

# **Area 83 Eastern Ontario International**

## **Area Committee Meeting Minutes**

**September 7, 2019**

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## Area Committee Meeting – September 7, 2019

### 1. OPENING

Area Chairperson, James O'D. opened the meeting at 10: 00 am with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.

Serenity Prayer read by Nicole C. District 36; 12 Concepts (Short Form) read by Ruth F. - District 22

Welcome to Quinte West. It's great to see everyone here today. This is our third Area Committee meeting of the 2019-2020 term. This is your meeting and it is an opportunity for you to share what's happening in your Districts. The Area Committee is where recommendations to the Assembly are discussed and formulated and where tasks assigned by the Assembly are carried out. It is where your questions are answered, and concerns addressed. Please feel free to voice any concerns or questions you may have. There may be someone in the room has the same question and it is important to ask. It is important for all of us to remember our First Tradition - "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity". We are here to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous remains unified and strong in Area 83 Eastern Ontario International. Our personal recovery, as well as the recovery of the still suffering Alcoholic, depends upon it.

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

### Some reminders

This is a non-smoking facility; this includes e-cigarettes and vaping. A break will be called sometime around 11:00 AM and again in the afternoon. Lunch is not shown as an agenda item, but we will break around noon. Please turn off your cell phones or anything else that might interrupt the meeting. Also, please be considerate of those with perfume allergies when applying scents.

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

### Area 83 Officers

On my far right, our Panel 69 Delegate	Rob M.
On my immediate right, our Alternate Delegate	Kimberley M.
On my immediate left is our Secretary	Amy L.
Beside Amy is our Treasurer	JoAnn P.
Beside JoAnn is our Registrar	Dave L.
Our Panel 67 Immediate Past Delegate	Kim S.
And I'm your Chairperson	James O'D.

### Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons

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

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

Also, with us today we have:

**Previous Delegates:** Panel 61 Delegate Robb W. and Panel 65 Delegate Joyce S.

**Appointed positions:** George McQ. Area Webmaster

**Guest from outside of Area 83:** Franklin-GSR from Came to Believe Group, in Black River New York.  
District 700 in Area 47, Central NY

### **Housekeeping:**

The Area committee meeting will be held in this room three times this year and four times next year. We already met in January and June. The next ACM will be here, on January 4, 2020.

The Area Assembly and Service Information Day take place at the Ambassador Conference Centre in Kingston and are held twice each year, once in the spring and again in the fall. The Fall Assembly this year will be held on October 25, 26, 27, 2019.

Our meeting schedule up to and including tentative dates in 2020 will be included in the minutes. These dates are booked and secured with the hotel and church. Some are listed as tentative as the date of the following Assembly/Meeting is approved at the end of each meeting.

Year	Date	Status	Type of Meeting	Where
2019	October 25-27	Approved	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2020	January 4	Approved <sup>1</sup>	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2020	March 27-29	Tentative	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2020	June 6	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2020	September 5	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2020	October 23-25	Tentative	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2020	December 5	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

<sup>1</sup>Voted and approved at September 7, 2019 Area Committee meeting, see agenda item 15 in these minutes.

*Assembly rooms cannot be booked online. Call the Ambassador Hotel directly. Our discounted block of rooms is held until 30 days before the Assembly.*

**Food:** Lunch has been arranged by Maria M. alternate DCM of District 30 at a cost of \$5.00, per serving. Ron and Hanna are working away in the kitchen. Tickets will be sold at the break prior to lunch. You must have a ticket to be served.

Thank-you Maria for organizing the lunch, refreshments, and snacks.

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

### **Who votes?**

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

### **How do we vote?**

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

**Minority Opinion:** A.A. has always protected the voice and opinion of the minority. When we have a vote, unless the voting is unanimous, or if the vote was to cover items such as acceptance of minutes, I will ask if anyone wishes to speak to the minority. To be able to do this, you must have voted with the minority on the motion. If, after the minority has spoken, someone from the majority side of the vote wishes to change their vote, that person may make a motion to reconsider. If this is seconded and passes by a simple majority, we start discussion again on the *original* motion.

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

### **Who may address the committee meeting?**

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

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

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

### **Floor Motions**

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

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

- **Motion for simple majority**

Moved:	Will H. DCM District 14
Seconded:	Tim F. DCM District 86
Discussion:	none
All those in favour:	34

All those opposed:	None
Any abstentions:	None
Motion:	Carried

## 2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

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

### OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

None

### NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

**13. B. Area 83 contribute \$400 for the World Conference 2020 hospitality suite for the Canadian Eastern Region.**

**Rob M. – Area 83 Delegate**

**13 C. CERAASA Startup Fund.**

**Rob M. – Area 83 Delegate**

- **May I have a motion to accept the agenda as amended?**

Moved:	Steph L. DCM District 50
Seconded:	Eileen S. DCM District 28
Discussion:	none
All those in favour:	34
All those opposed:	None
Any abstentions:	None
Motion:	Carried

## 3. ROLL CALL

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

**FROM THE REGISTRAR'S REPORT:** The **roll call for today** is **14** Area Officers (including the Area Webmaster), **1** Immediate Past Delegate, **2** Past Delegates, **20** District Committee Members, **11** Alternate District Committee Members and **12** Visitors.

**For voting purposes**, we have: **12** Area Officers eligible to vote (including the Immediate Past Delegate) and **22** District Committee Members or Alternate District Committee Members for a total of **34** votes. Total delegation for this meeting is **59**.

## 4. REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES –AREA COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 1, 2019

Minutes of the June 1, 2019 ACM were distributed by email and a hard copy was placed in the folders of those of you who have made that request.

*Has everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes of the June 1, 2019 Area Committee meeting?  
Are there any errors or omissions in the minutes?*

**None were noted.**

- **I would entertain a motion to accept the June 1, 2019 ACM minutes as circulated.**

Moved:	Terry N. DCM District 26
Seconded:	Rick W. DCM District 30
Discussion	none
All in favour:	34

All those opposed:	None
Any abstentions:	None
Motion:	Carried

## 5. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

(Sequence of reports were drawn from the hat)

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

I would ask members to come up to the mic to give their report. Order is determined by drawing District numbers from the bag. I will announce who is up and who is on deck. If you are "on deck", please come up to the front and be ready to give your report when the DCM before you steps down. Please clearly state your name, your position and your District when you are up here, thank you.

*Let's get started*

### District 02 Malton

Good morning all, I'm an alcoholic, grateful member of the KF Group and have the honour and privilege of serving as District Committee Member for Malton, District 02 and my name is De.

Attendance, generally at our District Table has improved, although during the summer months there has been a fluctuation. Our last business meeting we did not have quorum, although there was no old or new business to be voted on. All our Sub-Committee Chair positions are filled. Financially, we are doing much better and groups continue to contribute, and we are grateful for their support. Our Treatment commitments at the Brampton Detox twice weekly have been filled for the remainder of the year thanks to the dedication of our groups. We continue to contact and visit individual Groups to determine if they are accessible to forward to Toronto Intergroup for their Meeting Guide which will be published soon.

We look forward to continuing our Service within the District, Intergroup and Area.

Yours in Grateful Service, De R. [dcmatdistrict2@gmail.com](mailto:dcmatdistrict2@gmail.com)

### District 06 Mississauga

Good morning all, I'm an alcoholic, member of Daily Reflections, I have the honour and privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 06, my name is Susan. I am joined today by our Alt DCM, Nat S. Our District meetings have been slower through the summer months with approximately 50% in attendance. Based on our formula we still had a quorum for voting.

We are still trying to fill our Accessibility and Self-Support Chair, and more recently Archives chair and Alternate Chair positions. With that in mind we invited Shane the Area Accessibility Chair and Mike, the Area Self-Support Chair, to speak at our August District meeting. As Shane is close by, he made a personal appearance, and Mike, who is much further away. So, with the help of Kimberley, our Alt Delegate, we arranged to have Mike speak to us via Zoom. Thank you, Shane, Mike and Kimberley. The information was well received, and it is hopeful that these positions will be filled. Jill our secretary/treasurer is attending for Archives and our Alternate Delegate attended for Accessibility. Our treatment chair, Chris is successfully fulfilling our commitments and we continue to stock the Peel Youth Village and Cawthra Centre with Big Books, 12 and 12, pamphlets and meeting guides. Chris has had several discussions with Trillium Hospital and Mississauga Hospital, and they have agreed to allow us to stock pamphlets. We continue to fill the rack at Credit Valley Hospital. Doreena, our Grapevine chair delivered Grapevine-sized boxes with purple wrapping to our meetings for our groups to place on their literature table in hopes that they will be filled with used Grapevines. These will be passed on to Treatment and Corrections for distribution. Our Registrar/Webmaster position became open in June and we had an election for the



position in July. Ivy, from the New Life Group stood for the position and she was enthusiastically and unanimously voted into the position.

Our finances are in good shape, marginally higher than last year at this time; 16 groups had contributed. We passed a motion to disburse \$1500 to Area and GSO. We have had some big birthday celebrations over the past few months and coming up in district 06, Roy R. (Past delegate) will be celebrating 35 years on Thursday Sept 26, 7.30 pm at the Kipling Group. Thank you for my sobriety.

Yours in love and in service, Susan K.

### District 10 Toronto South Central

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

**Attendance/Participation:** To quickly recap, D10 currently has 26 registered groups. Of which, about 17 regularly attend our District meetings, representing a healthy 65% participation rate.

**Finances:** Overall, we're in solid shape financially, meeting all obligations, with multiple groups contributing. We contribute to Area and GSO when the budget allows and try to assist groups to attend the Assembly when needed.

**Positions:** At present, all 5 District Positions and 6 of 9 sub-committee chairs are filled, but it's been a busy period. We recently transitioned Corrections and Archives and activated an Alternate Archives position. Grapevine remains open since April, and more recently, our PI and Accessibility chairs had to step down for personal reasons.

The table has conceptually approved activating **Alternate** Sub-Committee Chairs for Treatment and Accessibility as well.

**Service Commitments:** We currently put on ~30 service commitments each month which are mostly well attended, and Group participation is high. We continue to monitor facility attendance as well as our own capacity limits.

**New Developments:** We recently experimented with a modified meeting format in an attempt to allow more time for **new/old business**. We've consolidated intro times, and GSR sharing has been refocused to the four primary areas of Attendance, Financial status, Medallions, and significant news such as building closures/format changes/anniversaries/etc. So far the results have been positive, and has opened up more time to discuss new/old business.

To recap; the groups in District10 are generally healthy financially and attendance-wise, and the success of the program continues to remain evident by the roughly 40 medallions which have been presented since our last Area committee meeting in June.

Yours in Love and Service, Doug P.

### District 12 Toronto South West

I am an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Westmoreland Group and District Committee Member for District 12, Toronto Southwest. My name is Dennis. All is well in District 12, we have settled in a new venue and are finally getting on the same page as the church. We wanted the first Thursday of the month, but we have been assured the second Thursday would work better for us. We are covering monthly all our service commitments and our finances are in good order. Almost all our committees have chairs, some even having alt-chairs. I personally am looking forward, now that the summer is at an end and hopefully all the holidays are past, having most of our GSR's back at the District table. Looking forward to our next chapter in service. Yours in Love and Service, Dennis M.

### District 14 Toronto North Central

Morning Friends, I'm an alcoholic a member of the Street Level and Mt. Albert Groups of Alcoholics Anonymous and DCM for District 14, my name is Will. All our service commitments are being met.

Attendance at the District meetings is roughly about 60%, our corrections chair stepped down and we now have 3 positions that are open. Our finances are in good shape and we are getting all our service work done. We are in communication with our local shelter, they have actually asked us to start a meeting there. So we are in the process of doing that. We did have a service meeting when I first got sober at the McKenzie Health Centre in Richmond Hill, and we are re-establishing that meeting now; there are just a few little details that we have to work out. Our public information committee is just getting started. We carried the message of Alcoholics Anonymous into the Catholic Schools of York Region. Our Committee Chair was talking to me this morning and he is very excited about ramping of up that area of service.

All in all our AA services are alive and well in District 14. The Mt Albert Group, we just celebrated 35 years as a group, and what an awesome night. Bert H, his first meeting was the first meeting at Mt. Albert, and he had gone away and came back and was a part of the celebration. We also had a 10 year that night.

Yours in Love and Service, Will H

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

(absent and no report submitted)

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

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

In addition to their usual service, our District 18 officers are, and continue to be, very active in either supporting or driving sub-committee/ad hoc committee initiatives. Christy F., our Alternate District Committee member, along with four of our group service representatives, has formed a District 18 ad hoc website committee. Greg R., our Treasurer is our Alternate Accessibilities Chair, Candice F, our Registrar, is Alternate Self Support Chair, Sue H. continues as Secretary, also acting as secretary for the website committee. We are a cohesive team, in constant communication, attending at half of our group's meetings each month, reviewing both current and future goals!

Our many sub-committee chairs are also active: Jeff for CPC, Rick for Archives, Jennifer for Treatment, John M for Grapevine. The District table is functioning in a respectful and cooperating manner. Many of our GSR's, from our 26 groups, have actively attended our District meetings this year. Attendance is approximately 50%. We continue to recruit additional committee members from our District 18 groups. We also both encourage and support our GSR's to attend the Area 83 Eastern Ontario International Assembly and service day.

Our District 18 committee chairs and officers, as well as our groups and members, continue to strongly facilitate carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. They honour weekly service commitment meetings: parole board, hospital, men's detox. They serve in tandem with other District chairs on Greater Toronto Area Intergroup committees. Most of our committees also work in concert with surrounding Districts. Most recently, our events included: Toronto Intergroup joint sharing, and AA Information day on June 8<sup>th</sup>, in Toronto. We are supporting Toronto Intergroup's initiative in hosting a Traditions workshop on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Greater Toronto Area Archives Breakfast is on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our District is both spiritually and financially fit. Our District boundaries stretch roughly from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe, bounded loosely by Bayview and Victoria Park.

I enthusiastically embrace this term of service and am excited to be working with another dedicated group of like-minded Three Legacy individuals. The key message from both the Joint sharing meetings and our Self support colleagues is the need for more AA service volunteers across all service positions and

committees. I have often heard it said “give a little money, give a lot of time”. I like this philosophy. It has served me well in my sobriety. Thank you to Kimberley for both her individual training and DCM sharing sessions, on Zoom. We are enjoying our additional interactions. Thank you for the opportunity to share this journey.

Yours in both gratitude and loving service, Glenn G.

### **District 22 Scarborough**

(report read by Alt DCM, George W.)

Good morning everyone, it is my honor and privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 22 Scarborough. I am an alcoholic, member of the Fifth Tradition and my name is Lynn.

I'll begin by sharing the most amazing and remarkable news....As this report is being read this morning, I am welcoming my grandson into this wonderful world!! (one week early) My road trip to Service to see everyone was just not possible today. Thank you to George W – Alt DCM for attending on behalf of the district.

We have 22 groups within our district and approximately 75% attend our monthly meeting. We are doing well financially and continue carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. Treatment Facilities include Scarborough General Hospital. Correctional Facilities at the Metro Toronto East Detention Centre.

Our District Officer positions are filled with the exception of Secretary as John D has stepped down due to some personal health issues. Prayers and hugs for a healthy recovery ahead from everyone. Secondly, gratitude for all the service at the District these past few years. Keep coming back..

Most Sub Committee positions are full. We are in need of Alternate Sub-Committee chairs as most positions remain available. Our next District meeting will be held tomorrow Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> at our regular meeting location at Don Montgomery Community Recreation Centre in Scarborough. Joint Sharing meeting was held Tues August 6<sup>th</sup> 2019. These meetings are held quarterly at Toronto Intergroup to include all 8 GTA Districts.

Info AA Day committee meeting will resume this month after a summer break. The organizing committee for the East Toronto Archives Breakfast 15<sup>th</sup> Annual breakfast –a cohosted event with District 18 Toronto City East, will also resume this month after summer break. District 22 Service Day – Joy in Sobriety is ONE WEEK away Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup> at Oakridge Community Center in Scarborough. Flyers are available on the table. Looking forward to an amazing day of panels, speakers and a fabulous lunch. A Social Gathering with DJ is held at same location starting at 8 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 and are available at the door. A great day and evening are planned. Any questions please contact George W. The Fall Area Assembly – planning ahead for the weekend at Ambassador in Kingston. For Oct 25 – 27<sup>th</sup> we will be having a discussion with GSRs and possible attendance at the assembly at our meeting tomorrow.

District Inventory will be facilitated by our Alternate Delegate, Kimberly M. taking place in November. The scheduled date for this is Sunday November 10, 2019. Thank you in advance. Have a safe trip home, a beautiful Fall to All.

Yours in Love & Service, Lynn E.

### **District 26 Lakeshore West**

Good Morning Friends, I'm an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Whitby Serenity Group and my name is Terry. It is my honour and privilege to serve as District Committee Member for Lakeshore West District 26.

Our District is doing well, our finances are secure, and attendance has been around 45%. Public Information Chair resigned Leslie MC. our past Public Information Chair has stepped in until we find a replacement. We

are also looking for a webmaster for the Youth Website. June 23, 2019 District's 28, 30, 82, 86 had a successful Service Information AA Day hosted by District 26 at the Alano Club in Oshawa, 1:30 to 4:00. I want to take this time to thanks everyone who participated and attended. Next year it will be hosted by District 30. August 9-11th, I attended a very successful Lakeshore Districts 26 & 28 Conference, LVIV Hall, Oshawa.

I participated in two zoom meeting hosted by Kimberley Alt. Delegate, break up Rooms and sharing with DCM's. I'm looking forward to the training session on hosting your own Zoom meeting at the end of September. I have also taken the time to visit 5 groups in our District. Talking to the GSR's about attending the Area Assembly. I am grateful for the opportunity to be of service.

Yours, in Love & Service, Terry N.

### **District 28 Lakeshore East**

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

Our District Meetings had a break over the summer and are starting up again tomorrow. We have all of our Chair positions filled, with the exception of Treatment and Accessibilities, which we hope to fill shortly. Thankfully, a previous chair is assisting until the position is filled. Our Summer Conference, 'Into Action', was held August 9-11. While I had a previous commitment and could not attend, it was a great conference and the committee did an excellent job. Our district is very active and we have several events and medallions scheduled, with more to come. Specific information about each event can be found at our Intergroup website: <http://www.aadurham.org/>

- Sept 29 - Sobriety Gratitude Banquet. Jubilee Banquet Hall, Oshawa
- Oct 19 – Durham Women in Recovery

I appreciate the opportunity to serve District 28 and AA as a whole.

Yours in love and service, Eileen S.

### **District 30 Quinte West**

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

I am here today with District 30's Alternate District Committee Member, Maria. All is well in District 30. We hold regular meetings once a month and all of our financial obligations have been met. We seem to have good attendance at our meetings, usually 10 to 12 GSRs out of 14 groups and most Chair positions. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> we had the opportunity to take part service information day with District 26, 28, 82 and 86. Our Alternate District Committee Member, Maria, presented on Singleness of Purpose, and did a great job for District 30; the other districts also had very informative presentations. the day finished up with a great delegates report from Rob. It was an informative and enjoyable day.

Yours in love and service, Rick W.

### **District 34 Quinte East**

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

Alcoholics Anonymous is alive and well in District 34. Since our last Area Committee meeting, we have had our Public Information chair position become vacant. However, we did have a member step up to oversee the Telephone Answering Service. We are hopeful that the position will be filled sooner rather

than later. All other positions in the District are filled and each chair is becoming more comfortable in their respective position. My hat is off to each of the Sub Committee Chairs as they show their commitment to the position and to Alcoholics Anonymous in District 34.

All our financial commitments are being met and we have approximately 55 - 60% of groups attending. As I have shared previously, a committee has been formed to review and update our Operating Procedures – and even though the task has been slow to come to completion – it is still our intention to have this finished by the end of the year.

There have been many celebrations of Alcoholics Anonymous in District 34 and many more to come. The Happy Destiny Group will be holding their annual Oldtimers meeting this Sunday -- in which the group contacts six members from the district with over 25 years of sobriety to share their experience as to what Alcoholics Anonymous was like when they first came into recovery. This meeting has been well attended and my congratulations to the group for continuing to hold this meeting every year. The group also makes it a practice to record the meeting so it can be placed into archives for the district.

At our August District meeting, we changed things up and held a zoom session at our local sports and wellness centre. This meeting allowed Rob M. our Delegate to present his conference report. We had pizza and pop, fellowship and a short district meeting prior to Rob presenting his report. The meeting was well received. Rob's report was informative, humorous, emotional and a true reflection of his gratitude for the opportunity to represent Area 83. Again, our thanks to Rob for his willingness to participate in using this new technology. Also, a big thank you to Kimberly for assisting me in making this all come to fruition.

The annual District 34/36 Conference will be held Sunday September 29 in Napanee. This is a great day of celebrating recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous and I look forward to attending. And of course, our Belleville and Area Round up is being held Saturday November 16. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> year for the Round Up and the committee will be recognizing that milestone the day of the Round up. I look forward to seeing you in October at the Assembly.

Yours in Love and Service, Bev H.

### **District 36 Kingston & The Islands**

Good morning, I'm an alcoholic, my name is Lynne and it is my privilege to serve as the Alternate District Committee Member for panel 69. Our DCM is out of town and sends his regrets.

Our District is doing its best to help the suffering alcoholic both in and out of the rooms of A.A. Our District Chairs and GSRs are interested and enthusiastic- in fact three members of the table came today to observe. We are financially sound and able to meet expenses and contribute to Area and GSO. The Public Information and Cooperating with Professionals (PICPC) Chair is organizing material and speaking with schools, colleges and Universities about information sessions for appropriate courses. She and group representatives have been invited to attend the District 36 day of Al anon on October 5, 2019. The Corrections Chair continues to search for new volunteers, especially drivers for the East end Institutions (Joyceville ATU and minimum). Collins Bay maximum and minimum are both well supported. Our Treatment Chair is organising groups to support our four weekly service meetings. Our Grapevine Chair will be selling material at the Service Day and Area Assembly in the Fall. I believe there may be calendars available if you forgot to order. Our Archives Chair has researched the history of A.A. and will present that and some items at the District 34/36 Conference on Sunday, September 29.

The Telephone Link Committee (TLC) Chair is managing our new much less expensive and more efficient phone lines. District 36 calls have increased to as many as 32 calls since we switched systems. We are in need of more male 12th Step volunteers.

District 36 is looking forward to meeting some of you at the Area Assembly and Service Day. If asked by the Area Registrar, our Secretary is happy to find volunteers for the Registration Table and Greeters as District 36 has in past years. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Alone I cannot. Together we can. Lynne H.

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

Hello, my name is Ted, it is a privilege to serve as DCM for district 42 and I am a member of the Sunday Big Book Study Group. Things are going well in our District. We were facing some financial stress, but as the word went out to our groups everybody ponied up and at this point we are quite healthy financial. We actually had enough money to send folks to the Area Assembly. One of the things we did recently, on July 27<sup>th</sup>, we had an Inter-district Day of Sharing. Which was about carrying the message to Women and Vets in AA. Although attendance could have been better, it was a really nice meeting with Great Speakers. David T. came down from Canada to speak about Vets; that was very moving. One of the speakers from Rochester spoke about Safety in AA. I found that very enlightening myself. Particularly when that topic came up in discussion a year or two ago, being kinda conservative I rolled my eyes at the whole idea of it. This woman really opened my eyes to the importance of how a woman can come to her first AA meeting and be scared like all of us and have unpleasant instances that happen which end up driving her away. It is important that we make sure that those kinds of things don't occur in our meetings.

This last month, at our district meeting with vacation and such, it was poorly attended. There were 2 of us there. Unfortunately, because this has happened before, Milner has informed me that we have no rule about quorum, so we had to go on with the meeting. It was actually a great meeting. No gossip, no crosstalk, very little negativity and we came up with new ideas. We both walked out feeling very positive, so things are good.

Yours in Love and Service, Ted R

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

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic a member of the Kemptville Sunday Morning Group and my name is Wayne. It is a pleasure serving as the District Committee Member for Seaway Valley North, District 48. At our June ACM meeting I mentioned that a member of our District was looking into starting a meeting in Cardinal. As our group in Iroquois has closed its doors. Well the meeting has had fair attendance for the past 8 weeks, so the miracle of AA continues. Our PI/CPC chair had to step down due to work schedule, but Jo Anne D. will chair this position, even though she cannot attend all district meetings. Another member, Eve has offered to be her alternate and attend in her absence. Our self-support position remains open, but the commitments are covered off by my Alternate Dave B., who is with me here today for his first ACM. Also, with the request of district 66 we have taken on a one-year commitment to host a monthly Service meeting at Mallorytown Treatment Centre. Our district meetings are well attended, and our finances are good. We are establishing Operating Guidelines and Documenting the responsibilities of our committee positions, which will help incoming GSRs and Committee Chairs. Thank you for my sobriety.

Yours in Love and Service, Wayne L.

### **District 50 Cornwall**

Thanks for the warm welcome. In our District 50, based in Cornwall and area, we have twelve registered groups, 1. Sunshine Group, Wednesday night, 8pm, 2. St Columban's Group, Monday night, 7pm, 3.

Seaway International, Thursday night, 8pm, 4. Sunday Morning Group, Sunday morning, 10:30am, 5. Serenity Group, Saturday night, 7pm, 6. Big Book Group, Sunday night, 7pm, 7. Centre City Group, Friday night 8pm, 8. Nooner's Group, Monday, Wednesday & Friday, noon, 9. Safe Haven Group, Tuesday night, 7pm, 10. Beginner's Group, Saturday morning, 10:30am, 11. East End Group, Friday night, 7:00pm and 12. Living Life Thursday night in Lancaster, Ontario at 7pm.

Attendance is good in all the groups, 7th is keeping the doors open of the groups, at the District table we have updated our fall conference guidelines and we are also in the process of updating our District 50 operating guidelines.

Zoom was introduced to our District with positive feedback.

The Sunday Morning Group will be hosting our 72nd annual fall Conference November 8 and 9, 2019 at The Ramada Inn in Cornwall, and you are all invited to come. You can find more information at [www.cornwallaa.com](http://www.cornwallaa.com)

Yours in Service, Steph L.

### **District 54 Ottawa Rideau**

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

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

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

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

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

Ottawa's Eastern Ontario Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous takes place October 18-19 at the Hellenic Centre in Ottawa. The event starts Friday at 2:00 and runs until Saturday at 10:00 p.m.

The Annual Ottawa Archives Fall Luncheon takes place in November.

Happily serving, Jo Anne D.

### **District 58 Ottawa Bytown**

Good morning. My name is Kim and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the 12 Steps to Serenity Group and I am serving as District Committee Member for District 58. I have been visiting the groups in our district encouraging them to send a GSR to the district table. I am hoping to see some new faces at our meeting on Monday. I have been in contact with most of the groups via email and have received positive feedback. I delivered a presentation on self-support, with a focus on service as a contribution at Ottawa's Gratitude day in June. As a final note, I would like to mention a member from Ottawa, Gib, who celebrated 63 years of sobriety recently.

Yours in Service, Kim B.

### **District 62 Ottawa West**

Good Morning friends, my name is Frank, I am an alcoholic. I have been a member of AA since March 15, 2004. My home group is Morning Glory in Ottawa's west end and I have a sponsor as well as being a sponsor to others. I am also active in my home group. I am privileged to be the District Committee Member serving District 62 Ottawa West for the 2019 -2020 term.

District 62 continues to be active at the Newgate 180 and the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Centre. Meetings are facilitated monthly by various groups. The District is financially sound and has a table of dedicated people to serve. I am grateful to be part of the team. We are conducting Traditions workshops before the regular monthly meetings. All are welcome.

We have an Awareness Kit Program in place where members may distribute the kits to professional's office for distribution to clients. We participate in various AA functions in the Ottawa area. Upon the request of groups, I will visit and conduct a Group Inventory or visit the business meeting. It has been a quiet summer and am looking forward to the continuing opportunity to serve District 62. Thank You.

In Love and Service, Frank V.

### **District 66 Golden Triangle**

I am an alcoholic, a member of the Smiths Falls Saturday Night Group, and the DCM for Golden Triangle District 66. My name is Neil.

As mentioned in my June report, I invited GSRs to my home to discuss the Communications Audit Report. Although there was only three of us, we had a great discussion. We all felt the review submitted by two members from the Mississippi Group summed up the audit report best. I forwarded the review to our Delegate and Alternate Delegate. District 66 will hold an annual workshop for the members who are interested in positions at the table, Wednesday September 25th. Each of the committee and subcommittee chairs will be given 5 minutes to outline their position responsibilities and 5 minutes for Q&A.

Our finances are in good shape, and we will be sending money to Area and GSO again soon. Our Annual Service Information Day was a success. Although numbers were low, many people who attended mentioned they learned from the presentations. Thank you to all who provided us with their knowledge and time.

At our August meeting we discussed giving groups in need financial assistance to attend the Area Assembly. It was decided we should take this back to the groups and have a vote at our September meeting. I will be reaching out to those groups directly to better understand why they are not attending. That's all for now. Yours in loving service, Neil P



## District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

I am Lisa and I belong to the Douglas group and DCM for District 70. We are anticipating a visit from Kimberly and Rob through Zoom at our next District meeting September 15. They will be assuring us of the security and anonymity of Zoom.

We have three new meetings starting up in our District:

**Sunday** Night Discussion meeting at the Kenwood Centre Room 106 at 16 Edward St South, Arnprior at 7:30 pm; **Wednesday** closed Discussion Group at St. Andrews Presbyterian church at 35 Hwy 17, Cobden at 7:30 pm; Living In The Solution Group is a discussion group focusing on the Big Book chapter of the same name. It is at Trinity St. Andrews Church 291 Plaunt St, Renfrew upstairs in the Library **Saturday** morning at 10:30.

We have had a few big birthdays in the past couple months Tim 29, Phil 32, Greg 29, and Al celebrating 56 years of sobriety on September 14th in Calabogie. The Arnprior Group is celebrating a 60 year Anniversary on September 21 at 8pm at St. John Chrysostom Church. I am looking forward to attending the Kingston Assembly in October.

Yours in Love and Service, Lisa C.

## District 74 Pembroke

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

It was a busy summer in District 74 beginning with the June 15, 2019 Tri- District Service Information Day in Cobden, ON. We had a decent turnout for this event, and all enjoyed hearing our Delegates report of his first General Service Conference. There were talks on several service positions at the group, area and district levels over the day along with a good ole fashion "Ottawa Valley" luncheon. Thank you to all who participated and attended.

Next, we had our first training session for our phone line volunteers on August 17, 2019. This was also well attended and a great sharing session. The phone line chair and committee are now collaborating on a welcome package for our volunteers as well as updating our contact lists. Our events committee put together a BBQ and baseball game in August capped off by a speaker meeting and "ask it basket". This event was full of sober fun and excitement and enjoyed by all. Additionally, there was a "fellowship" golf tournament in August with about 40 in attendance. We are happy to show newcomers and long timers that sobriety can and should be fun and that the fellowship part of AA can extend outside the meeting halls.

Last Saturday night, August 31, 2019 the Pembroke Centre Group celebrated its 70th Year! There was a speaker meeting followed by another good ole fashioned Ottawa Valley pot luck. Interesting to note, the archives indicated that when AA started in Pembroke there was an ANTIAA meeting taking place at one of the local drinking establishments. I can only imagine what that must have been like!

AS a part of the 8/6 self support challenge, the Hand of AA Group collected \$162.00 which was forwarded directly to the General Service Office. I believe other groups also participated in this challenge, more information to be available after the next District Meeting. District 74 is in good shape financially at the present time. We will look at our funds again after the Area Assembly in October 2019.

At the present time all District Chair positions are filled with the exception of Public Information.

In love and service, Jane S.

### District 78 Madawaska Valley

I'm an alcoholic, DCM for District 78 and my name is Michelle. We are currently busy getting ready for our 40<sup>th</sup> annual Festival of Colours Round-up on September 28<sup>th</sup>. It's worth the drive to the Valley and I look forward to seeing many of you there. There are flyers in your folders.

Yours in service, Michelle C.

### District 82 Victoria Haliburton

I am an alcoholic, I belong in the Bolsover Pines Group, and Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, I am the DCM for District 82 and my name is Glenn. Our last district meeting before the summer break was held on Sunday June 9. We did not have enough GSR's in attendance to have a quorum.

Our district finances are in good standing and we have been able to meet all our financial obligations. Our Ladies and men continue to put on meetings at the Lindsay Jail when they can. More often than not the corrections meetings have been cancelled at the jail, but we continue to put them on when able.

The Lindsay conference was a great success. We had great speakers and a very good turnout. It was a great day for AA. Our conference is starting to be planned for next year. It will be held at the Lindsay Armouries on Saturday May 2, 2020.

Our September District Meeting will be held tomorrow in Minden, Ontario. It is in our operating procedures that the September meeting be held in Minden. Normally our District meeting is held in Cameron. Yours in Love and Service, Glenn B

### District 86 Kawartha

Good Morning Friends, I am an alcoholic, proud member of the Freedom Group, currently serving as District Committee Member of District 86, and my name is Tim. Today with me is our Alternate Bruce and Secretary/Registrar Jeffary. I had a great summer filled with fun sober family activities and I hope you all did too. We moved our Conference that was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> to a new venue and changed it to a one-day roundup format. It turned out to be a great success and the Conference Committee done a wonderful job.

After a slow start and a fairly low financial balance for the first six months we have bounced back in large part due to our Conference. We now have a healthy balance and the table is looking to send on money to Area and GSO. That will be one of the motions at tomorrows District table meeting. Attendance has been down some over the summer meetings, but we still have 65-70%. All our Chairperson positions remain filled and nominations will open tomorrow for our 2020 Conference Chairperson. We have many medallions taking place in the September including a 50-year medallion. I know it is one day at a time but that is a long dry spell and all are a great celebration of AA. I am looking forward to October as Rob and Kimberley plan to attend our District Meeting for a sharing session. Also, as always, I am looking forward to the Fall Assembly in Kingston.

Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service, Tim F.

*Thank you to all those who gave reports.*

## 6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

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

### A. Public Information

Ray R.

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Last Chance Grp, and serving as your Area 83, Panel 69 Public Information Chair, my name is Ray. I trust everyone had a wonderful summer, as I sure did.

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

My visit to Cobden provided me with an opportunity to get out of my central area, or my comfort zone for lack of other words, It was the start of a summer where I visited a lot of out of town meetings, I visited Cobourg, Oshawa, I went out of our area like Hamilton, I even left the country and visited meetings in Akron and Pennsylvania, and it didn't matter where I went, home or abroad, Public Information was there.

There's a buzz these days, regarding the zoom online video/cell phone conferencing. I know some committees have been meeting via zoom, as it provides a great way for personal to meet, who would otherwise be left out due to some access ability reason. I am scheduled for training on September 30th, on how to host the online conference, and moving forward, I plan to hold my own meetings with the Public Information Chairs in our area.

I'm really looking forward to the upcoming assembly in October, the workshops and fellowship is always something to look forward to.

Remember to visit our website [area83aa.org](http://area83aa.org) for the latest on news and events in our area and the rest of AA as a whole. While there you can be directed to the latest literature and grapevines, and other resources.

And hot off the press, AA world service has released the latest version of the meeting guide app, version 3.0 is ready for download, that app has really come in handy for me just this past summer.

And finally:

Please keep sending me your P.I. reports, it helps to keep me in the loop on the goings on in our area, and know that I am available for service days and workshops at your district, and I can be reached at:

[pi@Areaaaa.org](mailto:pi@Areaaaa.org)

Yours in Love and Service, Ray R.

### B. Cooperation with the Professional Community Bill C.

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

Since our June meeting CPC has been pretty well engaged in activities throughout the summer. We had our second CPC District Chairs meeting on 3 September 2019 which lasted about 1 hour. Lots of great discussion and ideas regarding challenges and solutions getting the message of AA in the community to the professional community. We had an in-depth discussion on talking at Non-AA meetings. There were lots of questions and suggestions during this part of the meeting. A summary of the four key points that emerged from the discussions that we had on speaking at non-AA meetings is included in my written report. **The presentations and resource materials will be available on the CPC tab of the Area 83 website.**

- Many newcomers arrive at AA from some sort of professional referral

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

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

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

David L who is the current Area 67 (Southeast Texas) CPC Chair has suggested to all of the CPC Area Chairs that we have a meeting designed to share what's working in our area, what's not working in our area, new ideas, ask questions, etc. from your perspective - specifically in the area of CPC service work. All 93 area listed CPC Chairs have been invited. It is scheduled for 16 October 2019 and I am looking forward to participating on behalf of Area 83.

I have been elected as a resource for you to use. An invitation or question from any District is all that is required. If you would like me to do some type of workshop or presentation for your District, don't hesitate to contact me. As has been mentioned previously, the PI Chair Ray R and I are located at different ends of our Area. We have discussed the logistics of covering for each other as a team as events and opportunities arise for both PI and CPC.

Thank you for allowing me to serve not only Area 83 but Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.  
Yours in Love and Service, Bill.

#### Questions following the report:

Questions: Zoom meeting on Oct 16, just for Area Chairs, or could a District Chair sit in on it?

Answer: the first meeting, limited to the Area CPC chairs. If all goes well there should be close to 93 of us.

Area 83 does have quarterly CPC meetings that your district chair is welcome to attend.

### C. Correctional Facilities

Les M.

Greetings Everyone:

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

There's not much to report, but here goes, since my last report I told you that I would be going to some Pre - Release Fairs, well I put my name on the list to go into Warkworth, Bath and Millhaven, but I was only able to attend Bath and Millhaven. I went up to Warkworth but there was a mixup and the lady incharge from the John Howard Society didn't have my name on the list, but it wasn't a wasted trip since I was able to chat with those in charge of the meeting and the gentleman that gets you approve to go in there. So, I'm in the process of getting cleared for there. I'm being trying to get cleared for Bath, but no luck there yet.

I did attend both fairs at Bath and Millhaven, I went in these places as a member of AA for Corrections

there was a District Chair supposed to attend with me, but she had to cancel at the last minute. They had tables setup and I had little big books, grapevines and pamphlets as handouts. I attended the Service Day In Oshawa. I'm still getting some BTG requests, mostly from the Vanier Correctional Centre in Area 86 and OCI in Brampton.

The Districts are sending me their minutes which are a great read also keeps us informed in what the different Corrections Chairs are doing. I get emails from some as to what is happening with the institutions they attend. I'm here as a resource for you to use and if you have any questions or need any help, I can get answers or help you. You can reach me at email: [cf@area83aa.org](mailto:cf@area83aa.org)

On a last note: If no one told you today that they love you, let Me be the First. Have a safe trip home. Yours in Love and Service, Les

Discussion following report:

Alt DCM, Lynn H District 36-If you go to District 36 website, there are forms to get access to facilities in our district. You can apply for Joyceville Medium and Max, and we would love to have you at those meetings. Clearance at one facility does not get you clearance at all facilities. You have to apply to each Institution for clearance.

**D. Treatment Facilities/ Accessibility**

**Shane H.**

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic and my name is Shane. Grateful member of the reaching out group in District 02. Currently serving as your Treatment/Accessibilities Chair Panel 69.

**TREATMENT:** Summer for Treatment was steady. A decrease in bridging the gap requests from 10-12 a week to 3-4 on average, but still coming in. During that slowdown, Treatment had an influx of questions coming in from 4 different district chairs. Asking for my experience strength and hope. I was glad I could go back to the traditions and do what I was taught to do and keep referring them back to the traditions. They said that was a great help. It was great to be asked for my experience strength and hope, and to be a part of the districts. Next week I will be presenting on Treatment at District 22's Service day. Things are going well in Treatment. The Treatment chairs are very strong and my main job is that of manger/custodian. Manager, keep the chain emails as low as possible so that not too much time lapses between bridging the gap. Makes it easier for the District chairs and volunteers to mobilize quicker, to at least have 3 days. I did make contact with Area 86 bridging the gap chair. Since then, we have gone from 30% from having no discharge date, no name etc... has decreased to 15%. That makes the custodial job a lot easier. I really love this job, and I am so grateful. I was very worried about doing treatment because of the email and computer work, but you all believed in me and I think I am doing not too bad.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** This type of service is on the rise in North America with no signs of slowing down. I would like to give special thanks to Amy for sending an email to the DCMs for asking for information if Districts have stand alone accessibility committees. The tally so far, is 11 stand alone committees and 5 that have been added to treatment. That is 16 out of 24- which is not too bad. Over the summer , Bill C. our CPC chair and myself have been working on a webpage for Accessibility for Area 83 and we are hoping to have it finalized for the beginning of October. Bill has done most of the work, with a little bit of input from this drunk. Again, thank you for being a part of it and helping me to get this done. CPC has always been a friend of Accessibility, historically. Accessibility Display needs DVDs of American Sign language; preferring the DVDs in Big Book and 12 and 12, as well as other miscellaneous items. After pricing out these items it will come to approximately \$150. I will have to ask permission for that, as per our Ops.

Three weeks ago, I was given the privilege to give a presentation on Accessibility at District 06 business meeting. It went really well and I would like to thank Susan and Nat for accommodating my schedule. June information AA day I presented on Accessibility, I was given the choice to present on one or both...I considered doing both, but I remembered right of participating and I chose Accessibility and they had the intergroup Treatment chair as well as Christy from District 06 to put on the Treatment presentation and it was wonderful.

The GTA accessibility committee is up and running. District 02, 12 and 18 have chairs, and district 06 14 are sending reps that have a strong presence. Still need active participation from District 22 and then we will have all 7 on board. We have come a long way since May 1995, Ontario was the first one to have an accessibility sub committee, and it started in Toronto. In 1999 there was an effort to have the committee recognized at the Area, that didn't work out, and here we are trying again. We will see what happens.

In service, Shane H.

Questions following Treatment/Accessibility Report:

QUESTION: What were the districts in the GTA to have full representation?

ANSWER: 2, 12 and 18. District 14 and 06 are represented. District 10 no longer has a rep along with 22.

Question: The DVDs in ASL, who are you trying get those for, the GTA or the Area?

ANSWER: I would be getting it for our Area display, and they are available and can be ordered from GSO.

**E. Grapevine**

**Jenny C.**

Hello friends. I'm a member of the Smiths Falls Saturday Night group in District 66, currently serving as your Grapevine Chair for Area83 Eastern Ontario International. My name is Jenny and I'm an alcoholic.

A coyote, a cow, and a rooster come into a bar. The bartender looks up. "What are you guys--a joke?" *From the September 2000 magazine.*

I'm sorry/not sorry that I am unable to be with you today. Exciting news, we had a beautiful baby girl. Friday evening. As you are all aware today is the deadline to place orders for grapevine pocket planners and wall calendars. An email was sent out to all District Committee Members and Grapevine reps August 12th. This should have given you all enough time to make arrangements to have your order forms and funds here today.

A big thank you to Theresa L Alternate Districts Committee Member for District 66 for taking over for me today. Again please make sure your forms are filled out with either cheque or cash so that the order can be placed right away. So what else is happening with Grapevine?

On August 20th I was able to attend the GTA Grapevine meeting with Districts 06,12, and 18. I have also reached out to Grapevine Inc in regards to the website and how it only displays US funds. I was informed that it is something that they are looking into. So I am going to continue to follow up and see if there is any update. We look forward to seeing you all in October. If there is anything I can assist with please reach out. [Grapevine@area83aa.org](mailto:Grapevine@area83aa.org)  
GrapeFull to be of service, Jenny C.

## F. Self-Support

Mike B.

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

It's been a summer with quite a bit of activity. I was blessed to have been invited to 3 separate service days in June and I thank the 10 Districts that were involved for inviting me. I was also invited to do a Self-Support presentation to District 6 (Mississauga) on August 21. Considering I live in Ottawa and Mississauga is a little under 500KM away, we used the ZOOM App. to conduct my presentation to the District. The technology is here, let's use it wisely. History was made, this was the first-ever Subcommittee presentation done over the internet to a District. Technology is our friend.

When I gave my report in January of this year at our Area Committee Meeting, I expressed a desire to create a new Self Support display since the one we have was looking old and tired and has been well-travelled just like a well used Big Book. After confirming with our Area Chairperson and others and receiving his blessing to go ahead with it, I went to work and started doing some research on prices, sizes etc.. The new display arrived at my home last week and I have already started working on the content of it keeping the integrity of our old display. I am excited to present it to the Area at our Fall Assembly. The display has what is called a 'hook & loop' feature, which in layman terms is simply a fabric backing that uses Velcro® to attach display material to it so it can be changed around when new material is needed.

Our Alternate Delegate sent me the Area 83 Area Committee Meeting minutes from June 3-1989, when the Area meeting was held at the Ramada Inn in Belleville. It was an interesting read, to say the least. They spoke about ordering Grapevine calendars at a cost of \$3.00 and pocket planners costing \$3.50 ea. The 7th Tradition for the day was \$117.00. They also discussed reimbursements for all Area Committee members. The hot topic was mileage. It was proposed that the reimbursement ought to be raised from 15 cents a KM to 20 cents KM. This was the first increase since 1982. Does all this sound familiar in regard to our recent discussions? Does all this show us that the cost of everything has increased over the years? Does all this show us that "A buck in the basket" might be just an outdated term today?

Katie G. was our Delegate in 1989 and in her Delegates report she spoke on "The Self-Support system" and the need to help groups understand the importance of finances. Katie spoke about a few different ideas that were bounced around at the General Service Conference and one of those ideas was to set aside a month a year as "Self-Support month". That was the reasoning behind the \$8.06 challenge we had over the summer this year. And thank you to all the groups that participated in it.

Years before, Area 83 had what was called a Financial Chairperson and that position was abolished since the position was sort of duplicating what the Treasurer did. Through further conversation at that meeting, a motion came forward to create a position called the Self-Support Chairperson and his/her duties were to promote Self-Support throughout Area 83. The Self-Support position in Area 83 turned 30 years old this year. Denis D. (Past Delegate) was Area 83's first Self-Support Chair.

In July I sent all District Committee Members of Area 83 information on Individual recurring contributions and The Birthday Plan. I hope this information was passed along to your General Service Representatives and then to their Home-Groups.

You can set up your **recurring contribution** be the links below:

for the GSO <https://ctb.aaws.org/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fdefault.aspx%3flang%3den&lang=en>



For Area 83: <http://area83aa.org/about-area-83/area-contributions>

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

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

The Birthday Plan Contributions to the General Service Office support G.S.O.'s services to members and groups throughout Canada and the U.S. and help ensure that the A.A. message is carried around the world. The services that the G.S.O. provides the A.A. groups cost more than \$8 per member per year. Members customarily contribute \$1 or \$2 per year for each year of sobriety—others may give a penny a day for each day of their sobriety.

### **Where your 7th Tradition goes...**

The Navajo Nation. A Nation with no written Language.

Have you ever wondered where your 7th Tradition money goes to? Well, if your Home-Group is passing it along to other AA service entities to further 12 Step work within AA as a whole, (i.e., Area & The General Service Office) when your group has a surplus, then your group was part of this historical accomplishment. This is where 7th tradition money went to help the Navajo Nation. They now have the 12 Steps in their own language thanks to you and your Home-Group or your direct personal contributions to the GSO. Also, to date, the Big Book has been translated into 71 languages so far and more translations are on the horizon. All made possible through Group and individual contributions.

The 'Meeting Guide App.' is now owned and operated by AAWS and was launched last week. You can get the new version by going to aa.org and clicking on the chair logo on the top of the website. There are a lot of new features to this App. This was all possible through Group and individual contributions.

At the upcoming Fall Assembly, my focus for the Self-Support workshop will be on, 'The 7th Tradition and what does it do and where does it go and how does it help further 12 Step work?' *'YOUR SEVENTH TRADITION CONTRIBUTIONS-Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group'*. I have attended multiple ZOOM meetings thus far and am planning on holding a sharing session with all the District Self-Support Chairs and all interested parties in the near future. Technology is our friend!!!

### **A.A.W.S. Highlights**

For the five months ended May 31, 2019 revenues were 3.67% higher than budgeted and 3.42% higher than the five months ended May 31, 2018. Operating expenses were 4.68% greater than budgeted and 9.83% more than last year. Actual contributions for the five months ended May 31, 2019 were \$3,435,535, 4.76% higher than budget and 4.76% higher than the five months ended May 31, 2018. Online contributions for the first five months of 2019 amounted to \$373,706. This compared with \$369,067 in 2018, \$333,480 in 2017, 212,908 in 2016, and \$179,449 in 2015. The first five months of 2019 online contributions accounts for 10.94% of our total contributions.

**ENTHUSIASM BREEDS ENTHUSIASM!** Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Love and Service, Mike B.

### **G. Archives**

**Marty M.**

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

I want to start with a brief continuance on the update of the group membership survey. I received an email expressing more hesitation on completing the survey, also what is the purpose. Some of this was already stated at the June ACM, but I did speak to those who developed the survey. This was in no way



meant to be intrusive or make people feel uncomfortable. The Questions and information we hope to gather are taken directly from the Pamphlet P-48 Membership Survey.

***“Alcoholics Anonymous conducts this survey to keep members informed on current trends in membership characteristics. The survey also can provide information about A.A. to the sub-committees; Cooperation with the Professional Community and/or Public Information as part of A.A.’s primary purpose to carry our message to those who still suffer from alcoholism.”***

By sharing the information back to each district, this will inform you of any segment of your community or demographic that is lowly or not represented.

As oppose to completing the survey in a group setting, such as a business meeting. Rather, pass it out at the business meeting and have it filled out individually and anonymously. Then the GSR or Archives chair can summarize and total the results.

- ✓ I just received a stack of surveys from District 14; thank you Will for that.

The Toronto Area Archives committee continues to work on the 80-year book;

***An Introductory Letter has been drafted and will be distributed to all members of AA in Ontario, including those in Area 84, 85, and 86.***

**Coming up:** I have been invited to share at the Scarborough District 22, 41<sup>st</sup> annual service day. This takes place next Saturday September 14, see [area83aa.org](http://area83aa.org) event calendar for details.

We are looking forward to the 35<sup>th</sup> annual GTA Archives Breakfast on Sunday November 3. Again, see the Area website. It’s a great morning of fellowship with an awesome speaker, some raffles and a yummy breakfast. I have some flyers and I have tickets for sale \$25.

I’m starting to gather information for the fall Archives newsletter, this will be ready for the Assembly in October. Our Archivist; Linda is in Detroit this weekend at the National A.A. Archives

Workshop. Thank you all for voting to fund this trip. That’s it from me, I’m very grateful to be serving Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in Love and Service, Marty M.

July 5, 2019

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

The GTA (Greater Toronto Area) Archives Committee is putting together a history of 80 years of Alcoholics Anonymous in Ontario to update and expand upon the 50 Year Book which was printed in 1993.

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

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

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

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

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

*Thank you in advance for your help.*

## H. Service Information Day Committee Chair      De R.

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

We have completed a draft of Agenda for the Fall Assembly for edits/approval and confirmed the Friday Open Speaker, Banquet Speaker and Wildcard Workshop Chairs. Some of the Wildcard Workshops were chosen according to feedback from the Spring Assembly and the survey results.

We have also made some decisions and changes to the Service Day for the October Assembly. The Agenda will look slightly different. We chose to have Accessibility as a stand-alone Wildcard Workshop based on three criteria: first, referring to the Assembly and Committee Operating Procedures, Appendix Two, Guidelines for the Service Information Day Committee page 4 "previous Assemblies have committed workshops (one per term) on . . . Accessibility/Special Needs". Second, based on the ongoing Ad-Hoc Committee for Accessibility, and third the results of the Spring Assembly surveys, which outlined attendees preferred having Accessibility as a separate Workshop. It was felt that having Treatment/Accessibility combined as a Workshop did not devote quality time to either Workshop. Our decision will hopefully satisfy both those who have an interest in Treatment and those who have an interest in Accessibility.

We also decided to forego the Talk-a-thon due in part because of poor attendance in the Spring, and the time slot is the same as the evening Sub-Committee meetings. We will however announce a casual get-together in the Atrium for those who may wish to just hang out and chat, when announcing the Room Assignments for the Committees.

Two other changes to the Agenda are Summaries and Surveys. We will be asking Workshop Chairs to submit a brief summary of their Workshop to our Secretary, Amy L. for inclusion in the minutes. We feel this will be more concise, informational and a consistent review of the workshops.

The Survey used in the Spring, which is open-ended, resulted in difficulty to translate and so we decided to go back to the previous Survey which will name the Workshop, have a rating scale and space for comments.

The Facilitator Binders have been updated and we are well within the parameters of our Responsibilities Checklist. We look forward to seeing you all in October!

If there is anything you need from our Committee before the Assembly, please let us know.

In Love and Service, De R.

## 7. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Dave L.

I am an Alcoholic, a member of the Liverpool Group in District 26, currently serving as your Panel 69 Registrar for Area 83 International and my name is Dave L.

The results of the roll call are found under Agenda item #3 ROLL CALL.

Unknown Groups are currently at 0 thanks to great follow-up by dedicated District Registrars and DCMs. I am sending out my thanks to those districts who scrambled to get contacts for the Unknown Groups when they arise.

I attended the Service Day in Oshawa on June 23 and the Lakeshore Districts Conference in Oshawa August 9 - 11. The event was well organized with excellent speakers.

The General Service Office database conversion from the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) to the new NetSuite system took place over the 2 weeks ending August 5. FNV continues to run in parallel to the

new system and is used by Registrars, with the data transferred to the new system behind the scenes. Conversion to the new system is proving challenging. FNV currently has limited access, with some functions not available. This limits the information that Registrars can enter and extracted information is only as of July 19, 2019. Down the road, Registrars will be trained and start inputting directly to NetSuite. Delivery of GSR and other kits are delayed, now taking over 2 weeks to reach Canada. If you know of any GSRs who have yet to receive their GSR kits, please send me an email. I have emailed GSO already about a few GSR kits and would be happy to do it for you. I do have hard copies of New Group and Group Change forms. Otherwise these can be found on the Area's website

(<http://www.area83aa.org/resources/area-registrar>).

Thank you to the Districts that send me your minutes; I enjoy reading them, and sometimes they even help me track down representatives for groups that have not been entered into the system. Once again, thank you for this opportunity to be of service.

Yours in Love and Service, Dave L registrar@area83aa.org

## **8. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**JoAnn P.**

Hello friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of Courtice 12 & 12 Group in District 28, and my name is JoAnn. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Area 83 as your Panel 69 Treasurer.

Today, under Old Business, we will be voting on a motion to allow e-transfers of contributions only for Area 83 as outlined by the Treasurer of Area 83.

Also, I am asking for volunteers to assist selling banquet tickets at the Fall Assembly. If you can volunteer for one shift, please see me today. I happen to have a tentative schedule today and I would be thrilled to fill in spaces with familiar faces.

In each of the District Committee Member mail folders, I have provided the General Service Office (GSO) District Quarterly Report as of June 30, 2019 regarding contributions from each group received by the General Service Office. There are also two Area 83 contribution envelopes. Please share these with your District Treasurer for future contributions. You can find several more envelopes on the side table; please help yourself. I would like to thank all Groups that provide your 6-digit Group Service Number and a return address either on the envelope, on the cheque or in an attached note. This information indicates where I will send the letter of receipt. An e-mail address is appreciated – letter of receipt can be e-mailed to your Group or District. Also, please remind groups that the address to remit contributions can be found on the Area 83 website under the About Area 83 Tab – Area Contributions. I have received contributions that have been mailed to previous Area Treasurers as far back as 3 panel terms.

Please continue to remind groups who would like to contribute using PayPal to include their 6-digit Group Service Number with any contributions using PayPal so that the group will get credit for the contribution. So far this year, there have been 4 contributions via PayPal.

Also, in the District Committee Members mail folders, as well as the Area Committee Members folders, you will find copies of the Financial Statement as at August 30, 2019. Copies of these are also available on the side table; let's go through these numbers now.

Page 1 is a financial summary. It shows our reserve account, which is set aside for unforeseen circumstances, has a balance of \$20,000 and is in the form of a GIC paying 1.4% interest maturing September 11, 2020.

Income for the period:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition collected at the January and June Area Committee Meeting and the Spring Assembly = \$4358.90.
- Cost Recovery is \$760.00 – no change from June ACM.
- Flow Through to General Service Office is \$200.00.
- Group and District Contributions are \$36,096.87.

Total Income for the period is \$41,415.77.

Expenses for the period:

- Ad-Hoc Committee (review operating procedures) - \$125.00.
- Committee expenses are \$27,040.91.
- January and June Area Committee Meeting – Rent and Refreshments \$835.36.
- General Service Conference Assessment – \$11,170.14 CDN; total cost was \$8,300.00 USD.
- Bank Service Charges - \$28.10.
- PayPal fees - \$9.93.
- GSO Flow Through - \$200.00.
- Ontario Delegates Committee (ODC) deposit for 2020 in Mississauga - \$1,200.00.
- CERAASA (Canadian Eastern Region AA Service Assembly) - \$2,801.79 – held in Laval PQ.

Total expenses for the period are \$43,411.23.

To date, income is \$1,995.46 lower than expenses.

The bank balance on August 30, 2019 was \$39,825.37. As of that date, all cheques received have been processed, and letters of receipt, along with return contribution envelopes were mailed out.

The opening bank balance as of January 1, 2019 was \$41,820.83. Total income of \$41,415.77 less expenses of \$43,411.23 leave a balance of \$39,825.37 in the operating account as of August 30, 2019. We have \$4,735.17 less in our operating account this year compared to this time last year.

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

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

To clarify some of the numbers you see here:

Under Committee Expenses:

- The amount shown for Treatment/Accessibility under Literature, \$261.38, is for an order purchased from GSO. Also, under Literature, Corrections amount is \$428.57 for various items (pamphlets, workbooks, etc.) purchased from GSO.
- The amount shown for Service Information Day Committee under literature is mostly Service Manuals purchased from GSO for sale at the Spring Assembly. More manuals will be purchased for the Fall Assembly.
- Beside the Spring Assembly, under meals, you see \$6,900.77. This worked out to \$17.25 per person which covers much more than the cost of coffee/tea/pop. We are not charged for most room rentals, cleaning of the Atrium, meeting rooms, staff, etc. In that same line under Miscellaneous, the amount of \$1,582.00 includes data projectors and the set up of the Ballroom.

Under Other Expenses:

- The General Service Conference (GSC) Assessment. At the Spring Assembly in 2007, a motion was passed stating that “provided it does not affect our prudent reserve, Area 83 will pay to GSO the full annual expense for our Delegate to attend the General Service Conference.” The cost this year for our Delegate was \$8,300.00 USD or \$11,170.14 CDN. This amount has been paid in full. Also, a note of interest regarding the GSC Assessment – the full assessment covers much more than travel and accommodation costs to attend the GSC. Other costs factored into the assessment (total costs divided by the 93 Delegate Areas) are expenses for Trustees and GSO staff to attend, meeting rooms, A/V equipment, the Conference Final Report and miscellaneous expenses.
- Ontario Delegates Committee (ODC) – a deposit of \$1,200.00 was required to secure a venue for 2020. Area 83 will be the host.
- Canadian Eastern Regional AA Service Assembly (CERAASA) – total costs to attend for our Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate was \$2801.79.

At the bottom of the page is a summary comparing year to date for this year and last year for the same time period. Income is \$395.80 more than last year currently and expenses are up \$5,130.97. Contributions are down \$1,173.90 compared to this time last year. There have been 9 less Groups contributing in comparison. The resulting net change to our operating account is \$4,735.17.

Page 3 shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from Districts, as well as Groups within the District. You can see that 125 Groups and 15 Districts have made financial contributions to Area 83, so far, this year.

The rates for the Fall Assembly (October 25 – 27, 2019) will be as follows:

**Room Rates:**

- Traditional, 2 Queen beds - \$109.00 + applicable taxes. A valid credit card is required to guarantee all reservations. When making reservations, contact the Ambassador Hotel at 1-800-267-7880 and quote the Group Name Fall Assembly.
- Our block of guestrooms will be held until Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Reservations requested after this date will be accepted on a space and rate availability basis.

**Food and Beverage Prices:**

- Saturday Dinner Buffet - \$39.50 per person including gratuity and tax.
- Coffee Service - \$17.25 per person including gratuity and tax.

For the Area Subcommittee chairs, please remember to quote your GSO Service Number when ordering literature from GSO and please email me that you have placed an order. Please remember to give my information as to whom to bill, and yours as to where the literature should be shipped.

Please continue to send your District Minutes to the [area@area83aa.org](mailto:area@area83aa.org) address.

In closing, thank you to the 125 Groups and 15 Districts that have made financial contributions to Area 83 this year.

Yours in Love and Service, JoAnn P – Area 83 Treasurer

**the Seventh contribution for today's ACM was \$284.45**

Questions following the Treasurer's report:

QUESTION: How does the hotel determine how many people are drinking coffee

ANSWER: based on attendance of 400 people.

QUESTION: explain how operating expenses are increased this year compared to last year

ANSWER: ODC, CERASSA, increase in mileage and Assembly. Generally overall increase of about 10%, but this can be attributed to 2-3 lines items.

QUESTIONS: DID IT COST THE AREA TO SEND THE DELEGATE TO GSC THIS YEAR

ANSWER: Yes, that is true. It was back to back at Manhattan

## **9. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Amy L.**

Good morning friends, I am a member of the Liverpool Group in Pickering in District 26 and my name is Amy. I have the privilege of serving Area 83 Eastern Ontario International as your Panel 69 Secretary. It is so nice to see everyone again and I hope that you have enjoyed your summer.

I have been keeping busy and have been involved in a number of activities on the behalf of the Area. First of all, I am tasked with keeping District Rosters Up to date. I have been updating positions at your districts as they change both on the Area Roster and the GSO -FNV system. On my drive to here, Dave just informed me that much of this information entered in FNV may not be making it over to the new system, which activates the need for a kit. So, in short, if you are due a service kit, either let me know at this meeting or send me an email and we will contact the Records department directly.

I was asked to give a brief overview of Area 83 service structure at the Toronto Service Info Day, held on June 8, 2019. I also attended the multidistrict Service day held in my hood-at the Alano Club in Oshawa as an observer. Both events were really good, with some great presentations and pretty good turnout for June Service days.

I have been asked to participate on a Traditions workshop that is being organized by GTA intergroup and will take place on Sept 21 in Toronto at the Lansing United Church.

Just as I hung up my cleats for the Ad Hoc Committee reviewing the operating procedures, I was invited to participate on the Ad Hoc Committee to roll out the Preconference sharing sessions that you will hear about under new business. I am grateful for the experience- it encapsulates two of my favorite topics: AA and communicating.... (okay, I really like talking with fellow alcoholics). I am looking forward to rolling this out early in the new year, as the Area should not have too many distractions (like nice weather, vacations, cottages etc) to prevent great participation from all of Area 83.

I want to thank everyone who has already submitted their reports. I couldn't believe how many reports I had by the time I went to bed. You are all awesome and your efforts reflect your dedication to your districts and makes my job so much easier. I am grateful to be of service, and if there is anything I can do to assist you or your districts, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours in Love and service. Amy

## **10. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT**

**Kimberley M.**

Good afternoon, I'm an alcoholic and a member of the Ajax Area Group. I have the privilege of serving you as the Panel 69 alternate Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International, and my name is Kimberley.

I had the pleasure of accompanying our Delegate on three occasions as he delivered his report of the 69<sup>th</sup> GSC. His report was packed with both interesting and valuable information. It was a great learning experience to be with your Delegate as he presented his report on the 69<sup>th</sup> Conference.

As you know, in response to the Communication Audit, Area 83 is striving to improve Communication throughout the Area. There are many great activities and events already going on, as you have heard in

reports given earlier today. With the availability of video conferencing, we are hoping to **add to** what we are already doing to create even more opportunities for members to become involved and informed.

Here are some of the ways we have already been making use of this technology to benefit communication:

- Robb W., our Panel 61 Delegate, presented an informative GSR Workshop using video conferencing in June.
- The Area Committee met, informally, since our last ACM, using video conferencing to discuss ideas to further improve communication with group members within our Area – we meet again later this month on Sept 22.
- Intergroup chairs from Toronto, Peterborough, and Lakeshore Districts met by video conference for the first time.
- The ad hoc committee looking at the Operating Procedures and the ad hoc committee planning Pre Conference agenda sharing, have met multiple times using video conferencing.
- A CERAASA steering committee has begun to look at the Guidelines for CERAASA. This committee is made up of the ten delegates of the eastern Canada region along with their alternates and our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee Jan L. We are meeting bi-monthly using video conferencing which is much more efficient than sending emails back and forth.
- Two weeks ago there was a Zoom training session to help members of the Area Committee host meetings with District sub-committee chairs or GSRs. Another training session is scheduled for September 30th.
- I have been reaching out to DCMs to ask if our Delegate and I can visit their District meetings. So far we have used video conferencing to visit Districts 34, 54 and 50 and are scheduled to visit District 70 next week. We are scheduled to physically visit District 86 next month. I will contact the rest of the DCMs and request a date for Rob and I to visit their district meeting.
- Area Sub Committee chairs have met with District chairs which otherwise only occurs at the Assembly.

Upcoming communication opportunities:

- Pre Conference Agenda Sharing will be taking place next Spring – more about this later today
- One topic that we know is of interest to our members, based on the response at the last Assembly, is “Safety in AA”. Our immediate past Delegate, Kim S, has agreed to give a presentation and discussion opportunity sometime in November for our members. An email with details will be sent out once we have a date selected.
- We are able to offer presentations on any number of topics to members in Area 83. Please ask them...what would be of interest to them?

“Did You Know” that items found by clicking the Did You Know button on the area 83 website, [area83aa.org](http://area83aa.org), can each be read in one minute or less? Each item is a brief snapshot of information that many group members may not otherwise hear about. New items are being added regularly. Please let GSRs know that this resource is available and can be added to their weekly readings. By sharing one item at a time, our members can become better informed without being overwhelmed.



As Area 83 Liaison I took part in the Inter-Area Remote Communities Workshop meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting takes place on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

As a member of the Ad Hoc Committee looking at the Operating Procedures, I am continuing to compile motions and other notable items in a searchable document. This should make locating items in past minutes easier. I still have 18 sets of minutes to review. James has graciously given us an extension on this task until the January 2020 ACM. We do not have copies of the following minutes: March 1993, June 1991 (missing pages 9 and 10), September 1990, September 1988, October 1976, October 1975. Please let me know if you are able to locate any of these minutes.

Thank you to the Districts who are sending me your minutes. I enjoy learning about your district from the comfort of my own home or out and about on my cell phone!

If I can be of service in any way, please feel free to email me or give me a call!!

Yours in love and service, Kimberley

Questions following Alternate Delegate's report:

QUESTIONS: Regarding the Zoom Sessions, how do I set one of these up, and how do I know if there is going to be a session?

ANSWER: For each new sharing session that is created, there is a unique code. When a session is set up, members will receive an email invitation to participate. So, if any DCMs would like to set something with your GSRs. You will need to consult the calendar on the Area website (<http://area83aa.org/events/calendar>) and make sure nothing else has been booked. Then contact Kimberley, with the date and amount of time needed and Kimberley will set it up.

## 11. DELEGATE'S REPORT

**Rob M.**

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

I've had a wonderfully busy summer. June was packed full of excitement as I traveled around our Area to give the 69<sup>th</sup> GSC report. This included service days in Toronto, Brockville, Cobden, Ottawa, and Oshawa. I really enjoyed all the service days and thank the Districts for inviting me.

I have received the 69<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference final Reports. I've packaged them by District, one for each group, and a few extras for members of the District Committee. I included French copies for Districts 48 and 50, as well as the three Ottawa Districts. I have extra French copies if any District requires them. I have a box for each District in my van and would appreciate it if DCMs can pick them up during one of the breaks today. I don't want to take them home with me! Anonymity protected versions of the report in English, French, and Spanish are posted on the Area 83 website.

Area 83 will be hosting the Ontario Delegates Committee meeting at the Toronto Airport Holiday Inn February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. A save-the-date flyer is on our website. I've asked our panel 65 Delegate Joyce S to chair the ODC, and our Area Secretary Amy L to be the ODC Secretary. Joyce, Amy, Kimberley, and I will meet soon to begin planning for this event. The ODC is a discussion opportunity for the Ontario Delegates on matters and issues concerning the General Service Conference. With participation from Alternate Delegates, it's also a chance to meet with our Regional Trustee, and several Past Delegates who share their experience, prior to the GSC. All members are welcome to attend.

Area 83 continues to forward information from our General Service Board, and General Service Office to



District Committee Members. It's very important for the DCMs to read all these emails, and subsequently forward them to GSRs with a request to share them with all Group members.

Since our last meeting I've been asked to chair an Ad hoc committee for GSC agenda item sharing, and to serve on a steering committee for CERAASA 2021. More about these topics will be discussed under new business.

I look forward to visiting more of your District meetings with our Alternate Delegate Kimberley. I'm participating in a Traditions workshop hosted by the GTA Intergroup on September 21<sup>st</sup> and will be on a video conference for the CERAASA steering committee on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. I hope to have the fall edition of the Delegate's newsletter completed soon.

Yours in Love and Service, Rob M.

- **At this point in the agenda, I would like to recommend that we move to 2/3 majority.**

Moved:	Rick W. DCM District 30
Seconded:	Bev H. DCM District 34
Discussion:	none
All those in favour:	34
All those opposed:	0
Any abstentions:	0
Motion:	Carried

## 12. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Final report from the Accessibility Chair Ad Hoc Committee. Kim S. –Immediate Past Delegate

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

Just to recap...

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

Committee Scope: To make an assessment of and recommendations around

- the value of an Area Accessibility chair to Districts and Groups in Area 83
- the pros and cons of creating a stand-alone committee verses continuing to have the responsibilities fall under the role of the Treatment chair
- the potential responsibilities of an Accessibility chair

- the costs to carry out the responsibilities of an Accessibility chair

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

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

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

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

Please see your handout ([Appendix B Recommended Accessibility Committee Outline](#)): and we can go through it together.

We also included a Draft Accessibilities Committee Toolkit ([Appendix C](#)<sup>2</sup>). This would be a helpful resource for an Accessibility Committee. It is also a way of showing Area 83 what our Area can do with a stand-alone Accessibility Chair. An example from the toolkit of an accessibility issue that never occurred to me is...

**Try to set up the meeting the same way each week (e.g., arrange seating, speaker podium, coffee pots, in the same place each meeting). If you move and reorganize things, it's only hiding whatever has been moved to a blind or vision impaired individual.**

**Place coffee pots back from the end of tables in a position where a cup will slide under the spout and rest on the table.**

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

We recommend a stand-alone Accessibility Chair and Committee.

Your ADHOC Committee, Bill C., Ruth F., Marty M., Kim S

[Questions and additional discussion following Ad Hoc committee report on Accessibility:](#)

**Notes about the Tool Kit:** in the report, Kim stated that the Toolkit, following a few tweaks, it will be made available under the Accessibilities Tab on the Area 83 website.

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<sup>1</sup> Source of the survey were the websites for different Areas in US and Canada.

<sup>2</sup> This is a document created by Area 46 and with their permission we have modified it for Area 83.

**Reference to Single Parents requiring child care in the Tool kit.** This could cause some legal issues- people looking after kids. That likely will be removed.

Shane also mentioned that there are online meetings for those who are needing child care and cannot get to a meeting.

Kim Noted: *If we do vote to have this happen today and we want to have a stand-alone accessibility committee, someone is going to have to make a motion.*

QUESTION: do we have any testimonials from people who fit into these into these categories? There is no way we can understand what it is like for people with accessibility needs. Adding to the report that these special needs issues are just the tip of the iceberg.

ANSWER: I can get those for you, or Shane I am sure has many examples.

There was a lot of personal sharing about disabilities, many of them invisible, and some among those at the ACM and pointing out we just never know -we need to appreciate that.

In the Recommended Accessibility Committee document, it talks about specific needs, and we know that this list is not exhaustive, perhaps add "etcetera" to reflect that.

QUESTION: is the financial demand something that we can sustain?

ANSWER: If this is what the Area wants, it will then become part of the Spending guidelines. From that we should hope that the contributions would come into to match what our expenditures will be. If it is what the Area wants, then I am sure the Area will support it.

*Kim added that in the 20 years that she has been coming to the Area I have never seen us not be able to do the work that we've needed to do. So, there will always be room in the spending guidelines for it, because we always come forth and do what we need to do.*

QUESTION: Will it be a two-year term?

Answer: Yes, and it will be in sync with the other Area positions. Starting 2021.

Question: you eluded in your presentation that we could put on the floor to day to create the position, or is it also to elect a position?

Answer: No, this would have to go to the Assembly. That is why, at the beginning of the Accessibility Tool kit it says *"At the Area 83 Assembly held in (date to be added), it was voted to form an 'Accessibilities Standing Committee' starting the two year rotation on January 1, 2021."*

Technically this doesn't have to go to the Fall Assembly, it could go to another Assembly. The hope is that it will start in 2021, so there is no hurry.

Question: Mike asked if we put a motion on the floor here, it would go to the Fall Assembly.

Answer: It would be voted on here, and if it PASSES here it goes to the Assembly.

**Mike B put a motion on the floor to create a position of Accessibility Chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International elected on the December 2020 ACM.**

Moved:	Mike B. Self Support Chair
Seconded:	De R. DCM District 02
Discussion:	Kim, the chair of the ad hoc committee suggested that the right thing to do would be to make a motion to accept the committee's recommendations. It is better to accept the recommendations, because this was the work of the committee and it links this with the efforts and findings of the Accessibilities ad hoc committee.

Mike B withdrew his motion.

A new motion: **That we accept the recommendations of the Accessibility ad hoc committee, to create the Area Accessibility Chair position for Area 83.**

Moved:	Mike B. Self Support Chair
Seconded:	De. R. DCM District 02
Discussion:	<p>Clarification: With this motion we will vote on it and if it passes it will then go to the Assembly for approval.</p> <p>Understand the intention and the result of the motion. If we do this first are we really accepting all of the work that the ad hoc committee has done, but we are short cutting the process with the motion the way it is.</p> <p>Glenn G., DCM District 18 asked for a friendly motion to consider accepting the recommendation first before going right to setting up the chair position?</p> <p>Mike: said I don't think that it will make a difference, their recommendation is to create the position. If we vote on it here, it is going to go back to the groups and then we will vote on it at the Fall Assembly.</p> <p>Shane added: Originally when we had this idea at our district, our DCM when to the Assembly and brought it to the floor. At the Kingston Assembly without going through the Area Committee. The right thing to do it to go through the ACM, they will form an ad hoc committee and make recommendations. We vote on the recommendation, it will go back to the Groups and come up at the Assembly for final vote. We are the steering committee, and this is the process how we make changes.</p> <p>This motion is important to me, and my District 02, and we were pleased that accessibility was paired with something, and that it didn't get left out. From the report of the committee, it seems that around 50% of the Areas have such a committee. In GTA we have 8 different districts, and we have 8 accessibility chairs- or someone who is representing the committee. Not all districts will have accessibility chairs, that depends on your District. At the GTA we meeting regularly to talk not about disabilities, but about the barriers that are keeping people from meetings- and how can we help?</p> <p>Question: to create a position will be a change to the OPs and it will require going to the Assembly.</p> <p>Marty: I was the previous Accessibility Chair and I will say from experience this position needs to be separate from the Treatment Chair. I did it for 2 years, and it is a lot for one person. Although I thought I was doing alright, I did my best at it, but it was brought to my attention that I really did not do accessibility justice. Because my heart was with Treatment more. I embrace the Accessibility role, did my best, it could have been better from a dedicated chair. Also, the vote, to accept the recommendation today is great, there is not a lot of time to go back to the groups and then go to the Assembly. This doesn't necessarily have to be voted at the Fall Assembly, there is lots of time, it could be at the Spring.</p> <p>Kimberley offered clarification to the motion- and the importance of the wording.</p>
<b>Amendment to the motion:</b>	<b>To accept the recommendation of ad hoc committee to make accessibility a stand-alone committee with an Area Accessibility Chair.</b>
Original motioner approval:	Mike B. approved this amendment
Seconder's approval:	De R. approved the amendment

Discussion:	<p>As a DCM, I have been talking about this with my district since January when the ad hoc committee was formed. Some at my district are waiting for this to be approved.</p> <p>If this is brought to the fall Assembly, and the membership doesn't feel like they are ready to vote on it, they can ask to table the motion to a later Assembly.</p> <p>The feedback that we were getting from the SID survey's over the past few years were comments to the effect, "I wanted to go to a Treatment workshop and I had to sit through accessibility" and vice versa.</p> <p>We are moving very quickly with our ideas and motions at the ACM. We are a steering committee, but we owe the membership a chance to make informed decisions. We are giving them 28 days to digest this recommendation before they are being asked to vote on it in October.</p>
Friendly amendment:	Glenn G. DCM, District 18: that the motion include timing of position to come into place will be in Kim's report, in January 2021.
Original Motioner:	Mike B. Declined the friendly amendment
	<p><b>Clarification from the Chair:</b> if the motion is passed the motion could be put on the Agenda for the Spring Assembly giving the membership more time to become informed.</p> <p>Kim, asked that she have a chance to speak to the recommendation of the ad hoc committee at the 2019 Fall Assembly, providing the Assembly with the recommendations of the ad hoc committee.</p>
<b>Call the Question:</b>	Rick W. DCM District 30
Secunder:	Susan K. DCM District 06
in favor calling question:	27
opposed calling question:	3
Abstentions:	3
Motion to call the question:	Carried

Now we Return to vote on the Motion that is on the floor:

- **Motion: To accept the recommendation of ad hoc committee to make accessibility a stand-alone committee with an Area Accessibility Chair.**

All those in favour:	31
All those opposed:	0
Any abstentions:	2
Motion:	Carried

**B. Motion: "To allow e-transfers of contributions only for Area 83 as outlined by the Treasurer of Area 83".**

Eileen S. – DCM District 28

• Moved:	Eileen S. DCM District 28
Seconded:	Shane Accessibility Chair
Justification:	<p><i>Eileen deferred to Area Treasurer to speak to the motion.</i></p> <p>Jo Ann the Treasurer stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the June ACM I proposed that we start accepting e-transfers as a method to make contributions to Area 83. The majority, probably 95% of the people</li> </ul>

	<p>here use e-transfers and it really will help with the administrative duties of the Treasurer (time and money). I do believe it is possible to set up another email address. When a group contributes using e-transfer I will have a separate email set up so that it goes directly to that email <a href="mailto:Contributions@Area83aa.org">Contributions@Area83aa.org</a>. That is how we will run it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If this gets passed here today it will go to the Assembly and we can see what members think about it.</li> <li>• I am confident that it is a secure, safe, efficient, cost reducing measure for Area 83.</li> </ul>
Discussion:	<p>Questions: Don't e-transfers require a Security Question? How does that work? Answer: no, security question is not required as I have the option to do it without.</p> <p>Question: if this passes are you saying that we will only be able to do e-transfers? Answer: No, e-transfers will be in addition to the procedures of contributions in place.</p>
All those in favour:	32
All those opposed:	0
Any abstentions:	2
Fate of Motion:	Carried

Before we proceed with New Business, I would like to share with the committee about a new ad hoc committee that was formed since our last ACM.

In recent sharing sessions a lot of discussion came up around the GSO Internal Audit and how we, as an Area, were responding to the clear challenges facing the exchange of information from the members of AA and the General Service Conference. It was also noted by our current Delegate that more traditional formats (i.e, surveys) were not generating enough usable response data. This experience was echoed by our Immediate Past Delegate, Kim S.

So, at the request of many voices in the Area I created the Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing Ad Hoc Committee. This ad hoc committee has been formed to address this very problem of communication from group members (top of the upside triangle) to the GSC (bottom of the triangle). It is our hope that by inviting and involving all members of Area 83 who wish to participate in AA as a whole, are able to have their voices heard and have a say on how their fellowship moves forward.

The committee is comprised of the following members:

Bill C (CPC), Amy L (Area Secretary), Eileen S (DCM – D28), Jo D (DCM – D54), Kim S (Immediate Past Delegate), Ray R (PI), Kimberley M (Alternate Delegate) and Rob M (Delegate).

### 13. NEW BUSINESS

#### **A. Discussion: Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing. Rob M. – Area 83 Delegate**

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

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

The committee is comprised of the following members:

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

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

The scope of the Committee is:

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

The mandate is:

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

The timing is:

The Chair will need to make an interim report at our 2019 September ACM, 2019 Fall Assembly, January 2020 ACM and a final report at the 2020 Spring Assembly.

The Committee has met 3 times and has made much progress.

We have developed a plan for Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing using the Zoom video conferencing app. Sessions will take place March 8-21, 2020 from 7pm to 9pm.

Zoom is a free video conferencing app that can be downloaded to a desktop, laptop, smartphone, tablet or iPad. Members can also join Zoom meetings by calling in from their landline or cell phone.

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

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

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

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

Area 83 is trying to *improve communication* between the Fellowship and the General Service Conference. We hope to hear from all group members including those who may not be involved in service outside the

home group, as well as those who are.

District Committee Members ***should forward all information to the GSRs*** and as GSRs to share with all members of their groups. DCMs can continue to be actively engaged in encouraging members to get involved (Please talk about this at our district meetings, home group meetings, with our sponsees and sponsors and try to get all members of Area 83 involved.)

A flyer with session dates and District assignments has been distributed today. An electronic flyer will be posted on the Area 83 website. The flyer, along with a letter with more details, will be emailed to all DCMs with a request to forward it to their GSRs, who in turn are requested to forward it to their group members.

I will go through the schedule now. If you notice any dates that conflict with your District meetings, please let me know.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>General Service Conference Agenda Committee</b>	<b>District Participation</b>
<b>1</b>	Sun Mar 8, 7pm	Literature Pt 1	<b>6, 50 &amp; 42</b>
<b>2</b>	Mon Mar 9, 7pm	Grapevine	<b>36 &amp; 82</b>
<b>3</b>	Tues Mar 10, 7pm	Corrections	<b>28, 02 &amp; 86</b>
<b>4</b>	Wed Mar 11, 7pm	Literature Pt 2	<b>16, 10 &amp; 74</b>
<b>5</b>	Thurs Mar 12, 7pm	Cooperation with Professional Community	<b>66, 48 &amp; 54</b>
<b>6</b>	Sun Mar 15, 7pm	Treatment and Accessibility	<b>34, 12 &amp; 18</b>
<b>7</b>	Mon Mar 16, 7pm	Public Information	<b>58, 70 &amp; 26</b>
<b>8</b>	Tues Mar 17, 7pm	Agenda Trustee International Conventions/Regional forums Policy and Admissions Archives	<b>14 &amp; 30</b>
<b>9</b>	Wed Mar 18, 7pm	Finance	<b>62, 78 &amp; 22</b>

Questions following the interim Pre-Conference Sharing ad hoc committee report:

Question: Will there be an invitation sent for people to attend? With a link to get on to those sessions?

Answer: Yes, there is a letter that we will be sending out to the Area will explain those details. The link for video conferencing will be available from our Area 83 website.

Question: Will the subcommittee chairs be getting an invitation for their certain agenda committee?

Answer: The Area subcommittee chairs have received their invitation to participate, but at the time we didn't have the dates picked. Subcommittee chairs were asked to facilitate the sharing session on agenda committees most aligned with their current position. District Subcommittee chairs will also be invited to participate- as well as anyone interested in the topics covered during the session.



**NOTE:** All sessions will have the same link and dial-in number. This will be posted on the Area Website. Because we have posted this link online, we have made the sharing sessions password protected- to make sure that people who are joining are members of Area 83. The Password is available on the hard copy flyers, and each DCM should know what the Password is. The flyer on the web will not have the password published but indicate that “the password is available from your DCM”. Same for the Call-in number, there will be a password that will have to be entered to join the sharing session via telephone.

Question: How did you pick the grouping of districts?

Answer: We took into account when district met, and the size of the districts. We paired small districts with larger districts. Other than that, it was random.

Questions: are these sharing sessions only for GSRs? or can any member of Area 83 participate?

Answer: Any member of Area 83 can participate. That could be a lot of people, but we have the ability to do break-out rooms with this software- we have found that if we have more than 20 people, it is good to break them into two rooms. Let’s hope this happens!!

Question: because of the details of the content of the Agenda topics (i.e., treatment and accessibility) it might be tough for one person to chair those meetings, and can chairs request assistance from Past Delegate with the content?

Answer: we are going to invite all past delegates to help with this, by assisting the chairs with these sessions that request help. An invitation will be going out after this ACM.

**B. Motion that Area 83 contributes \$400 to the Eastern Canada Region hospitality suite at the 2020 International Convention in Detroit, Michigan. Rob M.–Delegate.**

The international convention assigns each region a hospitality suite free of charge. The Eastern Canada hospitality suite for 2020 International convention in Detroit, MI is being facilitated by Tim M, Panel 67 delegate for Area 82 Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Labrador. Tim is asking each Area in Eastern Canada to contribute \$400 to purchase 3000 Eastern Canada Region pens, AV equipment, table and chair rentals, maps, flags and other items. Any surplus funds will be given to GSO as a regional contribution. A full financial account will be given after all of the bills are paid.

• **Motion that Area 83 contributes \$400 to the Eastern Canada Region hospitality suite at the 2020 International Convention in Detroit, Michigan.**

Moved:	Rob M. Delegate
Seconded:	Terry N. DCM District 26
Discussion:	<p>The requested amount is Canadian dollars</p> <p>If we vote to approve this motion it will have to get approval at the Assembly</p> <p>Question: Is this in keeping with the traditions of what other regions will be doing?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, each of the 8 regions will have a hospitality suite free of charge. I am not sure how far back this tradition goes, but in 2015 and in 2010 Area 83 participated in the ECR hospitality suite. I suspect that is goes back further than that.</p>
All those in favour:	All but 4
All those opposed:	0
Any abstentions:	4
Fate of Motion:	Carried

The motion passes and will be brought before the Assembly.

**C. Discussion CERAASA Startup Fund**

**Rob M. – Area 83 Delegate**

In 2011 the following motion passed at our Fall Assembly. As Recommended by the Area Committee that Area 83 participate and support CERAASA. To get CERAASA started each of the 10 Areas in Eastern Canada contributed \$250 to establish a \$2500 start-up fund. At the 2015 CERAASA business meeting, the following motion passed: that CERAASA establish a prudent reserve from surplus funds at each CERAASA, such prudent reserve not to exceed \$2500. After CERAASA 2017 an amount of \$5482 was forwarded to the CERAASA 2019 host committee, which was Area 90, Northwest Quebec. \$2500 was for the start-up fund, \$2500 for prudent reserve and \$482 to maintain the CERAASA website. At the end of CERAASA 2019 the bank balance was -917.32. Area 90 advanced CERAASA the \$917.32 so that all of the bills could be paid. A steering committee was formed to review the guidelines take any suggested revisions to the business meeting at CERAASA. The steering committee is comprised of the 10 Delegates, and 10 Alternate Delegates of each Area in Eastern Canada along with the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee. The steering committee is asking each of the 10 Areas to contribute \$250 to create a start-up fund and \$91.74 to reimburse Area 90.

I don't believe that this requires a motion from our Area. As Area 83 agreed to participate and support CERAASA, and the CERAASA guidelines state that there must always be an amount of \$2500 to be forwarded to the incoming host Area, to be used for start-up expenses for the next CERAASA. When the surplus available to forward to the next host Area is less than \$2500 each of the 10 Areas that comprise the Eastern Canada Region will contribute an equal amount that will restore the start-up to \$2500. Again, I don't think this requires a motion because we have agreed to the guidelines of CERAASA, which clearly outlines our financial commitment to CERAASA. I brought it up at this meeting for transparency so that you know what happened, and as long as everyone is okay with it, I will ask our treasurer to write the cheque.

*So, todays discussion is really to inform Area 83 and try to answer any questions you may have.*

Questions following the report on CERAASA fund.

Question: Do you know how the short fall happened?

Answer: There are several reasons, but the main reason is that the cost for registration went from \$40 to \$30.

When CERAASA was held in Montreal, which is just outside of Laval, there was 500 people there. A couple years ago, at the Eastern Canada Regional Forum was held in Laval, at the same facility where this year's CERAASA was held, and there was 700 people there! It appeared that the members of Quebec tend to come out for these regional events, so Area 90 was anticipating a much larger turnout. To make this more affordable for members to attend, they would drop the registration by \$10. Only 350 people showed up.

With the extra  $10 \times 350 = \$3500$ ....and then we wouldn't be asking for the top up of the Startup funds. I think a lesson was learned.

**In summary:** Area 83 will contribute \$250 for start-up fund, and \$91.74 to reimburse Area 90.

There were no more questions.

**D. Operating Procedures Ad Hoc committee's recommendations. James O'D – Area Chairperson**

After the January ACM, Kimberley, Sandy and Amy were asked to participate on an ad hoc committee to take on the task of a "fact finding and fact facing" approach to updating our Area 83 Operating Procedures. The last time the Operating Procedures were overhauled in depth was in 1991. They were reviewed again in 2004 but not much was corrected. Modifications to the Operating Procedures have been made over the years as reflected by the 24 dated entries listed on the front of the current Operating Procedures.

The scope of our task was to assess and offer recommendations around:

- Inclusion of motions passed over the years (to make sure they were incorporated correctly)
- Determine how the OPs reflect our current practice
- Improvement flow of format
- Inconsistencies and/or eliminate repetition
- Creation of a historical Motions database for future Area Committees

They compiled an historical database of motions and other interesting items by reviewing the reports from the Delegate and Alternate Delegate, Old Business, New Business and reports by Ad hoc Committees from the Assembly and ACM minutes. They have reviewed minutes from 1973-1987 and 1999 to present. A final report reviewing 1987-1999 will be presented at our January 2020 ACM. We have more than enough to get a good start on.

The recommendations have been organized into four categories:

**Category I)** It has always been the secretary's responsibility to correct language and punctuation, and any other modifications that do not alter the meaning or intent. The items listed in this category have already been approved by the ACM and/or the Assembly and are the responsibility of the Secretary to incorporate into the Operating Procedures. These would not need approval.

**Category II)** Requires the approval of the Area Committee. These may be modifications to the Appendices, which in the Operating procedures under Section V: Appendices (in updated Operating Procedures that would be Section 9) says "Note: Appendices are deemed as *guidelines* and NOT *operating procedures* and as such are written, amended, and approved by the Area Committee not the Assembly."

**Category III)** Requires the approval of the Area Committee and then the Assembly. These are items that modify the Operating Procedures and would require approval from both ACM and anything that the Area Committee agrees to would have to be approved by the Assembly.

**Category IV)** No action required. These are items that were noticed, were discussed, but felt that nothing further needs to be done with them.

*The Chair suggested that we proceed in the following manner:*

**Category I** items, as they have already been approved by the ACM and/or the Assembly, I would suggest we leave these with the Area Secretary to be actioned. These do not require approval as they have already been approved. There is no need for a motion.

I would like to take a sense of the room at this time to see if there are any objections to the suggestion to leave **Category I** items with the Area Secretary to be actioned. (See [Appendix D](#): for Category I items being considered).

- **Sense of the Room:** there was no one in opposition, so Items 1-7 will be actioned by the secretary.

As **Category II** items only require the approval of the Area Committee, I would suggest that we skip over this section for the time being as we can address these later in this meeting (time permitting) or at our January ACM. Items in **Category III** however, require the approval of the AC and then need to go to the Assembly for approval and are therefore more time sensitive. If we can approve some or all of these items today, then they can go to the Area Assembly in October. **Category IV** have been deemed "no action required". These can be discussion items at later ACMs and therefore do not need to be discussed or actioned today.

At this time, I would like to take a sense of the room to see how the committee feels about proceeding in this manner.

- **Sense of the Room:** Everyone is okay to **defer Category II** items until later.

The Chair recommends that **Category IV** items also be deferred for a later discussion. These were not recommendations, but there may be great information that may or may not lead to a motion down the road.

- **Sense of the Room:** With your permission, can we put those off **Category IV** items as well. No one objected to this.

Proceeding with **Category III items**. We are starting with item number 33, and the last item is 53. We can proceed by taking each item one at time- taking motion to accept or modify, or we can go through all of them and pull those that need further discussion. (See [Appendix D](#): for Category I items being considered).

***The committee agreed to read each one, and request that the chair pulls any items that require further discussion.***

The Chair went through all Category III items and 5 items were pulled for further discussion: 44, 45, 49, 51, 53.

**Sense of the Room:** How does everyone feel about creating a bulk motion to approve 16 of the 21 items in Category III? no one opposed this suggestion.  
44, 45, 49, 51, 53 were pulled for further discussion.

- **Motion: to accept Category III items (33-53) as discussed; excluding 44, 45, 49, 51, 53**

Moved:	Eileen S. DCM District 28
Seconded:	Neil P. DCM District 66
Discussion:	<p><b>Question:</b> I didn't quite understand number 35</p> <p><b>Answer:</b> <i>35) 3.03 Area Chair</i></p> <p>Add: <b>(The Area Chair is eligible to vote at bi-annual and interim elections of the Area Officers and the sub-committee chairs as stated in section 4.02)</b></p> <p>In the OPs, the Area Chairperson has always been able to vote at the elections of the Area Officers, which takes place at the Assembly. Recently, we made a motion to also permit the Area Chairperson to vote in the election of the Sub-committee chairs that takes place at the December ACM every two years. In the OPs 3.03 is referring to voting on motions, and it says that everyone that is part of the Assembly can vote except for the Chair, and that sounds like it contradicts what we say elsewhere; that the chair is allowed to vote at the elections of the Officers and Subcommittee chairs. This just clarifies the difference-of when the chair can and cannot vote.</p>
All those in Favor	all
All those opposed	none
Any abstentions:	none
Fate of Motion:	Carried

#### 44) 3.16 Area Archives Chair

5 references to service zones

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

**Zone 1: Districts 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 22**

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

**Zone 3: Districts 34, 36, 66**

**Zone 4: Districts 42, 48, 50**

**Zone 5: Districts 54, 58, 62**

**Zone 6: Districts 70, 74, 78**

- **Motion: to accept 44 as written with 5 references to the Service Zones, with district 04 removed.**

Moved:	Terry N. DCM District 26
Seconded:	Rick W DCM District 30
Discussion:	<p>Pulled so that we can remove district 4 from the list.</p> <p><b>Question:</b> the zones, never heard of them before, who are these for?</p> <p><b>Answer:</b> somewhere along the way zones created for reasons we can only speculate.</p> <p>From time to time, Zones are mentioned (especially in Archives). One way to inform everyone what the zones are is to include it in the OPs.</p> <p>They may have been developed, possibly for bridging the gap requests or groupings for Service Info days.</p> <p>It was noted that district 30 is not grouped with 34 and 36. We will not be dealing with which districts are grouped together... if this needs to be refined, it can be done at a later day with a little more thought behind it- <i>said the Chair</i>. Today, we are just including the reference and map illustrating the zones as they have historically been outlined.</p> <p><b>Questions:</b> This text on the OP includes Districts 38 and 46, but it has been removed, and doesn't appear in your recommended wording, but District 4 is on your list.</p> <p><b>Answer:</b> that was an oversight on our part, we forgot to remove district 4 that went dark sometime ago when we removed district 38 and 46. We need to approve this wording because it is slightly different than what was originally presented in June ACM.</p>
All those in Favor	33
All those opposed	None
Any abstentions:	1
Fate of Motion:	carried

#### 45) 3.18 Area Archivist

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

**CLARIFICATION** Who makes up this Area Archives Committee to be consulted regarding the appointment of the Area Archivist? (outgoing Archivist and Archives chair?)

Should it be the Archives Chair that is consulted?

Typically, the Area Chair, consults with the Archives chair and the current archivist and maybe knowledgeable past delegates.

Maybe leave as it to the discretion of the chair to consult.

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

Moved:	Jane S. DCM District 74
Seconded:	Marty M- Archives Chair
Discussion:	none
All those in favour:	31
All those opposed:	1
Any abstentions:	2
Fate of Motion:	Carried
Minority opinion:	Collective experience of a committee is worthwhile so that we don't run into personalities.
Anyone voting with majority wishing to change their vote?	No one- motion stands
No changes to vote:	Motion stands, as Carried.

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

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

- **Motion: accept this recommendation that an ad hoc committee be formed as suggested in point number 49**

Moved:	Bill C CPC Chair	All those in favour:	34
Seconded:	Susan K DCM District 06	All those opposed:	0
Discussion:	none	Any abstentions:	0
		Fate of Motion:	Carried

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

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

Moved:	Neil P. DCM District 66
Seconded:	Lynn H DCM District 36
Discussion:	<p>Question: Should we put it at the beginning of each term. Answer: we had considered that, but since there are some who may take a position at the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a term, the ad hoc committee thought it would be good to make them available every year.</p> <p><b>Suggestion:</b> that this be available as a hard copy for those who require paper. The Ops will be changed over the course of a year is reasonable, as any motions that have approved by the ACM and Assembly or just the ACM as required will be amended in the OP document.</p> <p>Question: Are these posted on the website? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>Question: This motion, if passed will mean that no one in Area 83 will receive a hard copy? If a GSR that shows up brand new will never get a printed copy of the Area Ops? Answer: The GSRs should get their printed copies from their districts, this is not an expense that the Area has ever covered.</p>
All those in favour:	30
All those opposed:	0
Any abstentions:	4
Fate of Motion:	Carried



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

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

**Motion:** The Area Committee consider updating the amount in 7.04 Bequest in Wills to be inline with GSO's amount for Bequests Wills.

Moved:	Will H. DCM District 14
Seconded:	Eileen S. DCM District 28
Discussion:	<p><b>Clarification:</b> the amount went up again this year and was raised to \$10K. Caution that we not just follow suite and consider is there a reason why we would not want our single contribution to be at the level of \$10K or higher, as this amount will surely be raised in the future. Would this be better if we reviewed this from time to time, rather than following GSO's lead.</p> <p>Very few bequests of the full amount are made. When reviewing the conference Agenda items last spring, I was opposed to GSO raising it to the amount of \$10K. This encourages contributions from fewer individuals rather than asking the membership as a whole to give a little more. Therefore, I would be opposed to raising it to this amount in Area 83.</p> <p>If we raise this in line with GSO, if we had a member who gave \$10K to Area 83, doesn't that bump against concept 12- perilous wealth and power? Given that our whole operating account sits at \$40K, and our prudent reserve is \$20K, \$10K would be a huge percentage of the total.</p> <p>These are bequests, the person would have to leave the money in their will, and would be after they have died....they would be beyond manipulation.</p> <p>NOTE: If the area received 2 bequests of \$10K, and we have excesses in our operating accounts we would forward that money on to GSO. So, we would not sit with excess funds. Also, it is a limit of up to \$10K and not every bequest will be \$10K.</p> <p>Question: these bequests we are talking about are for the Area or GSO or for both?</p> <p>Answer: it is for Area 83, but the upper limit will be dictated by GSO's limit.</p>
Request for Friendly amendment:	return to the original motion that the amount of bequests in 7.04 be set at \$5K by Lynn H., Alt DCM District 36.
Approval by original Motioner	Will H DCM District 14, said he would not agree with friendly amendment.
All those in favour:	13
All those opposed:	12
Any abstentions:	3
Fate of Motion:	Defeated
Minority opinion:	<p>Susan K., DCM District 06: As stated by our treasurer, if we are operating in with excess funds at the end of the year, we can send that amount down to GSO.</p> <p>Jane S, DCM District 74: if it is good enough of GSO, it is good enough for us.</p>
Anyone voting with majority wishing to change their vote?	no
Yes, change vote:	0
No changes to vote:	Motion remains defeated.

Because the previous motion was defeated, a new motion was put forward.

**Motion: to update the amount in 7.04 bequests in wills to \$5000. (see below for final wording)**

Moved:	Glenn G DCM District 18
Seconded:	Lynn H alt DCM District 36
Discussion:	<p>For Clarification, the motion should include that this bequest is to Area 83. In the previous point in the Ops, it mention <i>In Memorium</i> Fund, and that money is being donated from our Area to GSO. As well, the point after, talks about our Area paying the full amount for the Delegate to go to GSC, that is Area paying GSO, and then in the middle we have this bequest in wills, it creates some confusion—is the money being bequeathed to the Area or to GSO? If our goal is to clarify our Ops, do we want to consider specifying where the bequests will go-to Area 83.</p> <p><b>Clarification:</b> In the Ops it says “three thousand” but has in brackets “(\$5,000)”. Are we trying to clarify the amount, but are we also trying to up the amount from 3K to 5K?</p> <p>The error with the two differing amounts is corrected in Category I items, Secretarial changes, so the two amounts line up with \$3K</p> <p>At the 68<sup>th</sup> GSC upped the amount to 5K, and at the 69<sup>th</sup> GSC they just upped it again to \$10K (so we are working with old information. Because we defeated the 10K motion, we are now upping it to 5K.</p> <p>Clarification: We need to be specific to avoid confusion that some might think this Bequest amount is directed to GSO.</p>
Friendly amendment	<i>Motion: the ACM consider updating the amount <u>to Area 83</u> in 7.04 in bequests in wills to \$5000 made by Lynn H.</i>
Approval by Original Motioner	Glenn G. was in agreement with this amendment except, remove “consider”. Motion: Update the amount to Area 83 in 7.04, bequests in wills, to \$5,000.
Approval from Seconder	Lynn was the seconder, and it was her friendly amendment, so she approved.
• <b>Clarification of the whole passage in OPs</b>	Bequests in wills to Area 83 are acceptable only from members of AA, <b>the limit of such bequests is \$5,000</b> , and must be on a one-time only basis and not in perpetuity.
Discussion:	No further discussion
All those in favour:	All but 6
All those opposed:	2
Abstentions:	4
Fate of Motion:	Carried
Minority opinion:	none

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

- Susan K, DCM District 06 asked if the Area would consider moving the January 2020 meeting (and all of the January meetings at the beginning of the new term) to the second Sunday of the month. Because it is still part of the holiday season, we essentially are being asked to chose between our family or our Service Commitment.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Mississauga Annual Fall roundup is October 5<sup>th</sup>, great out of town speakers, Adam from Los Angeles, Ca \$20
- Ben W will be celebrating 57 years in Thorncliff Park, start is 8:30
- Thanks to the Ad Hoc committee reviewing the OPs, they were very precise in what they were presenting here at the ACM, and this has been talked about as something that needed to be done for years.



- Our delegate Rob M, will be celebrating 18 years at Motorcity, September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- As a visitor who sat through this whole meeting I want you to know that I couldn't hear a thing!! There must have been ¾ of the questions, I couldn't hear what they were, never mind the answers. I am sitting here wondering why I even came..... Please be thoughtful about those of us on the sides observing the meeting.
- Frontenac group celebrating 68 years of service to the Kingston community on Sept 10, 2019 (this Tuesday).
- GTA archives breakfast on November 3, 2019. Great food and an open meeting where a long-time member shares what it was like. In Mississauga. Flyer can be found on the Area83 website. Tickets are \$25.
- GTA Intergroup is offering a Traditions Workshop, September 21.
- *Accessibility Ad Hoc committee, thank you for all of your hard work.* I welcome that we will be taking accessibility more seriously at our Area. I just want to throw out a couple of things for consideration:
  - Language: when we talk about ourselves, we may try to be a little more sensitive. Not every disability is visible, nor should those of us with disabilities need to qualify the fact that we deserve accessible, barrier free locations. I want to ask please don't ask someone to provide a testimony about what we need.
  - My district gave a survey for all of us to fill out with our homegroup. To which a member in my group said I don't know why we would do this, we don't get anyone here with that type of disability. Unfortunately, that is a normal attitude, and we need to check ourselves about how we think of people with disabilities and what it means to be barrier free-
  - In this meeting space I experienced the following that is presenting problems- White noise, all of the fans set up are creating a background level noise that really is drowning out what is happening in this room. Furthermore, that type of noise for people with sensory issues may find it incredibly uncomfortable, and I find it difficult to sit in here for extending periods of time.
  - Lighting: when we turn the lights on/off, that again is difficult for those with sensory issues.
  - Remember it isn't just what you can visually see or hear that is a barrier to some.
- Franklin- visitor from New York, *thank you for your hospitality, it has been awesome.* I know in my area they have treatment and accessibility chairs. I am going to sit in on the accessibility committee because of what I heard today. One thing I noticed is that my homegroup when I first started going there-we had only 5 people. Now we are about 15, and I have found that a gentleman who used to always be there is no longer coming. He told me he was claustrophobic, and when the meetings are that big he cannot feel comfortable. You have showed me here that maybe we should be making a switch to a larger space. My homegroup has been dark, and technically we are still part of Area 83, because we need some paperwork signed to complete the switch, I came here to get the delegate to sign some forms.

## 15. NEXT AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

While there has been a request to move the next ACM to an alternative date, unfortunately these meetings are put on the books with the church at least a year in advance. So, we will have to keep the same date, but I will remind the next Chair to consider this request.

I would recommend the next committee meeting be held here at Quinte West on **January 4, 2020.**

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

Motioned by:	Bev H. DCM District 34
Seconded:	Will H. DCM District 14
Discussion:	None
In favour:	all
Opposed:	1
Abstentions:	none
Voice of the minority	Please add this item under new business to one of the upcoming agendas, and not put off considering the change to the next term. (not next January meeting because I will not be here).
Motion:	Carried

participation today and wish you all a safe drive home.

## 16. CLOSING

It is now 4:47 p.m. and I would like to thank everyone for their

- **May I have a motion to end this meeting?**

Motioned by:	Will H. DCM District 14
Seconded:	Glenn B. DCM District 82
Discussion:	None
In favour:	all
Opposed:	none
Abstentions:	none
Motion:	Carried

## The meeting close with the Responsibility Declaration.

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

## Appendix A Financial Documents—Financial Summary

**EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83**  
*as at August 30, 2019*

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

<b>INCOME</b>	
7th Tradition	4,358.90
Cost Recoveries	760.00
Flow Through to GSO	200.00
Grapevine Seasonals	0.00
Group & District Contributions	36,096.87
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>41,415.77</b>
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE	0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; TRANSFERS</b>	<b>41,415.77</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Accommodations	4,497.61
Meals	9,078.28
Travel	7,726.32
Long Distance	0.00
Postage	101.70
Printing	1,995.10
Literature	1,290.67
Stationery	326.17
Miscellaneous	2,025.06
<b>Total Committee Expenses</b>	<b>27,040.91</b>
Ad Hoc Committees	125.00
Area Contribution to GSO	0.00
Area Committee Meetings	835.36
General Service Conf. Assessment	11,170.14
Bank Service Charges	28.10
Paypal fees	9.93
Forums	0.00
Grapevine Seasonal	0.00
GSO Flow Through	200.00
Ontario Delegate's Committee (ODC)	1,200.00
CERAASA	2,801.79
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>16,370.32</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>43,411.23</b>

<b>OPERATING ACCOUNT</b>	
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2019	41,820.83
Total Income & Transfers	41,415.77
Total Expenses	-43,411.23
<b>OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>	<b>39,825.37</b>

## Appendix A Financial Documents–Detail of Expenses

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International  
Details of Expenditures  
as at August 30, 2019

Position	Acomodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Approved Spending Guideline	Balance + / -	YTD Usage
<b>COMMITTEE EXPENSES</b>													
Delegate	0.00	124.50	1103.20	0.00	0.00	339.00	0.00	28.57	0.00	1565.27	\$2,325.00	729.73	68.61%
Alt. Delegate	0.00	64.50	418.80	0.00	0.00	51.98	0.00	0.00	208.13	740.61	\$1,651.00	970.59	44.86%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	148.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.80	\$1,240.00	1091.20	12.00%
Chairperson	0.00	0.00	511.20	0.00	0.00	39.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	645.61	\$1,160.00	514.39	55.66%
Secretary	0.00	94.87	272.80	0.00	0.00	962.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	1343.35	\$2,340.00	996.65	57.41%
Treasurer	0.00	107.90	564.60	0.00	101.70	236.00	0.00	20.31	0.00	1031.90	\$1,790.00	758.10	57.65%
Registrar	0.00	39.50	367.40	0.00	0.00	117.73	0.00	277.29	0.00	869.92	\$2,304.00	580.08	59.99%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	251.50	146.60	464.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.99	882.89	\$2,304.00	1421.11	38.32%
Archives	222.11	131.48	787.20	0.00	0.00	45.20	0.00	0.00	188.94	1374.93	\$1,355.00	-19.93	101.47%
Archivist	251.50	100.52	124.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	476.02	\$540.00	63.98	88.15%
Cooperation with the P. C.	0.00	56.00	376.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	431.00	\$1,790.00	1359.00	24.08%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	89.50	56.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	582.07	\$1,400.00	817.93	41.58%
Grapevine	0.00	59.50	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159.50	\$1,400.00	1240.50	11.39%
Public Information	0.00	143.30	155.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	298.30	\$1,400.00	1101.70	21.31%
Self Support	0.00	127.85	728.00	0.00	0.00	83.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	938.98	\$1,830.00	891.02	51.31%
Treatment / Accessibility	0.00	39.50	522.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	261.38	0.00	0.00	822.88	\$1,400.00	577.12	58.78%
Service Info Day Cmtc	1257.50	745.49	1029.32	0.00	0.00	111.87	530.93	0.00	28.00	3701.11	\$4,717.00	1015.89	78.46%
Spring Assembly	2515.00	6900.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1582.00	10997.77	\$11,350.00	392.23	96.90%
Fall Assembly	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$11,650.00	11650.00	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,497.61</b>	<b>\$ 9,078.28</b>	<b>\$ 7,726.32</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 101.70</b>	<b>\$ 1,995.10</b>	<b>\$ 1,290.67</b>	<b>\$ 326.17</b>	<b>\$ 2,025.06</b>	<b>\$ 27,040.91</b>	<b>\$ 53,092.00</b>	<b>\$ 26,051.09</b>	<b>50.93%</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>													
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	125.00	-	-	-	125.00	\$15.00	-110.00	833.33%
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	835.36	835.36	\$1,325.00	489.64	63.05%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,500.00	1500.00	0.00%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.10	\$187.00	158.90	15.03%
Paypal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.93	\$40.00	30.07	24.83%
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$4,200.00	4,200.00	0.00%
GSO Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$11,177.64	7.50	99.93%
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200.00	-\$120.00	80.00	-166.67%
Ord Delegates Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00	1,200.00	\$1,200.00	0.00	100.00%
CRASA	1,063.86	307.56	1,264.26	-	-	-	-	-	166.11	2,801.79	\$2,892.79	0.00	96.85%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,063.86</b>	<b>\$ 307.56</b>	<b>\$ 1,264.26</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 125.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 13,371.61</b>	<b>\$ 16,370.32</b>	<b>\$ 22,417.43</b>	<b>\$ 6,356.11</b>	<b>73.02%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 5,561.47</b>	<b>\$ 9,385.84</b>	<b>\$ 8,990.58</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 101.70</b>	<b>\$ 2,120.10</b>	<b>\$ 1,290.67</b>	<b>\$ 326.17</b>	<b>\$ 15,396.67</b>	<b>\$ 43,411.23</b>	<b>\$ 75,509.43</b>	<b>\$ 32,407.20</b>	<b>57.49%</b>

<b>Income Summary :</b>	
August 2019	
7th Tradition	4,356.90
Bank Interest	-
GSO Flow through	200.00
Contributions	36,096.87
Cost recoveries	760.00
Grapevine Seasonals	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 41,415.77</b>

	<b>YTD 2019</b>	<b>Aug-18</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Income To Date	41,415.77	41,019.97	395.80
Expenses To Date	43,411.23	36,280.26	5,130.97
<b>Net Change To Operating Account</b>	<b>\$ 1,995.46</b>	<b>\$ 2,739.71</b>	<b>\$ 4,735.17</b>
Contributions	\$36,096.87	\$37,270.77	-\$1,173.90
Contributing Groups	125	134	-9
Contributing Districts	15	13	2

## Appendix A Financial Documents—Contributions by District

<b>GROUP &amp; DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS</b>
<b>as at August 30, 2019</b>

District	0	Unspecified, Paypal	\$0.00
District	2	Malton	\$512.70
District	6	Mississauga	\$1,670.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$3,646.91
District	12	Toronto South West	\$1,137.07
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,340.02
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$180.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$2,336.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,860.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$2,176.53
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$2,203.45
District	30	Quinte West	\$1,798.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$4,520.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$2,270.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$557.04
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$327.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$836.82
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$370.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$50.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$2,535.33
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$1,270.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$1,150.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$1,650.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$100.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$250.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$1,350.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$36,096.87

Total from Groups	\$24,837.53	125
Total from Districts	\$11,259.34	15

## Appendix B Recommended Accessibility Committee Outline



# Accessibility Committee

## Mission

The purpose of this Committee is to diminish or eliminate barriers that prevent anyone from participating in any aspect of AA in Area 83. The Committee provides information and coordinates services for alcoholics who otherwise would be unable to participate in meetings, groups, or service work because of a disability, difficulty accessing AA meeting places, or because of a need for special assistance with communication.

## Accessibility needs: who has them?

- A.A's from minority groups: For example, ethnic groups, LGBTQ communities
- A.A's from a variety of cultures that are ESL (English as a second language)
- A.A's who are deafened or hard of hearing (do not use American Sign Language)
- A.A's who are hospitalized or housebound
- A.A's who are parents that are unable to find suitable childcare to attend meetings
- A.A's who do not have transportation
- A.A's who are not able to drive themselves due to health conditions
- A.A's who are house/hospital bound due to health conditions
- A.A's that are unable to drive as a result of receiving a DUI
- A.A's who live in nursing homes/foster care homes
- A.A's who are blind or have low vision
- A.A's who have mobility issues
- A.A's who are with concurrent disorders (i.e., mental illness and alcoholism)
- A.A's who have head injuries
- A.A's whose speech is difficult to understand
- A.A's who live in rural or remote communities
- A.A's who have learning, reading or writing challenges
- Etc....

## Appendix B *continued* Recommended Accessibility Committee Outline

### The Chairperson of the Accessibilities Committee:

- To be elected by the Area Committee
- Attends Area Assemblies and Area Committee meetings
- Provides verbal and written reports at all Assemblies and Area Meetings
- Presents a workshop at all Service Information Days for all Assemblies
- Chairs Accessibilities Committee meeting, coordinating information received from local representatives for reporting back to the Area Assembly
- Acts as a conduit for communication between GSO and the local Accessibility committees
- Assists the local Accessibilities committees wherever and whenever possible
- Represents Eastern Ontario International, Area 83 at the following functions:
  - Spring and Fall Assembly
  - As requested, attends group, Intergroup, District or other Area AA events to share information and knowledge of the AA fellowship
  - As appropriate, coordinates AA's Accessibilities display at professional exhibits throughout the General Service Area 83 as required
  - Forms a working committee of AA members to assist in carrying out the performance of these responsibilities


### Anticipated Costs

Item	Cost Estimate
Area Meetings	\$120.00 each - for term \$840.00
Area Assembly	\$476.00 each - for term \$1,904.00
Transportation	
Meals	
Literature	
Display	Approx. \$200.00+

## Appendix C Draft Accessibility Tool Kit.

A full-size version of this tool kit will be available on the Accessibility Resource Tab


<http://area83aa.org/resources/treatment/accessibility>

<b>Special Needs &amp; Accessibility Toolkit</b>	
	
Prepared by Area 83 Accessibility Ad Hoc Committee	

<b>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</b>	
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<b>Accessibility Toolkit</b>	
	
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## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit.

<div data-bbox="1023 283 1153 535" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1201 367 1226 472" data-label="Section-Header"> <h3>Introduction</h3> </div> <div data-bbox="1128 525 1193 1018" data-label="Text"> <p>The Area 83 Assembly held in (date to be added). It was voted to form an "Accessibilities Standing Committee" starting the two year rotation on January 1, 2021.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="974 525 1120 1018" data-label="Text"> <p>The purpose of the Accessibilities Committee is to help make A.A. accessible to every member who desires it—to help alcoholics with special needs to either get them to meetings, or having meetings brought to them. This includes, but is not limited to, those who are blind/visually impaired, hearing impaired, confined to their homes for health reasons, and/or physically incapable of getting to meetings on their own.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="844 367 966 1018" data-label="Text"> <p>The guiding principle of this committee is that there are no special A.A. members, only members with special needs. They are A.A. members who wish to have the same privileges and responsibilities as all A.A. members with regard to the activities we all consider necessary for our continuous sobriety. These include regularly attending meetings and special AA functions, speaking at meetings, and participating in 12 Step work, sponsorship, and service on both the local and area levels.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="787 367 820 556" data-label="Section-Header"> <h3>Meeting the Challenge</h3> </div> <div data-bbox="673 367 779 1018" data-label="Text"> <p>A.A. members in regions around the country have formed committees addressing how best to pave the way for A.A. members with special needs to reach and participate in A.A. meetings, or to arrange to have A.A. meetings brought to them. These committees work with local A.A. groups to find ways to make their meetings available to all who want to attend.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="544 367 665 1018" data-label="Text"> <p>Carrying the message to special needs populations can be a challenge — one A.A. members have always been willing to accept — with the goal of including all alcoholics in the wonderful experience of belonging to a group and partaking in the full range of benefits of membership in A.A. Some A.A. entities are attempting to meet this goal by forming Accessibility Committees and there are currently some 200 such committees throughout the U.S. and Canada A.A. service structure.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="414 367 535 1018" data-label="Text"> <p>This Accessibility Toolkit was created in efforts for all Districts and groups to discuss and inventory special needs in their community. A preliminary scan of Districts in Eastern Ontario are showing many districts require the need to raise awareness and build capacity for Special Needs/Accessibilities, therefore, we hope this toolkit would help assess where your District/Group is and what steps need to be taken to help better carry the message to the special needs population.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="284 357 316 504" data-label="Page-Footer"> <p>Accessibility Toolkit</p> </div> <div data-bbox="284 945 316 1039" data-label="Page-Footer"> <p>Page 3 of 19</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="1193 1218 1226 1354" data-label="Section-Header"> <h3>Special Needs</h3> </div> <div data-bbox="1079 1218 1185 1869" data-label="Text"> <p>GSO special needs and accessibility materials is a collection of experience from several General Service Conference areas, central offices, intergroup offices, and districts where Special Needs Committees or Accessibility Committees have been formed in the United States. This service material is available to the Fellowship for those who wish this shared experience.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1023 1218 1071 1869" data-label="Text"> <p>While there are no "special" AA members, there are many members who have special needs. This would include alcoholics who may be:</p> </div> <div data-bbox="795 1239 1015 1564" data-label="List-Group"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deaf or hard of hearing</li> <li>• Use a wheelchair, walker, or cane</li> <li>• Blind or have low vision</li> <li>• Live in a nursing home</li> <li>• Limited in reading and writing skills</li> <li>• Live in rural areas/isolated, home or hospital bound</li> <li>• Single parents that are unable to find suitable childcare to attend meetings</li> <li>• Physical disabilities or chronic illnesses</li> <li>• Etcetera ...</li> </ul> </div> <div data-bbox="860 1596 1015 1869" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="714 1218 779 1869" data-label="Text"> <p>Whatever their disability or particular challenge to receiving the AA message may be, we hope that they would never be excluded from AA meetings, Twelve Step work, or AA service work.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="584 1218 706 1869" data-label="Text"> <p>Respect for the dignity of others is the foundation for all our efforts to carry the message to alcoholics with special needs, with emphasis on identification rather than on how we are different. As one deaf AA put it, "I'm just an alcoholic, like everyone else here. I have the same need to be a 'worker' among workers" and not be singled out for special treatment. If you can just make the program available to me, I'll do what I have to do to work it."</p> </div> <div data-bbox="470 1218 576 1869" data-label="Text"> <p>The goal is to include all alcoholics in the wonderful experience of belonging to a group and partaking in a full range of benefits of membership. Beyond helping those in your own group or committee, others may be informed about carrying the message to alcoholics with special needs through workshops and presentations at AA gatherings, such as area assemblies, conventions, conferences, round-ups and Regional Forums.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="357 1218 462 1869" data-label="Text"> <p>Our Big Book says, "We are people who normally would not mix," and this is especially true when someone is a little "different" from the others. But the rewards of giving this kind of service to a fellow alcoholic are immense! Group unity grows stronger, the person with special needs is included and respected as a fully participating member of the group, and everyone's sobriety is strengthened.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="284 1207 316 1354" data-label="Page-Footer"> <p>Accessibility Toolkit</p> </div> <div data-bbox="284 1795 316 1890" data-label="Page-Footer"> <p>Page 4 of 19</p> </div>
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## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

### What Accessibility Does and What You Can Do to Help

Accessibility is not just about wheelchair bound people, but also about people with other disabilities such as physically disabled, deaf and hearing impaired, blind and visually impaired, learning and reading impaired, seniors and homebound. Others include those with language barriers and single parents requiring childcare. Whatever is a barrier for someone attending or participating in meetings is an accessibility issue.

How we serve these people is to provide interpreters for meetings and events, as well as Braille AA literature, audio material, programs for special needs, and rides in special cases. We encourage wheelchair accessible meetings/events and big book tape study meetings in each district. The list goes on; assist the physically disabled at events; encourage groups to provide childcare; update special needs information in meeting directories (and on-line); bring meetings into homes, hospital or long-term care facilities; encourage districts and groups to support meetings in special needs facilities; provide literature and workshops on special needs; explore other special needs; and work with GSO and other districts and areas.

As you can see Accessibilities has a very broad range of responsibilities. The Area Special Needs Committee suggested each district's help in the form of a designated individual who carries the message to the groups within each district. This is a big job but together we are confident that everyone who needs and wants the message of hope that Alcoholics Anonymous offers, will have the chance to hear it.

### Accessibility Committees at the District Level

Some AA Districts are attempting to meet such needs by forming Accessibility Committees. Since the goal is to make AA accessible, research shows that some committees refer to themselves as Special Needs or Accessibilities Committees. When one or more members of a group have special needs (such as the need for an American Sign Language interpreter or wheelchair accessibility, or have an illness which prevents them from getting to the meeting room), AA members from that group will attempt to see that those needs are met.

The members of an Accessibility Committee explore, develop and offer resources to make the AA message and participation in our program available to everyone who reaches out for it. A GSO staff member who serves on the Special Needs assignment, is available as a resource and communicates with local Special Needs Committees.

In the interests of good communication and working together, Accessibility Committees are encouraged to keep their District and local Central/Intergroup offices informed of their activities. It is also helpful to work closely with committees handling Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community in terms of keeping the public and appropriate agencies informed about AA being accessible to alcoholics with special needs.

### Area 83 Accessibility Committee

#### District Accessibility Committees

- Each district is autonomous and at the discretion of the group conscience can form an Accessibility Committee
- The primary focus of the Committee varies on the access needs requested
- Accessibility Committee can collaborate with other standing committees such as the Treatment Committee
- Budget can be created and managed by the district
  - There are a variety of ways that districts have collected funds to employ special workers
    - From the general district funds
    - Group donations that are specifically for employing special workers for interpreting or other access related expenses
    - Some groups can pass around a Special Needs can
    - Some groups donate a percentage of their funds to the committee
    - Individual AA members make donations
  - Fundraiser AA events
- The districts that do not have an official Accessibility Committee may have:
  - Volunteers for taking meetings to AA members who are house/hospital bound
  - Volunteers who help improve the number of meetings accessible for people who have mobility loss or use wheelchairs
  - Have an interpreting budget within the district budget
  - Intergroup/central service office pays the interpreting expenses

#### Survey Tools Breakdown



1. See Sample District Access Survey on page 13
2. See Sample Group Access Checklist on Page 15
3. See Sample District Special Needs/Accessibility Inventory on page 17

#### Catalog of AA Material for Accessibility

A catalog of AA material lists a wide range of literature and audiovisual material for alcoholics with special needs. For the blind and visually impaired there is recovery literature in Braille and large print, as well as audio tapes. Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions are available in American Sign Language (ASL) on VHS videos for the deaf and hard of hearing. You can go to the AA website and download a catalog or order online: [https://www.aa.org/aaquest/en\\_US/accessibilities-committees](https://www.aa.org/aaquest/en_US/accessibilities-committees)



## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

<p>Area 83 Special Needs Committee</p> <p><b>Meeting Place Accommodations</b></p> <p>Tips for Making Meetings Disability Friendly (Accessible)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Always, unlock wheelchair entrance door(s) when</li> <li>2. Keep wheelchair ramps and/or entrances clear of any obstacles which may hinder access.</li> <li>3. Space chairs and tables with adequate room for individuals with mobility devices to maneuver around the meeting area freely (without assistance).</li> <li>4. Place coffee pots back from the end of tables in a position where a cup will slide under the spout and rest on the table.</li> <li>5. Have microphone/amplifier available for chairpersons, speakers &amp; readers (seldom is a non-amplified voice loud enough for an individual who has a hearing problem).</li> <li>6. Be open to the possibility of having certified sign interpreter for an individual who is hearing impaired.</li> <li>7. Try to set up the meeting the same way each week (e.g., arrange seating, speaker podium, coffee pots, in the same place each meeting). If you move and reorganize things, it's only hiding whatever has been moved to a blind or vision impaired individual.</li> <li>8. Freely offer rides to and from meetings when possible (reasons are obvious).</li> <li>9. Don't interfere if an individual with disability is doing a task for his or herself (even if it may look awkward to you. It is okay to ask if he or she needs help, rather than just jump in and take over).</li> </ol>  <p><b>Carrying the Message to A.A.'s with Physical Disabilities and/or Chronic Illnesses</b></p> <p>Many AA members are hard of hearing or deaf, visually impaired or blind, brain injured, confined to their beds with a chronic illness, or use wheelchairs, walkers or crutches. Members of a group may feel stymied when first faced with these out of the ordinary requirements but, in fact, there are many accommodations which can be made so that alcoholics with special needs can be active, participating members of a "regular" group. Some adjustments are simple, and some are more complicated—but all are possible for the member willing to "go to any lengths" for his or her own sobriety and to help another alcoholic.</p> <p>Often AA's will take a meeting to an AA member who is home- or house-bound. "I can't tell you," one hospitalized AA reported, "what a difference it made in my mental and emotional state when those six people showed up in my room carrying the message of AA and all the love and support of our Fellowship. And they did it twice a week for three months, until I was able to make meetings again! I was so down in the dumps before, I really had sort of given up—and, to be honest, I had started thinking I might as well have a drink, since I was dying anyway. But hearing the experience, strength and hope of others in the program inspired me to fight both my illnesses—the cancer and my alcoholism. I don't know what I would have done without AA at that low point in my life."</p> <p>Accessibility Toolkit</p> <p>Page 7 of 19</p>	<p>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</p> <p>For members who aren't confined to bed, AA's in their group often drive them to and from meetings, install wheelchair ramps to the meeting room, and arrange the room so that there is ample space for wheelchairs or walkers. It is important to identify meetings accessible for wheelchair users in local meeting schedules.</p> <p>Services and material available for members who are chronically ill and/or have limited ambulatory ability include the Loner/Internationalist Meeting (LIM), a newsletter for AA members who are in isolated areas, at sea, or home- or hospital bound (known as Homers) and stay in touch with other members by mail and newsletters. A similar publication (not through G.S.O.) is World Hello, an international correspondence group. Many AAs share via computer bulletin boards and online meetings. You may contact the Online Intergroup of AA (<a href="mailto:intergroupapproval@worldid.com">intergroupapproval@worldid.com</a>) for further information. Alcoholics Anonymous, and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions are also available on CDs that run in Microsoft Windows. G.S.O. has a service piece, "Tapes for Sale and Exchange," that lists distributors of taped AA talks, and the AA Grapevine has a series of popular audiocassettes on AA subjects.</p> <p><b>Carrying the Message to the Deaf or Hard of Hearing</b></p>  <p>For members who are deaf or hard of hearing, the use of a skilled interpreter in American Sign Language (ASL) is encouraged. The Special Needs Committee can compile and maintain a list of meetings where ASL interpreters are available, as well as a list of ASL interpreters who are willing and able to sign at AA functions. The cost of ASL interpreters is a factor for many groups. In some areas, the intergroup or district committees provide financial assistance and/or help coordinate efforts to make signed meetings available.</p> <p>Some intergroup/central offices have TTY (Teletypewriter or Text Telephone) machines to enable the deaf member to readily contact the AA community. Those who do not have them use the Telecommunications Relay Service, which is offered in most communities. Either way, there should be some training in the use of this equipment so that the communication will be as smooth as possible for all concerned. They might also keep a list of deaf or hard of hearing AA members who have TTY machines and would like to network with members.</p> <p>If a deaf member comes to your group, put them in touch with someone who is willing to keep in touch through the TTY or Relay Service. It is also helpful, when speaking, to look directly at the deaf or hard of hearing member, since many can read lips. AA groups with the help of local central office/intergroup or district or area committees can initiate efforts to start new AA groups or meetings that are more accessible to deaf or hard of hearing members.</p> <p>Services and material available for the deaf and hearing impaired include the Intergroup/Central Offices Directory (those with TTY equipment are noted), and a 5-volume 1/2" VHS of Alcoholics Anonymous in ASL. Pamphlets rewritten for the deaf</p> <p>Accessibility Toolkit</p> <p>Page 8 of 19</p>
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## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

### Area 83 Accessibility Committee

or hearing-impaired alcoholic include "A Deaf Newcomer Asks," "A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous," "Translation of the Twelve Steps," "Translation of the Twelve Traditions," and "Is AA For You?" Deaf members are welcome to participate in the LIM. There is also an International Deaf Group by Mail listed under "Special International Contacts" in the regional directories published by G.S.O. For more detailed information see the AA Guidelines on Carrying the AA Message to the Deaf Alcoholic.

One AA member reminded us that, in carrying the message to the deaf alcoholic, "Try not to treat them as different or special but allow them freedom to participate in a typical AA meeting."

"The main thing to remember is that deaf alcoholics have the same problem as anyone else. While we and they may come up with a thousand reasons why they are different, let's emphasize over and over "Don't drink. Keep coming back."

For the purpose of these guidelines we will use the term "deaf." There are other people who are hard of hearing, either permanently or temporarily. People who are deaf or hard of hearing are all unique, and there is a variety of ways to communicate with them: sign language, speechreading, writing, typing, and TTY, for example.

Often, sign language is the most effective way to communicate, and many groups use sign language interpreters to help carry the message to deaf members. In a pinch, you can try writing back and forth. But keep in mind that English is not the first language of many deaf people—sign language is! So, whenever possible, use sign language—either directly or through an interpreter. If you do have to write, keep it simple and brief. Encourage the newcomer to take AA literature and invite them to come to another meeting. A smile, a handshake and a cup of coffee speak the language of the heart, which we can all hear.

#### Sign Language Interpreters

If there is a need for an interpreter try to arrange to have a sign language interpreter at the meetings that deaf alcoholics attend. The deaf member may be able to bring an interpreter. If not, try to make arrangements through a local agency or check with your local special needs committee, intergroup or central office, general service district or area committee to see if they have any experience with the situation.

Qualified interpreters are professional people who charge fees for their services. Experience suggests that most groups will agree to have a non-AA attend its closed meetings to act as interpreter for the deaf alcoholic. Professional ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters adhere to a strict code of ethics, which assures the confidentiality of the AA meeting.

Some AA groups cover this expense. Sometimes an agency will take care of the expense. On occasion, local area committees, districts, and central/intergroup offices have authorized payment for interpreters. Professional interpreters who are also AA

### Area 83 Accessibility Committee

members sometimes are willing to volunteer their services. Occasionally advanced students of interpreting will do the job at no fee for the experience gained. Be careful of placing too much reliance on volunteers, as deaf members rely on these services and there should be stability in whether the meeting is interpreted or not.

Experience shared with G.S.O. indicates that numerous areas have formed Special Needs Committees and this experience seems to indicate that these committees can be a partial solution to funding the cost of signers. Groups are encouraged to contribute and designate funds for these committees. Sometimes a group will pay half of the cost for interpreters with the fund providing the other half.

Whatever arrangements are made should be based on a group conscience decision arrived at after full discussion at a business meeting. Is the group willing to cover the expense of this service, or does it wish to appoint someone to contact the central office or a professional agency about providing an interpreter? In order to welcome the deaf person and the interpreter and make the newcomer feel that he or she is an important addition to the group, it is important that a full consensus on these points be reached in advance. The interpreters should be introduced to the group before meetings.

Initially, it may be difficult to convey feelings through another person, so try to communicate as directly as possible. It is important to have the deaf person's attention before speaking. He or she may need a wave of the hand, a tap on the shoulder or some sort of signal that you wish to communicate. Many deaf people have some training or experience in speechreading (also known as lip-reading). However, this varies widely with individuals. Effective speechreading also requires very specific conditions: the speaker should not be chewing gum or eating, should not have an accent or a mustache, and there should be no back lighting. If a deaf person indicates that he or she can speech-read, try to follow these guidelines. Also, speak slowly and clearly, but don't exaggerate. Look directly at the person while speaking. If you are called on to read something while an interpreter is signing, read slowly and clearly. Try to furnish the interpreter with the text beforehand, as formal writing is more difficult to interpret quickly.


#### AA Events and Conferences

Deaf AA members may need a few special considerations when attending an AA event. For those who have a fair amount of hearing and/or who read lips, seating near the speaker may be all that is required. Others who are deaf may require the use of a sign language interpreter. Here are some points to consider when planning a conference or meeting that will be attended by deaf AAs.

Reserve interpreters well ahead of time because they are usually in great demand. Budget the interpreting expenses. Find out early what the estimated cost will be, whether by the hour or by the day. If you are holding concurrent workshops, you may need more than one interpreter. If your event is small (and short) you may be fortunate to find a qualified volunteer, but do not expect to rely on volunteers. In designating preferred seating for deaf members, cordon off the reserved area and clearly indicate "Please reserve for deaf members," and ask that people refrain from walking in front of the



## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

<p><b>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</b></p> <p>section as it will cause the deaf members to be cut off from the speaker and the interpreter.</p> <p>Sensitize workshop leaders and meeting chairpersons to the use of the interpreter. In this way, those members who depend on the interpreter will not be deprived of opening remarks or keynote speakers.</p> <p>Stick with your plans once you have announced that an event is to be interpreted. Deaf people are very likely to travel far for the few events that are interpreted. If the event has concurrent meetings and workshops, plan for the availability of at least one interpreter per time block. Ask the deaf participants at the outset which workshops they plan to attend.</p> <p>If you are listing the event with the General Service Office, your local intergroup/central office or in any AA publication, specify that it is sign language interpreted. If possible, have a TTY number that deaf people can call for more information.</p> <p><b>Blind or Visually Impaired</b></p>  <p>For AA members who are blind or visually impaired, simply getting to the meeting room can be the biggest problem. The Special Needs Committee can compile and maintain a list of sighted members who are willing to provide transportation to and from meetings and other AA functions. Several groups have asked their local central office or intergroup to code Twelfth Step lists to identify members who are willing to provide transportation. Volunteers may be recruited to guide the blind or visually impaired newcomer to chairs, the hospitality table and rest rooms, until that member is acquainted with the surroundings. Meeting rooms should always be set up exactly the same way, or else the blind or visually impaired members should be alerted to what's different. Banging into a chair or a table in what was empty space at the prior meeting can be both dangerous and embarrassing.</p> <p>Services and material available to help the blind or visually impaired alcoholic include books and pamphlets available in Braille, in large print, and/or on audiocassette tape, and a list of suppliers of AA talks for sale or exchange.</p> <p><b>Easy to Read Literature</b></p> <p>Some alcoholics are unable to take advantage of the wealth of supportive and informative literature in AA. If you become aware that a member might have a limited ability to read, there are several ways to be helpful without embarrassing him or her.</p> <p>For instance, when your group's literature chairperson announces which books and pamphlets are available at that meeting, he or she can also mention the numerous books, pamphlets and Grapevine articles which are available on audiotape. Or, if you think a member of your group might have limited reading skills, you can structure your Step and Traditions meetings so that the Step or Tradition is read aloud at the beginning of the meeting—which is great for everyone!</p> <p>Accessibility Toolkit</p> <p>Page 11 of 19</p>	<p><b>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</b></p> <h1>Sample Surveys</h1> <p>Accessibility Toolkit</p> <p>Page 12 of 19</p>
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## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

<p style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 10px;"><u>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</u></p> <p><b>District Accessibility Survey</b></p> <p>District # _____ Date _____</p> <p>DCM's Name _____</p> <p>Phone # &amp; Email address _____ / _____</p> <p><b>Has the district had any of the following access need requests over the last 5 years?</b></p> <p>Yes or No</p> <p><b>How did the district provide access to AA members:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who are isolated? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who are Deaf? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who are Hard of Hearing? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who are oral deaf or late-deafened? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Whose primary language is not English? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who have limited reading and writing skills? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who have a speech disability? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who are blind or have low vision? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who have had a head injury? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who are dual diagnosed (mental health &amp; alcohol abuse)? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who use a cane, crutches, a walker or a wheelchair? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who have a mobility loss or use a wheelchair? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Who bring children to the meeting? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the district have an Accessibility Committee? Yes or No</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> If not, which district committee member helps to address accessibility access?</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">Accessibility Toolkit</p>	<p style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 10px;"><u>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Would the district be willing to budget for an Accessibility? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the district have special needs and/or access information available from GSO?</p> <p>Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the district have a sign-up sheet for temporary sponsors who know Sign Language or Spanish? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do closed meetings in the district welcome hearing-impaired alcoholics? Yes / No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the district budget funds to employ special workers when needed? i.e., ASL Interpreters? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If a hearing-impaired alcoholic wants to attend AA meetings, what procedure does the district use to set up a sign language interpreted meeting for that person? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do any of the AA meetings, business meetings, or special events use facilities that have Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) for Hard of Hearing? Yes or No</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Are the district members familiar with what ALDs are? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do any of the groups, business meetings, or special events use Real-Time Captioning (RTC)? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do any of the groups, business meetings, or special events use facilities that provide Braille signage? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the district Literature Committee stock the literature available in the Special Needs catalog? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are the accessible meetings easy to find in the meeting directory or your website or printed copy? Yes or No</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">Accessibility Toolkit</p>
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## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

<p style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 10px;"><u>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</u></p> <p><b>Group Accessibilities Survey</b></p> <p>Group Name: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>GSR's Name: _____</p> <p>Phone # &amp; Email address: _____ / _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the district have a website? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are the group members familiar with Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) and how to find out if the facility has them? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If a Deaf alcoholic makes contact with someone in the group and requests attending the meeting, what is the procedure they would follow to arrange for a sign language interpreter? Use backside of the paper. Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Would the group be willing to pass a second AA basket to donate funds to the district for Special/Access Needs? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the group or district have the following AA literature available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o AA literature available in American Sign Language? Yes or No</li> <li>o AA closed captioned videotape? Yes or No</li> <li>o AA literature available on CDs, in Braille and large print? Yes or No</li> <li>o Easy to read AA literature? Yes or No</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the meeting accessible for AA members with mobility loss? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the facility wheelchair accessible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Is the meeting wheelchair accessible? Yes or No</li> <li>o Is the restroom wheelchair accessible? Yes or No</li> <li>o Is the parking wheelchair accessible? Yes or No</li> <li>o Is there wheelchair accessible seating? Yes or No</li> <li>o Is the entry door used for the meeting wheelchair accessible? Yes or No</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"><u>Accessibility Toolkit</u> <span style="float: right;">Page 15 of 19</span></p>	<p style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 10px;"><u>Area 83 Accessibility Committee</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the access information posted in the meeting schedule? Yes or No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the facility have Braille Signage? Yes or No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o If so, is it posted in the meeting schedule? Yes or No</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does the group have a sign up sheet for service work volunteers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o To give rides to the meeting? Yes or No</li> <li>o Provide childcare during the meeting time? Yes or No</li> <li>o Take AA meetings to members of the group when they become house/hospital bound? Yes or No</li> <li>o To assist AA members who are blind? Yes or No</li> <li>o List of temporary sponsors who know ASL or another language? Yes or No</li> <li>o Other (specify) _____</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Findings and/or Comments</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"><u>Accessibility Toolkit</u> <span style="float: right;">Page 16 of 19</span></p>
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## Special Needs/Accessibility

[illegible]

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Click on Links below or go to Alcoholics Anonymous website <http://www.aa.org/>

A.A. For the Older Alcoholic | Large Print

(P-22)  
(P-56)

(P-56)  
(P-57)

(P-57)  
(P-83)

(P-83)  
(F-10)

(F-411)

## [M]-48

<u>Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs</u>	(MG-1)
<u>Carrying the A.A. Message to the Deaf Alcoholic</u>	(MG-1)

Online Meetings*	(SMF-124)
<u>Loners-Internationalists Meeting Information Sheet (LIM)</u>	(SMF-123)

Box 459: Sign of the Times (Spring 2014) [F-36]  
About A.A.: A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs (Spring 2014) [F-13C]

CATALOG/ORDER FORMS:

Literature Catalog (includes A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine material) (F-10)

(P-36)

[P-38]

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For more information, please contact the GSO's [Special Needs/Accessibility desk](#)

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## Appendix C *continued* Draft Accessibility Tool Kit

### Area 83 Accessibility Committee

#### References

1. AA Oregon Area 58. (2015). Oregon Area Special Needs/Accessibility Committee. Retrieved from AA Oregon Area 58. <http://www.aa-oregon.org/access.htm>
2. AA World Services. (2015). Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs. Retrieved from Alcoholics Anonymous. [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/Smc-16\\_servingalcoholics.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/Smc-16_servingalcoholics.pdf)
3. AA World Services. I. (2015). Special Needs. Retrieved from Alcoholics Anonymous. [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/aa-literature/en-48i-special-needsaccessibilities-workbook](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/aa-literature/en-48i-special-needsaccessibilities-workbook)
4. Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (2015). The AA Group. Retrieved from Alcoholics Anonymous. [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/literature-committee/sp-16-the-aa-group](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/literature-committee/sp-16-the-aa-group)
5. Area 62 Special Needs Committee. (2005-14). Special Needs Committee. Retrieved from Area 62 South Carolina. <http://area62.org/committees/specialneeds.htm>

#### Disclaimer

The material presented in this toolkit are not endorsed nor approved by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. The material is provided by Area 83 Accessibility Committee through the research of other Areas around the United States and Canada as part of its 12th Step work in reaching out to the alcoholic who still suffers. Some of the items in this toolkit were originally published by AA World Services, Inc., or the AA Grapevine, Inc., but do not assume that this implies continued approval by the General Service Conference for their use in these pages. Alcoholics Anonymous®, AA®, and The Big Book® are registered trademarks of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. The Grapevine® and AA Grapevine® are registered trademarks of The AA Grapevine, Inc.

#### Contact Information

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## Appendix D Recommendations from Ad Hoc Committee to Review Area 83 Operating Procedures: that were reviewed at September 7, 2019 Area Committee meeting

### Category I: It has always been the secretary's responsibility to:

correct language and punctuation, without changing the meaning. The items listed here have already been approved by the ACM and/or the Assembly and are the responsibility of the Secretary to incorporate into the Operating Procedures.

A. We recommend that the secretary makes housekeeping modifications to the Operating Procedures that do not change the meaning or intent of the language. This falls under the responsibility of the Secretary.

- Grammar, punctuation, spelling, maintain gender neutrality
- Global secretarial changes that are not reflected in part B (below), or as comments on the margins of the Reformatted Operating Procedures

Original Word or Term	Updated Word or Term	Note
Chairperson	Chair	At least 93 instances
AA	A.A.	
Service Manual	The A.A. Service Manual	
DCM's	DCMs	
GSR's	GSRs	
Elections	elections	(when it is not a title)
SID	Service information Day	
Web Master	Webmaster	

- Add Registrar to the Area Officers list in Appendix 4 – page 1 in the Introduction
- Remove Appendix 4 – page 10 and add a row to the chart on page 11 for **1/3 of total votes cast**

B. We recommend that the secretary updates the Operating Procedures to include these motions that were passed but incorrectly or not added to the Operating Procedures.

#### 1) *October 2017 – Motion to Remove from Section III, 18 and add under Section III, 17:*

Accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Archives in Area 83 to Add to operating procedures section III Responsibilities under Area Archives Chairperson: "The Area Archives Chairperson shall report the activities of the Archivist to the Area Committee and Assembly."

**Correction:** Moved from 3.18 Area Archivist to 3.16 Area Archives Chair in the modified Ops as indicated in the margin

#### 2) *March 2005 - Motion to aid in the coordination of the Bridging the Gap Temporary Contact Program within Area 83 and with other Areas to be added to the outline of the responsibilities for the Area 83 Treatment Chair and the Area 83 Corrections Chair in the Area 83 Operating Procedures*

**Correction:** insert reference to Bridging the Gap as follows

**Under Section 3.12:** The Chair shall liaise, with the Districts' and Intergroups' Correctional Facilities Committees and shall provide assistance (i.e., **Bridging the Gap**), when requested, in accordance with the *Workbook for Correctional Facilities*.

**Under Section 3.13:** Similar insertion for the Treatment/Accessibility.

#### 3) *March 2002 - Motion to recommend to the Area Assembly to modify the Area Committee Operating Procedures, Section III Expenses by*

Change : "opening/banquet speakers on Assembly weekends" TO: "workshop chairpersons/banquet speakers on Assembly weekends".

**Correction:** Under 7.01 : "workshop chairs/banquet speaker on Assembly weekends".

#### 4) *October 2018 – Motion to increase travel expense reimbursement from \$0.35/km to \$0.40/km*

**Correction:** In section 7.01 General

After the words "cost of travel" add: (at a rate of \$0.40/km)

- 5) *March 2018 – Motion to print a poster sized version of the [Assembly] agenda and place it in the atrium.*

**Correction:** Add to 3.07 Secretary

The secretary will print a poster-sized version of the Service Information Day agenda to be placed in the atrium.

- 6) *October 2012 – Motion was made to add: “The Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster is **required** to attend the Area Committee Meeting and the Area Assembly.”*

Friendly amendment, to change the wording to "**suggested** to attend the Area Committee meeting and the Area Assembly" was passed but the motion with the word **required** was entered in the Operating Procedures under the Responsibilities of the Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster.

**Correction:** Under 3.19 Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster

**Change:** The Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster is **required** to attend the Area Committee Meeting and the Area Assembly."

**To:** The Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster is **suggested** to attend the Area Committee Meeting and the Area Assembly."

- 7) *In October 2007 there was a motion to: To amend Area 83 Operating Procedures under section III, Expenses Sub-Section 4, bequests in wills, the second sentence should be*

changed to: “the limit for such bequests is three thousand dollars **\$3,000.**” From “the limit for such bequests is two thousand dollars **\$2,000**” to reflect the recent change by the General Service Conference.

Our Current Operating Procedures state:

Bequests in Wills are acceptable only from members of Alcoholics Anonymous. The limit for such bequests is three thousand dollars (**\$5,000**) and must be on a one-time-only basis and not in perpetuity.

**Correction:**

**Change:** \$5000 To: \$3000

### Category 3: Requires the approval of the Area Committee and then the Assembly

#### 33) Preface

**Change:**

Throughout this document, the meaning of words and phrases specific to A.A. shall be defined in the most recent edition of *The A.A. Service Manual* **A copy of the Operating Procedures for Area 83 - Eastern Ontario International hereinafter referred to as “Area 83”) Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings should be held by:**

**To:**

Throughout this document, the meaning of words and phrases specific to A.A. shall be defined in the most recent edition of *The A.A. Service Manual*. **“Area 83 - Eastern Ontario International” shall be hereinafter referred to as “Area 83”. A copy of the Assembly and Area Committee Operating Procedures for Area 83 should be held by:**

#### 34) 1.01 Name

**Change:**

The Assembly shall be known as the Area 83 Assembly, hereinafter called the **Area Assembly**.

**To:**

The Assembly shall be known as the Area 83 Assembly, hereinafter called the **Assembly**.

#### 35) 3.03 Area Chair

**Add:**

**(The Area Chair is eligible to vote at bi-annual and interim elections of the Area Officers and the sub-committee chairs as stated in section 4.02)**

#### 36) 3.05 Alternate Delegate

**Change:** In the event of the absence of the Area Chair and the Alternate Delegate from any Assembly, **members** shall **select** a Chair for that Assembly only.

**To:** In the event of the absence of the Area Chair and the Alternate Delegate from any Assembly, **voting members of that Assembly** shall **elect** a Chair for that Assembly only.

*37) 3.07 Secretary*

**Change:** for recording the minutes of the **Assemblies**, compiling and updating

**To:** for recording the minutes of the **Area Committee Meetings, Assemblies**, compiling and updating

*38) 3.07 Secretary*

**Change:** **address** lists

**To:** **contact** lists

*39) 3.07 Secretary*

**Change:** “**postage**”

**To:** “**printing**”

*40) 3.07 Secretary*

**Change:** as well as **information on all Districts in the Area**

**To:** as well as **contact details for all District positions in the Area**

*41) 3.07 Secretary*

**Change:** all records of **Assemblies; and, other**

**To:** all records of **Area Committee Meetings, Assemblies, and other**

*42) 3.08 Treasurer*

**Change:** Each year, the Treasurer shall prepare a **Financial Statement** to be presented to the Spring Assembly.

**To:** Each year, the Treasurer shall prepare **Spending Guidelines** to be presented to the Spring Assembly.

*43) 3.09 Registrar*

**Change:** “**roll call forms**”

**To:** “**registration sign-in sheets**”

*44) 3.16 Area Archives Chair*

5 references to service zones

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

**Zone 1: Districts 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 22**

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

**Zone 3: Districts 34, 36, 66**

**Zone 4: Districts 42, 48, 50**

**Zone 5: Districts 54, 58, 62**

**Zone 6: Districts 70, 74, 78**

*45) 3.18 Area Archivist*

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

**CLARIFICATION** Who makes up this Area Archives Committee to be consulted regarding the appointment of the Area Archivist? (outgoing Archivist and Archives chair?)

Should it be the Archives Chair that is consulted?

*46) Section 4: Election Procedures*

Add: **Table of Eligibility**

*47) 7.03 In Memoriam Fund*

**Change:** Upon the death of any member of the Area Committee, a donation of one hundred dollars [\$100.00] shall be made to the *In Memoriam* Fund at the General Service Office.

**To:** Upon the death of any **current** member of the Area Committee, a donation of one hundred dollars [\$100.00] shall be made to the *In Memoriam* Fund at the General Service Office.

*48) January 2008 - Motion that any unexpected expense outside Area 83 require Area Committee approval in advance.*

**Recommendation:** add under 7.01 "Any unexpected expense outside Area 83 require Area Committee approval in advance."

## Additional Items to consider

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

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

*50) Motion to add under 3.03 Area Chair:*

**Before the end of their term, the Area Chair together with the Area Secretary, shall ensure that all motions passed over the term have been accurately incorporated into the Operating Procedures.**

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

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

*52) Motion in 3.17 after "The Delegate shall select the Saturday night dinner speaker" to add the words:*  
**whose name is to be included on the Service Information Day Agenda.**

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

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