

# **Area 83 Eastern Ontario International**

Area Assembly  
Minutes

March 31, 2019

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## Area Assembly – March 31, 2019

### 1. OPENING

Meeting opened at 9:00 am

Good morning everyone. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Morning Discussion Group in District 10, and my name is James O'D. I have the honor and privilege of serving as Area 83 Chairperson for the 2019 – 2020 term.

Let's start this meeting with a Moment's Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

12 Traditions	Irene M.	District 28	GSR Acceptance Group
12 Concepts – Short Form	Austin R.	District 22	GSR Twelve Steps Group

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

#### Introduction

This is our first Assembly of four in this term. During the next two years, we will be working together to provide continued strength and direction to A.A. in Area 83.

Our common goal during this term is to keep Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 vibrant and strong with a special focus in the area of communication. Working together is the key for continued Unity in our Area.

The A.A. Service manual defines an Assembly as follows: "The Area Assembly is the mainspring of the Conference structure – the democratic voice of the movement expressing itself." Just as most District tables meet monthly to oversee the affairs of A.A. in the District, and home Groups usually have regular business meetings, to handle matters that require a group conscience decision, the Assembly is the business meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83.

Area 83 stretches from Oakville in the West to Ottawa in the East, down to upper New York State and up to Algonquin Park and the Ottawa Valley. At last count, we have 569 Active Groups.

Some of us have been here before as General Service Representative or Alternate, as District Committee Member or Alternate, or as visitors. For some, it will be their first Assembly and from personal experience it can seem overwhelming!

How many of you are here today attending your first Assembly? Could you raise your hand? That's great!!

Being in service is a great way to give back to AA. You will not be expected to learn or understand everything the first time or even second time. It takes time but it will make sense. Many of us didn't understand what was going on at meetings at first, but in time, we started to understand. Service is much the same way. So please keep coming back – welcome and enjoy the rest of the Assembly.

Over these two years, we will make decisions on a variety of topics. The Area Assembly, like the General Service Conference, strives for substantial unanimity through ample discussion. Before a vote is held, plenty of time is taken for full discussion and questions.

It is my hope that you will return to your Groups and Districts with the feeling that you have done your part in keeping Alcoholics Anonymous strong and vibrant in your area and that you have had a strong voice in Area 83. With a spirit of love and cooperation, we will be able to get things accomplished and have some fun while we're doing it.

At the end of today, I hope that each of us returns home with a renewed belief that A.A. is alive and well in our Area and that our message of hope is being well carried to the still-suffering alcoholic.

I would like to remind all those present, who will be giving a report today, to give whatever highlights, are important. Written reports, when submitted to our Secretary, Amy, 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 things up a bit.

**Area 83 Officers**

Panel 69 Delegate	Rob M.
Alternate Delegate	Kimberley M.
Secretary	Amy L.
Treasurer	JoAnn P.
Registrar	Dave L.
Chairperson	James O'D.

Panel 67 Immediate Past Delegate, Kim S, is not here with us today.

**Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons**

Public Information Chairperson	Ray R.
Cooperation with the Professional Community Chairperson	Bill C.
Correctional Facilities Chairperson	Les M.
Treatment/Accessibility Chairperson	Shane H.
Grapevine Chairperson	Jenny C.
Self-Support Chairperson	Mike B.
Archives Chairperson	Marty M.

These are your Area Officers and Sub Committee Chairs for 2019- 2020

In attendance, **Past Delegates, people with appointed Area Service Positions and long-time Service visitors:**

Panel 53 Delegate Roy R.  
Panel 59 Delegate Sandy S.  
Panel 61 Delegate Robb W.  
Panel 63 Delegate Mel C.  
Panel 65 Delegate Joyce S.

**And in Appointed positions we have:**

Area Archivist - Linda McQ.  
Area Webmaster - George McQ.

Also, we have with us as a **visitor** from outside of Area 83:

Jan L.- Panel 54 Delegate of Area 86, Western Ontario and currently serving as Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

**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, Dave. Area 83 wants to make sure that everyone is able to participate equally.

If you need an accommodation today to help with this, please see me at the break. You could also give a note to any of the Area Committee and ask that they give it to me. Keeping this in mind, please keep the aisles free during the meeting and breaks to allow people to move easily about the room.

**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. The Ambassador does not allow e-cigarettes or vaping to be used in the hotel. If you leave this

room for a smoke or any other reason, please do so quietly. Please do not congregate just outside the Ballroom doors since it becomes very distracting for those currently in the Ballroom.

### **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 reuse them to keep our costs down. It would cost about \$300 to replace all the name tag holders for an Assembly. You can do your part to keep costs down by returning your name tag to the boxes at the doors before you leave today.

### **FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

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

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

A schedule of tentative dates for meetings in 2019 will be included in the minutes. Please note that anyone can attend the Area Committee meeting in Quinte West. We welcome all visitors.

Year	Date	What	Where
2019	June 1 <u>approved</u>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2019	September 7 <u>tentative</u>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2019	October 25,26,27 <u>tentative</u>	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel

### **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 \$17.25 per person for the weekend which works out to approximately \$5600. At recent Assemblies the total 7<sup>th</sup> collected improved but is still significantly less than the amount paid for refreshments. There are contribution (cans)/boxes 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 7<sup>th</sup> is being passed around.

### **WHO VOTES?**

Only members of the Assembly may vote.

These are:

- All Area Officers, including the Immediate Past Delegate, but not the Chair.
- All Area Sub-Committee Chairs
- All District Committee Members of Districts in Area 83; in their absence, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote.
- All General Service Representatives 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, and those without votes please sit at the back section. This will make it easier for us to count votes.

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

When we have a vote, unless the voting is unanimous, or if the vote was to cover items such as acceptance of minutes, I will ask if anyone would like to speak to the minority. To be able to do this, you must have voted with the minority on the motion.

This next part may be unique to A.A. If, after the minority has spoken, someone from the majority side of the vote wishes to change their vote, that person may make a motion to reconsider. If this motion 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, Amy, before standing at the microphone.*

### **HOW DO WE VOTE?**

Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by ‘substantial unanimity’. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority which is 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 a 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.

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May I have a motion to operate on simple majority?

• *Motion for simple majority*

Moved:	Linda D	District 66	GSR -Land of Lakes
Seconded:	Will H	District 14	DCM
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

## 2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

### **OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED** including Floor Motions

None

• *Motion to accept the agenda*

Moved:	Bob G	District 30	GSR- Keep it simple
Seconded:	Roshni G	District 06	GSR- Strength and Recovery
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

## 3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF Fall ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY OCTOBER 28, 2018

Are there any ERRORS OR OMISSIONS in the minutes as distributed to bring to our attention?

There were None

• *Motion to accept minutes as circulated.*

Moved:	Terry N	District 26	DCM
Seconded:	Tim F	District 86	DCM
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

## 4. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

The District committee members' verbal reports are limited to 2 minutes.

The 2-minute time will be controlled by the timer that was built by Denis D., a past Delegate. It cycles between green, yellow, and red lights and ends with a buzz. If you get the buzz please stop speaking. Written reports, which are also requested, may be as long as needed, and will be included, in their entirety, in the minutes of this Assembly if a copy is

given to Amy, our Secretary. To help keep things moving along, we have 5 chairs at the front to my left and I would ask that as the District reports are given, the District Committee Members who are “on deck” come up and wait until it is your turn. Again, I would request that all please respect the time allotted to them.

### **District 02 Malton**

Good morning friends, my name is De R., I’m an alcoholic, member of the KF Group and have the honour and privilege of serving as the District Committee Member for Malton, District 2.

We recently moved our monthly business meeting from Rexdale in Toronto to Brampton in hopes of increasing attendance. We had a great turn-out at our last meeting. District 02 is doing well, with many new General Service Representatives. We have filled most of our Committee Chair positions, although few alternate positions. We hope to fill our Corrections and Self-Support positions soon. We have some amazing people dedicated to service in our District.

Financially we are stable and are conducting a financial audit for the new Term with thanks to Patrick B., our Treasurer and Vince R., our Alternate District Committee Member. And finally, we will not be hosting a Service Day this year; instead we hope to offer workshops for our General Service Representatives and members within our District. Yours in Love and Service, De R.

### **District 06 Mississauga**

Hello everyone, I’m an alcoholic, grateful member of Daily Reflections. It is my honour and privilege to serve as DCM for District 06, Oakville, Mississauga, Etobicoke and my name is Susan K.

District 06 is comprised of 33 groups with attendance at our district meetings hovering around 60%- 65%.

Our Treatment Chair, Chris, is actively supporting the Peel Youth Village, Jean Tweed and Cawthra Centre by filling meeting requests by our district members. Literature, chips and Big Books are supplied when needed. Our Corrections Chair, Graham has sent in his application for approval at Toronto South Detention Centre. There has been a request for a box of little big books, Bridging the Gap forms and Beginner’s Pamphlets which the district will supply. Dareena, our Grapevine Chair has been busy updating the display as the old one was well loved and travelled. Public Information Chair Geoff has been in touch with two Church’s in our district to provide pamphlets and will be assisting in two upcoming events; a Teen Wellness Meeting and Recovery Day sponsored by Al-Anon. Our Archives Chair has been filled by Dee and they are already at work preparing for the GTA Archives Breakfast in November. Intergroup Liaison position has been filled by Pat and she reports back on all activities at Toronto Intergroup. Our Secretary / Treasurer is a combined role and Jill keeps us up to date. Zobie has filled the role of Webmaster / Registrar and has been busy updating our Web site and forwarding our GSRs, sub-committee chairs and District officers’ information to Area 83. Nat has stepped into the role of ADCM and I appreciate all his support to myself, our secretary and Web master. Thank you all for your service.

We have yet to fill all positions and I’m hopeful that this weekend will encourage support. Our District finances are in good shape and we are meeting all our responsibilities along with a disbursement to Area 83 and GSO.

As DCM I have filled the position of Treasurer for the upcoming GTA “Information AA Day” on June 8<sup>th</sup>. At our last District Inventory there was a request to host a “Service Sponsorship” workshop. We will begin preparation for that to be held in May at our regular district meeting. Yours in love and in service, Susan K.

### **District 10 Toronto South Central**

Hi all, I’m an Alcoholic a member of the Morning Discussion Group who is currently serving District 10 as DCM and my name is Doug P. Here are some of the Summary Highlights for District 10:

District 10 is in solid shape financially, meeting all obligations and contributing accordingly. Of the 20 or so active groups currently listed in our District, we typically get around 16 at any given District 10 meeting, representing roughly an 80% participation rate. We recently had a new Spanish speaking group—“The Joy of Living” join our district, and, through the good work of our District Registrar, we have also brought two groups back to the table that had been absent in the past for whatever reason. There are still a few others that we are reaching out to on this front.

With the new-year elections, we have many new faces at the table, including GSR's, Alt-GSR's, Sub-Committee Chairs, and District position holders – including myself! I am happy to report that all 5 District positions and 9 sub-committee chair positions are currently filled. *Note* at our January Area Committee meeting, we had reported that two of our Sub-committee chairs- Corrections and Treatment- had completed their respective rotations but, had graciously volunteered to stay on until replacements were found. Since then, we now have a new Treatment Chair training with us, who we expect will be fully up to speed very soon.

I would also like to mention that with so many new faces at our table, we have been encouraging a healthy dialogue with our counterparts at Area, who have been extremely helpful to date. I am looking forward to seeing how these connections can help us all get better in our respective roles.

District 10 is currently active with roughly 30 service commitments each month at 7 different locations, with a potential 8<sup>th</sup> location being negotiated by our Treatment Chair. The commitments are mostly well attended, and our participation rate is high.

Since the beginning of the year we have worked with our GSR's, and the respective registrar/secretaries at District and Area, to reconcile a great deal of our Group and contact information. It still has some ways to go, but we feel we are moving in the right direction. The team we have in place has shown great enthusiasm, which is encouraging for the current term. Looking forward to working with the team over the coming term.

Yours in Love and Service, Doug P.

### **District 12 Toronto South West**

I am an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Westmoreland Group and DCM for District 12. We have some changes, a new Alternate District Committee Member, please welcome Bill H. a member of the High Park Group. Our subcommittee chairs have many vacancies in PI, CPC, Self Support, Grapevine, and Corrections. I have heard there are two members who have expressed interest in Corrections, and I hope they will join us at the District table in the very near future. We have introduced a 7th tradition to our District meeting with hopes we may find a new location which is more accessible to all members. We have been advised by the Church there will be no opportunity to change to the main floor rooms, which are fully accessible. Our finances are in good shape, we are covering all our service commitments. Yours in Service, Dennis Mc.

### **District 14 Toronto North Central**

I am an alcoholic a member of the Mount Albert and Street Level Sobriety Groups of Alcoholics Anonymous and my name is Will. I have the honor and privilege of serving as the District Committee Member for District 14, Toronto North Central for the 2019–2020 term. All of our District Officer positions have been filled and the sub-committee chairs that are filled are doing a great job. Currently there are three sub-committee positions available: Accessibility, Self-Support and Grapevine. Our ADCM, Bill W (isn't that cool) has made himself available to fill in where possible.

Our service meetings at Southlake Hospital in Newmarket and the CHIRS (Critical Head Injury Rehabilitation Clinic) are being supported well by the groups in the district. We are still engaged in conversation with The McKenzie Health Centre in re-establishing a service meeting which was suspended due to our lack of liability insurance which we now have in place.

Our Public Information Committee is continuing to carry the message to the York Region Catholic School Board at their DAW – Drug Awareness Week events throughout the school year. They ask us to provide information tables at their Power Conference and at individual schools in the district. Our Intergroup Liaison, Lynn M. has been attending the intergroup Meeting and ensuring the information is getting back and reported to the District Committee. Our Archives chair, Diane M has been also doing a great job in carrying the message back to our table. Our CPC chair Doug M has also been doing a great job in reporting back to the table. Our Corrections chair Dave H is also busy and as we don't have a correctional facility in our district is busy placing our literature in police stations, parole offices and court offices.

Our finances are in good standing and our registrar is making the attempt to ensure group information is correct and we are getting a good representation of GSRs from the groups in our district.

Our ADCM and I are planning to attend groups in the district that do not have a contact listed with GSO and see where we can be of service. I attended the 35-year celebration at the Queensville Group of Dennis F. a long-time member of the district committee. What a great celebration, you could feel the love in the air. I was there with a newcomer that joined the Mt. Albert Group the night before. Yours in love and service, Will H.

### **District 16 Distrito Hispano De Toronto**

Good morning, my name is Gregorio, I am an alcoholic. My hope group is Grupo Amistad de Alcoholicos Anonimos in Toronto and have the honour and privilege to be the new District Committee Member of the Distrito Hispano de Toronto #16.

As DCM I want to report that we held the elections for the new committee in the beginning of the year and the following positions were filled. DCM Gregorio A., Alternate DCM Victor M, Secretary Pedro R., Treasurer Jeremias A., La Vina, Lauro V., Corrections Domingo L., Archives Victor M. In the coming months we will try to fill all the positions that are still vacant. Yours in Love and Service, Gregorio A.

### **District 18 Toronto City East**

Good morning friends. I am an alcoholic, member of the East York group, having the honour, privilege and responsibility to serve, as the District Committee Member, for District 18 Toronto City East. My name is Glenn.

We have approximately 25 groups in our District. Our District boundaries stretch roughly from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe, framed loosely by Bayview & Victoria Park. District officers visit approximately half of these groups each month.

District 18 officers are serving together cohesively as a fabulous team! Candice F., Registrar, Sue H., Secretary, Greg R. Treasurer, Christy F., Alternate District Committee Member.

District 18 Sub-committee Chairs, and Alternates, have also hit the ground running: Gord M/Greg R., Accessibility, Rick M., Archives, Jeff A./Victoria B., Cooperation with the Professional Community, David P./Maura C., Correction, John M., Grapevine, Victoria B., Public Information, Jennifer C./Carrie G., Treatment facilities, Candice F./Mary N., Toronto Intergroup Liaison. For now, I will be covering our Self Support sub-committee obligations.

District 18 Sub-committee chairs/Alts and District officers, as well as our groups and members, continue to strongly facilitate the carrying of the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. In addition to personal initiatives/creativity being undertaken, within their respective roles, they honour weekly service commitment meetings: parole board, hospital, men's detox & also support four service meetings on Friday & Saturday nights, Sunday morning and Tuesday afternoon. Serving, in tandem, with other District/Area 83 chairs/liaison on Greater Toronto Area Intergroup committees is satisfying. In fact, most of our committees have coordinated with surrounding Districts/Toronto Intergroup at annual events such as: East Toronto Archives Breakfast, AA information day, 4 major conferences, Several Roundups, neighbouring District Service days, Big Book and Concepts/traditions workshops.

District 18 is both financially and spiritually fit!

The Ontario Regional Conference (ORC) was another sobriety highlight for me this month. This event was a life saver for me in early sobriety. I have been an avid supporter for the last 13 years. This year the ORC was held at the Sheraton hotel across from Toronto City hall. Attendance seemed lower than usual, but both the venue and program were fantastic.

Here are some upcoming events: Concepts workshop-Toronto-Sat April 27<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sunday morning Toronto Men's Meeting-Edwards gardens-Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> Annual East Toronto Archives Breakfast-Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>, AA Information day-Toronto- Sat June 8<sup>th</sup>.

The three legacies of AA: Recovery, Unity and Service are reinforced at the District 18 table. Many members of the District 18 committee are noticeably living the spiritual principles of the program. Our big book reminds us: "Love and Tolerance of others is our code."

Thank you to: God, my sponsor, my service sponsor, my home group members, the District 18 table, trusted servants in Area 83 and all my other friends in the fellowship, for both my sobriety and opportunity to be of service. Yours in both gratitude and loving service, Glenn G.

### **District 22 Scarborough**

Good morning friends, my name is Lynn and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Fifth Tradition Group in Scarborough, and I am currently serving as the District Committee Member of Scarborough District 22. There are 22 groups within our District and approximately 18 groups are represented at the table. Our monthly meeting is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month and thank you everyone for coming out and attending. All of our district officer positions are filled, subcommittee positions are all filled with the exception of Accessibility. Finances are healthy, and we continue to meet our commitments at the Metro Toronto East Detention Centre and the Scarborough General Hospital. We had 2 Bridging the Gap request so far this year; our Treatment Chair, Jennifer M, and myself were able to make successful contacts with them both. That is a great feeling.

We have three annual upcoming events: East Toronto Archives Breakfast, in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, co-hosted with District 18, Toronto City East, on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>, at the QSSIS Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Road. We are involved in the GTA's 40<sup>th</sup> Info AA Day, jointly facilitated with the 8 districts in the GTA. This will be held on Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>, where our Delegate Rob, will give his Conference Report and we will also have a speaker from GSO.

Scarborough District 22 will be holding their annual Service Information Day on Saturday September 14 and Oakridge's Community Centre. This event in the last couple of years has had a great turnout, getting everyone involved and learning about the Service in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Scarborough, District 22 is strong, active and support continues and to carry the message of Recovery, Unity and Service-together we can. Yours In Love & Service, Lynn E.

### **District 26 Lakeshore West**

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Whitby Serenity Group and my name is Terry. It is my honour and privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 26. Our District is doing well, with a secure financial position, and attendance has been around 69%.

All Positions are filled. Our District Table Launched a New Youth website [www.aadurhamyoung.ca](http://www.aadurhamyoung.ca) focused on youth in A.A. by the Public Information Committee in December 2018. We had a successful GSR workshop February 3, 2019, thanks to a great committee. We truly want to welcome all our new GSR's and Alt.'s. April 13, 2019 District 28 is having a Spring Round-up. Our District is hosting Service Information Day June 23, 2019 1:30 to 4:00pm at the Alano Club in Oshawa, together with District's 28, 30, 82, & 86. Our Panel 69 Delegate Rob M. will be giving his report from the General Service Conference.

Our Lakeshore District 26 & 28 Conference is being chaired by Shawna R. Port Whitby Group from District 26 on August 9<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>. I am grateful for the opportunity to service. Terry N.

### **District 28 Lakeshore East**

Hi. I'm an alcoholic, member of the Gratitude Group in Bowmanville and my name is Eileen. It's my honour and privilege to serve as District Committee Member for District 28, Lakeshore East.

Our District Meetings are held monthly, with an average of 15 groups present. We have all of our Chair positions filled, with the exception of Treatment and Accessibilities, which we hope to fill at our April District meeting. Thankfully, a previous chair is assisting until the position is filled.

Jointly with District 26, our districts have Interchange the first week of each month. Groups put on meetings at other groups within the two districts. It's a great opportunity to meet other members of different groups and to hear the experience, strength, and hope of members a bit further away from our home groups. Thanks to District 28 Alternate DCM, Tamara, for making the schedule – it's no easy feat!

Our district is very active and we have several events scheduled, with more to come. Specific information about each event can be found at our Intergroup website: <http://www.aadurham.org/>

- April 13 – Spring Round Up – A Journey of Hope, with Al-Anon participation. LVIV Hall, Oshawa
- April 26 – Self-Support AA Night at the Movies – An evening of Self-Support awareness and the movie ‘My Name is Bill W’. Thanks to Self-Support Chair Alan for organizing this event. Christian Zion Church, Oshawa
- May 4 – Day of Recovery Round Up – All 12 Steps in a Day. Pickering Village Church, Ajax
- June 23 – Service Information Day – Districts 28, 26, 30, 82, and 86. Alano Club, Oshawa
- Aug 9-11 - Summer Conference ‘Into Action’. LVIV Hall, Oshawa
- Sept 29 - Sobriety Gratitude Banquet. Jubilee Banquet Hall, Oshawa

I appreciate the opportunity to serve District 28 and AA as a whole. Yours in love and service, Eileen S.

### **District 30 Quinte West**

I am an alcoholic a member of The Alderville Pioneer Group currently serving as District Committee Member for District 30 and my name is Rick. District 30 is doing well and meeting all of our financial obligations. Our district is an active District with good attendance, all positions are filled, and we also get regular visitors coming out. We have some Alternate GSRs also attending regularly.

We have a new Roundup committee, they are working hard right now putting together our 2019 Roundup which will take place in Brighton on April 27<sup>th</sup>; doors open at 8:30, the first panel will start at 9 a.m. I hope you can come out and join us for a great day of Fellowship.

District 30 will be participating in the service information day with Districts 26, 28, 82, and 86. Area 83 delegate Rob M will be presenting his report on the 69th General Service Conference. This will be held at the Alano Club in Oshawa on June 23rd at 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. I look forward to this day and hope to see some of you there. Yours in Love and Service. Rick.

### **District 34 Quinte East**

Good morning, I am an alcoholic currently serving as District Committee Member for District 34 – Quinte East. My home group is Women Living Sober, and my name is Bev.

Alcoholics Anonymous is alive and well in District 34. All the Sub Committee Chair positions are filled, and each Chair is working hard to become familiar with their respective position. Even though we are all experiencing a tremendous learning curve, each position is being met with much enthusiasm. The monthly district table meeting shows an average of approximately 60 – 65% of groups attending. The district is financially sound, and all our financial commitments are met. We are moving forward with revising our Operating procedures in the coming months as they have not been reviewed and/or revised for a period. We will be coordinating a small committee to assist with this task.

Our PIC Chair is moving forward with having our meeting lists updated and printed. Our CPC Chair is moving forward planning a *Bring a Professional Event* at some point in the coming months. District 34 had an event such as this last year and it was very well received. Our Treatment Chair continues to monitor any and all Bridging the Gap requests that are forwarded to him through our local Addictions Centre in Belleville and passes them along to our Area Treatment chair for processing. District 34 looks forward to the upcoming term and carrying the message to the best of our ability to the still suffering alcoholic. Yours in Love and Service, Bev H.

### **District 36 Kingston & the Islands**

Good morning friends, I am an alcoholic and a member of the Saturday Morning Step Stop Group in Kingston and I am honoured and privileged to be serving as the DCM for District 36 Kingston and the Islands. My name is Jack.

We have a new and enthusiastic table this year with 24 groups and a new group called the North End group starting up on Monday nights bringing us up to 25 groups. Attendance has been upwards of 80 % at district meetings so far. We have been able to clear out a backlog of old business in 2 meetings including an overhaul of our operating procedures that had been on the docket for upwards of 2 years!

Ron M. our Corrections chair and his committee have been busy updating the volunteer list, arranging for more literature to be delivered to the institutions and organizing a pre-release fair in June. Our PI/CPC chair unfortunately had to step down due to time commitments. Our Alternate DCM / Self Support Chair Lynne H. has agreed to step in temporarily until we find a replacement. Our treatment chair Edward O. has been helping our groups coordinate coverage each

month of our 4 regular Treatment meetings. An experimental meeting has been formed for a short trial on the psychiatry floor of our Kingston Hospital to assess whether attendance would be boosted by this change in location. Grapevine chair Dianne H. has already set up her table at a few milestone birthdays and plans to drum up more support in our district for our meeting in print. Our telephone link committee chair Monique H. reports an increase in 12 step calls with our seamless transfer to the substantially cheaper Calltune system, saving the district a lot of money that can be put to better use elsewhere. Archives chair Kate W. has made an inventory of our district archives and hopes to encourage district members to donate any significant items. Our treasurer Heather E. reports our finances to be good and we were able to make a contribution to Area 83 and GSO at our March meeting. Special thanks to our Secretary Donna C. who has coordinated all the greeters at the registration table this weekend.

Our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Founder's Day roundup will be held on June 8, 2019 at Crossroads United Church. It promises to be a great day with Oldtimers and Newcomers panels and a banquet and evening speaker. Yours in Gratitude and Service, Jack R.

### **District 42 St. Lawrence International**

Greetings from across the river, my name is Ted and I am a member of the Fall Island Big Book Study Group and the current District Committee Member for District 42. We have all our positions filled except for Corrections and Literature/Grapevine Chairs. We are still having issues with attendance at District Meetings. We tried to solve this by having roving District Meetings that would take place just prior to a regular Group meeting at a selected Group's location. These occurred every 3 months. After trying this for over a year and getting no new people at the District Table we decided to end this experiment.

Our District website is working well for us and using this as the resource for meeting lists has allowed the meeting list to be current and accurate. Our new Treatment Chair wants to use the web site to post speaking commitments for the various facilities so any holes in the schedule can be taken care of in a more timely manner.

Our finances are healthy at this point. We were getting concerned about them through the winter months but, as always, when we really needed funds our groups came through for us. One good thing about getting low on money is it makes one look at spending and how we might cut costs. If nothing else this serves as a mini inventory. At this time we are looking at what we can do about cutting phone costs for our AA hotline.

We are looking forward to the Old Timers Dinner which is to be held May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Fall Island Trinity Church. This is being organized by our Public Information Chair, Allen C. Yours in Love, Service, and Procrastination, Ted R.

### **District 48 Seaway Valley North**

Good morning friends, I am an alcoholic, a proud member of the Kemptonville Sunday Morning Group, and my name is Wayne. It is indeed a privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 48, Seaway Valley North. I am fortunate to have a group of sub-committee chairs that are anxious to do a good job and ask many questions, which helps me to learn my role better. We currently have one vacant position, the Chair for Self Support, but our Alternate DCM, Dave B., has taken over the duties in the interim. Unfortunately, our incoming secretary had to step down in January due to health reasons, but we did fill this position at our District meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, so we are quickly getting caught up with correspondence from the Area and GSO.

We had a great day on February 9<sup>th</sup> at our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Roundup, and Mother Nature cooperated with good weather. The panels and guest speaker were excellent, and the fellowship was awesome. The attendance appeared to be down slightly from last year, but one of our GSRs suggested that the good weather was to blame for that, since alcoholics respond better to adverse conditions. This GSR has a lot of experience with this event over the years, so I should pay attention. Maybe I will suggest to the committee that on next year's flyer we include a footnote to the effect of something like "A snowstorm is expected on that day". That should really bring out the alcoholics.

The District finances are in good shape and we are having good turnouts at our District table. We consistently have about 12 of our 19 groups represented at our monthly meetings. There is a great mix of experience and new faces at our meetings, which makes for good discussion and interaction on issues.

The next event that our District will be part of is our annual Service Day with Districts 42, 50, and 66. After a few emails between our Districts and our Area 83 Delegate, June 9<sup>th</sup> has been set for Rob to present his report. No further arrangements have been made at this point. It is great to serve District 48. Thank you for my sobriety. Yours in Love and Service, Wayne L.

### **District 50 Cornwall**

(absent and no report submitted)

### **District 54 Ottawa Rideau**

My name is Jo Anne. I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Search for Serenity Group in Orleans and I am currently serving as the District Committee Member for District 54, Ottawa Rideau.

I am delighted to report that as of this month, March 2019, every one of our service positions is filled. Our District is blessed to have so many individuals willing to serve. On average, 51% of our Groups attend our monthly meetings and I am happy say there is a good number of District reps here at the Assembly this weekend. Consistent with the practice of several of my predecessors, I am embarking on a plan to visit each of the Groups in District 54, beginning with those Groups who do not attend monthly District meetings. I made my first visit earlier this month to a Group whose General Service Representative recently stepped down. My visit may not have prompted the immediate election of a new GSR but based on the questions posed, it did, at least, raise awareness about the power and influence of Home Groups.

I continue to be involved in the Ottawa area Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI-CPC) in its effort to revive the Committee into the dynamic and active group it has been. A dedicated group of individuals have joined the effort - in fact, most of them came this weekend and attended the PI and CPC information sessions yesterday.

Preparations for the annual Vanier Round Up in early June are underway. District 54, along with the Districts 58 and 62, has begun preparations for the Ottawa area's Gratitude in Service Day to be held on June 22. Yours in service, Jo Anne D.

### **District 58 Ottawa Bytown**

Good morning. My name is Kim and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the 12 Steps to Serenity Group and I am serving as District Committee Member for District 58

District 58 is doing well. Service commitments are being fulfilled and we are working on improving financial health. Attendance at District meeting could be better, so we have a lot of work to do to encourage more participation. We do have some new faces at the table which is good to see. We participated in the GSR workshop offered by district 62 in January. A big thanks to 62 for inviting us.

Committee participation has been slow to start, but there is interest. Joanne from district 54 has worked hard to restart the CPC/PI committee and we appreciate her efforts. The liaisons for Intergroup, CFT and Archives have been in the role for a long time, so in the spirit of rotation, they will be showing someone else the ropes.

I will be working with our fall conference chair to encourage participation of the young people in the district. Upcoming events in Ottawa: Spring conference April 13; Gratitude day June 22; Fall conference October 18-19.

Yours in Service, Kim B.

### **District 62 Ottawa West**

I am an alcoholic and my name is Frank. I am the District Committee Member for District 62 Ottawa West for the 2019/2020 term. My home group is The Morning Glory Group which meets 10:00am Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

It is a privilege to serve District 62. The Alternate District Committee member Gene C. is also present at this Assembly. We continue to facilitate Group Inventories and share Self Support presentations as the groups invite us to the meetings. District 62 is represented by a great committee of dedicated people. We are currently looking to fill two liaison positions and I am confident that someone will come forward at the next meeting. Our attendance at the monthly District meeting averages 57% or 25 of the 44 groups. Prior to the beginning of the regular District meeting, there is a Traditions workshop covering a Tradition or two each month. All members are welcome to attend. The workshop is facilitated by Mike B.

District 62 has an active Awareness Pamphlet Program in place which enables members to distribute Awareness Kits into Professional offices throughout the city and rural areas. This has been and continues to be a successful program. District 62 is active with various Service Committees. This includes the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Centre, Newgate 180, Correction Facilities and Treatment, Cooperation with Professional Community, Public Information and Archives.

I attended the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly held in Laval, Quebec in February. It was a wonderful gathering of people involved in the service structure of Eastern Canada. It was an eye-opening learning experience for me. The days were long and full of opportunities to listen to reports and information from the ten Areas of Eastern Canada represented at the Assembly. There was a lot of AA business happening during the weekend. Great speakers and a fantastic banquet as well. Thank You, In Love and Service, Frank

### **District 66 Golden Triangle**

Good morning, friends. I am an alcoholic, I am honoured to serve as District Committee Member for Golden Triangle, District 66, and my name is Neil.

District 66 is one of the largest districts in Area 83 with 27 registered groups. Our district covers an area as far north as Almonte, Sharbot Lake to the west, Merrickville to the east, and Brockville to the south. We support 3 treatment facilities and 3 institutions in our district. All our District positions are filled and as represented by the number of District 66 members at this Spring Assembly, the energy and willingness to serve is alive and well in District 66.

Every year our members put on the District 66 Spring Round Up. This year's event will take place Saturday April 13 and we hope to see some of you there. We also look forward to participating for our second year at the annual Service Information AA Day along with Districts 42, 48, and 50. The date this year will be June 9, with the location to be determined. Our district table recently decided to put on an annual service meeting where we invite all members to attend and learn exactly what we do at district.

Much like any AA business meeting, our District meetings are occasionally spirited. I am reminded often how important an informed group conscience is for the survival of our wonderful fellowship. I am very grateful we occasionally are graced with the presence of past DCMs. Their experience and knowledge are a great resource when we get "stuck". With each District meeting I learn something new about both the fellowship and myself.

District 66 is solid financially. We meet all our commitments to Area and GSO, and make sure we are represented at CERAASA every two years. A couple of years ago a member asked why we don't first focus on our district needs for reaching out to the still suffering alcoholic when we have funds to disperse. This concept was received well by the table, and we now look within first when there is money to be dispersed.

The Monday Night New Hope Group now hosts a monthly open service meeting. So far this year they had a panel on sponsorship, and this month they invited me and a GSR from the district to talk about service. I am looking forward to attending more of these meetings in the future and I encourage many others in our district to do so too. On a personal note I want to thank the Service Information day committee for the amazing job they did yesterday. Yours in love and service, Neil P.

### **District 70 Renfrew Pontiac**

Good morning, I am an alcoholic, a member of the Douglas group. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve as DCM for District 70 and my name is Lisa. District 70 had its elections in November and I am pleased to report all of our positions are now filled. We are financially stable. Unfortunately, the Spirit of Hope group, Thursday night in Renfrew has closed.

There were many celebrations since the last assembly, a few were: November 26, 2018 one of the founders of the Gold Bond group in Eganville, Harry S. celebrated 60 years of sobriety. Thursday December 13, 2018 the Turning Point group in Arnprior had a gratitude and potluck meeting. Thursday December 27, 2018 Les B. of the Cobden Way of Life Group celebrated 40 years of sobriety. On March 16, 2019 we had our annual St. Paddy's Day Roundup. Our total years of sobriety countdown was 1753 years and 40 days. We had some sound system glitches that were dealt with while we

smoothly altered our schedule. We definitely demonstrated our theme 'Living in the Solution '. There were 227 guests signed in the registration book.

The Douglas group is celebrating their 40th anniversary on Friday April 12, 2019. On June 15, 2019 districts 70, 74 and 78 will be having a Tri-District Service Day in Cobden. The theme is "It only works when you give it away". An itinerary and Flyer should be available by week's end. I am looking forward to being part of the growth of the new committee. Yours in Service, Lisa C.

### **District 74 Pembroke**

I am an alcoholic my name is Jane, District Committee Member for District 74, Pembroke and surrounding area.

It has been a great few months settling in at the District Meetings with our newly elected trusted servants. We have all been enthusiastically pursuing the business of District 74. All of our committee chair positions are now filled with the exception of CPC. We have implemented the presentation of a tradition along with a brief summary by one of the Chairs or GSR's at each District meeting. So far, this has been well presented and well received. Group contributions have been slow the past few months however, we are currently doing ok financially. We have expenses for this assembly as well as our spring conference coming over the next few weeks.

Our annual spring conference will take place on May 11, 2019 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 170 ELLIS AVENUE, PEMBROKE, ONTARIO. This year's theme is "*Rule 62, Don't Take Yourself Too Damn Seriously*". We anticipate a fun day including speakers, panels, and fellowship all topped off with a fabulous roast beef dinner provided by Schmidts Catering. The cost of the dinner is \$20.00, attendance at the day-long event is 7th Tradition. Dinner tickets must be purchased in advance no later than May 1, 2019.

On June 15, 2019 District 74 will participate with Districts 70 and 72 in a Service Information Day in Cobden, Ontario. Check our website for more details on this in the coming weeks. District 74 is blessed with long timers who are still active in the fellowship. On April 7, 2019 one of these long timers, Phil D. will celebrate 47 years of continuous sobriety along with our Area CPC Chair Bill C. having 7 years and Harrison 1 year! On April 27, 2019 Bob J. will celebrate 49 years of continuous sobriety (along with Pat E. 18 years and Dan Q. 16 years).

Sadly, Stepping Stones (Thursday evenings) has closed its doors. The Monday night meeting of the New Hope Group has also closed. New Hope continues to hold meetings on Wednesday evenings and Friday at noon. Just as one door closes another one opens; a new meeting has begun on Mondays at noon. Our website and online meeting lists are constantly kept up to date by George, our amazing webmaster and his right hand in training Julie. We in District 74 are looking forward to thawing out as spring approaches. We reflect on this season of renewal and new growth with gratitude and humility. We remember those alcoholics still suffering and do our best to make sure we are ready and available to show them the way out. Yours in love and service, Jane S.

### **District 78 Madawaska Valley**

I'm an alcoholic, proud member of the Bancroft New Hope Group. DCM for District 78, my Name is Michelle. AA is thriving in our little district. We have had many Birthday and Group anniversaries so far this term. We are excited to be doing a Tri- District Service information Day in June and our 40<sup>th</sup> Festival of Colors Round-up in September. I hope to see a lot of you there.....it's worth the drive to Cottage Country!! Yours in Love and Service, Michelle C.

### **District 82 Victoria Haliburton**

Good Morning, I am an alcoholic, I belong in the Bolsover Pines Group and my name is Glenn. I am currently serving at the District 82 DCM.

Our district is doing well financially. We have been able to meet all our financial obligations. We have 16 registered groups in our district. Thirteen of those groups have been active at the district meetings. On average we have had 8 group service representatives from those thirteen groups at our meetings. Attendance has not been great, but we have continued to have enough GSRs to have a quorum. I am looking for ways to get more GSRs attending our district meetings.

We currently are looking for members of our district to fill the following District Chair positions: Public Information Chair, Cooperation with the Professional Community and Archives Chair as well as Alternate Men's Corrections. District 82

recently voted to have the meeting lists printed in larger font and to have a page for writing contact information on blank lines.

Members of Alcoholics Anonymous in District 82 continue to visit both the men and women in the jail. Some of the meetings at the jails have been cancelled due to various ongoing issues at the jails. Our corrections chair Paul S has done a great job of organizing the jail visits. District 82 will be holding the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual District Conference at the Lindsay Armouries on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is "Acceptance". We have a great lineup of speakers and are excited about the conference. Tickets are \$15 for the day including lunch and \$25 dollars for the day including lunch and the banquet. We do have people here in attendance that have tickets for sale if anyone is interested. Could people that have tickets please stand up. I also have tickets for sale. Our Webmaster, Jim S, has done a great job of making sure our meeting list on the web is current and accurate and has been working with Joe C our co-alternate webmaster teaching him and getting him prepared for the next term.

Districts 26, 28, 30, 82 and 86 will be holding their service information day on Sunday June 23 at the Alano Club in Oshawa. Our Delegate Rob M will give his report and we will have various panels discussing different topics in Alcoholics Anonymous. It is sure to be a great day! All are welcome to attend. Yours in service, Glenn B.

### **District 86 Kawartha**

Good Morning Friends, I am an alcoholic, proud member of the Freedom Group and currently serving as District Committee Member of District 86 and my name is Tim. As this is the first assembly of the term I want to express my gratitude at the opportunity to serve as District Committee Member for the Kawarthas. Representing the District at the Area level will be an amazing learning experience and a chance for growth. Previous service positions have taught me so much but I'm finding the knowledge in service is endless and I want to absorb it all.

Our attendance has averaged about 80% with one meeting having over 20 visitors. So far at our District table we have approved a proposed budget and have had the previous financials audited. The General Service Representatives, Committee Chairs and myself are coming together well, working through New Business with healthy, respectful discussion. All appear to have a good working knowledge of the Traditions and I feel great about our table. We have a full complement of Committee Chairs with one resigning, but willing to continue until a replacement is found.

Our annual Conference will be changed to a one-day roundup that will be held June 22, 2019 at the Personal Touch Banquet Hall in Peterborough. Due to a need to change venue and an increase in up front deposit our Committee and table had to really pull together. I'm looking forward to the new format and I know there are tickets here available this weekend and we would love to see you there. Price is \$15 for registration with lunch and a \$31 ticket gets you all this plus the banquet.

June 23, 2019 District 86 will take part in a Service Information Day with District 26, 28, 30 and 82 at the Alano Club. As all these Districts have presented already I won't say any more other than I am looking forward to the day and Rob's report on the General Service Conference.

Through my group I introduced the Meeting Guide to the District Table and everyone at the table voted in favour to allow them access to add our District. It turned out to be a lengthy process as our website was dated. I'd like to thank Gary and Brad for their work and dedication to making this happen. Not only will you be able to find all our meetings on the app, but also, we have ended up with an updated and better website. Looking forward to getting to know you all better over this two-year period. Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service, Tim F.

*Thank you to all District Committee Members for your reports. If you didn't already give your report to Amy, please send it to her later today, so she can include it in the minutes.*

## **5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

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

**A. Public Information**

**Ray R.**

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Last Chance Group in Malton, district 2, serving as your Area 83 Public Information Chair, my name is Ray.

Thank you to the Service Information Day Committee for putting on a fun filled, informative day, and inviting me to be part of it. It was a well-organized day with plenty of interesting workshops.

Since beginning the term as Public Information chair, I've been taking time to familiarize myself with the literature, speaking to past chairs to get comfortable with my duties, and I've reached out to most of the district chairs, to introduce myself.

Working closely with Cooperation with the Professional Community, I've been in communication with Bill C, and we've been discussing ideas on how we can help each other serve the area. We've also been experimenting with technology as we've been trying out the new conferencing calling app *Zoom*. We also fielded a 3-way call to a new P.I./C.P.C district chair who needed some guidance as to what her position entails.

I had the opportunity to attend CERASSA, and that was an interesting event, where I got to hear reports on agenda items that will be discussed at the 69th General Service Conference. One of the topics that stood out for me, and was a hot topic at my workshop yesterday, was, the showing of full-face actors in public service announcements. There was good discussion, and great points made, both for and against. Speaking of workshops, thank you to everyone who attended my workshop yesterday, because let's be honest, without you, there would be no workshop. I tried to make it as informative and interactive as I could, and I had great response and participation from those who attended.

Last night's business meeting went well, it was combined with Cooperation with the Professional Community, and while the numbers were low, 15 in total, we were large in spirit. We expressed passion and great enthusiasm for service, and while we didn't always see eye to eye on some items, we were able to express ourselves in a polite and courteous manner. There was a great exchange of ideas, and strategies, and I feel confident that we will continue to serve Area 83 at the capacity that we are accustomed to.

I'm looking forward to participating in the GTA Info AA Day in June, and there are some other events coming up, but the dates are yet to be confirmed. Please continue to send me your district minutes, as that helps to keep me in the know on what's going on out there. I'm willing to attend service days in your districts, feel free to contact me at [pi@area83aa.org](mailto:pi@area83aa.org) Yours in love and service, Ray R.

**B. Cooperation with the Professional Community**

**Bill C.**

I am an Alcoholic, a member of The West End Group in District 74 Pembroke, and my name is Bill. It is my privilege to serve you as your Area Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair for this term of Panel 69.

Since January I have had a couple of referrals from GSO to talk with groups in Area 83 who have been putting together materials for publications. For the most part they were looking for sponsorship and this provided me with an opportunity to explain several of our Traditions, and Tradition Six in particular. However, one of the people that I have been speaking with, who is putting together a publication on Men's Health Issues, largely for a Professional Health Care audience has taken a deeper interest in AA and we have had several follow up discussions now.

I have had a chance to touch base with the DCM's and most of the CPC Chairs in the Districts on a couple of issues by email. I have been really impressed with how various Districts are tackling the opportunities for getting the message of AA out to various Professional Communities. There are some really great ideas and approaches which are in action!

From the Workshops yesterday, the idea of having a quarterly videoconference among the CPC chairs has been well received. We will implement the first of these virtual meetings over the next month.

I have been elected as a resource for you to use. An invitation or question from any District is all that is required. If you would like me to do some type of workshop or presentation for your District, don't hesitate to contact

me ([cpc@area83aa.org](mailto:cpc@area83aa.org)). As has been mentioned previously, the PI Chair Ray R and I are located at different ends of our Area. We have discussed the logistics of covering for each other as a team as events and opportunities arise for both PI and CPC. Thank you for allowing me to serve not only Area 83 but Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Yours in Love and Service, Bill C.

**C. Correctional Facilities**

**Les M.**

Hello Everyone, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Foxboro Friendship Group in District 34, and have the honour and privilege of being your Area 83 Corrections Facilities Chairperson.

First up I would like to thank the Service Information Day Committee on putting together a wonderful Service Information Day and thanking them for asking me to be part of it by doing a workshop.

This being a new journey in the Corrections field, I consider this a great adventure. I've been reading the material contained in the Corrections Kit, lots of great reading. Also getting some Bridging The Gap Requests. Most of these requests come from Vanier Institution in Area 86 and Ontario Correctional Institute in Brampton, Area 83. Most of these come late but on the plus side we're able to get them out and completed on time.

I continue to get the minutes from the different Districts in the Area 83, these make for great reading and let me know what is happening in these Districts. Also, being in contact with the Corrections Chairs and answer any questions I get. I ask lots of questions from the previous Corrections Chair; this information is available to all of us.

Also, I'd like to thank all of you who attended the Correction's Workshop on Saturday, I don't know about you but when it's cold and rainy outside it can be a great day to shut the eye lids for a while, so thanks again for staying awake and attending the workshop. Saturday evening, we had eight people come out for our Corrections meeting, we had a great sharing session.

I'm available for Service Days, or help, I'm a resource for you to use. You can reach me at email: [cf@area83aa.org](mailto:cf@area83aa.org). I also have two Corrections kits and four workbooks for sale. On a last note. "If no one told you today that they love you, let me be the First ". Yours in Love, Service and Fellowship in A.A., Les M.

**D. Treatment Facilities/ Accessibility**

**Shane H.**

Hello friends I am an Alcoholic my name is Shane and am grateful to serve as your Area 83 Treatment/Accessibility Chairperson. I hope everyone has had a wonderful weekend so far. Marty was a huge help in the beginning and really went above and beyond sharing presentations and making sure I had a grip on the Bridging the gap system. Do far to date 48 have been placed, and my love of geography has paid off because sometimes they come without full addresses, but it always works itself out. If you are a Treatment chair and are the first to receive the form from the Treatment centre, please keep in mind that a main intersection if not a full address as well as a discharge date and contact information are vital components of placing the bridge as soon as possible. And 24-hour contact is suggested on day of discharge since they seem to get thirsty. Yesterday's workshop went well, special thanks too Ruth F and Jeremy M. We had 16 people in attendance at last night's Treatment meeting where we discussed some pamphlets including the BTG pamphlet. We have a lot of feedback for our delegate. Thanks to Janet C district 66 and Carrie district 18 for scribing, it was a passionate meeting to say the least and they got it down on paper in a very efficient manner. Without active Treatment chairs and DCMs, the system would not work, so keep up the good work everyone. In a nutshell Bridging the Gap has kept me busy, no real Correspondence with GSO as far as Treatment goes.

Accessibility is off to a good start-five of the seven districts in the Greater Toronto area have chairs filled and we are certain Districts 6 and 22 will soon be represented. I would like to thank the DCMs for their role in the revival of the GTA Intergroup Accessibility committee; at our last meeting on March 17th we elected a Chairperson, De R we know her by a few hats and she has had a long history with Accessibility as well as Andrew W of District 10 was elected as Secretary. Due to an announcement at the local intergroup Mark F of District 10 volunteered for the events coordinator chair position. So people do listen even when we think they don't. My heart is brimming with gratitude to see Accessibility thrive once more in that area and grateful I have a voice and vote on a committee where I made my start, a committee that allowed this drunk to serve. In this morning's Accessibility

meeting we had 14 members in attendance: 11 district chairs and 3 very interested members. We had a discussion on the pamphlets *AA for the Older Alcoholic* and *AAs Overcoming Barriers* after 2 minutes we decided it was a no-brainer we had a consensus 100 percent in favour and would like our delegate to thank that conference committee for being very proactive. Special thanks to Kathy D District 22 Accessibility Chairperson for the great job she did in scribing this morning. While going through the committee rosters I counted five Districts that have recognized Accessibility as a stand-alone committee in the last 4 years that kind of growth is staggering, people ask why do we need Accessibility at our District? If your district has a hospital you can start a mobile meeting even if you don't see any members with a disability. If you look and listen hard enough, you will find us because we are everywhere. Yours in service Shane H. [treatment@area83aa.org](mailto:treatment@area83aa.org)

**E. Grapevine**

**Jenny C.**

Good morning I'm an alcoholic member of the smiths falls Saturday night group in District 66 I am your panel 69 Grapevine Chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International my name is Jenny. For those that don't know a one year subscription to Grapevine is 35\$ Canadian.

Thank you to everyone that came to the grapevine workshop yesterday. We had a good crowd and we were able to have some really good question and conversation. There were 11 People in attendance at the Grapevine meeting last night. It was really nice to meet other members of Grapevine and hear the awesome things that are happening in some of the districts. It really helps everyone when we talk about what's going on and where so we can take ideas home with us to make improvements where we can. Thank you Scott for taking the minutes.

I have been invited to join a monthly call for Grapevine in the GTA. I look forward to taking part, hearing all the exciting things they have going on and to be of service to help in any way that I can. We are going to attempt to participate in a *Zoom* conference call before the end of April. We are going to try and go through the website together, so everyone knows what to look for where the help is and how to place orders. Upcoming for the Spring I'm happy to be spending April 13th at the golden triangle District 66 round up. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there is anything you need assistance with. My emails [Grapevine@area83aa.org](mailto:Grapevine@area83aa.org). Truly GrapeFull to be of service, Jenny C.

**F. Self-Support**

**Mike B.**

Good morning, I am an alcoholic and a member of the Parkwood Hills Group in Ottawa and have the honour and privilege of serving as your Panel 69 Self Support Chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International. My Name is Mike B.

Since being elected to this position in January I have had the opportunity to connect with many of the District Self-Support Chairs in Area 83 and assist them with their requests. One initiative that had started a few years ago was in the GTA where the local District Self-Support Chairs were meeting monthly at the Toronto Intergroup. There seems to have been some confusion regarding this. These meetings that were held at 234 Eglinton Ave E. were never an Area 83 initiative it was a local effort that was started between a few of the local GTA Districts. As the Self-Support Chair for Area 83, I serve our entire region and not just one local Area within Area 83. However, I remain always enthusiastic to help in any way I can and sincerely hope that the GTA Chairs continue to meet in the name of Self-Support.

A big thank you to everyone that attended the workshop yesterday and to all that were present at our Sub-Committee meeting last night. We had a great sharing session on local initiatives that were taking place within Area 83.

I have been invited by the Lakeshore East, District 28 Self-Support Chair to attend and give a presentation on Self-Support on Friday, April 26th in Oshawa. They will be holding what is being called, "AA Night at the Movies." There will be a screening of the movie, 'My Name is Bill W.' and afterwards, we will be discussing Self-Support. It sounds like it's going to be a fantastic evening of fun, fellowship, popcorn and service. Thank you for the invite and on a side note, I like a lot of butter on my popcorn.

June will see me get a little bit busier, so far on my calendar I have been invited to participate in the Districts 70, 74 and 78 Tri-District Service Day in Cobden on June 15th and I have also been invited to participate in the Ottawa Tri-District service day which will be held on, Saturday, June 22nd by Districts, 54, 58 and 62. I am looking forward to attending and being of maximum service to my fellows.

Here's a suggestion to all Districts that presently do not have a Self-Support Chair. It has been the practice of many Districts to combine the Self-Support position with the Alternate District Committee Members position and from my own experience, it seems to work out very well. This gives the Alternate District Committee Member an opportunity to get a little bit more active within the District and a chance to get to know the groups better within the District.

Self-Support is about Time and Money. You always hear the phrase, "we are self-supporting through our own contributions" For me, the key words there are, "WE" and "OWN"—which means all of us. So here's the big question I ask myself ...*Am I giving back to AA?*

Did you ever notice our 7th Tradition and all of our Self-Support literature uses the word CONTRIBUTION and not DONATION? However, we hear the word DONATION so often in AA that it shows in our rooms that Self-Support is sometimes thrown by the wayside.

Wording is important if we are to convey the message of Self-Support!! Sometimes I feel that AA doesn't have a money problem, but we do have a Traditions problem instead. Take this example, at home when I pay my Electricity bill am I DONATING to the household or am I CONTRIBUTING?

Contributions in AA mean many things. Do I contribute to the meeting that I'm at? The seventh tradition is more than just throwing a buck or two in the basket. Self-support means that I carry my own weight, I pay my bills in a timely manner, I give back to a Fellowship that has freely given to me, I help other alcoholics as best as I can.

Some of the things that can be considered as "Contributions" are - step up to chair my home group, come early to help set up (the meeting before the meeting), clean up after myself, pickup ashtrays (when you could still smoke in a meeting), pick up coffee cups, push in chairs, greet at the door etc.. Does AA need money? Of course, it does. Our bills still need to be paid. But it also needs Time. Self-Support is all about Time and Money.

Hopefully there will come a time in our sobriety when we see that we are not just going to meetings just to get something from AA, but we will realize, what can we can bring to the meeting?

Thank you to all the Districts that continue to send us their District minutes. Rest assured, I read them all. If anyone has any questions or suggestions regarding Self-Support, I can be reached at, [selfsupport@area83aa.org](mailto:selfsupport@area83aa.org). I am also available if you wish to invite me to any of your local Service days to give a Self-Support presentation. Please don't forget, ENTHUSIASM BREEDS ENTHUSIASM !! *Yours in Love and Service, Mike B.*

## G. Archives

Marty M.

Hello everyone, my name is Marty and I'm an alcoholic. I'm a member of the Open Hands group in Mississauga, District 6 and I am privileged to serve as your Area Archives Chair.

To be honest with you, when I was elected to this position, I said to myself "oh my God, what did I get myself into". I'm not nearly qualified for this. But you know what? At one of the first assembly's I attended, there was this banquet speaker who said, "God doesn't choose the qualified, he qualifies the chosen". And that has always stuck with me.

We have some extremely knowledgeable past Archives chairs, and Archivist for whom I have so much respect. I just need to get out of myself and take the help that has been offered. I will make mistakes, I already have. I will admit there's an error on the Archives newsletter '*The Eighty-Three*'. I want to apologize to District 50 Cornwall. They were originally spawned from the St. Lawrence International Region, not Ottawa. I plan to put out an addendum to the newsletter, kind of a supplemental if you will. So watch your emails for that soon.

So, what's to report? Well, I have been attending the monthly meeting of the Toronto Area Archives committee. What an awesome committee this is. I've been a part of a few committees, and this is by far the most active and well attended one I've seen. We regularly get around 15 people in attendance. Considering that the GTA has 8

districts, this group of 15 active members, is pretty impressive. Speaking of committees; I want to thank everyone who attended the Archives meeting last night.

Coming up we have the 14<sup>th</sup> annual East Toronto Archives Breakfast on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$20, you can see me after if you want more details. I'm sure someone here has tickets. I don't though, but I can find someone who does. Tickets are not available at the door. This event is posted on the Area 83 website calendar.

Also, the 14th Annual Archives workshop is in Kingston this year. This will be held on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>. It's free by the way, with a pot luck lunch. I have some great speakers coming; Past Archives chairs; Gary C, and Eddy G, also our past Archivist David T. and a special presentation from the Archives Association of Ontario. The day will wrap up with a guided tour of Queen's University Archives.

That's about it. Oh I want to say a huge thank you to Amy for helping me with formatting the newsletter and adding her special touch. If anyone is having a Service day or roundup, I would be happy to bring the Area Archives display or help in any way that I can. Please feel free to contact me [archives@area83aa.org](mailto:archives@area83aa.org). Yours in Love and Service, Marty M.

#### **H. Service Information Day Committee**

**De R.**

Hello everyone, my name is De, I'm an alcoholic, member of the KF Group, District Committee Member District 02 – Malton and have the honour and privilege of serving as your Panel 69 Service Information Day Chair.

Thanks to the great members of our Committee and the welcomed information from our Delegate Rob M., and David L., our Registrar we were able to get to work right away. We chose wildcard presentations and presenters.

During the busy month of January, we planned the Spring Assembly Service Information Day Agenda with much help from our Secretary, Amy L., and Chairperson James. The Committee Facilitators did an amazing job and promptly provided Summaries by day's end and helped to collect Ask-it-Basket questions for their designated workshops. There was a lot of great questions with an audience of knowledgeable Committee Members, Delegates, Past Delegates and Chairs. Just to note these and the workshop summaries will be included in the minutes.

To my knowledge, aside from some microphone issues in the Ballroom, the AV equipment worked well. The projector we will take with us and bring back in the fall. The Facilitator's Binders will be updated for the fall as well as scripts.

We hope everyone enjoyed the Workshops, presenters and Friday night Speaker Joyce S., and our Saturday Open Speaker Jan L. Saturday after the banquet. We are looking forward to getting together in June for the Area Committee meeting in Belleville and starting to plan for the Fall Assembly in October.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this Spring Assembly a success! In Love and Service, De R

#### **6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**JoAnn P.**

Hello friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of Courtice 12 and 12 Group in District 28, and my name is JoAnn. It is both an honour and a privilege to serve as your Panel 69 Eastern Ontario International Area 83 Treasurer.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Treasurer/Self Support workshop yesterday; I hope you found the information useful. Thank you to those who helped sell banquet tickets, total tickets sold were 265.

I was invited to participate in Area 86 Western Ontario Financial Review on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> in Oakville by Dean T, Financial Committee Chairperson 2019, Panel 60 Delegate. Thank you to the committee for inviting me.

The Ambassador Hotel charges us \$17.25 per person which covers much more than the cost of coffee/ tea/pop. We are not charged for the majority of our room rentals, cleaning of the atrium, staff, etc. The total of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition we collect this weekend goes toward this cost; please keep this in mind when the 7<sup>th</sup> comes around.

In each of the District Committee Member mail folders, I have provided the District Quarterly Report regarding contributions from each group received by the General Service Office. There are also two Area 83 contribution envelopes. Please share these with your District Treasurer for future contributions. There are several more

envelopes available on the side table. I would like to thank all the groups that provide your Group Service Number and a return address either on the envelope or the cheque or in a note attached to the cheque. This is helpful and appreciated as a letter of receipt will be sent to your Group or District.

Please continue to remind groups who would like to contribute using PayPal to include their six-digit Group Service Number with any contributions using PayPal so that the group may get credit for their contribution. The place to enter the group number is the screen after entering credit card information. PayPal charges a fee of 2.9% plus 30 cents per transaction. There have not been any contributions, so far, this year using PayPal.

When a Group or District sends in a contribution, they will receive, in return, a thank-you letter of receipt. Emailing these to you costs the Area nothing, whereas mailing them requires a stamp, envelope, paper and ink. Please encourage your Treasurers to include an email address with your contributions, and I can email your letter of receipt. Please make your cheques payable to "Eastern Ontario International Area 83". You can find contact information on the Area 83 website: [area83aa.org](http://area83aa.org) under the tab "About Area 83" click on Area Contributions.

Also, in the District Committee Member (DCM) mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders, I have placed copies of the Proposed Spending Guidelines which will be discussed under New Business Item 12, b. You will also find copies of the Financial Statements for the period ending March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. Copies of these are also available on the side table. I would like to go over the numbers for the Financial Statements with you now.

Page 1 (**Appendix A**) is a financial summary. It shows our reserve account, which is set aside for unforeseen circumstances, has a balance of \$20,000 in the form of a GIC which matures in September 2020.

Income for the period as at March 22, 2019:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition collected at the January 5<sup>th</sup> Area Committee Meeting \$264.40
- Group and District Contributions \$13,452.98

Total Income for the period is \$13,717.38

Expenses for the period as at March 22, 2019:

- Committee expenses are \$3,275.32
- Area Committee Meeting, January 5<sup>th</sup> rent and refreshments \$383.57
- General Service Conference Assessment \$11,170.14
- Bank Service Charges \$27.50
- CERAASA \$2,801.79

Total Expenses for the period are \$17,658.32

The opening bank balance at January 1, 2019 was \$41,820.83. Total income of \$13,717.38 less expenses of \$17,658.32 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$37,879.89. As of March 22, 2019, our expenses were \$3,940.94 higher than our income. Thank you to the 49 Groups and 8 Districts for your generous contributions to Area 83.

Page 2 (**Appendix B**) 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.

Some of the numbers you see here:

- The amount shown under Literature is for various items ordered by Corrections, Treasurer and Service Information Day (Service Manuals) for a total of \$878.76. The money related to Service Manuals that are sold will show under Cost Recoveries next period.
- The General Service Conference (GSC) Assessment. At the Spring Assembly in 2007, a motion passed stating that "provided it doesn't affect our prudent reserve, Area 83 will pay to GSO the full annual expense for our Delegate to attend the General Service Conference". The assessment for our Delegate to attend this year is \$8,300.00 USD, or \$11,170.14 CDN, which has been paid in full. The GSC Assessment covers the total cost of the General Service Conference divided by the 93 Delegate Areas. These costs include expenses for

Delegates, Trustees, and GSO staff to attend, as well as meeting rooms, A/V equipment, printing (includes the final conference report sent to each group) and miscellaneous expenses.

- Canadian Eastern Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly \$2,801.79 was held in Laval, PQ from February 22 – 24. The costs reflect reimbursement for the Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate to attend as per the Area's Operating Procedure.

Page 3 (**Appendix C**) shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from Districts, as well as Groups.

This weekend's 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition was; Friday \$558.45, Saturday \$1262.30 and Sunday \$1551.40, for a total of \$3372.15 collected over the weekend. Total contributions in the coffee cans over the weekend was \$437.55, for a combined weekend total of \$3809.70. I would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions.

I would be happy to receive your District minutes. Please send your minutes to [area@area83aa.org](mailto:area@area83aa.org)

In closing, thank you to Panel 67 Treasurer Sue B for your direction. I would also like to thank the volunteers who have helped sell the banquet tickets, count the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition and run the bucket brigade. This is our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition at work. Thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 83. Yours in Love and Service, JoAnn P

#### Questions from the floor

QUESTION 1: Hotel charges \$17.25 per person, this number is different from what was announced yesterday, as \$14.00.

ANSWER: The quoted \$14.00 amount was in error. It is \$17.25 per person.

QUESTION 2: On Page 3, of the 49 groups that made contributions to the Area, if a group makes a contribution, is that 49 groups in only 8 districts?

ANSWER: The contributions are captured by groups alone and within Districts, District contributions are listed only by District.

QUESTION 3: Is there a way to do electronic transfers (*E-transfers*) to Area or GSO?

ANSWER: Currently it is not set up for E-transfers, but this is something I can look into.

QUESTION 4: You have reported that we have lost \$5K at this time compared to last year, what is the overall trending of our spending?

ANSWER: I am going to ask that you wait until we go through the Proposed Spending Guidelines in New Business. However, I can say in general we are pretty close to what is expected at this time.

QUESTION 5: Of the possible options on the Area 83 website for making online contribution, PayPal and pay by a card (e.g., Visa) appear to be available. However, when I tried to use the Visa, I was not able to continue on with the transaction.

ANSWER: I will check with the webmaster and disable the credit card button. We only accept payments by PayPal.

## **7. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Amy L.**

Good morning friends, I am a member of the Liverpool Group in Pickering in District 26 and my name is Amy. I have the privilege of serving Area 83 as your Secretary. I am very much enjoying this position. My favorite part so far has been all of the contact I am having with members across the Area. Okay it has only been online, but the vibes have been great and I have been so glad to put some faces to the email addresses.

Dave and I put on our Secretary/Registrar workshop yesterday that was attended by a number of folks, most being District Secretaries and Registrars. We discussed the importance of keeping service position details up to date, work-arounds to challenges that we can face from time to time in these positions—be that technology or traditions and that effective working communication that is flowing in both directions is what we are trying to achieve.

As the secretary I have been sending out information that our Delegate has been getting from GSO as well as materials developed within Area 83. I have forwarded these on to your District Committee Member and they should be passing them on to the groups by way of the GSRs. If you are a GSR and you have not received these reports then please talk to your District Committee Member and identify where the communication is breaking down.

I would be happy to receive your District minutes. You can reach all of the Area Officers and Subcommittee chairs with one simple email address: [Area@area83aa.org](mailto:Area@area83aa.org) Thank you for this opportunity to serve Area 83. Yours in Love and service. Amy L.

## **8. Roll Call and REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

**Dave L.**

Good afternoon friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Liverpool Group, in District 26 & my name is Dave. I have the honour and privilege to serve as your Panel 69 Registrar for Area 83, Eastern Ontario International and I am very grateful to be of service.

If this is your first Assembly, we welcome you. If you are a new General Service Representative and you are without your GSR kit, that's the bad news. The good news is, while you are waiting for your kit you can access the contents of your kit through the Area 83 website. If you go to the Registrar's Resource tab on the Area 83 website there is a link to the contents. If your mailing address, phone number or email changes, please send me an email ([Registrar@Area83aa.org](mailto:Registrar@Area83aa.org)) so that I can keep your information up to date in the system. General Service Office (GSO) spends hundreds of dollars on return postage for mailings that are not picked up by the recipients.

I am responsible for updating group records & liaising with GSO and I have been busy doing that. The forms required to change Group information or add New Groups have been updated with my mailing address. Instructions are on the bottom of the forms. These forms are available on our Area 83 website, under "Resources" then by choosing the "Registrar" tab. It is essential that all information is filled out. If the mailing address is incomplete a profile cannot be completed and that individual cannot represent their group in the directory. Highlighting all changes make it so much easier for me. If you, as the GSR, are making changes on a form, send it to your District Registrar first to keep accurate District records.

District Group Information Sheets are sent to your District Registrars and DCM's in order to check for accuracy. I will be sending out updated Sheets by mid-April. Some of the groups listed have been identified by GSO as Unknown. Unknown means the group does not have a primary contact; primary contact may be a GSR or someone who has agreed to be the mail contact. Area 83 has whittled the number of Unknown Groups down to 2 thanks to the hard work of my predecessors, Amy and Sue, as well as some enthusiastic District Registrars and DCMs that I have been working with over the last 3 months.

The planned transition of the General Service Office's database, called Fellowship New Vision (FNV), to the new system, called the Enterprise Resource Planning system (ERP) has been delayed. GSO staff are still testing the new system and once they are comfortable with it, a roll out plan and date will be communicated to Area Registrars.

I would like to give a HUGE "Thank You" to the team from District 36, who were most generous with their time and assistance this weekend as greeters & behind the registration tables. Donna C has brought a huge sense of ease and comfort as I try to carry out the responsibilities of the Registrar at my first Assembly. Thank you!

Before I give the roll call, I would like to give a brief explanation of the process of compiling the tally. When compiling the roll call, a lot of consideration is given to the vote, and ensuring that those who are entitled to vote, have that right. For this reason, a lot of care is put into interpreting the sign-in sheets. The result being, that the numbers will often not look, at all, like what was written on the sign in sheets.

For example, a District might have five people signed in as visitors, but when I announce the roll call, I might say there was only one. The reason is that I check each visitor against his or her group, and if the group does not have a GSR that has signed in, I assume that the visitor will be voting on behalf of their group. They are, therefore, not counted as a visitor, but as a GSR.

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 rights, but Group Representatives do. Their role in the District may be that of Alternate DCM but their function, for the purposes of voting at the assembly, is to serve as their group's representative.

It is very important if you sign in as a visitor, that you also write the name of your group. You could be voting for your group, but if you fail to indicate your group name on the sign in sheet, you may not be eligible to vote. Please

keep in mind that as you see the tally on the screen & hear the results, this is not a true reflection of who will be voting necessarily. For example, there are people who may have registered, but were only here yesterday & are not here with us now. So, the true reflection of who is voting is done by who is in the front of the room as a vote is cast & counted, if necessary.

In closing, I will make myself available to Districts and Groups to assist you with Registrar-related issues where I can, and please remember that communication is most important. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Yours in Love and Service, Dave L

See **Appendix D** for the 2019 Spring Assembly Roll Call

## 9. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

Kimberley M.

Good morning, I am an alcoholic, a member of the Ajax Area Group in District 26. It is an honor and a privilege to be serving you this term as your Panel 69 Alternate Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International. My name is Kimberley.

As Intergroup Liaison Officer for Area 83 I participated in a Joint Sharing meeting at GTA Intergroup on Feb 5<sup>th</sup> and the Durham Intergroup meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>. I plan to attend these meeting regularly to learn and provide support wherever possible. I phoned and had wonderful conversations with the Intergroup chairs for Ottawa and Peterborough. They explained how each of their Intergroups operate and I will follow up with them every few months to keep the communication lines open.

In January, I had the pleasure to facilitate a Group Inventory for the Hill Group in Toronto. What an incredible day of sharing.

Last month, I was thrilled to be invited to chair a workshop at the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly, aka CERAASA, in Laval, Quebec. It was great to meet the other 9 Delegates in the Eastern Canada Region and their Alternates. The Delegates gave their 2-minute Area Highlights which they will be sharing at the General Service Conference. Many of the Delegates presented on one or more Conference agenda items and the workshop attendees had a chance to provide feedback on these items. The discussions were quite interesting and informative. Our Eastern Regional Trustee, Jan Lemke, shared her story after the banquet on Saturday night and gave a brief presentation as our Trustee on Sunday morning. There were approximately 350 people in attendance on Saturday and many were attending their first CERAASA. Some held service positions, and some didn't. Several shared at the mic how heartwarming it was to meet AA family members from across the region. The next CERAASA will be hosted by Area 86 in Western Ontario in 2021. If you like the feel of being here this weekend with your AA family, then you would enjoy attending the next CERAASA.

The Alternate Delegate is the single point of contact and responsible for all matters relating to Remote Communities initiatives across Area 83. I represent our area in the inter-Area Remote Communities workgroup which meets by teleconference every other month. This workgroup includes 10 areas in Canada as well as Area 2, Alaska and Area 3, Arizona. In preparation to participate in the first teleconference, I read over the minutes from the past 2 years. In the report from area 78, Alberta/NWT it said: if anyone from your area would like to join our video meeting, click here. So, I clicked!! I attended the Spirit of the North meeting which used *Zoom* video for their open discussion meeting. Compared to phone meetings, I found that seeing faces and expressions made it feel more like a face to face meeting. Area 78 launched the Spirit of the North on line meeting in August of 2015. Although up to 50 members can join the call at a time, the night I participated there were about 12 members.

My goal in participating in the video meeting was to determine if these meetings, set up for Remote Communities, could use the support of our Area. It turns out that yes, these meetings need support and would welcome any members from our area that would be willing to participate. I was told that they currently have 2 weekly *Zoom* video open meetings. If you are willing and able, please consider participating in one of these meetings - even if you can drop in once. It's free – it just costs an hour of your time. In addition to supporting the meeting with your experience, strength and hope which is much needed, you would be conducting a little research to see how this type of meeting works. If enough of you had a chance to experience this type of meeting at least once say in the next 6 months, then

we would be in a better position, as an area, to discuss how we might be able to assist other Areas and remote communities in a more involved or formal way making use of this technology.

So how do you attend one of these meetings??

These 2 weekly open meetings take place on Sunday and Wednesday night at 10pm our time. I have permission to invite you to participate in this meeting and to give you the *Zoom* number for the meeting. If you are concerned about anonymity, you can use just your first name and disable the video option. *Zoom* is free to download, and I believe you can use a laptop, phone or tablet. Once downloaded, click "join a meeting" and enter this number: 8864590234. This information is also posted on our Area 83 website under the Resources tab – under Alternate Delegate.

How many of you have ever participated in a video AA meeting on line before? (less than 10 hands went up)

It turned out that the January teleconference meeting was rescheduled, and I couldn't attend the new date. The next meeting was held on March 18<sup>th</sup> where we used *Zoom* and it was great to be able to see the other members of the workgroup. Two members phoned in to be a part of the call. Area 2 Alaska is looking for one to one remote sponsorship. If you are interested, please contact me.

Thank you to those who attended the Concepts workshop yesterday. If you were unable to attend but would have liked to, then I would like to give an online version of the workshop next month. I would present the same workshop as yesterday, but it would be online. After the workshop we would have a question and answer period. If this interests you, or if you know of someone who couldn't be here this weekend but might be interested, then more information can be found on our Area 83 website under the Resources Tab – under Alternate Delegate. Or you can send an email to [concepts@area83aa.org](mailto:concepts@area83aa.org).

Thank you to the 17 districts who have been sending me your minutes. I have spoken with a few DCMs this weekend and will contact the others soon to be sure we get their minutes. It really is helpful for all of us at the Area level to receive your minutes so that we are kept up to date with what's happening in your district. By sending the minutes to [area@area83aa.org](mailto:area@area83aa.org) they will be sent to all of the Area Officers and Sub Committee chairs.

Did You Know...that one of the issues that came up in our Area Inventory as well as the Communications Audit done by the General Service Office, is that members are not feeling connected to AA as a whole? To help address this issue, there is new resource available on our Area 83 website. By clicking on the Did You Know button, you will be taken to a collection of short informational service snapshots which can each be read in 2 minutes or less. The average home group member will likely not take the initiative to read this information so wouldn't it be cool if each week one of these items was read at a meeting? Just a thought. New items will be added monthly, I hope you will check it out. Thank you to George, our Webmaster, for his assistance in getting these items on the website.

If I can be of service to your group or your district in any way, please let me know. With gratitude, Kimberley

**Questions from the Floor:**

QUESTION: Alaska is looking for one on one sponsorship, is that something like video calls?

ANSWER: Area 78 has a *Zoom* account and this one on one sponsorship is one of many ways they are making use of the software. You can contact me ([AltDelegate@Area83aa.org](mailto:AltDelegate@Area83aa.org)) if you want to know more about it.

QUESTION: In your report you mentioned the Spirit of North and the One on One sponsorship- confirm for me if that is something we can bring to our groups. Is this for our membership as a whole, and not necessarily restricted to GSRs or Districts representatives?

ANSWER: Correct- this information is for any AA member. This information is also on the Area 78's website (<http://area78aa.org/>). Area 78 is also trying to merge a live meeting with the *Zoom* technology. I cannot comment on this at this time, but I will be checking it out next time it is offered.

## DELEGATE'S REPORT

Rob M.

Hi everyone, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Motor City Group in District 28 and my name is Rob. It's a privilege to serve as Panel 69 Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International.

I truly am honored to serve as Area 83 Delegate. I have much admiration and respect for our past Delegates, and to be given the opportunity to serve as they have, well, I'm grateful.

At the start of the term I found out that I was assigned to the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities. On January 16<sup>th</sup> our committee had a Conference call to discuss the Treatment and Accessibilities proposed agenda items. This is a new initiative with the intention of giving Delegates more of a voice on what makes it to the agenda.

On February 15<sup>th</sup> I received the Agenda for the 69<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference, along with about six hundred pages of background material. I've been busy reading and preparing for the Conference. On our website, [www.area83aa.org](http://www.area83aa.org) under resources, Delegates tab, you'll find a 69<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference agenda items *Feedback Request*. Please take the time to provide me with feedback on these items so I can go to the Conference knowing the views of Area 83.

Each 1<sup>st</sup> year Delegate is assigned a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Delegate buddy, sort of a mentor for the General Service Conference. My Delegate-Buddy Chuck is from Area 50, Western New York, and lives in Buffalo. Chuck and I are going to meet next Saturday at a Roundup in Fort Erie. I'm looking forward to that.

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> I attended CERAASA, the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. Each of the ten Delegates from Eastern Canada was asked to give a two-minute highlights of their Area, similar to what is done at the General Service Conference. It was a good practice run for me. I attended all the workshops, and the General Service Conference orientation. I also had the chance to speak with the other Eastern Canada Delegates.

Upcoming, I have the General Service Conference in New York May 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. June 1<sup>st</sup> is our Area Committee meeting in Quinte West. June 8<sup>th</sup> I've been invited to give a General Service Conference report at Info AA Day in Toronto for Districts 2, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 22. June 9<sup>th</sup> I'm at a Service Day for Districts 42, 48, 50, and 66, location to be determined. June 15<sup>th</sup> I've been invited to the tri-Districts Service Day in Cobden for Districts 70, 74, and 78. June 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Ottawa Service Day for Districts 54, 58, and 62, and June 23<sup>rd</sup> I'll be at the Service Day in Oshawa for Districts 26, 28, 30, 82, and 86. If I can be of service to your Groups or Districts please don't hesitate to contact me. Yours in Love and Service, Rob M.

### Questions from the Floor:

QUESTION: Is GSO considering separating Treatment and Accessibility? And if so, is there anything that we can take back to our groups to get feedback to you on this subject?

ANSWER: Currently GSO is not considering splitting the responsibility of these two topics into two positions, however, Area 83 is currently examining the feasibility of this by way of an Ad Hoc committee. The Report for this will be coming out later this year at the Area Committee Meeting.

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*\*Note from the Chair: Reminder there is a call for Resumes for Area 83 Alternate Webmaster*

Area 83 has a vacancy for the Alternate Webmaster and the chair provided a little background on the position.

At the 2005 Fall Assembly, the position of Alternate Area Web Master was created:

*"The Alternate Area Web Master appointment is to be approved or re-approved by the Area Committee every 2 years. The Alternate Web Master shall be responsible for maintaining and*

*updating the Area 83 Web Site, under the guidance of the Area Committee in the event the Area Web Master cannot fulfill their duties.”*

- A complete position description of Webmaster, taken from the Area Operating Procedures, can be found on our Area website under the “About Area 83” tab.
- The resume form can be found on our Area website under “Contact Us” should be completed by prospective applicants and emailed, by May 1, 2019, to: [chairperson@area83aa.org](mailto:chairperson@area83aa.org)

So far we have received 4 applications, but we will consider all applications submitted before May 1.

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We now reach Item 11, Old Business. At this point, I would like to recommend going to 2/3 majority.

• Motion to go to 2/3 majority

Moved:	Michael C.	District 48	GSR-Gratitude Group
Seconded:	Dan M.	District 14	GSR-Black River Group
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

## 10. OLD BUSINESS

None

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Auditors Report for the Term 2017-2018

Joyce S., Panel 65 Delegate

Our Operating Procedures require that the current Area 83 Treasurer and two appointed auditors approved by the Area Committee shall audit the previous term’s financial documents. The committee performed this obligation for the years 2017 and 2018 on Saturday, January 26, 2019. The committee was very pleased with the impeccable filing system of the previous Treasurer. It made this task all the more enjoyable.

The object of the review was to satisfy ourselves and to be accountable to Area 83 members that the revenue and expenses were properly recorded and balanced. Also, that there were no major discrepancies in the practices that were in place.

Specifically, the Audit Committee reviewed the financial documents covering the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018 in order to evaluate:

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

Each committee member reviewed for each of 2017 and 2018, an entire month’s transactions to reflect various types of situations such as: a month with an assembly, a month with an Area Committee meeting and the last month at random. During this process; large transactions like General Service Office Assessments, Ontario Delegates Committee Meeting expenses, Ambassador Hotel bills, and Grapevine seasonal’ s were reviewed.

Bank reconciliations were reviewed, with income transactions traced back to bank deposits and to group and district contribution files. Expenses in random months were reviewed and traced back to the cheque register.

The expenses for both years, for the following Trusted Servants were reviewed for accuracy, reasonability and completeness: Archivist, Archives, Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community,

Treatment/Accessibility, Grapevine, Self-Support, Corrections, Treasurer, Secretary, Chair, Alternate Delegate, Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate.

This sample covered the widest array of expenses.

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

The following are the recommendations of this Audit Committee:

- 1) When dealing with cash transactions a detailed explanation of the source of funds should be reflected in the records.
- 2) Whenever possible, receipts should be attached to all expense reports. This recommendation has been made by several previous Audit Committees.
- 3) It is strongly recommended that when literature is purchased that Area 83 support our General Service Office rather than local Intergruop Offices.
- 4) Before contributions are forwarded to our General Service Office, a motion should be made, discussed and voted on at Area Assemblies, if the Treasurer deems the Area has sufficient funds to pass on.

Yours in Love and Service,

Jo-Ann P.- Area 83 Treasurer, Dave L.- Area 83 Registrar, Joyce S.- Panel 65 Delegate

• **Motion to accept the Auditor's report**

Moved:	Terry N.	District 26	DCM
Seconded:	Eileen S.	District 28	DCM
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

**B. 2019 Financial Guidelines**

JoAnn P., Area Treasurer

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

Typically, the proposed spending guideline has been forecasted using the average expense for the past four years. Step one in this process is to use these average figures as a starting point. Next, I adjust some of the category amounts that I am sure of at this point in time (CERAASA, GSC Assessment, Deposit for ODC). Third, I use the 2019 rates for accommodations and Assembly costs and lastly, adjustments based on 2018 actual amounts.

**On Page one (Appendix E), under Income:**

- Beside Contributions to Match Expenses is an amount that is NOT based on the four-year average. The amount here is the required Contributions from Groups and Districts that would be required to cover the proposed amounts to effectively carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic throughout Area 83.
- Grapevine Seasonal values may vary slightly as the Grapevine Chair must determine costs for Pocket Planners and Calendars months before the payment is actually made to Grapevine Inc. In the interim, it is possible for the exchange rate to fluctuate drastically which has happened in the past.

**Under Expenses:**

- Committee expenses are grouped by category, a detailed breakdown is on page two (Appendix F). Miscellaneous expenses include setting up the ball room for both Assemblies, any Audio/visual equipment we may need, and a small amount for all Area Committee positions. Again, this amount may or may not be used.
- The General Service Conference (GSC) Assessment is an actual amount. As voted on by the Area Assembly in the spring of 2007, that we become fully self-supporting in sending our Delegate to the GSC, I remitted, on behalf of Area 83, the total amount of \$8,300.00 US which at the time came to \$11,177.64 CDN.
- CERAASA (Canadian Eastern Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) expenses are final as the event took place in Laval, PQ February 22 – 24, 2019. This amount is for Area 83 Delegate, Area 83 Alternate Delegate and Area 83 Immediate Past Delegate to attend.
- Area 83 will be hosting the 2020 Ontario Delegate's Committee in March of 2020 and a facility has been booked (Airport Holiday Inn) which required a deposit of \$1200.00.

**On Page two (Appendix F), under Accommodation, Meals and Travel:**

- For the various positions, it is difficult to predict accurately. Area 83 covers a large area and Area Committee Members and Sub-Committee Chairs reside in all outlying outposts. Some actual amounts will be higher and or lower than the guideline. Districts may absorb some of these costs by financially supporting Area Officers and or Sub-Committee Chairs they invite to Service Days, etc.
- Spring Assembly, under meals, \$6,900.00. This amount is \$17.25 (actual) charge per person for Assembly weekend by the hotel for supplying coffee/tea/pop and various other items. We are not charged for the majority of meeting room rentals and cleaning of the atrium. Looking across to Miscellaneous are the amounts for the projectors and the AV equipment used this weekend, and for the setup of this room.

Fall Assembly, under meals \$7,200.00. This amount works out to \$18.00 (estimate) per person which again covers much more than the cost of refreshments. Over the course of the Assembly we use 11 meeting rooms and the room rental cost is factored in to the refreshment charge per person.

**Total Other Expenses**

Area Contribution to GSO (General Service Office) has been estimated at \$1,500.00. In 2018 we remitted \$5,000.00 to GSO and with the ODC (Ontario Delegate's Committee) being hosted by Area 83 next year, funds will be needed for that service opportunity.

- Motion to accept the 2019 Financial Guidelines as presented by our Treasurer

Moved:	Jack R.	District 36	DCM
Seconded:	Jane S.	District 74	DCM
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	1		
Motion:	Carried		

**C. Destruction of the 2015-2016 Financial Records**

JoAnn P., Area Treasurer

We keep the financial records (hard copies) for the previous term. It may be useful to look back on these. However, we have electronic copies of all of the records so that we have access to prior years information.

This motion is to get rid of the Tote-box full of the receipts from the 2015-16 term. We typically destroy the paper copies after 2 terms.

• Motion to destroy the 2015-2016 financial records

Moved:	Frank V	District 62	DCM
Seconded:	JoAnn D.	District 54	DCM
Discussion	QUESTION: Do we need to keep these files in case there is audit from CRA?  ANSWER: We are not registered as a charitable organization, we are not auditable, except from our own fellowship, and there we are accountable.		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	1		
Motion:	Carried		

**D. Website Update and Discussion**

**George McQ. Area Webmaster**

Good morning friends. I am an alcoholic, member of the River group, having the honour, privilege and responsibility to serve as the Area 83 Webmaster. My name is George. Things on the website have changed a little bit. We now have an Events Page and a Calendar Page. This hopefully will encourage people to submit events from your districts.

The event listing includes date, time, address of event and includes a map. Also, we can include a link to download a flyer for the event. PDFs of the flyer is the preferred format. The Events page currently is sparsely populated, but that should change once folks start submitting events. The Calendar page has the same events, in just a different format.

I have also been working with Kimberley, our Alternate Delegate and the Service Snap shots found under the "Did you know?" link. This is going to be expanded to include 50-100 short topics. Kimberley will be creating the content for this. Each Area position has a resource tab, and everyone can create content for your respective tab. Let me know what else you want to see on your website, and I can work to help this.

*The only requirement for Flyers and Posters that go on the website is that they need to be web ready.*

That means all events to be posted must follow the Areas guidelines for the Web (See Appendix 7 of Area Operating procedures for full details). In brief, this means that all postings are Anonymous and no full names, no email address listed that are identifiable, such as [joe.smith@gmail.com](mailto:joe.smith@gmail.com). No individual telephone numbers.

I am a web guy, not a graphic designer, so please have your flyers ready for posting and in a format that observes the Area's guidelines. I am happy to talk with any Districts who have a webmaster. We can share information and trade ideas, helping each other. Yours in Love and Service, George.

Questions from the Floor:

QUESTION: I am not always able to get a secure connection with the Area's website, and as a result I cannot get access the webpage.

ANSWER: I can look into setting it up so that it is secure, as I know that some browsers do not allow connections to unsecure websites.

QUESTION: Email: anonymity, I have my first name in my email address ([EileenDCM@gmail.com](mailto:EileenDCM@gmail.com)). Is this okay?

ANSWER: No, much better would be [DCM\\_district28@gmail.com](mailto:DCM_district28@gmail.com)

QUESTION: How do I submit an event? Go to....

ANSWER: I will set it up so that a document, pdf, can be submitted. Until I get this created, you can send your events to me, [Webmaster@Area83aa.org](mailto:Webmaster@Area83aa.org)

**E. Recommendation from the Area Committee: Amend the Operating Procedures**

**Section IV: A., II, 6 and B, II, 6**

**Kimberley M., Alternate Delegate**

**MOTION:** *To remove “except the Area Chairperson” from the Operating Procedures in Section IV: A., II, 6 and B, II, 6 (see Page 11 and 13).*

*Note: Motions from the Area Committee Meeting (ACM) do not need to be moved or seconded at the Assembly.* Kimberley originally made the motion at the Area Committee Meeting in January 2019, and here spoke to the motion for the Assembly.

Rationale for the motion:	<p>Last October at the Fall Assembly we elected the Area Officers that you see here today (Secretary, Chair, Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Treasurer and Registrar). In December, at the Area Committee meeting, the Area Committee, except the Chair elected the subcommittee chairs, (i.e., Area Grapevine, Area Public Information Chair, etc.) that you heard reports from this morning. It was at the elections in December it was pointed out that there was an anomaly in the Operating Procedures.</p> <p>The Operating procedures state that all members of the Area Assembly are eligible to vote in the elections of the Area Officers in October, this would include the Area Chair. This of course makes sense, because the Area Chair is eligible to stand for the positions, so they are eligible to vote. However, when it comes when it comes to the election of the Sub-Committee Chairs that takes place in December, the operating procedures state that members of the Area Committee except the Chair, are eligible to vote. This was the anomaly that was mentioned.</p> <p>Some felt it referred to the chair of the elections, but it specifically says Area Chair. Let’s suppose that the Area Chair stood for a position in October and did not get elected. Then they would be eligible to stand for a Sub-Committee Chair position at the election in December. However according to our operating procedures, they would not be eligible vote, not even for themselves.</p> <p>I inquired with past Delegates and past minutes to see why this might be the case. So far, the best rationale I’ve found is that if the Chair is not eligible to vote, they then can facilitate the elections of the Sub-Committee Chairs. These elections typically take place once every 2 years. This could save the Area travel reimbursement costs for the facilitator.</p> <p>Of the past 7 elections held for the Sub-Committee Chairs, only twice did Area Chairs choose to facilitate the elections themselves. For the other 5 elections, the Area Chair had a Past Delegate facilitate the elections. Some of these Delegates were reimbursed and some shared rides and did not need reimbursement.</p> <p>After talking with some of the past Area Chairs, it is possible that they voted in the December elections at the end of their term. I of course did not vote, but then I got to thinking about this inconsistency and wondered if we wanted to address it.</p> <p>To summarize, here are four reasons why we might permit the Area Chair to vote at the election of the Sub-Committee Chairs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To create consistency between the elections of the Area Officers and the elections of the Sub-Committee Chairs so that all members of the Assembly vote at the first, and all members of the Area Committee vote at the second.</li><li>2. The Area Chair is a member of the Area Committee. Over the term, they have been working closely with and have come to know the other members who are standing for the positions. Their vote could be considered just as valuable as every other member of the Area Committee.</li><li>3. The Area Chair is eligible to stand for a position, and therefore should be eligible to vote.</li><li>4. As the operating procedures are now, there is a loop hole where it is conceivable that an Area Chair could decide to facilitate the Sub-Committee election and also stand for a position in that election. Although we hope this would not happen, it is possible.</li></ol> <p>One reason against this motion is of course is to permit the Area Chair to facilitate the December elections if they choose. This may or may not save the Area a small amount of money.</p>
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	<p>This motion was passed at the January Area Committee Meeting with the elections still fresh in our minds. Because it does affect the Operating Procedures, it must be brought forward to the Assembly today.</p> <p>In the motion there are 2 locations referenced in the Operating Procedures where this language would need to be changed. The first location refers to the section for the Bi-annual elections, which we just held in October. The second location refers to the section for interim elections. The interim elections take place when a Sub-Committee Chair or Officer steps down and another election is required to fill the vacancy before the conclusion of the term.</p> <p>That is why the motion is recommending the phrase, "except the Chair" be removed from the two places in the Operating procedures.</p>	
Discussion from the floor	It was clarified that the recommended change only applies to elections, and not regular Assembly business.	
All those in favour:	all	
All those opposed:	None	
Any abstentions:	None	
Motion:	Carried	

**F. Closing of Open Speaker Meeting and Workshops on the Service Information Day**  
**Mike B., Self-Support Chair**

- **MOTION:** *"We close the Friday and Saturday night open speaker meetings with the Responsibility Declaration AND the Lord's prayer. All the workshops close with the Responsibility Declaration only."*

Mike B. originally made the motion at the Area Committee Meeting in September 2019, and here spoke to the motion for the Assembly.

Rationale for the motion:	<p>I would like to speak to the background of this motion and how it came about.</p> <p>The Service Information Day Committee looks after and organizes our Friday night speaker meeting and the Saturday night Banquet speaker meeting and all the Workshops on Saturday.</p> <p>According to the Chairpersons script for both speaker meetings when closing, the Chair asks, "For those who wish, please help us close the meeting with the Responsibility Declaration and the Lord's Prayer." The same request to close all workshops with the Responsibility Declaration only is also indicated on the individual Chairpersons scripts. I looked back on the past 3 terms (6 years) to see what past practice was and the closings have been identical.</p> <p>At the Area Committee Meeting on June 2-2018 our Panel 65 Delegate (Joyce S.) brought forward the following discussion on the agenda:</p> <p>13b) "Discuss how to close all meetings held over the Assembly weekends "</p> <p>There was a lengthy and passionate discussion held and everyone had an opportunity to weigh in on it. However, without a MOTION on the floor, all this was, was a discussion and no resolution could effectively come from it, and the discussion since no time limit was put on it could have gone on forever, still with no outcome one way or another.</p> <p>In Alcoholics Anonymous we are all about ACTION and finding SOLUTIONS and recommendations and suggestions. This is also one of the roles of the Area Committee</p>
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	<p>who are in fact the Steering Committee for the Area. With no end in sight to a discussion with no motion attached, I put forward the following motion,</p> <p>“We close the Friday and Saturday night speaker meetings with the Responsibility Declaration AND the Lord’s prayer. All the workshops close with the Responsibility Declaration only.”</p> <p>This motion was put forward by me and was seconded so we could have a structured discussion and if needed, the question could be called, and we could go to a vote and finally put this topic to rest with a resolution to it. And this is exactly what happened.</p> <p>Here's how the vote went at the Area Committee Meeting in June of 2018,</p> <table><tr><td>In Favour - 22</td><td>Opposed-8</td><td>Abstained 3</td></tr></table> <p>The voice of the minority was given an opportunity to speak afterwards and those who voted in favour of the motion were asked if anyone wanted to change their vote and no one did. The Motion was carried and was to be brought to the Assembly floor. So here we are today.</p> <p>When we talk about Prayer in AA it can be a sensitive subject for some and passionate debate can grow from it and that's a good thing. Today, I will be voting against this motion in hopes that it will be defeated, and our Service Information Day Committee can decide from year to year or term to term on how to close our meetings as has been past practice.</p> <p>If this motion is passed, then we will by tying the hands of our Service Information Day Committee to follow our collective Group conscience and the Lord's Prayer and Responsibility Declaration will be recited. If the motion is defeated, then it leaves room for our Service Information Day Committee who are all Trusted Servants to listen to the spirit of our membership and make a decision as a Committee depending on what they hear during our discussion today.</p> <p>I had the opportunity to serve on the past Service Information Day Committee and from my own experience the members of our Committee listened carefully to all and any suggestions made by our members and I have confidence that this Service Information Day Committee and future Committees will always listen and make decisions in the best interest of our membership and AA as a whole."</p>	In Favour - 22	Opposed-8	Abstained 3
In Favour - 22	Opposed-8	Abstained 3		
Discussion from the floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I would like to see AA stay the way it has been. The Lord’s Prayer has been with AA since the beginning.</li><li>• Service day committee is going to have their hands tied. This takes the responsibility away from the committee.</li><li>• We are a fellowship that is a non-religious and non-Christian organization. I understand it is a tradition, although I believe this is 2019 and we are more diverse and need to be more inclusive.</li><li>• Instead of the Lord’s Prayer, I would much rather say the declaration of unity, or responsibility, but not both.</li><li>• How do we hold our values in AA without excluding our membership?</li><li>• I have heard first hand that some who are not Christian are “afraid” to come into AA.</li><li>• If this motion makes one person feel unwelcome, are we fulfilling our mandate?</li><li>• This goes against the progressive actions of AA which has been working so hard to be more inclusive.</li><li>• Responsibility is what unites us all at the Assembly.</li></ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trusted Servants are trusted servants.... A letter from Bill W. from Russ to practice love and tolerance.</li> <li>It was a Hebrew Rabi who wrote the prayer, suggesting it is not a Christian prayer.</li> <li>For Groups that chose to recite the Lord's Prayer, I have an option to go to that meeting or find another meeting that doesn't recite the prayer. However, the Service Assembly I do not have a choice.</li> <li>Communications Audit from GSO- concluded that we are viewed as a religious organization and we are resistant to change. Here is an opportunity to work on both.</li> </ul>		
Motion: Call the Question	George H.	King City Group	Alt GSR, Acting GSR
Seconded:	Jack R.	District 36	DCM
All those in favour:	Overwhelming majority		
All those opposed:	19		
Any abstentions:	4		
Motion:	Carried		

Back to the original Motion: *"We close the Friday and Saturday night open speaker meetings with the Responsibility Declaration AND the Lord's prayer. All the workshops close with the Responsibility Declaration only."*

All in favor of the Motion	38		
All against	144		
Abstentions	7		
Motion	Defeated, with 2/3 majority (which would be 126)		
Voice of the minority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This might be a slippery slope. I think we need to be careful.</li> <li>This has been a part of the foundations of our organization, it is part of who we are, if we start taking it away, we are not going to get it back.</li> <li>We will have to wait and see what the SID committee does next Assembly</li> <li>The prayer saved my life.</li> </ul>		
Would anyone from the prevailing side like to change their vote?	As no one wanted to change their vote, the motion remains defeated.		

## 12. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

- 27 April at St. Margaret's Church on 6<sup>th</sup> Street in New Toronto, Concepts Workshop. 9 am til it is over (aprox 5 pm). There will be 5 Past delegates presenting. There will be a 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition and Pizza.
- June 14, at Stoney Creek, Julie will be celebrating 25 yrs of sobriety
- Susan K. (DCM of District 6) is celebrating 24 years of sobriety today.
- Scott M, (Bloordale group) 24 years on 4 April.
- 55 year medallion for Roger G., at the Beautiful Bowmanville Group.

### 13. NEXT ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE INFORMATION DAY

As Chairperson, I would recommend the next Assembly and Service Information Day be held on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 at the Ambassador Hotel in Kingston, Ontario.

- Would someone be willing to make a motion to that effect?

Moved:	Nicole C.	District 36	GSR-Frontenac group
Seconded:	Terri H.	District 62	GSR-Parkwood Hills group
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

### 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 June 1, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

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

It is now 3.05 pm, may I have a motion to close the meeting?

- Motion to close the meeting

Moved:	George H.	District 14	Acting GSR- King City Group
Seconded:	Frank U.	District 18	GSR- East York Group
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	all		
All those opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

The Meeting closed with the Responsibility declaration

**I AM RESPONSIBLE...  
WHEN ANYONE, ANYWHERE, REACHES OUT FOR HELP,  
I WANT THE HAND OF A.A. ALWAYS TO BE THERE...AND FOR THAT  
I AM RESPONSIBLE.**

## APPENDICES

Appendix A.

***EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83  
as at March 22, 2019***

<b>RESERVE ACCOUNT</b>		Actual
January 1, 2019 Opening Balance		20,000.00
Interest		
Transfer to Operating Account		0.00
<b>RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>		<b>20,000.00</b>

<b>INCOME</b>		
7th Tradition		264.40
Cost Recoveries		0.00
Flow Through to GSO		0.00
Grapevine Seasonals		0.00
Group & District Contributions		13,452.98
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13,717.38</b>
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE		0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; TRANSFERS</b>		<b>13,717.38</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Accommodations		0.00
Meals		0.00
Travel		1,874.20
Long Distance		0.00
Postage		0.00
Printing		502.37
Literature		878.76
Stationery		0.00
Miscellaneous		19.99
<b>Total Committee Expenses</b>		<b>3,275.32</b>
Ad Hoc Committees		0.00
Area Contribution to GSO		0.00
Area Committee Meetings		383.57
General Service Conf. Assessment		11,170.14
Bank Service Charges		27.50
Paypal fees		0.00
Forums		0.00
Grapevine Seasonal		0.00
GSO Flow Through		0.00
Ontario Delegate's Conference (ODC)		0.00
CERAASA		2,801.79
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>		<b>14,383.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>17,658.32</b>

<b>OPERATING ACCOUNT</b>		
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2019		41,820.83
Total Income & Transfers		13,717.38
Total Expenses		(17,658.32)
<b>OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>		<b>37,879.89</b>

Appendix B.

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International  
Details of Expenditures  
as at March 22, 2019

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total
<b>COMMITTEE EXPENSES</b>										
Delegate	0.00	0.00	110.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.40
Alt. Delegate	0.00	0.00	120.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.80
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	148.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.80
Chairperson	0.00	0.00	151.20	0.00	0.00	39.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	190.74
Secretary	0.00	0.00	57.20	0.00	0.00	462.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	520.03
Treasurer	0.00	0.00	364.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	69.79	0.00	0.00	434.19
Registrar	0.00	0.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	124.00
Area Web Site/Webmaster	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.99	19.99
Archivist	0.00	0.00	166.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	166.40
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Corrections Facilities	0.00	0.00	184.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	278.04	0.00	0.00	184.00
Grapevine	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Public Information	0.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00
Self Support	0.00	0.00	214.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	214.00
Treatment / Accessibility	0.00	0.00	168.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	168.00
Service Info Day Cmte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	530.93	0.00	0.00	530.93
Spring Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fall Assembly	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,874.20</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 502.37</b>	<b>\$ 878.76</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 19.99</b>	<b>\$ 3,275.32</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>										
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	383.57	383.57
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.50
Paypal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ont Delegates Conf.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CERAASA	1,063.86	307.56	1,264.26	-	-	-	-	-	11,170.14	11,170.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,063.86</b>	<b>\$ 307.56</b>	<b>\$ 1,264.26</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,170.14</b>	<b>\$ 12,745.72</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,063.86</b>	<b>\$ 307.56</b>	<b>\$ 3,138.46</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 502.37</b>	<b>\$ 878.76</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,739.81</b>	<b>\$ 17,658.32</b>

<b>Income Summary :</b>	
March 2019	
7th Tradition	264.40
Bank Interest	-
GSO Flow through	-
Contributions	13,452.98
Cost recoveries	-
Grapevine Seasonals	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 13,717.38</b>

	<b>YTD 2019</b>	<b>March 2018</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Income To Date	13,717.38	9,137.22	4,580.16
Expenses To Date	17,658.32	14,906.67	2,751.65
<b>Net Change To Operating Account</b>	<b>\$ 3,940.94</b>	<b>\$ 5,769.45</b>	<b>\$ 1,828.51</b>
Contributions	\$13,452.98	\$8,965.42	\$4,487.56
Contributing Groups	49	50	-1
Contributing Districts	8	6	2

Appendix C.

<b>GROUP &amp; DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS as at March 22, 2019</b>
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District	0	Unspecified, Paypal	\$0.00
District	2	Malton	\$87.70
District	6	Mississauga	\$1,310.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$773.00
District	12	Toronto South West	\$235.00
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$325.00
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$180.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$600.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,340.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$1,481.53
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$1,380.01
District	30	Quinte West	\$100.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$1,850.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$790.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$92.69
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$0.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$416.82
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$50.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$0.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$751.23
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$250.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$100.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$200.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$0.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$250.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$890.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$13,452.98

Total from Groups	\$7,372.26	49	Groups
Total from Districts	\$6,080.72	8	Districts

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

Appendix D

**Area 83 Spring 2019 Assembly  
Roll Call  
March 31, 2019**

District	DCM	Alt-DCM	District Officers-Other	Comm Chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups Attending	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups in District	% Groups Attending
02	1	1	1	2	6	0	1	6	9	7	21	29%
06	1	0	3	2	19	2	5	19	29	20	36	53%
10	1	1	1	2	10	1	2	10	16	11	27	37%
12	1	1	1	1	12	1	2	12	18	13	23	52%
14	1	1	0	0	9	1	1	9	13	10	29	31%
16-SP	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	9	11%
18	1	1	2	4	10	1	2	10	17	11	26	38%
22	1	1	1	3	12	2	3	12	19	13	22	55%
26	1	1	0	4	9	1	0	9	16	10	22	41%
28	1	1	1	5	9	1	4	9	21	10	23	39%
30	1	1	2	3	8	0	5	8	18	9	14	57%
34	1	0	2	2	13	2	1	13	18	14	36	36%
36	1	1	2	4	19	2	19	19	47	20	24	79%
42	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	3	2	21	5%
48	1	1	0	3	9	0	3	9	16	10	19	47%
50	0	0	0	1	2	1	4	2	8	2	12	17%
54	1	1	0	1	5	1	1	5	9	6	22	23%
58	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	28	4%
62	1	1	1	0	23	2	6	23	34	24	44	52%
66	1	0	2	4	13	1	10	13	28	14	27	48%
70	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	5	4	19	16%
74	1	1	0	4	4	0	0	4	7	5	12	33%
78	1	1	1	2	3	1	0	3	7	4	7	43%
82	1	1	0	2	6	0	0	6	8	7	18	33%
86	1	1	1	6	10	0	2	10	19	11	22	45%
CF					0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0%
	DCM	Alt-DCM	Dist Officers-Other	Comm chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups	
ALL	24	19	23	58	217	20	71	217	389	241	571	38%
Area Committee									16	12		
Past Delegates									5			
Out of Area Visitors									2			
Total	24	19	23	58	217	20	71	217	410	253	571	
Oct-18	24	17	27	54	240	26	79	240	425	276	569	
Mar-18	23	14	16	59	201	15	75	201	379	238	567	
Oct-17	25	18	22	50	247	21	71	247	421	285	565	
Mar-17	25	17	15	40	176	15	71	176	338	214	573	

Appendix E.

***Eastern Ontario International Area 83  
2019 Proposed Spending Guidelines Summary***

<b>Income</b>	<b>2019 PSG</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>
7th Tradition	8,500.00	7,768.10
Bank Interest	-	-
Cost Recoveries	800.00	403.00
Grapevine Seasonals	4,200.00	3,890.00
Contributions To Match Expenses	62,129.43	56,082.04
Four Year Average of Contributions	54,484.71	48,782.30
GSO Flow Through	(120.00)	(60.00)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 75,509.43</b>	<b>68,083.14</b>

  

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2019 PSG</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>
Accommodation	10,312.00	8,649.21
Meals	18,790.00	16,616.23
Travel	13,950.00	13,059.77
Long Distance	-	-
Postage	430.00	328.84
Printing	2,595.00	2,332.56
Literature	2,300.00	1,238.04
Stationery	510.00	184.09
Miscellaneous	4,205.00	3,887.67
<b>Total Committee Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 53,092.00</b>	<b>\$ 46,296.41</b>
Adhoc Committees	15.00	-
Area Committee	1,325.00	1,823.21
General Service Office (GSO) Contribution	1,500.00	5,000.00
Bank Charges	187.00	169.83
PayPal Fees	40.00	28.75
Forums	-	2,319.34
GSC Assessment	11,177.64	10,386.94
GSO Flow Through	(120.00)	(60.00)
Ontario Delegates Conference	1,200.00	1,603.80
Grapevine Seasonals	4,200.00	3,920.51
CERAASA	2,892.79	-
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 22,417.43</b>	<b>\$ 25,192.38</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 75,509.43</b>	<b>\$ 71,488.79</b>
<b>Net Change To Operating Account</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (3,405.65)</b>

Appendix F.

**2019 Proposed Spending Guidelines**

Position	Accommodation	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Miscellaneous	Total
Delegate	630.00	370.00	1,250.00	-	-	-	-	-	75.00	2,325.00
Alt. Delegate	125.00	260.00	1,100.00	-	50.00	-	75.00	-	40.00	1,651.00
Immediate Past Delegate	-	260.00	900.00	-	-	40.00	-	-	40.00	1,240.00
Chairperson	-	200.00	800.00	-	30.00	40.00	-	50.00	40.00	1,160.00
Secretary	-	200.00	700.00	-	-	1,350.00	-	50.00	40.00	2,340.00
Treasurer	-	200.00	700.00	-	350.00	450.00	-	50.00	40.00	1,790.00
Registrar	-	200.00	700.00	-	-	200.00	-	150.00	200.00	1,450.00
Area Web Site/Webmaster	504.00	250.00	1,200.00	-	-	-	-	-	350.00	2,304.00
Archives	130.00	200.00	700.00	-	-	50.00	75.00	-	200.00	1,355.00
Archivist	-	200.00	300.00	-	-	-	-	-	40.00	540.00
Co-operation With The P.C.	130.00	200.00	1,100.00	-	-	40.00	250.00	30.00	40.00	1,790.00
Corrections Facilities	130.00	200.00	700.00	-	-	50.00	250.00	30.00	40.00	1,400.00
Grapevine	130.00	200.00	700.00	-	-	50.00	250.00	30.00	40.00	1,400.00
Public Information	130.00	200.00	700.00	-	-	50.00	250.00	30.00	40.00	1,400.00
Self Support	260.00	200.00	1,000.00	-	-	50.00	250.00	30.00	40.00	1,830.00
Treatment / Accessibility	130.00	200.00	700.00	-	-	50.00	250.00	30.00	40.00	1,400.00
Service Info Day Committee	1,512.00	1,150.00	700.00	-	-	175.00	650.00	30.00	500.00	4,717.00
Spring Assembly	3,250.00	6,900.00	700.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00	11,350.00
Fail Assembly	3,250.00	7,200.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00	11,650.00
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE EXP.</b>	<b>\$ 10,312.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,790.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,950.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 430.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,595.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 510.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,205.00</b>	<b>\$ 53,092.00</b>
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15.00
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,325.00
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500.00
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	187.00
PayPal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.00
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,200.00
GSO Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,177.64
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(120.00)
Ont Delegates Conf.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00
CERAASSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,892.79
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 22,417.43</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 10,312.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,790.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,950.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 430.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,595.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 510.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,205.00</b>	<b>\$ 75,509.43</b>

## APPENDIX G. Service Information Day Spring 2019 Workshop summaries

### Delegate Workshop

**Rob M. (Delegate Panel 69)**

- Talked about several topics
- Agenda for General Service Conference
- Talked about 2020 World Conference
- CPC, Corrections, Finance, Grapevine, Literature, PI, Treatment etc.

### Safety in AA

**Sandy S. (Delegate Panel 61)**

**Concern** - Remarks on women's appearance, inappropriate comments, nicknames, sending members away, no police. Has been asked to stay away, but a stroke victim and does not remember, continues to attend meeting and comments

**Discussion** - Love and tolerance, may think that he is giving confidence even though not being received that way. Explain perception of receiver

Has tried to discuss but has not worked & barring a member from meeting is difficult

**Concern** – Inappropriate Facebook messaging, started innocent then crossed the line. Women feel violated. Has been asked to stop but won't.

**Discussion** – starts out small but then snowballs when allowed to continue, announce at meeting to group, BLOCK OR DELETE, needs to NOT happen to newcomers – so must be addressed immediately

**Concern** – Harmful gossip, very critical of other members

**Discussion** – we vent as humans, personalities exist. We can share frustrations with a discreet member, no names or specifics need to be mentioned, just our part

**Concern** – female newcomer, men swarming – women can't even get close

**Discussion** – Push your way in "boot" them out of the way. Reinforce men to men / women to women. Discuss at business meetings

**Concern** – Common Sense, bad behaviour is expected. Fight between members at a meeting where police were called and arrived at a member's door after the fact. Most members that were present found that it should not have happened / was not necessary.

**Discussion** – read safety card and unfortunately common sense is not so common

**Concern** – Femi-Nazi "can't say anything" Young woman hit on by older men – need to protect victim. Mentioned at big meeting "opening a can of worms" Explain perspective / perception. Need to be brave enough to approach both sides

**Discussion** - need to be brave enough to approach both sides. Often better received from another man

### Grapevine

**Jenny C. (Grapevine Chair)**

- History, scope of subscriptions; how to help others to get GV, be a Grapevine Rep
- Can I have GV at Doctor's offices – yes
- Can we take over used GV to Church, hospitals, psychiatric institutions? Small groups and remote communities – yes
- Can we get a copy of workshop slides? – yes
- Can we add GV to newcomer packages – yes great idea

- How do you deal with GV rep address change – submit
- Can order archived edition from years ago (ie) month/year got sober? – online
- Grapevine workbook how to get? Only online, you may print it off
- Will there be minutes from this meeting? Yes – included in the minutes of the Assembly
- What shape is GV in? - can see online

### **Treasurer/Self-Support**

#### **Treasurer**

**JoAnn P. (Treasurer)**

- Just the facts – JoAnn
- Group and or District – Treasurer – p21
- 2 signatures on account
- 6 months sobriety for treasurer
- Contributions – credit card, Pay Pal, will need 6 digit group service #
- Suggested groups in Area 83

#### **Self-Support**

**Mike B. (Self Support)**

- Is about time and money
- Is bringing the message, greeting, making coffee, clean up, look to the pamphlet Self-Support – there is a ‘pie’ to show suggested contributions

### **Internal/External Communication Audit**

**Jan L. Eastern Canada Regional Trustee**

- Overview of the General Service Board Communication Audit:
- Those included in study: GSO/AAWS/ Grapevine staff, Intergroup, Members, Former Members and Professional Communities
- Findings: AA’s primary purpose is alive and well at group level; communication is getting lost above this. AA language is not relevant, getting the message blurred; there is extensive use of jargon and AA-speak; over 65% agreed AA is effective; members feel it is an effective life-saving program and those who know an AA member are grateful for AA
- We need to clarify AA’s identity
  - Question: what did you mean by AA jargon and AA arena?
    - Pamphlets need to be updated to make sure we are targeting the right audiences
  - Question: could we have a summary sheet of findings?
    - The summary findings have been sent to DCMs
  - Question: is the full review available?
    - Not at this moment as we are still reviewing and prioritizing the recommendations. This will become a 3-year plan
  - Question: Do Class A Trustees have media guidelines?
    - They do but we are just beginning to get Class A Trustees involved in the media and our voice
  - Comment: it concerns me that a non-alcoholic will be talking for us
- Direction was given by our Alternate Delegate to our Area website to find brief statement on those findings to bring back to the group.

### **Traditions 1, 2, 3**

- **Tradition 1** **JoAnne D. (DCM District 54)**
  - an archway to a better life; group is #1, we are second. Set aside personal desires; traditions help combat poor behaviour, but not a weapon – be courageous, ask.
- **Tradition 2** **Neil P. (DCM District 66)**

- Bill W. being offered money because he was helping someone in hospital – never became a profession – cannot be tied up to things like hospitals; Elder Statesman or bleeding Deacon – accept conscience of the group
- **Tradition 3** **Tim F. (DCM District 86)**
- simple and short but with so much meaning; never questioned once you say you are a member, you are; it doesn't matter how much or how often you drank; inclusive not exclusive;
  - Checklist: 1 – prejudice members; 2 are there some alcoholics I don't want in my group; 3 prejudice against language, religion, sex; 4 impressed by who, what a person does – everyone should be welcome
  - Tradition 3 most popular – excuse not to discuss bad behaviour
  - Tradition 1 should be for safety; answers to a group; watch for people looking for targets and address them; reminder if it is criminal, call police; remember to always bring someone with you when speaking to people about bad behaviour
  - Learn how to live within the Traditions – meetings folding – bring newcomers to these meetings; safety in the rooms – language

**Cooperation with the Professional Community**

**Bill C. (CPC Chair)**

- EAP, Health Care, Family Doctor, PSW
- What does AA do?
  - 12-step, local meetings to carry the message; we don't look for members
  - Getting started in CPC
  - Non-AA meetings
- CPC kit and Workbook/sample letters to professionals/CPC in action – doctor's offices/AA could offer to be at conferences, webinar hosted once per quarter
- linkedin page to AA

**GSR (General Service Rep)**

**Mel C. (Delegate Panel 63)**

- inclusiveness
- importance of GSR
- right of decision
- used pamphlet; gave out pamphlets
- shared his journey in Service
- read Bill W. comment on back of pamphlet
- GSRs as guardians of Traditions
- Importance of Service Sponsor
- General service boards being all over the world; Canada and US General Service Board is the same
- Importance of the Service Manual
- GSR package – it's importance of the kit
- Be informed, be inclusive, share information with Districts and share with groups; make report interesting

**Corrections**

**Les M. (Corrections Chair)**

- Discussed agenda items for upcoming General Service Conference
  - Database of 9 specific data points
  - Review of Corrections kit/workbook
  - How to get involved in Corrections explained
  - Bridging the Gap with inmate members

- Question: How can we correspond with inmate members?
  - Send your information to GSO will hook you up to correspond
- Question: can you go inside and run meetings as well as escort members out?
  - No Bridging the Gap is designed for this
- Question: can we correspond to inside members in Canada?
  - Yes
- Question: how do we separate BTG for Treatment and Corrections?
  - Working on this
- Question: how does a member get vetted/approved to go inside?
  - CPIC applications; clearance for Federal Facilities takes longer as the application goes to Ottawa
  - Canadians are welcome in New York State Facilities (according to a member in Potsdam – several come across)

**Concepts I, II, III**

**Kimberley M. (Alternate Delegate)**

- First three Concepts – love the ‘stool’ anthology
- There will be an online workshop on the Concepts (slides from this workshop)
- Principle services must go on living;
  - recover, stay together, serve
- Service Manual, appendix B, a resolution
- There is a lot of history in AA; we don’t hear much about the Concepts in AA

**Treatment/Accessibility**

**Shane H. (Treatment/Accessibility Chair)**

Shane share the presentation between Ruth F., Jeremy M and himself.

Jeremy M.

- personal experiences – got involved with Treatment in D10, facilitated Treatment meetings in GTA; BTG – very busy; discussed how it helped his recovery and how to get involved

Ruth F.

- service day – rules for working dogs; don’t ask handlers about their disability; you can offer handler help – may be refused; don’t pet dog or offer them food; if you find dog alone, follow it; can be used for anxiety, hearing, vision impairments, balance; hearing impairments you need to look at them; may need an interpreter; can be let into closed meetings

Shane H.

- remote communities 10/15 areas have committees in Canada; there is a Kit with lots of resources

comments:

- we should have Kit for Canadian remote communities; also Canadian Armed Forces
- went up to Moose Factory 2009 – passed along women’s names from up north; the message is being carried
- experienced communicator personally
- got sober overseas in Tokyo; skyped meeting in Asia; can we bring technology in? Francophone meetings; gay, lesbian, Mexican/Spanish cultures

**Secretary/Registrar**

**Amy L. (Secretary)/Dave L. (Registrar)**

- explained how our Structure works
  - district roster; check to ensure all committees receive Kits
  - explanation of registrar and duties
- Comment: so amazing how Area 83 has all we need to know about our positions

**DCM (District Committee Member)**

**Joyce S. (Delegate Panel 65)**

- pamphlet “your DCM
- link between GSRs and Area
- GSO sends out Kits to new DCMs
  - DCMs should read everything about the position
  - Provides guidelines
- Service Manual is issued every 2-3 years
- Elections should be facilitated by someone who has experience with elections
- DCM reports what happens at Area to the District meetings
- Interactive sessions
  - Group inventories, Self-Support
  - Keep your group registry up to date through Area Registrar
  - If you don’t know the answer – don’t give one
  - Talk to groups about the importance of general service
- Questions:
  - Challenge of not having time at business meetings to share everything that happens at Area
    - Is all information necessary? eg; birthdays, inventory; just what the groups need to know in upcoming motions
    - Do a written report that GSRs can read on their own
  - What is DCMs responsibility to groups with no GSRs
    - Ask group secretary to relay information
    - Encourage group members to become a GSR
    - Go to their business meeting
  - How to handle unruly people at District
    - DCM is there to maintain order
    - Don’t gossip about negative things outside the meeting
  - What about bringing up information to District table; Self-Support etc
    - GSR workshops, Service Sponsor workshop, Grapevine workshop

**Anonymity in the Digital Age**

**Robb W. (Delegate Panel 63)**

- Discussion why are we anonymous
- Spoke about Bill W. statements on anonymity
- Understanding anonymity
- Mentioned the dangers of using one’s last name on Facebook
- Mentioned the changing of anonymity because of the Digital age
- Spoke of Traditions 11 and 12

**Public Information**

**Ray R. (PI Chair)**

- Doesn’t matter what position you hold, you are a part of Public Information
- Sharing information with the public – what we do and don’t do

- We use literature, TV, radio, internet – best way is face-to-face
- Make ourselves available to schools, companies, anywhere we are needed
- We are anonymous but not invisible
- Who can be a PI chair? Anyone can, and we would like someone who has some sobriety, an understanding of the steps and Traditions; time and enthusiasm!!
- History of PI – 1939 (Big Book) first form of public information; 1956 – Public Information Committee formed at GSO
- AA Public Information Statement
  - Resources; PI Kit, Workbook, Fact File, Guidelines; all you need to do is read the guidelines; there are also all types of pamphlets, Box 459
- All Districts except 2 in Area 83 have PI Chairs
- Speaking at non-AA functions, distribute literature
- Discussion at GSO
  - Should actors show full face in announcements for AA
    - Not a good idea – people don't understand anonymity
    - Shows anguish
    - Changes general idea of what an alcoholic looks like
    - Keeps things blurred
    - When I came to AA it was who will know me, blurred out faces but do we say they are actors
    - Challenge: are we breaking 11<sup>th</sup> Tradition
    - We should not use actor, use us
    - What about a mascot
    - Public information vs. promoting – just get info out there
    - What about Districts who don't have funds
    - Try working with groups to get information – not necessarily funds
    - Is PI proactive or reactive – both

## **Archives**

## **Marty M. (Archives Chair)**

- Learning the origins of Archives
  - Function is a communication tool
  - May 25<sup>th</sup> Kingston – Archives Workshop (free tour with an Archivist)
  - District Chair roles – oral histories, group histories = preserving histories
- Linda – Life of an Archivist
  - 12-step work – record growth, decisions and actions of Area 83
  - Educate us on what an Archivist does, provided suggestions for gathering District historical information
  - Tools were provided to support Archives/Archivist
  - Agenda item – add home movie to video; all were in favour; Marty will provide outcome to Delegate

## APPENDIX H. Service Information Day Ask it Basket Questions (Spring 2019)

### Delegate

Rob M.

- GSC – does the review on Young People include input from young people who use trending/modern/social media/social media platforms

### Safety in AA

Sandy S.

- Some people feels unsafe when the “Lord’s Prayer” is being heard in meetings – what if someone read from the Quran, or a Muslim Prayer? AA is non-religious and I feel the Lord’s Prayer is a Safety issue
- What language would you suggest when being vigilant to alert new comers of the behaviour of a predator?

### Grapevine

Jenny C.

- Will GV consider bringing back the La Vigne?

### Treasurer/Self-Support

JoAnn P./Mike B.

- What is the need for 2 yearly assemblies and the associated costs?
- How do I get groups interested in Self-Support
- What to do when a group invites you to do a Self-Support presentation and does not want to follow your instructions?
- Is there a Self-Support Kit? If not why because it is not a recognized Committee by GSO?

### Internal/External Communication Audit Jan L.

- Can we know the Class B Trustees, their backgrounds and similar information as the Class A Trustees?

### Corrections

Les M.

- If I am a volunteer in Toronto S. can I still be a BTG volunteer for a women’s Institute?
- Can I get into Institutions to volunteer with a 25yr. old drug possession charge?

### Concepts I, II, III

Kimberley M.

- Where did the Declaration of Unity come from? Where is it written and why don’t we use it often?
- Is the full Concepts online? Do I have to buy a Service Manual to get the twelve Concepts?
- Concept III – how can the Groups know that the Conference is running poorly to re-structure/re-elect another Delegate?
- Can I get a copy of the Concepts Workshop?

### Treatment/Accessibility

Shane H.

- How do Districts get groups to Chair Treatment meetings? By schedule, willy-nilly, volunteer groups?
- How do we establish first contact with Remote Communities? For example to set a virtual meeting, and to make AA more accessible to these communities?
- There seems to be controversy surrounding listing, de-listing and acceptance of secular meetings. De-listing, non-acceptance contravenes the wording and spirit of the Third Tradition as well as the Responsibility Declaration. Clarify?

### DCM (District Committee Member)

Joyce S.

- How can the DCM/District Table/Service Sponsors/Chairs encourage others to volunteer for vacant spots?
- Is it practical for GSRs to use Concept III at District level?
- AA Approved Literature – what does it mean? Can groups read anything they want?

Archives

Marty M.

- What does the Zones (1-6) mean? How are the Zones grouped? In the Archives room the map shows three geographical divisions: 1 Zones, 2 Areas, 3 Districts

Miscellaneous

- why does Box 459 get mailed to me automatically? I did not sign up for it. Can I see it online?
- Has the use of the Lord's Prayer at meetings been addressed as an issue that can not include people who are Christian?
- Why are old Service Manuals being sold and not free?
- Where would you get a list for a Group Inventory? And who would you recommend to facilitate it?
- Why are the Saturday Workshops free and in the GTA there is a charge and tickets are being sold?