



**Alcoholics Anonymous
Area 83 Eastern Ontario International**

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

**Area Assembly
Minutes**

MARCH 27, 2011

Area Assembly March 27, 2011



Alcoholics Anonymous Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

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Area Assembly – March 27, 2011

1. OPENING

Good morning everyone. I am an alcoholic, a member of The Twelve Steps Group in District 22, Scarborough, and my name is Joyce S. I have the honor and privilege of serving you as Chairperson for the term 2011 - 2012.

- Moment's Silence – Serenity Prayer
- 12 Traditions Read By –Paul S. – Long Branch Group
- 12 Concepts (Short Form) Read By – Pat A. – Kipling Group

Welcome everybody. Did everyone enjoy the Service Information Day and banquet yesterday? Perhaps we can give a hand for the Service Information Day Committee and for the catering staff for the wonderful buffet?

A thank you, as well to Roy for his talk last night.

Introduction

The A.A. Service manual combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service defines an Assembly as follows: "The Area Assembly is the mainspring of the Conference structure – the democratic voice of the movement expressing itself." This is the first assembly of four that will be held over the length of this term. Over these two years, we will work together to keep Alcoholics Anonymous vibrant and strong in Area 83, Eastern Ontario International and by doing that, around the world as well. Just as your District and your home Group meet, usually once a month, to handle matters that require a group conscience decision, the Assembly is the Business meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83. Area 83 stretches from Oakville to Ottawa and from Upper New York State to northern Algonquin Park and the Ottawa Valley.

Some of us have been here before – as the Groups General Service Representative or Alternate, as District Committee Member or Alternate, or as visitors. For some of us, it will be our first Assembly and it will seem pretty overwhelming! How many of you are here today attending your first Assembly? Could you raise your hand? That's great – 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 sincerest hope that you all return home to your respective Groups and Districts with the feeling that you have done your part in keeping Alcoholics Anonymous strong and vibrant in your area and also that you have had a strong voice in our affairs where you've felt you ought to have it.

I would like to remind all those present who will be giving a report today to give whatever highlights are important, but that their written reports, **if submitted to our Secretary Kim S.** 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 Committee Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, Immediate and Past Delegates, appointed individuals and noteworthy visitors. If you could hold your applause till the end of each section it will speed thing up a bit.

DELEGATE
ALTERNATE DELEGATE
SECRETARY
REGISTRAR
TREASURER
IMMEDIATE PAST DELEGATE for Panel 59
CHAIRPERSON

Robb W.
Mel C.
Kim S.
Tony A.
Jim A.
Sandy S.
Joyce S.

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Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Public Information	Rob McA.
Cooperation with the Professional Community	Herb W.
Correctional Facilities	Deirdre B.
Treatment Facilities	Rodney S.
Grapevine	Leo McK.
Self Support	Ruth F.
Archives	Peter N.
Service Information Day Committee	Heather M.

This is your elected Area executive and committees for the 2011 and 2012 term.

I'd like to now introduce Past Delegates, people with appointed Area Service Positions and "noteworthy visitors".

Panel 51 Delegate Joe D.-Currently serving the Fellowship as a Non-Trustee Director of AAWS

Panel 53 Delegate Roy R.

Panel 55 Delegate Barb K.

Panel 57 Delegate Dot D.

We have with us serving in Appointed Positions:

Area Archivist – David T.

Area Webmaster – Todd S.

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

HOUSEKEEPING

Registration

- ◆ Please ensure that you have signed in to the folders at the Registration area in the Atrium. These will be available only until lunch time and are vitally important to our Registrar Tony A.

SMOKING AREA

THE ONLY SMOKING AREA is outside, please use the butt containers provided by the hotel. It's unfair for us to have the hotel staff clean up after us. If you leave this room for a smoke (or any other reason) please do so quietly, and please do not congregate just outside the doors.

NAMETAG HOLDERS

When you leave for home this afternoon or evening, please leave your name tag holders in the boxes provided near the doors. We re-use them to save money.

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 – the last full weekend in March and October. This afternoon we will decide on a date for the Fall Assembly. The Area committee, which is comprised of the Area Officers, District Committee Member's and Past Delegate's will meet three times this year. We have already met in Quinte West in January and will meet again in June and September.

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SEVENTH TRADITION

I know that it seems as if the coffee and drinks provided this weekend may be free, but the hotel charges us a flat rate of \$8.00 per person for the weekend. Rather than have honour buckets beside the coffee urns, we have chosen to use the Seventh Tradition to cover these costs. We had a Seventh Tradition Friday night, again at the speaker meeting last night and we will have another one today. Please keep these costs in mind when the 7th is being passed around.

WHO VOTES?

Only members of the Assembly may vote.

These are:

All Area Officers, including the immediate past Delegate, but not the Chair.

All Area sub-committee Chairs

All DCM's of Districts in Area 83; in their absence, the Alternate DCM may vote.

All GSR's of Groups in Area 83, in their absence, the Group's Alternate GSR. In their absence a member of the registered Group. 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, others near the back. This will make it easier for us to count votes.

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

- ◆ When we have a vote, unless the voting is unanimous, or if the vote was to cover items such as acceptance of minutes, I will ask if anyone would like to speak to the minority. To be able to do this, you must have voted with the minority on the motion. This next part may unique to A.A. If, after the minority has spoken, one member of the Assembly who had voted for the majority on the issue stands at a microphone, and says, "I wish to change my vote", we start all over again.
- ◆ The pace at which A.A. makes decisions may seem slow, but in truth it is measured. The goal is always to achieve a substantial unanimity, and the process is in place to prevent hasty, emotional decisions.

CALLING THE QUESTION

- ◆ During the discussion on a motion, a member, once recognized by the Chair, may move to "call the question". This is a motion to end discussion and move to the vote. This motion needs to be seconded, is not debatable, and requires a 2/3 majority to pass. If it passes, we go directly to the vote of the motion or amendment we were discussing. I would caution you not to use this privilege too often or too early – many good points and opinions will come out in any discussions, and if discussion is prematurely cut off, we will not get to hear them.

WHO MAY ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY?

- ◆ **Only voting members of the Assembly have a voice. This is important for two reasons:**
 - ✓ It keeps the focus on the fact that the Assembly is the business meeting of the Area – Assembly members are carrying and presenting their Groups' wishes, rather than their own.
 - ✓ And it maximizes the time available for those members to voice their Groups' opinions and needs.
- ◆ All who are attending may say their piece during sharing time. I would ask for your cooperation on this. If you don't have a vote, as I just described, please keep your input for sharing time, which is scheduled for later this afternoon. At that time everyone is welcome to participate and their opinions will be listened to.
- ◆ On the topic of sharing time, please, if you can, stay until the end of the Assembly. I realize that many of us drive a long way to get home, and that Monday morning comes early, but the Assembly truly isn't over until it's over. We have asked our guests and visitors to have their say during sharing time, and as hosts, it's polite to stay and hear their views. It's also quite possible that something important will be said.
- ◆ To allow me to facilitate discussions, when you are ready to speak, please use one of the microphones dotted 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 Kim before standing at the microphone. I am sure Kim will appreciate it.**

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How do we vote?

- ◆ Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by 'substantial unanimity'. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority – 2/3 of the votes cast each time. As we cannot control who is in the room at the time of each vote, it is impractical to use the roll-call as the basis for the 2/3 calculation.
- ◆ I believe that the early part of the agenda today can be handled under simple majority – 1 vote more than 50%. I will advise you when I believe we should move to 2/3. If, at any time, you think we should move to a 2/3 majority before I indicate it, remember it's your meeting. Don't hesitate to make the motion.
- ◆ To facilitate the voting, which today will be by show of hands, I have asked a number of non-voting attendees to help me as hand counters. When we return from lunch, I would ask those with a vote to sit in the front, those without to sit at the back. Ultimately, it will speed things up.
- ◆ At times, I may ask for a show of hands to get a '**sense of the meeting**'. This is not a vote, and anyone can raise his or her hand.
- ◆ Again, when you are ready to speak I respectfully ask that you identify yourself by name, position, Group and District number.

MAY I HAVE A MOTION TO OPERATE ON SIMPLE MAJORITY?

Moved: Gary O. – DCM – District 14
Seconded: Linda D -GSR- Triangle Unity Group, District 34
Motion: Carried

2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

NONE

NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

NONE

Motion to accept the agenda

Moved: Wilf P. - DCM –District 34
Seconded: Rodney S - Area Treatment Chair
Motion: Carried

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

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF THE FALL ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2010.

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

Motion to accept minutes as submitted

Moved: Scott M. - DCM District 06
Seconded: Miles C.. - DCM-District 30
Motion: Carried

4. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

(Sequence of reports have been Pre-drawn from the hat)

The District committee members' verbal reports are limited to 2 minutes. The 2-minute time will be controlled by the timer that was built by Denis D., a past Delegate. It cycles between green, yellow, and red lights and ends with a buzz. 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 Kim, our Secretary. To help keep things moving along, we have 5 chairs up here at the front 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.

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District 02 Malton

Hello friends, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Royal York Group, the DCM for District 02, Malton and my name is Dan N. Our committee meets on the second Sunday of each month at St. Paul Apostle Church on 2182 Kipling Ave @ 7pm.

Our district meetings have been well attended with approximately 70% of the groups represented. The PI chair and alternate chair positions are vacant and we will be having elections for these at our next District meeting April 10th. It is with regret that our Alternate DCM, Mike H. has had to resign due to health reasons. Mike has been a pillar of service at our District Table and in his home group and our thoughts and prayers are with him.

As a District we are quite active. We joined with Districts 4 and 6 in putting on a 'Service in Recovery' Day Feb. 12th which was very well attended. We have had excellent feedback on how well it was received. I look forward in working with Districts 4 and 6 to keep this initiative alive.

Our District has a focus on Corrections and Treatment as we have 4 facilities. I'm happy to report we have good support here thanks to the hard work of our Corrections Chair Robert and Treatment Chair Chad. Our CPC chair Naveen is also active with some good ideas circulating at our Table and he is working with other Toronto District chairs at GTA Intergroup.

As DCM, I'll be focusing my attention on Groups within District that are not currently at the Table to let them know all the good things we are doing and to invite them to attend.

We are also working with other Districts in the GTA (Greater Toronto Area) for the May 28th Information AA Service Day to be held at Lansing United Church in Toronto. We have worked to ensure accessibility to this event so that all attendees can participate in breakout sessions. All responsibilities have been filled and this should be a good day for AA.

Yours in love and service,
Dan N.
DCM District 02, Malton

District 04 Humber

Good Morning,
I am an alcoholic, a member of the Tuesday Night Discussion group, currently serving as D.C.M. for Humber District 04 and my name is Carol J.

Since the start of this term, we have had some changes at our table. Our alternate D.C.M, treasurer, and Secretary-Registrar had to step down. We now have a new treasurer and a new Secretary-Registrar. We are encouraging our G.S.R.'s to invite others to the table.

We hosted Service Day event in February in partnership with District 02 and 04. This was well attended, and it is our hope that this will continue in the future. This is a WE program and it was great experience for all as we came together to carry the message.

Our district has two service meetings that we take care of. One is located at the Downsview Dells, a transitional house for men. The other one is held during the day at a hospital. We have been putting this meeting on for some time with the co-operation of District 14, and now District 12 is coming on board to help.

I look forward to learning and growing through this opportunity I have been given to serve.
Thank you for my sobriety,

Yours in love and service,
Carol J. District 04

District 06 Mississauga

Good morning friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Bloordale Group & my name is Scott. Hi! It is an honour & privilege to serve District 06 as the District Committee Member.

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As we start the new term with an enthusiastic group of General Service Representatives, sub-committee chairs and of course, alternates where ever possible, we strive to continue the commitments to service in southern Etobicoke, Mississauga & eastern Oakville at the west end of Zone 1. Attendance, financial contributions, activity & communication continues to be healthy.

We plan to have group contacts for those without attendance at the table, sending District minutes in order to keep those groups informed.

We're working on revising our District website guidelines & possibly tweaking our operating procedures. Our District Access Ability chair is collecting data from our Groups to allow American Sign Language interpreters at hopefully all closed meetings. I hear District 22 (Scarborough) is 100% on board with this.

We continue to have monthly group commitments for weekly meetings at our lonely Peel Region family shelter and regular weekly meetings are still put on by about 10 volunteers at our only correctional facility in Mimico.

Since we last met here in Kingston, we've lost some of those giants we often talk about. We've also got new members that we need to encourage to initiate service work to fill those missing gaps. I'm confident that together we can. At the end of January we also had a member reach 50 years of sobriety. Congratulations to Peter W. of the Oakville Group.

Elaine, our alternate DCM continues to be active with me at all events we're involved with – our successful Service in Recovery Day that most of our Area officers attended, our Information AA Day Committee meetings & our recent well attended joint sharing session for Zone 1.

Please join us at the Mississauga Fall Round-Up on October 1st, 2011.
Check www.mississaugafallroundup.org for more information.

Yours, in service & loving it,
Scott M.
dcm@aamississauga.org

District 10 Toronto South Central

Hi, I'm the District Committee Member for District 10, I am an alcoholic and my name is Vince.

I have the privilege of working with the finest group of alkies I know. If you should ever wish to join us at our table, we have moved to a new location. We now meet at 519 Church Street on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8 pm. This is our new permanent location.

District 10 is financially healthy and we are getting about 75% of the groups represented at the table. We are trying to reach out to the few that aren't represented yet, with some success. It has been a challenge to get some of the smaller, struggling groups to send a GSR so we are trying to at least get an email contact so they stay in the loop. All of our subcommittee positions are filled with the exception of Archives and Intergroup Liaison. We are continuing to encourage greater participation at the Assemblies by funding accommodations for a GSR from a group that can't afford to send anyone, providing that the District can afford it.

We continue to put on 2 meetings at the CAMH institution – one is an open meeting for the general AA population on Tuesday evenings and another is a closed meeting in the withdrawal management unit for the patients only on Saturday mornings. We are also starting a new weekly meeting at Harbourlight. We are still working out the details but hope to get that running very soon.

Information AA Day is to be held on Saturday, May 28th, 2011. This is a potluck event and tickets are only \$5. At this event we can look forward to our Delegate's report from the GSC and we have a guest speaker from the GSO, Mary C. She holds the CPC assignment. The theme this year is "The Only Requirement - Pass It On". We plan to hold the entire event on the main floor, with the exception of lunch. We are trying to make the event as accessible as possible, and to that end, we will also have some volunteers ready to get lunch for those that are unable to get downstairs.

In Love and Service, Vince R.

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District 12 Toronto South West

I'm an alcoholic, a member of Prince Edward, currently serving as District Committee Member (DCM) for Toronto Southwest District 12, my name is Heather M.

Our district finances are stable and sufficient to meet our current service needs and enough to bring our treasurer to Kingston. We have great attendance here at Kingston from the groups in our district.

We have a couple openings for sub-committee chairs - Correctional Facilities, Self-Support. We continue to try to generate interest in getting these chairs filled, or at least people willing to be liasons to these committees. We have an Access-Ability chair once again. It seems our Grapevine position has been filled once again along with an alternate. Our Archives, Public Information, Treatment Facilities and Cooperation with the Professional Community chairs are all involved in doing the work required in the district. We've gotten two more treatment facilities meetings on our roster. Except for Treatment and Grapevine, we require alternates for all of our chair positions.

All in all it's been quite busy within the district. I've visited almost all of the groups at least once and we have a record number of GSR's active at the table. We hope the trend continues.

Yours in Service,
Heather M.
DCM District 12

District 14 Toronto North Central

Hello everyone, my name is Gary O., I am an alcoholic and a proud member of the Living Sober Group in Newmarket, Ontario.

Most of our sub committees are filled with the exception of: Accessibility, Archives, CPC & P.I. Until these positions filled, Rodney S. has been generous with his time in continuing to help over- see Public Information. Gord M., our ADCM is the Acting Archives chair. We have been attending the Intergroup meetings and bring back relative information to our district. As a district we are trying to fill the vacant chair positions and should have all filled before the next Area Committee Meeting. On average, we have a 60 % attendance at our monthly district meetings. Gord and I are visiting absent groups trying to help in getting them to attend our district meetings.

Sue C. our Secretary is doing a great job in keeping up with me. Sue ensures that the monthly district meeting minutes and all other corresponding information is distributed to the district members quickly and accurately. To keep high photocopying costs to a minimum our main form of communication is e-mail. It works well, is fast and reliable.

Don M. our Treasurer has determined that the finances are in order for this new term. A motion was made and carried successfully to have two of three signing officers at the bank. Our district dues are paid up to date; general service and self-support can donations continue to come in consistently.

Robin M. our Registrar has our committee chairs, G.S.R. and Alternate GSR records up to date for this term. Robin will continue to update area as positions are filled and as changes arise

Todd S. our Self Support Chair has been contacting groups that do not have Self Support cans. Todd is offering to attend their business meetings to explain what the self support can contributions are for. These funds greatly contribute to our district's success in providing literature to our hospitals, Police stations, doctor's offices etc.

Grant G. our Grapevine Chair, has been hard at work revamping our Grapevine display which is currently outdated and unusable. The district has voted to allocate a start up fund for the purchase of literature so that we have a well stocked and updated Grapevine display. We are looking forward to hearing much more from Grant and the Grapevine committee.

Veronica D. our Correction Chair has just taken on this position. Since our district does not have any one main correctional facility, we concentrate on supplying literature to all of the police stations, parole and probation offices in the district. At the workshop this Saturday we, as a district, with the Get a Grip Meeting from the Newmarket police station, were able to donate 40 pocket sized Big Books. They are for the Kingston area jails and others in need of these AA Big Books.

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Lynda S. our Treatment Chair, has been to her various treatment facilities and attended her first meeting at Toronto Intergroup. Lynda's main job is to arrange chairs for the various Hospitals and make sure they are well stocked with literature. Our Gift of Life Hospital service meeting is being hosted by 3 districts participating together. District 4, 12 and 14 are on a monthly rotation.

In closing I would like to thank the district people for your support in making my job very rewarding and easier to fulfill.

Yours in Service,
Gary D. O.
District 14 DCM

District 16 Distrito Hispánico de Toronto

Good morning everyone, my name is Cesar H. and the District Committee Member for the District 16 and my home group is Unidad. My report is the following, we continue to hold our meetings and our attendance is at 95%. We share the experience and service within the Hispanic District #16.

At this time we have one more committee chair to add to the total of four committees, Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Committee, La Vina and the new Correctional Facilities. We hope to have filled the rest of the committee chairs and we encourage groups to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic that all may have to inform.

Thanks to District 16 and Area 83 to allow me to serve as a District Committee Member.

Yours in service,
Cesar H.
DCM District 16

District 18 Toronto City East

Greetings friends; I am an alcoholic and my name is Patrick .F. I am a proud and grateful member of the Danforth Group and currently have the privilege to serve as your District Committee Member for District 18- Toronto City East.

First; I would like to thank Katrina E., for all her hard work and dedication as secretary for District 18 Toronto City East. It has made my job much easier and impacted the overall effectiveness of the District meetings. Unfortunately; our Registrar had to recently step down due to health reasons and the Alternate District Committee Member Murray O., has taken on the extra responsibility.

Financially; District 18 is holding our own and hopefully we will be able to make a contribution to Area 83 shortly. In January we were able to fill most of the Sub-Committee Chair positions; with the exception of Access Ability Chair and Inter-group Liaison.

At monthly Districts meetings we normally have approximately 45% of groups in our District represented. I am pleased to report that "carrying the message" is active in District 18; we currently support 4 Treatment Facilities meetings and 2 Correction Facilities meeting each month.

District 22 and District 18 are co-sponsoring the 6th annual East Toronto Archives Breakfast on Sunday May the 15th at Qssis Banquet Hall (Kingston Rd. just west of Markham Rd.). Tickets are \$20 and are available until May 11th. AA Members of District 18; are actively involved with the Info AA Day planning committee and are looking forward to supporting the annual Info AA Day on May 28th.

Jim A., our former District 18 Committee Member will be celebrating 15 years of continuous sobriety on April 16th at the St. Andrews group.

Yours in loving service, Patrick F.

District 22 Scarborough

Hi Friends, I am an alcoholic, my home group is the Pine Hills Group in Scarborough, Ontario, it is my humble privilege to be serving as DCM of District 22 and my name is Cathie D. There's not a lot to report, as the term is just beginning. We haven't had our first District meeting yet, but I am looking forward with butterflies in my stomach and hope in my heart to a wonderful 2 year term as DCM for District 22.

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The first thing we need to do in District 22 will be to fill vacant spots and there will be a brief GSR workshop and kit at our first meeting. My hope is to share enthusiasm and service serenity with all returning GSR's and new GSR's and to continue with the great love for and service dedication that District 22 has been known in the past for. Many service giants have sat in the chair that I now put my butt in and my hope is that the good works of District 22 will go on unblemished.

This report seems so small and short (probably the only one that will be that way in the next 2 years!) that I want to add more to it, but that would simply be fluffier, so I will close with saying that together we can accomplish what alone we cannot do and for that I am forever grateful.

In loving service, with gratitude and awe,
Cathie D. alcoholic
DCM, District 22 ~ Scarborough
DCMDistrict22@gmail.com 647-833-3555

District 26 Lakeshore West

I am an alcoholic, member of the Port Whitby Group, DCM for District 26 Lakeshore West and my name is Diane M. We're happy to report that all our positions are filled at our GSR District Table. In past years we've struggled with attendance being low. There has been a huge shift in this area and are now facing pretty much a full house at our District meeting three months in a row since we started our new positions in January of 2011. Not only has our attendance soared, it's so inspiring to experience the enthusiasm from the individuals. Pretty much every sub-committee is busy implementing pre and new ideas in order to carry the message and are genuinely enjoying themselves while doing it.

Treatment, CPC, and PIC are not only reaching out to the community but are also connecting with our neighbouring District 28 Treatment, CPC, and PIC. It's been such a joy to watch our Grapevine Chair grow in service work considering this is her first time position at our table. There's been more growth with Intergroup requesting to come and give a report and rekindle a connection at our table after a long period of absence.

There have been bouts of financial difficulties at our table and it never ceases to amaze me how our District Groups rally together to replenish in order to carry the message. Our new interchange schedule is ready for distribution and group inventory in general is doing well.

Up- coming events-- Lakeshore Districts 39th Annual Conference

August 12, 13, 14, 2011
General Sirkorski Hall
1551 Stevenson Rd. N.
Oshawa Ont.
Bring A Friend Meeting
November 11, 2011
CAW Hall (South Oshawa)
(Is in the planning)
Visit from our Delegate, Rob Watson
June 12, 2011 Sunday
Alano Club
Thornton's Rd. N.
(Linking with District 28)

In closing, KOODOS to all GSR's and their Alternates, and Sub-committees in District 26 for all their efforts and Thank-You for allowing me to serve!

Yours in love and service,
Diane M.
DCM

District 28 Lakeshore East

Hello friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the *Orono Easy Does It* Group, and my name is Garth W. I have the honour and privilege of serving as DCM for Lakeshore District 28 East.

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As the new term continues, general service continues to be strong in District 28. Our new PIC and CPC sub committees are settling in, their attendance continues to be strong.

Our Treatment and Corrections committee continues to help facilitate meetings at Pinewood Detox Centre, Brookside Youth Centre, and Lindsay Correctional Institution. We have active Archives, and Grapevine chairpersons, who continue to try to create interest but still haven't received much support.

Financially our District is just "*getting by*". Our group contributions are gradually picking up and we appear to have restored our prudent reserve.

Yours in Love, Service and the Fellowship of the Spirit, Garth

District 30 Quinte West

My name is Miles C. I and I am an alcoholic, member of the Trenton Group, and currently have the privilege of serving as District Committee Member for District 30.

Our District goes from Port Hope to the Trenton Air Base, north to Campbellford and over to Allderville. . Our district consists of 16 active groups, 2 Corrections meeting and 3 hospital meetings. All positions are filled except CPC, which hopefully will be filled at the next district meeting. Our Access-ability Committee is active making sure all meetings are accessible. Committee chairs are getting things ready and learning what each committee does.

Our 800 number is working well, with a few kinks here and there. Our website is running good.

Yours in sobriety, Miles

District 34 Quinte East

Good Morning, I am an alcoholic and a member of the Stirling Friday Night Group and it is an honour and privilege to serve District 34 Quinte East as District Committee Member. My name is Wilf P. Hi!

All service positions in the District are now filled and are very active in our primary purpose. There are 43 groups in our district. Attendance at the district table has been fair, but should improve now that the nice weather is here. Our new Corrections Chair Rick M. has recently moved to our district from the Niagara Region. He has jumped in with both feet and is very active. District 34 has a new Telephone Number and it is 877-961-2134. It is also available on our website at quinteestaa.org.

Since January I have attended six medallions, the first one being my own. The last one was on March 24th for Gloria G. who attained 55 years of continuous sobriety.

Beginning this term we are in a healthy financial position thanks to the contributions of the groups in the district. Our new treasurer Ross has a good handle on our budget.

Since commencing my term as District Committee Member my emails have tripled which has kept me very busy and I have been delegating and forwarding emails to the appropriate Chairs. If you would like to contact me via email, it is pickettwilf@gmail.com

We are just beginning our term and so far the support from the Alternate District Committee Member, Committee Chairs and the Group Service Representatives has been awesome and I look forward to the next 21 months. We look forward with continued hope and purpose to working with the other districts and with the area officers and committees to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Yours in Love and Service,
Wilf P.
DCM District 34

District 36 Kingston & the Islands

Hi Friends! My name is Roxane T. and I am an alcoholic serving A.A. as District Committee Representative (DCR) for Kingston and the Islands (District 36, Area 83). Our District has met, but two times; first we appeared all starry eyed and shiny brand new, wondering what the heck service thing this was going to be all about. By our second get together we seemed to be all pros. Our

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third get together will be this upcoming Wednesday whereupon, I am sure, there will be much more to say, having now experienced this tremendous weekend. Thank goodness for SERVICE SPONSORS to help get us through the next 2 years! And thank goodness for the INTERNET; what a fabulous way to get information back and forth in such a quick fashion. District 36 is alive and well although attendance at the District Table could be higher. A few groups, historically, have not shown up at our meeting; I hope, by the Fall Assembly, to have explanations as to why. Also, one of our District Committee members has resigned. And rather than get in a tizzy about matters, our intentions are to put the word out at the next District meeting and hope to have the position filled by the following one. It is hoped that the Committee will be able to muster through for that time. Yes, a hiccup in our Service Structure, but A.A. always seems to be so resilient. Thank goodness also, for Alternate DCMs (a-DCM). Lynne H., truly is someone more knowledgeable in "all matters technical in AA" than I. And sometimes, my old controlling ways want to resurface, but by being in close contact with her, we "hammer out things together" and believe me, District 36 is the better for it! So, hopefully, we will see you in 6 months time, (g)od willing in a safe, sound and serene way!

Yours in Service,
Roxane.

District 38 Thousand Islands

My name is Gari V. and I am an alcoholic, currently serving as the GSR from the Keep It Green Group in Evans Mills, NY.

We are a new group in the dark District 38 and have been assigned to Area 83. It's great to be back up here. We have no DCM in District 38 because we have no District meetings although we are hoping for that to change. However we do have the Jefferson County Intergroup to which we belong and are able to stay involved in service in that manner.

The Keep It Green Group will be celebrating one year as a registered group as of May 4th and will be celebrating with a potluck BBQ and Speaker Meeting on May 17th starting at 5:30PM. We are hoping to get a couple speakers from Area 83 so if anyone is interested they can call me at 315.405.6904

begin_of_the_skype_highlighting 315.405.6904 end_of_the_skype_highlighting or email me at
gari.vibber@gmail.com

In Service & Lovin' It,
Gari V.

District 42 St. Lawrence International

My name is Milner G., I am an alcoholic. My home group is the Fall Island Big Book Study Group in Potsdam, NY. I am privileged to serve as District Committee Member for District 42 St. Lawrence International.

We are in the process of re-energizing AA service in District 42.

- We have changed our meeting time from Wednesday night to Sunday afternoon. This means that our meeting time no longer conflicts with the meeting time of any group in our district.
- We have instituted a "Service-Tradition" agenda item each month – a 10-15 minute look at some facet of AA service. Topics in February and March were Service Structure and the General Service Conference.
- I am in the middle of visiting all groups (8 of 28 so far) to ask for their support – both in finances and in time and effort. Our theme is "The Joy of Service". I have designed a flyer listing all the district positions and current servants on one side and a position description for the various committees on the reverse side. People may be more willing to take on a position or chair if they have a clear idea of what would be expected.
- We have elected two new committee chairs – Corrections (Bill L. from Ogdensburg) and Cooperation with the Professional Community (Bevin S, from Potsdam). Another member is interested in becoming Public Information chair and she may be elected at our April meeting.
- We are blessed with five officers and committee chairs who have 20+ years of sobriety – Peggy C. (secretary), Louise T. (treasurer), Gary G. (Treatment), David D. (registrar) and myself. Our goal is to mentor younger members into District Service during the next year plus so there are replacements "ready to go" for the 2013-14 panel.
- Our webmaster (me) has created district "position" email addresses on the order of the Area email addresses so that continuity will be easier to maintain at our next rotation.

For our March District meeting I prepared printed packets of a selection of General Service Conference agenda topics, which I obtained from Robb W. I chose the topics with an eye on possible group interest and the possibility of obtaining a clear-cut

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group conscience on the item. Each committee's packet was headed by that committee's entire agenda – to give members an appreciation of the amount of work that our delegates do on our behalf! I have asked groups to return their group conscience to Robb via postal mail, email, or to return it to the District table in April. I can then forward a collection to Robb before he departs for NYC.

We have scheduled our Delegate's report and day of sharing for June 18 in Canton NY. We rotate the meeting site with our neighbor districts from across the river – District 48 Seaway Valley North and District 50 Cornwall. In addition we are inviting anyone from District 38 to come and join us. We plan to capitalize on the presence of our Delegate to bring to members' attention the ways in which we can carry the message of AA. We will be forming the planning committees at our April meeting.

Thus far, at our first three meetings GSRs or contact from 13 of our 28 groups have attended at least one district meeting. I am encouraged by this participation. We have added two new GSRs in the last month, both having moved to the North Country from Syracuse. Thank you Salt City!

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

Milner G.

11 Grant Street
Potsdam, NY 13676
USA

dcm42@aa-stlawrenceny.org

315-244-4959 (cell)

District 46 St. Lawrence Adirondack (Absent No Report)

District 48 Seaway Valley North

Hi my name is Gerry St L, DCM of District 48 and a proud member of the 12 & 12 Study Group in Morrisburg and I'm an Alcoholic. I want to first take this opportunity to thank the Area Committee and you for allowing me to take part as Service Day Committee Member. Although our District is lacking in committee members, we have many new GSR's and all our commitments are being filled. Our District Round Up on Feb 5th was a great success thanks to all the groups that participated. Joyce S. spoke for us and did a great job. Our new location was a hit with everyone and we hope to use the same hall again next year. Some of the members in district 48 have taken on the commitment in the Ogdensburg Corrections Facility. We have four members from our district, two from Ottawa and one from District 42. This means a meeting once a week for two institutions. Our PI Committee Person Neil W. is doing a great job dispersing literature. Sara M, our Treatment and Corrections committee Person is working hard with the members in our district to fulfill our responsibility. Johanna our district secretary has taken on the responsibility of district literature and has agreed to be our librarian. We have booked our Delegate Rob W. for our Service day on June 18th and we share this day with two other districts two help with the cost and Rob's time.

Thanks,
Yours in service,
Gerry St. L

District 50 Cornwall

Good morning: My name is Elaine M, a grateful alcoholic and currently serving as DCM for District 50. My home group is Sunday Morning Group.

We have 12 active groups in our district and attendance has been very good.

We are happy to report that District is making a contribution to NY and the Area and hoping to be able to make another one soon. We are now financially stable and so grateful to be a contributing district.

I am also happy to report that all of our District Positions are now filled. As we do not have a correction facility in our district, we still do not have a person to take on "Bridging the Gap" responsibility, but we will continue to encourage people to help fill the void, get involved and give back what was so freely given to us.

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We look forward to sharing once again a service day with Districts 48 and 42 in June. We have also discussed having an Information Day in our District and will see how members feel after the Area Assembly as so much is learned this weekend.

We now have a set of Procedural Guidelines, and are hoping it will give us guidance in the successful conduct of the business of District 50. We thank all the districts who allowed us to use their guidelines as a guideline. We also, of course, used the Area Procedures. It is nice to know that we are following the same guidelines as the other districts and that we are all on the same page.

We have a Spring one day Conference sponsored by the Lancaster Group coming up May 14 and if you have attended our Fall Conference, I'm sure you won't want to miss this one. I have banquet tickets if anyone would like some.

Again, I thank our District for giving me the opportunity to be a trusted servant, and to give back to AA. We commit to the continued welfare of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Suffering Alcoholic.

Yours in Service,
Elaine M.
District 50.

District 54 Ottawa Rideau

Good morning friends, my name is Greg C. and I am an alcoholic. It is my pleasure to represent District 54, Ottawa/Rideau as District Committee Member. We can report that all is well in our district. We had all table position filled but recently our Intergroup liaison member stepped down. We have a temporary volunteer in until the position is filled. Our self support team has developed a presentation to give at individual groups as requested. It is comprised of two member discussing self support and service, one member asking question and the other providing answers. They also have posters and handouts. Presentation takes between 5 and 7 minutes. CPC is working on distributing its awareness package. All our CF/TF commitments have been filled. Financial obligations are being met. Our meeting starts at 7:30, but interested persons may arrive at 6:30 when we will be reading and discussing the service manual prior to each meeting. Vanier roundup is schedule for June 5th. Gratitude Day, our version of Service Day, is scheduled for June 25th. It is hosted by District 62 this year and co-hosted by District 54 & 58. Rob Watson has agreed to participate

We are still holding our meetings at the Vanier community center while renovations are made at the Overbrook community center. Probable return to Overbrook could be June 2011.
Come out and join us!

Yours in service,
Greg C.

District 58 Ottawa Bytown

Good Morning my name is Bonnie F., I am an alcoholic and currently serving as the DCM for District 58 Ottawa Bytown, member of the Uptown Group.

The new term has brought many new faces to the district meeting, with 10 groups represented at our last meeting this month. I am happy to Report that we have two positions that have been vacant for a few years filled. CFTF rep, and Intergroup rep.

We are still seeking volunteers for PIC, CPC and Archives. Fortunately we are still receiving reports from David T (archives), Don (PIC) and Peter (CPC) all from District 62. Thank you for the continued support. There has been a reduction to the Treatment Facilities Commitments for District 58, this is allowing for more rotation amongst the groups.

Financially, the District is healthy, with a prudent reserve and we were able to disperse money to the various subcommittee's as needed.

Yours in Service,
Bonnie F

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District 62 Ottawa West

Good morning; I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Barrhaven Tuesday Night group currently serving as the Ottawa West District 62 DCM; and my name is Ian B. I'm happy to be here today and pleased to give this update on how District 62 is doing after almost 3 months into my term. Overall District 62 is doing very well:

- We are financially secure, supported by our own contributions, which have steadily been growing over the last 4 years allowing us to support our service committees as and when required and contribute to Area and GSO. In addition to group contributions we have instituted a GSO contribution can at our District Meetings. These individual GSR contributions are tracked separately and when we have \$100 we send a cheque to GSO.
- All positions are filled at the District table and there are representatives for all Service Committees, Archives, Grapevines and even an Intergroup Liaison. When the Spring and Fall Conferences, Alkathon or any other special event such as a Delegates Forum take place in Ottawa; District 62 provides support both financially and with active AA members.
- Regarding our Service committees:
 - All our CF/TF commitments continue to be met and work continues to improve our "Bridging the Gap" capabilities.
 - CPC continues to interface with professionals keeping a constant stock of our Awareness Builders packages available for locating in office reception areas.
 - PIC is extremely strong and continues to participate in local "Health Fairs" and systematically make personal phone calls to approximately 40 agencies, neighborhood police centers and central offices of Public Libraries. In addition the School Libraries Project continues strong providing AA material, twice per year, in all 57 secondary schools in the Ottawa area.
 - PIC & CPC will both be represented at the AA Information booth at the Ottawa Counseling Association National Conference to be held on May 17 – 20 2011 at the Ottawa Marriott Hotel.

All this being said, we are not without our challenges.

- District 62 represents 49 groups in the Ottawa Region with 30 groups having a designated Representative for our District meetings. For January, February and March of this year only 14 groups were in attendance. As such, actual participation is only 14 out of 49 groups or 28.5% and these seem to be the same groups and even same members year after year, meeting after meeting.
- Only PIC has a full committee, others have gaps and need volunteers.
- TAS is in constant need of volunteers to man-the-phones and ensure the "hand of AA will always be there" when a still suffering alcoholic reaches out for help.

In summary those that participate in service in District 62 are tireless and do an excellent job. Our challenge is to motivate more groups within the district to regularly participate and more members in all groups to discover the joy and indescribable benefits of service within AA.

I'm sure this is not a unique situation. I'd appreciate any and all ideas on how we might approach this issue from any of you here.

Thank you, yours in love and service,

Ian B. DCM Ottawa West District 62

District 66 Golden Triangle

Good morning everyone. I am an alcoholic and my name is Gary. I am a member of the Seaway group and currently serving as District Committee Member of Golden Triangle District 66 and my name is Gary.

Attendance at our monthly meeting averages around 70 to 80 % and our financial situation for now is good. Contributions from the groups seem to be coming in as they should and I am trying to encourage new G S R s to attend our District meeting.

Our positions have now all been filled and that makes me very pleased because some of the new G S Rs stepped right in as they were asked. Is that not the A. A. way.

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Our annual District 66 Round Up is going to be in full swing on Saturday April 9 2011 at the Perth Civitan Hall - HWY 43 just east of Perth. Registration is at 12 o'clock, pot luck supper at 6 and our guest speaker will be on at 4:30 pm. Please come and join us for some fun, fellowship, and good food.

Yours in love and service,
Gary C

District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

Good morning, everyone. I am Terry C. and I am honoured to be the District Committee Member for District 70 Renfrew – Pontiac, one of two interprovincial districts in this area. Our District's eighteen groups returned a full table of GSR's at the November elections and we also have six service Chair Persons at the table. Attendance at our district table is excellent, with twelve to sixteen out of our eighteen groups represented on a regular basis.

We held our annual St. Patrick's Day round-up on March twelfth and it was a huge success. In keeping with our guidelines the event was run by volunteers from among our new group of GSR's and they did a super job. We had visitors from all over eastern Ontario and west Quebec, great speakers and a good supper full of cheerful sobriety and fellowship to end the evening.

The round-up was also a financial success.
I'm proud to say District 70 is in fine shape as Spring arrives.

Yours in love and service
Terry C

District 74 Pembroke

Not present and did not submit a report

District 78 Madawaska Valley

Hi everyone, I am an alcoholic, DCM for dist.78 Madawaska and my name is Claude L.

Everything is getting back to normal after the winter months at the meetings. Attendance has started to pick-up a bit. We have a few upcoming events at our district, which are, Claude L 25 yrs on March 31 at Maynooth Group, Dorothy L. 30 years at the Paudash Group, and Tony H. with 29 years at the Gratitude Group.

The one group that is changing location is the Bancroft New Hope Group which is moving to the Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church on April 04, and will be celebrating their 32 year group anniversary. We are a small district with only 6 groups left. Financially we are struggling somewhat, but we are trying to improve that.

We have a date for our fall round-up the Madawaska festival of colours will be held on Oct.01/11. We have a chairperson picked all ready, which is Lois C. from the Maynooth group. She says that she has some of the speakers lined up and that she will have everything ready to go for the due date.

I'm not much for reports so this is all you get.

Yours in love and service
Claude L.
DCM Dist.78 Madawaska

District 82 Victoria Haliburton

Hi, I am an alcoholic, my name is Greg M. I am DCM for District 82, Victoria, Haliburton.

Our district has had very good attendance. All positions are full at our district table. Financially we are in great shape and able to support all sub-chair positions to attend this Assembly.

District 82 is celebrating our 32nd Conference on May 7th. Those who can attend, we would love to have you there for a great day of fun and sobriety.

I am looking forward to this term, to serve as DCM for District 82, giving back to Alcoholics Anonymous, I find very rewarding.

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May your dry date never change.

Yours in service,

Greg M.

District 86 Kawartha

Good morning everyone, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Stonewall Group in Peterborough and my name is Gary C.

This year we are pleased to announce our **50th Kawartha District Conference**. From the very first Central East Conference held on June 24, 1962 at the Empress Hotel in Peterborough until this year's Conference being held at the Evinrude Centre on June 24 & 25, we will be celebrating 50 years of **Memories**. Central East in 1962 included Lindsay, Havelock, Whitby, Oshawa, Bowmanville, Port Hope as well as Peterborough. Our Conference Chairperson is Elizabeth B. of the Mid Day Group in Peterborough. Make sure you pick up a Flyer for this historic event in the Hotel Registration area. You can also download a Flyer from the Announcements page of our Peterborough District Website <http://www.peterboroughaa.org/index.html>.

All our District Committee positions are filled and active and we even seem to get our bills paid. We continue to have strong attendance at our District GSR meetings with an average approaching 90%.

Our Service Information Day will be held on Sunday, May 15th at the Kawartha Intergroup Office, where Robb will be giving his General Service Conference Report. Again, Flyers are available for this in the Registration area and also on our Peterborough AA Website. This event is organized by our Alt. DCM, Steve L.

Let Gratitude be your Attitude,
Gary C.

5.COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

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

a) Public Information Report

Robb McA.

Hi friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Kedron Group in District 28 and my name is Rob McA. I have the privilege to serve Area 83 as Public Information chair.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Public Information workshop yesterday, and a special thanks to those who were up early this morning for the 7AM combined PI/CPC meeting.

So far, I have contact information for 20 Districts, and have received minutes from 12 Districts. I would like to receive minutes from all Districts, as well as contact information for all District Public Information Chairs. I do read all the minutes I receive. It's a great way for me to stay in touch with what's going on in your Districts, especially as it pertains to Public Information. I enjoyed attending and giving a presentation at the Service in Recovery Day for Districts 2, 4, and 6 last month. It was a well organized and very informative day. Member turnout was excellent. I would be happy to attend and give a presentation for any District that invites me.

I have Public Information Kits available at a cost of \$14 for anyone who may require them.

At the request of our Area Chairperson I asked Grapevine magazine to have our Assembly posted on their events calendar. It was not enough notice to be included in the print magazine, but this Assembly is listed on their online calendar. Our Fall Assembly should be listed online as well as in the print magazine. I have also sent a request to Box459 to list our Assembly in their events calendar but have not heard from them yet.

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I went to the January GTA Intergroup PI Committee meeting, but was unable to make it in February or March. I will try to get to this monthly meeting, time permitting, as it is a good opportunity for me to meet with several Districts at once. The new Public Service Announcement 'My World' has been airing on some TV networks in our Area and can be viewed on the GSO Website.

I'm happy to be of service to Area 83. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. My email address is pi@area83aa.org and my phone number is 905 431-8633.

Yours in Love and Service,
Rob McA
Area 83 PI Chairperson

b) Cooperation With The Professional Community

Herb W.

Good morning everyone, I have the honour and privilege of serving as your Co-operation with the Professional Community Chairperson and my name is Herb. I am also a member of the Russell Saturday night Group in District 48.

I would like to report that I started off my term by giving a short service presentation at my old stomping grounds- The district 48 Roundup on February 5th.

Then I attended and gave a presentation at the district 2, 4, and 6 Service day in Toronto on February 12th. It was great to see all the enthusiasm and excellent attendance there!

On February 13th I attended the District 28 Cooperation with the Professional Community monthly meeting and was so Blessed and encouraged by the reception and committed hearts that were present at that meeting! Thank you Heather for inviting me.

On March 4th I attended the Ontario Delegates Committee meeting In Brantford and even though it was not an Area funded event, if you heard Robb W.s Delegate report yesterday morning, I agree whole heartedly it was definitely an experience I am glad I attended and so well worth the trip.

I just want to thank you all who attended the C.P.C. workshop yesterday and the encouragement you gave me. I had a lot of question and requests that I will reply to.

If you have a request, question or comment, please feel free to do so.
My email is cpc@area83aa.org

Gratefully, with Love in Service,
Herb W.

c) Corrections Report

Deirdre B.

My name is Deirdre B and I am an alcoholic and a member of the One Day At A Time Group in Malton District 02. It is an honour and privilege to serve as Area 83 Correctional Facilities Chair. Thank you to all who attended the Corrections Workshop yesterday our hope is that you enjoyed the panelists and have a better understanding of Correctional Service work. Thank you to Janet, Eilish, Ray, and Michel you were all amazing. Thank you to District 14 Correctional Facilities Chair Veronica and the 40 pocket sized big books handed out contributed by District 14. Thank you to those groups who sponsored 5 Correctional to attend the Banquet. Thank you to the Correctional Chairs and other individuals interested in corrections for attending our early meeting this morning it was nice meeting you all and hearing your journey with Corrections. What a pleasure to see so many enthusiastic individuals working in Corrections.

Since the start of the term, 6 Bridging the Gap requests have been received, Area 83 is helping Correctional Clients meet up with AA on the outside, our primary purpose in action.

District, 2, 4, and 6s' Service Day was an exciting event what an awesome turn out! Area 83 was well represented and I was

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grateful to be a participant. Ontario Regional Conference was this past weekend and we enjoyed manning the Corrections display handing out information and speaking to interested parties on becoming active with Correctional Volunteer work. 3,300 people in attendance sounds like a good volunteer pool to reach out the hand of AA too.

GSO Corrections office is still looking for Correctional Correspondence Service through which AA members on the “outside” share by mail their experience, strength, and hope with AA member’s who are on the “inside”. Copies are on the table to the right if anyone is interested please take a form to fill out and send to GSO. General Service Representatives, and Correctional Chairs please spread the forms around to interested parties so we can more volunteers. Jim M from GSO says the number of requests from the inside often outpaces the number of AA’s on the outside currently available for correspondence.

From the Oct’10 trustee committee on Corrections: agreed to forward the proposed section describing “*Big Book Studies*” as a possible meeting format be added to the pamphlet “*A.A. in Correctional Facilities*”, they also agreed to forward 33 stories of the 90 stories received to update the pamphlet “*It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell*”, 16 had unanimous support and 17 ¾’s support.

Thank you to all the District Secretaries who send me out their district meetings, this has kept me up to date with Corrections in the districts.

Anyone needing to contact me my e-mail is cf@area83aa.org or via phone at 416-633-7650.

God bless each and every one of you,
Deirdre B

d) Treatment Report

Rodney S.

My name is Rodney S. and I am proud to serve as your Treatment Facilities Chair for this term. Of all the positions I could have hoped to get it never occurred to me that I would be in this job. I honestly did not know what I was going to do when I got it. I thought I would simply fill in the chair as it were and carry around the display.

As I started to look into what needed to be done it didn’t take long before I found something to do. Bridging The Gap, a program of temporary contacts for Treatment, seems to have slipped under the radar and needs attention. **We are not alone**, I have since learned that there is no formal Bridging The Gap program in Ontario never mind Eastern Ontario International. So there is work to do and I am prepared to work hard to do it. It is my intention to give 100% of the time I have to do this work and with district support we can make BTG a formal program in Area 83.

I have received minutes from several districts and I have read each one. I tend to focus on TF activities in each district as I would like to know what is going on in that area.

Yesterday’s workshop went well. We had some technical issues with sound and one member stood up to the plate and read the subtitles on the HOPE video. I presented some ideas concerning bridging the gap explaining how I see this program working going forward. I explained that for Bridging the Gap to work the Districts (Intergroup where applicable) play a key central role in its functionality. We presented a BTG Video Skit that was recorded by AA members and was both informative, effective and lots of fun to make.

This morning’s TF meeting held in the Windsor Room at 7am was well attended. There were 14 people in attendance and we briefly discussed what is going on in various district. There were a few TF Chairs and some concerns were brought up. In the end it was thought that a centrally managed list of District contact is simpler to maintain and that each district is to be responsible for their own contact list as well as getting contact requests from the centers in their district.

In an effort to open up the lines of communication and realizing that we cannot meet face to face I have mentioned that our Webmaster has told me that our Website can host a **chat room** for a TF Meeting. I have asked those present to bring this to their district as such a meeting would be beneficial to communicate Bridging The Gap and other Treatment issues in each district. Such a meeting could be convened at a convenient time in our own homes provide we have the technology at home. It is a worthwhile thing and I formally request that our Area Webmaster do whatever is required to set that up.

I have revamped the TF display to include French English and Spanish information. I am fluent in French and English and do my best with Spanish. So far the Spanish is limited to a display of available literature in Spanish. There is so much literature

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that can be displayed in the racks that French and English fill them up completely with no room for any Spanish. I have to make available only some of the pamphlets. For now I will let the pamphlet inventory drop a bit before I get any Spanish.

- **Since I became chair of this committee I have attended the following functions**
 - **GTA Intergroup TF Committee meeting**
 - Discussed bridging the gap
 - Suggestions were made about what to do going forward
 - GTA is hoping to take BTG in a new direction involving “Meeting Buddy” concept
 - **District 2, 4, 6 Service Day**
 - This day was by far the best attended service day I have ever attended
 - Spoke a little on my idea of what the TF committee should be doing
 - Made a commitment that BTG would be my focus
 - **Ontario Delegates Committee meeting in Brantford**
 - I listened and asked questions where appropriate
 - I was given the opportunity to discuss BTG with Area 84 delegate on our way back to the airport. Our discussion was informative and rewarding. Area 84 is interested in seeing where BTG goes in our Area and how we can help get things improved in their area. Much discussion and action is still needed.
- **I have been in contact with**
 - **New York Treatment Facilities Desk**
 - New York put me in touch with BTGWW.
 - I contacted the people who put this workshop on last year and they immediately gave me information of where it is being held this year.
 - I made the decision to attend the Bridging the Gap Weekend Workshop in Sacramento CA during the weekend of Sept 11-13.
 - I have put my name down to present something at this workshop so I am working towards building BTG back up in our area so I can talk on our new efforts
 - I have been in touch with Area 86 TF Chair and we have briefly discussed BTG in his area. His is much like ours and needs as much work. We have discussed developing a simple process that both areas can use that way when we talk about the BTG plan in southern Ontario we are all on the same page. Next step is to reach out to our northern neighbors and see if we can get them on the same page.
 - I have sent out several messages to the districts. As soon as I could I gathered the email addresses of district TF reps. When such an address was not available I used the DCM. I wish to encourage more open dialog between the Area and District TF Chairs. Clearly we cannot all meet in person on a regular basis but our Area Webmaster tells me that we could activate a chat room on our website that would be accessible using a password. I wish to take advantage of this technology and schedule a regular TF online meeting to discuss BTG issues in the districts.
- One of the things I have become aware of through New York is this Bridging The Gap Weekend Workshop that I plan to attend. The AA members who run this workshop also maintain a website, www.btgww.com, that holds a database of BTG contacts in North America. They wish to have long term contacts and I am leaning to figure out what the actual requirements are. Right now the only contact information they have for Ontario is in Collingwood area. Of course that doesn't really help a lot of us in other locations. Perhaps we could work towards populating this site. However if the simple framework I have presented in the workshop were to be in place such a tool becomes unnecessary as all this information would be maintained at the district level with links to Area who has links to New York and other areas.

One of the things we need to make BTG happen in our area is we need to talk about it. We need to get enthusiastic about it and we need to be professional about it. I am available to talk on this subject at your local functions. Put me on your schedule, but let me know about it, I will do my best to attend. I am already scheduled to attend some functions for a separate reason but I can bring the TF Chair as well if desired.

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As I said I hope to do the best job I possibly can in this position. It is clear to me that success really depends on cooperation and enthusiasm. Without district support BTG cannot function at all. Lastly but not least we have had one bridging the gap request which was to be completed today.

Yours in love and service. Rodney S.

e) Grapevine Report

Leo M.

I am an alcoholic and my name is Leo. My home group is the Little Oak Group in District 82 Victoria Haliburton. It is with much gratitude that I have the privilege to serve as your Grapevine Chair for Area 83 International.

The Grapevine Chair is a new and learning experience for me. I was invited to a Service Information Day as Grapevine Chair with Districts 2, 4 and 6 combined and it was a great day with lots of sharing and great food.

At our Grapevine workshop yesterday, we looked at how the Grapevine began, how it grew to be the voice of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement worldwide and printed in English, Spanish language.

The Grapevine is a great way to have your voice heard. You can write articles, send pictures, cartoons or jokes that you would like to share with others through the Grapevine. It is a great way of carrying the message to those not able to attend meetings and can be placed and read anywhere.

The Grapevine can be found on the website also in digital form at www.aagrapevine.org. The subscription costs less and you would receive it earlier than the Grapevine magazine. This will not replace the monthly magazine. There are many other items that the Grapevine has to offer, such as Books, CD's, Slogans just to name a few.

The District Committee Member's have received in their mailbox the order forms for 2012 Pocket Planner and Calendars. This will give all districts ample time to get their orders together. The pocket planners are \$4.25 and the calendars \$8.50 US Funds. Prices will be confirmed in June at Area meeting. The deadline will be Sept. 10th at our Area meeting and delivery will be at the October Fall Assembly in Kingston.

Finally I would like to thank all the Grapevine Representatives who have joined the Grapevine team and would like to encourage all groups to try and get a representative.

Thanks to all and hope you have had a good weekend here and have a safe drive home.

Yours in Friendship and Service

Leo McK.
Area 83 Grapevine Chair

f) Self-Support Report

Ruth F.

Hello, my name is Ruth, and I am an alcoholic. My home group is the Agincourt Acorn group, in district 22. I am excited to be currently serving you as the Area 83 Self Support Chairperson.

Self Support has a lot going on! It is happening here, at your district, at your home group, and even all around you! Self Support is the way that our gratitude gets to show itself! I am amazed at the creative ways members find to give back! I have listed some on the Self Support display, and if you send me more, I will list those also.

I would like to thank districts 2,4, and 6 for inviting me to participate at their service day. The entire day was a great example of self support in action! Many people worked together to make that day happen. It was awesome to see members looking for information, and ways to get into service. The food was so good. It's all self support... amazing, isn't it?!

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I would love to hear from even more of you... anyone who would like to know more about what I am talking about. You can email me at selfsupport@area83aa.org . Some Self Support representative email addresses have bounced back, so if you have not heard from me yet... I must not have your current address, please email me and I will update your information. I hope you all have a great spring and summer. Thank you for all that you do!

Peace and serenity,
Ruth F

g) Archives Report

Peter N.

Good morning friends. My name is Peter N. I am an alcoholic and a member of the Bayview Group in District 14, Toronto North Central. I have the honour and privilege of serving as your Archives Chair for the next two years.

It must be said that when one takes on one of these positions, it is frequently with no idea of what we are doing. Fortunately, we are provided with a variety of tools such the Archives Kit, Workbook, Guidelines and so on. In addition, I have the support of others such Milner G., past Archives Chair who eagerly provided me all his information boxes, and links to web based information, Cathy U. and Maire O., past Archivists, and David ., our current Archivist. Thank you for your help and support and thanks to everyone who attended the Workshop yesterday and our Archives' Chairs meeting this morning; 17 people were in attendance at the civilized hour of 7:30AM.

We are very enthusiastic in Archives and moving forward. Archives is not about dust and cobwebs: "We are not a glum lot". Here are my activities on your behalf since the beginning of the year.

1. On January 8 I attended the Area Committee meeting in Belleville.
2. On February 12 I was invited to present an Archives Workshop to the joint Service in Recovery Day put on by Districts 2, 4 and 6 in Etobicoke. There were more than 100 enthusiastic and service oriented alcoholics in attendance.
3. On February 12 I drove to Belleville to meet with David T., Area 83 Archivist to get a sense of what we hoped to accomplish over the next two years, to plan for the Assembly, the Archives Service Day and The Eighty-Three, the Area 83 Archives Newsletter. We have an agenda and are attempting to follow it.
4. On March 4 I attended the Ontario Delegates Committee Meeting in Brantford and found out that there will be some changes to the wording in the Archives Workbook which will be on the floor for Conference approval.

I have been attending the monthly Archives meetings at the Toronto GTA and that is a strong, vibrant and well attended committee.

Just to clarify, the Archivist is our technical expert support to the District Archives Chairs and Archivists. The job of Chair is more as a conduit of information in the service chain between GSO, the Area and the Districts; a resource to provide support and share information between the Districts; to put on Workshops at the District Service Days.

We are looking for contributions from individual Districts and Groups in our Archives Rooms. If you have something in a display format, please let us know, we would be pleased to have it as part of the display. This is your opportunity to present to the rest of the Area.

The Eighty-Three is the Area 83 Archives newsletter. We are looking for contributions from the Districts; these could take the form of a historical article about your Group or District and its evolution; an oral history of a long time member; a pdf of an old meeting book or maybe the photograph of an old group tablecloth or notification of an event.

Thank you to everyone who has *volunteered* to contribute to our next edition. We are expecting contributions from District 42 St Lawrence International which is New York State: the history of Archives in District 22; an article from District 16 in Spanish and possibly English; a 50th year group anniversary from District 86 Kawartha; the story of the a 65 year history of the Kingsway group in District 6 Mississauga; a pictorial archive of all the groups in District 6; and much, much more. Don't worry, if you miss this edition we will fit you in the next time.

We are looking to finalize a date for the Archives Service Day which we are hoping will take place in the fall.

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If you do not have a an Archives Chair in your Group or District, it is not too late, we still have room for more and in the interim will be in touch with the District Committee Member and/or the Alternate.

Please send your monthly minutes to archives@area83aa.org. The blog is I read them all. Please let me know when you will be holding your Service Days and Roundups, I would be pleased to attend.

Yours in Love & Service
Peter
Area83.archives.blogspot

Events

April 10 Hamilton Archives Breakfast
May 15 Eastern Toronto Archives Breakfast
November 6 Toronto Archives Breakfast

h) Service Information Day

Heather M.

I'm an alcoholic, a member of Prince Edward, currently serving as District Committee Member (DCM) for Toronto Southwest District 12, also picked from the hat to be your Service Information Day chair, my name is Heather M..

I'd like to introduce the committee: Vince R Dist 10, Miles C Dist 30, Diane McL Dist 26, Gerry StL Dist 48, and Gary O Dist 14.

It's been a growing experience putting on our first Service Information Day. I hope everyone enjoyed it and is looking forward to our next one in the fall. I've always enjoyed attending Service Information Day and learning from those who've come before me about the larger meaning of the word "service".

Some of the highlights to look forward to (that we know of so far) are:

- our delegate Robb will be going to the General Service Conference in New York in May and will be giving a report at Service Information Day based on actually having been to the General Service Conference, as well as the many service days held around our area between now and then.
- our alternate delegate Mel will be going to a Remote Communities conference in June in Iqaluit, Nunavut. He is quite a photographer and is under strict instructions to bring his camera, so that next fall he can give a full report on the event as well as the surroundings. [Given his pronunciation of Rideau, I'm looking forward to hearing him pronounce some Inuit place-names.]
- our area Treatment Facilities Chair Rodney will be going to a Bridging the Gap conference in California in September and will no doubt have great information for us as well.

I hope everyone has booked their rooms already for the fall. Please encourage others to come with you as well - all are welcome to attend Service Information Day as well as our Area Assembly.

Yours in service,
Heather M.
Service Information Day Chair and DCM District 12

6 . TREASURER'S REPORT

JIM A.

[See Appendix A - Treasurer's Financial Reports.]

Good morning everyone, I am an alcoholic a member of the St Andrews (Scarborough) Group, my name is Jim A. I have the honour and privilege of standing with you and before you as Area 83 Treasurer.

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Thank you to all who attended the Treasurer/Self-Support workshop yesterday. I hope the information was useful. Thank you to Rodney for his technical support and to all the wonderful volunteers who helped sell banquet tickets, count loonies and twoonies, and the five bucketeers for last night and today. Thank you for your time. No names preserves your anonymity and doesn't tax my memory.

Thank you for sending in your District and Group contributions. As of March 20th all cheques received have been deposited and all but one receipt have been sent back with a self-addressed return envelope. A gentle reminder to put your group's service number on the envelope and the cheque. I have received a cheque from one of the three Freedom groups in 83. No return address or group number, so I am not quite sure with no return address or group number. Either of these two vital bits of info will ensure that receipts go to the right group. Thanks to the DCM's for delivering mail for me too.

Please note that the receipt was subsequently hand delivered to the correct Freedom Group. (from Peterborough).

The following is a breakdown of our financial affairs as of March 20, 2010:

Our reserve account has a current balance of \$20,000.00 It is currently set aside for unforeseen circumstances, and is in the form of a GIC paying 1.5% maturing March 16th, 2012., Semi annual interest of \$48.77 was paid by cheque and deposited to the operating account on March 16th, 2011.

Thank you & muchos gracias goes out to the 64 groups and five districts that have made contributions totaling \$11,515.47 year to date. And to those who have handed me cheques this weekend as well! This amount is lower than 2010 by \$1,195. The decline in contributions that started in late 2010 continues.

The total expenses for the period ending March 20, 2011 were \$10,051.99. To date our expenses are \$1,850.71 lower than our income. The drop in expenses is mostly the difference of hosting the ODC in Ottawa last year (\$4400.00), and just participating at this year's ODC in Brantford. All invoices received have been paid including \$5,500.00 USD for the 2011 General Service Conference that will be attended by our Delegate in April.

At this point, I do not recommend that Area 83 make a contribution to GSO in light of the declining contributions. I will be reviewing this in August, in order to make a presentation at the September Area meeting.

The bank opening balance as of January 1, 2011 was \$32,897.79. Total income of \$11,902.70 less expenses of \$10,416.34, leaves an Operating account balance of \$34,384.15 as at March 20, 2011.

The sum of the Prudent reserve and the Operating account is \$54,384.15. As per the GSO guidelines, the suggested amount in an Area's prudent reserve is the equivalent of one year's expenses. This represents approximately 93.8% of the proposed spending for 2011.

Our proposed spending guidelines are \$57,945.

THIS WEEKEND'S SEVENTH TRADITION — TOTAL = \$ 2160.76

FRIDAY \$ 359.70 SATURDAY \$ 958.76 SUNDAY \$ 854.30.

BANQUET TICKETS SOLD: 250 (228 at first Assembly of previous term)

Yours in Love and Service,
Jim A.
Area 83 Treasurer

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT

KIM S.

Hello, everyone. I am an alcoholic, I have the honour of serving as your Area 83 Secretary and my name is Kim. As I start my report I would like to thank Joyce, the Secretary for last term for her little USB stick full of files and information. Also for her help, patience and understanding, but most of all for her support, encouragement and telling me that I am doing ok.

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My second service job was secretary of the Long Branch Group. The first was making sandwiches. When I was 6 months sober, the group made me their secretary. There wasn't a nomination or an election. I was told I was the secretary. I just did what I was told. I was afraid to go to the front of the room to read at our meetings so the group made me secretary and I was forced to go to the front every week to read the announcements. Trust me whatever your fear is. Alcoholics Anonymous has a solution. If you had told me then that I would be the Area 83 Secretary and standing in front of you today, I would not have believed you.

In all the District Committee Members and Area Committee Members "mail folders" in the plastic bins in the Atrium I have put :

- Each District Listing
- Contact list of the Area Committee Members
- Copy of the District Information Change Form
- Service Information Day Agenda
- Area Assembly Agenda

Everything in the DCM folders is duplicated. This is to provide the Alternate District Committee Member a copy of everything. DCMs please pass on the extra copy to your alternates.

There was a huge delay this year getting access to the Fellowship New Vision, which is the GSO database. All District records were sent directly to the Records Dept at GSO by me. I am keeping track of the DCMs that have received their kit. If you have not received yours, please let me know so I can follow up with the General Service Office. Also, if any of the Sub-committee Chairs have not received their workbooks I would also like to know. I will follow up to find out why it has not been received. It is important that I receive your district information as soon the chairs have been filled so that the information can be processed and the Committee workbooks sent out.

On Feb. 12., 2011 I mailed out envelopes to the DCM's and the Committee members. In these envelopes were invitation letters along with the agendas' for this Saturday and Sunday. The DCM's were to bring these letters and agendas to the District table. I hope everyone received theirs.

At the side table over against the wall, I have some extra copies of the minutes from the Fall October, 2010 meeting, also a few call letters for the Alternate Web Master and some Recommended Changes to The Operating Procedures. These were all given to the District Committee Members in Sept 2010 and in December, 2010 and in January 2011. These recommended changes should have distributed to all GSRs by our DCM. I have put a few on the table but because of the fact there are 6 pages I did not make copies for everyone.

DCMs and Committee members please send me your reports electronically if you can. To date I have only received 4 DCM reports and one Committee Report.

Also a plea to all DCMs and Committee Members please check your mail folders before you leave today. I do not want to take your mail home again.

Yours in love & Service

Kim S.
Area 83 Secretary
Eastern Ontario, International

8. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

MEL C

Good morning / afternoon everyone, my name is Mel C. and I currently serve the fellowship as P61 Alternate Delegate for Area 83, Eastern Ontario International. Good to be here, good to be sober.

This is the first report I've done in a long while and it's good to be able to stand here – in my previous job as Chairperson, you don't give reports.

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I thought I'd start out by relating what it says in our Service Manual about being the Alternate Delegate. First, a little about the other positions:

The Service Manual spends a full chapter on the Area Committee, its composition and duties. The Chairperson gets pretty much a full page all to herself and her duties, apparently, are very important. The Secretary and Registrar are likewise. The Service Manual goes to great lengths to say how key these positions are to the effective running of the Area.

The Delegate, well he or she gets a whole Chapter in the Service Manual to themselves. It's Chapter 6! More space devoted to that than is given to the whole Area committee! The Delegate clearly is a very important person.

And then, there's the Alternate Delegate. I get one paragraph tucked into the Delegate's section – 5 sentences.

Essentially it says that Area's should have one and that I can be a valuable assistant to the Delegate (show towel).

It says in some places there are Area's that actually gives the Alternate some special tasks and some are even assign a line item in the spending guidelines.

As Jack Benny used to say: *Well thank you very much*

All kidding aside, here in Area 83 I do have many duties – beautiful duties – and I have been hard at them since I came in three months ago.

The Remote Communities mandate are a part of my duties and I have been pretty active there. I have participated in two cross Canada & Alaska conference calls and have learned much from that. I have learned that Alaska is having some success in Barrow dealing with aboriginal peoples there and that A91 Saskatchewan goes right from the US border to Nunavut and they deal with the Cree nation there – and they do a lot of good work. (You might want to see an article on Page 7 of the Box 459 this month on that – HOLD UP). I have learned that A82 Cape Breton has taken on responsibility for Labrador and deal much with the Inuit and Inu in Labrador City and Goose Bay. And I've learned a lot about and helped some regarding first nation's people in prisons in A83. I have learned that each Area has had to come to some decision around whom to apply the Remote Communities tag to – is a community remote because of its language, culture or geography or is it because of its language, culture AND geography. I've helped the leader of the Workgroup (Bob P.) out on a couple of occasions for work he is doing in our Area, especially around Ottawa and I am very much looking forward to my trip to Iqaluit in June to attend the First Canadian Eastern Arctic Convention of AA on our Area's behalf. I will try to represent us well. I am even practicing some Inuktitut words (this from a guy who can't say Rideau River). "Ai" (like "eh") is hello and "qujannamiik" (ka-jan-a-mik) is thank you. I apologise to any Inuit in the room and if there are any – I'd be grateful to talk to you after!

On the Intergroup front (my other stated responsibility) I have a great story about the recent Toronto Intergroup-District Sharing session that took place in February. On the District/Area side we talked it up, made it exciting and invited all the DCM's and others for dinner before-hand and lo and behold we had complete representation of the nine geographical Districts in the Toronto area at the meeting. It was powerful from an Area perspective and I was so proud. I am working now to develop relationships with the other Intergroups in our Area. If you happen to BE the Intergroup in your Area, please give me a call if you need assistance or support and I'll do what I can to help!

On individual fronts I attended and presented at the D02, 04 and 06's Service Information Day and that was a huge success by all accounts. Finally, I attended the Ontario Delegates Conference weekend in Brantford in early March and had the time of my life there. I got to hear Robb give the two minute report he is going to give at the General Service Conference and if he does it as well as he did in Brantford; we have nothing to worry about☺.

I have multiple service commitments going forward and will report on them when they are complete.

It has been a pleasure so far to serve you in this position and if anyone ever has any questions that relate to my position, I hope you all know you can pick up the phone day or night and call me. I would be honoured if you did.

Yours in Love and Service,
Mel C.

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9. DELEGATE'S REPORT

ROBB W.

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic, Panel 61 Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International and my name is Robb W.

What an honor it is to have been elected to this position. Another leg on this wonderful journey called service. I have to begin by saying what a great time I've had so far this weekend. I've had the opportunity to speak with many of you over the last couple of days and I'm even more certain than ever that Alcoholics Anonymous has a strong and vibrant presence in Eastern Ontario. For those of you that are here for the first time, please return to your Districts and Groups with the same enthusiasm that you've exhibited here. Service is contagious and your attitude will go a long way in ensuring that we remain active and strong in Area 83.

Over the past three months, I have attended the District 2, 4 & 6 Service Day and the Ontario Delegates Committee Meeting. These are the only "official" Delegate commitments that I have had so far. The rest of the 83 days have been spent trying to assimilate all of the information that I have received from the General Service Office. I have the agendas and background information for both of the committees that I'm on, Cooperation with the Professional Community and Archives and I am trying to become intimately familiar with it. While I also have all of the agendas and background material on all of the other committees, I will only attempt to have an understanding of what's going on there. Thank you to everyone that has received and passed on information for the 61st General Service Conference. I expect that, over the next five weeks I will be getting some feedback and will take that information with me to New York.

Once back from the General Service Conference, I will be visiting a number of District Service Days to give my Conference Report. Please, please, if you haven't already spoken to me to book a date for the report, let me know of any dates that you may be planning. I currently have a number of commitments and a few tentative dates booked: I will be in Peterborough on May 15th, Toronto's Information AA Day on the 28th of May. On the 4th of June I'll be attending the Area Committee Meeting in Quinte West; the 11th of June is tentatively booked for District 48 or District 26 & 28. That will be a first come, first confirmed booking. June 18th I will be in Canton, New York for the District 42 Service Day and then the 25th of June I'll be in Ottawa for the District 54, 58 & 62 Service Day. As you can see, a number of Districts have got together to put on a Service Day so that the Delegate does not have to visit each District separately. If you have had a look at the Archives display in the Frontenac room, you may have seen the map of the Service Zones in our Area. This was an idea that came up a number of years ago so that we could keep travel expenses down by Districts cooperating to have multi-district service days and the Delegate could reach more people in one shot. This does not mean that I won't visit an individual District, I'm happy to go wherever I'm asked... but you have to ask! If it's not in my little black book, I won't be showing up! If you think that you've invited me to your service day and I haven't mentioned it, please talk to me after and confirm that I have the date in my book.

I would like to share with you some of the information that I've received over the last three months from other Delegates in North America. We have a distribution list that we're using to share questions that a Delegate might have and to encourage communication throughout North America.

One of the first emails was regarding attendance at Service functions in our Areas, at Assemblies and Districts. I thought about this for a while as Area 83 has, what I think is reasonable attendance at around 40% representation at our Assemblies and Districts reporting anywhere from 90% attendance to some that are struggling at 20% attendance. While I was mulling this over, I received a number of responses from other Areas quoting numbers of 20% representation at Assemblies. This amazed me as I thought that we must have been near the bottom of the list! While these numbers tell me that participation generally is not that great, Area 83 still comes out near the top of the heap. I feel that it is our responsibility, all of us here, to encourage people to come out and allow their group to have a voice in the business of Alcoholics Anonymous. Encourage people to read the Service Manual and the book "The Home Group, Heartbeat of AA". Joining a group, getting sober and helping other to get and stay sober is our primary purpose but, if we aren't a part of A.A. as a whole, we're missing out on so much. Encourage people with your actions and deeds, be enthusiastic and let people know that service is just another benefit of getting and staying sober.

Another email was sent out asking about participation of Young People in our Area. Some areas have young people in AA committees that interact with General Service regarding things like Young Peoples conventions. In my history with Area 83, such that it is, I haven't seen any interaction with a specific "young people's" associations or committees but, I have noticed this weekend that there are a lot of "young people" here at the Assembly! Now, that could just be because I'm a lot older that I was when I first came here!

I will attend the Conference in May and report back to all of you what's happening in Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. If, for any reason, you cannot attend a service day in your area, please feel free to drop me an email and I will send you a written report about the goings on at the conference.

To wrap things up, I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous in this capacity and for the support that you've given me over the years. I thank all those that have come before me and blazed the trail that I'm following. I am blessed.

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As always, there is no place that I would rather be than here with you, serving the fellowship that, in the beginning, gave me hope and to date has given me a life beyond my wildest dreams.

Yours in Love and Service,

Robb W.
Panel 61 Delegate
Area 83 – Eastern Ontario International

10. ROLL CALL AND REGISTRAR'S REPORT

TONY A.

[See Appendix B - Spring Assembly Tally.]

Good day, I am an alcoholic, a member of the Church Street Group and currently serve as your Panel 61 Registrar for Area 83 International and my name is Tony A. I am delighted to be here with you all and it is great to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

As the area registrar, I am responsible for compiling and updating group registration and records; distributing lists to District Committee Members or DCMs at least once a year and forwarding group information to the General Service Office. I also prepare roll call forms for Assemblies and area committee meetings and call the roll call.

My digital certification which is needed to access the Fellowship New Vision database aka FNV from General Service Office or GSO was received just shy of 2 weeks ago. The FNV is the database which all of the group information is stored at the GSO office. I need this certificate to enter the database to make changes and update group information.

In January, all area registrars received a comprehensive 3 session training via webinar to show the incoming registrars how to navigate the FNV as well as how to enter, extrapolate and export data from the FNV database. GSO had decided in an effort to reduce data entry errors, it would be best to provide ample training prior to the issue of the digital certificates.

All group change forms and new group forms submitted prior to my receiving FNV access were faxed directly to GSO for processing. GSO tells me that all group change forms submitted were entered by GSO staff. General Service Representatives or GSRs that had submitted these changes should have received their kits which are usually mailed out within 2 weeks of GSO receiving the updated group information.

Group Change and New Group forms have been with my mailing address and email so you can send me group changes. I'd like these sent to me where possible by email in a Word formatted document for easier transcription. These are easily downloadable from our Area 83 website under the District Resources tab and.

This year, a new Regional Directory will be made available to the membership. The Regional Directory is a compiled listing of AA contacts for people who are travelling. The GSR and Alt GSR who have given permission are listed in this directory. The directory is usually made available sometime in July. This directory can be ordered from GSO by calling them directly (212-870-3400) or by visiting their website.

It is the responsibility of the area registrars to ensure this directory is up to date. The cut off for submissions for this directory will be the first week of May of this year. To all DCMs, District Secretaries/Registrars, please ensure that I have all of the group changes by the end of April as anything received after that will not go into this year's directory.

All DCMs will be receiving their updated group lists in an Excel spreadsheet format within the next couple of weeks. I have also placed a printed copy of all of all District's group sheets in your respective District folders. You will notice that your groups are listed by service type which is located right next to the group's service number at the top left area of the sheets.

Generally, we will only relate to "Active" groups but I have included all of the group listings in your district. Some groups might be listed as "Unknown" or "Inactive". I ask that you cross-reference the unknowns and inactive service types to validate accuracy. Please review them and send me the edits/changes only.

Active - group has a primary mail or GSR contact on the record along with meeting information

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Unknown - group is still active but record does not have a GSR or primary contact attached to it indicating no one available to receive mail from GSO

Inactive - GSO records department has received information that group has disbanded or is not currently meeting

To submit new/group change forms, have queries relating to GSR kits, or you have any further questions or comments regarding the registrar process including group status issues, send me an email to registrar@area83aa.org. I will follow up for you as to not take up assembly time addressing these types of concerns. I kindly request that DCMs and district secretary/registrars to please use this email to forward district minutes.

I attended the Ontario Delegates Committee meeting for my first time and I loved it. Being surrounded by members that have such love, enthusiasm and passion for Alcoholics Anonymous was indeed very heart warming and quite the experience.

I would be remiss if I did not give a huge thank you to the team from District 36 who was most generous with their time and help manning the registration table and others who aided with this process this weekend.

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 the 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 sheets.

For example, a district might have five people signed in as visitors, but when I announce the roll call, I might see that 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 really 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 I do not that if you do not indicate this on the sign in sheet.

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 essential. Thank you for the trust that you have placed in me and it has been my honour to be of service to Area 83 International.

In loving service,

Tony A.
Registrar-Area 83 International
registrar@area83aa.org

11. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

12. NEW BUSINESS

12-a) Introduction of Appointees to Area 83 Appointed Positions

- Area 83 Archivist - David T.
Cathy U., our previous Archivist resigned last October. A call letter was sent out and after discussions with our current and previous Archives Chair, along with our first Area Archivist, David was appointed.
- Area 83 Webmaster – Todd S.,
Our previous Webmaster, Vince R. resigned at the beginning of the year in order to concentrate on being the District Committee Member for District 10, Toronto South Central. Todd held the position as Alternate

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Webmaster and accepted the appointment as Area 83 Webmaster. A call letter was sent out at the beginning of the year for an Alternate Web Master. This call letter expires on May 14, 2011. Please let everyone know in your District that the position is open and for anyone who may be interested they can email me their resume to chairperson@area83aa.org
Kim has put copies of the call letter in your folders.

Thank you David and Todd for being of service for Area 83.

We now move to the Agenda item 12b, Auditors report.

As we are dealing with financial Matters, I recommend going to 2/3 majority. May I have a motion to that effect:

Motion by Ruth F. – Area Self-Support Chair
Seconded: Peter N. – Area Archives Chair
Motion: Carried

12-b) Auditors Report

Dan N. DCM & Auditors Committee

Our operating procedures require that the current Treasurer and two (or more) appointed Area committee members audit the previous term's financial documents. We performed this obligation for the years 2009 and 2010. The object of the review was to satisfy ourselves and to be accountable to Area 83 members that the revenues and expenses were properly recorded and balanced, and that there were no major discrepancies in the practices that were in place. Specifically, the Audit committee reviewed the financial documents covering the period of Jan 1, 2009 to Dec 31, 2010 in order to ascertain:

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

Each committee member reviewed an entire month's transactions from each year, covering 6 of the 24 months in the term. The months selected were carefully chosen to reflect various types of situations: a month with an assembly, a month with an Area Committee meeting and the last month at random. During this process; large items like GSO Assessments, Ontario Delegate's conference expenses, Ambassador Hotel bills, Grapevine seasonals were reviewed.

Bank reconciliations were reviewed, with income items traced back to bank deposits and to group and district contribution files. Expenses in a given month were reviewed and traced back to the Area 83 cheque register.

The expenses for both years, for the following trusted servants were reviewed for accuracy, reasonability and completeness: Archivist; Archives; PI; CPC; TF; CF; Treasurer; Secretary; Chair; alt Delegate; Delegate. This sample covered the widest array of expenses.

The findings of the Audit Committee are that the expenses claimed were within the guidelines of the Area Assembly and were reported properly and consolidated appropriately. Further, the 2009/10 audit committee did not make any recommendations that needed to be implemented.

Dan N., Heather M., Vince R.
Feb 27, 2011

I would ask someone to make a motion that we accept the Auditors Report as given.

Moved by Wilf P. – DCM – District 34
Seconded: Milner G. – DCM – District 42

Discussion None
Vote Opposed 1
Abstained 0
Motion: Carried

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12-c) 2011 Financial Guidelines

Jim A., Area 83 Treasurer

Good afternoon:

I am an alcoholic, a member of the St. Andrew's (Scarborough) Group. My name is Jim A. I have the honour of serving you as your Area Treasurer.

As per our Operating Procedures –

“The Treasurer shall prepare annual financial guidelines for Area 83, in such detail that is acceptable to the Area Committee and the Assembly.”

I would like to mention at this time that this is only forecasted income and expense. These are spending guidelines, not a budget. It is merely to give an overview of the estimated amount of money required to effectively carry the message throughout Area 83 as mandated by the historical group conscience of Area 83.

In keeping with the above guideline, I have presented a DRAFT version of the spending guideline to the Area Committee at the end of February, and to the DCM's on March 7th 2011. Today I present to you .

The proposed guideline for this year is based on the average expenses from the past four years 2007 to 2010. Expenditure of the various chair can vary widely from year to year due to number of events attended and the distances they travel to carryout their functions. Projections of expenses are also based on feedback provided by Area officers and committee chairs. Large one time only expenses such as the 2008 Website start up that distort the average have been adjusted. In some instances, I have used the actual 2011 expense amounts where AVAILABLE in order to keep the forecasted expense total as accurate as possible. (i.e., – expenses for the March 5th, 2011 Ontario Delegates Conference in Brantford is shown as actual the guideline).

Expenses

In order to follow Tradition 5, it takes three things to carry the message: time talent and treasure. (Thanks Mel).

There two types of expenses, those for committees and officers and committee chairs as shown in the top section, Reading left to right you can see each trusted servants proposed spending for individual items. Reading from top to bottom shows the total spent on a particular item, ie travel, stationary, printing etc

The second type of expenses shown in the lower section represent, events and flow through expenditures, A flow through expenditure that has a corresponding flow through income item therefore it nets to \$0.00. In and out. The best two examples of this would be the Grapevine seasonals your groups buy every fall, and the occasional contribution with an attached request to forward some of it to GSO, This is called a flow through contribution.

Event expenses includes, the ODC, any forums, our area meeting costs. This is also where any potential GSO contribution is listed.

Total proposed expenses for 2011, are \$57,945, plus \$5000 in Grapevine seasonals for a total of forcasted expenditure \$62,945.00.

Income

So where does it come from? That would be from us, as per the 7th tradition.

A 7th is taken at every Area committee meeting and every Assembly meeting, and this is represented by the \$5900 figure, same as last year's actual.

Our reserve account of \$20,000 is currently in a 2 year GIC maturing March 16th 2012. earning 1.5% interest. That is the \$300.00 amount. A standing instruction is in place to pay interest out semi annually by cheque, which is then deposited to the operating account.

Cost recoveries represents monies return to Area for proceeds from the sale of literature Service manuals, Pi Kits are good examples. And from time currency gain and or loss from Grapevine seasonal sale is part of this figure.

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Grapevine seasonals as mentioned before, in and then out, net \$0.00.

So this brings the one figure that ties everything together, contributions from the other levels of the service structure. And for 2011, that figure is \$51,195.00 which is the approximate midpoint between actual 2009' contribution figure \$54,4000 and 2010's \$49,014 actual contributions.

Total income of \$57,945.00 plus \$5,000.00 Grapevine seasonals = \$62,945.00

Motion:

I now make the motion that the above guidelines be adopted by Area 83 for the year 2011.

Chairperson: I would ask someone to make a motion that we accept the Financial Guidelines as presented.

Moved by Sandy S. – Immediate Past Delegate
Seconded: Maire O. –

Discussion None
Vote Opposed 0
Abstained 1
Motion: Carried

12 d) Destruction of 2007/2008 Records

Jim A., Area 83 Treasurer

We now move to Agenda item 12d, Destruction of 2007/2008 records. I call on Jim A. to make that motion:

Motion to destroy Area 83 financial records for 2007/2008 term

It has been the past practice to destroy the financial records of the Area (3 & 4 years old) after each audit has been completed with no major problems arising. It is impractical and unnecessary to store these boxes when each Treasurer will state that they are never looked at again. It is important to keep the immediate past terms financial records for reference in case a situation should arise. It is important to note that even though the Treasurer's financial records are destroyed, the Area still has financial reference in each set of minutes since its inception.

Moved by Jim A. – Area Treasurer
Seconded: Dave - Rouge Valley Group

Discussion None
Vote Opposed 0
Abstained 1
Motion: Carried

12-e) Voting Eligibility Recommended changes to Operating Procedures – Kim, our Secretary has sent these recommendations out by email and has included copies in your folders. I trust everyone has had a chance to review them.

At this time I call upon Kim, the Chair of the Ad-Hoc committee to give us a brief history as to why these amendments came to be.

Hi everyone, my name is Kim, I am alcoholic and I was serving on the Ad-Hoc Committee reviewing the Area 83 voting eligibility procedures. On November 1, 2009 Mel C, the Area 83 Chair invited Roy R., Robb W. and myself to form a committee to examine voting rights and eligibility for our Area Committee.

The Ad-Hoc committee was formed as a result of a motion made by Rodney S., who at the time was DCM of District 14. Rodney's motion was, "Recommend to the Area Assembly that both the Assembly and Area Committee Operating Procedures be amended to allow the Alternate DCM to vote in the absence of the DCM, by ensuring the "If a District Committee Member is not present, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote" is contained in each of the relevant items with sections that deal with voting rights and privileges." Rodney's motion was made as the result of the December 2008 election meeting of the Area Committee, a number of Alt DCM's, who were representing their Districts, were not allowed to vote in the elections because of an

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interpretation of the Operating Procedures. In that particular election because the District Committee Member was not present and the Alternate District Committee Member was not allowed to vote in his/her place it meant that the District was not represented. What we attempted to do is to remove those ambiguities. To make it crystal clear who has the right to vote.

Our scope was to make an assessment of and recommendations around Area 83 Eastern Ontario International voting rights and privileges as they apply to our Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings. Our mandate was to report to the Area Committee. It was suggested by the Chair, Mel to give our final report and recommendations to Area Committee meeting and because the Fall Assembly 2010 was an election Assembly, we suggest bringing our recommendations to the Spring 2011 Assembly.

We reported to the Area Committee on January 9, 2010, June 5, 2010 and September 11, 2010.

We researched other Area's voting procedures throughout Canada and the United States. We also looked through our own procedure archives.

We felt that modifying the Area Procedures (where applicable) to include the Alternate District Committee Member as a voting member of the Assembly or Area Committee Meeting in the absence of the District Committee Member is the correct way to proceed. This will give Districts one vote per District similar to the "one vote per group" logic. Our intent is not to change the Area 83 procedures but rather to make very clear who is entitled to vote. We feel we have done that in our recommended changes.

That said, we have made sure that the Alternate District Committee Member is listed as an alternative should the DCM not be available to vote. These recommended changes are shown on the copies that have been sent out to the Districts.

Another recommendation for change is that we wish to clarify that voting is at the meeting of the Assembly and not just the Assembly as is the current wording in the Area 83 procedures.

We have tried to keep it simple and understandable for everyone.

We presented these changes to be approved by the Area Committee on Sept 11, 2010. Also we recommended that if approved that the Recommended Changes to Operating Procedures be presented to the Spring 2011 Assembly to be approved, as the Fall 2010 Assembly was an election Assembly. A motion was made and seconded to bring these Area 83 Amended Operating Procedures to this Spring Assembly. The motion passed unanimously.

Yours in love & service,
Kim S., Roy R. Robb W.

I would ask someone to make a motion to accept the Voting Eligibility Recommended changes

Moved by Scott MacD. – DCM – District 06
Seconded: Jodie M. - GSR - Anniversary Group – District 22

Discussion None
Vote Opposed 0
 Abstained 2
Motion: Carried

13. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

There were several birthday and group anniversary announcements.

14. NEXT AREA ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE DAY

As Chairperson I would recommend the next Assembly be held:

October 28, 29 & 30, 2011 at the Ambassador Hotel, Kingston, Ontario
Area Assembly March 27, 2011

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Moved: Robb W. – Area Delegate
Seconded: Patrick F.–DCM District 18
Motion: Carried

15. CLOSING

I would like to thank everyone for staying and especially to those who have helped me during the weekend to stay somewhat calm and focused.

AS A REMINDER - Our next Area Committee Meeting is in **QUINTE WEST At Westminster Church on June 4, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**

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

Motion to close:

Moved: Sandy S. –Immediate Past Delegate
Seconded: Maire O. District 02
Motion: Carried

Meeting was closed at 2:10 pm with the Responsibility Declaration...

**I am Responsible...
When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that
I am Responsible**

Appendix A – Financial Reports

Appendix B – Spring 2010 Assembly Tally

Appendix C – Recommended Changes to Operating Procedures

Appendix D – Alternate Webmaster Call Letter

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