

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Area Assembly
Minutes

October 27, 2019

Table of Contents

1. OPENING.....	4
2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA.....	8
3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF SPRING ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 31, 2019.....	8
4. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS	8
DISTRICT 02 MALTON	8
DISTRICT 06 MISSISSAUGA.....	9
DISTRICT 10 TORONTO SOUTH CENTRAL	9
DISTRICT 12 TORONTO SOUTH WEST.....	10
DISTRICT 14 TORONTO NORTH CENTRAL	10
DISTRICT 16 DISTRICTO HISPANO DE TORONTO	10
DISTRICT 18 TORONTO CITY EAST	10
DISTRICT 22 SCARBOROUGH	11
DISTRICT 26 LAKESHORE WEST.....	11
DISTRICT 28 LAKESHORE EAST	11
DISTRICT 30 QUINTE WEST.....	12
DISTRICT 34 QUINTE EAST	12
DISTRICT 36 KINGSTON & THE ISLANDS.....	12
DISTRICT 42 ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL.....	13
DISTRICT 48 SEAWAY VALLEY NORTH	13
DISTRICT 50 CORNWALL	13
DISTRICT 54 OTTAWA RIDEAU.....	13
DISTRICT 58 OTTAWA BYTOWN.....	14
DISTRICT 62 OTTAWA WEST	14
DISTRICT 66 GOLDEN TRIANGLE.....	15
DISTRICT 70 RENFREW PONTIAC	15
DISTRICT 74 PEMBROKE	15
DISTRICT 78 MADAWASKA VALLEY.....	15
DISTRICT 82 VICTORIA HALIBURTON.....	16
DISTRICT 86 KAWARTHA.....	16
5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS	16
A. PUBLIC INFORMATION	RAY R. 16
B. COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY	BILL C. 17
C. CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES	LES M. 18
D. TREATMENT FACILITIES/ ACCESSIBILITY	SHANE H. 18
E. GRAPEVINE	JENNY C. 20
F. SELF-SUPPORT	MIKE B. 20
G. ARCHIVES	MARTY M. 21
H. SERVICE INFORMATION DAY COMMITTEE	DE R. 23
6. TREASURER'S REPORT	JOANN P. 23
7. SECRETARY'S REPORT	AMY L. 25
8. ROLL CALL AND REGISTRAR'S REPORT	DAVE L. 26
9. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT	KIMBERLEY M. 27
10. DELEGATE'S REPORT	ROB M. 28
11. OLD BUSINESS.....	29
NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE SPRING 2020 ASSEMBLY (RE: Accessibility Committee and an Area Accessibility Chair).....	29
A. FINAL REPORT FROM THE ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR Ad HOC COMMITTEE KIM S. – IMMEDIATE PAST DELEGATE.....	29

12. NEW BUSINESS.....	30-46
A. MOTION: TO ALLOW E-TRANSFERS OF CONTRIBUTIONS ONLY FOR AREA 83 EILEEN S.-DCM DISTRICT 28.....	30
B. REPORT FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PRE-CONFERENCE AGENDA SHARING ROB M., AREA 83 DELEGATE	31
C. MOTION: AREA 83 CONTRIBUTES \$400 TO THE EASTERN CANADA REGION HOSPITALITY SUITE AT THE 2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN DETROIT, MI. ROB M., AREA 83 DELEGATE	32

The following Agenda items D–S were items recommended by the Area Committee to Amend the Operating Procedures. Passed under a single motion. See page 38–41 for specific details for OP changes and motioner

D.–S. MOTION: TO ACCEPT CATEGORY III ITEMS (33-53) AS DISCUSSED; EXCLUDING 44, 45, 49, 51, 53	33-41
--	--------------

The following Agenda items T–X were items recommended by the Area Committee to Amend the Operating Procedures. Passed as individual motions. See page 43–47 for specific details for OP changes and motioner

T. MOTION: [To Include] the 5 References To The Service Zones	37
U. MOTION: Reword 3.18 Area Archivist To Remove Reference To Archives Committee.....	37
V. MOTION: Ad Hoc Committee to review Webmaster responsibilities and Website guidelines.....	38
W. MOTION: Area Secretary To Provide Updated Operating Procedures.....	38
X. MOTION: Bequests In Wills To Area 83 Set To Limit Of \$5000.....	39
13. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?	40
14. NEXT ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE INFORMATION DAY	41
15. CLOSING	41
APPENDICES.....	42
APPENDIX A. FINANCIAL SUMMARY (AS OF OCTOBER 18, 2019)	42
APPENDIX B. EXPENDITURES (AS OF OCTOBER 18, 2019).....	43
APPENDIX C. AREA 83 GROUP AND DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS (AS OF OCTOBER 18, 2019)	44
APPENDIX D AREA 83 FALL 2019 ASSEMBLY ROLL CALL.....	45
APPENDIX E. SERVICE INFORMATION WORKSHOPS OCTOBER 26, 2019.....	46
APPENDIX F. ARCHIVES HISTORY OF AA IN ONTARIO: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE.....	50

Area Assembly – October 27, 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.

Twelve Traditions read by Sharon S, Alt GSR, Erin Mills Group in District 06

Twelve Concept (Short Form) read by Elizabeth, a visitor from South End Group in Oshawa, District 28

Welcome everybody to the Fall Assembly. I hope everyone enjoy the Service Information Day yesterday and the banquet last night. Perhaps we can give a hand for the Service Information Day Committee and for the catering staff. And thank you Rick (staff member from GSO) for your wonderful talk last night.

Introduction

This is our second Assembly of four in this term. During the remainder of the two-year term, we will be working together to provide continued strength and direction to A.A. in Area 83. Our common goal during this term is to keep Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 vibrant and strong. Working together is the key for continued Unity in our Area.

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

Our 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 576 active registered groups. Some of us have been here before as General Service Representative or Alternates, as District Committee Member or Alternates, or as visitors. For some, it will be their first Assembly and from personal experience it can seem overwhelming!

Please raise your hand if you are attending your first Assembly. Approximately (25+) raised their hand. Thank you for saying "yes" to service and welcome!

Being in service is a great way to give back to AA. You will not be expected to learn or understand everything the first time or even second time. It takes time but it will make sense. 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 those highlights that 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.
Our Panel 67 Immediate Past Delegate	Kim S.
Chair	James O'D.

Area Sub-Committee Chairs

Public Information Chair	Ray R.
Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair	Bill C.
Correctional Facilities Chair	Les M.
Treatment/Accessibility Chair	Shane H.
Grapevine Chair	Jenny C.
Self-Support Chair	Mike B.
Archives Chair	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 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.; Area Alternate Webmaster, David C.

Also, we have with us **visitors** from outside of Area 83:

Rick W. from the General Service Office, Nominating Committee and Percy G., Panel 62 Delegate from Area 86

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.

ACCESSIBILITY

Area 83 wants to make sure that everyone is able to participate equally. If you need an accommodation to help with this, please see me at the break. Please keep the aisles and along the walls free during the meeting and also on 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. Also, please be considerate of those with perfume allergies when applying scents. While it is obviously too late for today, please remember this for future Area functions.

NAMETAG HOLDERS

When you leave for home this afternoon or evening, please leave your name tag holders in the boxes provided near the doors. We recycle them to keep our costs down. 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 Spring 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, June and September. Our next Area Committee Meeting will be on January 4th 2020.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

A schedule of tentative dates for meetings in 2020 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	Status	What	Where
2020	January 4	Approved	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2020	March 27–29	Approved ¹	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2020	June 6	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2020	September 5	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2020	October 23-25	Tentative	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2020	December 5	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

¹ Voted and approved on October 27, 2019 Area Fall Assembly, see Agenda item 14 in these minutes.

On the website, you can find agendas for upcoming meetings, both for the Area Committee Meetings and for the Assemblies. The agenda will be posted approximately 6 weeks before the date of the meeting.

Any concerns with respect to the meeting rooms, catering for the banquet or other issues for this weekend event, should be directed to me not the hotel. That way, whether it affects one or all, the Area has a record of it for future Assembly weekends. Contact me prior to the assembly weekend so we can discuss the issue and I will then contact the hotel on your behalf. You can email me at chairperson@area83aa.org. If you would like my number, please see me at the break.

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 (estimated 400 people) for the weekend which works out to approximately \$6900. This cost includes much more than just coffee. Our treasurer JoAnn will speak more about this during her report. At recent Assemblies the total 7th collected has improved but is still significantly less than the amount paid for refreshments. There are contribution cans beside the coffee urns. Contributions are absolutely voluntary. We had a Seventh Tradition Friday night, again at the banquet last night and we will have another one today. Please keep these costs in mind when the 7th is being passed around.

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.

Note: the restaurant will be offering a light buffet of soup, salad and sandwiches for a cost of \$15 per person, starting at noon. The hope is to accommodate more people over the lunch break.

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.
 - During a discussion, please only go to the mic ONCE until everyone has had a chance to have their say. When everyone who wanted to share had their opportunity I will then invite members up for a second time.
- 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.*

In our operating procedures it is indicated that Formal Motions “shall be forwarded to the Area Chairperson at least sixty [60] days prior to the Area Assembly in order that such motion may be included in the Agenda.”

So why do we do this? The agenda must be sent out by the Chairperson 6 weeks before the Assembly. Having formal motions sent to the Chairperson (8 weeks before the Assembly) assists them to craft an efficient agenda – allowing ample discussion for every item so that we do not end up rushing and making rash and emotional decisions. Also, and most importantly, it allows all members of the Area to see what is on the agenda so that discussions can take place at the group and District level so a sound and coherent group conscience can be brought to the Assembly.

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.

May I have a motion to operate on simple majority?

- Motion for simple majority

Moved:	Linda D.	District 66	GSR- Land of Lakes Group
Seconded:	George H.	District 14	GSR- King City Group
Discussion	none		
All 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

12B- Correction: this should be "**Report** from the ad hoc committee on Pre-conference Agenda Sharing"

- Motion to accept the agenda

Moved:	Scott M.	District 06	Acting GSR-Bloordale Group
Seconded:	Terry N.	District 26	DCM
Discussion	None		
All in favour:	All		
All opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF SPRING ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 31, 2019.

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

None

- Motion to accept minutes as circulated.

Moved:	Will H.	District 14	DCM
Seconded:	Paul M.	District 22	GSR- Fifth Tradition Group
Discussion	None		
All in favour:	All		
All 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 all, I am an alcoholic, member of the KF Group, and I have the honour and privilege of serving as the District Committee Member for District 02 – Malton, and my name is De. District 02 is doing well, and we continue to devote our time and efforts on service. All our Sub-Committee positions are filled with several Chairing Intergroup Committees. Several General Service Reps are attending this Assembly.

Attendance continues to fluctuate, however we always have quorum, so we can conduct business as it arises. Financially we are recovering and thank all our Groups for their continued support. Due to this support, we were able to partially fund some General Service Reps to attend this Assembly. We continue to support all our General Service Reps in all they do, and make sure communication from Intergroup, Area 83 and General Service Office reaches them in a timely manner. We encourage their participation in all levels of service and information sharing.

Currently we are assessing which Groups within our District are accessible and are encouraging Groups to do Group Histories. Some of our Groups meet monthly, but others meet each 3-month period, which makes the flow of information that much more crucial. To summarize, District 02 – Malton continues to thrive, learn and grow.

In Love and Service – De R.

District 06 Mississauga

Hello everyone, I'm an alcoholic, grateful member of Daily Reflections. I have the privilege of serving as District Committee Member for District 06, Oakville, Mississauga, Etobicoke and my name is Susan. District 06 is comprised of 34 groups with attendance at our district meetings dropping off from 60% to 50% since our last Assembly. Of the 34 groups, 7 have never attended a meeting and 3 have only come once. The balance of 24 groups have very good attendance. A few of the groups who did not have a GSR now do. We're going to implement an invitation letter to our District Meeting sent out via email to our GSR's one week prior and the day of the meeting as a gentle reminder. We're also going to continue to visit the groups in hopes of encouraging them to attend.

All our Committee Chair positions have been filled along with all but one of our Alternant Chair positions and we have a great committed team. Our Webmaster / Registrar position became available in June and in July Ivy from the New Life Group has took on the position. Thank you all for your hard work and service. Our District finances are in good shape and we are meeting all our responsibilities along with disbursements to Area 83 and GSO.

As DCM I will be continuing as Treasurer for next years GTA "Information AA Day" being held May 23, 2020.

In May we held a "Service Sponsorship" workshop at our regular meeting. Thank you to our presenters, Roy R of the Kipling Group and Anne J., Primary Purpose Group for sharing their knowledge and experience.

In August we invited via Zoom Mike B, Area 83 Self Support Chair and Shane H, Area 83 Accessibility Chair to speak about their committee's and the work they do in hopes of filling our vacant spots. Those spots are now filled. Thank you for your service.

In December we will close out the first year of the term with a Pizza party as a thank you from our Table Officers to our GSR's and Committee and Alternate Chairs. This concludes my report.

Yours in Love and Service, Susan K.

District 10 Toronto South Central

Hi all. I'm an Alcoholic, a member of the Morning Discussion Group, currently serving as DCM for District 10, and my name is Doug.

Participation: To recap, D10 currently has 26 registered groups. Of which about 17 regularly attend our District meetings, representing a healthy 65% participation rate. Just this month we had 2 "new" groups indicate they are looking to activate GSR's and have them attend District.

Finances: Overall, D10 is financially healthy, meeting all obligations, with multiple groups contributing.

Positions: At present, all 5 District Positions and 8 of 11 committee chairs are filled, but it's been a busy period. Last quarter we transitioned Corrections and Archives, and more recently activated new Alternate positions in Archives and Treatment. Accessibility, Grapevine and PI remain open.

Service Commitments: We put on ~30 service commitments each month which are mostly well attended, and Group participation is high. Attendance at these meetings and our own capacity limits are continually monitored.

New Developments: Over the summer we modified our meeting format to allow more time for **new/old business**. Intro times were consolidated, and GSR sharing has been refocused on four primary topics: **Attendance, Financial Health, Medallions, and Significant News** such as building closures/format changes/etc. So far, the results have been very productive.

Earlier this month, it was great having Rob M and Kimberly dial into our meeting via Zoom. It was a great two-way opportunity for all to get a better idea of the people behind the emails. I know I certainly benefited from it, as did many from our table.

On that note I really feel it's important to mention just how fortunate I am to be able to be working with such a great team in D10.

Yours in Love and Service, Doug P.

District 12 Toronto South West

Good morning, I am an alcoholic a grateful member of the Westmoreland Group and District Committee Member for District 12, Toronto South West. (my name is Dennis). District 12 is in good shape financially and we are covering all our service commitments. Although we are experiencing some difficulty keeping our committees Chaired, ongoing work to do. We are making some headway in getting those group that don't attend District to come to the table or at least getting a member name and address to forward information. We have changed our meeting venue, and meeting time to: 263 Roncesvalles Ave. (where the Friendly Group Meets) on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7PM. I can only hope this is our final change in this regard.

District 14 Toronto North Central

I am a member of the Street Level Sobriety Group, I have the honour and privilege of sitting as the District Committee Member for District 14, Toronto Suburban North and my name is Will.

AA Service is alive and well in District 14. We have a total of 29 registered groups@xEsq and an average of approximately 60% regular attendance at our District table. Our service commitments at the CHIRS-Critical Head Injury Resource Service Meeting Thursdays and the Wednesday Southlake Hospital Meeting are being met by the groups. We are still in conversations with the Mackenzie Health Hospital Service Meeting in Richmond Hill about reinstating the meeting there. Our Treatment Chair and myself have had a meeting with the staff at Porter Place -a shelter for men just north of Newmarket, at their request about starting a service meeting. As trusted servants we have committed to starting the meetings there on Thursday night's. We are going to use the same Big Book format as the Southlake meeting to keep it simple. We have openings in three service chair position at the table and between Bill W., our ADCM and myself, we are doing what we can to fill the gaps until those positions are filled. Our District officers are managing the affairs of the District and our finances are in good standing.

Yours in love and service, Will H.

District 16 Distrito Hispano De Toronto

no report

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 26 groups in our District. Our District boundaries stretch roughly from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe, framed loosely by Bayview Avenue to the West. Our Eastern boundary flows somewhat diagonally, around District 22, to Port Union Road and continues North. Our last redistricting took place in 1979. The District 18 table has authorized me to discuss redistricting with our District neighbours.

District 18 officers are serving together cohesively as a fabulous team and are all here this weekend! Candice F., our Registrar, is also Alternate Self Support Chair, Sue H., our Secretary, is also Alt. Chair of Archives, Greg R. Treasurer, is also Alt. Chair of Accessibility, Christy F., Alternate District Committee Member, is my right hand in technology, web site and also serves as Alternate Toronto Intergroup Liaison. Each month, our District officers attend meetings of at least half of our groups.

District 18 Sub-committee Chairs, and Alternates, are also active: Rick M., Archives chair, here, Jeff A. Is here and looks after both Cooperation with the Professional Community and Public Information. John M. is here. He is the current chair of both The District 18 and the Greater Toronto Area Archives committees. David P., chairs Correction, Jennifer C., chairs Treatment facilities, I assist Candice with our Self Support sub-committee obligations.

These individuals, 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 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, world services, 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, I am an alcoholic. Member of the Fifth Tradition Group and I currently serve with the honour, privilege, and responsibility as a District Committee Member for Scarborough, District 22. There are 22 groups within our District, and approximately 18 are represented in our monthly district meeting. All our district officer positions are filled with the exception of Accessibility and Self-Support. Alternate positions continue to remain open, but we are hoping that will change.

Our finances are healthy, and we continue to meet our commitment at both the Metro Toronto East Detention Centre and the Scarborough General Hospital. Bridging the Gap is alive and well and supported within our District. An invitation has been kindly accepted by our Alternate Delegate, Kimberley to facilitate a district inventory at our next District meeting, on Sunday November 10.

Planning is underway for our 3 annual upcoming events: our service day just happened, held on Saturday September 14th, Joy in Sobriety that was well attended and supported in the district and it was a great day for everyone. Upcoming events that we are planning that is in cooperation with district 18 is our East Toronto Archives Breakfast. This is the 15th Annual breakfast and that will be held on Sunday May 3rd. I am also involved in the GTA 41st Info AA day. I will continue on as the hospitality coordinator; meetings and planning are underway for that event.

Scarborough District 22 is Active, strong and continues to carry the message of Recovery, Unity and Service and a reminder that 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 59%.

Lakeshore Conference August 9 to 11, 2019 was a great success, Chaired by Shawna R. District 26. One position is now vacant, Our Alternate District Committee Member. Our Treatment Chair Rob F. from the Ajax Friday Night Group was Successful in Opening a New A. A. Meeting at the Ajax Hospital Thursday's at 7:30 with free parking.

I have attended many Zoom Meetings hosted by our Area 83 Panel 69 Alternate Delegate Kimberley M. I'm very excited about it and will attempt to set-up Zoom meetings with our District members. December 15, 2019 Rob our Delegate and Kimberley our Alt. Delegate have been invited to our District Meeting. I have been busy visiting the groups in our District to encourage more participation at the District Table and here at the Area Assembly.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve. 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. District 28 is committed to carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic and our GSR's and committees are actively engaged. We are meeting our financial commitments and our committees are all doing well in their outreach into our community. We have all of our Chair positions filled, with the exception of Treatment and Accessibilities, which we are actively looking to fill. Thankfully, a previous chair is assisting until the position is filled.

We have invited our Delegate and Alternate Delegate to attend our December District meeting in order to build awareness and enthusiasm for the Pre-Conference sessions. This past Saturday, the first annual 'Durham Women in Recovery' was held. It was an amazing day full of fellowship and hope.

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. In December every year, again, jointly with District 26, we have an Alcathon. The Alcathon takes place at the Alano Club in Oshawa and is 24 hours of meetings, from noon Dec 24 until noon 25. Each participating group hosts for one hour and is open to all.

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/>

- November 9 – Fall Round Up - Bowmanville
- November 7 - CPC Bring a Professional Evening
- Noon Dec 24-Noon Dec 25 - Alcathon

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve District 28 and AA as a whole.

Yours in love and service, Eileen S.

District 30 Quinte West

Hello friends, I am an alcoholic, member of The Alderville Pioneer Group, currently serving District 30 as District Committee Member— my name is Rick.

All is well in District 30. We hold regular meetings once a month and all of our financial obligations have been met. We have good attendance at our meetings, usually 10 to 12 GSRs out of 14 groups and most Chair positions. District 30 is currently looking at changing our operating procedures to have a stand -lone Accessibility Chair. There is also a new meeting that has started in District 30, this is a men's meeting that meets Wednesdays in Port Hope.

Yours in love and service, Rick W.

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, except for Public Information but the District is working hard toward attracting someone to step up and fill the position. We do have a member who volunteered to oversee the inquiries being received via our answering service and the district is grateful for that. We all know how important it is to have a real person available to speak to when you reach out to Alcoholics Anonymous for the first time.

The monthly district table meeting shows an average of approximately 55 - 60% of groups attending. The district is financially sound, and all our financial commitments are met. In my last report, I stated we are moving forward with revising our Operating procedures and we are making progress -- albeit slowly. Even at the district level, nothing moves quickly.

At our August District meeting, we were happy to have Rob M. present his conference report via zoom technology. We held the meeting at a different venue – starting the night with pizza and pop. Although attendance was less than our normal number of groups attending, the meeting was well received, and we thoroughly enjoyed Rob's report.

In September, the Happy Destiny Group held its annual Old-Timer's Meeting. The group asks three men and three women who have 25 years of sobriety or longer, to share on what Alcoholics Anonymous was like when they first entered the rooms. It is a wonderful celebration for all members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Also, in September, the District 34/36 conference was held in Napanee. My hat is off to the committee on putting together a wonderful day of fellowship, food and recovery.

In November, the Belleville and Area Round-Up will be celebrating 25 years. A flyer was circulated this weekend and if you are in Belleville on November 16 and don't know what you want to do that day, we would love to have you join us. Our District 34 website will also provide you with information about that day.

If you are in Napanee on November 10, Harvey R. will be celebrating 50 years of continued sobriety. So, if you are in awe with that amount of sobriety, remember -- he stayed sober one day at a time. District 34 looks forward to carrying the message of recovery 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 continue to have good attendance at our district meetings with over 80% of our 26 groups recently. We now have an inside member from the Collins Bay Pathways to Freedom Group (Stuart) attending regularly at the table. An amendment will be made in our district operating procedures to specifically state that inside members that attend the meetings be allowed a vote at the table.

Some groups reported attendance at their meetings were down a bit over the summer as a few had to switch meeting locations due to buildings being sold or repurposed. Our district finances are good and we have made contributions to GSO and Area 83.

The 41st annual District 34/36 conference was held in Napanee on September 29 and was another resounding success. Thanks to the conference committee chaired by Rocky P. for a job well done.

Our subcommittee chairs and their volunteers have been working tirelessly getting the message out at treatment facilities, fairs and correctional meetings. Again, thanks to our Secretary Donna C. who has coordinated all the greeters at the registration table this weekend and helped with the sales of the Service Manuals.

I am impressed and humbled by the harmony in our district over the last several months considering where we have been in the past, and that is directly the result of our current group of committed volunteers who truly are placing principles before personalities.

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Jack R.

District 42 St. Lawrence International

Good morning, my name is Ted, and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Fall Island Big Book Study Group and DCM for District 42. Across the river attendance at our district meeting is picking up, and that is very good since we've had some low points over the summer.

The big news at District 42 right now is that we are about to roll out a new website that has been developed by our webmaster, who is also a professional web guy/developer. He is doing a great job and at our last district meeting actually showed us how it is coming along. It is looking really nice, and one reason for that is he copied area 83s website. He was pretty impressed with it. One of the big features of the new site, besides being cleaner than our current one, is that it will actually display on a smart phone in a way that you can read it. He said that it will probably be ready to launch in a month, which because he is an alcoholic will most likely mean 3 months.

The other news in our district is that we have had some problems carrying out our commitments for treatment. New York State suspended all AA meetings in treatment centres. There were two reasons for this, they felt that AA meetings in the Treatment facilities would violate their client's confidentiality, and secondly, NY state is moving toward a medically assisted treatment style and downplaying 12-step style programs. So, we were kicked out of all the treatment and detox faculties in our district. Recently we were invited back, although we can share as speakers from AA, but not put on AA meetings. Our Treatment Chair, Michael W, is now busy trying to reassemble the speakers schedule. We are going into the Potsdam Rehab two days a week and Hamilton Hall in Ogdensburg one day a week at present. We believe we will be going into the detox in Gouverneur soon.

Yours in Love and Service, Ted R.

District 48 Seaway Valley North

Morning friends, my name is Wayne L, and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Kemptville Sunday Morning Group and privileged to serve as District Committee Member for District 48, Seaway Valley North. We have a new group in our district, meeting on Friday night in Cardinal. It has been great to see this happen, especially since we lost our Iroquois group in that same geographic area; they closed their doors last March. We did not hold district meetings over the summer, but we have had good participation by GSRs at our September and October meetings.

Our district sub-committee chairs are a dedicated group and I am grateful to work with them. Our new secretary Lorraine is doing an awesome job since she joined us. Our Public Information-CPC committee chair had to step down over the summer due to his very heavy travel schedule for work. Another member, JoAnn B. stepped up to take over the position even though she is not able to attend all of our monthly meetings. Seeing that, another member Yves, offered to work with Jo-Anne and attend meetings on her behalf presenting her reports. It is this kind of dedication and cooperating that makes me even more grateful to be a part of AA.

We agreed to Group Conscience last spring to support our neighboring district 66 with a commitment to put on a monthly service meeting at the Mallorytown Treatment Centre. So far, groups have been able to meet that commitment.

Finally, even though February 1st, might seem to be well into the future, planning has started for the 26th Annual Round up on that day. It is always a great day of sharing and fellowship.

Thank you for my sobriety. Yours in Love and Service, Wayne L.

District 50 Cornwall

No Report.

District 54 Ottawa Rideau

I am privileged to serve as District Committee Member (DCM) for District 54, Ottawa-Rideau. My name is Jo Anne; I am an alcoholic and a member of the Search for Serenity Group in Orléans.

District 54 is in good shape. There was a point toward the end of June when the District financial picture looked pretty grim and we feared we'd dip too far below our prudent reserve. However, the GSRs all reported out on the situation and the contributions poured in. The District Table is grateful for the support.

The Ottawa area Gratitude in Service Day was held on June 22. District 54's Alternate District Committee Member, Anna P., led in organizing the event along with Districts 58 and 62. Many thanks to Delegate Rob M. of course for his report on the General Service Conference but also to Mike B. and Bill C. for their presence and presentations.

We used the bulk of our July 4th meeting to provide training for Intergroup's Telephone Answering Service (TAS). In addition to our regular crowd, ten (10) guests came for the training. Some stayed for the remainder of the meeting. While TAS is outside of the General Service structure, we as a District felt that helping to get people into any kind of service, anywhere, was worthy; hopefully from there we can draw them into General Service.

Collaborating with Intergroup has had advantages. For one thing, I have been asked to produce a monthly column for the Intergroup Newsletter. I think I'll call it, *District Discourse* or some other equally alliterative phrase. The idea is to emphasize the "news" in the Newsletter. My first column will naturally report on this Assembly, in particular, the Delegate's new pre-conference sharing proposal. I am hoping a tag line of "Ask your GSR ..." will generate dialogue among members.

I participated in the Alternate Delegate's DCM Summertime Sharing Session via Zoom on July 8. Subsequently, I hosted a meeting with some of District 54's GSRs: seven signed on; three actually joined. I also practiced hosting meetings with other members a couple of times on my own downloaded app.

The highlight for District 54 is that the Area Delegate and the Alternate Delegate joined our District 54 meeting on September 5, 2019, via Zoom. They presented on two topics requested in advance by GSRs: Regional Forums and service apathy. Feedback was wholly positive about the experience: awesome being most frequently used adjective. The two presentations were deemed informative, relevant, useful, and amazement that so much is going on "out there" and a little excitement at the prospect of attending the Regional Forum in Ottawa in November. On the technical side, the only issue related to the size of the screen (iPad) so an inability to see the shared documents on screen.

The Annual Ottawa Archives Fall Luncheon takes place on November 16. Four long timers, each with over 40 years of sobriety will share their early experience in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in service, Jo Anne D.

District 58 Ottawa Bytown

My name is Kim and I am an alcoholic. My homegroup is 12 Steps to Serenity, and I am here today representing District 58 – Ottawa Bytown as their DCM.

The district table has continued to have low attendance, with only 6-8 groups being represented. I have been contacting groups trying to increase attendance, but numbers remain low. Our finances remain adequate, and our meetings at the OWMC and Newgate Treatment Centre have been kept up. I continue to try to get members to represent district 58 at the committee meetings and fill in some of the gaps myself.

The Eastern Ontario Fall Conference was held last week and was well attended. The committee made some change to the standard format which will be continued by next year's committee. Have a great day and a safe trip home!

Yours in service, Kim

District 62 Ottawa West

Hello, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Stittsville Second Chance Group, and the District Committee Member for District 62 - Ottawa West, my name is Trevor.

District 62 has had an interesting last few months. Our Alternate District Committee Member had to step down for personal reasons in the summer, and I stood and was elected to fill the position last month. Shortly thereafter, our District Committee Member Frank had to step down, and I was nominated and elected to take over as the new District Committee Member. Service sometimes comes with surprises, but I'm grateful to have a lot of support from experienced members in our district to help bring me up to speed. We now have a couple of positions to fill at our district table as I was the Registrar, then the Alternate District Committee Member, and hopefully that will happen soon. Our district meetings have been averaging about 25 groups in attendance, and we just finished up a monthly Traditions workshop which was held before our District meetings.

The Ottawa area just held the Eastern Ontario Fall Conference last weekend, which was very well attended. A lot of effort was put into its planning and organization this year to include a wider area of Eastern Ontario and we're grateful to the Conference

committee for that. As well, planning is already underway for Ottawa's annual Alkathon over Christmas and New Year's, so please stop by if you are in the area over the holidays.

Financially, we are doing well and keeping up all of our obligations. Our district also maintains commitments at the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Center and Newgate 180 Treatment Center, with different groups volunteering each month to fill those commitments. Alcoholics Anonymous is alive and well in Ottawa West, and I'm grateful to be a part of it.

Yours in Love and Service, Trevor F.

District 66 Golden Triangle

Good morning, friends. I am an alcoholic, the District Committee Member for Golden Triangle District 66. My name is Neil. I am happy to report District 66 is alive and well. Although we do not have full participation at our monthly meetings, the table is occupied by some very enthusiastic members. I am truly blessed to be surrounded by some amazing people.

We service three institutions in Brockville, and three treatment centers throughout our expansive district. At times our chairs have difficulty finding volunteers, for the most part the district membership steps up. Our Telephone Answering service is strongly supported, as we are almost covered 100% up until the end of 2020. Who says people in AA don't want to volunteer? I guess it's all in the approach of the coordinator.

We continue to rebuild our website. District 66 was one of the very first in the area to create a website, which was some time ago. Unfortunately, until we have completed this, we are not feeding the Meeting Guide App. Personally my goal is to ensure we provide the data by the end of 2019.

Financially we are sound, with literature sales is the district booming. As fair as dispersal of funds, we first look to our needs in the district and then pass along to the Area and GSO. Our PI/CPC chair was having trouble getting volunteers to assist in literature distribution in the district. Hopefully this will change for the second year of the term.

Looking forward to the challenges the second year will bring.

Yours in love and service. Neil P.

District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

Goodmorning. Hi, I am an alcoholic, and I am honoured to serve as District Committee Member for District 70, my home group is the Douglas Group and my name is Lisa. It has been a quiet summer for District 70, although we are financially sound. We recently voted to put a public service announcement in the local newspaper. We are working hard to encourage someone to step into the Alternate DCM position. Although all of our other regular positions are filled. We also had the privilege to have Kimberley and Rob visit us by Zoom. On September 15th, they shared information on the security of the system and how easy it is to set it up. Unfortunately, one of the 3 recently new groups in our District has folded. The Wednesday Night group, a closed discussion group closed the doors due to lack of attendance and funds.

Yours in Service, Lisa C.

District 74 Pembroke

I am an alcoholic, member of the Hand of AA group, currently serving as District Committee Member for District 74 and my name is Jane.

Unfortunately, due to illness and relocation, the following District Chair positions are vacant: Cooperation with Professional Community/Public Information, Grapevine, and Secretary. The past few months have seen a decline in attendance at the District Meetings. Hopefully this will correct itself in the new year. We are financially sound at present and meeting all of our obligations.

The West End Group will be hosting a Christmas Pot Luck Meeting on December 5, 2019. Flyers soon to be posted to our website with more details. Our events committee is potentially planning a New Year's Eve event along with a Spaghetti Dinner sometime in the new year. Check events at pembrokeaa.org from time to time and join us for a good ole fashion Ottawa Valley shindig. We wish all a happy, healthy and sober Holiday season.

In love and service, Jane S.

District 78 Madawaska Valley

Hello Friends, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Bancroft New Hope Group, humbly servicing as DCM for District 78, my name is Michelle. AA is thriving in the Valley!! We had a very successful 40th annual Round-up in September and I was pleased to see so many Area Officers, Delegate, and past Delegates in attendance. Our District table still has some empty chairs and we are actively seeking to have them filled. We are meeting our fiscal responsibilities and our PI/CPC people are active in the community, carrying

the message. As the year draws to a close, I look forward to attending and participating in many Gratitude meetings and group anniversaries.

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 Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, I am the DCM for District 82 and my name is Glenn.

Our last district meeting was held in Cameron Ontario on Sunday October 20. We had eight GSR's in attendance out of thirteen active groups at the district meeting. We currently have three open chair positions. Our finances are doing well. The men's and lady's corrections chairs continue to try and hold meetings at the Lindsay Jail. Ladies corrections was unable to hold any meetings in the month of September due to various reasons. Our men's corrections were able to put on two meetings in the month of the September.

Currently District 82 does not have the meeting list available on the "Meeting Guide App." After some investigation by our Webmaster it was discovered that our District website was not compatible with the Meeting Guide App. District 82 voted in favour of updating our District website. Things do happen for a reason and it was time for our website to be updated anyway!

The 2020 District 82 Conference will be held at the Lindsay Armouries on Saturday May 2.

Yours in love and service, Glenn B.

District 86 Kawartha

Good morning Friends, I am an alcoholic, proud member of the Freedom Group, currently serving as District Committee Member of District 86 and my name is Tim. It is wonderful to be here at the fall assembly with a room full of friends.

Rob M and Kimberley M made the trip to the Kawarthas in person and put on an information session at the start of our District meeting a couple weeks ago. It was informative and well received by our District table.

We continue to have an 80% attendance at our monthly District meetings, and they are running smoothly. We have bounced back financially after a slow start in large part due to a very successful round up. We have been able to pass some of this along to Area and GSO. Intergroup Chair had to step down but is willing to continue, hopefully till the position gets filled. I was informed this morning that there is a member that intends to be nominated next Sunday. All our other chairs are filled. Elections for 2020 Conference chair will take place next Sunday at our District meeting with two very capable candidates.

November 9th the Archives committee is putting on a movie presentation. The History of AA in Ontario followed by a Long-timer oral Interview.

Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service, Tim F.

Thank you to all District Committee Members for your reports.

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.

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Last Chance Group and my name is Ray. I have the honour and privilege of serving as the Area 83, Panel 69 Public Information Chair. And what an honour.

My summer started off with a bang, as I was invited to present at the Tri-County Service Day in Cobden last June. I was joined by our Delegate, Alt Delegate, area sub-committee chairs, DCM's, and other trusted servants. It was a day of presentations, workshops, sharing, and fellowship. I'd like to thank districts 70, 74, and 78, for putting on such a great event, and inviting me to be part of it. Also, a personal thank you to Jane S., for hosting us after the event, we had an awesome time, and it was a great way to wrap up an awesome day.

I took advantage of opportunities to visit groups and districts that I normally would not visit, some doing the business of Area 83, and others just for my pleasure. I visited Cobourg, Oshawa, I went out of our area like Hamilton, Binbrook I even left the

country and visited meetings in Akron and Pennsylvania, and it didn't matter where I went, home or abroad, Public Information and other AA service work was there.

I also took part in the Zoom online video conferences. I found it to be a great tool for bringing people together that normally wouldn't be able to meet. I also participated in training on how to host my own meeting, and I held my first public information online meeting, and it was a lot easier than I thought. I look forward to hosting more meetings in the future. Other events this summer included, a bring a professional held with Al anon, a Traditions workshop sponsored by the Toronto Intergroup, and I also attended the Gratitude round up in Toronto.

A big shout out to the Service Information Day committee for organizing another successful day...as far as the Public Information workshop, thank you to Maria M. and Paul M., for participating in the workshop; they presented some well organized, and well researched content, and delivered it in their own unique style that held everyone's attention. Thank you once again.

I didn't get to go to all the workshops, but of the ones I did attend, the one that stood out was Diversity in AA. This workshop dealt with some very sensitive issues, and brought a lot of things to light, it was obvious that it was a conversation that needed to be had. My hope is that we will bring the conversation back to our districts and groups, where it can be continued, because that's where we can spread awareness...and find possible solutions.

The P.I./CPC meeting held after the banquet speaker last night proved to be quite productive. Fifteen of us gathered in the Kingston Room where we discussed the challenges we face in our positions, and some possible solutions. One of the more common challenges included not just getting people to take on positions within the groups or districts but trying to hold their interests for a full term. And again, we plan to meet regularly via the Zoom app.

Upcoming activities include, the GTA archives breakfast next week, but know that I am available for service days and workshops, and I will remain open for what ever comes my way. Remember to visit our website area83aa.org for the latest on news and events and great resources.

And finally, please keep sending me you P.I. reports, it helps to keep me in the know on the goings on in our Area, and I can be reached at: 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 our last Assembly, CPC has been pretty well engaged in activities throughout the summer and early autumn. We had our second CPC District Chairs meeting on 3 September 2019 which lasted about 1 hour. Lots of great discussion and ideas regarding challenges and solutions getting the message of AA in the community to the professional community. We had an in-depth discussion on speaking at Non-AA meetings. There were lots of questions and suggestions during this part of the meeting. A summary of the four key points that emerged from the discussions that we had on speaking at non-AA meetings is included in my written report. The presentations and resource materials are available on the CPC tab of the Area 83 website. (<http://area83aa.org/resources/cooperation-with-professional-community>)

- Many newcomers arrive at AA from some sort of professional referral
- Speaking at non-AA meetings is a way to provide professionals with information about AA in the community and make available resources
- Lots of resources to shape the message for the appropriate audience
- Challenge is to reach out to this community and let them know about AA and that it is in the community for their clients

I previously reported that I was contacted by representatives from the Canadian Mental Health Association, Toronto (who happen to be members of this Fellowship and were referred to us by Roy R – thanks Roy Panel 53 Delegate) about putting on a presentation for their professional staff. I'm pleased to report that they had excellent attendance at their in-service meeting – which lasted over an hour and was well received. The main organizer told me that it would have been better to have had more time. However, there were many good questions - and above all - people know who to ask if they have more questions or would like to seek help.

I had the honor to participate in two Service Day meetings – one in Cobden and one in Ottawa. Both were extremely well done.

David L. who is the current Area 67 (Southeast Texas) CPC Chair hosted the inaugural meeting of the CPC Area Chairs in North America on 16 October 2019 via a Zoom video conference. We had about half of the CPC Chairs from the 93 Areas attend and I was able to attend on the behalf of Area 83. It was a really great almost 2h meeting and we got to share what's working in our Area, what's not working in our Area, new ideas, ask questions, etc. specifically in the area of CPC service work. We have decided to make this a quarterly meeting and have set up a Google Forum to share resource materials and post questions, ideas and opportunities.

The Workshop on Saturday evening with PI was a productive session for everyone. We have some clear action items to undertake to enhance carrying the message to the Professional and Public communities about the presence of AA in the community and what it can do for suffering alcoholics who are clients of Professionals and those that are in the community at large.

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. 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. cpc@area83aa.org

C. Correctional Facilities

Les M.

Hello Ladies & Gentlemen, I'm a alcoholic, member of the Foxboro Friendship Group in District 34. I have the privilege and honour of being your Area 83 Correctional Facilities Chairperson.

First up I would like to thank the Service Information Day Committee on putting together a great Service Information Day, also thank them for asking me to do a Correction's Workshop. The Bridging the Gap Requests come in slowly and they mostly come from the Vanier Institution in Area 86 and the Ontario Correctional Institute in Area 83.

I continue to get the minutes from different Districts which lets me know what is happening in the different institutions in Area 83. Also, great reading here. I also receive calls or email form chairs for answers on questions and if I don't know the answer, I can get it for you. We have lots of talent in this room from past Corrections Chairs. I've been attending the different Zoom Sessions to learn how this works and will be doing a Zoom Session in March, to get some feedback on the Correction's Agenda Items for our Delegate Rob M to take to New York.

Also like to thank all of you who attended the Corrections Workshop on Saturday which consisted of a Panel of Three: Gale R. Correction's Chair District 22, Neil W. Correction's Chair District 30 and Stewart S. District 36. They all did a stand-up job. I don't know about you but after a long day and a big meal it's nappy time, but again thanks for those of you who stayed up to attend the Corrections Session after the banquet. We had a great get together.

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

I have 1 Corrections Kit and some 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 and Service, Les M.

D. Treatment Facilities/ Accessibility

Shane H.

I am an alcoholic, my name is Shane and I am grateful to serve as your Panel 69, Area 83 Treatment/ Accessibility Chair. I am also a member of the Reaching Out Group in Brampton.

Treatment: I want to say that Treatment never rests. To date, I have placed 187 Bridging the Gap requests. That is a lot! Most of the requests come from the 4 Areas in Ontario, but I place 3 in Quebec, a couple in New York, and one in Texas. I also received requests from 5 chairs to share my experience, strength and hope. I was able to help one person start up a Bridging the Gap program. I gave that person some contacts. Most of my work is done from a computer. So, now I know that the people who did vote for me were very concerned and they all took me aside and said, *Shane, you really have to work on those emails.* I learned that on day 2 of my job (in January). I receive anywhere from 10-12 a week, and fluctuate down to 2-3, but there has never been a week without a request. When I first took over the job, I was 30% of these bridging the gaps were missing email addresses, phone number, etc. I put out a letter to all treatment chairs and DCMs in Area 83 and that number dropped drastically to 5%. So, I no longer have 2-days notice to place a bridging the gap request. A neighboring Area has their own bridging the gap committee, but they seem to be sending out several requests on the day of discharge, or day before. I hope to be addressing this with them shortly.

The only challenge I am having with this position is requests are missing critical information. The 3 most common deficiencies are: missing addresses, wrong phone numbers, and not having my emails returned by members from another Area. Area 83 is very responsive and on the ball, thank you. I get anywhere from 3 weeks to 4 days notice. Keep up the good work!

Please keep in mind it takes a minimum of 3 days notice prior to discharge to mobilize volunteers. Sometimes it takes time to find a volunteer who can help.

Story: someone in Ottawa... a bridging the gap requests came 6 days after the actual discharge date. She drank, almost died of alcohol poisoning. The good news is she has now been sober for 2 months in the Ottawa area. I've heard it said, that "as a member of AA that slipped through the crack, I know that it wasn't AA's fault I went out". My reply to that is, Bill W. wrote, that AA's toughest critics are those who tried AA, and found AA lacking." For those who have come here and were 12-stepped and leave, it is not AA's fault. But if you are in a Treatment Centre, and you are asking for help, and they go out, that is our fault.

Yesterday's workshop was well attended and Rob F. (District 26), Chris C. (District 6) and Denise (Chair of GTA treatment committee) did a wonderful job. One of the workshops was on how some Districts cooperate with their local intergroups; there is not always a general cooperating between intergroups and General Service. In our Treatment meeting following the banquet, 16 members showed up. Last night, lots of laughter, and good discussion. Some general points made were that Treatment and Accessibility. A lot was said in terms of the workload and lack of focus on the differing responsibilities.

Accessibility: sometimes it can be a challenge chairing two committees that are both powerhouses in their own right—as well as polar opposites. Treatment is geared towards newcomers. It was the very first committee in Alcoholics Anonymous. It was where Bill W. had his white-light experience. This is where Bill W. found he needed to work with other alcoholics to stay sober. Accessibilities came out in the 70's, and it geared more towards the members we already have. We work closely with CPC committees to reach new comers. Half the term is almost done, and 2 of the 3 goals this alcoholic has set for himself are near completion. Goal 1: to assist the GTA Accessibility committee, a committee that has kept the fires of Accessibility burning in Ontario, since May 1995. Thanks to De R. and the DCMs of Toronto as all positions are filled except District 10. The committee strong. At the last meeting, two motions were passed to do an overhaul of the GTA meeting book. Unfortunately, lots of mis information has found its way into the meeting book/meeting lists. Goal 2: to promote mobile meetings. Of the 9 members present, all voted in favour of both motions. The meeting book will take some time.

The Ad Hoc Committee looking into the feasibility of a stand-alone Accessibility committee at Area 83 have done an amazing job of bringing attention to this important issue. Thank you to Kim S., Bill C., Marty M, and Ruth F. Special thanks to Rob, our Delegate, who mentioned in his conference report in New York, about what we are doing here with accessibility. Between Rob and the Ad Hoc committee, they have raised a lot of awareness with New York. As a result, I have been flooded with requests for information from GSO, and two area have contacted me, asking how to start an Accessibility committee. Special note of interest, David M, District 9 in Area 4- Arkansas, requested information on how to ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters, and how to start an Accessibility committee. I had enough knowledge to point him to North and South Florida Areas, they have a good handle of the ASL, but he is still continuing to talk to me about how to build and start up accessibility committees. Two area chair's emails were given to him by GSO. Even though we do not have a stand-alone committee in our Area, judging by the number of questions on Accessibility in our Ask it Basket, this shows me that Accessibility is a live and flourishing in our area.

I attended two service days: presenting on Accessibility at Info AA in Toronto (June 8); District 22, De and I presented on Accessibility.

What an amazing day yesterday was. I was impressed to see over 80 people at the Accessibility workshop. Inga and Rachel of District 48 did a great job on the ASL workshop, and the military in AA workshop, was well received and Gils gave a powerful message and looked good doing it in full military dress uniform. Bert, Toronto Intergroup chair, did great with the mobile presentation, on how to start up a mobile meeting. Mobile meetings will work in any district, whether you are rural or urban. Simply taking a meeting into a hospital room or retirement centre.

This morning, 14 members showed up to the committee meeting for Accessibility, another 2 slept in. There were 10 districts in attendance: 2, 6, 12, 18, 22, 28, 48, 30, 66 and 74. Child Care was the hot topic this morning. A lot has come up with child care, certain rules and liabilities. There are some meetings in the states that hire day care providers and pay them with their 7th tradition, because they consider it 7th tradition work-so that someone can get to meeting.

In 3 weeks, I will be giving a talk in District 30, thank you for the invitation. I will talk on Accessibility and its importance at the District and Area level. My friend Jane, of District 74 will ask her district for an invite to talk on Accessibility. I will drive anywhere to talk about Accessibility.

Yours in service Shane H. treatment@area83aa.org

E. Grapevine

Jenny C.

Good morning, I'm an alcoholic member of the Smiths Falls Saturday night group currently serving as your Grapevine Chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International and my name is Jenny.

At the local, two ladies are hosting their afternoon martinis. They finish, and the first half loaded Lady says, "are you having another, Martha?" Martha answers, "oh, no. It's just the way this coat is buttoned." *From July Grapevine 1971.*

Thank you to everyone that has picked up your grapevine pocket planners and wall calendars. There were only a few districts that needed to be hunted down this morning. Thank you to JoAnn, our Treasurer and Theresa L., alt DCM from District 66, for processing the order on September 7th as I was unable to attend the Area committee meeting.

Thank you to the GTA grapevine chairs for allowing me to join and participate in their monthly meetings. I have been able to get tapped in through conference call.

We are planning on having a Zoom session in January after all the Christmas dust settles. We have some really good ideas floating around and it will be nice to see what comes of them.

While the room is full of group representatives I will ask you all –*does your group have a Grapevine rep?* It's an easy job, as easy as making an announcement at every meeting about the Grapevine. speak to your district Grapevine reps for more information.

Also expect to see a Grapevine survey being passed around at your upcoming district meetings. Thank you to Darrena and Scott from District 6 for passing it along. This will be an easy tool to help promote the Grapevine at the group and District levels. We have also discussed Grapevine displays and how to update them. Thanks to Milner for passing along some documents that will help us make that happen.

I don't know about you, but I have had a blast this weekend. Thank you- John M. and Darrena B. and everyone for doing a fantastic job in the Grapevine workshop yesterday.

If you need anything I am willing to assist in any way I can. You can reach me at grapevine@area83aa.org

I am truly GrapeFull to be of service, Jenny C.

QUESTION: with all of the technology are the subscriptions for hardcopies Grapevine dropping off because of the online subscriptions?

ANSWER: There is a significant bump in electronic subscriptions. In Ontario alone, subscriptions over last year were down 40%. They are down, but we have districts coming up with creative ways to support corrections with Grapevine subscriptions. Placing Purple Shoeboxes at home groups and requests being made to group members to bring in old issues and drop them in the box. The GSR can take recycled Grapevine issues to the corrections chair so that they can take them into the facilities.

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. I would like to thank all the members who attended the Self-Support workshop yesterday. The theme of the workshop was, "Your Seventh Tradition contributions; Carrying our message beyond your Home-Group". It's less difficult to get members involved in self-support if they know where their contributions are going.

NEW SELF-SUPPORT DISPLAY: When I gave my report in January of this year at our Area Committee Meeting, I expressed a desire to create a new Self-Support display since the one we had was looking old and tired and has been well-travelled just like a well used Big Book. I attempted to keep the integrity of the old display intact since the message was clear that Self-Support is about us and is about much more than just money.

THE BIRTHDAY PLAN: The Birthday Plan Contributions to the General Service Office support G.S.O.'s services to members and groups throughout Canada and the U.S. and help ensure that the A.A. message is carried around the world. The services that the G.S.O. provides the A.A. groups cost more than \$8 per member per year. Members customarily

contribute \$1 or \$2 per year for each year of sobriety—others may give a penny a day for each day of their sobriety. I have Birthday Contribution envelopes available for anybody that wants some.

RECURRING CONTRIBUTIONS: All members can set up recurring or one-time contributions for the General Service Office (GSO) online. It's simple, go to aa.org and at the top of the home page, click on 'Make a Contribution' and follow the simple directions.

And for Area 83, contributions can be made online at area83aa.org. On the home page, click on "About Area 83", scroll down to area contributions and click on the orange "contribute" button.

Please remember to put your Group I.D. number on your online contribution.

Please remember to put your group I.D on the cheque, and a return address on the outer envelope.

Here are some numbers: 2018 Highlights.

28,314 Groups made \$6.7 million in 7th Tradition contributions; that represents 41.3% of total groups. The average group contribution was \$237.35.

61% of those 28,314 groups have consistently supported GSO during last 6 years. 5,169 Individuals made \$819,000 of 7th Tradition contributions; 63% of those contributions were received through the on-line contribution system. The average individual contribution was \$158.50.

\$11.4 million is the Cost of Services that are provided to Fellowship; 25% for Outreach Activities, 19% for Service Leadership and 19% for Group Services.

73.4% of the cost of services are supported by 7th Tradition contributions and 26.6 % is made up in literature sales. Our objective is to be fully self-supporting through our own contributions.

902,004 Big Books were sold, of which 83% were to A.A. groups, individuals, central offices, intergroups. These figures were from, David M. Morris, C.P.A. Class A (nonalcoholic) Trustee, General Service Board Treasurer.

The A.A.W.S. Finance Subcommittee on Self-Support continues to work diligently to maintain the visibility of the various self-support initiatives. With the ever-present possibility that print sales might decline in the future, it is vital that the Fellowship fully embrace the 7th Tradition. All of A.A. — G.S.O. as well as your group ought to be committed to self-support.

This year Area 83 celebrates 30 years of having a Self-Support position. There has been a slew of very talented members before me in this position that have attempted to convey the message of Self-Support to the groups of Area 83. I am honoured and humbled to follow in their footsteps and thank you for allowing me to serve.

Thank you to all the Districts that continue to send us your minutes. I really enjoy reading and learning from them.

Enthusiasm breeds Enthusiasm!!

"If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn't want it."-The Family Afterward, p.132

Yours in Love and Service, Mike B. Selfsupport@area83aa.org

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. Here's what I've been up to:

On Sunday May 5th, I attended the East Toronto Archives Breakfast at the Qssis Banquet Hall in Scarborough. This was a great event. The speaker was Jean K. She has 43 years of sobriety and was a long-time member of the Agincourt Acorn group until she and her husband moved to Orillia. Jean shared a great message of recovery. It was nice to see so many people attended.

On May 25th the 14th annual Area 83 Archives workshop was here in Kingston. We had 25 people attend; Ten people were at their very first archives workshop, including myself. It was a very informative day, including how to preserve documents, how to conduct an oral history with a long timer, and finally doing a group history. I want to say a special thank you to our presenters: Eddie G, David T, Gary C and our special guest from the Archives Association of Ontario, Iona McGrath. The day wrapped up with an interesting guided tour of Queen's University Archives. Heather was a wonderful host who gave her own time to show us around and how they treated archival materials.

Next years workshop will be held in Ottawa. I will have details on that in the spring.

One of the persons who attended was curious about and commented to the fact that Archives is the only sub-committee that has a stand-alone workshop outside of the Assembly weekend.

I want to briefly explain. From the Archives workbook under purpose it states:

- Serve as a resource and laboratory to stimulate and nourish learning
- Promote knowledge and understanding of the origins, goals and program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I know that our program is based on attraction rather than promotion. But within our rooms, to each other, it's okay to promote certain areas of Service; such as Archives. Archives is vitally important.

In 1957 Bill W. stated this ***"We are trying to build up extensive records which will be of value to a future historian...It is highly important that the factual material be placed in our files in such a way that there can be no substantial distortion...We want to keep enlarging on this idea for the sake of the full length his-tory to come..."***

So, we do things like the Archives Newsletter and the Archives workshop, to help boost enthusiasm. Also, to share what we have learned, what records we have, and yes - to promote.

These files and repositories are meant to be kept safe, but they're also for you. They're to be viewed.

On September 14, I spoke about archives at the District 22 service day. I wondered at first why they asked me to do it, when there are others that have way more knowledge than I do about archives. Then I realized, perhaps they're tired of hearing Eddy speak year after year. But really, I'm very grateful for that opportunity because by doing so I got to learn more about some of the group histories in District 22 and share this with others. it was a great experience so thank you for the opportunity.

The Toronto Area Archives committee continues to work on the 80 years of AA in Ontario book: ***See Invitation Letter*** ([Appendix F](#)).

We are looking forward to the 35th annual GTA Archives Breakfast on Sunday November 3rd. See the Area website for the details. It's a great morning of fellowship, the Archives displays, the archives movie will be playing, some cool raffles and door prizes, a yummy breakfast and of course the feature presentation; our speaker is Grant A from the Lakeshore group in Toronto. The tickets are \$25 and I have some for sale if anyone is interested.

And now a report from our Area Archivist Linda:

First, I'd like to thank everyone for the opportunity to attend the 23rd National AA Archives Workshop held in Detroit, September 2019. The theme was *"Our Footprints to Hope and Recovery"*. Topics varied from how to get started in archives, funding, defining scope of collection and policies, collecting and preserving, creating and enhancing displays as well as various historical presentations, and interactive presentations of Bill's talks. Other topics included anonymity and ethics, and spirituality and archives. There were 175 workshop attendees.

Mark E., Class B Trustee from the Board of Trustees spoke about what GSO is doing. From GSO archives, Greg T., and April H. gave presentations on current plans. From Dr. Bob's Akron Archives, Gail L., a protege of Nell outlined how Dr. Bob's home was acquired and the extensive efforts to recover possessions and restore the old home. For the Canadian contingent, Jo-Anne L. former Trustee at Large for Canada (2007-2011) gave a presentation on her experience, strength and hope from that service. Ted H. and Jan L. gave a presentation entitled *Footprints across the bridge*, the links between Windsor and Detroit.

A presentation on Spanish History in AA was cancelled so the attendees were asked to come to the mic and talk for five minutes about their area. I spoke about 75 years AA in Ontario, and our efforts to do a survey of our current membership. To define, who we are today. There were a number of people who were interested who spoke to me following the meeting. The biggest takeaway for me was we are a link in the chain stretching to our past with Bill and Dr. Bob and into the future. Our displays are meant to inform and teach about AA's rich history.

I just want to mention some of the recent donations to the Area Archives and express a sincere thank you:

- Panel 65 Delegate Joyce S. donated items from the General Service Conference she attended, as well as from District Service Days.
- Dianne from District 14 donated some Grapevines as well as a Twelve & Twelve from 1965, the price inside was \$0.50.

- Kim M. from District 86 donated a first – first Double Anniversary limited edition of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous featuring the red cloth cover used only on the first printing in 1939.

Finally, I want to say thank you to those who attended the Archives meeting last night. There was great sharing.

I also absolutely have to say a huge thank you to Amy for helping me with the Archives Newsletter. I couldn't have done it without you. If you didn't get a copy, this was emailed out to all DCM's. Just ask them to forward it to you or you can find it on the Area website at: <http://area83aa.org/docs/archives/83Oct2019.pdf>

That's it for now. I thank you for the opportunity to serve and learn. I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season and I look forward to seeing you all back here in the Spring.

Yours in Love and Service, Marty Archives@area83aa.org

H. Service Information Day Committee

De R.

Good morning everyone, I am an alcoholic, member of the KF Group and have the privilege of serving as the Chair for the Service Information Day Committee and my name is De. I hope everyone had a great day yesterday enjoying the workshops, the Banquet, evening Speaker and Committee meetings.

I would like to thank the members of our Committee for their dedication and hard work facilitating with the Workshop Chairs, and the Presenters for their informative Workshops. And thank you to those who submitted their Workshop synopses (See [Appendix E](#), for list workshops this Assembly). For those who have not, please do so soon so they can be a part of the minutes. Another reminder for those who attended the Workshops: if you have not filled out a Survey, please do so – we are very much looking forward to reviewing your comments, which helps in organizing future workshops.

And a big shout out and thank you to our Secretary Jack R. for bringing the Service Manuals and having the forethought to bring fifty large print Manuals, of which we sold all but five!

I know it may seem early, but our Committee has already begun to formulate the Workshop topics for the Spring Assembly and we hope to bring you informative and relevant Workshops. We will continue to work on this, and firm up some options by the January 2020 meeting of the Area Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. In Love and Service, De R.

ServiceInfoDay@Area83aa.org

5. 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 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 254.

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 most of our room rentals, cleaning of the atrium, staff, etc. The total of the 7th Tradition we collect this weekend goes toward this cost; please keep this in mind when the 7th comes around.

In each of the District Committee Member mail folders, I have provided 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 6-digit 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 of 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 been 6 contributions, so far, this year using PayPal.

Today, under New Business, we will vote on a motion to allow e-transfer as another method of contributing to Area 83. This will be in addition to the methods already used which are cheque payable to Eastern Ontario International Area 83, cash at Area Committee Meetings and Visa / Mastercard via 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. I have emailed 61 letters of receipt for the 9 months ending September 30th. This is approximately 25 percent of the 242 single contributions so far this year. 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: www.area83aa.org under the tab "About Area 83" click on Area Contributions. I have received contributions that have been sent to past Area Treasurers for 3 panel terms (almost 7 years). We have a hand off at the Area Committee Meetings or other functions...please visit the Area 83 website for current mailing addresses.

Also, in the District Committee Member (DCM) mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders, you will have found copies of the Financial Statements for the period ending October 18, 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 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 October 18, 2019:

- 7th Tradition collected at the January, June and September Area Committee Meetings are \$833.65. The amount collected at the Spring Assembly in March was \$3809.70 for a total 7th Tradition collection of \$4,643.35
- Cost recoveries is \$760.00 which is from the sale of Service Manuals at the Spring Assembly (\$575.00) reimbursement of various workbooks (\$185.00)
- Flow through to the General Service Office is \$200.00
- Amount collected for the Grapevine seasonal order was \$3,837.50
- Group and District Contributions - \$42,508.42

Total Income for the period is \$51,949.27

Expenses for the period as at October 18, 2019:

- Committee expenses are \$30,777.89
- Ad Hoc Committee expenses are \$125.00
- Area Committee Meetings – January, June and September rent and refreshments \$1,193.73
- General Service Conference Assessment \$11,170.14
- Bank Service Charges \$43.98
- PayPal Fees – \$14.58 (6 transactions)
- Grapevine seasonal order was \$2,878.27 USD which converted to \$3,637.63 Canadian (1.3582 exchange rate). We collected \$199.87 more than the actual amount paid
- GSO flow through is \$200.00
- Ontario Delegates Committee (ODC) has paid a deposit of \$1,200.00 to secure a venue for Feb 28 – March 1st at the Holiday Inn Toronto Airport East. Printing of a Save the Date flyer was \$400.00 for a total expense of \$1600.00. Area 83 will be hosting Areas 84, 85 & 86.
- CERAASA (Canadian Eastern Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) was held in Laval. Expenses for Area 83 Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate to attend was \$2,801.79
- Total Other Expenses are \$20,786.85

Total Expenses for the period are \$51,564.74

The opening bank balance at January 1, 2019 was \$41,820.83. Total income of \$51,949.27 less expenses of \$51,564.74 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$42,205.36. As of October 18, 2019, our expenses were \$384.53 less than our income. Thank you to the 136 Groups and 15 Districts for your generous contributions to Area 83.

Page 2 shows details of expenses. Here we see an itemized breakdown of expenses for the period for each Area Committee Member as well as all other expenses to date.

Some of the numbers you see here:

- The amount shown under Literature is for various items ordered by Corrections, Treasurer, Treatment and Accessibilities and Service Information Day (Service Manuals) for a total of \$2,292.24. The money related to Service Manuals that are sold will show under Cost Recoveries next period.
- Under Spring Assembly – Meals – this is the expense for coffee/ tea/ pop, cleaning of the atrium, meeting rooms etc. and is calculated at \$17.25 per person (400 count) for a total of \$6,900.77.
- Miscellaneous amount of \$1,582.00 under Spring Assembly is for Ballroom setup and data projectors.
- 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 full 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, Directors, 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. Next year, the 70th General Service Conference is in Rye Brook, New York.

At the bottom left corner of **Page 2** you see an income summary box - the total income from various sources for the period January 1st to October 18th, 2019 is \$51,949.27.

At the bottom right corner of **Page 2** is a year to date income and expenses comparison for the same period in 2018. Income to date in 2019 is \$713.72 higher than income in 2018. Expenses to date are \$6,487.86 higher than 2018 with the net change to the operating account being a reduction of \$5,774.14.

This year we have had contributions that are \$770.33 less than 2018. For 2019, contributing Groups are 136 and contributing Districts are 15. Last year to date 142 Groups and 14 Districts contributed for the same time period.

Page 3 shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from Districts, as well as Groups.

This weekend’s 7th Tradition was; Friday \$570.55, Saturday \$1,301.00, and Sunday \$1,748.90, for a total of \$3,623.25 collected over the weekend. Total contributions in the coffee cans over the weekend was \$320.95, for a combined weekend total of \$3,944.20. I would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions.

The rates for the 2020 Spring Assembly, being held March 27 – 29, will be as follows:

- Traditional, 2 Queen Beds - \$125.00 + applicable taxes. A valid credit card is required to guarantee all reservations. When making reservations, contact the Hotel at 1-800-267-7880 and quote the Group Name “Spring Assembly Area 83”. You cannot register online.

Our block of hotel rooms will be held until February 17, 2020. After this date, you will not be guaranteed a room.

Food and Beverage Prices:

- Saturday Dinner Buffet - \$40.25 per person including gratuity and tax
- Assembly Fee - \$18.00 per person including gratuity and tax

I am happy to receive your District minutes. Please send to area@area83aa.org.

In closing, thank you to 136 Groups and 15 Districts who have sent a total of 242 single contributions to Area 83. I would also like to thank the volunteers who have helped sell the banquet tickets, count the 7th tradition and run the bucket brigade. This is our 7th tradition at work.

Yours in Love and Service, JoAnn P.
treasurer@Area83aa.org

6. 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 still enjoying my responsibilities and have found this and all service to AA to be so rewarding.

As the secretary I have been sending out information on behalf of our Delegate as well as other Area communications. With only a few exception-like contact lists, anything that goes out to the DCMs from me is meant for general consumption by all of the membership of Area 83. So, as a GSR, if you have not been receiving any communications from the Area by way of your District committee member or District secretary then it is important that you talk to your District Committee Member and identify where the communication is breaking down.

Thank you to all who attended our Secretary/Registrar workshop yesterday. We covered some of the essential how tos of these positions, and Jeffery F., from District 86 shared some tips and tricks as a District Registrar and secretary in his first year. 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.

I enjoy receiving your District minutes, thank you to those of you who pass them along. You guys are doing some great work out there, keep it up Area 83! Is it ever true...*we will be amazed before we are half way through*. Thank you for this opportunity to serve Area 83. Yours in Love and service. Amy L.

Secretary@Area83aa.org

7. 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 L. I have the honour & 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 G.S.R. & 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 (or use this link:

https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_GSR_list.pdf).

An Unknown Group 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 0 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 this term.

The General Service Office database conversion from the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) to the new NetSuite system has proven challenging. The conversion took place over the 2 weeks ended August 5, but FNV continued to run in parallel to the new system. FNV was still used by Registrars, with the data transferred to the new system, behind the scenes by GSO staff. As of October 18, access to FNV by Registrars was shut down. For the next several months, Records Department will handle all ongoing changes to the Fellowship Data via receipt of change forms from Area Registrars. Direct access for Registrars, after production of a User's Guide and training, is expected in the first quarter of 2020.

For the foreseeable future, **all changes to Group, GSR and Alternate GSR information, must be sent to the Area Registrar by way of GROUP INFORMATION CHANGE FORMS**. See the following link to download a copy of the form.

(<http://area83aa.org/docs/registrar/GroupChangeForm%202019.docx>).

Submissions can be done electronically. Send the updated information to Registrar@Area83aa.org

Delivery of GSR and other kits are delayed, now taking over 2 weeks to reach Canada. If you know of any GSR's who have yet to receive their GSR kits, please send me an email. I have emailed GSO already about a few GSR kits and would be happy to do it for you.

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 the 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 Fall Assembly Roll Call

QUESTION: Why has the Area 83 contact list gone out to members in my district?

ANSWER: (the Area Secretary, Amy responded to the question) The contact list is a tool for doing 12-step work. It is sent to all DCMs and the email in which it was sent says that this list should not be shared; furthermore, the header on the contact list says do not distribute. It is not supposed to go out beyond the DCM.

8. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

Kimberley M.

Good afternoon, 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. Thank you to everyone who attended the Concepts 4-6 workshop yesterday. I hope you found it informative and interesting!! If you were unable to attend but interested in hearing about the concepts, a narrated power point of this Concepts Workshop will be put on the Area 83 website under the Alternate Delegates tab by the end of November.

In June, I shadowed our Delegate as he travelled to give his Final Conference Report to districts throughout our beautiful area. I always look forward to the Delegates account of what it was like to attend the General Service Conference on our behalf.

As liaison with remote communities, I have taken part in the Inter-Area Remote Communities workgroup video conferencing calls that took place on March 18, May 20, July 15 and September 16. The attendance hasn't been very good. The chair resigned so I have volunteered to chair this committee. The next meeting will take place on November 18.

A CERAASA ad hoc committee has begun to look at the Guidelines for the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. This committee is made up of the ten delegates of the eastern Canada region along with their alternates as well as our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee, Jan L. We are meeting bi-monthly using video conferencing. We met on July 22 and Sept 23 and we will next meet on November 25th.

As a member of the ad hoc committee for the Operating Procedures, we are continuing to make a list of motions passed by our area going back to the late 1970s – 17 more minutes to review by our January ACM. Reading the Delegate and Alternate Delegates reports as well as Old Business and New Business has been very interesting and at times entertaining. Many discussions around motions and other issues are included in great detail giving a good perspective on why certain decisions were made. I wish I had time to read the minutes in full!!

As a member of the ad hoc committee planning the Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing sessions next March, we have been working hard to organize a great opportunity for your group members to participate in discussions on next years' agenda items. Members are invited to join these discussions from the comfort of their home. This will help our members become better informed about topics being discussed that will shape the future of Alcoholics Anonymous. By participating, members will provide our Delegate with the views and group conscience of our area.

Rob and I have visited 6 district meetings together, so far. We have attended as spectators or to answer questions or share information. When possible, we have been visiting in person, otherwise by video conferencing. Three more district visits are scheduled. It has been a pleasure to hear first-hand what is doing on in your districts. Thank you for having us join you.

To GSRs: a few days ago, an email was sent out to GSRs through your DCMs for you to share with your group members inviting them to join a presentation and discussion on "Safety in AA". This workshop will be given by our Immediate past Delegate, Kim S. on November 17th at 7pm. This will take place by video conferencing using Zoom making it possible for members anywhere in Area 83 to join. Hopefully you saw the Zoom demonstration given yesterday by Rob during the Delegates Plenary session. Members can join by dialing in by phone as well. The invitation link to join is in the email.

I am planning to attend the Area 86 Assembly next weekend which is when they will hold elections for their next term which begins in January.

The Ontario Delegates Committee is scheduled for February 28-March 1, 2020. I have already booked my room at the Holiday Inn Toronto Airport East and look forward to attending and participating in this exciting weekend. You are all invited too!!



Did you know ... that many people nowadays like snackable content which refers to delightfully short pieces of information...that's exactly what can be found by clicking the Did You Know button on our Area 83 website. Concept 1 reminds us that it's the group members that are ultimately responsible for Alcoholics Anonymous. These Did You Know items are a resource that can be used to better

inform our members who may never pursue service outside the group. Each reading only takes one minute to read! Consider feeding your group members bite size pieces of valuable information, one week at a time, by incorporating these items into your meeting.

Thank you to those Districts sending me your minutes so I can keep up to date with what is happening in your district.

If I can be of service, please feel free to contact me! Thank you for this opportunity to serve!!

Gratefully yours, Kimberley

Alt.delegate@Area83aa.org

9. DELEGATE'S REPORT

Rob M.

Hi everyone. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Motorcity Group in District 28, and my name is Rob. It's an honour to serve as Panel 69 Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International. Here's what I've been doing since the Spring Assembly.

- On April 13th I was at the District 28 Spring Roundup in Oshawa, and April 26th was the District 28 Self-Support night.
- On May 4th I attended the District 82 Roundup in Lindsay.
- May 19th – 25th was the General Service Conference in New York.

June was packed full of excitement as I traveled around our Area to give the 69th GSC report. This included service days in Toronto, Brockville, Cobden, Ottawa, and Oshawa. Thank you to the 23 Districts who organized these events, and everyone who attended. It's great that our Districts pool together to host Service days as it cuts down on expenses. I had a wonderful time traveling around Eastern Ontario and look forward to doing it again next year. I'm already booked for info AA Day in Toronto on May 23rd.

- August 9th – 11th I was at the Lakeshore Districts Conference in Oshawa hosted by Districts 26 and 28.
- On September 21st I participated in a Traditions Workshop in Toronto hosted by Toronto Intergroup.
- September 28th was the Festival of Colours Roundup in Maynooth hosted by District 78.

Our Alternate Delegate Kimberley and I have attended several District meetings and have a few more scheduled before the end of the year.

Kimberley and I have also been taking part in video conference meetings of a Steering Committee formed to review the CERAASA guidelines. The committee consists of the 10 Delegates and Alternate Delegates of the Eastern Canada Region, along with our Regional Trustee. This year's CERAASA had a significant financial shortfall and each of the ten Areas participating will contribute \$350 to the start-up fund.

- I plan to attend the Area 86 Election Assembly in Kitchener next weekend.
- On November 16th I will be facilitating a Group Inventory for the Ajax Friday Night Group in District 26.
- The Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing Ad hoc Committee has a meeting scheduled on November 24th and I'll be giving a report from that committee today under New Business.
- Area 83 will be hosting the Ontario Delegates Committee meeting at the Toronto Airport Holiday Inn February 28th – March 1st, 2020. A save-the-date flyer is on our website (<http://area83aa.org/resources/ontario-delegate-committee>). I've asked our Panel 65 Delegate, Joyce S. to chair the ODC, and our Area Secretary Amy L. to be the ODC Secretary. Joyce, Amy, Kimberley, and I will meet next month to begin planning for this event. The ODC is a discussion opportunity for the Ontario Delegates on matters and issues concerning the General Service Conference. With participation from Alternate Delegates, it's also a chance to meet with our Regional Trustee, and several Past Delegates who share their experience, prior to the GSC. All members are welcome to attend.



Final reports of the 69th General Service Conference have been distributed to the Groups through the District Committee Members. I have some extra copies on the side table for anyone to take. There is also a anonymity protected copy on the Area83 website (<http://area83aa.org/resources/delegates-page>).

Area 83 will host the 2020 Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Ottawa November 13th – 15th 2020. I know it's over a year away but please mark it in your calendar. We haven't hosted the forum since 2000 and it would be really nice to see hundreds and hundreds of members from Area 83 there. More information will be available as we get closer to the date.

Yours in Love and Service, Rob

Delegate@Area83aa.org

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:	Charles W.	District 18	East York Group- Alt. GSR
Seconded:	Peter P.	District 22	New Anchor Group- GSR
Discussion	none		
All in favour:	all		
All opposed:	None		
Any abstentions:	None		
Motion:	Carried		

10. OLD BUSINESS

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE SPRING 2020 ASSEMBLY:

Recommendation by the Area Committee: **"To accept the recommendation of the ad hoc committee to make Accessibility a stand-alone committee with an Area Accessibility Chair."**

Mike B., Area Self-Support Chair

What does this mean exactly? The Area Committee has already listened to the following report you are about to hear and voted to take action on the recommendations of the ad hoc committee to create a stand-alone committee with an Area Accessibility Chair. It was felt that reading this final report from the ad hoc committee was vital for the GSRs and guests (who may be seeing this for the first time) to hear it in its entirety and have the opportunity to ask clarifying questions on the content of the report. This report was attached to the minutes of the September ACM which GSRs would have received from your DCM. These minutes were sent out on September 26th and contained an 11-page detailed toolkit provided by the Ad Hoc committee

(toolkit can be downloaded from the Area 83 website—Accessibility Resource Tab:

<http://area83aa.org/docs/accessibility/Accessibility%20Tool%20Kit.pdf>)

I would suggest that this is not the time to make any motions as we already have a formal notice of motion that will be appearing on the Spring Assembly agenda. This will allow all GSRs to go back to their groups, discuss at length and arrive at our next assembly fully informed as to their group conscience. We are in no rush. Please trust the process.

At this time, we will now hear from our Chair of the Accessibility ad hoc Committee, Kim S – Immediate Past Delegate.

A. Final Report from the Accessibility Chair Ad Hoc Committee

Kim S. – Immediate Past Delegate

Good afternoon everyone.

I am an alcoholic, a member of the St. Clements Group; the Immediate Past Delegate for Area 83, my name is Kim. I am also the Chair for the Accessibilities ADHOC Committee. On the committee we have Bill C., Ruth F. and Marty M.

Just to recap...

The last time such a committee was formed was in 1995. It was a "simply a fact-finding exercise, to determine if and how we are meeting the needs of those with mobility and sensory disabilities both inside and outside the Fellowship." There was a report to the Assemblies in March 1996 and October 1997. There was further discussion and recommendations made but not accepted. Then there was a motion in March 1998 to discontinue pursuing this idea. More recently, there was a motion in March 2014 for Area 83 to recognize Accessibility as a stand-alone committee at the Area level. This was tabled until the June 2014 meeting. Ruth researched and prepared a report to present at the June meeting to provide further information. This report is included in the June minutes. The motion was again tabled to the September 2014 meeting. At the September meeting the motion was defeated. A new motion passed which was "That Area 83 add Accessibility role/functions to the Area Treatment Chair". This motion was passed by the Assembly in October 2014.

Committee Scope: To make an assessment of and recommendations around

- the value of an Area Accessibility chair to Districts and Groups in Area 83

- the pros and cons of creating a stand-alone committee verses continuing to have the responsibilities fall under the role of the Treatment chair
- the potential responsibilities of an Accessibility chair
- the costs to carry out the responsibilities of an Accessibility chair

As a committee we looked at what other Areas had in place for Accessibilities. We found 42% had a stand-alone accessibilities committee. 47% did not have accessibilities at all and 9% were combined with Treatment and 1 Committee was combined with Remote Communities. During that search we were able to get a general idea of their Accessibilities committees. We also found some different ideas from other Area websites for ways accessibility could be even more effective.

We voted unanimously to have a stand-alone Accessibilities Chair. We truly feel that Area 83 would not only benefit from a stand-alone Accessibility Committee Chair but that Area 83 needs one. Accessibility is more than a wheelchair bound person or a deaf individual. Accessibility is about no barriers to attend and participate in Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. How many people do you know that may have an issue? Single mothers, people with DUIs, health issues, people in nursing homes is a big issue. When was the last time you heard of a meeting in a nursing home? I never hear that announced at my home group. There are alcoholics in nursing homes. Area 83 would greatly benefit from a dedicated person to address and solve all of our accessibility issues.

A.A. members in regions around the country have formed committees addressing how best to pave the way for A.A. members with special needs to reach and participate in A.A. meetings, or to arrange to have A.A. meetings brought to them. These committees work with local A.A. groups to find ways to make their meetings available to all who want to attend.

Carrying the message to special needs populations can be a challenge — one A.A. members have always been willing to accept — with the goal of including all alcoholics in the wonderful experience of belonging to a group and partaking in the full range of benefits of membership in A.A.

Please see your handout and we can go through it together.

We also included a Draft Accessibilities Committee Toolkit. This would be a helpful resource for an Accessibility Committee. It is also a way of showing Area 83 what our Area can do with a stand-alone Accessibility Chair. An example from the toolkit of an accessibility issue that never occurred to me is...

- **Try to set up the meeting the same way each week (e.g., arrange seating, speaker podium, coffee pots, in the same place each meeting). If you move and reorganize things, it's only hiding whatever has been moved to a blind or vision impaired individual.**
- **Place coffee pots back from the end of tables in a position where a cup will slide under the spout and rest on the table**

This is just a couple of examples but there is much more involved with Accessibility. There is a great need for Accessibility within Area 83 to ensure that every alcoholic may attend and participate in Alcoholics Anonymous.

We recommend a stand-alone Accessibility Chair and Committee.

Your ADHOC Committee,

Bill C., Ruth F., Marty M., Kim S

QUESTIONS: Is there now, or a plan to have an Accessibility desk at the General Service Office?

ANSWERS: As of now, no and I am not aware of a plan to create an Accessibility Desk at GSO.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recommendation by the Area Committee: **"To allow e-transfers of contributions only for Area 83 as outlined by the Treasurer of Area 83"** Eileen S.-DCM District 28

Note: under 2.01 Formal Motions: *motions sent to the assembly from the area committee for vote at the assembly are automatically treated as motions on the floor of the Assembly and do not need to be moved or seconded.*

- **Vote to accept the Recommendation: To allow e-transfers of contributions only for Area 83 as outlined by Treasurer of Area 83.**

Discussion:	<p>BACKGROUND provided by the Area Treasurer:</p> <p>A few members have asked over the term to have e-transfers available to the membership as another method to make contributions to Area 83. I have looked into it, and my findings have been attached to the Area Committee minutes of June and September 2019. Hopefully your DCM has shared them with you, and you have shared them with your group members. E-transfer is a secure way to send contributions digitally. As a result, it would reduce workload and cost saving. It is a safe method of transferring funds.</p> <p>Show of hands for who here has used e-transfer: Survey of the room showed an overwhelming majority at the Assembly are already using this method of payment.</p> <p>Sometimes this type of transaction is included in your bank's service charges. The onus will be on the sender to check with their bank to see if service charges will apply.</p> <p>For Area 83 to receive contributions it will not cost us any additional charges at the Bank. I am proposing that if this method goes through, we will use a dedicated email address. Contributions@Area83aa.org</p> <p>If this motion is passed, more details will be posted on the Area 83 website that describes this procedure for making contributions via e-transfers.</p> <p>It is a safe <u>alternative</u> to sending a cheque or using PayPal.</p> <hr/> <p>QUESTIONS: Group bank accounts often require two signatures, so this method will not work.</p> <p>ANSWER: that is true. This method, if available, may not be possible for all groups. It is up to your group how you secure your account. This is just a method in addition to those methods we have in place already.</p> <p>COMMENT: Setting up the account so that direct transfers would be the safest way. Methods that require a password, and a link to the transfer sent via email can be hacked, so we would avoid this.</p> <p>QUESTION: how do we attach a group ID to the deposit?</p> <p>ANSWER: There will have to be email communication between the sender and the Treasurer at the time or shortly following the transfer, but this exchange will not require a password for the reasons mentioned above.</p> <p>QUESTION: Would you still be able to do flow thru (i.e., forwarding money to GSO)?</p> <p>ANSWER: Yes, if a flow through is designated, I will still do that.</p> <p>NOTE: the treasurer will not be using E-transfers to pay vendors or reimbursements. Only for receiving contributions from Groups and Districts who have asked for this service.</p> <p>QUESTION: can you put your group number in the comment section of the e-transfer?</p> <p>ANSWER: yes, you can. If this motion passes, we will put in place some procedures (clear and detailed) on how to do this.</p> <p>COMMENT: Self Support Chair said he would be voting in favour of this motion, but it may not be for everyone. For those of you that this may not sound appealing, you can still vote in favour so that those of us who want to use this method are able to.</p> <p>COMMENT: I am a visually impaired person, and this method is easier for me to make a contribution because I can make the text on the screen as big as I like, while a cheque book can be difficult to read.</p>	
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority	
Opposed:	1	
Abstentions:	2	
Motion:	Carried	

B. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing

Rob M., Area 83 Delegate

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

The Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing idea started as discussion among some of the Area Committee. It became a planning group, and then our Area Chairperson, James, decided to form an Ad hoc Committee. The committee is comprised of the following members:

Bill C (Area CPC), Amy L (Area Secretary), Eileen S (DCM – D28), Jo D (DCM – D54), Kim S (Immediate Past Delegate), Ray R

(Area PI), Kimberley M (Alternate Delegate) and I was asked to chair this committee.

The scope of the Committee is: To plan pre-conference sharing sessions on Zoom for Members of Area 83, ultimately enabling our Delegate to hear, understand and communicate the Area's group conscience to the GSC.

The mandate is: 1) To plan and action these sharing sessions before the 2020 Spring Assembly. 2) Gather, distill and direct the findings from these sessions to the Area Delegate in a timely manner so that the Area's collective voice can be brought to the General Service Conference.

The Committee has met 4 times and has made much progress. We have developed a plan for Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing using the Zoom video conferencing app. Sessions will take place March 8–21, 2020 from 7pm to 9pm. Zoom is a free video conferencing app that can be downloaded to a desktop, laptop, smartphone, tablet or iPad. Members can also join Zoom meetings by calling in from their landline or cell phone.

The GSC consists of 13 Standing Committees: Agenda, CPC, Corrections, Finance, Grapevine, Literature, Policy/Admissions, Public Information, Report and Charter, Treatment and Accessibilities, Trustees, Archives, International Conventions/Regional forums. Area 83 has corresponding Sub-Committees for six of these Conference Committees. Each Sub-Committee Chair has been asked to chair their corresponding Conference Committee. Finance will be co-chaired by our Area Self-Support Chair and Area Treasurer. Literature is usually a very extensive agenda and will be divided in two with our Area Secretary chairing one committee, and our Area Registrar chairing the second. The remaining five Conference Committees typically don't have much on the agenda that requires feedback. They will be grouped together as one committee chaired by our Area Archives Chair, and one of our Past Delegates. This will total nine committees. Each Committee Chair will be provided with agenda items and background material for their Committee and asked to compose background summaries.

In late February, agenda topics with background summaries will become available and emailed to members via DCMs and GSRs. This information will also be available on the Area 83 website. All members of the assigned Districts are encouraged to join the Zoom video conference session for their Committee. The background information that will be provided in advance of the Zoom session should provide enough detail to all members to make informed decisions. Prior experience on a particular committee is not required. All members of Area 83 are invited to participate in any or all of the sharing sessions.

We have assigned two or three Districts to each Committee. Districts will receive agenda items and background summaries before the session for their assigned committee and have a chance to prepare for discussion of their agenda items. It is hoped that giving Districts the "responsibility" of a certain committee will encourage more members to get involved.

The Chair of the Committee will go through each agenda item, giving a recap of the background summary, and then open it for discussion. At the conclusion of discussion on each agenda item, a vote will be taken. A Secretary will capture the essence of the discussion, and the voting results. A report of each session will be submitted to the Delegate.

Area 83 is trying to *improve communication* between the Fellowship and the General Service Conference. We hope to hear from all group members including those who may not be involved in service outside the home group, as well as those who are. District Committee Members should forward all information to their groups and can be actively engaged in encouraging members to get involved. A flyer with session dates and District assignments has been distributed and posted on the Area 83 website under the pre-conference agenda sharing icon (*see inset*). An invitation to participate containing more information is also posted on the Area 83 website. The flyer and invitation has been emailed to all DCMs with a request to forward it to their GSRs, who in turn are requested to forward it to their group members.

Pre-Conference Sharing Sessions

This Pre-conference Sharing Icon used as an
online link to documents related to this event.

- C. Recommendation by the Area Committee: **"Motion that Area 83 contributes \$400 to the Eastern Canada Region hospitality suite at the 2020 International Convention in Detroit, MI."** Rob M., Area 83 Delegate

Discussion and vote regarding the above motion on the hospitality Suite

Discussion	Background: provided by Rob M., Delegate-The International Convention has assigned each Region a hospitality suite free of charge. The Eastern Canada Region's hospitality suite for the 2020 convention is being facilitated by Tim M., the Panel 67 Delegate for Area 82, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador. Tim is asking each area in Eastern Canada to contribute \$400 to purchase 3000 Eastern Canada Region pins,
------------	---

	<p>for audio/video rentals, table and chair rentals, Flags, maps and or any other items that might be needed. Any surplus funds will be passed on to GSO as a regional contribution and a full financial account will be given after all the bills are paid. Area 83 and the other 9 Areas of Eastern Canada Region have supported the hospitality suite in the past.</p> <p>QUESTION: how much have we contributed in the past for this?</p> <p>ANSWER: In 2010 when the International Convention was in Atlanta, GA we contributed \$300. Conventions before that, I do not have numbers.</p>	
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority	
All opposed:	1	
Any abstentions:	4	
Motion:	Carried	

- D. Recommendation by the Area Committee: Accept the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Operating Procedures. **Motion: to accept Category III items (33-53) as discussed; excluding 44, 45, 49, 51, 53**
Eileen S- DCM District 28

The Chair invited Kimberley M, the chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to review the mandate of the committee, what has been done so far and briefly explain agenda items D through S.

After the January ACM, James invited our Panel 59 Delegate, Sandy S, our Secretary, Amy and myself, to be on an ad hoc committee to take on the task of a “fact finding and fact facing” approach to updating our Area 83 Operating Procedures. Modifications to the Operating Procedures have been made over the years as reflected by the 24 entries listed on the front of the current Operating Procedures. The last time the Operating Procedures were overhauled in depth was in 1991. They were looked at again in 2004 but not much was modified.

The scope of our task was to make an assessment of and recommendations around:

- Inclusion of motions passed over the years
- Determine how the OPs reflect our current practice
- Improvement flow of format
- Inconsistencies and/or eliminate repetition
- Creation of a historical Motions database for future Area Committees

We grouped our recommendations into 4 categories:

Category 1 contains items that have always been the secretary’s responsibility to correct such as language and punctuation, without changing the meaning. Other items listed here have already been approved by the ACM and/or the Assembly and are the responsibility of the Secretary to incorporate into the Operating Procedures but were not incorporated accurately.

Another item in this category was to introduce a hierarchical format to the Index and follow it throughout the entire document. You will notice that the latest version of the operating procedures includes a numbering system to make it much easier to navigate. This will make our job today much easier.

Category 2 lists recommendations that require the approval of the Area Committee. Our Operating Procedures state in Section 9, where the Appendices begin, that “Appendices are deemed as guidelines and not operating procedures and as such are written, amended, and approved by the Area Committee not the Assembly.” The Area Committee will go through these at the January ACM.

Category 3 lists recommendations that are contained in the body of the operating procedures. These that are contained in the body of the operating procedures, were discussed and recommended by the Area Committee to be approved by the Assembly.

Category 4 contains items that we felt required no action. These will also be discussed in January at the ACM.

At the September ACM we went through each recommendation in Category 3 and pulled the items that any member of the Area Committee wanted to discuss or for which they had questions. The remaining items were bundled together and accepted as one item. These appear on your agenda as items d) through s). The items that were pulled, discussed, modified and accepted individually appear as agenda items t) through x).

Our chair suggested we follow a similar process today.

As I present and briefly explain each recommendation, if you have any questions or concerns about any items, jot yourself a note so that when I am finished and turn it back over to our Chair, you will remember which item you had a question about and what your question was!

Let's go through items d) through s).

Recommended Change	Background provided by Kimberley and Subsequent discussion where noted, that came from the Assembly floor
<p>33) Preface</p> <p>Change: Throughout this document, the meaning of words and phrases specific to A.A. shall be defined in the most recent edition of The A.A. Service Manual A copy of the Operating Procedures for Area 83 - Eastern Ontario International hereinafter referred to as "Area 83") Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings should be held by:</p> <p>To: Throughout this document, the meaning of words and phrases specific to A.A. shall be defined in the most recent edition of The A.A. Service Manual. "Area 83 - Eastern Ontario International" shall be hereinafter referred to as "Area 83". A copy of the Assembly and Area Committee Operating Procedures for Area 83 should be held by:</p>	<p><i>We found this to be confusing and with a typo. So, it was rewritten for clarity.</i></p>
<p>E. 34) 1.01 Name</p> <p>Change: The Assembly shall be known as the Area 83 Assembly, hereinafter called the Area Assembly.</p> <p>To: The Assembly shall be known as the Area 83 Assembly, hereinafter called the Assembly.</p>	<p>Background: <i>In the early minutes (1970s) they called District meetings Assemblies, because they were the Assembling of the Group Representatives. Since then we have been calling meetings that take place at the District level as GSR "table", "District Table" the terminology has changed, and we refer to this 2x year gathering of Area and District representatives as the Assembly.</i></p>
<p>F. 35) 3.03 Area Chair</p> <p>Add: (The Area Chair is eligible to vote at bi-annual and interim elections of the Area Officers and the sub-committee chairs as stated in section 4.02)</p>	<p><i>Section 3.03 refers to motions, and the Area Chair is not permitted to vote on motions. However, the area chair does have a vote at the elections of the officers and subcommittee chairs. This was added for Clarification.</i></p>
<p>G. 36) 3.05 Alternate Delegate</p> <p>Change: In the event of the absence of the Area Chair and the Alternate Delegate from any Assembly, members shall select a Chair for that Assembly only.</p> <p>To: In the event of the absence of the Area Chair and the Alternate Delegate from any Assembly, voting members of that Assembly shall elect a Chair for that Assembly only.</p>	<p>No further explanation and there was no discussion from the floor</p>
<p>H. 37) 3.07 Secretary</p> <p>Change: for recording the minutes of the Assemblies, compiling and updating</p> <p>To: for recording the minutes of the Area Committee Meetings, Assemblies, compiling and updating</p>	<p><i>These are duties and responsibilities of the secretary. We thought Area Committee Meeting minutes should be included in the responsibilities.</i></p>

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

<p>I. 38) 3.07 Secretary Change: address lists To: contact lists</p>	<p><i>Since the secretary is responsible for collecting emails and phone numbers, we thought this should be updated to contact lists.</i></p> <p><i>The whole excerpt would state:</i> The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of the Area Assemblies, Area Committee Meetings, compiling and updating contact lists of Committee members...</p>
<p>J. 39) 3.07 Secretary Change: "postage To: "printing"</p>	<p><i>The whole excerpt would state:</i> The Secretary shall be given an adequate working fund to cover printing and other expenses.</p> <p><i>We felt this should be printing... there was a time when the secretary sent out minutes and correspondences by mail, but now this is done entirely from email with some printing to be handed out at the meetings.</i></p>
<p>K. 40) 3.07 Secretary Change: as well as information on all Districts in the Area To: as well as contact details for all District positions in the Area</p>	<p><i>For the same reason as Item 12i), above.</i></p> <p><i>The whole excerpt would state:</i> The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of the Area Assemblies, Area Committee Meetings, compiling and updating contact lists of Committee members, as well as contact details for all District positions in the Area;</p>
<p>L. 41) 3.07 Secretary Change: all records of Assemblies; and, other To: all records of Area Committee Meetings, Assemblies, and other</p>	<p><i>The whole excerpt would state:</i> holding and maintaining all records of Area Committee Meetings, Assemblies; and, other duties that may arise from time to time.</p>
<p>M. 42) 3.08 Treasurer Change: Each year, the Treasurer shall prepare a Financial Statement to be presented to the Spring Assembly. To: Each year, the Treasurer shall prepare Spending Guidelines to be presented to the Spring Assembly.</p>	<p><i>Note: financial statements are presented at each ACM and each Assembly, but the proposed spending guidelines are presented each Spring Assembly</i></p>
<p>N. 43) 3.09 Registrar Change: "roll call forms" To: "registration sign-in sheets"</p>	<p><i>The whole excerpt would state:</i> The Registrar prepares the registration sign-in sheets for Area Assemblies, calls and displays the roll at Area Assemblies, and delivers the results to the Area Secretary immediately.</p>
<p>O. 46) Section 4: Election Procedures Add: Table of Eligibility</p>	<p><i>Concise way of distinguishing the different types of elections and eligibility for each. This table does not replace any text in this section.</i></p>
<p>P. 47) 7.03 In Memoriam Fund Change: Upon the death of any member of the Area Committee, a donation of one hundred dollars [\$100.00] shall be made to the <i>In Memoriam</i> Fund at the General Service Office. To: Upon the death of any current member of the Area Committee, a donation of one hundred dollars [\$100.00] shall be made to the <i>In Memoriam</i> Fund at the General Service Office.</p>	<p>** Subsequent discussion from the floor When it says death of Any member of Area Committee I have a QUESTION, did we make a contribution when Elaine and Herb passed away? ANSWER: We made a donation for Elaine, but not Herb. At the time when Herb passed away, he was not a current member of the Area Committee. It was understood, and the past practice has been that this donation was made only for members currently serving on the Area Committee. We added this language to avoid any ambiguity.</p>

<p>Q. 48) January 2008 - Motion that any unexpected expense outside Area 83 require Area Committee approval in advance.</p> <p>We recommend that add under 7.01 "Any unexpected expense outside Area 83 require Area Committee approval in advance."</p>	<p>BACKGROUND: After this motion passed, it was not taken to the Assembly for final approval; so was not incorporated into the Operating Procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o In Expenses 7.01 General near the end of the paragraph it says that "expenses,incurred in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Area in amounts recommended from time to time by the Area Committee and approved by the Area Assembly" <p><i>So, for clarification the reference to unexpected expense has been added at the end of this section</i></p>
<p>R. 50) Motion to add under 3.03 Area Chair:</p> <p>Before the end of their term, the Area Chair, together with the Area Secretary, shall ensure that all motions passed over the term have been accurately incorporated into the Operating Procedures.</p>	<p>** Subsequent discussion from the floor</p> <p>QUESTIONS: Why does a motion have to be incorporated into the operating procedures if it was passed? Why do you have to put it in there?</p> <p>ANSWER: This was one of our recommendations. Some of the items that we are reviewing here are because motions were added to the document incorrectly or not at all.</p> <p>When language is approved by the Area Committee or the Assembly, it isn't yet added to the verbiage of the document. After it is passed it has to be put into the Operating Procedures document; this preserves decisions that have been made that affect how the Area operates and will be available for future members of the Assembly. That is what this is referring to.</p> <p>This motion, if passed will make sure that the operating procedures are updated on a regular basis, that there are two sets of eyes reviewing the document that the motions have been added in the correct place of the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>This is to help avoid a collection of motions, like those our Ad Hoc committee discovered in our review.</i>
<p>S. 52) Motion in 3.17 after "The Delegate shall select the Saturday night dinner speaker" to add the words:</p> <p>whose name is to be included on the Service Information Day Agenda.</p>	<p><i>Would be great to let members know who the banquet speaker is so they would be encouraged to attend</i></p> <p>** Subsequent discussion from the floor</p> <p>QUESTION: Posting the name of the banquet speaker, isn't that interfering with the Service Information Day Committee?</p> <p>ANSWER: no, the banquet speaker is selected by the delegate, and the delegate share's that information with the committee. It isn't requiring them to do anything except for asking them to publish the name of who is speaking. This isn't requiring them to do anything that they wouldn't already be doing.</p>
<p>Discussion:</p>	<p>Discussion ensued on the following items,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> p. 47) 7.03 In Memoriam Fund r. 50) Motion to add under 3.03 Area Chair: s. 52) Motion in 3.17 after "The Delegate shall select the Saturday night dinner speaker" to add the words: <p style="text-align: center;">**See the box on the right beside these 4 items for the <u>Subsequent discussion from the floor</u></p>
<p>All in favour:</p>	<p>Overwhelming majority</p>
<p>All opposed:</p>	<p>none</p>
<p>Any abstentions:</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>Motion:</p>	<p>Carried</p>

Recommendation by the Area Committee: Accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Operating Procedures.

T. Motion: To accept 44 as written with the 5 references to the service zones, with district 4 removed.

Terry N – DCM D26

44) 3.16 Area Archives Chair

5 references to service zones

Add an appendix outlining the service zones with a reference to map:

Zone 1: Districts 2, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 22

Zone 2: Districts 26, 28, 30, 82, 86

Zone 3: Districts 34, 36, 66

Zone 4: Districts 42, 48, 50

Zone 5: Districts 54, 58, 62

Zone 6: Districts 70, 74, 78

Discussion:	<p>Background: In January 1995, Service Zones were outlined in a report by an ad hoc committee to review area expenses. It was stated that “these service zones would reduce the Delegate’s travel time thus allowing individuals that do not have a great deal of time to pursue the position of Delegate in addition to reducing costs.”</p> <p>In December 2002, in an ad hoc committee report on Archives, there was a recommendation that all local archives committee organize themselves within the boundaries of the six Service Zones recommended to the Area in March 1995.</p> <p><i>There were no questions from the floor pertaining to the motion.</i></p>	
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority	
All opposed:	0	
Any abstentions:	3	
Fate of Motion:	Carried	

Recommendation by the Area Committee: Accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Operating Procedures.

U. Motion: To insert a period after Area Chair - and remove “after consultation with the Area Archives Committee”.

Motioned by: Jane S – DCM D74

45) 3.18 Area Archivist

To be appointed (or re-appointed) for a (3) three-year term by the Area Committee, on a recommendation of the Area Chair after consultation with the **Area Archives Committee**. Resumes for consideration shall be submitted to the Area Chair.

The Ad Hoc Committee flagged this for CLARIFICATION Who makes up this Area Archives Committee to be consulted regarding the appointment of the Area Archivist? (outgoing Archivist and Archives chair?)
Should it be the Archives Chair that is consulted?

Discussion:	<p>Background: Past practice has been that the Area chair decides who to consult when selecting who to appoint as Archivist. It was suggested that this continue to be the practice.</p> <p>Discussion from the floor: QUESTION: Should we not include the Archives chair as one to be consulted? ANSWER: they are usually one of a few that the chair will consult, but we will leave it to the discretion of the chair whom to consult.</p>	
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority	
All opposed:	3	
Any abstentions:	7	
Fate of Motion:	Carried	
Minority opinion:	If this is trying to create clarity, what was suggested from the floor -to consult the Archives Chair- creates clarity (Susan K., DCM District 06).	

Anyone voting with majority wishing to change their vote?	Yes-4 would like to change their vote
Yes, change vote:	Dee T, Park Royal Group, GSR, who voted with the successful side would like to reconsider the motion as mentioned by Susan K, DCM District 06.
Seconder to reconsider	Charles W., Alt GSR, East York Group. District 18
Those wishing to Reconsider the motion? (simple majority required to pass)	19
Opposed	Overwhelming majority
abstentions	12
Motion to reconsider:	defeated
Fate of Motion:	Original Motion remains carried

- V.** Recommendation by the Area Committee: Accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Operating Procedures. Motion: **Accept this recommendation that an ad hoc committee be formed as suggested in point number 49.** Motioned by: Bill C – Area CPC Chair

49) The Website guidelines and Responsibilities for Webmasters and the Alternate are dated.

Form an ad hoc committee to review Appendix Seven-Area 83 Website Guidelines and 3.19 Responsibilities of the Area 83 Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster

Discussion:	Background: we found that when reviewing the OPs that some of the language and duties around the Webmaster were dated. It was in March 2010 – that a Motion to amend the Area 83 Operating Procedures to add the position and responsibilities for the Area Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster to the OPs and was approved at the Jan 2010 ACM. The position and the responsibilities have not been reviewed since. <i>There was no discussion from the floor</i>	
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority	
All opposed:	1	
Any abstentions:	2	
Fate of Motion:	Carried	
Minority opinion:	None	

- W.** Recommendation by the Area Committee: Accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Operating Procedures. Motioned by: Neil P – DCM D66

51) Motion to add under 3.07 Area Secretary at the beginning of the second paragraph:

Motion: **Up-to-date Operating Procedures shall be electronically distributed at the beginning of each year.**

Discussion:	There are often new GSRs at the beginning of the year, so by emailing out the latest operating procedures at the beginning of the year, everyone has it handy for reference. <u>Subsequent Discussions:</u> QUESTIONS: Are the Ops on the Area 83 website? ANSWER: Yes, OPs were posted on January 2019; that would be the current OPs prior to this review of the OPs. QUESTIONS: Is there someone reviewing the Ops before it gets distributed? ANSWER: Yes, the secretary should share minimally with the Chair prior to posting.	
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority	
All opposed:	0	
Any abstentions:	3	
Fate of Motion:	Carried	
Minority opinion:	None	

- X. Recommendation by the Area Committee: Accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Operating Procedures.
Motion: **Bequests in wills to Area 83 are acceptable only from members of AA, the limit of such bequests is \$5,000, and must be on a one-time only basis and not in perpetuity.**

Motioned by: Glenn G – DCM D18

53) In 2018 the GSO upped the amount of bequests to \$5000. In the past we have updated our OPs to agree with GSO.

Recommendation: the Area Committee consider updating the amount in 7.04 Bequests in Wills to \$5000.

Discussion:	<p><u>Summary of the discussion from the Area Committee Meeting on September 7, 2019</u></p> <p>In 2018 the GSO upped the amount of bequests to \$5000. In the past we have updated our OPs to agree with GSO. In 2019, GSO upped the amount to \$10000. Since our prudent reserve is \$20000, the ACM (on Sept 7) felt that \$5000 was sufficient as a limit from any one member to contribute.</p> <p><u>Subsequent discussion from the Assembly floor</u></p> <p>QUESTION: These bequests are going to Area 83, correct?</p> <p>ANSWER: Yes</p> <p>QUESTION: Could we follow the recommendation of the GSO, which is at \$10,000 now. Then if we have a surplus at the end of the year, we could pass on the excess to the GSO?</p> <p>QUESTION: what does the prudent reserve have to do with the limit of the bequest?</p> <p>ANSWER: this is a great point, and the limit that we have provided is what the Area Committee determined to be the limit. And the relationship between the prudent reserve and the bequest limit was just some of the reasoning that was shared at the September ACM.</p> <p><i>Kimberley added: These motions are coming to the Assembly for the membership to consider, approve, turn it down or tweak. We only made a recommendation, and we are okay with whatever the Assembly wants.</i></p> <p>COMMENT: The GSC, the collective conscience of AA as a whole that bequest and wills can be made to whatever the max is that they decide, and right now it happens to be \$10,000. Now Area 83 is saying that a member can make a \$5000 bequest to Area 83. Does this not usurp the GSC recommendations? Should we not follow the amount that the GSC has decided? <i>This is the only item I had a problem with.</i></p> <p>QUESTION: Is the money bequest to GSB different from this amount?</p> <p>ANSWER: yes, we are talking about a limit that the Area is setting up for bequests to Area 83, not to GSO.</p> <p>Bequest to GSB, the limit was raised to \$10,000 at 69th, prior to that it was \$5000.</p> <p>NOTE: These bequests are not rolling, in. GSB is getting very few of them, and we probably haven't had a bequest to Area 83 in quite a while, if at all. This is just a limit set out by the Area, separate from GSC's limit.</p> <p>QUESTION: Do we not pass on any funds that are over and above our prudent reserve?</p> <p>ANSWER: yes.</p>
Amendment to the motion:	Set amount to \$10,000 in line with GSO's set amount and pass on amounts above and beyond prudent reserve to GSO. Dorothy A., GSR Credit Valley Group, District 06
Original motioner Accept/Reject amendment	Glenn G rejected the amendment: If we take the position that excess bequests would be forwarded to GSO, and if we were dealing with maximum requests, the person had already bequest \$10,000 to GSO, the additional funds from Area 83 would exceed the bequest to GSO. If we talk about the scope of the bequest, \$10,000 to GSO given the millions of dollars in their operating expenses compared to \$10,000 of our \$43,000 in expenses it seems disproportionate.
Return to original Motion	Bequests in wills to Area 83 are acceptable only from members of AA, the limit of such bequests is \$5,000, and must be on a one-time only basis and not in perpetuity.
Amendment to the motion:	To have the bequest limit coincide with GSO; rather than having to review this on a regular basis.
Original motioner Accept/Reject amendment	Glenn G rejected the amendment: for the same rationale as above.

Further additional Discussion	<p><u><i>From the Assembly floor</i></u></p> <p>The last time a bequest was given to the Area it was for \$1,000 and that was 6-8 years ago. I am in favour of a limit of \$5000, as this is proportional to our prudent reserve. Personally, I would like to know that when I make this bequest, the money stays where I have designated it to go.</p> <p>CLARIFICATION: (from the Delegate) the Advisory Action at this year's conference was to raise the bequest limit to the General Service Board to \$10,000. This isn't a guideline set out for us, or any other Area, District or Group. What any other part of AA does is entirely up to them.</p> <p>QUESTION: Does that amount refer to US or CAN funds?</p> <p>ANSWER: it is assumed Canadian but there is no blanket clause in the OP.</p>
Call the question	Rick W., DCM District 30
Seconder to calling question	Rob F. Ajax Friday Night Group, Acting GSR
In favor of calling question	Overwhelming majority
Opposed to calling question	5
Abstentions on calling question	5
Result of Calling question:	Passed with simple majority (<i>Proceed to the vote</i>)
Original Motion:	Bequests in wills to Area 83 are acceptable only from members of AA, the limit of such bequests is \$5,000, and must be on a one-time only basis and not in perpetuity.
All in favour:	Overwhelming majority
All opposed:	8
Any abstentions:	9
Fate of original Motion:	Carried
Minority opinion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of this motion is to clarify, and we still don't know if the reference is to Canadian or US funds. • This action can start a multi-division down the road. • I voted against it because we linked it to the prudent reserve, and if someone wants the money spent in the Area.
Anyone voting with majority wishing to change their vote?	No one indicated- <i>motion remains passed</i>

12. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

No new business from the floor

- Percy G., Panel 62 Delegate for Area 86 (Western Ontario). You are welcome to observe our elections taking place next week. Thank the Service Info Day committee for the invitation to participate and observe, I have had a very enjoyable weekend and I have been treated royally, and it has been a great pleasure and it has been a fantastic session.
- Thanks for everyone who put all this together, it has been my first assembly, and I am having a great time!
- QUESTIONS for the Treasurer: Can you explain the reason for the difference in roughly 5,700 between the 2018 and 2019?
- ANSWER: the difference is made up of a number of expenses: ODC 1600; Zoom account \$200; Assembly is costing about 500-600 more per year. As with everything costs are going up (ballroom setup, and rental of projectors goes up).
- I think it would be a good idea to bring an awareness of Safety in AA through workshops, and to educate people of what to do, and what not to do (what is appropriate/inappropriate) and things that can happen at meetings.
- I wanted to comment on the omnibus changes to procedures, and in particular 52) article 3.17 Delegate, selecting the speaker and posting the name, are we heading into celebrity, and away from humility. Should the name of the speaker really matter?
- Sue B, immediate past Area Treasurer is celebrating 14 years Parkwood Hills Group, Ottawa Nov 7, Thursday.
- Concern about how we get people into service? I have noticed getting people into service is tough, at group and district level. I welcome these suggestions. (plz contact is Sue H. Secretary District 18)
- Hats off to the two ad hoc committees (Operating Procedures and Accessibility Needs) for your diligence to the traditions. It has taught me so much about service.
- **Notable birthdays:** Amy L, Oct 15, 2007- 12 yrs; Marty M., Oct 28, 2010-9 yrs; Dan H, (Trial and Error Group) 1995 Oct 30-24 yrs; Robb W, Panel 61 Delegate 1996, 23 years.
- Don't forget! Archives breakfast, Nov 3 Oasis Banquet Hall.

- **QUESTIONS** We have noticed that the 7th has been declining over time for and having talked to a number of people it seems that it is because people say they don't have cash. Is there any support or talk about electronic transfer at the group for the 7th?
ANSWER: The Area Self Support Chair, Mike spoke to this question-there is a group in Ottawa that is using the tap system through BMO, (called the **digital basket**). There are some groups in the US and others in Canada using this method of contributions. Any one interested in this method of payment, contact Mike at Selfsupport@area83aa.org
- Archives Luncheon coming up in Ottawa, Saturday November 16th, tickets \$10.
- My group routinely reminds me to remind everyone at every level of service the bulk of our energy should be put into our primary purpose.
- Nov 20 Will H, DCM of District 14 will be celebrating 9 years!
- Diversity in AA, I wanted share with you that I am grateful for the discussion that took place in that workshop. It was very spirited and dynamic conversation. I hope we get to continue that line of discussion; bringing our differences together in AA.

13. NEXT ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE INFORMATION DAY

As Chairperson, I would recommend the next Assembly and Service Information Day be held on March 27, 28 and 29, 2020 at the Ambassador Hotel in Kingston, Ontario.

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

Moved:	Trevor F.	District 62	DCM
Seconded:	Dan	District 14	GSR Black River Group
Discussion	none		
All in favour:	all		
All 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 January 4th 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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

It is now 3.46 pm, may I have a motion to close the meeting?

- Motion to close the meeting

Moved:	Charles W.	District 18	East York Group, Alt GSR
Seconded:	Dale C.	District 12	Westmoreland Group, GSR
Discussion	none		
All in favour:	all		
All 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. Financial Summary (as of October 18, 2019)

EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83
as at October 18, 2019

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

INCOME		
7th Tradition		4,643.35
Cost Recoveries		760.00
Flow Through to GSO		200.00
Grapevine Seasonals		3,837.50
Group & District Contributions		42,508.42
	TOTAL INCOME	51,949.27
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		51,949.27

EXPENSES		
Accommodations		4,497.61
Meals		9,083.28
Travel		9,218.08
Long Distance		0.00
Postage		220.62
Printing		2,590.29
Literature		2,292.24
Stationery		455.92
Miscellaneous		2,419.85
	Total Committee Expenses	30,777.89
Ad Hoc Committees		125.00
Area Contribution to GSO		0.00
Area Committee Meetings		1,193.73
General Service Conf. Assessment		11,170.14
Bank Service Charges		43.98
Paypal fees		14.58
Forums		0.00
Grapevine Seasonal		3,637.63
GSO Flow Through		200.00
Ontario Delegate's Committee (ODC)		1,600.00
CERAASA		2,801.79
	Total Other Expenses	20,786.85
TOTAL EXPENSES		51,564.74

OPERATING ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2019		41,820.83
Total Income & Transfers		51,949.27
Total Expenses		(51,564.74)
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE		42,205.36

Appendix B. Expenditures (as of October 18, 2019)

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International
Details of Expenditures
as at October 18, 2019

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Approved Spending Guideline	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
COMMITTEE EXPENSES													
Delegate	0.00	124.50	1222.40	0.00	0.00	339.00	0.00	28.57	0.00	1714.47	\$2,325.00	610.53	73.74%
Alt. Delegate	0.00	64.50	536.80	0.00	0.00	51.98	0.00	0.00	208.13	861.41	\$1,651.00	789.59	52.18%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	232.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	232.00	\$1,240.00	948.00	23.55%
Chairperson	0.00	94.87	660.80	0.00	0.00	39.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	795.21	\$1,160.00	364.79	68.55%
Secretary	0.00	107.90	349.86	0.00	0.00	1512.65	0.00	0.00	8.00	1978.41	\$2,340.00	361.59	84.55%
Treasurer	0.00	39.50	604.08	0.00	220.62	281.19	69.79	150.06	0.00	1365.24	\$1,790.00	424.76	76.27%
Registrar	0.00	107.50	406.86	0.00	0.00	117.73	0.00	277.29	0.00	909.38	\$1,450.00	540.62	62.72%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	251.50	146.60	514.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.99	932.85	\$2,304.00	1371.15	40.49%
Archives	222.11	131.48	953.60	0.00	0.00	45.20	0.00	0.00	188.94	1541.33	\$1,355.00	-186.33	113.75%
Archivist	251.50	100.52	124.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	476.02	\$540.00	63.98	88.15%
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	55.00	556.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	611.00	\$1,790.00	1179.00	34.13%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	89.50	56.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	428.57	0.00	0.00	582.07	\$1,400.00	817.93	41.58%
Grapevine	0.00	59.50	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159.50	\$1,400.00	1240.50	11.39%
Public Information	0.00	148.30	180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	328.30	\$1,400.00	1071.70	23.45%
Self Support	0.00	121.85	1029.60	0.00	0.00	83.13	0.00	0.00	386.79	1627.37	\$1,830.00	202.63	88.93%
Treatment / Accessibility	0.00	39.50	522.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	261.38	0.00	0.00	822.88	\$1,400.00	577.12	58.78%
Service Info Day Cmte	1257.50	745.49	1109.32	0.00	0.00	111.87	1532.50	0.00	26.00	4782.68	\$4,717.00	-65.68	101.39%
Spring Assembly	2515.00	6900.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1582.00	10997.77	\$11,350.00	352.23	96.90%
Fall Assembly	0.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$11,650.00	11650.00	0.00%
TOTAL	\$ 4,497.61	\$ 9,083.28	\$ 9,218.08	\$ -	\$ 220.62	\$ 2,590.29	\$ 2,292.24	\$ 455.92	\$ 2,419.85	\$ 30,777.89	\$ 53,092.00	\$ 22,314.11	57.97%
OTHER EXPENSES													
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	125.00	-	-	-	125.00	\$15.00	-110.00	833.33%
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,193.73	1,193.73	\$1,225.00	131.27	90.09%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$187.00	143.02	23.52%
Paypal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$40.00	25.42	36.45%
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,637.63	-	-	3,637.63	\$4,200.00	562.37	86.61%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$11,177.64	7.50	99.93%
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200.00	-120.00	80.00	-166.67%
Ord Delegates Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,200.00	0.00	133.33%
CERAASA	1,063.86	307.56	1,264.26	-	-	-	-	-	166.11	2,801.79	\$2,892.79	0.00	96.85%
TOTAL	\$ 1,063.86	\$ 307.56	\$ 1,264.26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125.00	\$ 3,637.63	\$ -	\$ 14,129.98	\$ 20,786.83	\$ 22,417.43	\$ 1,635.58	92.73%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,561.47	\$ 9,390.84	\$ 10,482.34	\$ -	\$ 220.62	\$ 2,715.29	\$ 5,929.87	\$ 455.92	\$ 16,549.83	\$ 51,564.74	\$ 75,509.43	\$ 24,235.69	68.29%

Income Summary :			
10/18/2019	YTD 2019	Oct-18	Difference
7th Tradition	51,949.27	51,235.55	713.72
Bank Interest	51,564.74	45,076.88	(6,487.86)
GSO Flow through	384.53	6,158.67	\$ 5,774.14
Contributions	\$42,508.42	\$43,278.75	-\$770.33
Cost recoveries	136	142	-6
Grapevine Seasonals	15	14	1
Total Income			

Income Summary :			
10/18/2019	YTD 2019	Oct-18	Difference
7th Tradition	51,949.27	51,235.55	713.72
Bank Interest	51,564.74	45,076.88	(6,487.86)
GSO Flow through	384.53	6,158.67	\$ 5,774.14
Contributions	\$42,508.42	\$43,278.75	-\$770.33
Cost recoveries	136	142	-6
Grapevine Seasonals	15	14	1
Total Income			

Appendix C. Area 83 Group and District Contributions (as of October 18, 2019)

GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS as at October 18, 2019
--

District	0	Unspecified, Paypal	\$0.00
District	2	Malton	\$512.70
District	6	Mississauga	\$2,620.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$5,701.66
District	12	Toronto South West	\$1,149.57
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,340.02
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$180.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$2,746.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,860.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$2,476.53
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$2,477.75
District	30	Quinte West	\$2,098.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$4,870.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$2,545.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$557.04
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$727.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$836.82
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$370.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$50.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$2,695.33
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$1,455.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$1,450.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$1,650.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$100.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$250.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$1,790.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$42,508.42

Total from Groups	\$30,249.08	136
Total from Districts	\$12,259.34	15

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

Appendix D Area 83 Fall 2019 Assembly Roll Call

**Area 83 Fall 2019 Assembly
Roll Call
October 27, 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	7	0	1	7	9	8	21	33%
06	1	1	2	5	18	2	4	18	30	19	36	50%
10	1	1	1	2	9	4	1	9	16	10	27	33%
12	1	1	0	0	9	0	2	9	13	10	23	39%
14	1	1	1	2	12	0	5	12	18	13	30	40%
16-SP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0%
18	1	1	3	2	10	1	1	10	16	11	26	38%
22	1	1	0	2	12	2	2	12	20	13	22	55%
26	1	0	0	2	10	0	1	10	13	11	23	43%
28	1	1	1	3	9	1	6	9	20	10	23	39%
30	1	1	2	3	8	0	2	8	15	9	14	57%
34	1	1	1	2	11	2	2	11	16	12	35	31%
36	1	1	2	6	19	1	16	19	43	20	25	76%
42	1	1	2	2	2	0	0	2	4	3	21	10%
48	1	1	1	5	10	0	2	10	18	11	20	50%
50	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	4	3	12	25%
54	1	1	0	0	5	0	0	5	7	6	21	24%
58	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	3	3	28	7%
62	1	0	0	0	22	3	9	22	35	23	44	50%
66	1	1	2	4	15	3	5	15	27	16	27	56%
70	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	3	5	4	19	16%
74	1	1	1	1	4	0	1	4	6	5	12	33%
78	1	1	1	0	4	1	0	4	6	5	6	67%
82	1	0	0	3	8	0	3	8	14	9	18	44%
86	1	0	2	3	13	3	1	13	23	14	23	57%
CF					5	0	0	5	5	5	8	63%
	DCM	Alt-DCM	Dist Officers-Other	Comm chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups	
ALL	23	17	23	49	229	23	67	230	386	253	572	40%
Area Committee									17	13		
Past Delegates									4			
Out of Area Visitors									3			
Total	23	17	23	49	229	23	67	230	407	266	572	
Mar-19	24	19	23	58	219	20	71	219	412	255	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	
Oct-16	24	14	23	51	214	45	98	212	407	249	580	

Appendix E. Service Information Workshops October 26, 2019
Summaries and Ask it Basket Q & A

DELEGATE'S PLENARY SESSION: ROB M, PANEL 69 DELEGATE

The workshop provided an overview of the 69th General Service Conference. Some actions of the Conference, and the progress made since the Conference were discussed. A video from GSO (https://aa.org/pages/en_US/international-convention-2020) of past International Convention flag ceremonies was shown. Information about the pre-conference agenda sharing initiative being undertaken by Area 83 was presented. A live demonstration of the Zoom video conferencing app was provided.

COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY: ROB W., PANEL 61 DELEGATE

COMMUNICATION DEFINITION: A process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, SIGNS, or behaviors.

Technology: A Manner of accomplishing a task especially using technical processes, methods, or knowledge.

TREASURER/SELF-SUPPORT

JOANN P., AREA TREASURER

Treasurer's generally maintain clear records (a ledger is helpful) and keep their groups informed about how much money is taken in a how much it has been spent. It is recommended that each group, District Area etc. keep a prudent reserve for unseen circumstances. Also, each group is autonomous about having a specific amount of sobriety to be treasurer and usually two signatures.

MIKE B., AREA SELF-SUPPORT CHAIR

YOUR SEVENTH TRADITION CONTRIBUTION-Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group

Powerpoint presentation started with contributions at the home group. Discussed prudent reserve. Comparison chart regarding inflation. Suggested disbursements to all service levels. Our responsibility to AA as members. 2018 financial highlights from the 69th General Service Conference. Discussed the Meeting Guide app, AA translations of the Big Book and pamphlets. The workshop ended with a presentation on the AA fact sheet F-208 "Your Seventh Tradition contributions". 21 slides were presented with explanation of each of them.

Q: Why were we forced to give \$8.06?

A: It is suggested that if each member voluntarily contributed this amount, Alcoholics Anonymous would be fully self-supported

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY: BILL C., AREA CPC CHAIR

We had an in-depth discussion on speaking at Non-AA meetings. There were lots of questions and suggestions during this part of the meeting. A summary of the four key points that emerged from the discussions that we had on speaking at non-AA meetings are;

- Many newcomers arrive at AA from some sort of professional referral
- Speaking at non-AA meetings is a way to provide professionals with information about AA in the community and make available resources
- Lots of resources to shape the message for the appropriate audience - on the Area 83 Website as well as GSO
- Challenge is to reach out to this community and let them know about AA and that is in the community for their clients

The presentations and resource materials are available on the CPC tab of the Area 83 website.

TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITY: SHANE H., AREA TREATMENT/ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR

Accessibility Presentation:

- American Sign Language (ASL)
- Accessibility and the Military
- Mobile Meetings

Treatment Presentation:

- How some District Chair's co-operate with their Local Intergroups
- How to get groups and members Active at District Treatment level

Q: My group is seeking a new meeting space – we hold 2 meetings concurrently – step study (1-12) and 1, 2, 3 meeting – the space we are looking at will allow for 1-large room that provides accessibility. However, the smaller space for 1, 2, 3 involves stairs and is not accessible by elevator. Is the group required to find a space that is accessible for both meetings – is this discrimination?

A: It is up to you; however, it would be ideal to be able to offer both of your meetings in accessible spaces. I don't think you could consider this discrimination, as not always are we able to find a meeting space that is accessible; if you are looking for new space, accessibility is something to keep in mind.

Q: What is ASL?

A: ASL stands for American Sign Language

Q: How do I start an Accessibility Committee?

A: Accessibility workbooks are available at the General Service Office and have some suggested guidelines for starting a Committee.

Q: Are mental health issues a part of accessibility? – I always hear they are outside issues.

A: Absolutely – anything that is a barrier to recovery is an accessibility issue – mental health, hidden disabilities like learning disorders and many others.

TRADITIONS 4, 5, 6

TRADITION 4: RICK W., DCM DISTRICT 30

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Autonomous "Every A.A. Group can manage it's affairs exactly as it pleases, except when A.A. as a whole is threatened". Sobriety had to be a Group's sole objective. In all other respect's there was perfect freedom of will and action. Every group had a right to be wrong. Ref:12 & 12 Pg. 146-147.

Group "Any 2 or 3 alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation"

TRADITION 5: JANE S., DCM DISTRICT 74

Each group has but one primary purpose-to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Touching on the history, gives insight into the How and Why Tradition 5 came to be. Each tradition asks us to give up something. Tradition 5 restricts the AA group to a single purpose, i.e. carrying our message to other alcoholics. The lessons lay out one essential principle: "AA must make everlastingly certain that we shall always be strong enough and single - purposed enough from within, to relate ourselves rightly to the world without" This simple equation of strength WITH singleness of purpose shaped Tradition 5 and has guided Alcoholics Anonymous through perilous cross pressures for 84 plus years. Shared personal experience from the presenter helped to further illustrate the Tradition at work.

TRADITION 6: GLENN B., DCM DISTRICT 82

An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert it from out primary purpose.

"Experience proved that we could not be all things to all men. We saw that we could not lend the A.A. name to any outside activity." Treatment centers may endorse A.A. as a healthy suggestion, but A.A. groups should never endorse or advertise the treatment centers. Many people in A.A. belong to outside enterprises whether it is though work or personal. We should not be bringing outside issues into the rooms of A.A. We are to share our own personal experiences with Alcoholism. What is our Primary Purpose?

Q: What happens when the chairperson brings in speakers from other fellowships?

A: each group is autonomous and generally operates through group conscience so suggesting to the group prior to bringing in a speaker from another fellowship would seem prudent.

Q: A group in my district says that they have "associate" members which belong to other groups. Is there any precedence for this?

A: sometimes a member may belong to two or more fellowships and if they can keep these separate and other group members do not mind, this should be fine – also some members have two home groups such as an open group they enjoy and a discussion meeting they also attend

PUBLIC INFORMATION: RAY R., AREA PI CHAIR

The Public Information workshop dealt with 2 aspects to consider when carrying the message in a non-alcoholic environment. The first aspect is “the singleness of purpose” and that was delivered by Maria M from the Hope Group. The next aspect covers the topic “speaking at non-AA events” and that was delivered by Paul M from the Fifth Tradition.

Q: We state that if we are speaking to a non-AA audience, we are not representing AA simply by talking about it. To the audience member there is no such subtle distinction. How do you reconcile this disconnection in logic?

A: I totally understand the need for singularity of purpose – it seems most newcomers have drug-related issues as well as alcohol addictions – while we can’t lose our focus on alcohol, surely we can at least educate them on the availability of the other 12-step programs.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE: RICK W., GSO STAFF MEMBER

Through the work of the Conference, the group conscience on specific items is documented in the form of “Advisory Actions” and “Additional Considerations.” Carrying out the work of A.A.’s collective voice is then the responsibility of all of us, but much of the work of carrying out the will of the Conference is delegated to the General Service Board.

The G.S.B. is made up of 21 trustees, 14 alcoholic and 7 non-alcoholic who are friends of A.A. chosen for the expertise in certain fields. Trustees come from all over the US and Canada.

G.S.O. Staff Assignments serve as secretaries to trustees’ committees and carry out their work on a day-to-day basis, along with specific assignment responsibilities, and responding to mail from a region of the U.S./Canada structure. Every 2 years G.S.O. staff rotate assignments.

CORRECTIONS: LES M., AREA CORRECTIONS CHAIR

The Corrections Workshop consisted of a panel of three: who will share on their experience with AA in the correctional facilities: Gale R Corrections Chair District 22, Stuart S client from Collins Bay Institution and Neil W Corrections Chair District 30.

SECRETARY/ REGISTRAR: AMY L., AREA SECRETARY AND DAVE L., AREA REGISTRAR

A summary of responsibilities as defined by the Service manual and the Area Operating procedures were presented for the positions of Secretary and Registrar. Amy and Dave pointed out that districts and or groups often do not have job responsibilities clearly defined. The position of Area Registrar and Area Secretary rely heavily on the good working practices of District Secretaries and Registrars. Dave and Amy provided key points on how this can be achieved. Personal experience, strength and hope were presented by Jeffary, District 86 Secretary/Registrar from the perspective of his first year of his two-year term.

SERVICE SPONSORSHIP: PERCY G., PANEL 62 DELEGATE AREA 86

IS YOUR TRIANGLE BALANCED? 12 steps, 12 traditions and 12 CONCEPTS: Analogy: without the service side complete it is like sitting on a 2-legged stool. *WHAT IS SERVICE?* Service to your group, district, area and AA as a whole. Present Bill W’s definition of service. *HOME GROUP SERVICE.* Present 6 hard questions for audience to consider about service at the home group. *WHY DO SERVICE?* Present Dr. Bob’s 4 reasons to do service. *SPONSORSHIP-WHAT IS IT?* Analogy: Trying to do service without a service sponsor is like trying to drive an 18-wheeler from Kingston to Toronto with only 4 tires—it can be done but not without a lot of extra work. Present the 3 requirements that sponsorship fills. *WHAT DO SERVICE SPONSORS DO?* Analogy: A service sponsor is someone who helps you put on the tires of the 18-wheeler so that the trip to Toronto is made easier. Present the answer for this to be what is stated in the Pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship”. *ACTIVE IN SERVICE:* Present my 4 main points to remember when active in service which ends with the Principle of Rotation.

ARCHIVES: MARTY M., AREA ARCHIVES CHAIR

Linda M, the Area Archivist gave a hands-on demonstration on how to create a display. Displays are one way to illustrate historical timelines, themes or concepts— as well as an aid to generate interest in Archives.

It is hoped that every group gives some thought to how their group formed. For some newer groups, this exercise may involve talking to one or two people who were involved in the formation of the group. For older groups, the original founders may no longer be around, so speaking with members who have been around the group for many years, or who are knowledgeable about the dynamics of the group over the years. The Area Archives Chair, Marty M., demonstrated what was involved in conducting a Group History. Mel C., Panel 63 Delegate and a member of the Hill Group was interviewed in this demonstration.

DIVERSITY IN A.A.: KIM S., PANEL 67 DELEGATE

Diversity means understanding that each individual is unique and also recognising our individual differences. The differences can be in race, culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs or other ideologies. **What do we mean by diversity and inclusion?** **Inclusion** often means a shift in an organisation's mind-set and culture that has visible effects, such as participation in meetings, how we are physically organised or access to particular facilities or information. ... In simple terms, **diversity** is the mix and **inclusion** is getting the mix to work well together. We may use words like "colorblind" to celebrate diversity, but bigotry is where true blindness resides. If we wish to recover, to become better people, we must tear down this barrier indefinitely.

CONCEPTS IV, V AND VI: KIMBERLEY M., PANEL 69 ALTERNATE DELEGATE

At the Service Information Day in the Spring, we covered Concepts 1, 2 and 3. Therefore, in this Concepts workshop we focussed on Concepts 4, 5 and 6. Concepts 4 and 5 include the Right of Participation, the Right of Appeal and the Right of Petition. We discussed what each of these mean and why they are so important to avert friction, indecision and power-driving. In Concept 6 we discussed the importance of carefully selecting Trustees who have been delegated the responsibility of maintaining our world services. We reviewed their responsibilities and where more information can be found about the current Trustees and the different types of Trustees. A copy of this and presentation can be found at area83aa.org under Resources, under the Alternate Delegates tab.

GRAPEVINE: JENNY C., GRAPEVINE CHAIR

John M. from District 18 gave some personal experience with grapevine and a brief history. Doreena B., District 06 Grapevine Chair gave her personal experience on why grapevine is important to her and how grapevine is important to corrections.

Miscellaneous Ask it basket questions not derived from a specific workshop.

Q: Is there an increase in "service burnout" because of the heavy load due to service apathy in the membership at large?

A: Having a Service Sponsor helps to balance service commitments – it is a good idea to check to ensure your 'triangle' is balanced, don't take on too many commitments, and continue to work your program with meetings and fellowship

Q: Why are there two conferences per year?

A: The Spring Assembly (in March) deals with Area Committee business and helps prepare our Delegate for the General Service Conference in New York in April. The Fall Assembly brings to the business Agenda items the Area Committee is working on and needs Assembly approval.

Q: Why does the opening session begin at 8:45? I feel 8:00 pm would be more appropriate especially for the more senior members

A: There are a number of things that take place in the evening before the Open Speaker meeting; the Committee generally dines together and then at 7:00 pm meets with the Sub-Committee Chairs to discuss what is needed for the Saturday Information Day, and then they meet with the Information Day Committee at 8:00 pm and share information, make any changes or adjustments for the Saturday.

Q: Is it important for GSR to go to the Sunday portion of the assembly and why?

A: The Sunday portion of the Assembly is the business meeting. GSRs are encouraged to attend so that any business being brought to the floor or voted on can be relayed back to their groups – this is your voice for the consciousness of your group

Appendix F. Archives History of AA in Ontario: Invitation to Participate



234 Eglinton Ave E., Toronto

October 1, 2019

Invitation to Participate:

80 Year Book: The History of A.A. in Ontario 1943-2023

The GTA (Greater Toronto Area) Archives Committee is gathering information from many sources to create the 80-year history of Alcoholics Anonymous in Ontario and will be an update and expansion of the 50 Years of AA in Ontario that was printed in 1993.

The project is financed through the committees' contributions and supported by GTA Intergroup, who have allocated funding for the initial printing. We will repay them from the sales of the book.

We are hoping that it will be the definitive history to date, will provide valuable information to A.A. members and be a reference for future A.A. historians.

In order to be successful, we need the support of Area and District archivists, and the membership across the province. We are reaching out to Areas 83, 84, 85 and 86 and all the Districts. If you would like to be included, please tell us in writing how A.A. came to the first home or location in your town or city.

Many do not realize that Archives is 12-Step work, and we will attempt to explain our links back to Bill & Dr. Bob by telling the story of how A.A. has been passed on from Akron to all parts of Ontario. We are basing our historical evolution on when the first meeting was held in a home, a town or a city.

If you think you know someone who should be contacted, please feel free to pass along this invitation and ask for their assistance.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours truly,

David T.
GTA Archives Chair
dgt20july71@gmail.com