

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Area Assembly Minutes

October 30, 2016



Alcoholics Anonymous **Area 83 Eastern Ontario International**

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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 McA. I have the honor and privilege of serving as Area 83 Chairperson for the term 2015 - 2016.

Moment's Silence – Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions read by: James – Primary Purpose Group – D26

12 Concepts – Short Form read by: Linda – Elephant Room Group – D48

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 Freddy for your wonderful talk last night.

Introduction

This is our forth and final Assembly this term. During the remainder of the 2 year term, we will be working together to provide continued strength and direction to A.A. in Area 83. Our common goal 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 Eastern Ontario International. 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 581 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. Welcome.

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. So please keep coming back.

Over this 2 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.

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I would like to remind those who will be giving a report today to give whatever highlights are important, but that their written report, if submitted to our Secretary James O'D 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
SECRETARY	James O'D
REGISTRAR	Sue B
TREASURER	Kimberley M
IMMEDIATE PAST DELEGATE	Mel C
CHAIRPERSON	Rob McA

Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons (if you could stand where you are and wave)

Public Information	Elaine H
Cooperation with the Professional Community	Gary C
Correctional Facilities	Robert B
Treatment/Accessibility	Herb W
Grapevine	Jim A
Self-Support	Dave L
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:

- (x) Panel 53 Delegate Roy R
- (x) Panel 57 Delegate Dot D
- (x) Panel 59 Delegate Sandy S
- (x) Panel 61 Delegate Robb W

We have with us serving in Appointed Positions:

- (x) Area Archivist – David T
- (x) Area Webmaster – Jim R

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We have with us today Service visitors:

Fredy M Delegate Area 86 Western Ontario

Dale S Alternate Delegate Area 86 Western Ontario

This is your Area executive, committees and visitors for this, our forth 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.

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 to clean up after us. If you leave this room to smoke or any other reason please do so quietly, and please do not congregate just outside the doors. The Ambassador does not allow e-cigarettes to be used in the hotel. Please be considerate of those with perfume allergies when applying scents.

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 the Assembly and the Area Committee meetings. The Assembly meets twice a year – Usually the last full weekend in March and October. This afternoon we will decide on a date for the next Assembly. The Area committee, which is comprised of the Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, and District Committee Member's, met three times last year and will meet four times this year in Quinte West. We met in January, June, and September, and our next meeting is scheduled for December 3. A schedule of tentative dates for meetings in 2017 will be included in the minutes. Please note that anyone can attend the Area Committee meeting in Quinte West. We welcome all visitors.

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Tentative Dates for 2016 2017

Year	Date	What	Where
2016	December 3 <u>Approved</u>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2017	January 7 <u>Approved</u>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2017	March 24,25,26 <u>Approved</u>	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2017	June 3 <u>tentative</u>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

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 \$13.00 per person for the weekend which translates to about \$5200. 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 banquet last night and we will have another one today. Please keep these costs in mind when the 7th is being passed around.

7TH COLLECTED - \$3,657.67

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.

- ◆ 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.

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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 James before standing at the microphone.

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HOW DO WE VOTE?

- ◆ Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by 'substantial unanimity'. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority – 2/3 of the votes cast each time. As we cannot control who is in the room at the time of each vote, it is impractical to use the roll-call as the basis for the 2/3 calculation.

- ◆ I believe that the early part of the agenda today can be handled under simple majority – 1 vote more than 50%. I will advise you when I believe we should move to 2/3. If, at any time, you think that we should move to a 2/3 majority before I indicate it, remember, this is your meeting. Don't hesitate to make the motion.

- ◆ To facilitate the voting, which today will be by show of hands, I have asked a number of non-voting attendees to help me as hand counters. When we return from lunch, I would ask those with a vote to sit in the front, those without to sit at the back. Ultimately, it will speed things up.
- ◆ At times, I may ask for a show of hands to get a '**sense of the meeting**'. This is not a vote, and anyone can raise his or her hand.
- ◆ Again, when you are ready to speak please identify yourself by name, position, Group and District number.

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

MOVED: LINDA D – AREA ARCHIVES CHAIR

SECONDED: STEVE – D86 (NO POSITION IN/AT THE DISTRICT VOICED)

DISCUSSION: No

VOTE in Favour - All

Opposed - 0

Abstaining – 0

MOTION PASSED

2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

DOES ANYONE HAVE REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA AS DISTRIBUTED WITH RESPECT TO OLD BUSINESS?

OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

NO

NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

Are there any other items to be added to the agenda?

To be referred to as Agenda items number:

Joyce S – Area 83 Delegate

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Area Chair report to be added as agenda item 9a.

MAY I HAVE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED

MOVED: MARIA – D30 (NO POSITION GIVEN)

SECONDED: JAMES – D26 (NO POSITION GIVEN)

VOTE in Favour - All

Opposed - 0

Abstaining – 0

MOTION PASSED

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

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF THE SPRING ASSEMBLY, MARCH 20TH, 2016

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

No. They are perfect!

May I Have a Motion to accept minutes as submitted (or amended)

MOVED: FRANK – D58 (NO POSITION GIVEN)

SECONDED: MARTY – DCM D10

VOTE in Favour – All (minus 1 abstention)

Opposed - 0

Abstaining - 1

At our September 10 ACM a sense of the room was taken and it was a majority vote that District Committee Members not give a verbal report at this Election assembly. All District Committee Members are requested to send reports to our Secretary James and they will be included in the minutes. (They will be found in the appendix section of these minutes.)

4. 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 questions from the floor.

Public Information

Elaine H (Read by Secretary)

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

I am sorry that due to illness I am unable to be there this morning. This is a brief report – a full report will be in the minutes.

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I would like to thank those who participated in the PI Workshop yesterday. One of the presenters was Deborah M, PIC Chair for District 26 PI Chair who presented on the Whys and Hows of establishing an effective District PI Committee – and of particular importance as we wind down the term, how to establish a structure that can be sustained as new chairs and committees rotate in for the next term. Congratulations to Deborah and her Committee – I have already heard many comments about what people took away for their own activities.

I was also delighted to have Jason M, email and website coordinator from Ottawa Intergroup participate in our workshop yesterday – to present the exciting new posters they have developed - how the idea was born, the development process, their final release. If you have not seen them, please go to the Ottawa website. The posters are great – well done Ottawa! You have continued the Ottawa tradition of innovation – they were responsible for the start and path to completion of the youth poster now part of conference approved AA literature. Keep it up Ottawa!

You will have seen the latest edition of the Area 83 PI/CPC News Exchange. Copies are available at the PI and CPC displays in the atrium – it provides a snapshot of PI and CPC activity in the Area. We look forward to its continuation.

We had a lively meeting of PI and CPC District Chairs last evening – it is evident that Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community are very much alive and active throughout the Area.

Lastly, I want to thank you for the privilege of serving as Area 83 Public Information chair for this term. I have experienced and learned a lot – including when NOT to speak – which is a challenge for any alcoholic. I have had the opportunity to participate in our Area 83 events, to share with PI Chairs in other Areas in Canada and the US, to get to know the staff coordinators at GSO, and to speak at the International Convention in Atlanta on anonymity –they were ALL highlights of my term!

Thank you for allowing me to be of service to Area 83.

Good luck to those letting their names stand in elections today to continue the tradition of service in Area 83.

Elaine H, Area 83 PI Chair, Panel 65

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 GTA CPC Committee and have taken part in Service days at Peterborough, Ottawa and Brighton since our last Assembly.

Elaine (A83 PIC Chair) and I managed to get a joint PI-CPC Exchange Newsletter issued. Copies are available this weekend at our PI and CPC displays.

We held a CPC Workshop at the SID yesterday and that went well. I'd like to thank Mark B. (GTA CPC Chair), April C. (D62 PI/CPC) and Linda L. (D28 CPC) for their part in that.

We had our Area 83 joint PIC/CPC Committee meeting last night with a good attendance of 16. It was very informative and thanks to all who attended and shared your experiences, especially on how to better motivate new members to engage in PI and CPC service.

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

In closing I say, Let Gratitude be your Attitude.

Correctional Facilities

Robert B

Who will be your District Bridging the Gap (BTG) corrections contact person for 1 Jan 2017?

We have been informed by Corrections Canada that our Canadian Corrections Clients in Federal institutions are now being informed to write GSO if they wish an AA Correspondent. Thank Dave T. & Peter N

A letter has been approved by the Commissioner at Corrections and Instructions sent out to all of our Corrections Regions in Canada.

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GSO has a list of Canadian AA members who wish to be correctional correspondents. At first they may write US clients (inmates) until more Canadian client become aware of the opportunity, or wait to be linked. The KEY right now is to have Canadian AA members aware, ready, willing & on the list at GSO

New Corrections Video is now available

The DVD, A New Freedom (DV-18) is now available. We encourage showing it at AA corrections meetings. If you have any feedback about the video please contact Jeff GSO corrections@aa.org we're especially interested in whether or not you think shorter versions of the video (3 minutes or 15 minutes) would be useful. Thanks Neil

Sharing From Behind the Walls

The fall issue of Sharing From behind the Walls. GSO also have back issues in English, French, and Spanish, which would be happy to send to you. Email Jeff corrections@aa.org

Grapevine and LaViña 'Carry the Message'

Grapevine has a program called 'Carry the Message' which encourages individuals, groups, and areas to buy gift subscriptions that Grapevine arranges to be passed along to inmates who have requested subscriptions.

Corrections Kit Contents & Other Service Material Available Online You can visit the "Corrections" page of G.S.O.'s A.A. web site www.aa.org to view, download, and print the most recent versions of Corrections service materials. There you can find the Corrections Service Kit and content list with interactive links to enable you to recreate your own kit. "

Bridging The Gap (BTG) 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.

Bridging The Gap (BTG) 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.

In general correctional facilities in our area are doing well. Most common problem seems to be not enough AA volunteers and need more literature.

CCEC Things are still fairly unstable on woman's side. The volunteers have been very patient through the summer. On men side they are getting in the consistently now. Thank Linda and Paul for sticking with it.

I would like to thank well as all correctional volunteer for their patience and compaction,

Most of all I would very much like to thanks all the Correctional Chairs and GIR for their dedication. They really make a difference by taking on the responsibility as the being go to person for the District over seeing their Facility's and taking on the contact position in BTG dedication.



Thanks Robert B. Area 83 CF Chair

Treatment Facilities

Herb W

(No report submitted)

Grapevine

Jim A

Hi friends, I am an alcoholic, my name is Jim A, I have had the honour and privilege of serving you as the /Area 83 Grapevine Chair.

Many thanks to district secretaries for their minutes; D36 Grapevine chair Rocky P for setting up his display and selling lots of literature; and the district GV chairs. We had 10 dedicated diehards at the Sunday morning, including 4 incoming GV chairs.. Working with them is the best part of serving in this position. The one big idea that came from this meeting is that GV needs more Canada. Print it here, price it in CDN\$ and have more Canadian content. That last one relies on you. And GV chairs

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voiced an opinion that they need more support from the GSRs, the district tables and the groups. Too many GV chairs are a committee of one.

2016 General Service Conference Report

2015 was a good year at GV/LV, as described in the annual General Service Report. Please see pages 32-35, and for you analyst/accounting types, the entire financial reporting package is at the back of the book too. The publishing industry is in decline about 5% a year, but GV print subscriptions only went down 2.5% last year. It is probably due to the 2015 subscription challenge. They made money and contributed \$260k to the Reserve fund, 3rd consecutive year for this happy event. And digital quote of the day goes out to nearly 40,000 subscribers. Go to the website, its free.

But this cannot last forever. AA membership is flat, so there are not as many new readers of GV as before. Going digital has helped but it is not enough.

A: Audio Strategy:

Short answer: it will continue, complete roll out still to be determined.

B: New books

Of the four new ideas for books the conference decided to not do a Beginners II and Young and Sober II, maybe later. They are going to proceed with new compilations on Steps 4&5, and a one on Stories by Atheistic/Agnostic/Freethinking members. These compilations will be released in 2017 and beyond. As with current practice, the material for these books comes from previously published stories that have appeared in the GV magazine, or on AAGrapevine.org.

C: Review of the GV Workbook:

Completed with some changes. This on the website under the resources tab. It is 102 pages of pure gold, everything you ever wanted and needed to know about being a GV rep.

Other bits and pieces:

Grow Your Grapevine: This promotional activity for 2016 encourages teams (groups, groups of groups, districts area etc) to complete tasks on a seasonal basis. Area with most cards completed gets a special section of a 2017 GV magazine. This started March 1 and goes until Feb 28th 2017. The card is downloadable from the website. And you make submissions online too. All detail on the website. Western Ontario is winning the whole thing.

I have submitted a request to the GV controller that the pocket planners and calendars be priced in \$CAD. Still no response given on that one.

At the last Assembly, a question was raised asking "What does it cost to produce a Grapevine? I have emailed and called both the Operations manager and the General manager on this one recently. I got an answer on Friday. According to the Executive Editor, paper, printing and postage comes out to 81 cents a copy. Please note that this does not include staffing and other overhead charges. This was all that I was allowed to have.

As always, please recycle your old Grapevine magazines by starting group or district collections for use as a lending library. **Or give them to your districts service committees, especially Corrections. Each magazine represents hope. The July issue is always dedicated to Corrections. This one is needed behind the walls especially.** Or you could pass on some to me for an Area collection. A district or group collection.

Other ideas: A group in Milton that has a discussion meeting based on the stories in the current Grapevine. Give a magazine away for a newbie getting 30 days, it becomes a keepsake.

At a recent roundup, an atheist member asked if I had any extra copies of the October 2016 issue dedicated to Atheist and Agnostics. May I please ask that when you are done with your Oct 2016 issue, that you try to forward that copy to an agnostic/atheist group in your district, or onto another district's agnostic/atheist meeting if there is not one nearby.

New 2016 Book

Our Twelve Traditions is a new volume released Sept 1, 2016. Area 83 rocks, and we are in it! Twice! And as luck would have it the first story On Tradition One, was written by a member from Massena NY in 1978 when we had a District 46. Tradition Seven has a July 2015 article by someone from Toronto concerning the cost of our coffee at this Assembly. Some of the articles are on-line exclusives, submitted and published on aagrapevine.org only. I brought 10 could have sold 20. I will have some at the December ACM.

Go to website aagrapevine.org:

Try a seven day free trial? Read the daily quote, over 31,000 people are using this free subscription. Submit a caption for the monthly cartoon contest. Take the daily poll. Submit a story, joke or photo/art. Use the Archives function that has every story EVER published. Only 56 days til Christmas! Go to the website to get that something special for a sponsee or sponsor.

Since we met last

June 11th Service day in Iroquois

June 12th, Tri district Service Day in Ottawa.

Sept 17th Toronto Round Up

October 1st Mississauga Round Up

October 8th Toronto Gratitude Conference

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As usual, please invite Grapevine to your service days/conferences/round ups. In the name of self support please ask locally first. I can always be reached at grapevine@area83aa.org.

2017 Planners and Calendars: Only 590 pieces sold this year, 685 last year. This decline is a sign of the time, the advance of technology. DCM's who have not picked up your orders please see me before you leave. I have sold all 50 planners, and 18 calendars this weekend. I have 6 calendars left for you procrastinators.

To The Panel 65 GV chairs, you have been the best part of this position. Thank you for being a very fine vintage. To the next panel, please carry the message of Gv, so it does not wither on the vine. [hold up grapes] The choice is yours as to which GV you want. The GV is about people, writing their stories, but it is also about people carrying the message. Think about it, you could have a lot of fun doing service.

It's **Grape** to be sober!

And finally, to everyone here today, and has been over the past 14 years, Thanks for the memories. This is my favorite place to be, but it is time to move on. I moved to Oakville last year to live in a castle by the sea with my princess. And as luck would have it, I have found a great group and recently became its Secretary, and have I a phone shift. This is my last assembly. I regret to inform you that I have defected to the other side, Area 86. I am Freddie's problem now. To those who are letting their name stand, best of luck. A83 is in good hands, and will continue to do so. YILAS

Jim A - Panel 65 Area 83 E Ont. Int'l GV Chair

Self-Support

Dave L

Hello everyone, my name is Dave L. and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Liverpool Group in District 26 Lakeshore West. Thank you for the honour and pleasure of serving you as the Panel 65 Area 83 Self Support Chair.

Since my last report at the March Assembly, I attended the District 82 Conference in Lindsay on May 7th, and the District 30 Roundup in Brighton on May 28th, where I set up the Area display and spoke with many members about Self Support.

On April 28th and June 23rd, I chaired meetings at the Toronto Intergroup Office to try to re-establish a Toronto Self Support Committee, to meet bi-monthly. The bi-monthly meetings of the Toronto Self Support Committee were suspended for the time being, in view of light attendance. Some of the challenges with attendance relate to other AA commitments, summer activities and the fact that the term for District Self Support Chairs ends in December 2016.

I attended the District 70, 74 & 78 Service Information Day in Cobden on June 25th with our Area 83 Delegate and gave a presentation on Self Support. I also attended the District 26 & 28 Conference in Oshawa on August 13th and the Toronto Gratitude Conference on October 8, where I set up the Area display and spoke about Self Support with AA members.

I met with several District Self Support Chairs last evening and enthusiasm for Self Support remains high amongst the District Chairs.

There also was a discussion with the Toronto District Chairs in attendance to discuss how to position the establishment of the Toronto Committee for the 2017/2018 term. It was agreed that the idea will be passed on to the next Area 83 Self Support Chair for consideration.

Self Support is alive and well within Area 83. Self Support District Chairs have been elected in more Districts and are proactive in contacting me to discuss self support ideas. The separate collection for the AA International Day of Gratitude was expanded to three Districts this June.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Yours in love and service, Dave L., Self Support Chair - Panel 65 – Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

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Archives

Linda D

Good morning everyone, my name is Linda D. I am a member of the Land O'Lakes group, I currently have the privilege of being the Area Archives Chair.

First let me say thank you to everyone who has been working so hard at create and organize their District Archives. Many districts did not have an Archives person 2 years ago and now they have managed to get things sorted and started – well done to those amazing people

When I gave my first report I asked 'how important is it' and for my final assembly report I ask the same question HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?

It is important that we ensure that our legacies for those to come are preserved. To ensure that, like our founding fathers, the future members of A.A should know the stories of how we grew. It is important that we share the trials and tribulations that we have endured. They are different than they were in the beginning, and assuredly different from some of the ones that will be faced by future members. They need to know that they can worked through with our experience strength and hope for them to draw on.

This goes not just for the program but the experiences we have in our own sobriety. Remember that first person you heard speak that you related to, the one who made you realize that you were really an alcoholic and you could do this. You could have a better life by working the program of alcoholics anonymous. By sharing your story with the Archives person in your district, you are giving that little piece of yourself to another alcoholic and maybe helping them stay sober.

It has been my privilege to be a part of the Archives committee and I look forward to continuing to serve in any way I can

Yours in Service

Linda D

Service Information Day Committee

Ray R

I'm an alcoholic, a member of The Last Chance Group, and serving as your Service Information Day Chair, my name is Ray R.

It has been an honour and privilege serving on this committee. I've had the privilege of meeting a lot of people, and learning a lot about myself.

An event like Service Information Day takes a lot of hard work and dedication, and I've been blessed to work with 5 of the most talented people anyone can ask for..

The members of the committee, we have:

Amy L, District 26 West who's hard work and attention to detail, and self admitted service junkie lead us thru.

Bryan McL, District 48 who's sense of humour reminded us that it was ok to mix business with pleasure.

Jim S, District 82, who's wisdom and experience guided us thru a lot of the guidelines and procedures

Don MacP, District 82, who was the quiet observer, and proofreader, was well thought out and always has great input.

And Les McD, District 34 who was the eager beaver and multi-tasker and was more than willing to do anything when asked.

We are individual who would normally meet, but were divinely put together, each with our own unique talents and were able to come together and bring you such an amazing event.

Although we had our usual hiccup, we were able to use our combined experience to get thru them and a special thanks to Jim Ritchie his "quick to act" on all our technical issues, and to all the trusted servants who had gone before us, for gently guiding us along.

Our 2 year term has flown by real quick, and I think we finally know what we're doing.

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Once again, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to serve, and no matter where I go in my service journey, this experience will stand out as the pivotal one.

Yours In Love And Service

Ray R - DCM District 02 - Service Information Day Chair

5. TREASURER

KIMBERLEY M

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

Last night there were 210 tickets sold at the banquet compared to 159 tickets sold in the Spring. Thank you to those who helped to sell tickets in the atrium yesterday and Friday.

In the District Committee Members mail folders you will find 2 Area 83 contribution envelopes. Please share these with your District and Group Treasurers for future contributions. More envelopes are available on the side table, please help yourselves. Please thank the groups that are including their service number either on the envelope or right on the cheque. It is helpful and appreciated.

Please continue to remind groups who would like to contribute using Paypal to include their 6 digit Group Service Number with any contributions using paypal so that the group can get credit for the contribution. The place to enter the group number is the screen after entering credit card information. Paypay charges a fee of 2.9% plus 30 cents per transaction. There have been 6 contributions using paypal this year so far.

Also in the District Committee Members mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders you will find copies of the financial statement for the period ending October 18, 2016. Copies of these are available on the side table and let's go through the numbers now.

Page 1 is a financial summary. It shows our reserve account, which is set aside for unforeseen circumstances, has a balance of \$20,000 and is in the form of a GIC paying 1.4% interest maturing September 11, 2017.

Income for the period: 7th tradition collected at the Assembly and Area Committee Meetings (\$3 969.33). Cost recoveries from the sale of grapevine materials and service manuals (\$371.00). Grapevine Seasonal (\$3 326.25). There are still some moneys to be collected to go towards this amount. I already have another \$546.50 to add in here after this weekend. Soon the total here should be very close to the amount below under expenses. There are typically differences between these 2 amounts due to having to guess months in advance what the exchange rate will be with the US however this year the difference will be quite small. Group and District contributions (\$42 007.85). Total income for the period is \$49 674.43.

Expenses for the period: Committee expenses are \$24 628.86. Area committee meeting – rent and refreshments (\$1 157.46). General Service Conference \$10 412.40. Bank service charges \$10.56. Paypal Fees \$13.84. Forum in Thunder Bay \$1 398.22. Grapevine Seasonals \$4 089.76. Ontario Delegates Conference \$1 514.37. International Conferences \$0. Total expenses for the period are \$43 225.47.

To date expenses are \$6 448.96 lower than income. The bank opening balance on January 1, 2016 was \$23 640.83. Total income less expenses leaves a balance in the operating account of \$30 089.79 as of October 18, 2016. Last year at this time, our balance in the operating account was \$31 091.07. The bank reconciliation has been done and the balance in the operating account is accurate.

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 numbers that you see here: The amount shown on the Webmaster line under miscellaneous, \$39.98, is the amount of website renewal for 2 years. The amount shown on the Archives line under miscellaneous, \$499.93, is for the Archives workshop in Ottawa. Beside Grapevine under Literature you see \$536.62, some of that has been recovered from sales of grapevine materials and shows up under cost recoveries on page 1. The amount recovered to date is \$252.25. Beside the Spring Assembly, under meals you see \$4000 which covers the coffee. In that same line under miscellaneous, the amount of \$1255.74 includes Archives room and DVD rental (\$322.05), data projectors (\$214.70) and the set up of the ballroom (\$678). (the extra 40.99 is for one banquet ticket owed to us by the Ambassador). Beside Area Committee Meetings, travel expenses were for a previous delegate to facilitate the election for the new self-support chair at the January ACM. Miscellaneous in that same line is for the rent and refreshments for the ACM's held so far this year meetings.

At the bottom of the page is a summary comparing year to date for 2016 and 2015. Here you can see that our income to date is up \$3 761.12 compared to last year at this time. Our expenses are up \$9 475.92. The resulting net change to our operating account is \$5 714.80. Contributions are up \$4 356.64 compared to last year at this time. 10 more groups have contributed and 1 less district has contributed so far this year compared to last year.

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You may ask why expenses are up \$9 475 compared to last year. While some expenses are down, the three main items that contribute to this increase are: General Service Conference – we have paid the full amount which is approx. \$7800 more than we had paid last year at this time. Forums – approx. \$1 400 more due to being in Thunder Bay. There was no forum last year. ODC – was held in Sudbury vs Hamilton accounting for an additional approx. \$780

Page 3 shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from the District, as well as Groups within the District. Thank you to the 161 Groups and 14 Districts that have made financial contributions to Area 83 this year. As of October 18, 2016 all cheques received were processed and receipts along with return contribution envelopes were sent out.

The 7th Tradition collected Friday at the open meeting was \$558.90, Saturday \$1 360.05, and the total contributions in the coffee cans were \$463.52. Sunday the 7th tradition collected was \$1 374.25. Therefore the total contributed this weekend which will go towards the coffee costs is \$3 756.72 compared to \$3199.28 in the Spring Assembly. Thank for your generous contributions.

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

6. SECRETARY

JAMES O'D

My name is James and I am an alcoholic. My home group is The Early Morning Discussion Group in downtown Toronto located in District 10.

We have all been asked to keep our reports brief yet thorough so I will do my best.

Since the last Assembly I was asked to participate in the Canadathon on July 1st in Ottawa. It was an amazing all day event designed for the recovering alcoholic and their families. Music, games, meetings and great fellowship abounded. Please remember that if you are near our nation's capital for the 150th anniversary of our country next year the Canadathon will be running strong.

From July 8th to 10th I was up enjoying some northern AA hospitality at the Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Thunder Bay. A very informative, interactive and inspiring weekend as the trusted servants from the GSO came to share what is happening with AA as a whole but also to listen to our concerns and hear our suggestions. The members from the GSO always say "if you see me in the hall, please stop me...that's why we are here". So I did. I stopped the chairman of the board and asked him a few questions and he shared why some things are the way they are and also how different issues are being addressed. I am always very impressed to see how many give so much of their time and effort to serve our great Fellowship.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize all the sub-committee chairs who were able to come and set up their displays and share our recovery message of hope at the Gratitude conference held a few weeks ago in Toronto. It is not always convenient to be of service but their effort and participation truly reached out the hand of AA to all those present.

It was great to see many DCMs sending in their reports BEFORE the Assembly. This makes it possible to post the minutes in a timely manner. So please do not hesitate to email them to me as soon as you can.

I would like to take this time to thank the members of Area 83 for allowing me to be of service as your Area Secretary. It has been an incredible term but remember....it is not over yet! When coming close to the finish line we may have the tendency to slow down and ease into complacency. I would urge us all to renew and redouble our efforts to make this last leg of the race our best and make the way smooth for those that come behind us.

May the road rise to meet you....

Yours in Love & Service, James

7. ROLL CALL (DEFERRED TO AFTER LUNCH) AND REGISTRAR

SUE B

I am an Alcoholic, a member of the Parkwood Hills Group in Ottawa – West, District 62. My name is Sue B.

It is wonderful to be here with all of you this weekend, and to be of service to you and this wonderful fellowship, of which I truly love.

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Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Secretary/Registrar Workshop yesterday. It was great to see the presence of so many interested in learning about the process and your questions. It has been my pleasure working alongside our Secretary, James, in these presentations. We all had fun, along with learning the importance of the information being passed from the District Registrar to the Area Registrar, who is the main link between the groups and the General Service Office (GSO). Thank you to Jim S, DCM for D82, for his great presentation.

As your Area Registrar, I am responsible for compiling and updating group registration and records on the GSO database called the Fellowship New Vision (FNV); and distributing lists to District Committee Members (DCM's) and Registrar's at least twice per year. I also prepare the roll call forms for Assemblies and Area Committee meetings. The Area Registrar is responsible for all Group information, and the Area Secretary is responsible for both the Districts and Area Committee information.

Currently, Area 83 has 581 registered groups; 554 with an active status, and 27 with an unknown status.

If this is your first Area Business Meeting, we welcome you. If you are a new General Service Representative (GSR) and have yet to receive your GSR kit, while you are waiting for it to arrive in the mail, you can simply go online to your GSO website, which is www.aa.org and choose the heading "For Groups & Members"; then by choosing the tab "Getting involved in General Service" there are 12 publications all listed here (including the ever popular A.A. Service Manual combined with the 12 Concepts for World Service). There are actually 24 items that make up your kit.

GSR kits are usually mailed out within 3 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 the GSR does not pick up the package within the allotted time on the card, it will be returned to the GSO as undeliverable. If GSO cannot make contact with the GSR by phone or email, then they will mark the group as unknown as they no longer have a contact person for the group.

If you feel it's been too long since your change form was passed along to your District Registrar, and have still not received your kit, then please have them send me an email & I'll check our database or with GSO to see what is happening. Alternates do not receive a kit.

As many of our DCM's, Alt/DCM's and Registrar's know one of my projects throughout the term was to reduce the number of Unknown groups in Area 83; we have gone from 89 and are now down to 27. Some of the groups were no longer meeting and were made inactive, and the rest, now having a postal mail contact for their group, have become active. This allows them to share, once again with the group, information on Alcoholics Anonymous world-wide. The rest of the 27 unknown groups will either still be active and will require a GSR, Alt/GSR, or a postal mail contact to change the group's status with the GSO to active, or they will have closed and no longer meet, therefore changing their status to inactive. Some may even wish to become a meeting only, and in this case, the District Registrar would send me an email letting me know, so I may then email the GSO to have them change the status of the group from unknown to inactive.

I wish to give a HUGE thank you once again to the team from District 36, who was most generous with their time and assistance in manning the Registration table, for Greeting and to all the others who aided with this process all weekend.

Before I give the roll call/display, I would like to give a brief explanation of the process of compiling the tally. When compiling the roll call/display, much care is put into interpreting the sign-in sheets. The result being, that the numbers will often not look at all like what was originally written on them.

Most important to remember is that there is only one vote per Group. Also, no matter how many positions you hold here today, in the total delegation count (total persons) for your district, you are only counted once, as you are only one person.

When preparing the count for the tally, please note:

1. All members have been placed in the appropriate columns as they indicated when they signed in on the sign in sheets.
2. For Committee Members who have also marked themselves in as your group's GSR, you have also been indicated under the GSR column for your District.
3. For Alt/GSR's whose GSR is not present, you have also been indicated under the GSR column for your District.
4. For visitors - in the absence of a GSR or Alt/GSR from your home group, you have also been indicated under the GSR column for your District as it is assumed you will be voting for your home group today.

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5. Also, if an Alternate DCM is the only person representing his or her group, I will count them as a GSR as well, since Alternate DCM's do not have voting privileges, but Group Representatives do.
6. 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/display for Corrections.

Before you leave here today, please place your name badge holders in the box located on the table outside this room. This way we may recycle them so as to keep our costs down.

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

In closing, serving as your Area Registrar has indeed been an incredible experience and has enriched my recovery and service journey in a profound way. I am deeply humbled and thankful for the trust and confidence you have placed in me. For the most part, I can say it has been a blast!!

Last note – Please remember to place your name badge holders in the box located on the table outside this room.

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

Yours in Love and Service,

Sue B
Panel 65 Registrar
Area 83 – Eastern Ontario International

8. ALTERNATE DELEGATE

KIM S

Hi my name is Kim and I am an alcoholic, and your Panel 65 Alternate Delegate. I am a member of the St. Clements group. I am honoured and very grateful to be of service.

I have attended many service days within Area 83....including Info AA Day.

I attended the Eastern Canada Regional Forum from July 8-10 in Thunder Bay.

It was one of the best I have attended. I learned so much and heard so much inspiration.

On Saturday morning Joyce and I attended a breakfast meeting on CERAASA where a potential agenda was discussed. It is being held at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Moncton February 24-26, 2017. Room rate is 121.00. There are a block of 75 rooms being held until January 24.

I also attended the Remote Communities meeting. It was a great and informative meeting. There was great discussion about a tele- conference call through KOE Health every Wednesday. These meetings have been going on since Sept 2015. Manitoba alone has 40 remote communities.

During sharing time there was a question to GSO as to whether remote communities will be a standing committee and the answer given was, not at this time.

Since the Spring Assembly here have been 3 Remote communities calls where there can be up to 10 Areas on the call.

A great piece of information was there is a eastern Canada Regional correspondent. His name is Steve Smith. Use in tandem with other depts or staff members. I never knew this before.

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I attended joint sharing at Toronto inter group on August 2. Much discussion was had about the scientific assembly November 24-26 through CPC. The next Joint Sharing is Tuesday Nov 1. I will be attending.

I facilitated the District 30 elections in Brighton on Oct 30. I also gave a talk on Remote Communities.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service

Kim S

9. DELEGATE

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 you and the fellowship as your Panel 65 Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International.

Well! Here we are – the final assembly of this term. Where has the time gone? It sure fly's when you are having fun and what a humbling experience this has been!

During my term as your Panel 65 Delegate I have had the opportunity to present and report what happened at the 64th and 65th General Service Conference to 23 out of our 25 districts. I really have appreciated all the hard work everyone did in order for me to fulfill my commitment to the area and AA as a whole. In my travels, I visited towns and rural areas where I might not have ever gone to. The hospitality was amazing everywhere I went and the enthusiasm shown was evident by the attendance of so many members new to service. Keep up the good work!

It was such a pleasure to be asked to facilitate group and district inventories. It warmed my heart to see all the dedicated members within Area 83 doing such a wonderful job reaching out and helping the still suffering alcoholic. This is what we are here for!

Another highlight for me was of course, being able to attend 3 General Service Conferences. The first one was very intimidating, however, the last one this past April was a breeze to the point where I felt very comfortable. I can assure you that A.A. is alive and in good hands at our General Service Office, in the 14 areas in Canada and the 79 areas in the United States.

On July 8-10th, I attended the Regional Forum in Thunder Bay where I had the honour of doing a presentation on "How to Attract People in Service." I personally enjoyed listening to all the presentations and think they were an exceptional contribution to the spiritual and informative sharing throughout the weekend. There were 220 in attendance with 74 first time attendees.

I am looking forward to watching the process of our elections this afternoon. For those of you are able to let your name stand for any of the positions, please consider it. I can tell you from my personal experience that in my wildest dreams, I never in a millions years thought my service journey would lead me this far down the triangle. Going forward, I can now relax and sit down there amongst you. This will allow me to be able to get to know you better and for you to get to know me, if you already don't. It will give me tremendous pleasure to watch those following grow and experience what I have been able to. This experience has changed me and without a doubt will change our future Trusted Servants.

The following is the Grapevine quote from October 19th and it truly sums up my gratitude for all that you have done for me, our Area Officers and Sub-Chairs:

"A leader in AA service is ... a man (or a woman) who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job."

The Final 2016 Final Conference Reports have been given to the District Committee Member for distribution. There are also spares over by the table for anyone who would like more. I request that you ensure that all the groups in your districts get a copy, mentioning that full last names are used in the reports, therefore, they should not be left lying around.

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Please continue to have your District Secretaries send me your minutes to delegate@area83aa.org until the end of the year and to pastdelegate@area83aa.org starting January 1, 2017. I will have to get used to this new title. Also, I am going to go into email withdrawals. If you think of me, please send me a little note or just to say "hi" until I get used to the transition.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83.

9A. CHAIRPERSON

ROB MCA

Good morning, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Kedron Group in District 28, and my name is Rob McA. It's an honour to serve Area 83 as Chairperson for this term.

While looking back on the last 22 months, I believe we have continued to be an active Area.

Beginning in January of 2015, we launched our new and improved website, and in February, we hosted the 2nd biannual CERAASA, which was a great success.

At our first Assembly, while discussing a motion, there were 4 friendly amendments, the question was called three times, the voice of the minority spoke three times, and a motion to reconsider was passed. After all this, the motion was passed, almost as it was originally presented. At that same Assembly, three recommendations from the ad-hoc committee on the Service Information Day guidelines were accepted. It was quite an introduction to chairing an Assembly; you really kept me on my toes.

As Chairperson, I witnessed our service structure at its very best, keeping principles before personalities, and knowing that, while I had an informed opinion, I didn't have a voice.

At our Assembly last fall, a motion was passed to enable online contributions through our website. As a result, PayPal contributions are now accepted.

We conducted an Area inventory this term, and a committee is continuing to look into the results.

A committee looking at our Assembly location was formed and will report later today.

A new Alternate Webmaster was appointed near the beginning of our term, and a Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster should be appointed at our December Area Committee meeting.

A call has been issued to fill the appointed position of Area 83 Archivist. We still seek a qualified candidate.

There was an interim election to fill the position of Secretary, which left the position of Self Support Chair vacant. This resulted in another interim election to fill that position.

We are pleased that our panel 51 Delegate Joe D continues to serve as Class B Trustee of the General Service Board & Director of AA World Services. Joe has traveled a long way to the bottom of the Service triangle, and represented Area 83 so well.

Area 83 was well represented at the Eastern Canadian Regional Forum in Thunder Bay this July. We have started discussions on the possibility of Area 83 hosting the 2020 forum.

I'm really thankful to the Districts who have invited me to facilitate your elections, and inventories, and I've enjoyed attending many Service days this term. It has been a great learning experience. Best of all, I've met so many amazing AA members, and formed many new friendships.

The guidance of several past chairs has been most helpful, and I'm sure Area 83 will continue to help all of us carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

Yours in Love and Service - Rob McA

We now reach Item 10, Old Business. At this point, I recommend going to 2/3 majority. May I have a motion to that effect?

Motion by: Amy L – DCM D26

Seconded By: Irvin - DCM D78

Any Discussion - NO

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Vote in Favour - All
 Opposed - 0
 Abstained - 0

10. **OLD BUSINESS - *NONE***

11. NEW BUSINESS

11(a) **Report from Ad-Hoc Committee on Area Inventory Results** **Robb W, 61 Delegate**

Hi friends, I am an alcoholic and my name is Robb W.

I was asked by your Chairperson to head up an Ad Hoc Committee whose scope is: "To review the inventory and make recommendations to the Area Committee based on the inventory results". Joining me on the committee are Darlene K. DCM District 54, Amy L., DCM District 26 and Dave B. Alt. DCM, District 14.

We have had one online meeting and a number of emails back and forth. At the writing of this report, we have gathered the responses from the inventory, all 122 pages, and are looking it over. We plan to find some time to meet face to face, here at the assembly this weekend.

I would like to add that the large majority of the responses have been extremely positive. I feel that we should have a final report with recommendations, if any, for the January Area Committee Meeting of next term.

More will be revealed!

Thank you for the honor of serving Alcoholics Anonymous.

Your in Love and Service,

Robb W

We now move to Agenda item

11(b) **Report from Ad-Hoc Committee on Area Assembly Location** **Kim S** **Area 83 Alternate Delegate**

Hi my name is Kim, I am an alcoholic and a member of the St Clements Group. I was asked by our Area Chairperson Rob, to chair the Area Assembly Location Adhoc Committee to research new Area Assembly locations. On June 11, 2016 Rob sent a letter to Les, DCM of District 34 and Miles, DCM of District 30 and asked them to participate on the committee.

Our scope was to acquire quotes from hotel/convention centres with facilities able to accommodate our Area Assemblies, in locations central to our Area.

Our Mandate: To report our findings to the Area Committee with an interim report at our September ACM and a final report preferably at our December ACM. Our research was compiled quickly and it was decided to give our final report to the Assembly and not wait until the December Area Committee meeting.

Being Area Chair last term I have booked and organized the Area assemblies with the hotel. So I am aware of what is required for an assembly. Rob sent me current BEO's and invoices from the last assembly. Based on that information I put together a

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list of what is needed for an Assembly along with our current discounted price for guest rooms and sent both Les and Miles a list of requirements.

The area that we looked at was from Port Hope to Kingston. We did not look at Toronto or Ottawa as we were asked to look for areas central to our location. The main cities looked into were Port Hope, Coburg, Peterborough, Napanee, Perth, Trenton and Belleville. We were not able to find anything suitable for the same cost as well as facilities than what we are currently getting at the Ambassador Hotel for future assemblies. Although Port Hope and Coburg are not central we wanted to look at the possibilities.

Our recommendation is to stay at the Ambassador Hotel.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

On behalf of Miles and Les, Yours in service, Kim S

11(c) Area 83 Election of Officers for 2017 & 2018 Term

Robb W, 61 Delegate

ELECTION RESULTS - (Detailed results to be found in Appendix B)

DELEGATE – KIM S.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – ROB M.

CHAIR – KIMBERLEY M.

SECRETARY – JAMES O'D

TREASURER – SUE B.

REGISTRAR – AMY L.

MOTION TO DESTROY BALLOTS:

Motion – Sue G – GSR – D10

Second – Amy L – DCM - D26

Vote in Favour - All

Opposed - 0

Abstained - 0

Motion was passed.

11(D) IS THERE ANY OTHER/ NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR? NO

THE 3 YEAR TERM OF OUR AREA ARCHIVIST DAVID T. IS UP AT THE END OF THIS YEAR. A CALL LETTER HAS BEEN SENT OUT TO FILL THE APPOINTED POSITION OF AREA ARCHIVIST FOR THE NEXT 3 YEAR TERM. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE ME AFTER THE MEETING OR SEND ME AN EMAIL

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12. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND

Many anniversaries were announced along with service/roundup days. The question of accessibility was raised again. While things are improving it was put forward that this space is not always easy to access.

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

As Chairperson, I would recommend the next Assembly be held:

March 24th, 25th, and 26th, 2017 here at the Ambassador hotel in Kingston

Would someone like to make a motion to accept these dates for our Fall Assembly?

Moved by: Eileen – D28 (no position given)

Seconded By: Brian – D48 (no position given)

DISCUSSION: None

Vote in Favour - All

Opposed - 0

Abstained - 0

Motion was passed.

14. 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 December 3, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

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

MOTION to close: Jeni C – Alt DCM – D66

SECONDED: Patrick G – DCM – D66

VOTE – ALL IN FAVOUR

CLOSE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION:

I AM RESPONSIBLE.....

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APPENDIX A – FINANCIAL REPORTS

GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS AS OF October 18, 2016
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District	00	Unspecified	\$0.00
District	02	Malton	\$1,335.81
District	06	Mississauga	\$1,475.50
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$3,554.26
District	12	Toronto South West	\$1,840.03
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,762.80
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$285.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$735.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,585.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$2,073.58
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$1,874.53
District	30	Quinte West	\$2,350.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$2,410.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$1,740.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$381.40
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$686.68
District	50	Cornwall	\$1,730.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$560.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$295.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$4,095.56
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$2,900.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$1,030.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$1,102.50
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$200.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$1,875.20
District	86	Kawartha	\$4,130.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$42,007.85

161	Groups Contributing	Total from Groups	\$34,467.07
14	Districts Contributing	Total from Districts	\$7,540.78

Alcoholics Anonymous — Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Annual Guideline	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
Delegate	256.94	210.07	957.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1424.79	2095.00	670.21	68.01%
Alt. Delegate	0.00	83.00	566.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	643.70	1630.00	966.30	39.49%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	99.47	183.40	0.00	0.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	296.87	550.00	253.13	53.98%
Chairperson	0.00	113.23	492.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	605.23	945.00	339.77	64.05%
Secretary	0.00	71.95	573.30	0.00	0.00	670.99	0.00	10.25	0.00	1326.49	2170.00	843.51	61.13%
Treasurer	0.00	58.00	274.00	0.00	112.32	262.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	706.91	1360.00	653.09	51.98%
Registrar	0.00	59.58	517.30	0.00	0.00	69.83	0.00	130.92	0.00	777.63	1240.00	462.37	62.71%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	0.00	88.91	486.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39.98	852.83	1841.78	988.95	46.30%
Archives	0.00	168.10	461.40	0.00	0.00	15.41	0.00	0.00	499.93	1144.84	1315.00	170.16	87.06%
Archivist	237.44	330.75	70.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	639.09	1250.00	610.91	51.13%
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	68.17	806.80	0.00	0.00	99.90	122.26	0.00	0.00	1097.13	1540.00	442.87	71.24%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	71.00	576.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	647.10	1445.00	797.90	44.88%
Grapevine	242.94	122.87	1004.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	536.62	9.31	0.00	1916.34	1110.00	-806.34	172.64%
Public Information	11.87	296.64	664.47	0.00	0.00	41.13	214.99	0.00	0.00	1223.10	1495.00	271.90	81.81%
Self Support	115.79	135.22	620.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.82	38.40	44.50	1020.93	1020.00	-0.93	100.09%
Treatment Facilities	84.31	345.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.76	0.00	533.17	960.00	426.83	55.54%
Service Info Day Cmtte	949.76	508.97	443.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1902.53	2985.00	1082.47	63.24%
Spring Assembly	2614.44	4000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1255.74	7870.18	9942.00	1171.82	87.04%
Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8952.00	8952.00	0.00%
COMMITTEE EXP.	\$ 4,686.82	\$ 6,304.39	\$ 9,298.20	\$ -	\$ 112.32	\$ 1,173.85	\$ 940.69	\$ 292.64	\$ 1,840.15	\$ 24,628.86	\$ 42,945.78	\$ 18,316.92	67.35%
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Area Committee	-	-	179.90	-	-	-	-	-	977.56	1,157.46	10.00	10.00	0.00%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,530.00	372.54	75.65%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paypal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forums	519.32	191.52	687.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.84	1,670.00	271.78	83.73%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,089.76	5,000.00	910.24	81.80%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,412.40	11,242.00	829.60	92.62%
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400.00	400.00	0.00%
Ont Delegates Conf.	497.16	138.97	878.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,514.37	1,670.00	155.63	90.68%
International Conferences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.00	-
OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 1,016.48	\$ 330.49	\$ 1,745.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 977.56	\$ 18,596.61	\$ 21,522.00	\$ 2,939.23	86.41%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,883.10	\$ 6,634.88	\$ 11,043.72	\$ -	\$ 112.32	\$ 1,173.85	\$ 940.69	\$ 292.64	\$ 2,817.71	\$ 43,225.47	\$ 64,467.78	\$ 21,256.15	67.65%

Income Summary	
October 18,2016	
7th Tradition	3,969.33
Bank Interest	-
GSO Flow Through	-
Contributions	42,007.85
Cost recoveries	371.00
Grapevine Seasonals	3,326.25
Total Income	\$ 49,674.43

October 18, 2016	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	Change
Income To Date	49,674.43	45,913.31	3,761.12
Expenses To Date	43,225.47	33,749.55	9,475.92
Net Change To Operating Account	\$ 6,448.96	\$ 12,163.76	\$ 5,714.80
Contributions	\$42,007.85	\$37,651.21	\$4,356.64
Contributing Groups	161	151	10
Contributing Districts	14	15	-1

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83

AS OF: October 18, 2016

RESERVE ACCOUNT		Actual
January 1, 2016 Opening Balance		20,000.00
Interest		
Transfer to Operating Account		0.00
RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE		20,000.00

INCOME		
7th Tradition		3,969.33
Cost Recoveries		371.00
Flow Through to GSO		0.00
Grapevine Seasonals		3,326.25
Group & District Contributions		42,007.85
TOTAL INCOME		49,674.43
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		49,674.43

EXPENSES		
Accommodations		4,666.62
Meals		6,304.39
Travel		9,298.20
Long Distance		0.00
Postage		112.32
Printing		1,173.85
Literature		940.69
Stationery		292.64
Miscellaneous		1,840.15
Total Committee Expenses		24,628.86
Ad Hoc Committees		0.00
Area Contribution to GSO		0.00
Area Committee Meetings		1,157.46
General Service Conf. Assessment		10,412.40
Bank Service Charges		10.56
Paypal fees		13.84
Forums		1,398.22
Grapevine Seasonal		4,089.76
GSO Flow Through		0.00
Ontario Delegate's Conference		1,514.37
International Conferences		0.00
Total Other Expenses		18,596.61
TOTAL EXPENSES		43,225.47

OPERATING ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2016		23,640.83
Total Income & Transfers		49,674.43
Total Expenses		-43,225.47
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE		30,089.79

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Appendix B – Area 83 Officer Election Results – Detailed

AREA 83 – EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS - OCTOBER 30, 2016

FOR THE POSITION OF DELEGATE

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Rob McA	47					
2	*Kim S*	160					
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
TOTAL VOTES CAST		207					
2/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		168					
1/5 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST							
1/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST							

AREA 83 – EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS - OCTOBER 30, 2016

FOR THE POSITION OF ALTERNATE DELEGATE

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5
1	Sue B	27				
2	James O'D	41				
3	*Rob McA*	142				
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
TOTAL VOTES CAST		210				
2/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		140				
1/5 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST						
1/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST						

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

AREA 83 – EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS - OCTOBER 30, 2016

FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIRPERSON

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Terry K	8	2				
2	Eddie G	32	26				
3	Ray R	20	6				
4	Herb W	20	5				
5	Sue B	42	49	85	55		
6	*Kimberly M*	52	93	124	148		
7	James O'D	33	26				
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
	TOTAL VOTES CAST	207	207	209	203		
	2/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST	138	138	139	135		
	1/5 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST	41	41	42	41		
	1/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST	69	69	70	68		

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AREA 83 – EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS - OCTOBER 30, 2016

FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Miles C	2	1				
2	Amy L	40	28				
3	Marty M	12	2				
4	Linda D	8	5				
5	Sue B	43	30	27			
6	*James O'D*	95	130	169			
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
TOTAL VOTES CAST		200	196	196			
2/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		133	131	131			
1/5 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		40	39	39			
1/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		67	65	65			

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

AREA 83 – EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS - OCTOBER 30, 2016

FOR THE POSITION OF TREASURER

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Amy L	18	7				
2	Dan McP	84	92	96	103	108	
3	Linda D	4	1				
4	*Sue B*	78	83	83	78	71	HAT!
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
TOTAL VOTES CAST		184	183	179	181		
2/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		123	122	119	121		
1/5 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		37	37	36	36		
1/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		61	61	60	60		

Alcoholics Anonymous—Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

AREA 83 – EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

ELECTION RESULTS - OCTOBER 30, 2016

FOR THE POSITION OF REGISTRAR

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Miles C	14	5				
2	*Amy L*	107	143				
3	Marty M	25	9				
4	Linda D	25	9				
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
TOTAL VOTES CAST		171	166				
2/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		114	111				
1/5 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		34	33				
1/3 OF TOTAL VOTES CAST		57	55				

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Appendix C – ROLL CALL

Fall 2016 Assembly

District	DCM	Alt-DCM	District Officers-Other	Committee Chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups Attending	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups in District	% Groups Attending
02	1	1	1	5	9	2	5	9	19	10	20	45%
06	1	1	2	6	19	5	10	19	33	20	35	54%
10	1	1	1	0	9	3	4	9	18	10	26	35%
12	1	1	1	2	9	4	0	9	14	10	19	47%
14	1	1	2	1	11	1	4	11	16	12	29	38%
16-SP	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	4	2	9	11%
18	1	1	3	2	6	1	1	6	10	7	26	23%
22	1	1	2	2	10	2	3	10	18	11	22	45%
26	1	0	0	3	8	2	1	8	12	9	20	40%
28	0	0	1	5	6	3	0	6	10	6	24	25%
30	1	1	0	5	7	1	3	7	16	8	15	47%
34	1	1	1	2	11	1	3	11	14	12	36	31%
36	1	1	1	3	16	1	25	16	41	17	22	73%
42	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	31	3%
48	1	0	1	3	12	4	5	11	20	13	18	61%
50	1	0	0	0	5	0	2	5	8	6	10	50%
54	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	7	7	22	27%
58	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	3	5	4	31	10%
62	1	1	1	1	20	3	7	20	32	21	45	44%
66	1	1	1	2	13	2	10	13	25	14	29	45%
70	1	0	0	0	7	4	2	8	11	8	19	42%
74	1	0	1	1	3	0	1	3	5	4	16	19%
78	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	3	5	4	6	50%
82	1	1	0	1	4	3	1	4	7	5	21	19%
86	1	0	3	5	13	3	7	11	29	14	21	52%
CF					2	0	0	2	2	2	8	25%
	DCM	Alt-DCM	District Officers-Other	Comm	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups	
ALL	24	14	23	51	214	45	98	212	383	238	580	
Area Committee									15	11		
Past Delegates/Visitors									9			
Total	24	14	23	51	214	45	98	212	407	249	580	
Mar-16	24	12		38	176	43	93	200	397	235	539	

APPENDIX D - DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

(As per ACM decision, verbal reports not given at the Assembly but DCMs were asked to send their District report to the secretary for insertion into Minutes)

District 02 Malton

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Last Chance Group, and serving as the District Committee Member for Malton District 02, my name is Ray R.

As the term winds down, Our District is fairly stable. We've elected the new table officers with the exception of the treasures, and we're hoping to have that position filled at our next meeting on Nov 13. I am confident that the incoming table will do a great job, as they've all served at the district, in some capacity.

Financially, we are stable, the bills are paid, and we were able to finance some members to attend the service day and assembly in Kingston, without affecting our prudent reserve.

Both treatment and corrections will be busier in the new term as there has been requests for meetings at 2 treatment centres and 1 correctional facility. We currently have 1 correctional facility and 3 treatment centres.

We've decided to replace Big books and literature, with beginner packages at these facilities, as they were putting a financial burden on our district, and they weren't always being used for the right purpose.

CPC is looking forward to participating with district 6 in the upcoming bring-a-professional day, taking place later this month.

District 02 is planning our annual service day on November 12, at the Church of Christ, 750 Clark Blvd, in Brampton. It promises to be a great day, with great workshops, speakers, fellowship, and a catered lunch.

All in all, district 02 is in great shape, and it's been an honour serving as District Committee Member, and I will always be willing to serve District 02 and area 83.

Yours in Love and Service
Ray R
DCM, Malton 02

District 06 Mississauga – NO REPORT

District 10 Toronto South Central

I am a grateful alcoholic, member of the Yorkville group and I am privileged to serve as committee member for District 10; my name is Marty.

District 10 is alive and well. We are in good shape financially, easily covering all our expenses. We were able to offer assistance for some GSR's to attend the Area Assembly. One group did take this offer for financial help. The service commitments at D10 are always easily filled. The Maxwell Meighan service meeting is still on hold due to an ongoing viral outbreak.

At our July elections; all District officer positions have been filled for the 2017/2018 term. The table will vote in the sub-committee chairs & Liaisons at our November meeting.

The annual District 10 roundup was voted down this year, unfortunately there just wasn't enough interest. Hopefully the incoming group will bring this back next year.

We were contacted by camh to start another in house service meeting for a new program that has started up. After a discussion on this, the district 10 table decided that we already have enough on our plate (7 service meetings). Some of the D10 groups are

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smaller and we do not want to take on a commitment that we can't live up to. Camh is within the District 12 boundaries, so I have offered this meeting to D12, and they have agreed to take it on. I offered to get the meeting up and running, then hand it over to them.

As I approach the end of my term as DCM I am feeling mixed emotions. I have learned so much while in this role and I enjoy chairing the district meeting, but I am ready for the next chapter in my journey of AA service. It's been a pleasure serving with you all.

In Love and Service,

Marty

District 12 Toronto South West

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

We had a great turnout at our Pizza Night at our September District Meeting getting new members to come out to the table. Ray R. the DCM for District 02 came out to give a talk on Service. We held our Elections at our October District Meeting and Elaine H. the Area Public Information Chair came out to facilitate the Election. Mark B. was elected as the incoming DCM for the 2017-2018 term. Don S. was elected as the Treasurer for the next term as well. The Alternate DCM position is still available and hopefully will be filled at our next District Meeting.

The upcoming November District Meeting, Rob McA the Area Chairperson will be conducting a District Inventory.

Our finances are in good shape.

That is my report. Thank you for my sobriety and have a safe drive home later this afternoon.

Sean K

District 14 Toronto North Central

I am an alcoholic serving as District Committee Member for District 14 and my name is Don.

As of our most recent District Meeting, all of our Officer and most of our Sub-Committee Chair positions were filled for the remainder of the 2015/2016 term. Two vacancies were created when our Corrections Chair Jake R. and, shortly thereafter, our CPC Chair Dianne McK. had to step down in September for personal reasons.

Our remaining Sub-Committee chairs are attending *most* of the meetings at GTA Intergroup. The York Regional Police literature program continues to run well and we are fulfilling our other service commitments.

The latest attendance at our monthly District meeting was approximately two-thirds of our active groups.

Financially, District 14's Self Support balance continues to be healthy thanks to the contributions from the group's 12 Step cans and the latter donations have enabled us to make substantial contributions of Corrections literature at various times during the year. To that end, a donation of 72 pocket-sized big books was made at this Assembly..

Our Bridging the Gap requests in both Corrections and Treatment are being fulfilled by District volunteers.

District 14's weekly service meeting at the Southlake Hospital in Newmarket, coordinated by our Treatment Chair Michael O. has been running smoothly since the District took it on a year and a half ago. At present we have groups signed up to facilitate this meeting through the rest of the year.

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Our Archives Chair Rick O. is continuing to gather group histories within the District and has been coordinating Archive presentations at some medallion ceremonies as well.

Our TOYPAA liaison Sandra M. continues to help AA members in the G.T.A. to co-ordinate fellowship activities. As the number of young people in AA in District 14 grows, there are plans in the works to invite some of the newly elected TOYPAA reps speak at groups in our District. To that end the Richmond Hill Group are having a special young people's night on Friday November 4.

Public Information chair Will H. continues to be active in helping carry the message at schools, health fairs, conferences and facilities.

Our incoming DCM, David B. has commenced his term as Info AA Day chair and I'm sure he will do the conscientious job he has always done since taking on his first service role at District.

On October 17, an election took place for the 2017-2018 Officer and Committee Chair positions. It was supervised by Area Chair Rob M. The positions of Treasurer, Dennis F., Self-Support Chair, Dianne McK and T.O.Y.P.A.A. liaison Sandra M. were filled. We will continue to ask for volunteers for the remaining vacancies at our upcoming District meetings. The incoming DCM Dave B. and Alt. DCM Will H. were elected back in June.

As attendance at our last several District Service Days has been fairly low – it was decided to defer scheduling the next District 14 Service Day until after an Ad Hoc committee was struck to develop a strategy for improving attendance at same. The committee will be chaired by incoming Alt. DCM Will H. and will include several enthusiastic volunteers from the District table.

Finally, in order to update our District Operating Guidelines, an Ad Hoc committee consisting of Treatment/Accessibility Chair Michael O. and myself was formed in September. As a result, 44 changes/corrections were submitted to the District Committee at our October meeting, to be reviewed by them in the ensuing month. Once the changes are finalized via our District Conscience, we will have booklets printed and distributed to the 2017-2018 District Committee.

Yours in love and service,

Don MacP. – DCM District 14

District 16 Distrito Hispano de Toronto

Good evening everyone my name is Cesar I am an alcoholic and a proud member of group Unidad.

Our district is doing well financially, most groups open seven days a week. Spanish inter group held what is name unity meetings once a month to share the service experience with a group of district sixteen. And place ads in the local Spanish newspapers. They held business meetings twice a month and also keep a good stock of Spanish literature. Also they have a twelve step phone number a twelve step member answer the calls everyday from recorded messages. Last month one Spanish group in welland celebrated it 29 anniversary even do they don't belong and our district we still share with them .

Our website is updated every week all districts are in website also events anniversaries

District sixteen meets twice a week and share the service experience with one group every Month.

So far we only have two services committee la vina and archives hopefully next year we will fulfill the rest of the committees . To be able to bring the pass the message for the still suffering alcoholic.

Just want to thank district sixteen for allowed to serve al DCM

Cesar H – DCM- Distrito 16

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District 18 Toronto City East

Hi, I'm Katrina and I'm an alcoholic, member of Joy in Sobriety group, and the District Committee Member for District 18 Toronto East.

The district table is fairly well attended, with about half the groups in the District represented. All the Chair positions are filled except for Self-Support and Archives.

The District is down to one Corrections meeting now that the Don is gone and that is the parole board meeting on Lawrence East. The Parole facility requested that we move the meeting from 7:00 to 6:00 PM; groups were asked to discuss with their groups if this would be a problem to keep the meeting going at that time. At the September meeting, groups reported that this was not a problem, and we will continue to hold the meeting there at the earlier time.

Finances are OK and at the October meeting, we voted on a split to Area and GSO.

In October we had the past DCM John M come and conduct the elections for Officers (Secretary, Registrar, and Treasurer). I'm happy to report that all 3 positions are filled, 2 by acclamation.

The incoming ADCM and I have done an informal review of the district procedures to clean up some issues related to making changes piecemeal to the document. During this review, we also identified some gaps in them. Proposed clean-up changes have been sent to the committee for review, along with the list of possible changes. It is up to the table whether any of the changes are enacted as they require a motion, which neither the ADCM nor I can make.

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

District 22 Scarborough

GOOD MORNING EVERYONE. I AM AN ALCOHOLIC, A MEMBER OF THE BEACHES GROUP, THE DCM FOR DISTRICT 22 SCARBOROUGH AND MY NAME IS EDDY G.

We have 22 groups in our District. In the summer months attendance was slightly down. In the last 2 months 66 % (14 Of 22) of the groups attended the District meeting. The average table attendance was 27.

We are financially sound and we are able to meet all our commitments. We are fully self-supporting and we do not use any money from the GTA Intergroup Sub Committees budgets when carrying the message in District 22.

We had our elections in October for the 2017-18 term. Our Treasurer is Ed F. H.

& our Secretary & Registrar positions were not filled.

In June we had our elections & the Incoming DCM is Tom S. & our Incoming Alt. DCM is Lynn E.

We will have our elections in November for the 9 Sub-Committee Chairpersons positions & for the GTA Intergroup Liaison position.

Public Information (PI) - there are three members- Bryan D., Tony C. & Austin R. who are checking & restocking literature display racks at 19 locations:

7-Community Recreation Centres, 6-Community Centres, 2-Libraries, 4- Churches.

Also our PI Chairperson Tracey C. has put together a District 22 meeting booklet.

The District has decided to print 2500 booklets @ .25/booklet for a total cost of \$625.00. The money will come out of the Self-Support Fund.

Treatment Facilities (TF) – Jim M. TF Chair. The Tuesday meetings at the General Campus of Scarborough Hospital are looked after on a monthly basis by the District 22 Groups.

Corrections (CF) – Gail R. CF Chair. The Wednesday & Sunday night meetings at the Toronto East Detention Centre (TEDC) are being looked after by the District 22 members & some members from outside the district. Meetings are running well with only

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one lockdown. Need new volunteers for Sundays. Recently, one new volunteer received CPIC clearance but the orientation date was rescheduled.

Archives- District 22 group histories & photographs have been updated for the District 22 Archives travelling display. We have all the group & meeting histories of District 22.

-The 11th Annual East Toronto Archives Breakfast (ETAB) was held in June. It was a great success with just under 100 present. This is a joint venture between the District 18 & 22 Archives Committees.

-The final treasurer's report was submitted at the first ETAB12 Sept. meeting.

There was a surplus of just over \$500.00 & District 18 & 22 Archives Committees each received \$250.00. District 22 Archives Committee will be looking at purchasing a Trifold Display w/ carrying case for approx. \$500.00.

-Planning is underway for the ETAB12 & the committee is looking at a date, location & possible speakers.

District 22 Service Day was held in September. Alt. DCM Tom S. (chaired the committee meetings & coordinated the responsibilities) said it was a successful day based on the feedback he received. The wrap up meeting will be in November before our District 22 meeting. Attendance was slightly down from last year from 90 to 70. Part of the reason was the weather, women's roundup day & Little Denmark Group Roundup day.

The first Toronto Women in Recovery Round Up 2016 was held in September. This event was put on by four women (two from District 18 & two from District 22 groups). The event was very successful with just over 200 attending.

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 - DCM District 22 Scarborough

District 26 Lakeshore West

District 26 is doing well. We now have 21 groups in the District, with 14 of those groups consistently represented at the District table. Two meetings have just formed within the last month and we will be visiting them to invite them to attend the District meeting. We are meeting our financial commitments and our various committees are doing great in their outreach into our community— achieving this in so many different ways!

The *Public Information* committee is offering monthly speakers from young AA members to a youth shelter in Durham Region (JoAnne's House). The committee will embark on the second literature drop of the year including Hospitals, Government Services and Shelters, Doctor's offices and retirement facilities. Detailed records of contacts and literature needs have been kept and will be passed on to the next committee insuring the continuation and non-duplicity of efforts thus far. The committee has been contacted to supply a member to speak to Pickering High School students; giving at least 3 separate presentations in 1 day. The committee is working to get their foot in the door with the RIDE program in Durham, if not through Durham Regional Police Department then they will approach the OPP. We were sad to see our *Cooperation with the Professional Community* chair step down this summer for health reasons, but a replacement from within the committee was found. Fortunately, with the momentum already behind their projects, their activities continue to move forward including several presentations to classes of health care professionals at Durham College. Our *Self Support* chair has made a few presentations to groups at their business meetings. In conjunction with District 28, he launched the 2nd annual Founder's Day collection in June. This is a second collection at meetings on or around June 10th. District 26 raised \$790 in funds to be distributed between the Area, District and Intergroup. The *Corrections* chair position has remained vacant for nearly a year. Ian C has stepped forward to fill this position and will be providing a coordinated effort with the corrections chair of District 28 to maximize our impact on reaching those in the Lindsay jail. Jennifer C, our newly elected *Archives* chair has been very busy with the District's archives. In her first two months she has inventoried all of our archives and now has elbowed her way onto the table of the GTA archives team and developed her script to begin collecting oral histories. She has so much enthusiasm! Our *Treatment* Chair continues to schedule meetings for the Renascent House and to stay in touch with Pinewood Centre to be available in the event Pinewood has any needs with which District 26 could assist.

Keeping all of the committee chair positions filled is like herding cats. We had just finally reached a full compliment to our District Operating committee and then held our elections and we find that we are working to fill vacancies for the next term. Our District elections for the 2017-18 term was held on October 16th and facilitated by Rob M. Dave L will be serving as the next term's DCM, Deborah McD as the Alternate DCM, Colin C. will be the District Chairperson, Ian C in Corrections, Jennifer C as Archives Chair and David W. will serve another term as Grapevine chair. We hope the urge to serve AA will gift us with some enthusiastic members to fill the remaining vacancies before January 2017.

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Looking ahead we have the “Bring a professional meeting” on November 10th, at the UNIFOR Hall in Oshawa. Dave L has already started survey groups to participate in our Alcathon—24 hours of meetings taking place noon to noon on December 24-25th.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not give a giant shout out to all who continue to keep the 3rd Sunday of every month open to participate at the District 26 table. Our attendance has hovered around 70%, and there are GSRs who continue to come out year after year. We have a few groups in our District who have limited financial resources and whose members are few. While AA does promote the spirit of rotation, I know that for some of these groups if these members did not accept the GSR responsibility, their groups would be left with no representation at the District and the Area. I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet and learn more about the groups and the members of District 26. It has been a very rewarding experience with so many opportunities to grow.

Thank you and I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve.

Yours in Love and Service.

Amy L

District 28 Lakeshore East – NO REPORT

District 30 Quinte West – NO REPORT

District 34 Quinte East

Good Day Folks.

I'm a 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 MacD.

It is an honour and privilege to represent District 34, Quinte East as your District Committee Member.

The District is spiritually and financially sound and we are able to meet our financial obligations.

We had our District 34 elections last month and all our positions were filled, what a joy it was, and a excellent way to start the 2017-2018 term.

At this time I would like to thank District 34, The Table, for putting up with me over the last two years, and what a reward it was for me to be your DCM, this time in service sure enriched my sobriety, also I also was able to meet a lot of wonderful people in Alcoholics Anonymous, what a blast.

On a closing note, if no One told You today that They love You let Me be the First.

Yours in Love-Service & Hugs...Les

District 36 Kingston & the Islands

Good day friends I am an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Get Well group, and it's my honour and privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 36, Kingston and the Islands and my name is Mac.

I am happy to report that all is well in District 36. We just held our elections this week and all our service positions have been filled. The District is financially sound. All of our Committee Chairs are very dedicated and are busy carrying the A. A. message to the still suffering alcoholic. Not only in four federal prisons, three large hospitals, two treatment facilities as well as in all group meetings and service meetings. PI/CPC are very active with the education facilities.

I'm very proud of all the Trusted Servants and the work they do in District 36. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Love and Service

Mac B.

DCM

District 36

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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 Elections

We started our district elections for the 2017-18 panel at our district meeting on Wednesday. Since not all positions were filled we will continue next month. Once we have completed the process (and before the end of the year) we will forward the results to the Area Secretary. Results so far (**new trusted servants**): Alternate DCM - Ted R. (continuing), Treasurer - **Pat M.**, Registrar - David D., Literature/Grapevine - **Tim M.**, Treatment Chair - Blayne F. (continuing), Archives Chair - Milner G. (continuing).

District Status

Over the last three months district members have visited most of our groups to deliver meeting lists, district service brochures, and encouragement to participate at the district table. We are encouraged to have several new table attendees over that period.

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

Milner G
11 Grant Street, Potsdam, NY 13676 USA
DCM42@aa-stlawrenceny.org grimsled@gmail.com
315-244-4959 (cell)

District 48 Seaway Valley North

I am currently serving as district committee member for district 48 seaway valley north and a member of the last chance group. I am an alcoholic and my name is Bryan McL. On October 4th we held our district elections. Thanks to Sue B our area registrar and Mike B alternate dcm district 62 for facilitating. There was a very good attendance and all positions have been filled with the exception of literature chair. Our incoming dcm is Winnie S and our alt. dcm is Wayne L, thanks to everyone who attended. We have a lot of members attending the district for their first time so this is very encouraging. We are keeping our commitments and financially we are in good standing.

Yours in love and service
Bryan McL

District 50 Cornwall

Hi family, my name is Wendy and am serving as DCM for District 50 and my home group is Monday night St. Columban's group. I would like to announce that Kimberly L. is our incoming DCM, Steph L. is the alternate DCM and our treasurer is Lisa L. The rest of the positions will be voted on in December's district meeting. We are in the process of looking for a permanent room to hold our monthly meetings our Xmas decorations and Archives. Also it is rumor that St. Francys church may be tearing down the Hut where we have 3 meetings a week. So the room can be used for this also. We are looking for someone to host the annual Xmas Talk-A-Thon. The GSR's are taking this back to their groups to get a group conscious feeling.

YILS
Wendy E.
District 50

District 54 Ottawa Rideau

Hello everyone. I am currently serving as the District 54 Committee member. My home group is Tuesday Night Beacon Hill, I am an alcoholic and my name is Darlene.

As this term comes to a close, we remain in stable financial condition, our commitments are being met and representation at the Table stays at approximately 50%.

The Canadathon event, the first of many was very successful and a committee will be active is hosting it again at our nation's 150th Anniversary.

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The Fall Conference was October 21-23rd and more details will follow for the Area 83 December meeting report.

The groups in the District are now up to date. Much correspondence between our Registrar JoAnne and the Area Registrar Sue has taken place in order to conclude this task. Part of the DCM's role in this endeavour is the visiting of the groups and it was a very pleasant experience.

Our elections will be held on November 2nd. At the October meeting a motion was brought forward and passed that for the following terms commencing 2019 the elections will be held in October. This decision will be incorporated into the Operating Procedures.

As this is the final Service Information day/Assembly for this term I would like to finish this report with a heartfelt thank you for this leg of my personal service journey. It has indeed allowed my sobriety to be enriched and has taught me many things about our unique service structure as well as how much one can change in the process.

With Gratitude for Service

Godspeed

Darlene K

District 58 Ottawa Bytown – NO REPORT

District 62 Ottawa West – NO REPORT

District 66 Golden Triangle – NO REPORT

District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

District 70 held their elections at the October meeting. Not all positions were filled at that time, several were still vacant. We are hopeful that members will come forward to accept these vacant positions before the end of the year. We have 9 people attending the Assembly in Kingston. This will be my last Service Assembly. I have made some great friends at Area, District 70 and other Districts over the last 2 years. I have learned a lot about our service structure and a lot about myself since taking over as DCM. Seeing the traditions and concepts in action has been amazing at both the District and Area level. So many people, so willing to help and carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic. There is no doubt that the new members elected in District 70 are all qualified and capable of doing just that. As I complete my term as DCM it is with a happy and grateful heart. I've got the service but now so I will be staying on at the District Table as the Bridging the Gap contact for Treatment and Corrections Facilities. God bless everyone as they continue to carry the message

Yours in love and Service, Mary Anne

District 74 Pembroke – NO REPORT

District 78 Madawaska Valley – NO REPORT

District 82 Victoria Haliburton

Hi Friends I am an Alcoholic, a member of The Sunday Nighters' group in Lindsay and a grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous, and my name is Jim S. I have the privilege of serving District 82 as the DCM.

Our District is averaging around 80 percent attendance at our District meetings. The District is spiritually fit and we are able to meet all our financial responsibilities.

Things have been relatively quiet in the District. Our Archive Chair Elizabeth D is doing her best to gather the history of AA in District 82. She has asked each group to draft a brief history of the group, when it was started, why it was started and who started it. As well she continues to tape old timers stories and lately she has asked for pictures of group set ups including the group banner. As well she has asked for pictures to be taken of birthday cakes from medallions, just cakes no people.

Things are finally looking up at the Central East Corrections Centre. As I have mentioned in the past putting meetings on was getting to be a real challenge. But for the last couple of month's things seem to have leveled out and both the ladies and men have been getting in to put the meetings on. It is still difficult for the volunteers having the meetings during the day. Our volunteer list is quite low, but those who can have stepped up to the challenge. Because of the new evening lock down procedure it does not look like the meetings will be moved back to the evenings any time soon.

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At the October District meeting we had our nominations for the new District Committee for the 2017-2018 term. Most positions were filled by acclimation but there still are a few that need elections. The elections will be held at our November meeting. Because this will be in the minutes and not read at the Assembly I wish to congratulate all those who not only were elected today but had the courage to let their name stand.

Yours in the Love and Service of AA

Jim

District 86 Kawartha

My name is Dave and I am an alcoholic the DCM for Kawartha District 86, Peterborough.

AA is moving along well within the District with all the trials and tribulations, successes and joy of bringing the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

We have 21 Groups, one group has changed to a service meeting and 36 group and service meetings a week. For the District there are 8 sub-committees, and in 2017 there will be 9 because we will be starting a new Accessibilities committee.

In September we started the nomination and election process for General Service Officers and Committee Chairpersons. This is all in preparation for the new 2 year term (2017-2018). It appears the filling of position will be slow but we are steadily having people come forward.

Alcoholics have unique ways of building their sobriety and demonstrating the thrill of a sober life. As I reported in my last report we have a group of people who are gathering together in a Recovery Skydive. Well they did went skydiving and some even went a second time. A true celebration of the thrill of sobriety.

Our Archives committee successfully delivered another workshop. The History of AA's 3 Legacies. And they are continuing with another workshop November 26 at Intergroup in Peterborough. Pot luck supper will occur after. All are welcome to attend.

To finish, in District 86 all is AA okay.

Dave H, DCM, District 86

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APPENDIX E – ASK-IT-BASKET Q&A

Ask it Basket- Spring Assembly 2015

Q: AA Functions such as this Assembly, are we not to have receipts? Room, dinner, gas etc. \$450.00 has been given to GSR for weekend and told "Trusted Servant" and to put remaining balance of money in the 7th Tradition Box.

A: Each group is autonomous, some groups require that you collect a receipt, and some do not. In short, we have to do what our groups expects from us.

Q: What do donations to the Area cover at the Assembly?

A: The 7th that is collected at the Assembly goes toward coffee. (Coffee charges are estimated by the Hotel as \$11.00/person-roughly \$4,400/Assembly)

Q: Why was Kingston chosen as a spot for the Assembly?

A: Kingston is the [geographic] "Center" to the Area.

Q: For PIC and CPC, should we be handing out materials directly or should we be going door to door?

A: For PI/CPC we work with the concept of attraction rather than promotion. Put pamphlets in places where suffering alcoholic is likely to see it. Door to door is not practical.

Q: How do I get more people to come to business meetings? Only 3 or 4 others regularly attend.

A: Enthusiasm and Passion are attractive. Put out a proactive proposal that will up the attendance.

Q: What is Intergroup? How is it different than Area?

A: There are guidelines for Intergroup. The Area is represented at the General Service Conference, and Intergroup does not have such representation. Intergroups are where groups pool their resources to reduce cost for services offered by AA (e.g., literature, phone lines).

Q: Should PIC and CPC be separate roles at the District? Why aren't they?

A: GSO regards them as separate roles. When there is not enough service volunteers, better to have one do both jobs instead of no one doing either.

Q: this morning the presenter said that the LaViña organization gave a financial contribution to A.A. Isn't that an outside contribution that should be refused because it breaks our 7th Tradition?

A: As a group of AA members doing AA work, there is nothing wrong with accepting a donation.

Q: If the Conference approved that it was okay to include a flyer for LaViña (French speaking equivalent of Grapevine, but not governed by GSB) in the GSR kit, how would the conference reconcile that with Tradition 6 and its caution against endorsing, Financing or Lending AA's name to outside Enterprises?

A: A person in the audience said that they received the pamphlet in their GSR kit. This prompted the Delegate to ask folks to let her know if they received/did not receive this pamphlet in the GSR kit, as this is what is being considered at the GSC this year. Some in the audience have said that it was inserted in their CPC and PI kits.

Q: How does a Group split into 2 groups? What is the Protocol? Does the other half of the group apply for a group service number?

A: It is suggested that they [the one splitting off group] apply for a group service number.

Q: Now that Access Ability has been added to the role of Treatment, when will we see the name of this committee change to Treatment/Access Ability? Considering they are two separate service entities being managed by one Chairperson.

Q: When will we see more Special Needs Access Ability items added to the Treatment display? Such as American Sign Language on DVD, Big book in Brail, Large Print Literature.

A: Herb W. (Treatment/Access ability chair) answered both question with this response, that if you think something should be out there, tell me and I will get the material.

Q: What are the spiritual rights of Concept 3?

A: Trust

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Q: Why is there a fee for the Service Manuals? Why is there an increase in the cost?

A: This is the newest Service manual and the cost (\$4.25) covers the cost of the manual, shipping, and taxes that the Area had to pay New York. The Area is not making any money on the manuals.

Q: Why isn't there a fee for the Service Assembly?

A: This weekend includes a Service information day and a business meeting. Groups, by contributing to the Area are helping to cover the cost of this event.

Q: What is a realistic estimate of the time spent in these positions? GSR, DCM, Area Officer (Delegate), Subcommittee chairs, Trustee

A: We are all passionate and how long do the jobs take will differ from person to person and from job to job?

GSR: meetings approximately 12 times a year plus 2 Assemblies.

DCM: involves more time, as there are 4 Area Committee meetings plus the 2 Assemblies.

Area Officer: I can only speak for the Secretary position, it is very time consuming.

Subcommittee chair: I found it interesting and got more involved that probably most would.

Delegate: most time consuming position. Delegate is away many weekends, takes a lot of prep time to prepare for the GSC once a year. Also there are numerous phone calls and emails.

Regional Trustee: 3 General Service Board meetings, plus General Service Conference. Also attend Regional meetings, Delegate committee and Conference Committee.

There are 4 meetings every 6 weeks in preparation for the General Service Conference. That means lots of reading and time spent at home.

Trustee at Large: they have to travel internationally

Class A Trustee: much like the Trustee at Large and may be involved to a greater extent since a Class A Trustee (non Alcoholic Trustee) can show their face and speak about AA where Class B Trustees (Alcoholic Trustees) cannot.

TAKE HOME message: Need to try and find a balance, it is time consuming, but very rewarding.

Q: Corrections: with a 40% success rate how is Bridging the Gap successful in carrying the message? Why is Bridging the Gap (BTG) so different than helping someone with the same fear of walking through the doors?

A: Statistics might not look too good, but BTG serves as a controlled transition- we know the transition puts many in a high risk to relapse.

Q: Are we breaking tradition by calling a group "the Agnostic Group" "women/men only", Gay/lesbian".....

A: It's not the name of the group, it is the members that make up AA. When we change our names to sound attractive.

With regard to special interest groups, there is a unique need. It take a substantial number of AAs to vote for the change-unanimity.

Bill said we'd rather you not call yourself a special group, we ask you not to do this but we do not demand that (Bill Wilson speaking on Tradition 4).

Ask it Basket- Fall Assembly 2016

Delegate-Joyce S.

Q: From the Delegate's workshop, the membership survey says under marital status, "Other 6%". What is considered "other"?

A: It doesn't specify on the survey results, I suspect it might be widow or widower. Delegate will confirm what this "other" category includes.

Q: When will we find out about which pamphlets are in need of updating next?

- Is it always about the same time of year?
- Or does it come up at a particular conference?

A: There is no specific timing or conference. They come up for updating when someone brings it to the attention of the literature committee. The literature committee will review the recommendation and take it to the General Service Conference.

Q: Can an AA member have an opinion on how another group carries the message if they are NOT a member of that group?

A: Everyone can have an opinion, but groups are autonomous.

Q: A district in Area 83 is trying to de-list or kick out a new group that is secular

- They read a modified version of the 12 steps without the word "God" and don't pray.

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- They do this in their group only. They do not publish their steps and respect the steps as written when at other groups.
 1. Are secular groups allowed in AA?
 2. Should districts be kicking them out?
 3. Do you support the district in not including a secular group in their district?

A: Just as groups are autonomous, so are Districts; the Delegate should not have an opinion. We must trust the process.

Q: How can I get a hard copy of the Delegate's report if I don't have internet or a printer?

A: Contact me and I will mail you a copy.

Q: Who can visit the GSO in New York? Who do I contact at GSO for a visit?

A: It is not necessary to make an appointment. GSO is happy to have guests, it is your office.

Chairperson—Rob M.

Q: Why is there a can next to the coffee and its NOT the 7th tradition? People may confuse it for coffee donations or the 7th.

A: Most AA events charge for coffee, the Area does not do that, but rather relies on passing the basket around. Coffee costs continue to go up, and it is about covering those costs and giving people every opportunity to contribute and to be fully self-supporting [Coffee at the Assembly is over \$4K-roughly \$11/person]. What the 7th doesn't cover, the Area must pick up the deficit.

Q: The doors in the West Ballroom are distracting, what can be done about the "clanging" noise?

A: We have propped the center door in the ball room open. We ask people to get to their workshops early and stay to the end. If you must leave early or come late, be considerate and quiet.

Alternate Delegate—Kim S.

Q: Do I have the right to stop closed meeting when a non-member is present?

A: This is a decision for group conscience. Does the group mention in their opening remarks that it is a closed meeting?

Treasurer—Kimberley M.

Q: Does the Area have a US dollar account to transfer funds? Or, do we only have a Canadian dollar account?

A: We have only a Canadian dollar account. We send US dollars via a bank draft. This is not done very often, and the only need for US dollars is for the General Service Conference assessment, Grapevine, and literature for committee chairs.

Q: Are the envelopes for sending contributions to the Area with prepaid postage?

A: Envelopes are not prepaid. Groups must pay for postage.

Q: Considering Church rent in Toronto is very expensive is there any consideration to contribution amount being *forgiven* or lowered or waived?

A: Up to each group where they meet. Groups look after the group, and the District and Area.

Self support—James O.

Q: How much should each member contribute to AA per meeting in order to meet the financial needs and costs for the Area?

A: No exact number. I used to give a \$2- After I learned what it was used for I started to give \$5.

Q: Why was the 12 Traditions passed along in the Self-Support workshop?

A: It was an example of a 12 Tradition workshop. The document passed around has been posted on the Self-support page of the Area's website.

Q: Answering Service: Is it permissible or acceptable to partner with Al-anon and share the cost of the answering service? Our district say's No, another neighbouring district has a shared cost arrangement.

- If no, please provide the reason on why not
- We do not have an intergroup for call service.

A: We do not affiliate, and every group and District are autonomous. In smaller communities must do what you have to do to get the message out.

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Sponsorship workshop—David T.

Q: What does temporary sponsor mean? What is the difference between "temporary sponsor" and "sponsor"?

- Why is it used?
- Where did it come from?

A: It is a fairly new concept, it is an attempt to provide stepping stones to get a person to a permanent sponsor. Some temporary sponsors become a permanent sponsor. It is a Bridging the Gap measure for what some feel is a big decision.

Q: Opposite Sex sponsorship.

- I have difficulty connecting with women in my area. I live in a small town.
- What are your thoughts on opposite sex sponsorship?

A: Men should be with men; women with women. I am emphatic about this. Some women pick men because they can be easily manipulated.

Q: If a spouse is concerned about their partner's recovery, can they call the sponsor of the spouse for help? Is that crossing the line?

A: It depends on the situation. Is there concerns about harm or someone's safety? Take it to the appropriate authority. Calling the sponsor really depends on the sponsor. It is a very private relationship.

Q: How many sponsors can I have?

A: As many as you want but if you have more than 1, you have to ask, why—are you looking for the answers you want to hear?

Q: How can we prevent sponsors from carrying an abusive message?

A: Up to the group (group conscience) to warn people that this is not acceptable.

Q: What do you do [with the sponsor/sponsee] when you finish step 12?

A: We are never finished with the steps. Furthermore, we will always need someone to talk to.

Ask it Basket- Spring Assembly 2016

Q: I have two 50th year commemorative Australia Big Books—one has the same personal stories as are in the North American Big Book. The second Big Book has different stories that reflect the Australian lifestyle. Both Big Books are different, why?

A: One could have been produced locally, and the other by GSO. Sometimes ones that are done locally are produced because we don't have enough resources.

Q: If a person has a criminal record, can they still speak at a correctional facility?

A: Yes, but....We have 21 correctional institutions in our Area, and each one has different rules. For some, all that is required is a name, others may have different requirements.

Each facility is different, youth detentions centres will have criminal records looked at in greater detail. It also depends on what the crime was.

GRAPEVINE

Q: How much does it actually cost to print one Grapevine?

A: I don't know, one could contact grapevine.org.

I will ask on the behalf of the person asking the question.

Q: Is there a demand for publishing the 4 titles proposed:

- Young and sober, v 2
- Beginners v 2
- Fourth and fifth step
- Stories previous published in grapevine for agnostic, atheist and free thinkers.

A: Yes, there is a demand, but the publications are yet to be seen.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

Q: Is there a meeting for Dr.'s only?

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- A:** General meetings are listed in NY, and given on meeting list.
Tradition 3 says the only requirement is a desire to stop drinking.
I have met professional people at open and closed meetings.
I am aware that there are special interest meetings (e.g., police)
In other cases there are informal meetings, don't know who attends them or where they are.
Might be in someone's house.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- Q:** When updated pamphlets are ready for the Groups, do GSRs or Districts get advance notice so we know which pamphlets to replace, or do we just wait until literature is replaced when we run out?
A: When the supply runs out, the new ones are issued. The newer ones will be posted on the AA.org website.

TREATMENT

- Q:** At a treatment centre, can they advertise that there is an AA meeting in the building?
A: Yes, they can. But they cannot advertise any phone numbers or contacts for the meeting.
- Q:** How does Anonymity apply to the American Sign Language (ASL) translators?
A: ASL-translators are probably bound to a code of conduct. It wouldn't hurt for us to explain to them about our traditions when their services are used.
- Q:** Do people who smoke weed in AA have sobriety?
A: Singleness of purpose. AA has provided me a list of contacts if someone has another issue outside of AA, I can get them in touch with the appropriate group.
We cannot judge, if someone says they have a day of sobriety, then they have that.

SELF SUPPORT

- Q:** How much should an AA member contribute to an AA meeting every month.
A: The hard guidelines around what one should contribute is: contribute what you can. Contribute what the cost of their last drink was...
If that was a while ago then contribute what the cost of that last drink would be today.
- Q:** When the 7th is collected from the GSRs at a District meeting, who provides the GSRs with the 7th?
A: The money that the GSRs are taking to the District would come from the collection of the 7th from the group.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

- Q:** How do we encourage "Traditions Meetings" to be filled at groups? We have a Traditions meeting every month and no one comes.
A: I am not sure, food helps. Once they are in place, bring some sponsees and encourage others to come.
- Q:** Is there ever a venue for all 68 GSOs from around the world to get together?
A: A country will send a person to the World Service Meeting (WSM). This meeting was conceived as a forum where A.A. members from around the world could share with each other how A.A. operates in their respective countries. The WSM convenes every two years, alternating between New York and a site in a host country (See Pamphlet *AA Around the Globe* smf-165). This is completely different from the International World Conference.

DELEGATE

- Q:** If you are appointed a position at the General Service Conference (GSC), can you decline?
A: I have never heard of anyone declining a position/invitation. It is a honour to go to the conference, so whatever they ask me to do, I will do it.
- Q:** What is Panel 65, what does it mean?
A: When Bill was getting on in age, in 1950 he said we have to get a conference together so that we are all on the same page. 1951 was Panel 1, the first panel.
- Q:** What is ODC?

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A: ODC stands for Ontario Delegates Committee meeting. We have 4 areas in Ontario: Area 83 (Eastern Ontario), Area 84 (Northeast Ontario), Area 85 (Northwest Ontario), Area 86 (Western Ontario). Before the GSC, the 4 delegates and alt delegates of each of these Areas get together to run through the GSC meeting content. We will discuss agenda items, how to behave, dress and this experience is especially great for the Alternate Delegate to attend in case they are pulled up to go to GSC instead of the Delegate.

Q: Are GSR members expected to attend the Area Assembly?

A: I don't like to say expected. We don't put any expectations on people. If you have been elected as GSR, you are representing your group, (this applies to the Alt GSRs too) They are at the top of the triangle, and that is where the link starts. We appreciate it when you come and we would like to see more of you.

Q: Why can't we print some of the AA books in Canada?

A: Our GSO has a printing service in the States, maybe too expensive to have a second one in Canada.

Q: What is AA's Opinion on Atheists and Agnostic Groups who change the 12 steps and 12 traditions? Are they part of AA if they change them?

A: AA does not have an Opinion on this subject.

Q: What is the rationale for /against AA setting up a twitter or google-not-for profit account?

A: It has been a subject of discussion for several years. Discussion is up again for LinkedIn, Flickr, Twitter, and Facebook. Our GSO knows that the message is not getting out there that AA is here to help the still suffering alcoholic. It is not to convert, or promote the AA message. Not getting into chats

Q: Other than a self-regulating or trust-based system, has there been or is there now an approach to formally challenge any individual who claims a "desire to stop drinking" and thus his/her AA membership?

A: I have never heard of any self-regulating or trust based system, and I hope we never do.

CHAIR PERSON

Q: Why are last names used [in some AA settings]? Newcomers may be afraid of [protecting their] anonymity when hearing others using the last names of others in print, presentations or speech?

A: In service we need to be able to communicate with each other. There are a lot of Robs at the Assembly and you need to know who the Chair is.

Nothing with last names should be left lying around. Everything that goes out over the email, has just last initials. Dr. Bob says that we do not have to be anonymous with each other.

Comment: Ensure that people with disabilities are consulted to know what their needs are?

Please contact me in advance, and I will try to accommodate with the help of the hotel.

WEBMASTER

Q: Internet: if you have a unique first name, how can your anonymity be safe, even if your last name is not posted? Say for example if someone googles it?

A: If you are concerned about your anonymity, make up an alias.

Q: Why hasn't GSO made the ebooks compatible for android yet?

A: I don't know. Might be due to technology.... Not sure.

Q: Are there any limitations on either Area83 or AA.org when it comes to "world services" or involvement at other country's conference level involvement since we are only USA and Canada?

A: GSO in New York is the head office for US and Canada. There are 63 other GSOs around the world. They are separate entities all over.

Q: Is there a backup webmaster or a Friendly assistant to the webmaster in case there is a need?

A: Yes there is. I was alternate webmaster for 3 years. In this term, the alternate is Aaron, he has the passwords and the security details. I have trained him to take over if there is a need.

SELF SUPPORT

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Q: Can you join a committee if you are not a GSR, and even if your group has a GSR.

A: Recently, the archives chair of District 10 was the GSR for a group that folded. He is still the archives chair. If you are interested in serving on a committee –there are other Options

Q: Can a member belong to 2 groups?

A: The home group is the heart of AA. There is nothing in AA that says you can't have two home groups. Personally, my home group is where my foundation in AA is. If you belong to 2 home groups, and you are getting involved in service, you are participating and voting twice on AA issues.

Not a good idea.

Q: Can a person hold a position at the Home group level and at the District at the same time?

A: Each group is autonomous, each district autonomous, and I don't see any problem with it.

Ask it Basket- Fall Assembly 2016

Q: (to the Delegate) What do they mean by "Plain Language" when indicating they requested "Develop a plain language of the Big Book"?

A: Someone sent in a letter to GSO, a different version of the BB. Change certain words to make it easier to read.

EXAMPLE, pg 5 a wholesale miracle has taken place. It is old language, and we don't talk that way today. Another Example....reference to John Barleycorn.

Pg 14-15 of the BB, "These factsabout themselves"..... what does that mean? Go to a dictionary and find out.

Why did it not pass? Because we would have 2 version of the BB, which one should we work with. What happened to the days of sitting down with BB and a sponsor with a dictionary?

Q: (Roy R-Past Delegate) How many Delegates go to the General Service Conference from Canada?

A: 14-and Alaska is not part of this group.

Q: (Sandy S-Past Delegate) How do we create enthusiasm to attend District Meetings?

A: Be enthusiastic. Easiest way..... Often times people audibly dread certain things, and people hear that. We should be excited that so many people want to stand. How is your behavior...?

If your district is not enthusiastic...might ask what are putting out there?

Q: (Kimberly-Treasurer) Why is it that a tax receipt is not given when a donation is made to GSO, however one is provided for a donation to intergroup?

A: Intergroup has a charitable status with CRA and thus gets a tax receipt.

Q: (Rob M-Chairperson) When the 7th tradition is collected at the district meeting, does both alternate GSR and GSR contribute? Does this come from the GSR or Alt GSR's pocket or from the group?

A: Personal decision, whether one or both contribute at a district meeting. Whether it comes out of their pocket should be a group conscience. Discuss at group business meeting. Contributions are voluntary...

Q: (Kim S-Alternate Delegate) Why is the Service Manual not handed out for free at the Area Assembly?

The Annual General Service Mtg booklet was handed out for free, as the workshops makes reference to the AA Service Manual, and the GSR's are lost

A: The reason they aren't handed out for free is because the GSR kits come with the most recent up to date service manual. The Area sells them at cost; it would be very expensive if we gave away service manuals for free at the Assembly.

It is an opportunity for people to purchase an updated version for themselves, buy extras for home groups or sponsees.

Q: (Barry W-Past Delegate) Barry W. in his talk indicated there are 14 Area's in Canada, does this include Alaska...Area 2?

A: No.

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Q: (Jim A-Grapevine) Why do we pay for events such as the ORC, and the Assembly is free?

Why do we pay for service day in Toronto, but not in Kingston?

A: The Ontario Regional Conference is completely outside of the AA structure. The event has expenses that it must recover. It is true, nothing is free. Group donations cover the Assembly....which is essentially a business meeting for all of the Districts in Area 83.

Q: (Herb-Treatment/Accessibility) I went to the correctional facilities, and treatment committee @ Bronsen Centre. I was surprised to see a lack of attendance, even from their regular chairperson? It is discouraging– is this typical?

A: Service takes bends, and to the person who observed this, you may be part of the solution.

Q: (Robb W-Past Delegate) Can an Area Delegate move to a new Area, and get elected Area Delegate for the new Area?

A: If a delegate has served you can only be a delegate once at the GSC. There are 3000 delegates, 1.25 million alcoholics, let someone else have a turn.

Q: (from the floor) Why are these acronyms used instead of full terms? It is very frustrating for newer people and some older people like me.

A: Going through reports some positions or activities (GSR, GSC, GSO) tend to get repeated so many times in a report or document that the writer or presenter tends to move toward acronyms to save time.

Most of the committee chairs try not to use acronyms, good to get this question out, as it brings some awareness. Acronyms are great for one on one conversation, but not for presentations.

Q: (Dot D-Past Delegate) Do DCMs have to chair a district meeting, or can anyone chair the District meeting?

A: Up to your district. Most districts do have the DCM chair. DCM in that case does not have an opinion unless there is a tie. By the way, if there is a tie then the DCM should vote no, because there has not been enough information.

Q: (Fredy-Panel 66 Delegate Area 86) How, and what steps does a member take to become a delegate?

A: One of the known facts is that delegates come in any shape and size. First to get sober. Get into service, and if you start liking it, if you are willing to, raise your hand and the rest is in your higher power's hand. First GSR, then service at the District ultimately to the position of DCM, then at the Area. Not everyone gets to a Delegate position the same way. If you are going to get into service, make sure you develop thick skin; this will allow you can handle criticism and remain diplomatic so that I could put some of my opinions aside. Huge commitment, and I was told that I had to make 46 weekends available.

Q: Service at some Districts is troubling- people are mailing their reports in. People take on the commitments and don't show up. It is a poor excuse for taking on a job. When it becomes a habit to send in reports, others will do the same.

A: When the GSRs weren't showing up. Only the GSRs in attendance got the meeting minutes.

DCMs and ADCMs go out and visit groups that are not attending. Do DCMs still go to all of the meetings? Some DCMs hit a good number of the meetings, this should be part of the Districts' OP. Most DCMs try to get around to all of the groups. Also, Service sponsor is someone who has experience in service work. Service sponsors should pass on the enthusiasm. We sometimes forget to pass along the enthusiasm.

Q: Toronto Intergroup puts on a Seasonal event that receives contributions and sponsorships from outside organizations. Then the event is announced in meetings of AA. Has anyone else encountered this, and what have you done?

A: Groups that have a conference, anything that is not a service function, or AA event

Will not be announced in a group. The problem is no one is talking about it. In your business meeting ask, "Why are we talking about this in our meetings?" Go through your Traditions about affiliations and outside issues.

Q: (Treatment Herb) for an AA event or special function if accessibility requirements are not met, can the event still continue?

A: Yes, the event would still be held, whether or not we advertise that it is fully accessible is another matter.