financially we are very good. Our literature sales have been steady and our archives is beginning to build up. We have a new group started up in Prescott on Thursday night. Hope to see you all at the round-up.

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 at District table, the attendance is running at 60-70%. A few General Service Rep's have stepped down and the groups are actively looking for replacements. Our District has a Conference coming up on November 6-7th. If you want some tickets you can see Kelly, Our Alternate District Committee Member. Other than that, it is quiet in our Neighborhood.

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

District 54 - Ottawa Rideau

Good morning. I am an alcoholic, a member of the Tuesday Night Beacon Hill group, currently serving as the District Committee Member of District 54. My name is Darlene. Our table has had many discussions and input over the past months due to the generous flow of information that has been circulated from Area 83 and the General service Office. Thank you to those who participated in responding to the Area 83 Inventory survey.

Our financial position is stable at the moment and our commitments are being met. On a local level however, the Telephone Answering Service is struggling with unmet commitments and a need for 12 Step call volunteers. We are pleased to have the Treasurer's position now filled. Unfortunately the Grapevine chair and the Intergroup liaison had to step down so those positions are now vacant.

The Fall Conference is being held the weekend of November 20th. The 2015/2016 Alkathon committee meetings have begun. Yes, Christmas and the New Year will be here soon!
With Gratitude for Service, Godspeed

Darlene K., District Committee Member for District 54

District 58 - Ottawa Bytown

Greetings, my name is Frank K., I am a member of the Hull-Liberty Group in Gatineau, Québec, DCM for district 58 and I am an alcoholic.

Things are going fairly well in our district. Most of the positions at the table are filled although some members do fill a couple of them. Participation levels from groups have always been somewhat low in our district but we are able to meet all of our service commitments. We have commitments at the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Centre, the Mamisarvik Treatment Center (Inuit) and NewGate 180 Treatment Centre. Meetings at the local detention centre are coordinated by the CFT committee.

District 58 organised the Gratitude Day this year in conjunction with the other Ottawa Districts - 54 and 62 and more than 60 people attended. Our delegate to New York, Joyce S came and gave a presentation. Groups donate regularly to the district and we are thus able to meet our financial needs.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

I would also like to mention that next Friday, October, 30 will mark not only the 70th anniversary of the Tuesday-Friday group but also the 70th anniversary of A.A. in Ottawa. Finally, we are looking forward to seeing you all at the 64th Eastern Ontario Fall Conference that will take place at the Helenic Centre on November 20-22 in Ottawa.

Yours in service, Frank K., 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. Our district is continuing to do well financially. Our prudent reserve is intact and all of our commitments to the various committees, rent for our meeting room, and travel costs for the fall assembly have been covered for the remainder of the year. Activity in the various committees is still falling short with most tables in great need of support. A rep is still needed for the PIC & CPC committees and as well as an Intergroup liaison. All commitments are being met by the few who are active in those committees. Coming up in the near future in the Ottawa area is the 64th Annual Fall Conference on November 20th to 22nd. Flyers are made available at the assembly. See you there.

Also, planning for this year's Alkathon which runs over Christmas and New Years has begun and is starting to have their planning meetings this month. This well attended annual event is now looking for support.

We are looking forward to celebrating 70 years of AA in Ottawa. This Friday, October 30th, the Tuesday/Friday group of the Ottawa Bytown district 58 marks its' 70th anniversary, and it was the first in Ottawa, so Happy Birthday Ottawa AA.

Our alternate DCM, Mike B., has been doing a fantastic job at spreading the word of "self-support" doing an average of one presentation a month at various groups in our district.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next assembly.

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

District 66 - Golden Triangle

Good Morning all. My name is Terry K and I currently have the privilege of serving as District 66 D.C.M. My home group is The New Hope Group which meets on Monday night in Smiths Falls. Thanks to Ray and the Committee for a great service information day.

In District 66 we continue to try to increase our participation at the District and Area levels. I am happy to say that at the last Area Meeting District 66 had 6 members attending. Today we have 25 member's present and we continue to look at ways of increasing that number. The District is looking at tweaking our policies and guidelines Regarding the wording "Budget vs Spending Guidelines". The Agenda template is also undergoing some tweaking. We again discussed the collection of the 7th Tradition at our District Meeting and again it was defeated.

The District remains financially stable and while group attendance has dropped off a bit, all our service positions remain filled. The new District Newsletter continues to evolve. The idea is great for distributing information between GSO, The Area, The District and The Groups. Now if only my computer skills could keep up. This month we will be discussing putting the Newsletter on our District Website in the hope of passing this information along to the individual AA Members. In closing all is well in District 66 and as we grow more will be revealed

Yours in service

Terry K., District Committee Member for District 66

District 70 - Renfrew Pontiac

Hi Everybody. I'm Mary Anne and I'm an alcoholic. I am also honoured to be the DCM for District 70 Renfrew Pontiac. I moved in to this position in August and it has been a heck of a ride so far and I am loving every minute of it.

Just wanted to say quick thank you people at Area, Sue, Dan and Joyce who have been answering my many questions. Also to the GSR and Service Reps in our District who have made my transition in to this position so easy.

Speaking of GSRs we have 10 here this weekend and I believe those numbers are up from last time.

We still have a few vacant positions at the District Table and Service Chairs which are getting filled slowly but surely. Hoping to have the A/DCM in position next month.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

A few administrative issues have been take care of over the last few months: Groups that were listed as inactive are now present and accounted for and are registered with Area; Self supporting issues have been addressed at various groups and we are working on finding a more cost effective way for our telephone answering service. Suggestions always appreciated.

The big thing we are working on right now is the District 70 Fall Round-Up. 14 November – Renfrew Armouries – Registration 11:30; first speaker at 12:30. AA and Alanon panels all afternoon. Main speaker at 5 and a potluck supper at 6. Love to see you there

We will be combining forces with the Pembroke and Madawaska Districts to hold a Service Day Next year

We have an energetic and positive group at our District Table who want nothing more than carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Thanks everyone and have a great 24.

Mary Anne H., District Committee Member for District 70

District 74 – Pembroke

No report

District 78 - Madawaska Valley

Hello everyone, my name is Irvin W and I am an alcoholic. I'm happy to serve as DCM for the District 78 Madawaska Valley. AA is alive and well in our District. We are doing OK financially.

We would like to thank everyone who came out and supported our Festival of Colors Round-Up on Oct. 4th. The color wasn't real great but we cannot control nature. Jerry and his crew did a great job and we had good speakers and a great meal. Thanks Jerry.

We now have a District G.V.R.- her name is Michelle C. Unfortunately our Alt. DCM and Archives Chair Breda H had had to resign due to work commitments. We do have a few people who are approaching 2- 3 years sobriety so I am hoping to fill some vacancies soon.

Thanks for my continued sobriety.

Irvin W., District Committee Member for District 78

District 82 - Victoria Haliburton

Hi friends I am an alcoholic, a member of the Sunday Nighter's Group in Lindsay and a grateful member of AA, and my name is Jim S. I have the privilege of serving District 82 Victoria/Haliburton as the DCM. Things are going well in our District. All our Sub Committee Chair positions are now all filled. Several members have stepped forward to fill the vacant chair positions. The attendance at our District meeting has gone up as well. It is running around 75%. Financially we are able to look after our responsibilities.

Our Conference Committee is just starting to put together the Dist. 82 Conference for 2016. It will be held on May 7th at the Armouries in Lindsay. At our Spring Assembly I should have flyers giving you more information on it.

The meetings in the Central East Corrections Centre can still be a bit of a challenge with lockdowns. The girls seem to have better luck than the men for getting in to put meetings on. We did get some promising news though, they are thinking about putting the meetings back to the evening so if this happens we should get most of our volunteer base doing meetings again.

I mentioned that all the groups that used to meet in the Queen Street Annex including our District table had to find new homes as the church was being sold. All the groups have found new locations, in most cases better accommodations. The District meeting also found a new home. We had our first meeting at the Cameron Church last week. All our meeting lists including the one on our District webpage are now up to date.

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 they all have chair persons.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

One of the challenges is instilling an interest in service with the members in the District and maintaining that interest. That said the Groups are very supportive of the people in service and our service committees appear to be strong and advancing many initiatives.

One such initiative is providing support to a new private treatment centre for men that opened in Peterborough. At first they didn't want the message of AA but are now interested in hearing both the AA and NA message. Your Treatment Chair has been working with the Centre's staff so that we can introduce AA to the clients. This is a good thing in your district.

Financially we are doing okay, with a focus on supporting service within the district and I was pleased to see the strong attendance yesterday at the service information sessions.

To finish, in District 86 all is AA okay.

Dave H., District Committee Member for District 86

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 to those who attended the combined PI/CPC meeting last evening. It is clear that the PI message is definitely being carried throughout Area 83.

And secondly, thank you to PI chairs who have been in touch to share as well as seek information on Public Information and to the invitation of the GTA PI Committee to attend and participate in their meetings.

I was excited to see the first issue of the new joint PI/CPC Area 83 News Exchange that was distributed in July – it is modelled after a similar newsletter in the US, to exchange information about PI and CPC work in the Districts of Area 83. My thanks to Gary C, our CPC chair who coordinated this first issue. We are planning a fall issue following last night's meeting.

Some other news on a wider front.

At the General Service Conference, there were 2 Advisory Actions

the AA Membership Survey pamphlet and display have been updated to reflect the results of the 2014 membership survey – there are pamphlets and a display board with the results - the pamphlet is available on the aa.org website. A new Public Service Announcement, "Doors", the first animated PSA, was approved and is available for viewing on the Public Information Committee Resource page at aa.org. (We viewed it in the I workshop yesterday and will try to have it posted on the Area 83 website as well.) I have distributed an information packet to all District chairs so that it can be shared with media outlets who have not already received it.

As a result of a committee consideration of the 2015 Conference Committee on Public Information, the trustees' committee on Public Information is gathering information on how AA members, groups and other service entities are using social media and social networking platforms (Twitter, Instagram, Google+) – this is not a general sharing but information on actual experience using these resources for AA purposes. A general memorandum was sent to all members of the Area Committee, asking that you distribute to your District table and groups. A similar request was sent to all District PI chairs – information is to go directly to the PI desk at GSO. If you did not receive it, please send me a note at pi@area83aa.org and I will forward to you. The results of the investigations and recommendations from that Committee will be presented at the 2016 General Service Conference.

September saw staff rotation at the GSO. The most recent PI staff coordinator, Jim M, whom many of us have known in his years at GSO left the GSO in August to pursue a new career. The new PI staff coordinator is Clay R.

On a personal note, I was privileged to be volunteer at the PI booth in the first "Carry the Message pavilion at the 2015 International Convention. It was a great experience – as I spent part of 2 days sharing PI and other experience with other PI chairs and many members of the fellowship. Of course a highlight of the Convention for me was the honor of sharing on a panel – the topic was "Anonymity and the Convention: I Get It". Everywhere at the Convention there were these small posters – "OUR ANONYMITY IS SO FRAGILE WE CAN BREAK IT WITH ONE FINGER". In sharing before and after speaking, I heard many stories of how easily it can and does happen – and the sometimes disastrous consequences. We need ever be vigilant.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

I have been receiving minutes from some Districts – it is a great way to stay in touch with District activity – DCMs, can I ask you to check that I am on your distribution list. Please keep them coming. I do have Public Information Kits available (for sale) if anyone needs one. Lastly, I am available at any time as a resource for your District chairs and District activities – it is my privilege to be of service to Area 83. It is important that we carry the message of our service committees to the Area and to generate enthusiasm for our PI activities. 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.

Thank you for allowing me to be of 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 Kawartha District 86. I have the honour and privilege of serving as your CPC chairperson for the 2015-16 term.

I do manage to get to most monthly meetings of the Toronto Intergroup CPC Committee. There are a lot of exciting events coming up there including the College of Family Physicians Forum on Nov. 12 - 14 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

We managed to get a joint PI-CPC News Exchange Newsletter off the ground for a first issue. Copies have been circulated to PI and CPC Chairs by email and hard copies were circulated this weekend. Elaine and I plan to have the second edition circulated in Dec.

We had a CPC Workshop at the SID yesterday and that went well. I'd like to thank Dan N., the immediate past CPC Chair, April P. of D62 and Mark B. of the Toronto Intergroup CPC for their 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 14.

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 that 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. Gary C., Area 83 Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair

c) Corrections Report

Robert B.

Who will be your District Bridging the Gap (BTG) corrections contact person for 1 Jan 2017? Thank Chis W & Martin for their talk in the corrections work shop

Clement C. Corrections Coordinator at GSO informed us about a new AA corrections video and they would like to interview inmates in a Toronto jail. This info was reported to the Toronto CF Chair and contact was made with Clement and Elaine Brains volunteer coordinator at Ontario correctional institute. This month OCI has answered that they will not allow AA to film inside OCI. We have contacted Gale District 22 East Detention Center which also are not interested in filming inside the Jail. Neil District 34 CF Chair was contacted in September when the prospect of filming in Toronto started to look negative. Neil has put forward an impressive package to Millhaven Institution. Patience is a key word when dealing with correctional staff.

The 2nd part of the AA Corrections video is that they are also looking for AA members who have served time in Canadian jail and would like to share part of their story on the new video

-Requirements; served time in a Canadian jail and are an AA member.

-Anonymity; of the AA member will be protected (no face views, voice only)

The company contracted to film this video is in Toronto and so the person may have to come to Toronto to be filmed/recorded.

If you know of someone who is interested and willing to be interviewed and tell a portion of his or her story for this video. Please have that person send their contact information directly to the new GSO Correction Chair Jeff W. corrections@aa.org

Supporting corrections with Grapeview Support District with multiple correctional facilities with literature becomes more of a problem. Like District 34, 42, and especially district 36 with 5 AA correctional meetings a week. The best way to get grapevine into these jail is to mailing grapevine or a grapevine subscription to one of the Three District CF Chairs.

Your DCM has the mailing information

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Bridging The Gap (BTG) at this time is going Okay. Still updating CF Chair list with the corrections BTG contact for each District. Please let me know any updated info about BTG contacts for your Districts. Reminder that the BTG program has no value if the inmates are unaware that the program exists.

There are talks with the federal government on a proposal for correspondence in Canada. At this time there is NO AA correspondence to Canadian inmates, but you can try to correspond with US inmate. To correspond with US inmate send you contact information to corrections@aa.org

Saturday night at 9 o'clock we had our Corrections meeting with was very informative the topics ranged from lockdown to drug testing. In some of the correctional facilities the volunteers are required to be drug tested prior to going into the facility this is a cloth type patch that is brushed down and then the cloth is taken to the machine and if any drugs are present I t may mean that the volunteer would not participate in that evenings AA meeting. Apparently there are some complaints of these machines are very sensitive. This is something that is only happening with a few of the jails but it's something we should all be aware of. We hope to have a Corrections Workshop at the spring assembly on relationships with staff other members and residents.

Thanks Robert B., Area 83 Corrections Chair

d) Treatment/ Accessibility Report

Herb W.

Good morning everyone my name is Herb and I'm an alcoholic. I am a member of the Redwood group in Trenton, District 30. I have the honour and privilege of serving as your area 83 Treatment- Accessibilities Chairperson.

The summer has been quiet and it's so good to be back with you all at this assembly. I would like to welcome all the new people who are here for the first time.

I have updated the district contact sheet with all the new revisions and changes and would like to report Treatment 19 positions are filled six are vacant. Districts 82, 78, 70, 58,54 and 50 are vacant and if any of the district committee members have update information that I could use please let me know before the weekend is over and I will update my list.

Accessibilities have seven positions filled and 18 open positions. The filled positions are in the greater Toronto area.

In the Windsor room last night we had a joint Treatment- Accessibilities meeting and we shared issues that concern the different districts and we all discussed ways to communicate better concerning bridging the gap. After discussion the general consensus was that bridging the gap is alive and well in every 83.

I would like to once again thank everyone who attended the Treatment - Accessibilities Workshop yesterday you were also dedicated to your positions and it's such a privilege to serve you.

To those of you who helped facilitate, lend me power cords and take notes late at night, thank you so much!

On November 21, 2015. I will be attending the service day in Brampton in District 02.

Please do not hesitate to invite me to your Events and keep sending me your minutes. I enjoy reading them.

In closing I only have one final thought, I am so blessed to have you all my life and that you have given me the opportunity to give back such a small token of what I have received since I joined this fellowship!

Sincerely, in-service, Herb W., Area 83 Treatment/Accessibility Chair

e) Grapevine Report

Jim A.

Good morning, bonjour and buenos dias everyone. My name is Jim, and I am an alcoholic. I have the pleasure and honour of serving you as Area 83 Grapevine Chair.

And welcome to the world of Grapevine.

Thank you: to the Service Day committee; to those who attended the workshop/survey yesterday. An incredible amount of learning and sharing has revealed that Grapevine is well received by those who use it. The results will be in the final minutes to district secretaries who send their minutes to me. And to the librarians and literature reps who actually get the product into the hands of those who need/want it..

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

What is Grapevine?

Our stories. A meeting in print. The International journal of AA. A lifeline, a beacon of hope inside a correctional facility. The most unique magazine in print, "For us by us". It is a valuable tool that can be utilized in carrying the message of hope and recovery to anyone.

We need more help in promoting the entire compliment of GV products as tools of recovery, at both group and district levels.

2015 General Service Conference report

There is a ton of info worth reading in the General Service Report regarding Grapevine (GV):

Page 40 & 41: Great general information on circulation, finances and operations, and the website redesign.

Page 42 shows a listing of GV products and quantities sold in 2014 and a geographical breakdown of the subscriptions. Sadly, Canadian subscriptions fell from 5905 to 5556, a drop of 6% or 349 magazines. This is a little more than the generally accepted drop rate of 5%.

Page 55 has a brief outline of the trustees committee on GV: that the GV website has an average of 43,600 unique visitors every month; improvements to the website to enhance the customer experience; commencement of the "Carry the message" communication effort to create awareness among member and groups about buying gift subscriptions for local service committees.

Page 73, GV committee notes on their activities (we discussed this in March workshop) i.e.: updating the GV workbook and resources; promoting Gift subscriptions for the magazine especially by groups and or service committees to be used in correction and treatment centers, nursing homes and other facilities.

And finally the GV financials for 2014 on page 86. It also shows that GV is clearly a viable and successful business operation.

New Products

Early 2015: Out and Sober.

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

September 2015: Forming True Partnerships. A compilation of previously printed stories about the various relations one has in life: marriage and divorce; dating and romance; work issue; pets and finally sponsors. Mostly two to three pages long, these stories tell about what happens when you apply the steps and the results that ensue. I am planning on placing a bulk order on this one so the GV reps can have stock ASAP.

Items under consideration for 2016:

The Conference committee on GV annually reviews a list of proposed new items at least one year in advance. Therefore this year's GSC will hear about proposed items for 2016 publication.

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 magazines.

Voices from Early AA Stories from the earliest days of AA and GV all previously published [soft cover 10.99, eBook \$9.99]

There are lots of other great titles. Visit the library table at group near you, ask your district GV rep (don't have one then become one) or at the very least visit the website at aagrapevine.org. Please bear in mind that there are volume discounts for any order over \$500USD, so please work together with GV reps and chairs near you.

Past and Future Activities

On Sept 22nd, GV participation as a panelist at the District 22 Service Day.

November 21st, District 02 Malton Service Day

November 26th, there will be the inaugural meeting of a Toronto Intergroup GV committee. Unity will be restored and cooperation will be encouraged, "Sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly, but only if we work for it." This is the result of a presentation I made at the January 2015 Intergroup meeting.

The annual bulk order of 2016 pocket planners and calendars, went, well, mixed results. Or in the name of Clint Eastwood, "The good, the bad, and the ugly". **Good** 685 items, a bit down from last year's 707; the **bad** a number of districts who used to support GV did not at all; and the **ugly** - a foreign exchange rate of 1.36 when we paid the bill.

As a result of the low exchange rate, there will be a shortfall of about \$320.00 on this year's order. This was caused by setting a conservative C\$ price in May using a C\$1.28/USD rate, and paying C\$1.36/USD in September. Eight cents on a \$3500USD invoice translates to \$280. Add some banking and postage and presto! Who knew!

Let's hope we have better results next year!

Subscription Drive

Since the drive started in January (to the end of September) there have been 175 new subscriptions for Ontario (all 4 areas) for an increase of 6.46%. Quebec is now the national leader with 16% - New Brunswick a close second at 15.38%. Both started with a smaller base, therefore bigger increases. Sadly only 2 new La Vina subscriptions (1 in Quebec and 1 in BC) have been purchased in the entire country.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

This contest closes on Dec 16th so there is still some time to buy or renew your subscription, buy a subscription for yourself or gift a subscription for someone else (sponsee, sponsor, a service committee, a corrections facility perhaps).

As of Sept 30th

GV	New	% Chg	Province/Terr.	La Vina	New	% chg
661	64	9.68	Alberta	3	0	0.00
802	95	11.85	British Columbia	4	1	25.00
278	22	7.91	Manitoba	1	0	0.00
156	24	15.38	New Brunswick	2	0	0.00
64	4	6.25	Newfoundland/Labrador	0	0	0.00
25	0	0.00	Northwest Territories	0	0	0.00
244	5	2.05	Nova Scotia	1	0	0.00
3	0	0.00	Nunavut	0	0	0.00
2708	175	6.46	Ontario	33	0	0.00
66	5	7.58	Prince Edward Island	0	0	0.00
224	36	16.07	Quebec	55	1	1.82
293	40	13.65	Saskatchewan	1	0	0.00
38	2	5.26	Yukon Territory	0	0	0.00

YILAS, Jim A., Area 83 Grapevine Chair

f) Self-Support Report

James O.

Self Support is alive and well in Area 83! I would like to take this time to acknowledge those who have come before me – thanks to them we are now in a season of great enthusiasm and excitement. Some of the important things that have come forward from our meeting last night:

1. Mark from D86 has been out doing SS presentations, working with the GSRs at District to improve the lines of communication. This seems to be one of our greatest challenges – to make sure the message is getting out there through the established rivers of information
2. Mike from D62 has done over 11 presentations to not only group business meetings but at times has been invited to make a presentation during the actual meeting. He will be sharing his presentation (which has been stolen piece by piece from all over the AA world!) with all the SS reps. It will also be posted on the Area website so that anyone, anywhere can access it and all the other fantastic items available.
3. Ed from D22 has had great success with a SS can campaign and one of the major reasons is because it is clearly stated what the funds will be used for. Alcoholics in particular seem to have the need to know!
4. Lesley from D12 has spearheaded our grand return to 234 (Intergroup Office in Toronto) and will be inviting all SS chairs to come together every two months to share the different experiences of what is working and what may need some work. I have also been invited to attend.
5. Tamara from D28 initiated an International Day of Gratitude (June 10th). In the first run it collected over \$1300. She asked groups to participate and those that did added a second collection – so as not to affect the 7th – and again, the members were advised what the money would be used for. This seems to be a recurring theme – when the fellowship is given the facts of where a need is we rise to the occasion because we love this fellowship.

In my full report I have added the following documents:

- a) letter from GSO regarding decline in group contributions to GSO
- b) letter from Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
- c) response letter from our very own Area 83 Delegate
- d) fresh off the press letter (October 21, 2015) about Self Support from the GSO including a “7th Tradition in Action” fact sheet outlining all the services provided

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

In closing, there is a lot of excitement and movement in Self Support. Special thanks to Kimberly (Area 83 Treasurer) who continues to make things clearer and more transparent for the fellowship which make our mission in SS that much easier.

As was said earlier, we are a grateful group of people here in AA and when a need is expressed we always seem to step up to the plate and give freely of our TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE.

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

g) Archives Report

Linda D.

Good morning/afternoon, my name is Linda, I am a member of the Land O Lakes group and it is my privilege to be the Area Archives chair for this term. First I would like to thank all of the District Archives Chairs for contacting me about the displays for the Archives room. It is great to see how enthusiastic and help full you are about sharing your displays. I have been receiving emails from District Archives chairs regarding some of the struggles they have been having with storage and handling of material, I have offered some ideas on these matters and hope they have helped. I am going to be facilitating the District 34 inventory next week and I am looking forward to it. I also have been in contact with David T our Archivist regarding the 83, the Archives news letter, with a few ideas for content. David has been gathering and putting together some great information about our Area for the upcoming addition. Well done David. I am also including in my written report the financial information that I brought forward at the Area committee meeting that was held in Belleville on September 12, 2015. I think that the information should be brought forward.

Archives/Archivist information:

I know that I have only been the Archives Chair since the beginning of this year but it has not taken very long for me to have some concerns, all of which are financial in nature.

I have looked over the expenses of both the Archives Chair and the Archivist and in my opinion they seem to be high. There are times when the Archives chair and the Archivist are attending the same function or they are both being emailed or called about the same issues. I know that the Archives Chair does not need the extra experience that the Archivist has and I understand why we originally had a need for an Archivist having said that with the problems that we are having financially at the Area level, and the fact that the Archives has so many people now in place to draw from, both Toronto and Ottawa Intergroup have Archivists that we can and have contacted when we need help, is it necessary to continue to have an Archivist. Area does not have a repository, we are fortunate enough to be able to store our Archives at Toronto Intergroup.

I have also listed the expenses for the last 6 years for both Archives Chair and Archivist. When combined these expenses seem very high for what we are doing.

	June 3/15	Dec 31/14	Dec 31/13	Dec 31/12	Dec 31/11	Dec 31/10
Archives	1248.96	1661.48	1840.99	2256.34	2388.71	1643.30
Archivist	684.02	1968.51	2160.83	1223.79	1885.36	2427.86
YTD totals	1896.98	3629.99	4001.82	3480.13	4274.07	4071.16

We spend twice as much on Archives as we do on any other sub committee. I do not know of any other committee that holds separate workshops for the district chair people – Archives holds 2 a year – my expenses, not including the hall rental, were \$548.80. We had fewer than 12 people there and 3 of them were doing presentations and only 3 of the attendees were new to Archives. Other than the trip to the Queens University Archives there was nothing presented at this workshop that could not have been incorporated into one of the Area Assemble workshops. The Archivist also attended this workshop and his expenses were above what I spent. Do we need to put on extra workshops outside of the Area Assemble venue?

Here are the expenses since 2009 for the extra workshops

2009 - \$613.46 2010 - \$722.20 2011- \$1016.40 2012 -\$1241.64 2013 - \$833.60 2014 -\$380.42

And 2015 - \$673.80 which does not include the Archivists expenses.

Additionally we send our Archivist to the workshop in the US when they are appointed based on their knowledge of Archives. Imagine the cost if all our sub committee chairs attended workshops in the US

Area Assembly October 25, 2015

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

In closing, my thought is that we should combine the Archives Chair and Archivist position and remove the extra workshops as a cost saving measure.

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

h) Service Information Day

Ray R.

I'm an alcoholic, a member of Last Chance Group, my name is Ray R. I have the honour and privilege of serving as the Service Information Day Committee Chair.

Did everyone have a good time? An event like this doesn't just happen. It takes a dedicated team of individuals, to coordinate, communicate, and facilitate this event I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce and thank the committee members for a job well done..

Amy L District 26
Don MacP District 14
Bryan McI District 48
Jim S District 82
Les McD District 34

As with anything, we experienced some minor hi-cups, but rather than report on what we could of done better, lets focus on what a success it was. After speaking to the committee and a lot of the feedback I've received, This assembly is regarded as nothing short of a success. The tone was set from the last spring assembly, and this assembly seemed followed that tone. It was educational, informative, interactive and most of all, we had fun. It added to our learning experience, and at times, it took us out of our comfort zone. and as you know, growth starts just outside your comfort zone. So thank you for adding to my learning experience.

The planning for this assembly, while easier on one hand, it did present some challenges but despite the challenges, we were able to submit the agenda, on time for final approval. And in doing so, we managed to implement the suggestion handed down by the Ad hoc committee.

Thanks to those who took the time to fill out the surveys, it will greatly help us in planning the next assembly.

I hope you all had a positive experience, and that you have some good information to bring back to your groups and districts.

I'd like to thank the Area Chairs, DCM's and panellists who participated in the workshops and added to the learning experience of all of us. You continue to shine a bright light on service for many here, and many yet to come. I look forward to seeing you all back here in March, and have a safe drive home.

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. It's an honor and a privilege to serve Area 83 as your Treasurer.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Treasurer/Self-Support workshop yesterday. I hope you found the information helpful. Thanks also to those who helped sell banquet tickets, total tickets sold was 188.

On Wednesday evening, Rob, our past Treasurer and I attended the district 6 meeting to address some concerns they have about the Area spending guidelines. There was a healthy discussion and some good suggestions were put forth to make the guidelines easier to understand.

In the District Committee Members mail folders you will find two 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. Please encourage your treasurers to include an **email** address so I can email these out. It saves on stamps, ink, paper and envelopes. Please make cheques payable to "Eastern Ontario International Area 83". It is also very helpful if you include your group service number with

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

your cheque. Also in the District Committee Members mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders there are copies of the financial statement for the period ending October 15, 2015. There are a few copies available on the side table. Let's go through the numbers together. 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 11th, 2017.

Income for the period: 7th tradition collected at the Assembly and Area Committee Meetings totals \$3 438.00. Cost recoveries from the sale of service manuals at the Assembly totals \$619.00. Grapevine – monies collected total \$4 205.00. Group and District Contributions this year total \$37 651.21. Thank you to the 151 groups and 15 districts for your generous contributions to Area 83. Total income for the period is \$45 913.31.

Expenses for the period: Ad hoc Committee responsible for the Area Inventory \$15 for printing. Committee expenses total \$24 157.55. Area Committee Meeting totals \$925.10 for rent and refreshments. GSC Assessment remains at \$2583.25. Once the Assembly expenses are paid we will hopefully be able to send the additional \$5500 US to cover the full expense of our Delegates expenses for attending the General Service Conference back in April. Bank service charges – including more cheques totals \$152.22. The expenses previously listed under CERAASA were misleading since Area 83 did not finance that event. The expenses were to reimburse the Delegate and Alternate Delegate for attending. These expenses now show under the lines for the Delegate and Alternate Delegate. The proposed spending guidelines included a line for CERAASA so I have shown that line in these expenses. In the new year however, this line will be removed completely. Grapevine – cost of order with the exchange rate totals \$4923.71. Ontario Delegates Conference held earlier this year totaled \$830.18. At the last assembly, a motion passed to contribute money toward the International Hospitality Suite which amounted to \$162.54. Since this expense doesn't really fall into any category we already have, it's been added as a new line item. Total Expenses for the period are \$33 749.55.

Total income for the period is \$45 913.31 and total expenses for the period are \$33 749.55. To date expense are \$12 163.76 lower than our income. As of October 15, 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 \$45 913.31 less expenses of \$33 749.55 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$31 091.02 as of October 15, 2015. The bank reconciliation has been done and the balance in the operating account is accurate.

We therefore have \$2 055.23 more in our operating account this year compared to the same time last year. We still hope to send the remaining \$5 500 US to the General Service Conference by the end of the year. This is to cover the full amount for our Delegate who went to New York on our behalf back in April. The page 2 shows details of expenses. Here we see an itemized breakdown of expenses for the period for each Area Committee Member, as well as all other expenses to date.

Just to clarify some of the bigger numbers that you see here....Under miscellaneous for Service Information Day Committee you see \$834.69. That was for the purchase of the service manuals that you have been able to purchase in the Atrium. As of Oct 15, \$619.10 of that has been recovered and appears under "cost recoveries" on the first page of the financial statement. Under miscellaneous for Spring Assembly is \$1309.67. This covers equipment rental (\$280), Archives room (\$195), Overhead projector rental (\$84) and set up of the ballroom (\$600). (taxes not included in the amounts above). Spring Assembly Accommodations amounting to \$2327.65 is for the rooms for the Area Officers and the Area Chairs to attend the Assembly. Spring Assembly Meals amounting to \$4397.51 is what the Ambassador charges for coffee over this weekend. The 7th tradition that is collected 3 times over this weekend is intended to cover this cost. Unfortunately however, in the spring the 7th fell \$1 703.80 below this amount. This weekend a 7th was collected Friday night and Saturday night. Today we will collect one more 7th after this report. The meals for the various Area officers and Committee Chairs while at the Assembly are included in their expense line up above.

At the bottom of the page is a summary comparing year to date for 2015 and 2014. Here you can see that our income to date is up \$2 511.98 compared to last year at this time. Our expenses are down \$11 049.81. The resulting net change to our operating account is \$13 561.79.

Contributions are up \$3 029.71 compared to last year at this time. 24 more groups contributed this year. Approximately 6 of which were not in the treasurers spreadsheet used to track contributions, so they are either new groups or are contributing for the first time!! Two less districts have contributed.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Page 3 shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from the District, as well as Groups within the District. Approximately 24% of the groups in Area 83 have contributed to the Area so far this year. 56% of Districts have contributed to the Area so far this year.

The Treasurer from the General Service Office sent out a letter with the contributions statement for the seven months ending July 31, 2015 giving the percentage of groups that have contributed to the General Service Office this year compared to last year. Last year 25.42% of groups had contributed to GSO compared to 15.12% of groups this year have contributed to GSO as of the end of July.

This weekend's 7th Tradition was; Friday \$338.36, Saturday \$1212.30 and Sunday \$1266.64 for a total 7th tradition of \$2871.71. From the coffee contribution cans \$443.05 was collected. Therefore the 7th together with the coffee contributions totals \$3260.76. Thank for your generous contributions, and thanks to everyone who helped collect and count the 7th Tradition. Thank you for allowing me to be of Service to Area 83.

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

[See Appendix A - Treasurer's Financial Reports]

7. SECRETARY REPORT

DAN N.

Good day. I am an alcoholic, a member of the Royal York Group in District 02 and currently serving as your Secretary for Area 83 and my name is Dan N.

As the Area Secretary, I am responsible for recording the minutes of the area committee meetings and assemblies (like this meeting), compiling and updating rosters of committee members and the information on all districts in the area; for forwarding all area assembly, area and district committee information to the General Service Office; holding and maintaining all records of assemblies; and, other duties that may arise from time to time.

I have updated all lists and rosters according to the information that I have received since our last meeting and have updated the GSO database. For District Committee Members, a copy of your District detail has been included in the bins in the Atrium. It is requested that you go over your district roster to ensure accuracy and all filled positions are in fact correctly represented. It is requested that whenever a vacant position is filled or if a new person has taken over, please report this promptly through a district change form. This is important so that area chairs can have the most up to date information to do their service work. The downloadable district change form is available on our area website under the Resources and Secretary tab. It's really easy to download; please type in your changes and email back. The email address to submit changes and secretary related queries is secretary@area83aa.org

For those submitting reports, please remember to submit these in a Word formatted document as this makes for a smooth transcription process and I thank you in advance for sending reports in MS Word. Please remember to get your report to me from today's meeting through email as soon as you can to be included in today's meeting minutes.

The Area 83 Operating Procedures have been updated to reflect the motions passed at the Area 83 Spring Assembly with regards to Service Information Day. These revised Operating Procedures are available on our website under the About Area 83 tab. I have been asked not to make copies of the procedures for distribution as there is a new motion tabled today to amend the Treatment/ Accessibility position.

At this time I want to inform Area 83 that I will be resigning as Secretary at the end of this year. I want to thank Area for the privilege of serving you as Secretary. There have been a number of life events that have happened of late and with good health and the potential of going to AA meetings literally around the world, my wife and I are planning a major trip next year that makes it impossible for me to continue as Secretary. An election is taking place today to fill this position and I intend to make sure that the new elected Secretary gets fully up and running before I leave.

I thank you for the opportunity to be of service as Area 83 Secretary and for the trust that you have placed in me.

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 in Toronto. I also have the honour of being the Panel 65 Area 83 Alternate Delegate.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Since the Spring Assembly I have participated in the Remote Community conference call in May, July and Sept. The next one is Nov 18. I also participated in the East York Roundup on April 18, Joint Sharing with Intergroups and districts on May 5, August 4. Info AA Day May 30, I also attended the joint service Day in Oshawa on May 24 to hear our Delegate, Joyce give her report on the GSC. I recently participated in the Toronto young People's Conference on October 17 giving an overview of General Service. I also attended a few service days including the District 22 day on Sept. 19. I recently attended and participated in the Young People's Conference giving an overview of General Service.

My schedule for November so far...Joint Sharing November 3, Newcastle Roundup on November 14 and I will be participating in the District 2 Service Day on November 21.

On the weekend of September 11 to 13 I represented Area 83 at a Local Forum in Timmins. I attended instead of our Delegate Joyce because our Area Committee meeting was on the same day. All the Areas within Eastern Canada attended along with our Regional Trustee, Richard and Tracy O from the General Service office. It was really nice to see a few members of Area 83 in Timmins to support the local forum

The idea of the local forum was to give support to District 4 in Timmins within Area 84. They were struggling, groups were closing, they did not have a DCM and some other issues. The AA members in Timmins were blown away that people would travel that far to support the struggling district.

The weekend started with a two-hour topic discussion meeting that many newcomers and struggling alcoholics attended. We all shared and it set the tone for the rest of the weekend. There were 15 min presentations all day Saturday. I was asked to present on, Should Districts and Intergroups Cooperate?

Saturday night I went to a meeting in Porcupine that had been closed but recently reopened. A young man with 3 months of sobriety was setting the meeting up each week. Amazing and watching miracles happen is the best way to describe my experience there. By Saturday night District 4 had a DCM and a couple of AA members were willing to be GSRs. I think there were more service sparks lit that weekend. I know I left with a feeling of gratitude that when a group of service minded alcoholics get together they can make a difference. It also made a difference within me. I learned a lot that weekend. I don't think I will ever forget it.

Please include me in distribution for your district minutes. I really do enjoy reading them.

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

9. *DELEGATE'S REPORT*

JOYCE S.

Hello, everyone. I am an alcoholic, a member of the St. Clement's Group in District 10 and my name is Joyce. It is also my honour to serve the fellowship as your Area 83 Panel 65 Delegate. Welcome and thank you for being of service by being here this weekend.

The following have been my activities since the Spring Assembly:

Attended the 65th General Service Conference from April 19th to April 25th at the Crowne Plaza in Manhattan. What an experience and honour! I have bundled up all the final Conference Reports and have given them to all the District Committee Members for them to distribute at your next meetings. I was able to meet up with some of the District Committee Members before this weekend to get their packages to them. Please make sure all the General Services Reps get a copy to bring to their groups. If anyone has any questions about what is in the report or my presentation yesterday morning, please let me know. Have given my report about what happened at the conference to Districts 26, 28, 82 & 86 in Oshawa on Sunday, May 24th. I would like to thank District 26 for reimbursing me for my travel.

Gave my report at Information AA Day for Districts 2,6,10,12,14,16,18,22 which was held on Saturday, May 30 in District 10. Facilitated a group inventory for the Whitby Group on May 2nd. Attended the Districts 42, 48 & 50 service day on Saturday, June 13th. The next day on Sunday, I gave my report in Ottawa to District 54, 58 & 62. Both service days were well attended and it was so inspiring to have members show their interest in service. A huge thank you to all the DCM's and members for taking the time to arrange these days. On Saturday, June 20th I facilitated a group inventory for the Twelve Traditions group in Pickering.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Was grateful to attend the 80 International in Atlanta with approximately 57,000 other members. I attended the Delegate's luncheon which was also a highlight of the weekend. It was so great to meet up with some of the Delegate's I met at the last General Service Conference and of course, all the Trustees. I was asked to be the main speaker at the District 14 Service Day on Saturday, October 17th.

The upcoming service events I have scheduled are:

Facilitating an inventory for District 22, Scarborough on Sunday, November 8th.

Facilitating an inventory for District 28, Lakeshore East on Sunday, December 13th.

Please continue to have your District Secretaries send me your minutes as I enjoy reading them. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83.

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 New Group and Group Change forms that I have received up to now have been completed and are up to date. Should your Group require any of these forms, you may pick some up here before you leave, obtain them from your District Secretary/Registrar, or they are also available on our Area 83 website, area83aa.org, under the District Resources tab and are easily downloadable. The email address to submit the forms to me is registrar@area83aa.org. It would be greatly appreciated that if you are sending me hand written forms, that they are in fact readable.

GSR kits are usually mailed out within 2 weeks of the GSO receiving the updated group information. These kits are delivered by courier. If the GSR is not at home, they will receive a mail pick up card to collect the kit from the post office listed on the card. If GSR's in your District have not received their GSR kits, please let me know and I will follow up with the GSO for you.

Unknown groups are still an issue in the Area, with the total number being 68. I kindly ask that you please confirm all members names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses; and to 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. The FNV system will not allow me to enter any one, in any position, without a full mailing address.

All mailings are sent in an anonymous fashion, never mentioning the words Alcoholics Anonymous on the envelope. Items such as Box 459 and Newsletters from the GSO such as "The Quarterly Report From GSO" are some of the mailings received. Such information will keep your Group up to date and "Active" with the current happenings in AA.

When tallying the roll call, great consideration is given to the vote and ensuring that those who are entitled to vote, are given that right. Please remember that there is only one vote per Group allowed.

I will now read the roll call. Please note that Correction Groups have NOT been included in the total number of Groups per District as there is a separate entry on the roll call for Corrections.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

District	DCM	Alt-DCM	Comm	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups Attending	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups in District
02	1	1	4	5	2	2	9	9	9	21
06	1	1	7	12	5	3	14	24	15	35
10	1	1	3	8	2	0	9	11	10	21
12	1	1	2	7	4	1	10	14	11	20
14	1	1	3	8	2	2	11	18	12	33
16-SP	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	2	8
18	1	1	3	6	3	1	8	11	10	25
22	1	0	5	11	3	1	12	18	13	21
26	1	1	2	9	0	2	10	16	11	20
28	1	1	4	7	3	2	10	16	11	26
30	1	1	2	6	1	8	8	17	9	15
34	1	1	5	7	2	2	8	17	9	38
36	1	1	5	9	4	12	16	38	17	21
42	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	31
48	1	0	3	4	2	0	5	9	6	17
50	1	1	0	2	0	0	3	4	3	11
54	1	0	0	5	4	0	7	11	8	24
58	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	3	3	36
62	1	1	3	16	5	13	22	42	23	45
66	1	1	3	8	2	7	10	21	10	31
70	1	0	1	6	2	2	9	12	10	20
74	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	5	3	15
78	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	2	6
82	1	1	4	2	2	3	5	7	6	21
86	1	0	5	12	3	3	13	25	14	22
CF				4	0	0	4	4	4	9
	DCM	Alt-DCM	Comm Chair	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups
ALL	25	16	65	161	51	67	210	360	233	592
Area Committee								16	13	
Past Delegates/Visitors						3		7	0	
Total	25	16	65	161	51	70		383	246	592
Mar-15	22	15	48	167	41	81	210	234	375	602
Oct-14	20	17	57	211	38	79	376	212	233	600
Mar-14	19	16	59	181	50	83	401	207	244	608
Oct-13	21	16	52	187	38	94	411	212	246	600
Mar-13	21	15	75	163	45	111	411	204	239	599

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 and should also include their home group.

I will forward the roll call to our Area Webmaster, Jim R, who will place it on the Area 83 website.

I thank all Districts that send me their Minutes. As you all know, I love receiving them and to see what is going on in your District.

I wish Dan and his wife all the best in the “golden years” of their lives and for safe travels. I am truly going to miss Dan, and through Service have made a wonderful friend!

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

I thank you for your trust in me, and in the opportunity to serve Area 83.

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

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

Moved: Rob F., Acting GSR Ajax Friday Night, District 26
Seconded: Tiffany P., Alternate GSR Streetsville Group, District 6
Motion: Carried

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

11. OLD BUSINESS

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

12. NEW BUSINESS

a) Report from Ad-Hoc Committee on Area Inventory Patrick G. DCM District 62

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. I have been asked to step into the role of chair for this committee as Sandy S. had to step down for personal reasons. Also members of this committee are Katrina E., district 18 and Jim S., district 82.

So how are things going so far? A database has been created and results have started to get entered. As of 10:00pm of October 24th a grand total of 117 surveys has been handed in. That is by mail, email, and by hand.

I know that as many people like to do, they are possibly leaving it to the last minute. The submission deadline was September 30th. We decided to extend the deadline until the end of the year so that a preliminary report can be given in January. Please do not wait until the last minute to fill out the questionnaire. Give plenty of time for data entry by the committee.

There have been questions concerning “who” is to fill out this survey. I hope that it has been made clear to everyone that this is for all members in Area 83. There are three options to check off at the top of the page to let us know what level of service the survey is coming from. A group member who attends their group meeting and group business meeting checks off “group”. A member who attends the district meetings (GSR, alternate, and committee reps) would check off “district”, and members who attend the Area meetings such as this one (DCM, alternates, committee chairs, etc.) would check off “area”.

There may be many who think that filling out the survey will take up a lot of time, so I tested it. As I filled out my own survey, I set up a stop watch and hit start. I made sure to read at a steady pace. Not too fast or too slow. I read a few of the questions over again to make sure I understood them. I thought about my answers so that I wouldn't just check items off all loosey goosey. I made comments when asked to. Not too long but long enough to make my points clear. When I was satisfied with my results I stopped the clock.... 9 minutes and 22 seconds. Is that a long time?

I ask that you take these comments back to your districts and groups and try to have as many surveys filled out as possible. This is important and we would love to have as much information as possible from all levels of service.

You may send them to me via email at pgarden67@gmail.com or via Canada Post. My address is 31 Virgil Road, Nepean, Ontario, K2H 6B6.

Yours in service, Patrick G., Ad Hoc Committee Chair

b) Interim Election of Area 83 Secretary for the 2015–2016 Term

Robb W. Panel 61 Delegate

We welcome James O. currently serving as Area 83 Self Support Chair as the new Area 83 Secretary effective Jan. 2, 2016. Tally is in Appendix B.

Motion to destroy the ballots:

Motion by: Peter N., GSR Bayview Group

Seconded by: Christy F., GSR Steps to Serenity, District 18

Vote: In favour- unanimous

NEW BUSINESS ADDED FROM THE FLOOR

c) Motion “To enable on-line contributions on Area website”

James O., Self Support Chair

James presented the opportunity for AA members to contribute on-line using PayPal in addition to our regular contribution process. Major companies have been quite successful using this service and it is completely secure, is a free sign-up and easy to do. Discussion centered on who pays for the service (the charge is 2.9% per transaction plus 30 cents, no cost in transferring

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

from PayPal to Area 83 bank account). We are adding PayPal as another means to contribute to Area and not replacing anything that is currently in practice.

Moved: James O., Area 83 Self Support Chair
Seconded: Amy L., District Committee Member for District 26

Vote: In favour- 151, 1 opposed, 5 abstained

Voice of the minority- no-one spoke

No change in voting

Motion: Carried

d) Motion “To have Assembly Scent Free”

Wendy E., DCM District 50

Kelly D, Alternator DCM District 50 (in Wendy's absence) highlighted that there are scent allergy individuals attending Area Assemblies that can be affected by perfumes and other strong scents. As there are progressive organizations moving to a scent-free environment, the motion is for the Assembly to endorse a scent free environment. There were a number of attendees that discussed the motion.

Call the question: Sandra M., GSR Willowdale, District 14
Seconded: Christine O., GSR Liverpool Group, District 26
Question called

Moved: Wendy E., DCM District 50
Seconded: Kelly D., Alternate District Committee Member for District 50

Vote: In favour- 31, 96 opposed, 25 abstained

We do not have 2/3 majority. Is there anyone who voted in the minority wish to speak.

Motion to reconsider: Milner G., DCM for District 41
Seconded by: Darlene K., DCM for District 54

Vote to reconsider: In favour- 30, 99 opposed, 10 abstained

Motion: Not Carried

Original motion: Not Carried

Area 83 Chair Rob M. mentioned he would be sure to include consideration for a scent-free environment in future agendas and in housekeeping items at the beginning of Area Committee and Assembly meetings.

e) Motion “To add words ‘Special Needs’ to precede Accessibilities to the current title Treatment/ Accessibility” Herb W., Treatment/ Accessibility Chair

Moved: Herb W., Treatment/ Accessibility Chair
Seconded: Stephan G., Alt. GSR Royal York Group, District 2

Herb presented the motion to the Assembly for clarification purposes and to be inclusive of members with special needs.

Vote: In favour- 3, 126 opposed, 18 abstained

Voice of the minority- no-one spoke

No change in voting

Motion: Not Carried

13. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

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

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

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

As Chairperson, I would recommend the next Assembly be held here at the Ambassador hotel in Kingston on March 18th, 19th and 20th, 2016. Would someone like to make a motion to accept these dates for our Fall Assembly?

Moved: Gerry M., GSR Saturday Morning Discussion, District 22
Seconded: Sean K., DCM for District 12
Vote: Over 2/3 majority, no opposed.
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 January 2, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

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

Chair called for a motion to close the Assembly:

Moved: Amy L., DCM for District 26
Seconded: Tiffany P., Alternate GSR, Streetsville Group, District 6
Discussion: None
Vote: In favour, unanimous
Motion: **Carried**

CLOSE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION:

Meeting was closed at 3:35 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**

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Appendix A – Financial Reports

EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83

AS OF: October 14, 2015

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

<i>INCOME</i>	
7th Tradition	3,438.00
Cost Recoveries	819.10
Flow Through to GSO	0.00
Grapevine Seasonals	4,206.00
Group & District Contributions	37,851.21
<i>TOTAL INCOME</i>	<i>45,813.31</i>
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE	0.00
<i>TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS</i>	<i>45,813.31</i>

<i>EXPENSES</i>	
Accommodations	4,402.11
Meals	8,378.05
Travel	7,501.38
Long Distance	0.00
Postage	211.08
Printing	1,882.72
Literature	845.31
Stationery	100.44
Miscellaneous	2,858.45
Area Web Site	0.00
<i>Total Committee Expenses</i>	<i>24,167.65</i>
Ad Hoc Committees	15.00
Area Contribution to GSO	0.00
Area Committee Meetings	826.10
General Service Conf. Assessment	2,583.26
Bank Service Charges	152.22
Forums	0.00
CERAASA	0.00
Grapevine Seasonal	4,823.71
GSO Flow Through	0.00
Ontario Delegate's Conference	830.18
International Conferences	182.64
<i>Total Other Expenses</i>	<i>9,582.00</i>
<i>TOTAL EXPENSES</i>	<i>33,749.65</i>

<i>OPERATING ACCOUNT</i>	
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2015	18,827.31
Total Income & Transfers	45,813.31
Total Expenses	<i>-33,749.65</i>
<i>OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE</i>	<i>31,091.07</i>

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Annual Guidelines	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
Delegate	386.18	276.91	690.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.00	1390.14	3090.00	1699.86	44.99%
Alt. Delegate	267.26	83.55	241.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	592.31	1685.00	1092.69	35.15%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	134.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	134.40	970.00	835.60	13.86%
Chairperson	0.00	100.00	439.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	198.35	737.95	920.00	182.05	80.21%
Secretary	0.00	129.82	261.40	0.00	0.00	834.81	0.00	44.56	3.50	1274.09	2640.00	1365.91	48.20%
Treasurer	0.00	76.01	413.40	0.00	211.08	699.45	0.00	28.88	0.00	1428.82	1360.00	-68.82	105.06%
Registrar	0.00	63.33	70.00	0.00	0.00	138.01	0.00	0.00	152.29	423.63	1190.00	766.37	35.60%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	232.78	93.97	499.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	826.55	1710.00	883.45	48.34%
Archives	96.62	109.51	434.94	0.00	0.00	9.04	331.79	20.00	318.70	1320.50	1725.00	404.50	76.55%
Archivist	357.53	108.24	675.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1141.27	2040.00	898.73	55.94%
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	41.22	880.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	921.82	1395.00	473.18	66.08%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	50.00	878.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	218.43	0.00	0.00	1146.93	1615.00	468.07	71.02%
Grapevine	0.00	117.75	410.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	527.75	1095.00	567.25	48.20%
Public Information	0.00	98.50	627.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	295.09	0.00	0.00	1021.49	1445.00	423.51	70.69%
Self Support	0.00	93.17	800.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.25	897.72	1395.00	497.28	50.02%
Treatment Facilities	0.00	96.00	243.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.00	0.00	346.60	1245.00	898.40	27.84%
Service Info Day Cmte	732.09	442.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	181.41	0.00	0.00	834.69	2190.75	3730.00	1539.25	58.73%
Spring Assembly	2327.65	4097.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1309.67	8094.83	8940.00	905.17	89.88%
Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8940.00	8940.00	0.00%
COMMITTEE EXP.	\$ 4,402.11	\$ 6,378.05	\$ 7,501.39	\$ -	\$ 211.08	\$ 1,862.72	\$ 845.31	\$ 100.44	\$ 2,856.45	\$ 24,157.55	\$ 47,130.00	\$ 22,972.45	51.26%
Ad hoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	15.00	-	-	-	15.00	300.00	285.00	5.00%
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	925.10	925.10	950.00	24.90	97.58%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	152.22	250.00	97.78	60.89%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CERAASA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	689.51	689.51	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,923.71	4,500.00	-423.71	109.42%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,583.25	9,562.50	6,979.25	27.01%
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00%
Ont Delegates Conf.	601.16	99.02	112.00	-	-	-	-	-	18.00	830.18	909.98	79.80	91.23%
International Conferences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	162.54	162.54	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 601.16	\$ 99.02	\$ 112.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,105.64	\$ 5,592.00	\$ 15,161.99	\$ 8,569.99	52.81%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,003.27	\$ 6,477.07	\$ 7,613.39	\$ -	\$ 211.08	\$ 1,877.72	\$ 845.31	\$ 100.44	\$ 3,962.09	\$ 33,749.55	\$ 65,291.99	\$ 31,542.44	51.89%

Income Summary	
October 14, 2015	
7th Tradition	3,438.00
Bank Interest	-
GSO Flow through	-
Contributions	37,651.21
Cost recoveries	619.30
Grapevine Seasonal	4,205.00
Total Income	\$ 45,913.31

October 14, 2015	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	Change
Income To Date	45,913.31	43,401.33	2,511.98
Expenses To Date	33,749.55	44,799.36	(11,049.81)
Net Change To Operating Account	\$ 12,163.76	\$ -1,398.03	\$ 13,561.79
Contributions	\$37,651.21	\$34,621.50	\$3,029.71
Contributing Groups	151	127	24
Contributing Districts	15	17	-2

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS AS OF October 14 , 2015

District	00	Unspecified	\$0.00
District	02	Malton	\$2,171.43
District	06	Mississauga	\$1,065.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$2,867.17
District	12	Toronto South West	\$575.65
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$3,175.00
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$265.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$4,353.12
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,060.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$1,994.90
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$1,774.35
District	30	Quinte West	\$1,360.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$1,405.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$1,175.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$492.26
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$600.00
District	50	Comwall	\$1,140.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$756.87
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$498.15
District	62	Ottawa West	\$4,112.79
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$3,235.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$360.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$470.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$330.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$950.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$1,464.52

Total Contributions YTD: \$37,651.21

151	Groups Contributing	Total from Groups	\$28,344.65
15	Districts Contributing	Total from Districts	\$9,306.56

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Appendix B – Area 83 Secretary Tally

Area 83 - EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS

BALLOT # 4

FOR THE POSITION OF AREA SECRETARY

		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	The Hat
	Candidate Name						
1	Jim A	40	44	39			
2	Elaine H	38	42	41	53		
3	James OD	44	72	105	128		
4	Linda D	33	25				
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
Total Votes Cast		155	183	185	181		
2/3 Total Votes Cast		103	122	123	121		
1/5 Total Votes Cast		31	37	37	36		
1/3 Total Votes Cast		52	61	62	60		

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Appendix C- Self Support Documents

i) GSO letter to Area 83 re. decline in contributions



GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115 (212) 870-3400
(Between 179th and 180th Street)

Please direct all communications to:

GRAND CENTRAL STATION
P.O. BOX 459
NEW YORK, NY 10163
FAX# 212-870-3003

9/17/2015

Area # 083

Dear Delegate:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter, which was sent to each group along with the contributions statement for the seven months ended 07/31/2015

For your information, the percentage of groups contributing in your area on a comparative basis is:

	2015	2014
For the seven months ended 07/31/2015	15.12 %	25.42%

Also enclosed is a copy of the letter, sent to each D.C.M. in your area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Morris'.

David Morris

Treasurer

DWM/fs

Encs.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

ii) Letter from Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

Dear Friends

I would like to know your thoughts but especially the thoughts of the members in your Area about our revenues sources. The 7th Tradition contributions Revenues are essentially flat over the last few years, showing little to no growth.

In fact since 2006 our contributions were rather stagnant. The first 6 months of 2015 shows the same trend.

The sales of our publications are also flat over the last several years. If the 75th Big Book anniversary and the 3rd Quarter 2014 bulk purchases are both backed out of the 2014 total revenues and then this adjusted number is compared to 2013 revenues, you will see that growth is very small. The number of actual units sold during the first 6 months of 2015 is actually less than 2014.

Grapevine magazine Sales continues to decline around 4% to 5% per year.

Grapevine has been profitable over the last few years due to the growth of other publishing revenues.

Despite dedicated efforts of the staff and Boards to control spending, operating expenses for both AAWS and Grapevine continue to grow at a 2% to 3% per year due mainly to inflation.

At such a pace, where will we be in 20 years when we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous? Should we look for new sources of revenue? Should we start to sale other products like Sober City in Atlanta? Are there services that are offered by the GSO who are not useful? What is the opinion of members in your area to stop our revenues declining?.

Our Contributions cover 70% of the services provide by the GSO so if they are flat and are Publishing sales decline, what can we do?

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours in Love and Service

Richard B.

Administrateur Territorial de l' Est du Canada

Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

Maison/Home [450-964-8775](tel:450-964-8775)

Cell [514-983-8775](tel:514-983-8775)

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

iii) Response Letter from Area 83 Delegate

It is with gratitude that I have received a few messages and inquires with regards to the email I sent out on August 6th. A copy is below.

I would appreciate it when this discussion comes up not to forget about Area 83. Our funds have been dwindling quite a bit lately, as well as contributions being flat.

Although, it would be great if the members in Area 83 could help our General Service Office to become Self-Supporting, we must think about our own responsibilities first. For example,

since 2008 Area 83 has been in a financial position to send the full assessed amount to the General Service Office for the Delegate to attend the yearly conference in New York. This is the first year which our Treasurer, quite wisely, did not send in the full amount because of our financial situation.

I have had questions as to why the full amount for your Delegate is so high. This year the amount was \$7,800.00 US. This is not only to cover the travel and hotel expenses of the Delegate. (We know that it should not cost members to be active in service by paying for these expenses out of their own pocket.) This amount includes all the printing (this year over 500 pages) of pre-conference material, post conference material and of course the final conference report, which is send out to all groups in Area 83. There is also all the correspondence during the year from our General Service Office sent to the Delegate to keep our members informed as to what is happening in A.A., as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours In Love and Service

Joyce S.

Panel 65 Delegate

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Policy/Admissions

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

iv) GSO letter re. Self Support



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES, INC.
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115 (212) 870-3400

(Between 179th and 120th Streets)

Please direct all communications to:

GRAND CENTRAL STATION
P.O. BOX 459
NEW YORK, NY 10163
FAX# 212-870-3003

October 21, 2015

Dear Conference Member:

I send you warm greetings from your A.A.W.S. Board of Directors!

As you may know, the A.A.W.S. board has been spending a great deal of time focusing on the future of G.S.O. and how best to serve the Fellowship. Specifically, with respect to self-support, we realized that we could do a better job informing the Fellowship of how member contributions are used to carry our life-saving message to the still sick and suffering alcoholic.

To this end, we have created the attached "7th Tradition in Action" fact sheet which we trust will better convey to the Fellowship where and how the "dollar in the basket" is being used.

We also plan to make better use of Box 4-5-9, the A.A. Grapevine, the contribution acknowledgements, and aa.org to communicate to the Fellowship examples of the "7th Tradition in Action"—stories that we hope will better convey where and how the "dollar in the basket" is being used. Please feel free to send in your own 7th *Tradition in Action* story.

You can send your stories to A.A.W.S. by email or regular mail to Sandra Wilson, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1100, NY, NY 10115/wilsons@aa.org.

Thank you for your service, and we look forward to hearing from you.

As always, we thank you for your service, and your participation in the process.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Chet Parker'.

Chet Parker

Chair

A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors

Encl.

www.aa.org

YOUR SEVENTH TRADITION CONTRIBUTIONS Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group

When you or your home group contributes to the General Service Office (G.S.O.) your contribution helps an alcoholic around the corner or around the world.

Here are some of the ways that happens:



1 The G.S.O. Publishing Department has coordinated translations of the Big Book in 68 languages and translations of other A.A. literature in more than 80 languages. Further translations are constantly in process.

2 Each year G.S.O. staff responds to over 90,000 emails, letters, and phone calls from A.A. members, suffering alcoholics, professionals, students, the press and others interested in A.A. Thus accurate and consistent information about A.A. is provided.



3 Staff communications often help someone find local A.A. meetings, link members in service, and support the start of A.A. in countries where there are no A.A. meetings.



4 G.S.O. maintains and updates the aa.org website that averages over 30,000 visits per day. The website provides information about A.A., including how to find A.A. in their community, and provides help to members and those seeking help with their drinking problem, as well as to families and friends of problem drinkers, and professionals.

5 G.S.O.'s Publishing Department publishes and distributes all A.A. Conference-approved literature. Approximately 8 million books, pamphlets, video and audio products are distributed annually. Some of this literature is specifically designed for sight- or hearing-impaired members. *Box 4-5-9*, news and notes from G.S.O., is published four times a year in English, French and Spanish.



6 G.S.O. coordinates the *Loners-Internationalists Meeting Correspondence Service (LIM)*, which is often the only link to A.A. for many A.A. members in remote areas, homebound, or deployed in active military service.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

7 The Corrections coordinator at G.S.O. responds to over 6,500 letters a year, primarily from incarcerated alcoholics. Letters often request literature and many express gratitude for a Big Book supplied or a link to an outside member who can take a soon-to-be released alcoholic to his or her first meeting on the outside.



8 G.S.O.'s Corrections staff member also coordinates a Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS), which each year connects over 1,000 alcoholics behind the walls with outside members in order to share A.A. recovery by mail. *Sharing From Behind the Walls*, containing excerpts from inmate letters to G.S.O., is printed four times a year.



9 The G.S.O. Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities desk responds to letters and communications from residents or patients in treatment centers and connects them with local committees. The staff member on this assignment supports groups and members in making the A.A. message receivable to alcoholics with special needs.

10 Professionals are frequently the first contact for an alcoholic seeking help. The Cooperation With the Professional Community (C.P.C.) staff member at G.S.O. provides information about A.A. to hundreds of professionals each year, often sending them basic literature. This assignment also coordinates A.A. exhibits at over 25 national conferences of professionals in various fields each year and publishes the newsletter *About A.A.* for professionals.



11 The Public Information desk coordinates the production and broadcast of audio and video Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to help reach the still-suffering alcoholics. Each year PSAs produced by Public Information are broadcast on television and radio. The most recent PSA, *Tengo Esperanza (I Have Hope)*, was viewed approximately 30,000 times the first year of its release. The Public Information staff member also responds to approximately 600 emails per month from the press and other media, A.A. members and the general public.



12 G.S.O.'s Archives documents the activities of Alcoholics Anonymous for the future and makes the history of the Fellowship accessible to A.A. members and other researchers. Each year the Archives staff responds to over 1,500 requests for information and research. *Markings: Your Archives eNewsletter*, an electronic newsletter, is published three times a year.

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Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International