

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Area Committee Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2017

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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January 7, 2017 Area Committee Meeting

1. OPENING

Good morning, and Happy New Year everyone. I'm an alcoholic a member of the Ajax Area Group in District 26 and my name is Kimberley. It's an honour to serve Area 83 as your Chairperson.

The Chairperson gave a heartwarming memorial speech about Joe D., recently deceased, remembering his contribution to Area 83 and AA as a whole.

Moment's Silence – Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions: Chris S. (visitor) District: 10

12 Concepts (Short Form): Rob F. (visitor) District: 26

Welcome to Quinte West. It's great to see everyone here today. This is our first Area Committee meeting of the 2017-2018 term. This is your meeting and it is an opportunity for you to share what's happening in your Districts. The Area committee is where recommendations to the Assembly are discussed and formulated and where tasks assigned by the Assembly are carried out. It is where your questions are answered and concerns addressed. Please feel free to voice any concerns or questions you may have. There may be someone in the room who has the same question and it helps to share. As we start this new term, I am reminded of our First Tradition - "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity". We are here to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous remains unified and strong in Area 83 Eastern Ontario International. Our personal recovery, as well as the recovery of the still suffering Alcoholic, depends upon it.

When someone is speaking, please do not speak to those around you. Let's be courteous to all who give reports and during motion discussion.

Some reminders

This is a non-smoking facility. A break will be called sometime around 11:00 AM and again in the afternoon. Lunch is not shown as an agenda item, but we will break around noon. Please turn off your cell phones or anything else that might interrupt the meeting.

At this time I would like to introduce our Area Committee.

Introduce officers

(If you could hold any applause you might want to give until the end it will speed things up)

On my immediate right, our Panel 67 Delegate	Kim S
On Kim's right, our Alternate Delegate	Rob McA
On my immediate left is our Secretary	James O'D
Beside James is our Treasurer	Sue B
Beside Sue is our Registrar	Amy L
Our Panel 65 Immediate Past Delegate	Joyce S

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And I'm your Chairperson

Kimberley M

Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Again, please hold any applause you might want to give until the end.

Public Information Chairperson

Les MacD

Cooperation with the Professional Community Chairperson

Jim S

Correctional Facilities Chairperson

Mac B

Treatment Chairperson

Marty M

Grapevine Chairperson

Robert B

Self-Support Chairperson

Ray R

Archives Chairperson

Eddie G

These are your Area Officers and Sub Committee Chairs for 2017- 2018

Also with us Today we have:

Panel 53 Past Delegate Roy R

Panel 57 Past Delegate Dot D

Panel 61 Past Delegate Robb W

And in **Appointed positions** we have

Area Webmaster – Jim R

Area Alternate Webmaster – Jason M

Housekeeping:

The Area committee meeting will be held in this room three times this year and four times next year. Dates for 2017 are June 3 and September 9.

The Area Assembly and Service Information Day take place at the Ambassador Conference Centre in Kingston and are held twice each year, once in the spring and again in the fall. Dates for 2017 are March 24, 25, 26 and October 27, 28, 29.

Our meeting schedule up to and including tentative dates in 2018 will be included in the minutes. These dates are booked and secured with the hotel and church. Some are listed as tentative as the date of the following Assembly/Meeting is approved at the end of each meeting.

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Year	Date	What	Where
2017	March 24,25,26	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2017	June 3	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2017	September 9 <i>tentative</i>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2017	October 27,28,29 <i>tentative</i>	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2018	January 6 <i>tentative</i>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

Food:

Lunch has been arranged by our District 34 DCM Les at a cost of \$5.00, per serving. Tickets will be sold at the break prior to lunch. You must have a ticket to be served.
 Thank-you Les for organizing the lunch, refreshments, and snacks.

Seating:

As much as possible – District Committee Member’s and Sub-Committee chairs sit on the outside of the tables. Alternate District Committee Member’s on the inside. Visitors and Past Delegates area asked to sit at the tables set up at the sides of the room. This seating arrangement helps to facilitate the voting.

Who votes?

All Area Officers, including the immediate past Delegate, but not the Chair. All Area sub-committee Chairs. All District Committee Member’s of Districts in Area 83; in their absence, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote on behalf of their District. There is one vote per person.

How do we vote?

Procedure:

Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by ‘substantial unanimity’. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority. At times, I may ask for a show of hands to get a ‘sense of the meeting’. This is not a vote, and anyone may raise his or her hand. I believe that the first part of the agenda today can be handled under simple majority. *The items under new business are of such a nature to be under 2/3 majority and I will ask for a motion when we get to that point in the agenda.* If, at any time, you think that we should move to a 2/3 majority, please make the motion.

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Minority Opinion:

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 wishes to speak to the minority. To be able to do this, you must have voted with the minority on the motion. **If, after the minority has spoken, someone from the majority side of the vote wishes to change their vote, that person may make a motion to reconsider.** If this is seconded and passes by a simple majority, we start discussion again on the *original* motion.

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 committee meeting?

It has been the *practice* at the Area committee level to use the same *principle* as we do at the Assemblies: only voting members of the Committee have a voice. This is important for two reasons

- It keeps the focus on the fact that this Committee is in effect the steering committee of the Assembly – members are representing their District’s positions or Area’s in the case of our Officers, rather than their own.
- It also maximizes the time available for members to voice the opinions and needs of their District. All who are attending may say their piece during sharing time.

I respectfully ask for your cooperation in this. If you don’t have a vote, as I mentioned, please keep your input for sharing time which is scheduled for later this afternoon. At that time all in attendance are welcomed to participate and their opinions will be heard.

Floor Motions

If you are making a floor motion for the Area Committee to consider today, it would be much appreciated if you would write your motion out and give it to our secretary James.

I would entertain a motion now to carry out the first part of today’s meeting by simple majority:

May I have a motion for simple majority?

Motioned: Jim S. – Area CPC Chair

Seconded: Ray R – Area Self Support Chair

Discussion - NO

All those in favour - ALL

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

(Minority opinion?) – N/A

Motion Carried

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2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Are there any other items that should be added to today's agenda?

OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

NONE

NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

13 (f) "I would like to make a motion that David T continue as archivist until a new one is appointed or the ad hoc report is delivered." Eddy G – Area Archives Chair

May I have a motion to accept the agenda (as amended)?

Motioned: Mike B – DCM – D62

Seconded: David L – DCM – D26

Discussion - NO

All those in favour - ALL

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

Motion Carried

3. ROLL CALL

Our Area Registrar Amy has circulated the attendance sheets – please sign in the appropriate spot – there is also a separate section for visitors.

4. Review and acceptance of minutes of the Area Committee Meeting of December 3rd, 2016.

Minutes of the December 3rd, 2016 ACM were distributed by email and a hard copy was placed in your folders today. As some of you might be seeing these minutes for the first time this morning, with your permission I will defer this agenda item until after lunch to allow time for review before voting on their acceptance.

5. District committee members' reports (Sequence of reports drawn from the hat)

We have requested written reports from all Committee members, including District Committee Members. Members are asked to keep in mind the 2 minute time limit for verbal reports. Written reports may be as long as you like and will be included in the minutes in their entirety, if given to James, our Secretary.

I would ask members to come up to the mic to give their report. Order is determined by drawing District numbers from the bag. I will announce who is up and who is on deck. If you are "on deck", please come up

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to the front and be ready to give your report when the DCM before you steps down. Please clearly state your name, your position and your District when you are up here, thank you.

Let's get started

District 02 Malton

Shane H

Hello friends I am an Alcoholic my name is Shane! Our district is doing good in some areas and not so good in others, we have a healthy bank account but could use some servants to fill our vacant positions, the main thing is we have the positions that are crucial to the well running of our district filled.

Last month we had elections i could not attend due to weather related issues but read in our minutes that it went well and Robert and Deirdre B facilitated the Elections both past DCMs of that district. yours in love and service Shane H

District Committee Member Malton District 02 panel 67

District 06 Mississauga

David B

Good morning everyone. My name is David B and it is my privilege to serve as the District 06 Committee Member for this term (Panel 67). I am a member of the Lakeshore group and I am an alcoholic. I hope everyone had a good Christmas and all the best for the new year.

District 06 finished off the year with our annual pizza night meeting and was enjoyed by all. Our new officers table is in place and we are all looking forward to serving the fellowship and helping to carry the message. We were able to do a split last month to the General Service Office and to Area 83. All of our service commitments are being met. Our sub committee elections will occur this month and we will get that information off to you (Area83) as quickly as possible.

On February 18th Districts 06 and 12 will be jointly holding a service in recovery day. A great day forew General Service Representatives and Alternate General Service Representatives and anyone else interested in what exactly do those service people do. In attendance will be our Districts Sub Committee Chairs giving a description of their service positions and of the committee itself and also thank you to Joyce S our Immediate Past Area 83 Delegate, Kim S our Area 83 Delegate and Rob M our Area 83 Alternate Delegate for committing their time for the day and thanks to Roy R of the Daily Reflections group for taking on the position of the days Chairperson. As always if our district or myself can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.

As always yours in love and service David B

District Committee Member dcm@aamississauga.org

District 10 Toronto South Central

Rob A

Hi everyone, I'm an alcoholic and my name is Rob. I'm the new DCM for District 10 – Toronto South Central.

I'm happy to report that Marty M our past DCM has left District 10 in great shape. I am looking forward to serving District 10 & AA for the 2017 & 2018 term.

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Other than that I don't have anything else to report at this time.

Yours in love & service

Rob

District 12 Toronto South West

Mark B

Hi am an alcoholic member of the Birds Of A Feather Group serving as our District Committee Member for District 12 Toronto South West my name is Mark B. We are a district with 19 registered groups in which 12 to 14 consistently attending monthly district meeting table. A huge thank you goes out to Sean K our outgoing District Committee Member for his help in making our transition run smooth upto this point. At last meeting we had a position of Alternate District Committee Member to be filled in which Dionne M of the Stepping Stones Group stepped up and welcomed into the new position. Looking forward to working with Dionne along with the rest of our new table of officers, committee chairs and Group Service Representatives with fun and enthusiasm in helping to keep Alcoholic Anonymous alive and well with our Groups in District 12 Toronto South West. We have 8 service commitments in which we fill no problem on a monthly basis with a possible 9th one on the horizon discussion and a vote on this newest commitment to occur at our first meeting Wednesday night January 11th at 7pm. At last meeting we made a decision to set an amount to groups not being able to afford to get their group vote and attend the Area Assembly with adequate funds available in our District funds. Financially we start the 17 18 term in good shape making great strides in 2016 to spread funds to Area 83 and G S O as much as our Groups and District could. Making sure the groups received a huge thank you for their efforts hoping this encourages continued success into 2017 time will tell. So far one committee chair has been filled which is treatment we thank Ed V. and his Alternate Caitlin L. look forward to an orientation meeting at our First Meeting in hopes of filling as many of the others as we possibly can. We also have a goal of forming 2 ad hoc committees to look at our recent group inventory in being recommendations back to our table to be voted on implementing into our District Guideline and Procedures. The 2nd committee going through our guideline and procedures coming back with possible suggestions to be voted on and implemented. Looking to meet new faces work with some returning ones at all the service levels as a committee chair is only as good as the committee that surrounds and works with them for the good of Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to serve you in this capacity. Mark

District 14 Toronto North Central

Dave B

I am an alcoholic, my name is Dave, and I'm the DCM for district 14.

Currently, 2/3 of our committee chairs are filled. The attendance at our last meeting was very good. Also, our new literature program with York Regional Police is running well.

We continue to meet our service commitment at the Southlake Hospital in Newmarket.

I will be chairing my first district meeting, as the new DCM on Monday January 9, 2017.

My first order of business will be to fill the chair positions that are currently vacant. Also, to get to the groups that are not represented at the district table. My goal is to promote service within the district.

District 16 Distrito Hispano De Toronto

VACANT

ABSENT – NO REPORT

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District 18 Toronto City East

Michael A

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic, a member of Joy in Sobriety group, the District Committee Member for District 18 Toronto East and my name is Michael A.

District 18 currently has 25 groups registered, with an average of 50% of groups attending district meetings. One of the duties of being District Committee Members is to visit every group in the District and I look forward to visiting the groups in the District and drumming up support and enthusiasm for sobriety through service at the General Service level.

January will be our inaugural meeting for this panel and will also be our new GSR orientation evening which I have been planning with my Alternate District Committee Member Glenn G of the East York group.

Our finances are in reasonable shape, and we made another split recently to Area and GSO. The treasurer we elected in October has stepped down and we will be combining an election for the position of treasurer with elections for the subcommittee chair positions for the term at our February meeting. Our current treasurer has agreed to continue in the role until a replacement can be elected in February.

Groups in District 18 participate in a rotating schedule of Treatment service commitments that cover the meetings at the Michael Garron (formerly Toronto East General) Hospital and the East Toronto Detox facility. There've been some snafus in recent months but we have worked through them.

D18 has only one Correctional services meeting, a parole board meeting. At their request, the time of the meeting was moved to 6 p.m. in October and meetings have continued in this new time slot.

The review of the D18 procedures conducted by outgoing DCM Katrina E and Glenn G passed at our December district meeting. The website committee tasked with developing a website for the district is having its first meeting on Monday.

I am very grateful for this opportunity to serve and I am looking forward to the coming term.

Yours in loving service Michael A, District Committee Member for District 18.

District 22 Scarborough (Read by Area Secretary)

Tom S

Hi Everybody; I am an alcoholic, a member of the Saturday Morning Discussion Group, and the District Committee Member (DCM) for Scarborough District 22..... My name is Tom S.

I want to thank the District for electing me DCM for the 2017-18 term. Of the 21 groups in our District, usually about two thirds attend the table. I'd say that our turn-out was a bit low in December due to the holidays, but as we begin the term with new GSR's at the table, as well as long time committed members returning to do service, things will sort themselves out. We are financially sound and meeting our commitments.

All our Officer are positions filled. We held elections for Sub-committee Chairs, and as our incoming Alternate DCM, Lynn E. passes on her previously held Registrar position to Bert J., all the details of who is doing what will be forwarded and made available.

We've taken the Area's concerns to heart regarding the sales of Grapevine Literature by the Area 83 Grapevine Chair. After discussion and vote we placed a motion on today's agenda to formally support the

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principle of the Area Grapevine Chair coordinating the purchase and distribution of Grapevine materials throughout the districts of Area 83.

I am pleased to announce that we will be co-hosting the 12th Annual East Toronto Archives Breakfast with District 18 on June 4th at the Qssis Hall on Kingston Rd. A long time member will share their experience, strength, and hope in recovery, from the vantage point of having been a newcomer over 50 years ago.

Scarborough District 22 is again participating with the Greater Toronto Area Districts and GTA Intergroup to put on our annual Information AA Day to be held May 27th at the 519 Community Centre on Church Street. For five bucks you get a lunch, a speaker from GSO, (General Service Office), our Delegate's Report from the General Service Conference, as well as Sub-committee panel presentations. It's got me looking forward to spring!

Thank you, And enjoy your sobriety!

District 26 Lakeshore West

Dave L

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Liverpool Group and my name is Dave. It is my privilege to be able to serve as the District Committee Member for District 26, Lakeshore West. I am joined today by our Alternate DCM, Deborah M.

Since our last Area Committee Meeting in December, a few more people have stepped forward and filled all of the vacant positions at the District Table.

On December 24 and 25, Groups in Districts 26 & 28 hosted 24 consecutive AA Meetings as part of our Alcathon at the Alano Club in Oshawa. What a great way to start Christmas and be available to help the alcoholic who still suffers. In cooperation with District 28, we continue to put on meetings at the Renascent Treatment Facility in Brooklyn

With the exception of our prudent reserve, as is customary for our district, we have zeroed our books and sent our surplus on to Intergroup, Area 83 and GSO. Auditors have been selected and will review the district books in January.

Recovery is alive and well in District 26. I have visited two new Groups in our District recently and encouraged them to join our District Meetings, as well as register with GSO.

There will be a GSR Workshop on January 21 for new District 26 GSRs, new Alternate GSRs and any other interested members. The Workshop was developed and will be delivered by 3 members of last term's District table.

I look forward to working with the GSRs, Officers and Committee Chairs in our district for the next 2 years. The last term saw several GSRs and committees grow in knowledge, commitment and service.

I am grateful for my sobriety and this opportunity to be of service.

District 28 Lakeshore East

JoAnn P

Good Morning, I am an alcoholic, member of Courtice 12 and 12 serving as District Committee Member for District 28 Lakeshore East and my name is JoAnn P.

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Since the December Area Committee Meeting, District 28 reviewed the Area 83 Ad Hoc Committee on the Area 83 Inventory Recommendations. We will Endeavour, as a district, to encourage use of full committee names versus acronyms and relay Area 83's website as a valuable resource.

We have one position to fill at the District – Alternate District Committee Member – and I am confident it will be filled. Our first District meeting of this term is January 8th and we will have a slate of new and or experienced General Service Representatives to encourage to let their name stand.

The Lakeshore Districts 26 & 28 annual Alcathon was a success.

District 28 Annual Spring Roundup will be held Saturday, April 8th at the Shrine Club in Oshawa, 1626 Simcoe Street North. Flyers and details will be available, in the near future, on the Lakeshore Intergroup Website – www.aadurham.org.

As a district we are committed to carrying the message to treatment and corrections facilities in our District. Our sub-committee chairs will be reporting on their activities and I will share them with you in March at the Area Assembly.

I look forward to serving District 28 and AA as a whole.

With Gratitude...Yours in Love and Service,

District 30 Quinte West

Ian W

Good morning everyone, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Alderville Pioneer group, currently serving as District Committee Member for District 30 Quinte West, and my name is Ian W. Our District is composed of fifteen registered groups, two hospital service meetings and a growing number of other meetings. We have yet to have a District meeting this year, but in the past we have had around 75 % participation of Group representatives. The District election in October left us with some open positions, but all but two have been filled by volunteers. Our current webmaster Irene stepped up as treasurer, with her alternate Kurt taking over her position. You will be glad to know Herb W. will be keeping active, taking the Treatment chair for the District. The new CPC chair Laurie has been working on a collaboration with District 34 for a immigration event in Bellville, and an event with the high school in Port Hope. Miles C. has remained as literature chair, and is ready to do local events and take orders. The Warkworth ASTRA group, inside the Warkworth Institution, has had its meeting days changed by the staff. The new schedule is - the first, second and fourth Thursday, and the second Tuesday of each month, members and volunteers are making it work. Our one day roundup will be held Saturday, May 27, we will have more details at the spring Assembly in March.

District 34 Quinte East

Gord T

Verbal report given – no report submitted

District 36 Kingston & the Islands

Barry Mack

Hi. I am Barry the incoming DCM for District 36 Kingston and the Islands. I am still new to this position but very eager to learn and I want to get the job done. This is a big step for me and it's a very big privilege and honour to serve at this level of service. (Cell – (343) 333-4149)

District 42 St. Lawrence International (Read by Area Secretary)

Ted R (ADCM)

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

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District Elections

We continued our district elections for the 2017-18 panel at our district meeting on Wednesday. Since not all positions were filled we will continue next month. Results so far: Alternate DCM - Ted R. (continuing), Treasurer - Pat M., Registrar - David D., Literature/Grapevine - Tim M., Treatment Chair - Blayne F. (continuing), Archives Chair - Milner G. (continuing). Secretary – Anne L, Correctional facilities- Heidi C., Hotline Coordinator – David W. We still have the open positions of DCM , Public information, and Cooperation with the professional Community.

District Status

We tried the attraction of free pizza this month as a way to get new faces to stop into the district meeting. This was not really successful but in retrospect the holiday season had much to do with the mediocre attendance. We discussed creating a Events Chair and the discussion of this position will continue next month. We also talked about where our first rotating District meeting would take place and will finalize the location next month.

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

Ted R - 1080 CR 31 Lisbon NY 13658 ADCM@aa-stlawrenceny.org tedritzko@gmail.com

315 322 4058

District 48 Seaway Valley North

Winnie S

I'm an alcoholic and my name is Winnie S. I have the honour and privilege of serving as the incoming DCM fro District 48 – Seaway Valley North. My home group I Sunday Morning Discussion Group in Kempeville.

The first District 48 meeting in this term was held Tuesday January 3rd. Attendance was excellent despite a freezing rain warning. The primary business was firming up the organization of our Round-Up in Dixon's Corners February 4th, 2017. Flyers are available on the back table.

District 50 Cornwall

Kimberley C

District 50 has held elections and most positions have been filled. We are confident that the remaining positions will be occupied shortly. District 50's DCM is Kimberly C, a member of the Saturday Serenity Group and our Alternate DCM is Steph L. a member of the nooners group. We are Grateful for District 50 allowing us to serve and look forward to meeting everyone in the Area meetings. District 50's groups are doing well and gaining new members weekly. We have a variety of meeting such as speaker, step and discussion.

Our Alcothon was held on December 24, 2016 and was a success.

Our next District will be held on February1, 2017 and I am looking forward to serving for the 2017-2018 term.

District 54 Ottawa Rideau

Bartosz W

Good morning everyone, I am the incoming District Committee Member for District 54 Ottawa Rideau, my home group is Search for Serenity on Wednesday nights on Old Tenth Line Road, I am an alcoholic and my name is Bartosz.

Our last District 54 meeting was held this past Thursday January 5th. All of our service positions are now filled with Frank O. stepping up for the Self Support chair role for 2017 and 2018. Our first order of business was ammending our operating procedures to conduct District elections prior to the Fall Assembly in order to allow incoming table officers and representatives the opportunity to go to the Assemy for experience and coordination.

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We are encouraging our incoming General Service Representatives and Alternates as well as those with interest and experience in service positions to attend the Workshop hosted by District 62 at the First United Church this coming Monday January 9th in Ottawa.

It is my honour to serve as the District Committee Member for District 54 and I look forward to the term.

District 58 Ottawa Bytown

Michel D

ABSENT – NO REPORT

District 62 Ottawa West Patrick Garden

Mike B

Good afternoon, I am an alcoholic. A member of the Westboro Big Book Study Group and have the honour and privilege of serving as the District Committee Member for District 62 Ottawa West, my name is Mike Bennett.

There has been a flurry of activity in District 62 since we last met. Our annual Alkathon which holds meetings and fellowship over Christmas & New Years' was well attended as usual. This year the Alkathon went back to its 24 hour format and was well received by the Fellowship in Ottawa.

Our first District meeting will be held on January 9th at our new home at All Saints Church in Westboro. Our move is basically to hold our District meeting within the boundaries of our District and to better serve the groups that attend.

We are kicking off our first meeting with a meet and greet pot luck an hour before the regular meeting and all our service committees have been invited to attend and set up their displays and engage our incoming GSR's with any questions they might have regarding these committees and how to get involved in service. We have also invited Districts 58 & 54 to attend this soirée. This is a great opportunity to get all our service members together under the same roof and kick off our 2 year term with enthusiasm. This will also be a good time to have members who are not already in service to drop by and see what we do when it comes to our Third Legacy.

Sandy S. Area 83, Panel 59 Delegate has been invited to facilitate our annual GSR workshop that she has done for the past several years. Always a great presentation. Thank you Sandy.

A few of our positions remain vacant at our table but we have been shaking the bushes and I am confident that they will not remain vacant for very long.

I am looking forward to attending CERAASA (Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) in Moncton N.B. next month. This will be the second time I attend.

On a service note, Our Ottawa area Archives Committee will be holding the 14th Annual Archives Luncheon on Saturday February 25 from 11:00 am and 2:00 pm at Kitchissippi United Church, all are welcome to attend.

I am reminded of 3 words that were used by one of our past Delegates, "ENTHUSIASM BREEDS ENTHUSIASM!" I go forth with that spirit in mind.

District 66 Golden Triangle

Jenny C

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

Verbal report given – no report submitted.

District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

Seanna B

I am an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Keep It Simple Group and am currently serving as DCM for District 70 Renfrew Pontiac.

District 70 is pleased to report that all officer positions for the 2017/2018 term have been filled. District 70 hosted "A Sober Christmas" mini round up on December 17 which was very well attended in spite of a severe snow storm. December 17 was also the last district meeting of 2016, and very grateful to Mary Ann H. for doing such a great job serving as DCM. for 2015/2016, thank you Mary Ann.

Our annual St. Patrick's Day Round Up will be held March 18, 2017 at the Renfrew Armouries, all are welcome. The Renfrew Group celebrated group anniversary, 65 YEARS!!!!

As I enter this term with much humility, to quote an old sponsor, "Here we grow again!", I am grateful for this opportunity to give back through service what has been freely given to me, and look forward to getting to know all of you.

District 74 Pembroke

Bill C

ABSENT – NO REPORT

District 78 Madawaska Valley

Ann-Marie V

I am an alcoholic, a member of the Paudash Northern Lights Group, and am the current District Committee Member for district 78, my name is Anne V.

This will be a short report, as I am just settling into this new position and I'm definitely on a learning curve. I am grateful for this opportunity to be of service and I'm looking forward to all of the learning opportunities that lie ahead!

District 82 Victoria Haliburton

Janice D

Good morning friends, I am an alcoholic and member of Solutions Big Book group in Lindsay and my name is Janice D. I do hope everyone had a great Christmas and wishing you all the best for this New Year.

Our district is both financially and spiritually sound and able to meet all our commitments. We are running between 70 and 75 percent attendance at meeting.

We are happy to say that all the positions at District 82 table has been filled with the exception of CPC chair but we are confident that someone will step forward shortly.

The Central East Correction Centre is going well but there have been no meetings during the Christmas holidays however there was a problem early in December and hopefully this is a one time occurrence.

The District 82 Conference Committee has been working hard to put together the conference for this year. It will be held Saturday May 6th at the Armouries in Lindsay – the same location it has been held for the last several years. The theme is H.O.W. it works – with the emphasis on the H for honesty O for open-mindedness and W for being willing. We have flyers here today and will have more flyers and tickets available at the Kingston Assembly.

Our first District meeting for this new term will be held tomorrow and I am looking forward to serving and working with the new District Committee.

Wishing you a safe drive home

District 86 Kawartha

Larry D

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

My name is Larry D and I am the newly elected DCM for District 86. I feel honoured to represent our area and will do my best to fill the shoes of my predecessor David H, a tall order to say the least. I am willing to devote whatever time is necessary to fulfil my responsibilities and to work with the other DCM's from the area to make things run well and smoothly. District 86 positions have been filled except for the Secretary/Registrar, PI/PCP. Treatment and Archives but we anticipate it won't be long before some people jump in and help to fill these spots. All is running smoothly in our district. Thank you.

6. Committee member reports

We now come to our Area Sub-Committee Chair reports. We rely on your humility and compassion to keep your reports brief. As with the Districts, written reports may be as long as you like and will be included in the minutes in their entirety, if given to James, our Secretary. I would ask the committee members to stay at the front after their reports to answer any questions, if any.

Our first report will be from our.....

a) Public Information Chairperson

Les MacD

Welcome to District 34 everyone, I'm a alcoholic, have the privilege of serving as your Area 83 Public Information Chairperson for the 2017-2018 term a member of the Foxboro Friendship Group in District 34 and my name is Les MacD

I'm very excited to be part of another journey in AA service, As I start this new position my feelings are changing from fear and apprehension to oh God what have I got myself into now to getting excited as to what lies ahead. After talking to Rob McA and Herb W who have being very generous with their knowledge and time in helping me make this leap forward ,thanks guys, you know I think this position is manageable for me. I like to make use of all the resources that are available to me. I have not received my Public Information kit yet but I've being looking through Elaine H's files, literature and pamphlets to get a little insight as to what is to come since I didn't have the privilege with sitting with her and discussing her duties, and oh how organized she was, My thought is that I have big shoes to fill. Since I've become involved in AA service these have being the best years of my sobriety, being sober for awhile.

I've being elected as a resource for you to use, the more we work together the better we carry the message through Public Information to the still suffering alcoholic. I received District 36 minutes, they were the first also I'll be available for whatever the Districts in Area 83 ask of me. So I ask all District Committee Members or District Secretary's to send me their minutes so I can read them and keep in contact.

In closing, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve and be a spoke in the wheel in service for Area 83." If no one told you today that they love you let Me be the First.

Yours in Love, Fellowship and Service.....Les MacD

b) Cooperation with the Professional Community Chairperson

Jim S

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

I am an Alcoholic, a member of The Sunday Nighters Group in District 82 Victoria/ Haliburton, and my name is Jim S. It is my privilege to serve you as your Area Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair for this term.

I am very excited as I start my journey as the CPC Chair for Area 83. I have been blessed to serve the Area in three other positions as a Sub-Committee Chair, one as your Corrections Chair, Grapevine Chair and Public Information Chair. With each of these I went through the same range of feelings as I am now. First a little fear, then apprehension and now after having talked to a couple of past Area CPC Chairs the excitement is setting in.

Looking through the CPC Workbook and other information that I have received, I realize that there is so much more to CPC than making sure there is literature available to the Professional Community. This will be a learning experience for me, and I can only promise to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my ability. I am ready and willing to work with all the Districts that make up Area 83.

I have been elected as a resource for you to use. An invitation is all that is required, if you would like me to do some type of workshop/presentation for your District. This could be as simple as having me attend your District meeting, Service Day or Conference. Anywhere there is interest in CPC. It is up to the District's to form their own committees, and once this is done I am sure that working together we can make things happen. If I may suggest, those Districts who do not have an elected District CPC chair to please try and fill this position.

As well I am asking you to give some thought and feedback on what your District feels is the number one concern dealing with Cooperation with the Professional Community.

I know I can count on all of you for your good advice as I go about my new task. Thank you for allowing me to serve not only Area 83 but Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Yours in Love and Service
Jim

c) Correctional Facilities Chairperson

Mac B

Unfortunately I have been bedridden for the past three days with some sort of flu so I won't be able to attend the ACM today I have asked James O'D to kindly read my report into the record - thanks James.

Good afternoon friends

I am an alcoholic and a grateful member of the get well group in Kingston and I have the honour and privilege of serving as correctional facilities chair for Area and my name is Mac.

I want to give a warm welcome to all the newly elected CF chairs and the new bridging the gap BTG contact person for each of the districts Who will be in your in your district for Jan 2017?

Bridging the gap BTG still updating CF chair list with the corrections BTG contact for each group each district please let me know any updated info about the BTG contacts for your district - good news the first Canadian The first Canadian inmate has contacted GSO requesting an AA. Correspondent. GSO has a list of Canadian AAA members who wish to be correctional correspondence at first they may write US clients inmates until more Canadian clients become aware of the opportunity or wait to be linked the key right now is to have Canadian AA members Aware ,ready, willing and on the list at GSO Corrections kit contents and other service material available online you can visit the corrections page of GSO AA website WWW.aa.org to review download and print the most recent versions of corrections service materials. There are you can find the corrections service kit can contact list with interl active links to enable you to re-create your own your own get find me I want to thank Robert and Deirdre for all their encouragement and help in the transition.

Yours in Love and Service Mac B.
Panel 67 CF Chair

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Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

d) Treatment Chairperson

Marty M

Hello everyone. I am a grateful alcoholic and privileged to serve as your panel 67 Treatment/Accessibility chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International.

First, I would like to say Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you all had a great holiday season.

The first week of 2017 has been pretty quiet. No Bridging the Gap requests. I have however been a little bit busy. I started off by attending the December meeting of the Toronto Area Accessibility Committee. This was very informative, I have already learned more about accessibility, and I can't wait to share this at the next Assembly.

I just want to say how grateful I am to have been chosen for this position. I am looking forward to serving with all of you.

To those Districts who are sending me your District meeting minutes; I thank you. I have already started reading them. I would like to get all of your meeting minutes.

That's it for me. I wish everyone a safe trip home later today. I'm looking forward seeing you all in Kingston in March.

In Love and Service,

Marty M

Panel 67 Treatment / Accessibility Chair

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

e) Grapevine Chairperson

Robert B

Area 83 Grapevine Chair Robert B. of the Rexdale United Group.

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Thanks Robert B. Area 83 Grapevine Chair

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f) Self-Support Chairperson

Ray R

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Last Chance Group, and serving as your Are 83, Panel 67 Self Support Chair, my name is Ray R.

Where money and spiritually mixes, a great slogan, but not always an easy concept, but moving forward, I'm hoping to clear some of the myths.

Theres so much more to to self support than money, theres also time and talent. And i figure that if we could use our time and talent correctly, the money will surely follow.

Now that the dust has cleared, and I'm settling into my new position, I'm actually looking forward to it. I've spent the last week going thru the material that was handed down, reading the operating guidelines, and reaching out to some past Self Support Chairs. I got really lucky spending New Years Eve with Jim Armstrong, and not only is he a wealth of information, he was more than happy to share some of his experiences with me. I've also had conservations with our immediate outgoing Self Support Chair, Dave L, and they both assure me that this hoop that I've got to jump thru is wider than I think.

While Self Support isn't formally recognized at GSO as a standing committee, it's highly doubtful that the districts Self Support Chairs will receive a welcome kit, so I've inserted some Self Support packages into the folders at the back of the room, and I'm requesting the DCM's to bring them back to their Self Support Chairs.

As the full roster comes out, I'm looking forward to connecting with the new Self Support Chairs, and hopefully continue the bi-monthly meetings in Toronto.

And as expected, I will make myself available for service days, or any events that you have in mind. I can be reached at selfsupport@area83.org.

The world of self support is as wide open as we want it to be, and I'm always looking for fresh ideas on how we could enhance things. I am still a student in AA and always open to suggestion.

Yours in Love and Service
Ray R

g) Archives Chairperson

Eddie G

Good morning everyone, I am an alcoholic, a member of the Beaches Group, serve as your Area 83 Archives Chairperson and my name is Eddy G.

In the first few days of having this position two thoughts came to mind regarding the **Responsibilities of this position 1. To bring awareness about archives and 2. To help in anyway with archives to the members & groups in Area 83.**

So here are the following activities I have been doing in the last month:

-Looked over the Job Descriptions of the Area Archives Chairperson & the Area Archivist.
It occurred to me how the two positions work together. The Archivist has the technical knowledge & the continuity of experience over the years with these two positions.

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The Incoming Archives Chairperson is learning & directing the flow of information from the Archivist to the members & groups in Area 83. I will talk about this later on in my report.

-Checked the Area 83 Website (area83aa.org) under Resources – Archives.

The AA Archives Guidelines, the Archives Workbook & the Oral History Kit are linked to the GSO Website. I mention this to the DCM's so you can pass this on to your new District Archives Chairpersons. They can start reading the archives material while they are waiting for their GSO Archives Kit.

The Area 83 Archivist Newsletter- “The Eighty Three” from 2010-2016 Issues are on the Area 83 Website.

Also on the Area 83 Website are the Area 83 Committee Meeting Minutes from 2011-2016 & Assembly Minutes from 2010-2016.

I gave Rob McA. (Alt. Delegate) & Kimberley M. (Chairperson) each a memory stick with Area 83 Committee Meeting & Assembly Minutes from 1975-2014. All these minutes were scanned by Bryan D'S. from District 22. If anyone would like to make a copy let me know.

-Checked the GSO Website (aa.org) under Archives & History.

Timeline of AA History – Origins, 1935- 2016.

Digital Archives – Articles of Jack Alexander, Sister Ignatia, AA 10th Anniversary in Cleveland 1950 & 12 Traditions.

Markings- Your Archives Newsletter. Past newsletters.

Archives Audio Library- Bill W. at the 1969 GSC, Bill on Criticism & AA, Dr. Bob's Last Message, An Interview of Sister Ignatia in 1964, Bill W. on the origin of Rule 62 & Sister Ignatia talk.

Also there are three sections- About GSO Archives, Information for Researchers and History & Resources all of which have much information.

The following two items are available from GSO:

The newly released revised & updated- Markings on the Journey (DVD) \$10.00.

This DVD has rare images from the GSO Archives telling the history of AA from its founding & pioneering days.

Holiday Gift Set – 4 Volumes, \$30.00, free shipping & is available only until January 31st.

The 4 Volumes - Pass It On, Dr. Bob & the Good Oldtimers, AA Comes of Age & the 75th Anniversary Edition of the Big Book.

Received Memory stick from Peter N. Past Area 83 Archives Chairperson from 2011-2012. I looked over the memory stick & there was a lot of information which will help me in this position.

I tried to get in touch with the Outgoing Area 83 Archives Chairperson Linda D. but I haven't heard back from her.

GSO Archives Kit- Received two weeks ago and started to look over the material.

Talked with David T. (Outgoing Area 83 Archivist) & we have started to plan for the following three events:

1. Spring Assembly Archives Workshop- We will have an open forum with questions & answers where the audience & the panelists will all be participating.

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So far Jennifer C. (District 26 Archives Chairperson) & David T. have confirmed. We will have a few more people on the panel.

2. Area 83 Archivist Newsletter- So far we plan to have a list of group history questions, a group history, photos- group meeting location, table cover, slogans, how a member conducts an oral history & Did You Know? This newsletter will be put together by David T. & will be out at the Spring Assembly in March.

3. Area 83 Archives Workshop- This year we will have it in Toronto in April. Jim W. (GTA Intergroup Alt. Archivist) has a contact at the Hockey Hall of Fame. This person mentioned to Jim that they have a room where workshops can be conducted & then a tour of their archives can be given at the same location. Flyers will be out at the Spring Assembly.

As you can see there is much work that needs to be planned with the Archives Chair & the Archivist.

This is why I put forward under new business a motion to have David T. (who is our outgoing Area 83 Archivist) fill in as Area 83 Archivist until the Adhoc Committee Recommendations or until a new Archivist is appointed.

Jennifer C. (District 26 Archives Chairperson) has six boxes of District 26 items. Jim & I plan to meet with Jennifer in January and help her look through the boxes & put the items in some kind of order.

Homework for all the DCM's at Area 83.

Do you have District Archives? District Minutes, Group Histories etc...

I will be contacting each DCM to find out the status of your archives.

District Minutes- Can you ask your Secretary to send me your minutes. I would appreciate it.

Area 83 History of Positions & Districts up to 2011.

This is located at the side table. Please feel free to look at it.

h) Service Information Day Chairperson

N/A

7. Registrar's Report

Amy L

Area 83 Registrar Report

for Area Committee Meeting held Saturday January 7, 2017

Hello Friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of the Liverpool Group and currently serving as your Panel 67 Registrar for Area 83 International and my name is Amy L.

The roll call for today is **14** Area Officers (including Webmaster & Area Archivist),

1 Immediate Past Delegate, **3** Past Delegates, **20** District Committee Members, **12** Alternate District Committee Members and **12** visitors.

For voting purposes there are: **13** Area Officers eligible to vote (including **1** Immediate Past Delegate) and **20** District Committee Members or Alternate District Committee Members for a total of **33** votes. Total delegation for this meeting is **63** people.

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I met with Sue B, the Area's previous registrar last weekend and besides being a very organized person, she did a fantastic job documenting the duties of this position. We worked for about 5 hours at Les' place. I came home with the excitement of serving AA in a new capacity, anxious to put my OCD skills to work, and looking forward to the chance to meet more friends in Alcoholics Anonymous. The next day I started entering the group change forms that had arrived over the weekend thus cementing many of the Registrar's procedure in my mind (thank you district 36 for all of the practice you have afforded me).

I have passed along to Jim R., the webmaster, the New Group forms and Group Information Change forms with my address and contact email (registrar@area83aa.org) to upload on the Area website (www.area83aa.org). You will find them under Resources/ Registrar and they are Word files that are easy to download.

Please pass along to your District Registrars that it is much easier to identify the changes to a form if they are highlighted or bolded. Updates or new group forms should be sent to me by email and in a Word format-its makes it so much easier to cut and paste information and not introduce unfortunate human errors.

It is important for your groups to update their information as soon as possible. While each district is autonomous, the general practice is to have your District's Secretary or Registrar collect the Change forms and submit them to me. I will enter the new information in the General Service Office's database –called Fellowship New Vision (FNV) and if there are any new GSRs, I flag these people for GSO to send out GSR kits. Kits should arrive within a month. So don't delay- as we should insure that all GSRs have the tools they need to do their job. Don't forget to remind GSRs and their alternates to indicate if they want to be listed in the AA directory, and whether they want their surname as an initial or spelled out.

Lastly, with the recent shift of new GSRs there may be some groups that will lose their Group contact because the previous GSR has been removed and no replacement has been named. These groups will fall into a category called "Unknown", and I will be in touch with you when I come across unknowns–primarily because every group should have a contact, and it might just be a matter of nudging a GSR or a group to fill out the form.

Please continue to send your minutes as I like to know what is going on in your districts. It also can be a resource for my registrar activities.

I am sure we will be in touch.

Thank you for this opportunity and privilege to be of service.
Yours in Love and Service.

Amy L
Registrar-Area 83 International

8. Treasurer's Report

Sue B

Hello friends. I am an alcoholic, a member of the Parkwood Hills Group in District 62, and my name is Sue. It is both an honour and a privilege to serve as your Area 83 Treasurer.

I wish to thank Kimberley M for all of the assistance she so freely gave me. I met with Kimberley at her home this past Tuesday and Wednesday where she provided me with detailed instructions on how to serve as your Area 83 Treasurer, and of course handed over all the Treasurer supplies.

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Please remind your groups that Area contributions should now be sent to myself. I have provided two envelopes with my address in each the DCM folders. Please share these with your District and Group Treasurers for future contributions. Several of the envelopes are also available on the side table, please help yourselves to them. I have asked Jim, our Webmaster, to update the Area website with my address. These envelopes have a spot on the return section where District and Group Treasurers can print their return address along with the Group Name, Group Number and District Number. This will help me to mail the receipt confirmations to the correct people. If there is no indication as to where the cheque is from, and the name of the sender is not familiar, then the contribution will appear under "unspecified" and your District will not get credit for the contribution.

Please ask your Treasurer's to make contribution cheques payable to:

Eastern Ontario International Area 83 and mail to:

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International
c/o Sue Balfour
1 – 284 Ferndale Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1Z 6P8

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 the 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 was a total of eight contributions using Paypal in 2016.

Also in the District Committee Members mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders, you will find copies of the financial statement which Kimberley graciously prepared for the period ending December 31, 2016. Copies of these are also available on the side table; let's go through these numbers now, please.

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

You can compare each item with the Proposed Spending Guideline which was presented at the Spring Assembly last year, and is shown here in the 2nd column. The third column shows the difference between the actual amount and the guideline amount. A negative indicates that the actual amount is less than the guideline amount.

Income for the period:

- 7th tradition collected at the Assembly and Area Committee Meetings \$7,966.70
- Cost recoveries from the sale of grapevine materials and service manuals \$408.00
- Grapevine Seasonal \$4,130.03
- Group and District contributions \$54,400.91

Total income for the period is \$67,005.64.

Expenses for the period:

- Committee expenses are \$42,031.41
- Area Contribution to GSO \$100.00
- Area Committee Meeting – rent and refreshments \$1,465.46
- General Service Conference Assessment \$10,412.40
- Bank service charges – \$15.40
- Paypal Fees – \$22.56
- Forum in Thunder Bay – \$1,398.22

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- Grapevine Seasonals - \$4,089.76
- GSO Flow Through - \$100
- Ontario Delegates Conference – \$1,514.37
- International Conferences - 0

Total expenses for the period are \$61,149.58.

To date expenses are \$5,856.06 lower than income.

The bank opening balance on January 1, 2016 was \$23,640.83.

Total income less expenses leaves a balance in the operating account of \$29,496.89 as of December 31, 2016.

The bank reconciliation has been done and the balance in the operating account is accurate.

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

Just to clarify some of the numbers that you see here:

- The amount shown on the Webmaster line under miscellaneous, \$374.78, is the amount of website renewal for 2 years as well as for the hosting services of PowWeb for the next 2 years.
- The amount shown on the Archives line under miscellaneous, \$499.93, is for the Archives workshop in Ottawa.
- Beside Grapevine under Literature you see \$667.89, some of that has been recovered from sales of grapevine books and shows up under cost recoveries on page 1. The amount recovered to date is \$289.25.
- Beside the Spring Assembly, under meals you see \$4,000.00 which covers the coffee. In that same line under miscellaneous, the amount of \$1,255.74 includes the Archives room and DVD rental, data projectors and the set up of the ballroom.
- Beside the Fall Assembly, under meals you see \$4,397.51 which covers the coffee. You see that the two amounts are different. This is because the hotel undercharged us both years. One more than the other despite me pointing out the error to them a number of times. In that same line under miscellaneous, the amount includes the Archives room and DVD rental, data projectors and the set up of the ballroom.
- Beside Area Committee Meetings, travel expenses were for a previous delegate to facilitate the election for the new self-support chair at the January 2016 Area Committee Meeting.
- Miscellaneous in that same line is for the rent and refreshments for the Area Committee Meetings last year.

At the bottom of the page is a summary comparing year to date for 2016 and 2015. Here you can see that our income to date is up \$4,265.93 compared to last year at this time. Our expenses are up \$3,123.39. The resulting net change to our operating account is \$1,142.54.

Contributions are up \$4,342.70 compared to last year at this time. One more group has contributed and four less Districts have contributed compared to last year.

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

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The 2017 General Service Conference Assessment will be held in Rye Brook, NY at an estimated cost of \$6,500.00 US, or approximately \$8,600.00 CDN. The minimum required amount is \$1,600.00 US which is due by March 1, 2017. Additional voluntary contributions may be sent at any time.

At the Spring Assembly in 2007, a motion was passed stating that *“provided it doesn’t affect our prudent reserve, Area 83 pay to GSO the full annual expense for our Delegate to attend the General Service Conference.”*

With this in mind, and after discussion with Kimberley this past week regarding the Area’s financial situation, I will be sending a cheque to the GSO in the amount of \$4,000.00 US, approximately \$5,292.80 CDN. This will leave a balance to be paid of \$2,500.00 US, approximately \$3,308.00 CDN, which will cover the full cost. This will probably be sent in May 2017 after the Spring Assembly has been paid. I will, of course, keep you informed.

I have received the rates from the Ambassador Hotel for the Spring Assembly, March 24 – 26, 2016; they are as follows:

Room Rates:

- Traditional, 2 Queen Beds - \$104.00 + applicable taxes

The Hotel agrees to hold a block of rooms at these prices until Wednesday, February 22, 2017. Anyone booking for the Assembly after February 22nd, are subject to space and rate availability as these guestrooms will then be released for general booking. Please quote the Group Name: “Spring Assembly” when you call or email.

Food and Beverage Prices:

- Saturday Dinner Buffet – 34.50 per person including gratuity and tax
- Coffee Service – \$14.00 per person including gratuity and tax

Our Immediate Past Delegate, Joyce S, handed me this morning information she received from the General Service Office regarding which Groups contributed to GSO, listed by District. This is for the nine months ending September 30, 2016. Please check your DCM folders for this information.

Before anyone in their new Area Chair positions can order literature, you will require a GSO Service number to do so. I have sent an email off to the GSO requesting this information. I will be sending out an email to all those involved as soon as I am in receipt of this information.

Please continue to send me your District Minutes, I love to read them.

In closing, thank you to the 177 Groups and 16 Districts that have made financial contributions to Area 83 in 2016. As of December 31, 2016, all cheques received have been processed, and receipts along with return contribution envelopes were sent out.

Thank for your generous contributions.

Yours in Love and Service,

Sue B

Area 83 Treasurer

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9. Secretary's Report

James O'D

Good morning. I have the privilege of serving as the Area 83 Secretary for the 2017-2018 term – Panel 67.

Immediately before and after ACMs or Assemblies is the secretary's busiest times....and this meeting has not been an exception!

DCMs....

If you have not already sent me your District change form please do so as soon as you can. This information is key in the transmission of information from the groups (top of the triangle) to the GSO (bottom) and back again.

What happens if we do not have this information updated?

I had a detailed bullet point list but it just got so crazy I will sum it up quickly. Information does not flow back and forth through the General Service structure thus making us less effective as an Area in serving the needs of the still suffering alcoholics inside and outside this room.

On an administrative level, once all the data has been received and processed, a Master Roster will be sent out for your review. This will be sent out sporadically throughout our two year term. If there are updates to be made please **DO NOT SEND THE MASTER ROSTER BACK** with corrections. We have a writable District Change form which is posted on our website under Resources/Secretary. I also have some here in hardcopy. This is the only form for district changes. Changes must be highlighted in some way so that when a change form is received I will know what has to be amended, deleted or changed. Your cooperation in this important task is very much appreciated. It will save everyone involved – me included – a lot of time and frustration.

On a more general note, feel free to contact me with any tweeks, corrections, suggestions, etc. I am here to serve you, Area 83 and the AA structure as a whole in which we all have a part to play. If there is anything you need just let me know.

And on a closing note, if you see me outside, getting a coffee, in line at lunch, at an Assembly, or basically anywhere, please stop and chat. We are all on this great ocean liner together and am looking forward to getting to know you.

I leave this for your reflection....

10. Alternate Delegate's Report

Rob McA

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

A big thank you to Kim for sharing your experience as Alternate Delegate with me. I'm ready to get your tea for the next 2 years, and will do my best to make it just the way you like it. One week into this term there has not been much to do, but I expect that will change.

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One of the responsibilities of the Alternate Delegate is to be the single point of contact and be responsible for all matters relating to Remote Communities initiatives across Area 83, including serving as liaison with other Delegate Areas as required. In the past this has involved being part of the Remote Communities workgroup for Canada, and participating in the scheduled conference calls to keep our Area up to date about what is happening in Remote Communities. Kim has forwarded my information to the workgroup chairperson but I haven't had any contact yet. I'm hoping to hear from them soon so I can become part of this work group.

Our operating procedures state the Alternate Delegate shall be Intergroup Liaison Officer for Area 83 (liaison between General Service and the various Intergroups in Area 83). I have sent a letter of introduction to the 4 Intergroup offices in our Area located in Toronto, Oshawa, Peterborough, and Ottawa. I asked to receive their committee meeting minutes, and offered to be of service in any way I can. I hope to have the opportunity to attend some of these Committee meetings.

I have accepted invitations to participate in the Districts 6 and 12 Service in Recovery day on February 18th, as well as Info AA day in Toronto on May 27th.

I've registered and made plans to attend CERAASA February 24-26 in Moncton NB. Apparently Alternate Delegates will be asked to participate, but I haven't been asked yet. I look forward to being there and being of service.

Our Area website is an excellent source of information for all of us and includes contact information for all Area Officers, and Sub-Committee Chairs. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there's anything I can assist your Groups or Districts with.

Yours in Love and Service

Rob McA

11. Delegate's Report

Kim S

Hi my name is Kim, I am an alcoholic, a member of the St. Clements Group and I am your very fresh (7 days in) Panel 67 Delegate.

My feet hit the ground January first and I was off and running! Many emails arrived congratulating me now that I was officially the Delegate. Also emails from GSO, our ECRT Richard, and Dave A., the Chair of CERAASA started pouring in.

I can tell you that I am on the Public Information Day Committee at the General Service Conference. According to word on the street, that is one of the busiest committees at the conference. The conference background material will be posted on the dashboard and available for Delegates February 15th.

The theme for the conference is "**Supporting Our Future**"

I have a few things on my calendar:

- Feb 18 – District 06 & 12 Service Day
- February 24-26 CERAASA in Moncton, NB
- Spring Assembly March 24-26
- April 23-29 General Service Conference in Rye, New York
- May 27- Info AA Day
- May 28 – Districts 26, 28, 82 & 86 Service Day

I am also on the Area 86 Financial Adhoc Committee. I was asked by Pat, the Area 86 Chair to be on this committee to audit the financial records for the past year. Their Operating procedures require an officer from a neighboring Area to be on the committee.

A note about CERAASA (Canadian Eastern Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) - this is a great opportunity to be a part of something big, a wider discussion of conference agenda items. It is an opportunity to watch

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all 10 Eastern Canada Regional Delegates, our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee and our Trustee at Large for Canada in action! It is not too often that all these people are together and in one room in Canada.

If you need me to be at a service day or other AA function please let me know and if I am available I will be there!

Thank you to Joyce...for her help, suggestions, her rolling briefcase and much more.

Yours in love and service, with hugs

Kim S.

Panel 67 Delegate

Agenda Item 4
(Review and Acceptance minutes deferred from this morning).

Has everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes of the December 3rd, 2016 Area Committee meeting? Are there any errors or omissions in the minutes?

I would entertain a motion to accept the December 3rd, 2016 ACM minutes as submitted (or amended)

Motion by: Mark B – DCM D12

Seconded: Dave B – DCM D14

Discussion - NO

All those In favour - All

All those Opposed - 0

Any Abstentions - 0

Motion Carried

**Note: At this point in the agenda, I would like to recommend that we move to 2/3 majority.
May I have a motion to move to 2/3 majority?**

Motioned: Dave L – DCM D26

Seconded: Shane H – DCM D02

All those is favour - ALL
Motion carried

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

12. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

13. NEW BUSINESS

a) Appointment of Signing Authorities

Sue B

Motion:

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In addition to the signatures of Sue B and James O, Area 83 Secretary, we appoint Mike B, DCM District 62, as the third secondary signing authority for Area 83 for the 2017 / 2018 term.

Made by Sue B.
Any discussion?

Seconded by – Robert B – Area GV Chair

All those in favour - ALL

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

Motion carried

b) Appointment of Auditors, 2015-2016 Finances

Sue B

Motion:

That we appoint Mike B, DCM District 62 and Sandy S, Past Delegate, Panel 59, as auditors to assist the Area 83 Treasurer in auditing Area 83's books for the years 2015 /2016

Made by Sue B.
Any discussion?

Seconded by – JoAnn P – DCM D28

All those in favour - ALL

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

Motion carried

c) Discussion: 2020 Eastern Canada Regional Forum hosted by Area 83(Location etc) Kim S

Discussion – Kim S, Area 83 Delegate – She introduced the discussion. Area 83 does not have to bid as it has already been decided by GSO. All the Area has to decide is which city to have it in. It has been suggested that Toronto or Ottawa would be good candidates. Kim needs to have pricing and locations for four hotels for the GSO to select. We DO NOT select – Area 83 is hosting. Kim suggested that we have precedent for the decision to be made at the ACM and not necessarily wait for the Assembly.

Motion: The 2020 Eastern Canada Regional Forum be hosted in Toronto.

Made by: Larry D – DCM D86

Seconded: Marty M – Area TF Chair.

YES – 4

NO – 26

ABSTENTION – 2

Motion DEFEATED

Motion: The 2020 Eastern Canada Regional Forum be hosted in Ottawa

Made by: Jenny C – DCM D66

Seconded: Dave B – DCM D14

YES – 28

NO – 0

ABSTENTION – 3

Motion CARRIED

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d) Area 83 to purchase 1000 Area pins

Rob McA

Made by Rob McA – Area 83 Alternate Delegate

Seconded by Les MacD – Area 83 PI Chair

Rob spoke to the motion. Cost \$840.30. 1000 pins since the last purchase have lasted over 6 years. Our Immediate Past Delegate spoke in favour of the motion in her experience as a Past Delegate. The question of who would distribute them was answered – at the discretion of the Delegate. If it gets passed at the ACM it is automatically brought to the Assembly because it involves a large amount of money.

All those in favour - 28

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 2

Motion carried CARRIED.

e) Motion to accept the recommendations of the Area Inventory Review Ad Hoc Committee

Motion made by: Amy L – Area Registrar

Seconded – Ray R – Area Self Support

There were 2 recommendations and an additional consideration made by the AdHoc Committee at our last ACM which are:

The Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the area create a poster sized version of Acronyms and their meanings that shall be displayed at each Assembly so that it will be visible by all who attend.

The Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the Area 83 Operating procedures be amended by adding, in Section III (Responsibilities) Sub Section 3 (Area Chairperson), the following wording: The Chairperson shall strike an Ad Hoc Committee every 4 years to review the location and expenses for the bi-annual Area 83 Assemblies beginning in the year 2020.

As an additional consideration, the committee suggests that the area make a concerted effort to promote (yes, promote) the use of our Area website as a resource through all levels of the General Service Structure in Area 83. The Area 83 website could be the subject of a special workshop at an Area 83 Assembly.

The first item can be decided here today. The second item if passed would then need to go the assembly since it required changing the operating procedures. The third item is just a discussion. Would you like to handle these items together or separately? Can I take a sense of the room? Who would like to handle these as 3 separate items? Who would like to vote on them together?

First one:

Made by Amy L

Seconded by Ray R – Area Self Support

Would Amy like to speak to the motion? Yes. Common themes came up. Acronyms are being over used.

Any discussion? Joyce – Immediate Past Delegate – suggested that the acronyms be inserted into the agendas.

All those in favour – 5

All those opposed - 23

Any abstentions – 2

Motion DEFEATED

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Minority Voice – Robert B – Area GV Chair – Suggested to the ACM that we should pay more attention to the recommendations made by an Ad Hoc meeting.

No vote change. Motion remains DEFEATED. No revote.

Second one: Made by Amy L Seconded by Ray R – Area Self Support
 Would Amy like to speak to the motion?
 Any discussion?

All those in favour - 29 All those opposed - 0 Any abstentions - 0

 Motion CARRIED
Third one: Made by Amy L Seconded by Ray R – Area Self Support

 Amy suggested that it is very possible that the fellowship is unaware of the amazing information available on the Area 83 website. Echoed by our Alternate Deleagatate.

f) Eddie G – Motion withdrawn before any discussion or vote.

At our December ACM, in the Chairpersons Report given by Rob, he made a recommendation after consultation with the Archivist, David, the Archives Chair, Linda, and myself as the incoming Chairperson. Rob recommended that the Area consider forming an Ad Hoc committee to look into the Area's policy on Archives as a whole, the scope and responsibilities between the Archives Chair, and the Archivist, and the cost to carry out these duties. He also recommended that the appointment of the next Archivist be deferred until after the committee findings are reported. Following this recommendation, I'd like to form an Ad Hoc committee and ask that they report back at the June ACM. By a show of hands, all those in favour? YES was the response.

The Chair took a sense of the room and it was agreed that David T would remain as Area Archivist until the Area Committee hears back from the ad hoc committee in June.

g) Election of Service Information Day Committee Kimberley M

The following candidates courageously put their names forward to serve the fellowship in Area 83 for the Service Day Committee:

Election of Service Information Committee – The following candidates stood and those highlighted were elected:

D02 - Shane H – SID Chair

D10 - Rob A

D06 - David B

D12 - Mark B

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D14 - Dave B

D34 - Gord T

D18 - Michael A

D36 - Barry McK

D22 - Tom S

D48 - Winnie S

D26 - Dave L (SID Secretary)

D58 - Michel D

D28 - JoAnn P

D62 - Mike B

D82 - Janice D

Motion: To destroy Ballots

Jim S – Area CPC Chair

Second: Janice D – DCM D82

ALL IN FAVOUR

14. Sharing - what's on your mind?

Much was shared and anniversaries announced.

Marty M – Area TF Chair. Suggested that Accessibility have its own workshop as there is a lot of material to cover.

Ray R – Area we getting the same pins as before. Rob (Alt Delegate) suggested that we will stick with the same design so that they might get made this year!

15. Next area committee meeting.

I would recommend the next committee meeting be held here at Quinte West on **June 3, 2017**

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

Motioned: Ray R – Area Self Support Chair

Seconded: Michael A – DCM D18

All those in favour - ALL

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

Motion CARRIED

Reminder: The Spring Assembly will be held at the Ambassador Conference Centre in Kingston March 24-26.

16. CLOSING

It is now 3:37p.m. and I would like to thank everyone for their participation today and wish you all a safe drive home. I look forward to seeing you again in March.

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May I have a motion to end this meeting?

Motioned: Jenny D66

Seconded: JoAnn D28

All those in favour - ALL
Motion CARRIED

All those opposed - 0

Any abstentions - 0

CLOSE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

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

APPENDIX A – FINANCIALS

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EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83
AS OF: December 31, 2016

RESERVE ACCOUNT		Actual	Guideline	+/-
January 1, 2016 Opening Balance	20,000.00	20,000.00		0.00
Interest				0.00
Transfer to Operating Account	0.00	0.00		0.00
RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE		20,000.00		0.00
INCOME				
7th Tradition	7,966.70	6,800.00		1,166.70
Cost Recoveries	408.00	220.00		188.00
Flow Through to GSO	100.00	400.00		-300.00
Grapevine Seasonals	4,130.03	5,000.00		-869.97
Group & District Contributions	54,400.91	52,047.78		2,353.13
TOTAL INCOME		67,005.64	64,467.78	2,537.86
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE	0.00	0.00		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		67,005.64	64,467.78	2,537.86
EXPENSES				
Accommodations	8,557.66	9,109.00		-551.34
Meals	12,151.45	14,660.00		-2,508.55
Travel	13,481.85	12,505.00		976.85
Long Distance	0.00	0.00		0.00
Postage	333.91	130.00		203.91
Printing	2,112.27	2,185.00		-72.73
Literature	1,512.91	1,160.00		352.91
Stationery	529.43	160.00		369.43
Miscellaneous	3,351.93	3,036.78		315.15
Total Committee Expenses		42,031.41	42,945.78	-914.37
Ad Hoc Committees	0.00	10.00		-10.00
Area Contribution to GSO	100.00	0.00		100.00
Area Committee Meetings	1,465.46	1,530.00		-64.54
General Service Conf. Assessment	10,412.40	11,242.00		-829.60
Bank Service Charges	15.40	0.00		15.40
Paypal fees	22.56	0.00		22.56
Forums	1,398.22	1,670.00		-271.78
Grapevine Seasonal	4,089.76	5,000.00		-910.24
GSO Flow Through	100.00	400.00		-300.00
Ontario Delegate's Conference	1,514.37	1,670.00		-155.63
International Conferences	0.00			
Total Other Expenses		19,118.17	21,522.00	-2,403.83
TOTAL EXPENSES		61,149.58	64,467.78	-3,318.20
OPERATING ACCOUNT				
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2016	23,640.83	23,640.83		
Total Income & Transfers	67,005.64	64,467.78		2,537.86
Total Expenses	-61,149.58	-64,467.78		-3,318.20
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE		29,496.89	23,640.83	5,856.06

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Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Annual Guideline	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
Delegte	256.94	310.71	1272.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1840.43	2095.00	254.57	87.85%
Alt. Delegate	0.00	160.00	968.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1128.10	1630.00	501.90	69.21%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	99.47	183.40	0.00	0.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	296.87	550.00	253.13	53.98%
Chairperson	0.00	191.05	641.80	0.00	0.00	50.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	883.70	945.00	61.30	93.51%
Secretary	0.00	156.34	884.10	0.00	0.00	1119.35	0.00	10.25	20.00	2190.04	2170.00	-20.04	100.92%
Treasurer	0.00	103.00	565.40	0.00	0.00	399.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	1401.41	1360.00	41.41	103.04%
Registrar	0.00	119.58	893.15	0.00	0.00	260.65	0.00	1591.09	374.78	1591.09	1240.00	-351.09	128.31%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	474.88	160.00	839.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	967.71	0.00	1848.16	1841.78	6.38	100.35%
Actives	0.00	240.75	543.30	0.00	0.00	15.41	0.00	0.00	499.29	1299.59	1315.00	15.41	98.83%
Archivist	474.88	125.12	785.75	0.00	0.00	15.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	1299.59	1315.00	15.41	98.83%
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	157.01	1023.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1385.79	1230.00	155.79	110.86%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	121.25	926.10	0.00	0.00	13.34	110.18	0.00	0.00	1427.95	1540.00	112.05	92.72%
Grapevine	242.94	233.16	1364.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.10	9.31	0.00	1170.87	1445.00	274.13	81.03%
Public Information	0.00	290.64	664.47	0.00	0.00	66.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	2517.40	1110.00	-1407.40	226.79%
Self Support	115.79	215.15	815.10	0.00	0.00	6.62	214.99	0.00	0.00	1248.07	1495.00	246.93	83.48%
Treatment Facilities	0.00	84.31	345.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.82	38.40	44.50	1296.36	1020.00	-276.36	127.09%
Service Info Day Cmte	1777.36	977.40	825.30	0.00	0.00	48.59	330.77	103.76	0.00	863.94	960.00	96.06	89.99%
Spring Assembly	2614.44	4000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.06	0.00	3662.71	2985.00	677.71	122.70%
Fall Assembly	2588.56	4397.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1255.74	0.00	7870.18	9042.00	1171.82	87.04%
COMMITTEE EXP.	\$ 8,597.66	\$ 12,151.46	\$ 13,481.85	\$ -	\$ 333.91	\$ 2,112.27	\$ 1,572.91	\$ 629.43	\$ 3,351.93	\$ 42,031.41	\$ 42,946.78	\$ 914.37	97.87%
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.00	10.00	0.00%
Area Committee	-	-	179.90	-	-	-	-	-	1,285.56	1,465.46	1,530.00	64.54	95.78%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	1,540	-	-15.40	#DIV/0!
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.56	-	-	-
Payroll Fees	519.32	191.52	687.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,398.22	1,670.00	271.78	83.73%
Forjuns	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,089.76	5,000.00	910.24	81.80%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,412.40	11,242.00	829.60	92.62%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	400.00	300.00	25.00%
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,514.37	1,670.00	155.63	90.68%
Int. Delegates Conf.	497.16	138.97	878.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.00	#DIV/0!
International Conferences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 1,016.48	\$ 330.49	\$ 1,746.62	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,285.56	\$ 19,118.17	\$ 21,622.00	\$ 2,503.83	88.83%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 9,574.14	\$ 12,481.94	\$ 15,227.37	\$ -	\$ 333.91	\$ 2,112.27	\$ 1,572.91	\$ 629.43	\$ 4,637.49	\$ 61,149.58	\$ 64,467.78	\$ 3,440.76	94.85%

Income Summary	
December 31, 2016	
7th Tradition	7,966.70
Bank interest	100.00
GSO Flow through	54,400.91
Contributions	4,130.03
Cost recoveries	4,130.03
Grapevine Seasonals	4,130.03
Total Income	\$ 67,205.64

December 31, 2016		YTD 2016		YTD 2015		Change		
Income To Date	67,005.64	67,005.64	62,739.71	4,265.93	Expenses To Date	61,149.58	58,026.19	3,123.39
Net Change To Operating Account	\$ 5,856.06	\$ 5,856.06	\$ 4,713.52	\$ 1,142.54	Contributions	\$54,400.91	\$50,058.21	\$4,342.70
					Contributing Groups	177	176	1
					Contributing Districts	16	20	-4

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GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS	
AS OF December 31, 2016	

District	00	Unspecified	\$0.00
District	02	Malton	\$1,483.35
District	06	Mississauga	\$1,745.50
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$5,464.96
District	12	Toronto South West	\$2,694.20
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$2,598.80
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$405.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$2,265.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,785.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$2,690.38
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$2,187.87
District	30	Quinte West	\$2,670.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$2,610.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$2,708.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$414.10
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$986.68
District	50	Cornwall	\$1,930.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$610.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$515.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$5,199.37
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$3,920.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$1,330.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$1,182.50
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$250.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$2,325.20
District	86	Kawartha	\$4,430.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$54,400.91

177	Groups Contributing	Total from Groups	\$44,003.79
16	Districts Contributing	Total from Districts	\$10,430.78

APPENDIX B – FORUMS

What Are Regional and Local Forums?

Regional Forums originated in 1975 at the suggestion of Dr. Jack Norris, then Chair of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. They were to be weekend sharing and informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, and the General Service Office Staff stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants and newcomers to service throughout the A.A. service structure.

Regional Forums

Originally, at the invitation of a region, four Regional Forums were held each year. Since the U.S./Canada service structure is composed of eight regions, a Regional Forum was held in alternate years in each region on a rotating basis. In October 2006, the General Service Board approved the concept of an Additional Regional Forum to be held upon request in each region every eight years also on a rotating basis, bringing the possible number of Regional Forums held each year to five. In 2012 the General Service Board agreed to discontinue Additional Regional Forums after completion of the eight region cycle in 2016.

The location and agenda for Regional Forums are decided jointly by the Regional Trustee, Area Delegates and G.S.O. The responsibility for initiating contact with the hotel is assumed by a local A.A. Host Contact working with the Forums Coordinator and Regional Trustee. The Forums Coordinator at G.S.O. distributes registration forms to groups and service workers throughout the region and, working with the Host Contact and Regional Trustee, coordinates the details of the Forum.

There is no registration fee for Regional Forums or Additional Regional Forums. The General Service Board covers the expenses of meeting rooms. In many places, area committees, districts and groups cover or defray the transportation and lodging expenses of the trusted servants representing them at a Forum.

Local Forums

In October 2006, the concept of Local Forums was approved by the General Service Board. The purpose of Local Forums is to bring Forum information to A.A. members in remote, sparsely populated areas, urban neighborhoods or underserved A.A. communities. Any A.A. community or service entity may request a one-and-a-half or two

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day Local Forum. Unlike Regional Forums, the responsibility for Forum expenses such as meeting room rental and miscellaneous expenses are assumed by the Local Forum Committee. The General Service Board will send two participants, one from the Board and one from the General Service Office or Grapevine office and display literature at Board expense. Like Regional and Additional Forums, Board participation in Local Forums requires the approval of the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. The Regional Forums Coordinator works closely with the Local Forum organizing committee to create an agenda that is responsive to local needs.

As all Forums are intended to be sharing sessions, no formal actions result. Sharing at Forums is captured in Forum Final Reports which are distributed to all attendees. Regional Forums Final Reports are available on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website. Forums provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas. Regional Forums and Local Forums carry A.A.'s message of love and service by improving communication at all levels of our Fellowship.

STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE
(U.S. and Canada)

