

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Virtual Area Assembly Minutes

October 24, 2021

Contents

1.	OPENING	4
2.	REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA	9
3.	REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF SPRING ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY MARCH 28, 2021	9
4.	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS	9
	DISTRICT 02 MALTON	9
	DISTRICT 06 MISSISSAUGA	10
	DISTRICT 10 TORONTO SOUTH CENTRAL	11
	DISTRICT 12 TORONTO SOUTH WEST	11
	DISTRICT 14 TORONTO NORTH CENTRAL	12
	DISTRICT 16 DISTRICTO HISPANO DE TORONTO	12
	DISTRICT 18 TORONTO CITY EAST	12
	DISTRICT 22 SCARBOROUGH	13
	DISTRICT 26 LAKESHORE WEST	13
	DISTRICT 28 LAKESHORE EAST	14
	DISTRICT 30 QUINTE WEST	14
	DISTRICT 34 QUINTE EAST	15
	DISTRICT 36 KINGSTON & THE ISLANDS	15
	DISTRICT 42 ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL	16
	DISTRICT 48 SEAWAY VALLEY NORTH	16
	DISTRICT 50 CORNWALL	17
	DISTRICT 54 OTTAWA RIDEAU	17
	DISTRICT 58 OTTAWA BYTOWN	17
	DISTRICT 62 OTTAWA WEST	17
	DISTRICT 66 GOLDEN TRIANGLE	18
	DISTRICT 70 RENFREW PONTIAC	18
	DISTRICT 74 PEMBROKE	18
	DISTRICT 78 MADAWASKA VALLEY	19
	DISTRICT 82 VICTORIA HALIBURTON	19
	DISTRICT 86 KAWARTHA	19
5.	COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS	20
	A. PUBLIC INFORMATION	JACK R. 20
	B. COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY	JO D. 21
	C. CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES	MARTY M. 22
	D. TREATMENT FACILITIES	TIM F. 23
	E. GRAPEVINE	JANE S. 24
	F. SELF-SUPPORT	BEV H. 25
	G. ARCHIVES	SHANE H. 26
	H. ACCESSIBILITIES	JENNY C. 27
	I. SERVICE INFORMATION DAY COMMITTEE	TREVOR F. 27
	J. WEBMASTER / WEBSITE	GEORGE M. 28
6.	TREASURER'S REPORT	DAVE L. 29
7.	SECRETARY'S REPORT	JO ANN P. 30
8.	ROLL CALL AND REGISTRAR'S REPORT	BILL C. 31
9.	ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT	JAMES O'D. 33
10.	DELEGATE'S REPORT	KIMBERLEY M. 37

11. OLD BUSINESS	39
A. RECOMMENDED BY THE AREA COMMITTEE:	39
12. NEW BUSINESS	41
A. ELECTION FOR AREA 83 NOMINEE FOR EASTERN CANADA REGIONAL TRUSTEE	
JAMES O'D, ACTING AREA CHAIR.....	41
B. REPORT ON 2019-2020 FINANCIAL AUDIT JOYCE S., PANEL 65 DELEGATE	42
C. DESTRUCTION OF 2017-2018 FINANCIAL RECORDS DAVE L., AREA 83 TREASURER	43
D. RECOMMENDED BY THE AREA COMMITTEE THAT "AREA 83 PAY UP TO \$200.00 FOR INTERPRETATION AT EASTERN CANADA REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR ONE YEAR"	44
E. RECOMMENDED BY THE AREA COMMITTEE: "THAT AREA 83 MAKE A CONTRIBUTION UP TO \$20,000 TO THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE." DAVE L., AREA 83 TREASURER	45
F. REPORT FROM THE PRE-CONFERENCE AGENDA SHARING (PCAS) AD HOC COMMITTEE	
ROB M., IMMEDIATE PAST DELEGATE	46
G. MOTION: "A VIRTUAL DELEGATES' ORIENTATION FOR EASTERN CANADA BE HELD ON THE OPPOSITE YEARS TO CERAASA/ASTECAA COMMENCING IN 2024. THE EXPENSE OF TRANSLATION WOULD BE DIVIDED BETWEEN THE 10 AREAS" KIMBERLEY M., DELEGATE	47
H. RECOMMENDED BY THE AREA COMMITTEE: "ACCEPT THE MODIFICATIONS TO AREA 83 OPERATING PROCEDURES RESULTING FROM MOTION AT SPRING ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2021 OLD BUSINESS – ITEM 11 C: "AREA 83 WEBMASTER, OR IN THEIR ABSENCE THE ALTERNATE WEBMASTER, BE GIVEN A VOTE AS WELL AS A VOICE AT THE AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND AREA ASSEMBLY." JOANN P., AREA SECRETARY	49
13. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?	50
14. NEXT ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE INFORMATION DAY	51
15. CLOSING	51
APPENDICES	53
APPENDIX A ₁ . FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS–FINANCIAL SUMMARY (OCTOBER 15, 2021)	53
APPENDIX A ₂ . FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS–DETAIL OF EXPENSES (OCTOBER 15, 2021).....	54
APPENDIX A ₃ . FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS–GROUP AND DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS (OCTOBER 15, 2021).....	55
APPENDIX B. AREA 83 FALL 2021 ASSEMBLY ROLL CALL - OCTOBER 24, 2021	56
APPENDIX C WEBMASTER TRAFFIC.....	57
APPENDIX D – REVISIONS TO THE OPERATING PROCEDURES – ITEM 12 H	58
APPENDIX E ₁ SERVICE INFORMATION DAY FALL 2021 WORKSHOP SUMMARIES.....	60
APPENDIX E ₂ SERVICE INFORMATION DAY ASK IT BASKET QUESTIONS OCTOBER23, 2021	61

Area Assembly – October 24, 2021

1. OPENING

Meeting opened at 9:10 am.

Good morning everyone. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the GSM Group in District 10, and my name is James. I have the honor and privilege of serving as Interim Area 83 Chairperson for today's Assembly. Amy's partner, Ian C., DCM D26, is in hospital and that's where her focus is needed. She sends her best wishes for a productive and fun Assembly.

Let's start this meeting with a Moment's Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. May we have that moment now.

12 Traditions	Norm B	District 12	Hill Group
12 Concepts – Short Form	Patricia A	District 10	12 Traditions Group

Welcome everybody to the Fall Assembly. Did everyone enjoy the Service Information Day yesterday? And how about the speaker meeting last night? Perhaps we can give a hand for the Service Information Day Committee and for the great line up of workshops. And thank you Mary for your wonderful talk last night.

Just a couple of points relating to the technology that should be mentioned before we begin: If you are having difficulties with weak wifi connection it is suggested to turn your video off. Bottom left corner, click on the camera icon.

We are going to **disable the chat** during the meeting, but it will be turned on during the breaks. You will be able to chat to any of the Zoom Ops, should you have any technical difficulties. While it might seem like a good idea to chat to me during the meeting, unless you have a point of order, please do not send chats to me. I want to give my full attention to chairing this meeting, so unless your comment is related to aspects of running this meeting, I would ask that you wait until the break to reach out to me.

Closed Captioning: Closed captioning for this meeting is available. At the bottom of the window, click the Live Transcript Icon to see available options. If you need an accommodation to help with this or any aspects of the meeting, please message one of the Zoom-Ops in the chat. If you are addressing the Assembly, from the Floor or during your report, please first raise your hand- which moves your video to the top of the first window, and the top of the participants panel where I can send you a request to unmute.

I would ask that you please address the committee by stating your name, position, and District before presenting your point. This is very helpful for anyone relying on Closed Captioning. If you are a fast talker, slow it down.

Introduction

This is our second Assembly of four in this term. During the remainder of the 2-year term, we will be working together to provide continued strength and direction to A.A. in Area 83. Our common goal during this term is to keep Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 vibrant and strong. Working together with open lines of communication is the key for continued Unity in our Area.

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

Area 83 stretches from Oakville in the West to Ottawa in the East, down to upper New York State and up to Algonquin Park and the Ottawa Valley. At last count, we have 584 Active Groups.

Some of us have been here before as General Service Representative or Alternate, as District Committee Member or Alternate, or as visitors. For some, it will be their first Assembly and from personal experience it can seem overwhelming! How many of you are here today attending your first Assembly? Could you raise your virtual hand please? I see quite a few hands raised. That's great!! Welcome.

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

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

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

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

I would like to remind all those present, who will be giving a report today, to give whatever highlights, are important. Written reports, when submitted to our Secretary, JoAnn, will be transcribed in full in the minutes, for all in Area 83 to read.

At this time, I would like to introduce to you our Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, Immediate and Past Delegates, appointed individuals and other visitors. If you could hold your applause till the end of each section it will speed things up a bit.

Area 83 Officers

First, our Panel 71 Delegate	Kimberley M.
The Alternate Delegate	James O'D.
Secretary	JoAnn P.
Treasurer	Dave L.
Registrar	Bill C.
Our Panel 69 Immediate Past Delegate	Rob M.
And I'm your Interim Chair today	James O'D.

Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Public Information Chair	Jack R.
Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair	Jo D.
Correctional Facilities Chair	Marty M.
Treatment	Tim F.
Accessibilities	Jenny C.
Grapevine Chair	Jane S.
Self-Support Chair	Bev H.
Archives Chair	Shane H.
Service Information Chair	Trevor F.

These are your Area Officers and Sub-Committee Chairs for 2021-2022.

Introduction of Previous Delegates and other distinguished guests:

Also, with us today we have:

Panel 43 Delegate Don S.; Panel 61 Delegate Robb W.; Panel 63 Delegate Mel C.; Panel 65 Delegate Joyce S.; Panel 67 Delegate Kim S.

And in **Appointed positions** we have:

Area Archivist David T.; Area Webmaster George McQ.

Also, we have with us **visitors from outside of Area 83**: Mary C, GSO Staff Member (retired) International Assignment, Jan L., Eastern Canada Regional Trustee & Percy G., P62 Delegate A86.

Housekeeping:

Registration

It is important that everyone has gone through the registration process. This should have taken place upon your arrival into the meeting. You should have talked with one of our registration team members, where they most likely changed your name to the proper naming convention. If by chance you did not go through this process when you arrived, please message one of our **Registration members** in the chat window.

Accessibility

Area 83 wants to make sure that everyone is able to participate equally. In addition to closed captioning, our ZoomOps team will be taking those who are voting and need assistance with the Polls into breakout rooms to collect your votes. That would be anyone who has let us know that you need assistance including all those who have dialed in to this meeting from a landline. If at any time you need help with your participation in the meeting, please message our ZoomOps in the chat. We will do everything to assist. If you are on the phone, remember that it is *6 to mute or unmute yourself, *9 to raise or lower hand.

Smoking/Eating area

For the comfort of all attendees, it is asked that if you need to eat or smoke, please turn off your video or wait until one of the designated breaks. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Frequency of meetings

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

The Assembly meets twice a year – Usually the last full weekend in March and October, later under Agenda Item 15 we will decide on a date for the Spring 2022 Assembly. The Area committee, which is comprised of the Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, and District Committee Members, will meet three times this year. We have already met in January, June and September. Our next Area Committee Meeting will be on January 8th. Please note that anyone can attend Area Committee Meetings as observers. The meeting details including Agenda are available on the Area 83 website at least 6 weeks prior to the next meeting.

The schedule of tentative dates for the remaining meetings of this term will be posted in the minutes.

Year	Date	Status	Type of Meeting	Where
2021	October 22-24	Confirmed	Area Assembly	Virtual
2022	January 8	Confirmed ¹	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church/Virtual
2022	March 25-27	Confirmed ²	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2022	June 4	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2022	September 10	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2022	October 28-30	Tentative	Area Assembly	Ambassador Hotel
2022	December 3	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

¹Voted and approved at this (October 24) Assembly, see agenda [item 14](#) in these minutes.

²**NOTE:** At the last Area Committee Meeting on September 11th, under Agenda Item 15- the Area Committee voted to have the Next Area Committee Meeting on January 8th and the format to be hybrid (virtual and in-person). At present, the Westminster United Church would not allow us to meet in their facility. I will be in touch with our Liaison at the end of November to determine if an in-person component will even be possible. So please watch for communications at the end of November regarding the ACM meeting format.

SEVENTH TRADITION

The 7th tradition will be collected today by digital means. Over the course of the Assembly our Treasurer will be posting in the Chat window the available methods of making a digital contribution to Area 83.

WHO VOTES?

Only members of the Assembly may vote.

These are:

- All Area Officers, including the Immediate Past Delegate, but not the Chair.
- All Area Sub-Committee Chairs
- Area Webmaster, or in their absence, the Alternate Webmaster may vote.
- All District Committee Members of Districts in Area 83; in their absence, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote.
- All General Service Representatives of Groups in Area 83, in their absence, the Group's Alternate General Service Representative. In their absence, a member of the registered Group may vote. This includes the General Service Representatives of recognized Correctional Facilities groups. There is one vote per person.

VOTING

For anything requiring a vote we will be using the polling feature. There will be three options: For, Against and Abstain. You may notice some people have 2 devices in the session (Secretary and Webmaster), this is strictly because they will be sharing their screen at times and that can only be done by a co-host. Everyone who has a second device in the session will have their second device designated as a co-host, so they do not have the ability to vote on that device.

DISCUSSION/RAISING HAND

If you would like to address the committee (as though you were approaching the mic) to make a motion, second a motion, share a new perspective or ask a question, please raise your virtual hand using the RAISE HAND FUNCTION. Zoom will keep people in a queue in the order in which the hands are raised. If you are connecting with us by a landline telephone, to raise your hand it is *9.

When you have been recognized by the chair, please identify yourself by Name, Service Position and District. Please come to the virtual mic with your thoughts formulated and refrain from extraneous comments.

Reminder: if your idea or comment has already been presented, please lower your hand. Your humility and cooperation in this regard is appreciated.

VOICE OF THE MINORITY

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

CALLING THE QUESTION

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

WHO MAY ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY?

- Only voting members of the Assembly have a voice. This is important for two reasons:
 - It keeps the focus on the fact that the Assembly is the business meeting of the Area – Assembly members are carrying and presenting their Groups' wishes, rather than their own.
 - And it maximizes the time available for those members to voice their Groups' opinions and needs.
- All who are attending may say their piece during sharing time. I would ask for your cooperation on this. If you don't have a vote, as I just described, please keep your input for sharing time, which is scheduled as Item 13 on the Agenda. At that time everyone is welcome to participate, and their opinions will be listened to.
- On the topic of sharing time, please, if you can, stay until the end of the Assembly. I realize it may feel like a long day in front of your computer, but the Assembly truly isn't over until it's over. We have asked our guests and visitors to have their say during sharing time, and as hosts, it's polite to stay and hear their views. It's also quite possible that something important will be said.
- To allow me to facilitate discussions, when you are ready to speak and you have been recognized, please identify yourself by name, position, Group and District number.

Floor Motions

If you are making a floor motion for the Assembly to consider today, it would be much appreciated if you would write your motion out and give it to our secretary, JoAnn, before addressing the Assembly.

HOW DO WE VOTE?

Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by 'substantial unanimity'. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority which is 2/3 of the votes cast each time. As we cannot control who is in the room at the time of each vote, it is impractical to use the roll-call as the basis for the 2/3 calculation.

I believe that the first part of the agenda today can be handled under simple majority – 1 vote more than 50%. The items under old and new business are of such a nature to be under 2/3 majority and I will ask for a motion when we get to that point in the agenda. If, at any time, you think that we should move to a 2/3 majority, please make the motion.

At times, I may ask for a show of hands to get a 'sense of the meeting'. This is not a vote. We will do this by clicking the green Yes button or Red No button. We will use these buttons to gauge the feeling of the voting members.

For any items requiring a vote we will be using the polling feature. Going forward, to vote on a motion there will always be three options: For, Against and Abstain. I will be sure to give enough time for all voting members to cast your vote. The poll will be visible to everyone, but please, only vote if you have a vote.

Again, if someone is calling in by phone or needing assistance, we will move you into a breakout room and one of our ZoomOps will collect your vote. This may take a little time, but it is important that everyone can participate equally in this meeting.

May I have a motion to operate on simple majority?

- **Motion for simple majority**

Moved:	Bill W.	District 14	District Committee Member
Seconded:	Jayne	District 28	Keep it Simple Group GSR
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	88		
All those opposed:	none		
Any abstentions:	4		
Motion:	Carried		

2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED

None

NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED including Floor Motions

None

- **Motion to accept the agenda as presented**

Moved:	Janet C.	District 66	Land O'Lakes Group GSR
Seconded:	Dianne M.	District 14	Street Level Sobriety Group GSR
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	87		
All those opposed:	none		
Any abstentions:	8		
Motion:	Carried		

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF Spring ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY March 28, 2021

A link to the minutes has been available on the agenda since it was originally circulated so that you would have ample time to review them. Therefore, it should be okay to consider any ERRORS OR OMISSIONS in the minutes of March 28, 2021 as distributed?

- **Motion to accept minutes of the Spring Assembly, March 28, 2021, as circulated.**

Moved:	Tim F.	Area	Treatment Chair
Seconded:	Fred R.	District 86	South End Group GSR
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	89		
All those opposed:	none		
Any abstentions:	6		
Motion:	Carried		

4. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

The District Committee Members' verbal reports are limited to 2 minutes.

The 2-minute time will be controlled by our Zoom Techs, and it will appear in one of the participant windows. It will be set to 2 minutes. You should complete your report in this allotted time. Written reports, which are also requested, may be as long as needed, and will be included, in their entirety in the minutes of this Assembly if a copy is given to JoAnn, our Secretary.

Order of reports has been randomized and is reflected in the Agenda. I will announce who is up and who is on deck. If you are "on deck", please raise your hand, so that you will pop to the front screen and be ready to unmute yourself and give your report. Please clearly state your name, your position and your District before presenting your report, thank you.

District 02 Malton

Good Moring my name is Patrick B. and I'm an alcoholic. It is my honour and privilege to serve as District Committee Member for District 2 Malton.

District 2 is doing well financially. We have decided to hold off on contributions to the three entities for now until Covid-19 passes. We are receiving contributions via e transfer directly to our District 2 bank account. We continue to hold District 2 business meetings on Zoom on the second Sunday of every month.

We have had our Treatment Chair position filled by Anya H. of The Last Chance Group who returned to District. I have also received word from Brampton Recovery Group that they will be opening and their GSR will be returning to the District table. So, although attendance is still low, these are good signs. Groups are starting to reopen for in person meetings throughout the District and my hope is this will lead to higher attendance at the District table.

I received a call yesterday and was advised that the Bramalea Group has closed. I have not yet formally confirmed that but will do so in the next week.

We will continue to reach and communicate to all GSRs and subcommittee chairs in an effort to stir up enthusiasm and stress the importance of service in our District. We will keep pushing forward to keep District 2 alive. That is all for now for District 2.

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Patrick B.

District 06 Mississauga

Good morning friends, my name is Jill, alcoholic and a member of the Erin Mills Group and currently have the privilege of serving District 6 as their District Committee Member.

District 6 is doing well. We remain a very healthy, vibrant and financially stable District within Area 83. Over the past 6 months, we have been able to disburse \$3,000.00 to the General Service Office and \$1,000.00 to Area 83.

For the past 6 months, attendance at the District has been around 50%. Historically, our District tends to have lower attendance during the summer months but we're not seeing that pick up we normally do in the fall. However, based on our formula, we've had quorum and were able to proceed with District business. Our Alternate District Committee Member, Marrey P and myself plan to target some of the groups in November & December that used to have General Service Representatives at the monthly meeting but haven't returned since the summer. We plan to ask for feedback on their absence. For example, is it because we are meeting virtually, do they prefer in person District meetings?

Since the Spring Assembly, we've had 2 new groups join the District; 2 groups that may be moving to Inactive status, and one new group still listed as "pending active". Currently, 37 registered groups form District 6. Thirteen of our group have the transition back to some form of an in-person meeting. After a discussion during our August meeting, the District has voted to continue to meet virtually until the end of the year.

To keep the meetings interesting and more informative over the summer months, we had presentations from Tim F, Area 83 Treatment and Bev H, Area 83 Self-Support Chair. I've also had the opportunity, again with the magic of being virtual, using the "Did You Know" tag to show the District the many resources at their fingertips that can be found on the Area 83 website, and aa.org. Such as, how to subscribe to an electronic copy of the Box 4-5-9 newsletter, which becomes an easy drop into their group's chat feature for sharing the news from GSO with home group members.

Our Sub-Committee Chair positions are filled, with the exception of a Public Information Chair. During the past 6 months, we welcomed Rebecca V, as our Treatment Chair; Mike C, as our Accessibilities Chair; Tiffany W, as our Intergroup Liaison; and Lou-Anne Z as Alternate Chair for Self-Support. We still have several vacancies within the Alternate Chair positions, but perhaps next year many General Service Representative will raise their hands having had their first year under their belts.

Our District is actively carrying the message to a Women's Treatment facility via Zoom; and have recently re-opened a weekly AA meeting at a shelter facility. Our Treatment Chair, Rebecca, is in regular communication with these facilities, and all literature supplies have been re-stocked. Great job Rebecca.

Committee chairs provide the District with monthly reports summarizing their activities within their respective Committees and keep the District well informed. Thank you to each and every one of you for your hard work during these challenging times.

Yours in love & service, Jill B

District 10 Toronto South Central

Hi everyone. My name is Ann J. and I'm an Alcoholic. I'm a member of the Eglinton Park group in Toronto and am honored to currently be serving as DCM for District 10, Toronto South Central.

Overview of Groups and Participation:

District 10 currently has 24 active groups including a broad and diverse range of: ages, social demographics, gender identities, some that are LGBTQ+, and a secular group. We average 22-25 attendees at our monthly meetings, including 16 GSR's & Alt's who regularly attend each month, a great turnout enabling information exchange and a true sense of team. We're very grateful that we have a healthy voting quorum each month.

People and Positions/ Service Commitments and Service Committees:

As of October, we have all positions filled except 3: Self-support, Grapevine and CPC. We had an unusual flux in positions in 3rd quarter for various reasons, including some committee members not having the time for the work, or the position not being what they were expecting. It's highlighted the need for us to be clear, in some cases, about nature of the role as well as the time commitment they require. The GSR's are taking these positions to our groups, and we hope to fill these positions in the next couple of months.

I'd like to sincerely thank those who departed, as well as those who have joined, for their service and commitment. We also welcome a new ADCM, Paddy A from the Twelve Traditions group.

Our Service commitments have also been in flux with Women's Own closing its doors and becoming part of a larger health network. We hope that we can begin meetings with them when they settle into their new environment. CAMH had canceled but is now re-introducing meetings again, and Maxwell Meighan is still in start-up. Our new Treatment Chair Dana J is working with all our partners to establish a fuller schedule of meetings

Finances & District Activities:

Each month we have one to two contributions from our groups and with very few expenses, we are in good financial shape. The table will be voting on a motion to contribute \$1000 each to both Area and GSO at our upcoming monthly meeting. The District 10 Operating Procedures ad hoc committee is about 90% done, with almost all of the proposed changes passed through motions. We are voting on the last two major changes at our next meetings and are hopeful that the updated manual will be in circulation by the end of 2021 as planned.

Group Activities: What do our District AA meetings look like right now?

Return to in-person meetings has been slow, as has been the reopening of their host venues. 23 of our 24 groups continue online, and some are running hybrid and/or in-person meetings. A number of groups are discussing in-person reopening dates, and some are looking for new venues to call home as they aren't able to go back to their past venues.

In Summary:

Again, it's such a pleasure and I'm and so grateful to be able to be part of a team that is so enthusiastic, motivated, and engaged. Thank you all for your time this morning and for allowing me to be of service.

Yours in Love and Service, Ann J.

District 12 Toronto South West

Good Morning, I'm an alcoholic, member for The Prince Edward Group, District Committee Member for District 12 Toronto South West and my name is Sean King. I've recently had surgery so my report will be brief.

We recently had our Alternate DCM position vacant but am in the process of electing one of our members at the table. Our Finances are in good shape. All of our sub-committee chairs are filled which is great. That's my report.

Thank you for my sobriety. Sean K.

District 14 Toronto North Central

We continue to meet monthly on Zoom. Attendance is running about 30%. Several groups have started to meet in person. Some are hybrid and many still zoom only.

Our finances are in good shape with regular donations to Area, GSO and GTAIG.

We still have several open positions for committee chairs and are hopeful they will be filled soon.

Yours in service, Bill W.

District 16 Distrito Hispano De Toronto

Hello friends, my name is Gregorio. I am an alcoholic; member of District 16 and I have the privilege of being the DCM of District 16.

I would like to report that at this point, that due to the pandemic the Hispanic District has experienced a big impact in the membership at the groups, as many members have moved away from face-to-face meetings and right now there are three out of the six groups that have opened the doors for face-to-face meetings, but membership is low, having an average of 4 to five members per meeting. The virtual meetings also have little membership and although there are several people looking for information and help, it has been difficult for them to stay in either virtual or in person meetings. Some members in the table District have left the service and we are waiting for the other 3 groups in the District to reopen their doors to start regrouping all positions needed.

Financially, the District has a small fund and we will be sending a seventh tradition to the area once we get the money from the treasurer.

We will continue representing the District and will wait for more groups to restart in person meetings and be able to attend those meetings and get more positions filled at the table of District 16. This is all I have, have a great day.

Yours in love and service, Gregorio

District 18 Toronto City East

Good morning, I am a member of Steps to Serenity, I have the honour and privilege of serving District 18 as their District Committee Member, and my name is Christine F.

District 18 has had been relatively quiet since our last Area 83 Assembly. We voted to take the summer months of July and August off and returned to District business in September. During the vacation I kept members up to date with weekly email summaries and links. Feedback from members tells me that this was effective; we kept in touch and informed.

During the vacation and up until now an ad hoc committee was formed and met to find us a new home. Our District meeting lost our home when the sponsoring home group, The Golden Mile Group, closed its doors at the start of the pandemic. We are close to bringing to the table for discussion and decision the suggested location from that committee's hard work. This new location is more centrally located within our District and is on more direct transit routes. I am uncertain if it is as accessible as our last location.

As Ontario changes safety and prevention protocols many of our home groups have begun to change their meeting formats. We have an almost equal number of meetings hosting virtual, hybrid, or parallel meetings. One homegroup has returned fully to in-person meetings.

Next month is our District Inventory, being facilitated by Rob M. our immediate past Delegate. At our December meeting we look forward to welcoming Bev H. our Self-support Area 83 Sub-committee, who will give us a brief presentation.

We look forward to the Self-Support Sub-committee presentation and sharing session on THURSDAY November 4th, 2021 7pm to 8 pm EST A copy of the poster is [HERE](#)

ZOOM ID – 826 1373 3493 PW – 397127

East Toronto Archives Breakfast, which we jointly share with District 22, has begun to plan next year's event – Ten. booked for May 1, 2022. We have not decided on the format for this event, as of yet.

The 37th GTA Archives Breakfast is moving along smoothly. Sunday November 7, 2021 10:30 am - 1:30 pm EST The virtual event poster is [HERE](#)

Planning for next year's Delegate's Report presentation at our GTA Information AA Day event, held each May, begins next week. I am pleased to hand over the 'chair-ship' of this to our incoming Intergroup Chairperson.

Our website has had 7764 visits and our Resources page has had 208 visits. Yet the position of Webmaster remains vacant. We have vacancies for Corrections, Self-Support, and Grapevine, as well.

We are financially fit as a District. We have not made any recent Seventh Tradition Contributions to either the General Service Office or Area 83.

Yours, In loving service Christine F.

District 22 Scarborough

I am a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, my home group is the Silverbirch Group, and have the honour and privilege of serving as the DCM for District 22- Scarborough.

There are 21 groups in District 22 Scarborough. The meeting status of the active groups are in a state of flux. Currently, there are seven groups meeting in person (3 in-person only, 3 offering in-person and a parallel online meeting, and one is a hybrid meeting); ten groups are on-line only; one group is meeting but not listing itself; three groups are cancelled till further notice; one group is no longer meeting. The latter's meeting space has been taken over by another noontime group associated with District 18.

Up until recently, attendance was relatively steady with 12 GSRs and alternates regularly attending and a total attendance of approximately 24 members. Participation at the District table has been dropping in the past couple of months. At are last meeting only 3 GSRs or alternates attended. We have lost our registrar, and our secretary. Most sub-committee positions are filled, although Treatment facilities, Public Information, and Intergroup Liaison have remained unfilled since the beginning of this term. A motion has been put forward to combine PI with CPC in order to cover this gap in reporting activities. It would seem that the strain of constant public health restrictions and meeting virtually is taking a toll on service participation at our District level. A discussion of returning to in- person District meetings was deferred, hopefully the table will want to bring this topic back up in December.

Our 43rd annual (virtual) Service Day was not well attended. However, everyone who gave presentations did an excellent job and those attending were much appreciative. Thanks to everyone on the committee for organizing this event and to Mary M, Better Times editor, for sharing her experience, strength, and hope at Service Day.

The District is financially sound. The District decided to withhold making a contribution to Area 83 and GSO until the members have an understanding of the District budget going forward to in-person meetings.

Our ad-hoc committee of past DCMs is still reviewing the District's Operating Procedures. The District will be holding a District Inventory at its November business meeting as per our OPs, normal business will be suspended for this. Robb Watson, Panel 61 Area83 Delegate, will be chairing this.

Planning for the 17th East Toronto Archive Breakfast (ETAB17), sponsored jointly by Districts 18 and 22, is already under way. . The event will be held on Sat., May 01, 2022. No decision as yet on whether it will be an in person or virtual event. We anticipate making that decision in January.

Yours in Love and service, George W.

District 26 Lakeshore West

Good morning, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Ajax Friday Night Group and my name is Rob. It is my privilege to serve as the Alternate District Committee Member for District 26, Lakeshore West. Ian, our DCM, is not able to attend today.

Most of our sub-committee positions are filled, except for Grapevine. Attendance at our District Meetings average 80% for District Officers, 34% for Sub Committee Chairs and 40% for Groups since our last Area Assembly. We have 25 groups in our District.

Our finances are in order. We had a balance of approximately \$1,300 in September. This covers our prudent reserve since our expenses are minimal.

During the height of COVID, most of our groups became virtual. Some were creative and met outdoors with the proper social distancing put in place. We are happy to report that as restrictions are eased, groups now fall under three categories: 1) ZOOM; 2) In Person/Zoom Hybrid; 3) In person only. More and more groups are transitioning back to in person meetings with the proper protocols in place.

Due to the continuing COVID situation, we have had to pause many of our initiatives such as our Lakeshore District Conferences, Cooperation with the Professional Community events, meetings in Treatment Centres and our visiting correctional Institutions. As the situation continues to relax, Terry N, our secretary, has volunteered as the interim chair for our Summer 2022 Lakeshore Conference and a very well connected "Speaker Seeker". You're all invited to attend!!

We have worked with our neighbouring District 28 to continue our "Interchange" program virtually. The Interchange program allows participating groups to visit with host groups once a month on a rotational basis. The current schedule involves 11 groups in both of our Districts. The meeting can be held over Zoom or in person, depending on the host group's meeting format.

We are not sure that we'll be holding our annual Alcathon this year. It's a 24 hour meeting that begins at Noon on December 24. Groups are assigned one hour time slots to put on a meeting and there are meetings back to back. The idea is that no one should be alone over Christmas. If we are going to proceed with it, it will be very difficult to put together in the short timeframe that we have left before the holidays.

I wish good health and happiness to you and your families.

Yours in Love and Service, Rob F.

District 28 Lakeshore East

Good morning, everyone! I'm an alcoholic, member of the Motor City Group, and my name is Kathie. It's an honour to serve as District Committee Member for District 28 Lakeshore East. This report will be brief.

We have 20 registered groups in District 28. There are a few groups starting to re-open, maximum numbers and social distance guidelines strictly followed. For meeting updates, please visit Lakeshore Districts Intergroup: <https://www.aadurham.org>. Our Intergroup office is open on Thursdays only for pre-arranged pickup of literature, pins, and medallions.

Most of our District positions are filled, with the exception of Archives and Accessibilities. We are in good financial shape and meeting our commitments.

One piece of exciting news I learned this week...it looks like we may have a Lakeshore Districts Summer Conference next August...you'll hear further details in the District 26 report in a few minutes, as they will be the host District for 2022.

Thank you for my sobriety.

Yours in Love and Service, Kathie T.

District 30 Quinte West

Good morning friends, I'm an alcoholic a member of the Hope Group my name is Maria. It is an honour and a privilege to be serving as District Committee Member for District 30 Quinte West.

Most groups in the District have been opened for in person meetings, several groups still make virtual meetings available for members not comfortable to attend in person. The Service meetings held at the two hospitals in the District have not reopened yet nor has entry into the Warkworth Penitentiary. The District Corrections chair keeps in

frequent contact with the volunteer co-ordinator as to when volunteers will be able to attend the A.A. Group inside the institution. At the District meeting a few GSR's reported membership growth their groups.

The District finances are stable, and all financial responsibilities are being met, a contribution to Area will be made next month, the amount will be decided at our next District meeting.

As mentioned in my report at the ACM in September the District is transitioning to a new phone service, this will be completed by the New Year. Many thanks to Cody P. District 74 Alternate DCM for sharing his experience and knowledge in making this a fruition in District 30. Jody H. CPC chair for District 30 reached out to the health promotions group on base in CFB Trenton offering any needed resources and was invited to attend to give his testimony. The Padre service has asked that he provide a power point presentation on A.A. so they can have a better understanding, he is organizing that for next month. He was also asked to be a contact person for members looking for information on A.A. in the community.

Alcoholics Anonymous is alive, well and growing in numbers here in District 30. It warms my heart to see the continued enthusiasm, perseverance, and dedication the members of District 30 display in carrying the message in these uncertain times.

Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service Maria M.

District 34 Quinte East

I am an alcoholic, member of the Triangle Unity Group and my name is Inge D. I am honored to serve as your District 34 Committee Member.

District 34 is still holding our monthly District meetings on zoom and we are looking into the possibility of resuming face to face meetings in the new year.

Our District is still financially sound with donations coming in from groups and individual members and we thank them for supporting AA and our District.

Many of the groups in our District have reopened their meetings. I have attended most of these and the public health rules are new being enforced in these groups.

Yours in love and service, Inge D.

District 36 Kingston & the Islands

Good morning friends, I am an alcoholic and a member of Journey Through Recovery Group in Kingston and I am honoured and privileged to be serving as the DCM for District 36 Kingston and the Islands. My name is Jonathan.

The District is financially stable with groups continuing to contribute both to District and higher levels.

All subcommittee positions are now filled. Attendance of GSRs is averaging 60% so far this year of 26 groups with a temporary drop off over the summer.

Most groups have maintained Zoom meetings throughout the year. At present, 13 meetings are being held via Zoom, 8 have resumed in-person meetings with precautions, 6 are in hybrid format, and one is using "parallel" format with dual meetings. One Zoom-only meeting started a year ago named "On the Fly" has wrapped up as regular meetings are now more available. Typically, the smaller groups are continuing to meet via Zoom and larger ones are able to set up hybrid meetings, as they have larger venues to work with and can accommodate up to 25 people in-person at social distances, with others attending via Zoom.

We have tested a hybrid format for our District business meeting, but there were technical shortcomings both at the venue and with our own equipment. We are staying on Zoom for now and working toward trying a hybrid format again next month, as there was solid interest expressed by GSRs and table officers.

Two of the treatment centres in Kingston are continuing to allow hybrid AA meetings, with two AA members setting up the meeting inside the treatment centre and other AA members participating via Zoom. It has become more difficult to get groups to commit to a schedule over the past couple of months, though.

Lastly we have a new group in the process of joining the District.

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Jonathan C.

District 42 St. Lawrence International

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

District Positions

Most of our positions are currently filled. A new Secretary, Brittany H., started at our August District meeting. Positions yet to be filled are: Public Information Chair.

District Status

We are continuing to meet via Zoom on the 4th Wednesday, with 6-10 in attendance. Here are recent highlights:

- **Finances:** Our new District Treasurer, David L., is working on setting up a method for receiving electronic contributions (probably Venmo). He notes that we are currently solvent and meeting expenses.
- **Corrections:** Our new Corrections Chair, Heidi C. is in contact with the "Zone Coordinator" for the NYS prison system about the status of meetings in the three NYS prisons in our District.
- **Treatment Facilities:** Our new Treatment Chair, Brent C., reports continued attempts to connect with the CPH treatment center with no success so far.
- **Website:** David L. recently had to rebuild our website due to it being possibly compromised.
- **Covid Status:** Most groups are meeting in person, but there are a few are still virtual. Some groups have changed meeting places due to access rules. We have decided to continue to hold our District meetings virtually, especially helpful in the upcoming winter months.

I am grateful for the chance to serve A.A., both District 42 and in Area 83, and to help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Milner G.

District 48 Seaway Valley North

Good Morning Friends. My name is Sharon C. and I am grateful to be alcoholic. I am a member of Kemptville Monday/Friday and Alt DCM for District 48.

District 48 extends from just south of Ottawa, encompassing Russel and Greely, North Gower, Winchester, Kemptville and down to the St. Lawrence with Prescott and Morrisburg.

Many groups have opened up: Many in churches. We have two hospital meetings these have yet to open. Some are bimodal. Each group is setting its own covid rules in conjunction with the church or place where they meet and government rules, as they emerge. People seem to be returning slowly, not the rapid influx from members or from the surrounding areas, that we expected. Many young people less than 30 years seeking help from the bewilderment of alcohol addiction. Their demise seems to have been hard and fast.

Financially District 48 is in a good condition.

We took the summer off from our District meetings, our first meeting back in early September, was poorly attended. We still have many vacant positions at the table including the DCM, grapevine and literature rep, and treatment centres and jails. Sent a letter in August, to all the GSR's asking them to read at their meetings, the essence of which was to encourage participation in the groups and at the District table.

Excited to see all the new comers, we are ready with books and chips, and looking forward to navigating these new days.

Glad to be here today to hear what's going on in the rest of the area and beyond.

Love in service Sharon C.

District 50 Cornwall

No Report

District 54 Ottawa Rideau

Good Morning everyone, I am an alcoholic and I am a member of the Search for Serenity Group in Orleans. I am privileged to serve as District Committee Member for District 54 Ottawa Rideau. My name is Kevin O.

District 54 held their 9th meeting of the year at the beginning of the month. Good attendance and full agenda as usual. Not much new to report since our last assembly held on Sept. 11th. So, some of this will be a repeat of info already shared.

We welcomed a new group to District 54 in September. The Friendly Group, formerly of District 58, joined District 54 and we welcomed Annie as the GSR to the table. We also welcomed a new GSR, Pauline E. from the awakening group. We are expecting an Online group to join us for our November District meeting.

District 54 now has e-transfer in place for 7th Tradition contributions by individuals or groups. We are in good financial standing.

There are several groups that have opened back up for in person meetings following provincial guidelines. We have a number of groups in the process of deciding whether they will reopen for in person meetings. There are several members at the District table who have done some great work to acquire clear interpretation of the guidelines and supporting documentation so that each group can make an informed decision working with their venue.

The vaccine passport requirement poses some challenges for some meetings as their venues have chosen to require passport screening. As a result, there will be some meetings that will have to consider whether they want to change their meeting locations if they want to reopen in person meetings.

District 54 will continue to meet virtually as discussed at our September District meeting. I am grateful and honoured to be serving as the DCM for District 54. Thank you!! Be safe and stay healthy.

Yours in Love and Service, Kevin O.

District 58 Ottawa Bytown

No Report

District 62 Ottawa West

I am an alcoholic, a member of the Stittsville Second Chance Group and have the honour and privilege of serving as the District Committee Member for District 62 - Ottawa West, my name is Trevor F.

District 62 currently has two vacancies at our District table - our Intergroup Liaison and Grapevine Representative positions and we're hoping to fill them soon. We've had a few new groups join our District table over the last few months, bringing our total number of groups up to 51. Four of these groups have moved over from District 58, which is no longer meeting.

Our District meetings are still taking place on Zoom, and we've been seeing about 20 groups in attendance, with our October meeting having low attendance because it fell on Thanksgiving Monday. Seven groups have returned to in-person meetings with restrictions, four are doing both in-person and online, while the majority are choosing to remain on Zoom for the time being.

In person meetings at the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Center, our local Corrections facilities and Pre-Treatment Centers are all still temporarily closed. The Ottawa Intergroup office is still closed to the public as well, but they are doing curbside pickups for literature.

Financially, District 62 is stable - contributions are down but expenses remain minimal. It's great to see you all today, and I look forward to seeing you all safely in person soon.

Yours in Love and Service, Trevor F.

District 66 Golden Triangle

Good Morning everyone. I am an alcoholic; member of the Mississippi Group in Carleton Place and my name is Theresa. It is an honor to be serving as DCM of District 66.

District 66 encompasses a large geographic area and includes 29 AA Groups. Currently there are 12 groups meeting on-line, 5 meeting on-line and in person, and 12 meeting in person. The status of how groups are meeting is in a state of change as venues open according to the local Public Health Measures.

Our Webmaster works diligently to keep the District Website postings current. In addition, she has reviewed and updated the Website Guidelines for District approval at the Oct meeting.

Representation by GSR's at District Meetings continues to hover at 20-25% of member groups. This low attendance, coupled with several groups having no representation is challenging.

The District is in good financial standing. Our District Treasurer and Alternate DCM did a financial Audit of the 2019/2020 finances on Sept 26, 2021, and all records were found to be accurate.

After a bit of shuffling of Committee chair positions, all are now filled. The District Committee Chairs continue to meet with their Area counterparts on a regular basis. Our Self Support Chair and Accessibility chair have reached out to share their experience with home groups.

The District Roundup Chair and Co-Chair formed a committee at their initial planning meeting in Sept. in preparation for the Spring Roundup in April 2022. Our Treatment, PICPC, and Corrections chairs all maintain their communication with their contacts; ready to resume bringing meetings to centers when circumstances allow.

I have the extreme pleasure of being a part of a great little gang of members that make up the Service Information Day Committee for the 2021/2022 term. I'm learning a lot with these folks, and I look forward to actually meeting them in person!

District 66 members continue to carry the message of recovery; I'm humbled to be able to serve as DCM.

Yours in love and service, Theresa L.

District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

My name is Lisa and I am an alcoholic. I have the privilege of being the DCM for District 70. During Covid we had four groups close. Out of the remaining 15 groups we have 11 that are now in person and four that remain by zoom. The open groups are maintaining strict Covid protocols and it seems to be going well.

We have two openings at the District table, Archives and Secretary. Our District meetings continue to be held via zoom and there is on average 6 members that report to the District table. We changed the time of our District meetings from the third Sunday at 12 to the third Thursday at 7 at the request of some members in hopes of attracting more members to attend the meetings.

We have changed our telephone service and that has saved us a lot of money each month. The groups in our District have arranged insurance so we could open out in person meetings and the groups have met the costs and reimbursed the District. Our financial status is holding steady.

Yours in Service, Lisa R.

District 74 Pembroke

Greeting from District 74. I'm an alcoholic named Julie and my home group is the River Group in the Ottawa Valley.

Online meetings continue as the re-opening of in-person meetings progresses. Six of the ten groups in D74 hold at least one in-person meeting weekly. Most groups continue to offer online meetings in a variety of formats (concurrent, hybrid and stand-alone). A few groups remain online or suspended pending the availability of meeting venues.

While we rejoice about meeting in person, the online experience has expanded the variety of meeting times and options available in a District where relatively few groups are spread over a wide geographical area.

Overall, AA has done well in District 74. Groups have been resilient. Members who joined during the pandemic have stayed sober without in-person meetings and have celebrated sobriety birthdays. Miracles have continued to happen, no matter what.

Yours in Love and Service, Julie F.

District 78 Madawaska Valley

I am happy to announce that all six of our groups are holding in person meeting now. All the positions at the District table have been filled except for Archives. District meetings are being held on Zoom.

Our District is responsible for holding a Tri-District Service Information Day (SID) in conjunction with Pembroke and Renfrew in June of this year. We are postponing it until next year.

Yours in Love and Service, Barbara C.

District 82 Victoria Haliburton

Good morning everyone, I'm an alcoholic and a member of The High Noon Group in Lindsay, and humbled to be the District Committee Member for District 82 Victoria /Haliburton and my name is Joe.

It's been an interesting summer and fall in our District, what with the changing rules of the Covid-19 regulations, we have certainly been busy. We currently have 11 Groups open to in person meetings, and due to the 4th Tradition many of them have different protocols on what is required for entry to the Meetings, some meetings require Vaccine Passports for entry, while others don't, but all of them do adhere to, or go beyond what is required by our Health Department! It has been challenging but we move ahead and do what we must to help the still suffering alcoholic.

We also still have some Zoom meetings and 1 Hybrid meeting going as well, unfortunately we have had 1 Group fold, but on the other hand, we also had 1 new group open up, so we certainly have come quite a way from where we were this time last year, thankfully. We have all the information on our Website at <https://District82aa.org/>

While going to our website is good for anyone who checks out our meeting list; it makes it hard for those who **don't**, and show up at a meeting without their Vaccine passports, and I feel for them, everyone is trying their best for what their group conscience believes in. To help avoid this happening, I can only suggest that you check **ANY** meetings protocols in advance, **before** you travel to it, to avoid finding you can't enter due to improper health restrictions for that meeting, and if you don't have a Vaccine Passport or don't care for one, I'm glad to say we have meetings that don't require them too, so please feel free to attend one of them, this is the 4th Tradition in action.

Once again there's nothing to Report on meetings that have been cancelled at the Central East Corrections Facility due to COVID-19 restrictions, only that we have and will continue to drop off Grapevines and other reading materials when requested to do so.

Our financial health is okay, we will be looking at asking our Groups for contributions at our next business meeting in November and should meet all our financial obligations.

Yours in Love and Service, Joe C.

District 86 Kawartha

Good morning friends, I am an alcoholic, a grateful member of the Stonewall Group and my name is Bruce. Wow my second Assembly as DCM for District 86 and part of the SID committee, this alcoholic is truly grateful.

District 86 has a grand table of eager trusted servants to serve, change is in the air, great seeing the new normal starting to happen, with Accessibility and Conference, still open. Id like to thank our Alt DCM, Jeffery F for stepping up as Interim Accessibility chair.

The 59th Conference location and deposit has been made, just waiting for that grateful Chairperson to step up. Our coffers are good with generous fellowship contributions, as is the case world wide, just awesome how we pull together. And our Assembly expenses were down, like most I'm sure.

Our Kawartha D86 Intergroup has undergone some needed renovations and is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, for today. With stocked Library at your service. Several groups have opened for Weekend meetings as well, with more expected. Phone line is available to leave a message and are returned as soon as possible. Couple face to face and hybrid meetings have started in our District, its challenging but possible. One has to understand that braveness is not the absence of fear but rather the strength to keep on going forward despite the fear. Some groups are celebrating 2 years on the internet platform, it works if you work it.

Our table formed an ad hoc committee to see the feasibility of doing a hybrid meeting at our monthly business meetings. A thorough report was presented and a lot of discussion ensued, it was decided to stay completely on the virtual platform for today, to be revisited in the new year. Let gratitude be your attitude.

Yours in Love and service, Bruce B.

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

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

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

A. Public Information

Jack R.

Good morning, friends! I am an alcoholic and a member of the Step Stop Group from District 36 in Kingston. I am honoured with the privilege of serving as your Panel 71 Public Information Committee chair for Area 83. My name is Jack R.

Thank you again to the Service Information Day committee for an exciting and informative Service Day yesterday and thank you to those who attended the Public Information Committee workshop as well. I attended several of the other workshops and learned a lot. The day was capped off with an awesome banquet speaker.

We had a meeting with some of the District Public Information committee chairs on September 22 after taking a hiatus in the summer. As expected, things have continued to be rather slow in the Public Information field in a number of the Districts over the last several months. Many facilities have not yet allowed members to leave literature or asked members to put on presentations due to pandemic restrictions. I anticipate that this will gradually change and opportunities to get the message out will open up over the next few months. Some good work is still being done including an outreach campaign to seniors / care homes in District 10 and a new Facebook page in District 26 with some positive feedback from that.

I have contacted members of the National PI & CPC working group and am gradually learning more about Search Engine Optimization for A.A. websites so our program can be more visible to the public on search engines like Google. It is hard to compete with for-profit entities that can fund slick websites that rank highly on online searches from suffering alcoholics looking for help. Their next meeting which is open to anyone interested in PI or CPC work is on November 9 – I will post the flyer to the chat.

I am available to function as a resource for District PI chairs and am willing to be available for District activities if asked. My email is pi@area83aa.org. Please keep sending me your District minutes as I am interested to see what is happening in your District!

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Jack R.

B. Cooperation with the Professional Community Jo D.

My name is Jo D. I am a member of the Search for Serenity Group in District 54, Ottawa Rideau. I am honoured to serve as the Area 83 CPC Chair. I am an alcoholic.

I think Fall 2021 is focus on CPC time. If you haven't already, please read the Fall 2021 edition of Box 459. There is a great article that summarizes some of the key research that has been done on A.A. over the years, including the most recent Stanford study/Cochrane Institute study which concludes among other things that "A.A. works as well or better than other scientific treatments for alcoholism." I really hope the GSO puts that summary of research into the newsletter for professionals. Wouldn't that be great!

When you finish reading Box 459, you can go listen to the Grapevine's very first podcast which features an interview with a member who served on a CPC Committee. He talks about the "demonstration meetings" that he was involved in. I can attest to the inspirational nature of that interview because the suggestion was raised at the Ottawa CPC Committee should do one!

Then you can read the October Grapevine contains a special section on CPC. There are six articles by members on their involvement in CPC work – including the story of the member who was interviewed in the Grapevine Podcast.

The fourth initiative involving CPC is that the GSO is updating the CPC workbook. To help with that endeavour, CPC committees are invited to share their creative ways of carrying the message to professionals. Just email cpc@aa.org by November 22, 2021.

I have been attending the Ottawa and the Toronto GTA CPC monthly meetings – except when they conflict. I like attending CPC meetings. If you invite me, I will come – even if you are a committee of one!

It seems that several Districts are reaching out to medical and health care professionals: I have had discussions over the summer with individuals in Districts 6, 54, 62 and 82 which are all contacting the medical professionals; I have been able to share resources and "best practices", correspondence and experiences of various Districts. I have communicated with a couple of other Districts about work they are doing as well.

On June 12, I attended the Ottawa area "The Hand of AA in Service". I was able to hear our Delegate Kimberley's report on the General Service Conference. I made a 15-minute presentation about the purpose of CPC Committees and the Ottawa Committee's upcoming work, including plans to correspond and deliver information packages to medical clinics.

On June 24, I chaired a quarterly meeting of Area 83 District CPC Chairs. In the Districts where there is no CPC Chair, I invited the DCMs. Eleven of us met to hear Steven from District 28 tells us about work his District is undertaking with Shoppers Drug Mart Head Office which, if successful, will allow Alcoholics Anonymous literature to be displayed in their stores in Ontario.

Also in June, I sat in on the Area 49 SENY CPC Conference Committee to hear their Delegate's debrief of the General Service Conference CPC Conference Committee. Same debrief as Kimberley, our Area 83 Delegate, but with the additional description of the discussion among Conference Committee members on the potential uses of CPC on the Stanford study video.

On July 26th, I sat in on a CPC workshop put on by District 13 in Area 36 in Minnesota. The two hosts shared their experience with putting on a workshop for professionals. Some of the information they shared was as basic as "a power point presentation is helpful" to more sophisticated information about how they used Psychology Today website to find addresses for psychologists across their District, how

they recorded the workshop and then sent the recordings to every one of the two hundred professionals they initially contacted. Also, not only did they create little business cards as many of us have done, but they went one step further and created business card holders too. On August 18, I joined the District 42 N. Surrey N. Delta B.C. informational workshop for professionals about A.A. Two Class A trustees were among the panelists: Dr. Mooney and Dr. Peter Luongo. Dr. Luongo in particular provided some practical guidance on what the medical profession needs to know about A.A. More importantly, that District PICPC chair shared information with me about their best practices in organizing such events. So, the Area is building some “best practices” for these kinds of events.

On August 11th I participated in the North American CPC and PI quarterly meeting. I don't have a date for the next one but I will post it in the Area 83 upcoming events calendar. I am still Secretary of the North American CPC and PI Conference Planning Committee; that conference is coming up on February 12th and 13th, 2022. The Committee is making progress filling panels; the committee would like more diversity among panelists and hopes to achieve this when filling the three remaining panelist spots. If you know someone in Canada who is or has done some interesting work in CPC, please pass on their name to me. Also, if anyone is interested in serving as part of technical support, we can use your help.

In September, Districts 54 and 62 which make up the Ottawa PI-CPC Committee participated in Ottawa Recovery Day with a live display table and literature to hand out. Recovery Day is a day when community groups involved in all kinds of recovery from all kinds of addictions come together to share information about their paths to recovery. There was some really positive feedback to the Committee by some A.A. members who attended: the display table was professional looking and there were more people around that display than most of the other displays.

I continue to participate in the Pre Conference Agenda Sharing ad hoc Committee that the Chair invited me to join. The Chair of that ad hoc Committee, our Immediate Past Delegate will report on the work of that Committee.

I encourage you to come to the quarterly CPC meetings that I hold. I'm planning the next one for November.

Yours in service, Jo D.

C. Correctional Facilities

Marty M.

Hello everyone, I am a grateful alcoholic my name is Marty. I am a member of the Open Hands group in District Six Mississauga, and I'm privileged to serve as your Area 83 Corrections Chair.

I recently received a box of Grapevine's for corrections from the GTA Archives (thank you David). I sent some to Maria; DCM for District 30 as well as Nicky; Corrections Liaison for Ottawa. If anyone else needs some for a prison or jail, I would be happy to share some with you.

The GTA Corrections committee continues to meet, but unfortunately the attendance is low. I hosted a sharing session earlier this month with District chairs and unfortunately, I had the same issue, not many attended.

I just want to put this out there; Even though we can't go into most of the prisons right now, there are things we can be doing to continue to carry the message.

- Speak to parole offices, perhaps put some literature in there.
- Reach out to halfway houses and offer literature or perhaps Bridging the Gap

Another thing is the Corrections Correspondence Service. I know that we have been trying to get this going in local prisons and to no avail for the most part. Most of us received the communication earlier

this month on from GSO General Manager Bob W. Bob announced the launch of the new Corrections Correspondence System (C.C.S.) on September 27th. “The new C.C.S. provides an expedient process whereby we can match volunteers and persons in custody automatically and manually, obtain statistics and reports, and generate personalized letters that can be sent via email to outside A.A. members and via postal mail to persons in custody.” To sign up for the Corrections Correspondence, go to aa.org, type in ccs, download the form. Then email to corrections@aa.org.

On Wed. October 13th I attended a really great Zoom meeting, Carrying the Message in Correctional Facilities. This was hosted by Area 19 Delegate from Chicago Monica F. who is amazing. Her enthusiasm for service is infectious, she is a great chairperson. The guest speakers she chose from around the U.S. were awesome. I’m very glad I attended.

I want to say thank you to all who attended the Corrections workshop yesterday. Also thanks again to Maria and Yves for sharing their experience with attending meetings behind the walls.

I need to issue an apology. During my segment of the workshop, numerous times I referenced the term ‘inmate’. I’m truly sorry for that. I know full well that at this year’s General Service Conference, this was a recommendation that was voted on and it passed. Thus, resulting in a 2021 advisory action to change all A.A.W.S. literature directed to members behind the walls and to replace the terms “inmate” and “offender” with “person in custody.” I quoted the literature verbatim, whereas I should have made the adjustment, my apologies. I was called on it, too, through the chat, which I humbly appreciated.

I received this update this morning. The Toronto South Detention Centre is starting to allow outside volunteers. They are starting with the Chaplaincy first in small numbers, then if all goes well, we should have A.A. in there before the end of the year or early 2022. That’s exciting because it’s the first provincial institution I have heard of allowing volunteers in. So far, it’s only been the federal prisons in and around Kingston.

Before I close, please tell your corrections chairs that I would like for us to meet sometime in November. Stay tuned for the Zoom invite.

That’s about it from me. Please everyone, stay safe and until we meet again in January have a happy and healthy holiday season. Take care.

Yours in Love and Service, Marty M.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS REPORT:

QUESTION: Can visitors attend the District Correction Chair meeting?

ANSWER: Yes, anyone can attend. Contact cf@area83aa.org for the meeting information.

QUESTION: Do we have a date for the return to Toronto South Detention Centre?

ANSWER: No, we do not.

D. Treatment Facilities

Tim F.

Good Morning Friends, I am an alcoholic, proud member of the Freedom Group, and my name is Tim F. I have the honour and privilege of serving Area 83 Eastern Ontario International as your Panel 71 Treatment Chair.

So far this has been a great learning experience along my service journey. I have met and worked with many wonderful people which have made this term so far a pleasure. Yesterday I presented the Treatment Workshop and I hope all that attended got half as much out of it as I did while putting it together. It seems to have been well received and thank you for attending. I have emailed the presentation to a few people that requested a copy. If you missed out on the workshop you can either email me for a copy or look under the Treatment tab on the Area 83 website. I asked George last night to put it on the website and I see it is there this morning.

Our last Sub-Committee Meeting was held September 26th at 7PM with our next one scheduled for November 28th at 7PM. I have sent this to the District Treatment Chairs and to the Webmaster and it has been added to the calendar. Some Treatment Centers are allowing members out to in person meetings. One Withdrawal Management Center is allowing two members to come in and put on a hybrid meeting. Another Center has given the go ahead to start allowing two members in to put on a meeting and more are looking to follow suit. Let's pray that we can continue to move forward in our commitment to carry the message. We still have quite a few Districts that have not been able to fill the Treatment Chair position. With things starting to open up, effort to fill these positions should be a priority. If there is anything I can help with in this effort please reach out to me. If you are interested in becoming a temporary contact with clients coming out of treatment feel free to get your information to me and I will make sure it gets to the proper person.

July 21st I was invited by District 6 to put on a short Bridging the Gap Workshop at their Business Meeting. It was brief and interactive with many questions and much interest shown in the process. I had the opportunity at this meeting to watch them nominate and elect Rebecca as their Treatment Chair. She is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable addition to our Area 83 Sub-Committee. Rebecca has started off by testing me with a lot of good questions. I reported this at the Area Committee Meeting in September but I figured it was worth repeating. If your District elects a new Treatment Chair make sure their information is sent to the Area Secretary. It would also be nice to have them email me an introduction so we can start working together without delay. Since the workshop yesterday I was asked to put on another Bridging the Gap workshop in District 48. That will take place at either their November or December business meeting. Bridging the Gap requests is on the rise and I believe we have reached a normal level or close to it. Twice in the last week I have had three BTG requests within a day.

I enjoy receiving and reading District Minutes. It keeps me informed of what is going on in the Area and where I may be able to serve better. Thanks to the Secretaries who send me District Minutes. I am available whenever you need me, so feel free to invite me to any events taking place where I could be of assistance. If you would like a brief presentation at a District Meeting, feel free to reach out and ask. Thank you for your friendship and for being an important part of my sobriety.

Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service, Tim F.

E. Grapevine

Jane S.

I am an alcoholic, member of the Language of the Heart Group in District 74 and my name is Jane S. It is my honour to serve Area 83 as your Grapevine Chair for Panel 71.

Did you hear about the agnostic caterpillar? After watching a butterfly in a windy breeze, he remarked, "You'll never get me up in one of those things". Marty Z. , Palm Bay, Fl. Grapevine November 2021.

I was invited to participate in Districts 54 and 62 Virtual Service information Day on June 12, 2021 entitled "The Hand of AA in Action". This was a super online event which I was honoured to be a part of. Keeping in mind that many of our new members may have never seen a Grapevine Magazine or heard of the many recovery tools we offer we discussed placing information regarding Grapevine in zoom meeting "chats" such as links to Grapevine website, podcasts, Epub and Grapevine Daily Quotes as a way of carrying the message of recovery.

November's Grapevine Magazine has a special section on Prayer and Meditation. Which coincides with the most recent AA Grapevine book publication - Prayer and Meditation. This volume features powerful stories from members about the many ways they pray and meditate in their daily lives. The website store indicates a price in Canadian dollars of \$14.19. Discount pricing for 5 or more would be \$13.56.

AA Grapevine has launched a podcast. The AA Grapevine half hour variety hour features AA members Don and Sam. Each week Don and Sam will interview different members about their experience, strength and hope, in a casual meeting after the meeting format. New episodes will be available in English every

Monday at aagrapevine.org/podcast. You can also access the podcast via Spotify I am told. In this age of digitalization and podcasts I am trying to keep with the times and will look forward to listening each week.

The Grapevine Instagram Account now has 4608 followers! Here you can see recovery related content as well as the Grapevine Daily Quote. LaVina Instagram has 506 followers.

2022 Pocket Planners and Calendars are now in my possession and I will be making arrangements in the next week to get them delivered/mailed to those that purchased through Area 83.

There are only a few months left to participate in the 2021 Carry the Message Project. It is easy to provide a subscription to those that can not afford one OR for jails/ institutions. Grapevine Magazine makes a great holiday gift also. Go to our YouTube Channel at youtube.com/aagrapevine and learn three easy ways to give.

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of LaVina our magazine for the Spanish speaking alcoholic community ! Learn more at aalavina.org/25aniversario.

Grapevine financials for the period ending May 31, 2021 indicate that we are above the projected budget - resulting in a net income of \$268,981. Compared to the budgeted net loss of \$99,725 we are doing well. Please keep up the good work.

Did you know you can add your events online (when we have them again) to the Grapevine online calendar? Just go to aagrapevine.org/share. You can also upload photos and/or stories for submission. AA Grapevine wants to hear from YOU!

You may have noticed your Grapevine Magazine is now in a manilla envelope mailer (not white as I indicated previously White is USA only) due to a change in printers.

AA Grapevine also has a new publisher. Chris C. accepted the role as of August 15, 2021. To learn more about Chris and this announcement go to: <https://www.aagrapevine.org/New-Publisher-AAGV>.

With the reopening many in person meetings in Area 83 and perhaps some larger events in 2022 please remember that your Grapevine and LaVina Reps are ready and available to attend your events with Grapevine Displays. Please reach out to us, we want to participate in any way we can.

The AA Grapevine has many valuable recovery tools available in print and online. Please help us to continue to carry the message of hope by sharing about the AA Grapevine at your meetings and business meetings.

I would like to apologize to those attending yesterday at the SID Grapevine Workshop and particularly to Scott M. Scott worked hard on a presentation and the malfunction was totally my fault. Scott has authorized me to email the presentation to all GVR's and I will do that this week. Also, after anonymizing the presentation we will post it on the Area 83 webpage under Grapevine. Thank you all for your understanding.

Should you wish to contact me at any time I can be reached at grapevine@area83aa.org.

Grapefully Yours, Jane S.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING GRAPEVINE REPORT:

QUESTION: Are the Prayer and Meditation books still on backorder?

ANSWER: Yes.

F. Self-Support

Bev H.

Good morning. I am an alcoholic, member of Women Living Sober group in District 34 – Quinte East and I have the honour and privilege of serving as your Panel 71 Self Support Chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International and my name is Bev H. I am happy to provide you with an update relating to Self-Support in Area 83.

I have continued to attend the GTA Intergroup Self-support meetings which are held the last Thursday of the month. I want to thank those members who attend and provide me with the opportunity to learn what is happening in their respective Districts regarding self-support.

I have been holding self-support meetings – the first Thursday of the month with the District Chairs of Area 83. We are an enthusiastic group. And again, anyone who would like to attend this monthly meeting, you are more than welcome. Just reach out to me and I will send you the zoom login information.

As I shared at the September Area Committee Meeting, we are finalizing the details for the information session. The information session will be held on November 4th, 2021, via Zoom and will take place between 7:00 and 8:00. The session is going to be called “Your Time, Your Talent.” The poster with all relevant information is posted on the Area 83 website and our Area Secretary recently sent it out to all in the Area. I encourage you to share this with all members in your Districts. The session will include a history of Self-Support as well as two members of Area 83 speaking to their journey relating to Self-Support.

Our Delegate reached out to the Sub-Committee Chairs asking us to submit a brief overview of the happenings relevant to our respective positions. I have done that so be sure to keep an eye out for the next Delegate Newsletter!!

I want to thank those members who attended the Treasurer/Self-Support workshop yesterday. It was great to share the workshop with our Area 83 Treasurer – Dave L.

I want to thank those Districts who send me their monthly District minutes. I enjoy reading them and finding out what is happening in your respective Districts. If I can be of service to any group and/or District, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am more than happy to assist in any way I can.

Self-support...This is the fundamental work of AA – to ensure the hand of AA will always remain outstretched, money and spirituality must continue to mix. And for that we are all responsible.

Remember to mark November 4, 2021, in your calendar!!! Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Yours in Love and Service, Bev H.

G. Archives

Shane H.

Hello friends I'm an alcoholic. My name is Shane Harvey, and I am grateful to serve as your area 83 Archives Panel 71 Chairperson.

History is always being made and Archives committees everywhere are recording and preserving AA history as it's being made.

On September 19th the Area 83 Archives Committee met. There were 11 members in attendance and we discussed and shared on various topics.

On September 25th the 16th annual Area 83 Archives Workshop was held. There were four workshops. Presenters were Eddy G Toronto Archivist, Sue L Ottawa Archives Chair, David T Area 83 Archivist, Janet C District 66 and a Peter G Archives Chair for Kingston. All did informative and exciting presentations. There were 28 people in attendance.

On October 5th this Alcoholic attended the Area 84 NAAW Committee for the upcoming workshop in Sudbury Ontario September 7-9, 2023. Looking forward to this centrally located event. Yesterday we had a well attended workshop that was very informative with 35 people in attendance.

Special thanks to David T for his help in getting the newsletter ready for fall issue. It will contain articles and research style papers involving how groups and Districts adapted to the first and second waves of Covid 19.

I have completed an article on the history and evolution of online meetings, some are under the impression Covid 19 gave birth to online AA meetings. 1985 was when the first computer meeting started, they used a Bulletin Board System and Commodore 64s and called themselves The Q links.

In Service Shane H.

H. Accessibilities

Jenny C.

I'm a member of the Smiths Falls Saturday night group in District 66 currently service as your panel 71 Accessibilities chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International my name is Jenny and I'm an alcoholic.

I hope that everyone enjoyed the weekend. It sure is nice to see all your faces. I have faith that we will be able to get together face to face or mask to mask soon.

Area 83 District Accessibilities chairs continue to meet the first Thursday of every month at 8pm. Our details are on the area website under Events > calendar of events. Attendance is consistently sitting around 9, don't worry there is space for more. We continue to have amazing discussions on what's happening in the Districts and how we can be more inclusive and help break down more barriers. As with any service position I have been blessed to hold it is delightful to be working with such a passionate and dedicated group of alcoholics. We are also still working on Meetings to go. We should have guidelines and procedures finalized in November. If your Group or District is interested in Accessibilities, please come and join us. Everyone is welcome. The more we continue to discuss any opportunities the closer we get to knocking down more barriers.

I am excited to share that I was contacted this week by the Licensing and Translation Desk from the General Service Office of AA In Poland. They came across our Special Needs and Accessibilities tool kit and found it useful and would like permission to translate it into the Polish Language. A big shout out to the Ad hoc committee that put this together during Panel 69, Kim S, Shane H, Bill C and Marty M. I am over the moon thrilled to share that Our Special Needs and Accessibilities Tool Kit is going to be translated into the Polish Language. Because of the hard work that Area 83 Continues to do we are now able to help Alcoholics over 4,000 miles away.

If your group or District doesn't have an Accessibilities chair but it is something that you are interested in please feel free to reach out to me. I would be happy to arrange my schedule to meet with you to help answer and questions or concerns that you might have and help shed some light on the benefits Accessibilities can bring to your table. I can be reached at accessibilities@area83aa.org

Never forget, together we can achieve great things. Jenny C.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING ACCESSIBILITIES REPORT:

QUESTION: Is there any discussion with regard to Zoom and accessibility, especially for people who can't get out to meetings or struggle with managing technology?

ANSWER: We are finalizing guidelines for Meetings to Go.

FOLLOWUP: I am concerned about the ability to access a meeting.

ANSWER: A member can access Zoom through their phone if they don't have access through technology.

I. Service Information Day Committee

Trevor F.

I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Stittsville Second Chance Group, the District Committee Member (DCM) of District 62 - Ottawa West, and currently serving as your Service Information Day Committee Chairperson, my name is Trevor F.

Once again, here is your Service Information Day Committee for Panel 71: Kathie T - District 28 – Lakeshore East, Jill B - District 6 – Mississauga, Christine F - District 18 – Toronto City East, Theresa L - District 66 – Golden Triangle, and Bruce B - District 86 – Kawartha.

I would like to take this moment to thank the Committee for a job well done. It really is a wonderful group and I thoroughly enjoy working with each and every one of them. Their willingness to step up and take on tasks and help each other out really makes it a team effort. Meeting over Zoom regularly gave us

plenty of time to put together a great day of workshops, and we hope everyone that attended ended the day with a little more knowledge, and a little more appreciation of service. Thanks to all of our Workshop chairs for their hard work in putting together their workshops. Your love of service and enthusiasm really shines through in your workshops, and I wish I was able to attend all of them.

We will read through all of the surveys that have been submitted in order to gain new insight on how we can improve for next year's Spring Assembly. Please bring what you have learned at the Service Information Day back to your groups and District, in hopes that it will encourage others to attend next time. All members are welcome to attend.

Yours in love and service, Trevor F.

QUESTION FOLLOWING SERVICE INFORMATION DAY COMMITTEE REPORT:

QUESTION: Will the committee add descriptions or short summaries of the workshops (i.e.: PI/CPC, Archives, etc.) to the agenda?

ANSWER: Yes, we are planning on that for the Spring Assembly 2022.

QUESTION: Some of the workshops I attended didn't have the link to the feedback form posted. Can this be done for the next SID?

ANSWER: Yes, we have a cut and paste sheet and we will be clear as to when the feedback links will be posted.

J. Webmaster / Website

George M.

Good morning friends. I am an alcoholic, a member of the River group in District 74, having the honour, privilege and responsibility to serve as the Area 83 Webmaster. My name is George M.

1. Visitors

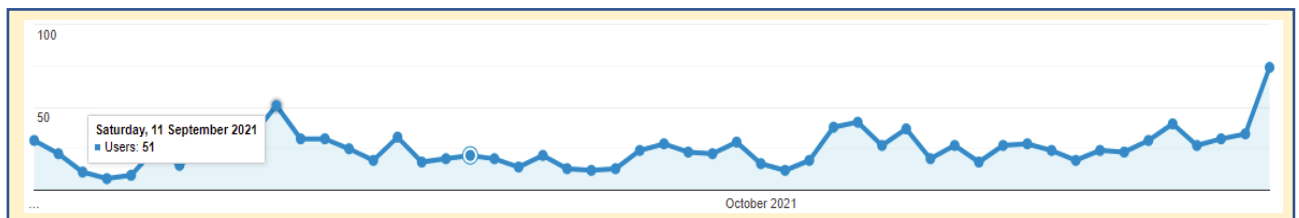
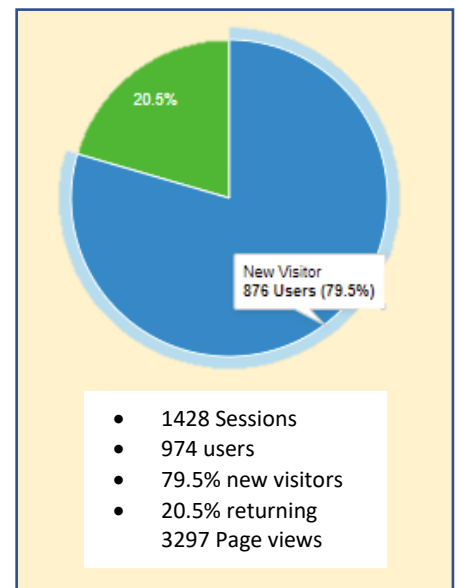
The Area 83 AA website receives visitors from around the world with the bulk of them coming from Canada and the United States. We have had a total of 974 visitors between September and October of this year.

2. Officer & Chairs Pages

Each of the Area 83 Officers and Committee Chairs have their own webpages where they post pertinent information about their own areas. These can be accessed through the Resources menu tab. This will allow you to keep up to date on what is happening in Area 83. (See [Appendix C](#) for the webpages and their corresponding traffic)

3. Events

The events pages are updated as information about the various events are received from AA entities within Area 83. If you would like your event listed either send me an email or use the submission form on the website found under the Events menu tab.



Above is the traffic on the Area 83 website for September and October. The greatest number of visitors in one day was on September 11th; this likely was related to the September ACM on the same day.

4. Changes

As I mentioned in my June report Google Calendars was no longer providing the information we needed. I have changed the Calendar on the Events tab to be plugin based. This now provides the level of detail we require for our events listings.

I have begun exploring the change over of our website to a WordPress based CMS from the current Joomla based system. This will provide us with more flexibility in the design of the site and allow us to be nimble as changes and updates to the site occur.

The Web pages are up, running and healthy. Please take the time to explore them. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Yours in service, George M.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT Dave L.

Hello friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of Liverpool Group in District 26, and my name is Dave L. It is both an honour and a privilege to serve as your Panel 71 Area 83 Treasurer.

When a Group, District or Individual sends in a contribution, they will receive, in return, a thank-you letter of receipt. Emailing these to you costs the Area nothing, whereas mailing them requires a stamp, envelope, paper and ink. Please encourage your Treasurers to include an email address with your contributions, and I can email your letter of receipt. Please make your cheques payable to "Eastern Ontario International Area 83". You can find contact information on the Area 83 website: area83aa.org at the top of the Home Page click "A.A. Contributions". Then click "I am an A.A. Member".

There have been 39 contributions via e-Transfer so far in 2021. This method of contributing to Area 83 is proving to be uncomplicated for the Groups. Please consider this payment method when your Group or District discusses contributing to Area 83. As with all contributions, please reference your Group and/or District Name and Service Number in the memo field. Individual contributions to a maximum of \$1000.00 per year will also be accepted.

Please continue to remind groups who would like to contribute using PayPal to include their six-digit Group Service Number with any contributions using PayPal so that the group may get credit for their contribution. The place to enter the group number is the screen after entering credit card information. PayPal charges a fee of 2.9% plus 30 cents per transaction. There has been one contribution, so far, this year using PayPal.

Let's discuss the Financial Statements for the period ending October 15, 2021.

Page 1 ([Appendix A₁](#)) is a financial summary. It shows our Reserve Account, which is set aside for unforeseen circumstances, has a balance of \$20,000 in the form of a GIC which matures in September 2023.

Income for the period as at October 15, 2021:

- 7th Tradition collected at the January 5th Area Committee Meeting \$170.00, at the Spring 2021 Assembly \$1,592.00, at the June 5th Area Committee Meeting \$130.00 and at the September 11 \$185.00, for a total of \$2,077.00
- Grapevine Seasonal Income totalled \$639.00 for bulk orders from 4 Districts. Further Income and the corresponding Grapevine Seasonal Expenses are yet to be processed.
- Group, District and Individual Contributions \$24,836.10

Total Income for the period is \$27,552.10.

Expenses for the period as at October 15, 2021:

- Committee expenses are \$761.47
- Area 83 Contribution to GSO - \$5,000.00
- General Service Conference Assessment \$2,897.40 (\$2,200 US)
- Bank Service Charges \$47.45
- PayPal Fee \$7.15

- Eastern Canadian Delegates Orientation \$114.97

Total Expenses for the period are \$8,828.44.

The opening bank balance at January 1, 2021 was \$41,596.93. Total income of \$27,552.10 less expenses of \$8,828.44 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$60,320.59. As of October 15, 2021, our expenses were \$18,723.66 less than our income. Thank you to the 83 Groups, 10 Districts and 1 Individual for your generous contributions to Area 83.

Page 2 ([Appendix A2](#)) shows details of the expenses. Here we see an itemized breakdown of expenses for the period for each Area Committee Member as well as all other expenses to date.

Some of the numbers you see here:

- The amount shown for the Delegate (\$227.99) relates to postage for sending Area 83 pins to General Service Conference participants.
- The amount shown for the Alternate Delegate (\$282.54) relates to ZOOM account costs.
- The amount shown for the Treasurer (\$250.94) relates to postage, printing and stationery.
- A contribution to GSO from Area 83 of \$5,000 has been paid.
- The General Service Conference (GSC) Assessment. At the Spring Assembly in 2007, a motion passed stating that “provided it doesn’t affect our prudent reserve, Area 83 will pay to GSO the full annual expense for our Delegate to attend the General Service Conference”. The full assessment for our Delegate to attend the 2021 Virtual GSC was \$2,200.00 USD, or \$2,897.40 CDN, which has been paid in full.

To summarize, our financial position as at October 15, 2021 compared to October 2020 is as follows: Income for 2021 is \$1,708.04 more than the same period in 2020. Expenses to date for 2021 are \$14,557.74 less than the same period in 2020. The net change to the Operating Account is an increase of \$18,723.66.

The increase of contributions in 2021 versus 2020 is \$3,090.75.

Page 3 ([Appendix A3](#)) shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from Districts, as well as Groups.

We will be collecting a 7th Tradition throughout the Assembly weekend. Please e-transfer your contribution and reference Assembly in the memo field.

The email address is treasurer@area83aa.org.

I will group the 7th Tradition contributions and report the total at the January Area Committee Meeting.

In the Spring 2020 an amount of \$1,288.25 was levied by the Ambassador Hotel as a cancellation charge for the cancelled Assembly. We will receive this amount as a credit in a future period when we are able to gather in person.

Without in person meetings for the rest of 2021, expenses will remain low. As contributions continue to be made to Area 83, it is possible to consider a further Contribution to the General Service Office for this year. There is a motion under New Business to make a further contribution to the General Service Office.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 83.

Yours in Love and Service, Dave L

7. SECRETARY’S REPORT Jo Ann P.

Good afternoon friends, I am a member of the Courtice 12 & 12 Group in District 28, and my name is JoAnn. I have the privilege of serving Area 83 Eastern Ontario International as your Secretary and it continues to be a pleasure.

Thank you to those who attended the Secretary / Registrar workshop yesterday during the Service Information Day. I hope you found it informative.

When a District fills a service position, please continue to send me roster updates. This information is used in 12th step work only.

To have a kit or workbook provided to District Chairs (Accessibility, Archives, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Corrections, Grapevine, Public Information and Treatment) and District Committee Members, Fellowship Connection requires a mailing address, phone number and email address. I know that some members have been hesitant to share this information and I can assure you that, if provided, it is held in utmost confidence.

Also, Fellowship Connection has implemented a kit selection method (mail or email) and opt-out selection in response to requests from Area Registrars. District Change forms will be updated in the next few weeks. If you are waiting for a mailed kit, you can access digital copies by going to area83aa.org, and under the resources tab, select Secretary and you can familiarize yourself with the kit contents.

I want to thank everyone who has submitted their reports prior to today. The preferred format is Word so that I can simply pop your report into the minutes and do a bit of formatting. If you have not hit send yet, please forward your report at your earliest convenience. A quick reminder to submit your report with your position, first name and last initial to help me protect your anonymity. The Area Operating Procedures state that minutes should be circulated by the Secretary within 6 weeks after an Area Committee Meeting or Assembly. So far, I have been able to produce the minutes well under the target date. Thank you for helping me with the turn around time.

Also, I sent an email out to a few Districts yesterday afternoon regarding personal email addresses. Personal email addresses are one of the searchable fields for Fellowship Connection. Like your social insurance number or social security number, it is unique and it will follow you through your service record with the General Service Office. There's a few Districts that have position emails and that can be recorded as well, but it is your personal email address that is the most important. A request to the Districts that I sent the emails out to, please get that information back to me as soon as possible. Bill and I will work together and make sure that your information is input correctly and then you'll be able to have a history with the General Service Office, as opposed to just a two-year window.

I am grateful for this opportunity 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, JoAnn P

8. Roll Call and REGISTRAR'S REPORT Bill C.

Good afternoon friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the West End Group in District 74 and my name is Bill. I have the honour and privilege to serve as your Panel 71 Registrar for Area 83, Eastern Ontario International.

Welcome to the Area 83 Fall 2021 Assembly. As Registrar, I have been entrusted with the responsibility for updating Area 83's 577 (and one pending) group records and serving as the liaison with the General Service Office for matters concerning registration and records.

Since our Spring Assembly in March, I have had the opportunity to participate in a North American Registrar's workshop organized by Craig W, Group Services Coordinator at the General Service Office, on the evening of 26 May 2021. At this workshop we reviewed how Fellowship Connection was working for the various Areas and provided suggestions to General Service Office staff based on our collective experience to date. This database keeps track of all our North American Members, Groups, Districts and Areas. This new system allows the Area Registrar to make real time updates to the Area database.

Since this meeting, a new version (3.0) has been released. There have been many enhancements, but the one that impacts us most directly is the ability to request that a physical General Service Representative kit be sent

– or not. If the choice is to receive a kit, it can be requested to be sent electronically or as a physical package to new GSR's. Many GSR's have been requesting that they do not need a physical kit. This is in-line with the overall digital trend at GSO. Electronic versions of the GSR kits are available immediately [Click to Access GSR Kit](#)

District Committee Members and the Delegate were sent invitations to be able to access Fellowship Connection. The access is for read-only. This means that the DCM's and the Delegate can see the current records as well as download reports. A training session for the DCM's was organized and held at the monthly DCM meeting in July.

Data stewardship is a vitally important aspect of any database and Fellowship Connection is no different. To ensure that Area 83 is as up to date and accurate as possible, the current listing of Groups and their DCM and A/DCM contacts for each District was sent to the respective Registrar (&/or Secretary) of the District in April. I would like to thank each District who has responded with updates. For those who are still working on their updates, please send them along when they are available. This is an ongoing process and another example of where the DCM access to the Fellow Connection can be used to ensure that the records in Area 83 are as current and accurate as possible. In December, I will send out to the District Registrars the current listing in Fellowship Connection so collectively we can update the Groups and representatives in the Groups.

Forms are available to notify the Registrar Group Change information or to add New Groups. These forms are available on our Area 83 website, under "Resources" then by choosing the "Registrar" tab. It is important that all information is filled out. Highlighting all changes make it so much easier for me. I ask that, if the District Registrar is not sending the form directly to me, that they are copied so that accurate District records can be maintained.

I would like to give a HUGE "Thank You" to the Virtual Registration Team and Ushers who were most generous with their time and assistance leading up to this weekend and for their cool and calm work this morning to get everyone registered. Thank you!

Before I give the roll call, I would like to give a brief explanation of the process of compiling the tally. When compiling the tally, consideration is given to the vote and ensuring that those who are entitled to vote, have that right. The result being that the numbers will often look different than what you may expect for your Group or District. The goal is to ensure that the maximum number of voices and votes are represented during the Assembly.

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

Also, if an Alternate District Committee Member is the only person representing their group, I will count them as a GSR as well, since Alternate DCM's do not have voting rights, but Group Service Representatives do. Their role in the District may be that of Alternate DCM but their function, for the purposes of voting at the Assembly, is to serve as their group's representative.

In closing, I will make myself available to Districts and Groups to assist you with Registrar-related issues where I can, and please remember that communication is most important.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Yours in Love and Service, Bill C

See Roll Call: [APPENDIX B](#)

QUESTION FOLLOWING REGISTRAR'S REPORT:

QUESTION: Did you have any feedback from the Fellowship Connection DCM training session?

ANSWER: No, there was no real feedback.

9. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT James O'D.

Good afternoon Friends. My name is James O'D and am serving Area 83 as your Alternate Delegate. The Alternate Delegate position has several areas of focus: Intergroup liaison, member of the CERAASA steering committee, member of the ODC committee, Remote Communities liaison, custodian of the Area zoom account, chair of the DCM sharing sessions and member of the PCAS ad hoc committee.

Intergroups

Toronto - <https://www.aatoronto.org>

<https://www.aatoronto.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/OCTOBER-2021.pdf>

Ottawa - <https://ottawaaa.org>

Our Primary Purpose - <https://ottawaaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/OPP-202110.pdf>

Peterborough (D86) – <https://peterboroughaa.org>

Lakeshore - <https://www.aadurham.org>

District 58 – Status Update District 58 had reached out to the Area last term for guidance on how to proceed with very low participation. February, the District placed a notice in the Our Primary Purpose Newsletter (Ottawa Intergroup) advising the groups that unless there was interest in keeping the District going they would have to consider folding. The few active groups decided at a meeting in the Spring that it was time for the District to fold.

Action required for groups in District 58

It's been my pleasure to serve as District Committee Member for District 58 these past two years. And wonderful to work with the GSRs who came to our meetings. Unfortunately, we simply do not have the level of participation needed to sustain the District as a stand-alone unit. We've been relying on Districts 54 and 62 to continue the important work of the Ottawa committees: Corrections Facilities and Treatment, Cooperation with Professionals/Public Information, and Archives. And, we've had very few groups come to the Area 83 meetings. Currently, we do not have enough people to fill all the positions required to fully operate a District. As such, the participating GSRs have asked me to pose this question: ***Do we keep District 58 going? Or do we ask the home groups that have a GSR to join either District 54 or 62?*** With only about 20 percent of the groups in District 58 represented by a GSR we felt the need to get input from meetings without a voice at the District table. Please email your group conscience, or questions, on this very important matter to: kbcga@hotmail.com.

Yours in service,
Kim B

Subsequently the Area 83 Chair sent out a letter (attached) to the groups offering them assistance to continue to be part of the service structure so their group and individual voices would continue to be heard.

Letter sent by the Area Chair to the groups registered as being in District 58. (pg 1 of 2)



May 13, 2021

Warm Greetings from Area 83,

We hope this note finds you and your group doing well during these difficult times. We are aware that 2020 was particularly challenging for District 58 and that many groups have made the difficult decision to stop meeting as a district and let District 58 go dark. We are writing to you to let you know that you are still an important member of Area 83 and we want to make sure that you remain connected and continue to have a voice at Area 83 and Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. If there is anything that we can do during your transition, please let us know.

We understand that some groups have expressed an interest in joining one of the nearby districts (District 54 or 62). We are sure they would welcome you. Below you will find the District meeting details and the email for the District Committee member of District 54 and 62. Feel free to reach out to them, they would be glad to hear from you.

The importance of being part of a district means that you are participating in the General Service Structure. As Concept I states, *"the A.A. groups hold ultimate responsibility and final authority for our world services"*. So, your voice and opinion are an important contribution to the collective conscience of Area 83 and A.A. as a whole. This works by having a group member (General Service Representative) attend the District meetings. Here the GSR will receive and hear communications from the General Service Office (New York) and Area 83 via your District Committee Member. These items would then be shared with your group. You will also be able to share concerns and ideas with the District that can be passed along or brought to the Area meetings for consideration. We hope that you will feel comfortable in your new home district and that you provide an active voice about matters that are important to your group.

Also important is to stay connected with the Area and your group can do this by attending the Area Assembly. The next Assembly will be online on October 22–24, 2021. Here is another opportunity where your groups voice can be heard. Any member of Alcoholics Anonymous can attend the Assembly, but your GSR should come to represent your group at the business meeting on October 24th. Through your GSR, your group can participate in the decisions that are made affecting A.A. as a whole. As you are considering your options, if we can visit your group (via zoom) and provide any help we would be happy to do so.

Once you decide which district to join, please register your group and GSR with the District and the Area. You can use the Group Change form (see link below) to submit these details to the area registrar.

We would be delighted to hear from you and look forward to meeting members of your group at the next Area Assembly.

Yours in Love and Service,

Kimberley M.
Delegate
Area 83-Eastern Ontario
delegate@area83aa.org

James O'D.
Alternate Delegate
Area 83-Eastern Ontario
alt.delegate@area83aa.org

Amy L.
Area Chair
Area 83-Eastern Ontario
chairperson@area83aa.org

Letter sent by the Area Chair to the groups registered as being in District 58. (pg 2 of 2)



Useful resources and links that might be relevant as you consider the importance of joining a district:

Box 459 short articles:

[Dark District—a Focus for Many Area Delegates](#)

[The D.C.M.: Linchpin Between Group Reps and the Area Service Structure](#)

[Districts and D.C.M.s Link Together A.A. Groups](#)

[Looking at Redistricting Options](#)

[“Dark” Districts Require a helping Hand](#)

Pamphlets

F-12 - [Your D.C.M. - District Committee Member](#)

P-19 – [G.S.R. Your groups link to A.A. as a whole](#)

Contacts for neighboring Districts

District 62: DCM, Trevor F., trevorfdistrict62@gmail.com

District meeting: second Monday of the month at 7:30.

Zoom info is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/638562068?pwd=dXd6Y0p0bmo1L3g0UjVLM2dDa2tHQT09>

Meeting ID: 638 562 068

Passcode: 016224

District 54: DCM, Kevin O.,

District meeting times

Group Change Form: <http://area83aa.org/docs/registrar/NewGroupForm2021.doc>

Submit this form to the Area Registrar (registrar@area83aa.org)

CERAASA

We continue to meet every two months with the next meeting to be held on November 22nd. I will defer to our Delegate for further details.

ODC

I just booked my hotel room for the ODC coming up on March 4-6 in Burlington which is being hosted by Area 86. This may be our last ODC if our Eastern Canada Delegate Orientation idea is accepted by all 10 Areas. Moving forward there is discussion that we could hold this event virtually. Kimberley will be presenting more details in her report.

Remote Communities

As the Area Remote Communities Liaison, I have the privilege of chairing the monthly meeting of trusted servants who are on the front lines, bringing our message of recovery to the most remote corners of our continent. As things begin to open up the teams out west are preparing road trips to finally get out to visit the small communities in their northern regions.

One of the discussion points was how to carry the message to First Nations peoples has non-indigenous people. The last time we brought them “the good news” they lost their land, lives and freedom. It is amazing to hear the many stories of hope and perseverance of our members who continue to “suit up and show up” as one presenter put it this weekend in his presentation.

There was one item brought forward on behalf of an Inuit woman who has found recovery in AA. She is very grateful for her new life but would like to have the word “Eskimo” updated in the Big Book as she and many she represents find this offensive. We had a lively discussion about how to bring this forward to the GSC for discussion.

Lastly, the North/South event that was scheduled for December has now been moved to June 2022. Our Trustee at Large Canada reported that it was felt that this event should be more of a member/group driven event than a GSO event. These are our Concepts at work.

Zoom Account

Our Area account is being used by many of our trusted servants: Remote Communities, Districts, Area Sub Committees, ad hoc committees and more. If at any time you would like more detailed information please feel free to contact me. This is and has been a great return on our investment to carry our message of hope.

DCM Sharing Sessions

The meeting is for DCMs and their Alternates to practice their presenting skills, discuss items that are effecting their Districts, a new channel of communication to carry our message up and down the service structure, training for Alternates and in general, a lovely hour of fellowship. Some of the presentations/discussions we have had since we last met in the Spring were the following:

- April – Post Assembly debrief (what worked and what could be improved)
- May – Group & District Inventory
- June – Chairing District Meetings
- July – Fellowship Connection (Area Registrar cameo)
- August – Returning to in person meetings
- September – Pre conference agenda sharing sessions (PCAS)
- October – Safety in AA

Throughout my service Journey it has been my experience that it wasn't so much what position I held but what I brought to it. I encourage everyone here, as we are all trusted servants, to reignite our own personal fires to serve the fellowship. We have persevered through a very dark time and the light we all new would eventually

come has arrived. Let us continue to inspire those around us with the joy of service. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT:

QUESTION: Changing the wording in the Big Book – how does that happen?

ANSWER: If a group or a member or a District would like to make a change in the literature, it needs to be Conference approved. There's a form, which I don't know if you're at the plenary yesterday, I showed the form and went over the form and I'd be happy to send it to you or the person who's interested in making this change. They would need to fill out the form to indicate what is the recommended change with the motion that they discuss at a group, a District and area. Also, who has been in participation with the discussion and what group conscience levels have found to pass that motion, and any other material that they would like to submit and what they'd like the outcome to be what wording would they prefer to see and then that gets submitted to the conference coordinator at the General Service Office. And then at some point, it would probably get assigned to a conference committee and be an agenda item at a future conference.

QUESTION: I'm going to be honest, and I've heard this throughout this term. And frankly I don't really like it, but I'll share what the problem is. The DCM sharing sessions. I think you forgot to mention in your report that the DCM and the alternate DCM are only invited. It doesn't allow visitors to come in and see what's going on and learn and grow. So that, and I know it was a was a vote by the DCM, not to have visitors. That's a problem, because then it's only exclusive, and we're not exclusive. Only at the General Service conference. Let's just have it open for everybody.

QUESTION: Making reference to members of Alcoholics Anonymous as frontline workers, does not sit well with me. A frontline worker is a frontline workers and members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who serve in a service position, are trusted servants.

QUESTION: Are we able to use the Area zoom account for a meeting?

ANSWER: if your District, or if your District would like to use the area account you absolutely can. If you want to contact me offline, we can look at the schedule and see what's available.

QUESTION: Could you bring up my concern to the, DCMs for discussion and then report back?

ANSWER: If you'd like to do this, you can speak to your District committee member who can bring that to the group.

FOLLOWUP: I did, I did but nothing happens. I'd like you because you're the chairperson of that meeting. Could you bring it up under new business, and then report back in your report?

10. DELEGATE'S REPORT Kimberley M.

Hi everyone. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Ajax Area Group in District 26, and my name is Kimberley. It's an honour to serve as Panel 71 Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International.

What an amazing weekend this has been so far. It's a lot of work to prepare presentations and reports. Thank you to all our presenters for the time and thought that you put into your workshops. And for your reports this morning. We are so blessed to have such an active area passionate about service and persevering through these challenging times. Thank you so much for all that you do for our members, our Districts, our Area and AA as a whole.

Here's what I've been doing since the Spring Assembly:

The assembly was followed by Pre-Conference Agenda sharing (PCAS) sessions on March 30, 31, April 6th and 7th which I attended.

On April 9th our Conference Agenda Committee met virtually.

The 71st General Service Conference was held virtually from April 18 – 24th.

The 72nd General Service Conference (GSC) is scheduled for April 24-30th, 2022 in Brooklin, New York.

On May 2nd, those who helped to organize and who chaired the PCAS sessions met to discuss and review the process we used this year. We took note of what worked well and what could be improved.

On May 8th, 29th and June 13th members of Area 83 were invited to attend virtually to hear the reports of the chairs of the General Service Board, AA World Services and AA Grapevine.

On May 13th, I attended the DCM sharing session as a follow up to the PCAS sessions.

Thank you to those who organized and attended the GTA Information AA Day in May and the Ottawa Service Day in June and for the opportunity to give the 71st GSC Report. These were amazing days of sharing. Thank you to the Districts in zone 2 for the loving invitation to give the GSC report in July. One final opportunity to hear the GSC report was arranged for June 19th.

With assistance from Amy, the Delegate's Exchange newsletter was published in early July and is available on our website. It included some additional details about the Conference advisory actions. The next edition should be out in early November.

The 71st GSC Final Report was emailed out on August 9th. I still have some hard copies. If you would like one, please email me at delegate@area83aa.org.

CERAASA stands for the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly which takes place every 2 years. In 2021, the 10 delegates and alternate delegates of Eastern Canada have been meeting every 2 months as a steering committee. In the last few months, the minutes and financials of CERAASA going back to the first one in 2013 have been gathered for archival purposes. Our next meeting is on November 22nd.

On September 11th, I attended our virtual Area Committee Meeting.

On September 13th, our Conference Agenda Committee met to receive an update from our committee chair following the July Quarterly meeting.

On September 14th, the past delegates from Areas 83, 84, 85 and 86 got together with the current delegates and alternate delegates from our four Ontario Areas to discuss having "A Virtual Delegates Orientation for Eastern Canada held on the opposite years to CERAASA/ASTECAA commencing in 2024 and how this would affect our ODC.

Upcoming events/activities:

On October 26th, our Conference Agenda Committee will meet with the chair of the Trustees committee. We will get a verbal report on some of the proposed agenda items that have been submitted to the Trustees committee. These will be items that are still under consideration as to whether they should go to the Conference at this time. Our committee members will offer feedback on these items which will be brought back to the Trustees committee meeting as background for their discussion.

On November 6, the 10 Eastern Canada Delegates and alternates will join Jan, our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee (ECRT) to hear her report following the October Quarterly meeting.

Communication with our regional trustee has really grown over the last few years. These live reports enable the delegates to ask questions and hear questions other delegates ask to help us all be better informed and be able to share the same information with our areas.

You may have already heard this mentioned yesterday but the newly designed AA Service Manual with the Twelve Concepts for World Service will be available at aa.org for download on November 5th and for purchase on November 17th.

On November 6th and 7th, I look forward to virtually attending the Area 86, Western Ontario, assembly and assisting with their election assembly on Sunday.

Area 86, Western Ontario, will be hosting the Ontario Delegates Committee (ODC) Meeting weekend on March 4-6, 2022 at the Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre (not St. Catharine's as reported previously).

The ODC is an opportunity for the four Ontario Delegates to support each other in preparing for the General Service Conference. It's also a chance to meet with our Regional Trustee. The alternate delegates give presentations, and several Past Delegates share their experience having attended the Conference. All members are welcome to attend as observers and participate at various times throughout the weekend. Currently this is scheduled as an in-person event. Once I receive the flyer, I will ask JoAnn, our secretary, to share it with our Area Committee.

Themes, workshop and presentation topics for the General Service Conference are chosen from suggestions made by members like you. Consider submitting your suggestions!! A form was emailed to DCMs on Sept 25th or you can email me and I will be happy to share the submission form with you.

Upcoming Regional Events that I look forward to attending. I hope to see YOU there if you are able to make it.

In 2022, the Eastern Canada Regional Forum will take place in Charlottetown, PEI May 13-15.

In 2023, CERAASA will be held in St Catharines on February 24 – 26.

In 2024 Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Ottawa August 23 – 25.

Thank you for sending me your minutes. I enjoy reading what is happening in your Districts. Thank you for this opportunity to be of service. Please let me know if I can be of assistance to your group or your District.

Thank you for being here today and for all the service that you do.

With gratitude, love and service, Kimberley

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING DELEGATE'S REPORT:

QUESTION: Would it be possible for you to share your email address for questions?

ANSWER: delegate@area83aa.org

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

• Motion to go to 2/3 majority

Moved:	Trevor F.	District 62	DCM
Seconded:	Jane S.	Area	Grapevine Chair
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	108		
All those opposed:	none		
Any abstentions:	1		
Motion:	Carried		

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recommended by the Area Committee:

Add to the Area Operating Procedures Section 3 Responsibilities, 3.19 Area Archivist, **“The Archivist may answer questions and provide information related to Archives at the Area Assemblies, and Area Committee meetings on a request from the Area Chairperson or Area Archives Chair”**

AS PER 2.01 OF AREA OPERATING PROCEDURES: Motions sent to the Assembly from the Area Committee for vote at the Assembly are automatically treated as motions on the floor of the Assembly and do not need to be moved or seconded.

My name is Milner G. I'm an alcoholic, DCM 42 and I made this motion originally in the context of we had granted a voice and a vote to the Webmaster at the Area Assembly in the Spring Area Assembly. And because that's an appointed position I thought it would be fair to also give a voice to the Archivist. I have been archives chair and when I was archives chair, I learned a lot about archives, first of all, but I also, there was a lot I didn't know and I had to rely upon the archivist for answers so I put forward this motion. I think the benefit of it is that if we have questions about archival matters, the archivist and the Archives Chair don't have to do a quick dancing okay what about this, what about that. What do you want to say to this, what do you want to say to that? it goes straight to the expert that we have, and who we've put a lot of resources into helping get training, to be able to answer a question directly if requested by the Archives chair or the Area Chairperson. I believe that it would be a benefit to the assembly to have this motion pass.

ACM reference	Spring Assembly, June ACM and September ACM) Click here for Background
---------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discussion	<p>Marty M., CF Chair: Last term, I was the Area Archives Chair. And I can attest firsthand the frustration what was felt by the Archivist at the time because they're expected to be at the Assembly, yet they don't have a voice. Although the situation didn't come up while I was there, I could just imagine if that comes up, what Milner just described during the assembly and during the archives chairs report, and someone has a question regarding archival matters, whether it be digitizing material or any technical matters regarding archives that the Archives Chair is not really qualified to answer so I'd be speculating or it'd be like well I'll get back to you on that. Or you have to run over and ask the Archivist what the answer is. And then you can go back to the mic. We can just avoid that by letting the Archivist have a voice so I'm definitely in favor of that motion.</p> <p>Shane H., Archives Chair: It isn't in Robert's Rules of Order that the chair, if they so choose can call on a non-voting member. It's not in the Operating Procedures yet but generally, it can be up to the Chairperson so I think that the motion is worded well. I think it's fair. I don't think it's overstepping any bounds or anything. There are questions the current Archives Chair will not be able to answer especially digitizing with technology. If you talk about archiving certain materials, I know how to do that with papers and not understand the acids and stuff but we talk about technology, there's a lot of technology in archives. I would not know what to do. I'd would ask, "Mr. Chairperson Madam Chairperson, can we please call upon the Archivist?" which would seem natural, so I think this is a natural course of things.</p> <p>Bruce M., D10 GSR Twelve Traditions Group: This is something I was confused about last year when we were going over this with the Webmaster. The Archivist is an alcoholic who is volunteering to do that job. Am I correct?</p> <p>Milner G., DCM D42: That is correct, yes.</p> <p>Eddy G., D22 Beaches Group: My experience with this motion is when I was the area Archives Chair, an ad hoc committee was formed to review the positions of the Archivist, and the Archives Chairperson. And when there was a discussion, I asked the Area Committee meeting if the Archivist could participate in the discussion. And the table allowed. Having said that, I believe that this this emotion is very good because I don't have to. If I was the archives chair, I wouldn't have to ask the table, if, if the archivist could have a voice. So, with that, I'm going to ask the assembly if the Archivist could have a voice in this discussion.</p> <p>James O'D., Acting Chair: That seems really appropriate so I will allow the Archivist to share.</p> <p>David T., Area Archivist: In the past, what has happened if there were questions being called up that I knew things that the current tables didn't know. They knew I'd have to sneak around to the Archives Chair and give them a note and say, ask these questions ask these questions. I have been around a long time now, over 50 years now and there are things that the current committee isn't aware of which may have happened in the past. And so sometimes it behooves me to say yes maybe you should consider such and such. There's many times when you go into the Archives, I've had questions from Delegates and such to look up certain information. So, it's only natural and we used to ask the committee to send forward all their emails from their closing of the committee chairs position and rarely did I get anything, but we get all the minutes for now digitizing the minutes so we're making things easier for research so we're not destroying documents. Most of the Archives Chairs when they take the job know very little about what the archivists do. Its only right that they be able to allow questions either from the Chair or the chairperson or whomever wish to say could you clarify something for us. I think that's the intent behind this particular motion.</p> <p>Christine F., DCM D18: David just mentioned about having questions and having to pass notes, this motion that we're going for right now would give the Archivist voice to answer direct questions. Not a voice to come of their own volition, to the mic. If the Archivist had a question, they can't approach the mic but if we, if the committee had a question for the Archivist it could be asked of the Archivist. Correct?</p> <p>Milner G., DCM D42: Yes, that is the motion as it is written.</p>
------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

All those in favour:	111
opposed:	1
abstentions:	3
minority opinion:	no
Motion:	Carried

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election for Area 83 nominee for Eastern Canada Regional Trustee.....James O'D, Acting Area Chair
Under 4.03 Election of Trustee Nominee for the General Service Board, our Operating Procedures say:

4.03 ELECTION OF TRUSTEE NOMINEE FOR THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

- The Election of the Trustee Nominee is by the Area Assembly.
- Those voting are those eligible to vote at this meeting of the Assembly.

That means: If a District Committee Member is absent from this meeting of the Assembly, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote. If a General Service Representative is absent from this meeting of the Assembly, the alternate General Service Representative may vote. If both the GSR and Alternate GSR are absent, another member of the same group may vote.

- There is one vote per group, including the General Service Representatives of recognized Correctional Facilities groups.
- Nominations of candidates shall be from the floor.
- Nominations may be made by any member eligible to vote at the Assembly.
- If a candidate is not present, permission must have been granted by the candidate in writing for the name to stand.
- If a candidate is not present a written resume shall be provided and read by the nominator.
- If there is only one candidate, that person is automatically elected by acclamation.
- Candidates shall be requested to say a few words.
- Third Legacy procedure shall be used.

I have asked a good friend of Area 83, Percy G., Panel 62 Delegate from Area 86 to assist with the Third Legacy tally sheet. Thank you Percy for Helping us out. Just a quick review of how the 3rd Legacy voting is carried out. From our service manual, page S22.

- The first candidate to receive two-thirds of the total vote is elected.
- Withdrawals start after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than one-fifth of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn – except that the top two candidates must remain. (In case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
- After the third ballot, candidates with less than one-third of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. *(In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)*
- After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the smallest total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied second place candidates remain. At this point, the chairperson asks for a motion, second, and a simple majority of hands on conducting a fifth and final ballot. If this motion is defeated, balloting is over and the choice is made by lot – “going to the hat” –immediately. If the motion carries, a fifth and final ballot is conducted.

- If after the fifth ballot no election occurs, the chairperson announces that the choice will be made by lot (from the hat). At this point, the top two candidates remain. In case there are ties for first place, all tied first place candidates remain. In case there are no ties for first place, the top candidate and any tied second-place candidates remain.
- Lots are then drawn by the teller, and the first one “out of the hat” is Area 83’s Nominee for Regional Trustee.

The Chair called for any nominations from the floor?

Rob M, Joyce S and Robb W. were nominated by voting members from the Assembly floor.

FOR THE POSITION

Trustee Nominee for Area 83

	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT * #5	THE HAT
1	Rob M.	41	47	49	50	49	
2	Joyce S.	45	48	54	66	70	Elected
3	Robb W.	33	27	18			
Total Votes Cast		119	122	121	116	119	
2/3 of Votes Cast		80	82	81	78	80	
1/5 of Votes Cast		24	24	24	23		
1/3 of Votes Cast		40	41	40	39		

*** Motion for 5th Ballot for election of Trustee Nominee**

Made by Terry N., GSR D28, Sober Sisters Group
 Seconded by Eileen S., GSR D28, Road to Recovery Group
 In Favour: 112 (requires simple majority to pass, which is 57)
 All Opposed: 6
 Proceed to 5th Ballot

At the 5th ballot, no one received 2/3 of the votes, so the names of the candidates (Rob M and Joyce S) go into the Hat.

James O’D. drew from the hat (on screen). The Trustee Nominee from Area 83 will be Joyce S.

B. Report on 2019-2020 Financial AuditJoyce S., Panel 65 Delegate
 Our Operating Procedures require that the current Area 83 Treasurer and two appointed auditors approved by the Area Committee shall audit the previous term’s financial documents. The committee performed this obligation for the years 2019 and 2020 on Saturday, August 21, 2021 at the Pickering Library at 1:00 pm. This task was completed by 3:00 pm.

On behalf of Ian C., District Committee Member for District 26, we both thank our current Treasurer, Dave L. for the opportunity to participate and requesting that I present the final report. The three of us felt confident enough to meet in person since we have all been double vaccinated. We did social distance as much as possible under the circumstances.

The committee was very pleased with the impeccable filing system of the previous Treasurer, JoAnn P., who fulfilled her commitment to the fullest.

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

Specifically, the Audit Committee focused on the financial documents covering the period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 and for the first two months in 2020. The reasoning was due to the lack of in person services beginning March, 2020 because of COVID 19 restrictions.

This was done in order to evaluate:

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

Each committee member reviewed for 2019, an entire month's transactions to reflect various types of situations such as: a month with an assembly, a month with an Area Committee meeting and the last month at random. During this process; large transactions like General Service Office Assessments, Ontario Delegates Committee Meeting expenses, Ambassador Hotel bills, and Grapevine seasonal's were reviewed.

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

The expenses for the following Trusted Servants were reviewed for accuracy, reasonability and completeness: Archivist, Archives, Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment/Accessibility, Grapevine, Self-Support, Corrections, Treasurer, Secretary, Chair, Alternate Delegate, Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate.

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

The Audit Committee was unanimous in not making any recommendations.

Yours In Love and Service

Dave L.- Area 83 Treasurer, Ian C., District Committee Member District 26,

Joyce S.- Panel 65 Delegate

• ***Motion to accept the 2019-2020 Financial Audit as presented by the Auditors***

Moved:	Maria M., DCM District 30
Seconded:	Bev H., Self Support Chair
Discussion	none
All those in favour:	112
opposed:	none
abstentions:	3
Motion:	Carried

C. Destruction of 2017-2018 Financial Records.....Dave L., Area 83 Treasurer
We keep the hard copies of the financial records for the previous term as well as obviously the current term. It's sometimes useful to look back at previous terms records and hardcopy to look up some away a particular thing was handled for the current treasurer. However, we have electronic copies, all the records so that we have access to prior years information. The motion is to destroy the hard copies of the 2017 2018 financial records, which gets rid of a tote box full of receipts and makes room for further treasures receipts. We typically destroy the paper copies after two terms. That's what this motion is about.

• ***Motion to destroy 2017-2018 Financial Records***

Moved:	John C., GSR D6 Streetsville Group
--------	------------------------------------

Seconded:	Jim R., GSR D10 Morning Discussion Group
Discussion	none
All those in favour:	111
opposed:	1
abstentions:	3
Voice of the Minority:	none
Motion:	Carried

- D. Recommended by the Area Committee that “Area 83 pay up to \$200.00 for interpretation at Eastern Canada Regional meetings for one year” Kimberley M., Delegate

CERAASA is held the last weekend of February every two (2) years, on a rotating basis among the ten (10) areas in the Eastern Canada region. The purpose of this regional service assembly is to develop greater unity among the members, groups and areas of the Eastern Canada Region and to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences. The overall content of the weekend agenda includes panel meetings, open microphone sharing sessions, service presentations and speakers. CERAASA also provides an opportunity for all A.A. members to discuss related issues and concerns affecting A.A., as a whole, as well as some General Service Conference agenda items.

Throughout 2019 and 2020, the 10 delegates and alternates, along with our ECRT met bi-monthly as an ad-hoc committee to review the CERAASA guidelines. Once that was concluded, we continued to meet in 2021 as a steering committee for CERAASA and to receive updates from our Regional Trustee. These meetings have been bilingual. We have a member translating for which we are grateful, but it is very cumbersome since everything is being said twice. One in English and once in French. Therefore, discussions take double the time. We would like to arrange interpretation for these meetings. The interpretation would be simultaneous.

The General Service Conference, World Service Meeting and the Virtual Regional Forums used a company from Quebec. The interpreters are French Canadians and familiar with our AA terminology. The Conference members were very happy with their interpreting. We would like to use these same interpreters.

For simultaneous interpretation on Zoom, there are two requirements:

- 1) You need to purchase an add on feature in zoom that allows multiple channels – one for each language.
This feature can be added on a month-by-month basis to an already existing Pro Account.
- 2) You need a professional to do the interpreting.

The cost to meet these 2 requirements split evenly between the 10 areas is currently \$186.43 per Area for one year. This would provide interpretation for 6 CERAASA steering committee meetings and four meetings where our ECRT can provide the delegates and alternates with quarterly updates.

As you may know, the costs for Zoom does increase once in a while which is why the amount was rounded up to \$200.

- **Recommended by the Area Committee that “Area 83 pay up to \$200.00 for interpretation at Eastern Canada Regional meetings for one year.”**

AS PER 2.01 OF AREA OPERATING PROCEDURES: Motions sent to the Assembly from the Area Committee for vote at the Assembly are automatically treated as motions on the floor of the Assembly and do not need to be moved or seconded.

Discussion	<p>Dee G., Alt GSR D18 Steps to Serenity: I thought you were talking about ASL interpretation. I didn't realize it was French and I'm wondering if we shouldn't put a bilingual somewhere in there?</p> <p>Kimberley M., Delegate: It's currently a meeting with the 10 Delegates the Alternate Delegates and the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee and since those are the people involved in the meeting, we'd like to meet whatever their needs are. Currently, their needs are that some of them are French speaking is their first language and of course, some of their</p>
------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	English. At this time, ASL is not required but should that be required down the road that would be something we would pursue.
All those in favour:	110
opposed:	none
abstentions:	2
Motion:	Carried

- E. Recommended by the Area Committee: **"That Area 83 make a contribution up to \$20,000 to the General Service Office."** Dave L., Area 83 Treasurer

Area 83 is in very solid financial shape. A contribution of \$5,000 was sent to the General Service Office in April following the approval of the proposed spending guidelines at the Spring Assembly.

In 2020, the General Service board approved 4 withdrawals from the reserve account totalling \$4 million dollars which were transferred into their operating account. The target of the level for the general Service Office for the reserve fund and established by the General Service board, and the General Service Conference was to have 9 to 12 months worth of expenses covered with the transfer about \$4 million.

At the end of December 2020, the funds in the reserve equaled 7.9 months worth of expenses. In August of 2021 at the board weekend, the General Service Board did approve a transfer of \$250,000 back to the reserve fund which brought the reserve fund up to 8.4 months worth of expenses. They still remain in need of further funds to replenish the reserve fund.

Contributions have continued to flow into Area 83 this year at a pace a little above last year. When I made this motion at the September Area Committee Meeting, I worded it to say up to \$20,000 at that date I indicated, I would have been comfortable. On September 11th I would have been comfortable recommending \$14,000 being sent to the General Service Office, but contributions that have continued to flow in. Today I would be comfortable recommending \$20,000 be sent as a contribution. The motion as it stands covers up to \$20,000.

AS PER 2.01 OF AREA OPERATING PROCEDURES: Motions sent to the Assembly from the Area Committee for vote at the Assembly are automatically treated as motions on the floor of the Assembly and do not need to be moved or seconded.

Discussion	<p>Jack R., PI Chair: If we approve this motion, will we decide on an amount or who does decide on a final amount?</p> <p>Dave L., Treasurer: I worded it so I would have the discretion up to \$20,000 today. If this motion was approved I would send \$20,000 so if you wanted to amend the motion to make it \$20,000 I'm comfortable with that.</p>
Friendly Amendment	<p>Friendly Amendment: <i>"That Area 83 make a contribution of \$20,000 to the General Service Office."</i> By Jack R., PI Chair</p> <p>Original seconder (September 11 ACM) Jill B., DCM D06 – agrees to this amendment.</p>
Return to Discussion	<p>Bill C., Registrar: I will be voting in favour of this motion. And to put it into perhaps a bigger context with the draw down that happened last year, if each of the 93 areas were in the position as fortunate as we are to make a \$20,000 contribution that would total \$1.86 million. Just to put it into the context of what this represents for the larger picture.</p> <p>Eileen S., GSR D28 Road to Recovery Group: I don't want to be too detail oriented but shouldn't it be a one time contribution or have a date on there?</p> <p>Dave L., Treasurer: It is a one time contribution. Basically, it is the discretion of the treasurer but it could be sent in the next few days.</p>

	<p>Eileen S., GSR D28 Road to Recovery Group: Should there be a friendly amendment to the motion that says Area 83 make a one-time contribution and \$20,000 to GSO?</p> <p>Dave L., Treasurer: I don't think it requires that. This is in addition to the \$5000 that was already sent.</p> <p>Mark P., GSR D62 Stittsville Second Chance Group: How does that track against our yearly contributions? Is this a portion of a yearly contribution, and if so, how does that track against the previous years contributions?</p> <p>Dave L., Treasurer: We've already contributed \$5000 so this would be an additional \$20,000. We have never historically come anywhere close to these amounts but this year, we've had contributions flowing in at the same rate as last year, but expenses are very limited, so we do have a very large surplus. Even after making this contribution, we'd have even today approximately \$40,000 in our operating account plus another \$20,000 in our reserve account. We are in very strong financial position. And last year, from the fall assembly to the end of the year and additional \$6,000 in contributions were made and I have no reason to doubt that that wouldn't be similar this year.</p>	
Restate the Motion	Recommended by the Area Committee “That Area 83 make a contribution of \$20,000 to the General Service Office.”	
Point of Order	<p>George W., DCM D22: This is not a recommendation of the Area Committee, this is a recommendation of the Area Assembly. The recommendation, hence, the wording, and now a decision by the Assembly is to make it a specific amount, the full \$20,000.</p> <p>James O’D., Acting Area Chair: So, hearing what you just said we could change this to the amended recommendation by the Area Committee. Would that suffice?</p> <p>George W., DCM D22: I suppose so. It's no longer a recommendation. It's a motion, a full on motion of a specific amount. I don't know why it can't be just a motion on the floor of the Assembly. I don't know, either way it works, but it is a motion made by the Assembly by a GSR, not by the area committee so it's distinctly different in my mind.</p> <p>James O’D., Acting Chair: Noted – we will strike recommended by the Area Committee.</p>	
Restate the Motion	“That Area 83 make a contribution of \$20,000 to the General Service Office.”	
All those in favour:		107
opposed:		3
abstentions:		1
Voice of the Minority		none
Motion:		Carried

F. Report from the Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing (PCAS) *ad hoc* Committee.....Rob M., Immediate Past 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 Immediate past Delegate for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International.

In 2020 and again this year Area 83 facilitated a series of Pre-conference agenda sharing sessions. These sessions were designed to provide our Delegate with the viewpoints and experiences of Area 83 on agenda items for the General

Service Conference. They also provided members throughout Area 83 an opportunity to participate in AA as a whole and have their say in how their fellowship moves forward.

The first year of its rollout, the viewpoints gathered were considerably more than previous efforts. In 2020 much work went into training Area 83 members how to use the online meeting software. The committee developed scripts and templates to ensure smooth presentations to the membership and that presenters had a good understanding of the topics for which they were responsible.

In its second year, it was hoped that Area 83 members would be more receptive to the online format which may have precluded some from participating in 2020. Overall attendance increased almost 80% from the previous year. The increase in attendance still represents a small fraction of the total membership in Area 83.

Presenters for the 2021 PCAS sessions met on May 2, 2021 and reviewed the results of the PCAS survey and shared what they thought were successes and areas for improvement. The consensus of the meeting was that the sharing sessions represent a good vehicle for discussions, but the engagement and general awareness of the Conference process could be better cultivated among the membership.

On May 6, 2021, our Area Chairperson Amy L asked me to chair an Ad Hoc Committee for Pre-conference Agenda sharing 2022. Our committee Secretary is Bill C, Area 83 Registrar. Also serving on this committee is Kathie T, DCM District 28, Jonathan CJ, DCM District 36, Joyce S Area 83 Panel 65 Delegate, Jo D Area 83 CPC Chair, JoAnn P Area 83 Secretary, and James O, Area 83 Alternate Delegate.

The function of this ad hoc committee is to consider:

1. Solutions to the deficiencies identified in the meeting on May 2
2. A communication and engagement strategy that would encourage members to follow the Conference process and participate in the dialogue on matters under consideration at the General Service Conference.
3. A reoccurring model of this organizing committee alleviating the need to strike ad hoc committees on an annual basis.
4. Roll out of the Preconference Agenda Sharing session in advance of the 72nd General Service Conference (April 24-30, 2022).

The procedure is:

1. To meet as a committee with enough frequency to carry out the scope of the committee's work.
2. To identify ways to improve the level of awareness and participation in the Pre-Conference Sharing sessions.
3. The chair of this ad hoc committee will provide a progress report to the Area Committee at the September ACM including any recommendations that may alter the Area 83's Operating procedures.

Our committee has met eight times via zoom and made much progress. We have several meetings scheduled in the coming months, will be prepared to roll out the 2022 sessions in early January, and hope to have a final report at our January Area Committee meeting.

Yours in Love and Service, Rob M

G. Motion: "A Virtual Delegates' Orientation for Eastern Canada be held on the opposite years to CERAASA/ASTECAA commencing in 2024. The expense of translation would be divided between the 10 Areas."Kimberley M., Delegate

In February 2021, CERAASA was cancelled and instead there was a virtual Eastern Canada Delegate's Orientation (ECDO). The event was modelled after our Ontario Delegates Committee (ODC). Quebec has the QDC, an event similar to our ODC, however Area 81, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Area 82, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, do not currently have this form of orientation for their delegates/alternates.

Following the success of ECDO, and other discussions about regional unity, a Quebec Delegate put forward the idea of a virtual Eastern Canada Delegate's Orientation to be held on the even years. After further discussions the following motion is being presented to the 10 Areas of Eastern Canada.

"A Virtual Delegates Orientation for Eastern Canada be held on the opposite years to CERAASA/ASTECAA commencing in 2024. The expense of translation would be divided between the 10 Areas."

On September 14th, the past delegates of the 4 Ontario Areas met to discuss this motion.

What I took from that meeting seemed to touch on 5 key points:

- 1) The downside shared by all is that we will miss the social aspect, the face to face connections, one on one conversations as well as all the other experiences an in person event offers.
- 2) All of the past delegates agreed that the orientation provided by the ODC over the years was invaluable. With the technology now available, most of them felt that a reasonable progression would be to make this experience available to all 10 delegates.
- 3) Many of them shared that having attended the Conference and observing how close many other regional delegates were, it would be wonderful for our 10 areas to continue to build relationships and come together as a region whenever possible.
- 4) Inclusion of Area 81 and 82 is very important and beneficial to us and them.
- 5) Financial considerations
 - In 2020 we hosted the ODC which cost around \$5600. It would be cost effective for all areas to attend virtually rather than in person.
 - In person events are especially difficult financially for northern Ontario and the East coast areas.
 - With respect to translation, the set up, quality and cost is much better over zoom.

- **Motion: A Virtual Delegates' Orientation for Eastern Canada be held on the opposite years to CERAASA/ASTECAA commencing in 2024. The expense of translation would be divided between the 10 Areas.**

Moved:	Kimberley M., Delegate
Seconded:	Rob M., Immediate Past Delegate
Discussion	<p>Bill C., Registrar: Is the intention, either in the shorter or longer term to then replace the in person ODC with this broader regional virtual meeting?</p> <p>Kimberley M., Delegate: Throughout the meeting, the progression was that the ODC is fantastic and spectacular, and this would be the growth of the ODC. So instead of it being the Ontario Delegates' Committee, which is essentially an orientation for our Ontario Delegates, it would now become a regional delegates' meeting for all 10 of the delegates. The regional orientation was modeled after our Ontario event so it had all of the same components that has been training our Ontario delegates for ages now and giving that benefit to all 10 of the regional delegates. I'm thinking of it as more of an expansion of our event from four little areas to 10 areas.</p> <p>George W., DCM D22: You mentioned a \$5,000 expense of running the in person, Ontario delegates. Does that include the transportation costs of northern communities or is that a separate item in there that they would have to bear?</p> <p>Kimberley M., Delegate: The cost that I mentioned was the cost for Area 83. So that was for Area 83 to host the event so renting the facility, as well as reimbursing the Delegate, the past delegate and the alternate delegate to attend the event, as well as the organizers of the event and Eastern Canada Regional Trustee so those are the costs just for Area 83. That was our portion of that event.</p> <p>Rob M., Immediate Past Delegate: Just a little clarification. The four areas of Ontario take turns hosting the Ontario Delegates' Committee, and it's only held every two years so Area 83 actually would only host every eight years. We hosted in 2020 and the costs were that \$5000 and something dollars that Kimberley mentioned. But in years that we don't host, the expense would be a lot less. It would just be the travel</p>

	and hotel for the Delegate and Alternate Delegate to attend. But expenses aside, I think in Area 83 that we've always been able to afford the Ontario Delegates' Committee. And I don't believe that a decision has been made yet on whether that would continue to happen or not. But regardless of that I'm still in favour of Eastern Canada Delegates' Orientation because it's a great vehicle to bring all 10 areas of Eastern Canada together. In the last few years, the Eastern Canada Region has become much more united than it used to be. Not that there was lack of unity in the past, but we just didn't do a whole lot as a region. But we've really started to do more as a region and the Delegates and Alternate Delegates have attended various online events together that has helped to promote unity in the Eastern Canada region. And this year I was at, the first virtual delegates orientation that we had and I think it was a really good event to prepare all 10 Delegates from Eastern Canada region to attend the General Service Conference with sort of a united Eastern Canada, front, if you will. I'm in favour of this, and I hope that we will move forward with it.
All those in favour:	107
opposed:	2
abstentions:	2
Voice of the Minority	John M., GSR Danforth Group D18: Without getting into the Covid situation, more and more I've seen these things going online. And I think there's some loss to be in person, thing, and I would probably be more accepting of a hybrid situation rather than totally online. Barbara, Alt GSR Friendly Friday D86: Although the general idea is good, I'm really not used to things going from a motion in new business to being voted on without really much discussion.
Motion to Reconsider	none
Motion:	Carried

H. Recommended by the Area Committee: “Accept the Modifications to Area 83 Operating Procedures resulting from motion at Spring Assembly March 28, 2021 Old Business – Item 11 C: “Area 83 Webmaster, or in their absence the Alternate Webmaster, be given a vote as well as a voice at the Area Committee Meetings and Area Assembly.” JoAnn P., Area Secretary

AS PER 2.01 OF AREA OPERATING PROCEDURES: Motions sent to the Assembly from the Area Committee for vote at the Assembly are automatically treated as motions on the floor of the Assembly and do not need to be moved or seconded.

Part of my responsibility is to update the Operating Procedures, based on any changes that have been agreed upon by the either the Area Committee and or the Area Committee and the Assembly. When the Webmaster was given a voice and a vote, that brought about changes that needed to happen in the Area Operating Procedures. I am presenting 10 items today, here for Area Assembly's approval and they have been discussed by the Area Committee. See [Appendix D](#) for the individual changes to the operating procedure.

- **Motion to accept the modifications to the Operating Procedures resulting from the motion at Spring Assembly March 28, 2021 – Webmaster Voice and Vote, as outlined by the Secretary.**

All those in favour:	103
opposed:	none
abstentions:	3
Motion:	Carried

13. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Linda R., Alt GSR Liverpool Group D26: It is so great to be a participant, and to have further understanding of what's going on. This is my fourth assembly and yes, I'm so overwhelmed. Absolutely. But it's starting to make more sense. And I'm really grateful. Whoever thought to put the acronyms at the bottom of the agenda, through there because that's helpful. Thank you, everybody.

Jan L., Eastern Canada Regional Trustee: Congratulations Area 83 on another successful assembly, I always enjoy coming to your Area for your Assemblies. Congratulations Joyce on your election as nominee. Robb W and Rob M, congratulations for letting your name stand. I always enjoy your Assemblies, and you've done a marvelous job this week for sure and some of those motions are near and dear to my heart so I appreciate the discussion on them and the presentation about them and you're passing them so it will help the Eastern Canada region immensely now and into the future. I do appreciate that. When you get your final report your conference reports, make sure you check out page 70 and that's all I'm going to say.

Percy G., P62 A86 Delegate: it's been a great day I totally enjoyed it I want to thank you people very much for inviting me. It was a true pleasure and Joyce I want to congratulate you on your nomination and JoAnn, our SOPs are up for review in the Spring Assembly of 2023, we wish to import you to bring up our operating procedures, and if you can get those through it as fast as you got yours through, we would love to have you.

Joyce S., P65 Delegate: I want to thank everyone for your love and support. I need to get a new phone because I think it blew up. And I'm so proud of Area 83 because you know you're a great, great group of people and I look forward to seeing you, every assembly and area committee meeting. That's why I said I haven't missed one in 20 years and you guys keep me coming back and thank you so much for your love and support.

Scott M., D06: November 1st, Robb W celebrates 25 years and he's taking his medallion in Centennial group on Friday November 5th and you'll enjoy the speaker.

Rob M., Immediate Past Delegate: Congratulations Joyce on being elected as our candidate for Regional Trustee. At the last trustee election Joyce was our candidate and she was this close to getting elected she actually went to the hat. I was the Delegate there that got to be present and it was so emotional. I started crying when Joyce didn't come out of the hat. So good luck and I really hope you get elected. I'm sure that you'll make a great Trustee.

Bill C., Registrar: We have a very special person here who has a very special birthday coming up. His first decade and that is on the 29th of October, and none other than our webmaster George M.

Jane S., Grapevine Chair: I did have a phone conversation with someone from District 50 Cornwall. I spoke with Steph who let me know that they do have some live meetings that are going on in Cornwall not too many, but they're not meeting as a District right now. I wanted to let you know that we did connect and I've inserted myself to be at the next District meeting of Cornwall District 50 as Grapevine Rep.

Marwyn, Alt GSR King City Group D14: I've been communicating with my GSR all through this and I'm not one of the voting members but I'm looking forward to moving up into GSR. But one of the things before the vote between Robb W, Rob M and Joyce, I sent her a text and it said, and I believe this with all my heart, "Wow, what an illustrious group to choose from. A great group of hard-working people, all knowledgeable and very committed to AA, all of them." On that note, I'd like to congratulate Joyce.

Alma B., GSR Credit Valley Group D06: When Covid hit last year, I started attending my home group in Sofia, Bulgaria, which is New Life. I cannot tell you how much this has helped as in Bulgaria the fellowship is very young. Imagine what it is for a group, sitting 7700 kilometres away to listen to Canadian speakers. It has been a tradition which was created, I wrote an article for **Better Times**, and they think that's great news in regards with did a prevail in Covid. They're going to look back at 2021 and think, what did they do? Zooming. We're totally zombies by now, we used to be baby boomers now we're zombies. But the thing is that it proved what, there are no boundaries. It's boundless. It's more than a life. It's thriving. And I have to thank this pandemic for really giving me the opportunity to do this. I think it's wonderful news, and my higher power is the internet. If something happens to the internet, I'm child Planet Earth, because there is no life for me without the internet. Thank you.

Karen A., Alt DCM D54: I just want to really thank everyone for coming out. Right from James to chairing a fantastic weekend and Kimberley our Delegate for always keeping us informed and all of those on the committee to all of the GSR is that stood up and show up it showed up and gave your weekend. It's just fantastic. I'm fairly young in the program and I can read as much as I want about the traditions, the fellowship the relationships the concepts, but its being able to attend things like this where I get to see them in action. And I really appreciate it and I wish you all a wonderful rest of the weekend.

Ken C., GSR Richmond Hill Group D14: 4:30 in the afternoon, the sun is still shining and I'm only going to drive for about three minutes to get dinner tonight. Alma, thank you, I appreciate being a zoombie now and can call myself a Zoomer or Boomer - I'm at that age. Area 83 is phenomenal. You know, this is my second assembly back to this area. It's nice to see old faces from way back when, and a whole whack of new faces. I'm glad you are working. the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. There's 36 principles; the steps, the traditions and the concepts. Kimberley, keep doing a great job, passing on that we do need to pass on and Joyce who's going to become the next Eastern Canadian trustee keep on trucking.

Dorothy A., GSR Anchor of Hope Group D06: I absolutely love to be back in touch with the Area assembly. It's been a couple of years, and thank you everyone for your hard work and, and the excellent, excellent presentations that I've heard all weekend. I came to my first assembly when I was three months sober. And I've enjoyed them ever since so thank you. I am representing the Anchor of Hope Group in Mississauga. It's about going on little over a year and a half old. It was born out of the pandemic. And we are very proud of nine of our members who have received during the pandemic their first-year medallions. We are so proud of that group. We are in person, and I am loving being there and being able to sponsor and being able to meet so many new people on the journey that were able to get sober, thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous, and the incredible members of Anchor of Hope, so thank you.

Sarah M., GSR Language of the Heart Group D74: I'm very new in the program and just a baby in general service but I just found today to be so informative. It was so wonderful to watch everybody work together and I'm just grateful I'm on this path and on this journey in recovery with all of you I just I learned so much today. James thanks so much for chairing and Joyce congratulations.

14. NEXT ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE INFORMATION DAY

As Chairperson, I would recommend the next Assembly and Service Information Day be held on March 25th, 26th, 27th 2022.

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

Moved:	Trevor F.	District 62	DCM
Seconded:	Barbara C.	District 78	DCM
Discussion	none		
All those in favour:	85		
All those opposed:	none		
Any abstentions:	1		
Motion:	Carried		

15. CLOSING

I would like to thank everyone for staying and a very special thanks to those who volunteered to help make this weekend amazing. It takes a lot of resources to offer such a great weekend and I want to thank all those who participated in your capacity as trusted servants, and special thank you to those who have generously volunteered to make this run as smoothly as it did.

AS A REMINDER - Our next Area Committee Meeting will be held online on **January 8th, at 10:00 a.m.** The Agenda will be sent out by the last week of November.

It is now 4:42 pm, may I have a motion to close the meeting?

- **Motion to close the meeting**

Moved:	Eileen S	District 28	GSR
Seconded:	Christine F.	District 18	DCM
Discussion	None		
All those in favour:	79		
All those opposed:	4		
Any abstentions:	2		
Motion:	Carried		

The Meeting closed with A Declaration of Unity.

**This we owe to AA's future:
To place our common welfare first;
to keep our Fellowship united.
For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of those yet to come.**

APPENDICES

Appendix A₁. Financial Documents–Financial Summary (October 15, 2021)

[Return to the
Treasurer's report](#)

EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83
as at October 15, 2021

RESERVE ACCOUNT		Actual
January 1, 2021 Opening Balance		20,000.00
Interest		
Transfer to Operating Account		
RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE		20,000.00

INCOME		
7th Tradition		2,077.00
Cost Recoveries		0.00
Flow Through to GSO		0.00
Grapevine Seasonals		639.00
Group, District & Individual Contributions		24,836.10
	TOTAL INCOME	27,552.10
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		27,552.10

EXPENSES		
Accommodations		0.00
Meals		0.00
Travel		0.00
Long Distance		0.00
Postage		331.95
Printing		126.65
Literature		0.00
Stationery		20.33
Miscellaneous		282.54
	Total Committee Expenses	761.47
Ad Hoc Committees		0.00
Area Contribution to GSO		5,000.00
Area Committee Meetings		0.00
General Service Conf. Assessment		2,897.40
Bank Service Charges		47.45
Paypal fees		7.15
Forums		0.00
Grapevine Seasonal		0.00
GSO Flow Through		0.00
Ontario Delegates' Committee (ODC)		0.00
CERAASA / ECDO		114.97
International Convention		0.00
	Total Other Expenses	8,066.97
TOTAL EXPENSES		8,828.44

OPERATING ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2021		41,596.93
Total Income & Transfers		27,552.10
Total Expenses		(8,828.44)
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE		60,320.59

Appendix A2. Financial Documents–Detail of Expenses (October 15, 2021)

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International
Details of Expenditures
as at October 15, 2021

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Long Distance	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Approved Spending Guideline	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
COMMITTEE EXPENSES													
Delegate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	227.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	227.99	\$825.00	597.01	27.64%
Alt. Delegate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	282.54	282.54	\$1,250.00	967.46	22.60%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Chairperson	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$555.00	555.00	0.00%
Secretary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,425.00	1425.00	0.00%
Treasurer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.96	126.65	0.00	20.33	0.00	250.94	\$825.00	574.06	30.42%
Registrar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Area Web Site/Webmaster	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Archives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Archivist	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Cooperation with the P. C.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$654.00	654.00	0.00%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Grapevine	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Public Information	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Self Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Treatment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Accessibility	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$525.00	525.00	0.00%
Service Info Day Cmte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$3,951.54	3951.54	0.00%
Spring Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$8,911.75	8911.75	0.00%
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 331.96	\$ 126.65	\$ -	\$ 20.33	\$ 282.54	\$ 761.47	\$ 24,172.29	\$ 23,410.82	3.15%
OTHER EXPENSES													
Adhoc Committees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
Area Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$500.00	500.00	0.00%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000.00	\$5,000.00	0.00	100.00%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47.45	47.45	\$100.00	52.55	47.45%
Paypal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.15	7.15	\$15.00	7.85	47.67%
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,850.00	1,850.00	0.00%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,897.40	2,897.40	\$2,897.40	0.00	100.00%
GSO Flow Through	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00%
Ont Delegates' Committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
CERAASA / ECDO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114.97	114.97	\$125.00	10.03	91.98%
International Convention	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,066.97	\$ 8,066.97	\$ 12,187.40	\$ 4,120.43	66.19%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 331.96	\$ 126.65	\$ -	\$ 20.33	\$ 3,349.51	\$ 8,828.44	\$ 36,359.69	\$ 27,531.25	24.28%

[Return to the Treasurer's report](#)

	YTD 2021	Oct 2020	Difference
Income Summary :			
10/15/2021			
7th Tradition	27,552.10	25,844.06	1,708.04
Bank Interest	8,828.44	-	14,557.74
GSO Flow through	18,723.66	2,457.88	16,265.78
Net Change To Operating Account	\$ 55,104.20	\$ 28,301.94	\$ 26,802.26
Contributions	\$24,836.10	\$21,745.35	\$3,090.75
Cost Recoveries	83	89	-6
Grapevine Seasonals	10	11	-1
Total Income	1	0	1

Income Summary :	
10/15/2021	
7th Tradition	2,077.00
Bank Interest	-
GSO Flow through	24,836.10
Contributions	-
Cost Recoveries	839.00
Grapevine Seasonals	-
Total Income	\$ 27,552.10

Appendix A3. Financial Documents—Group and District Contributions (October 15, 2021)

GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS as at October 15, 2021

Return to the Treasurer's report

District	0	Unspecified, Individual	\$100.00
District	2	Malton	\$200.00
District	6	Mississauga	\$2,035.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$3,361.18
District	12	Toronto South West	\$2,047.22
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,506.00
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$0.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$950.00
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,794.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$974.00
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$848.14
District	30	Quinte West	\$425.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$600.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$1,180.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$1,370.74
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$483.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$0.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$390.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$150.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$2,131.82
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$1,270.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$0.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$1,870.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$150.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$350.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$650.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$24,836.10

Total from Groups	\$19,026.96	83	Groups
Total from Districts	\$5,709.14	10	Districts
Total from Individuals	\$100.00	1	Individuals































**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

Appendix B. Area 83 Fall 2021 Assembly Roll Call - October 24, 2021

District	DCM	Alt-DCM	District Officers- Other	Comm Chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups Attending	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups in District	% Groups Attending
02	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	23	4%
06	1	1	2	3	13	1	5	13	24	14	38	34%
10	1	1	0	1	9	1	1	9	15	10	26	35%
12	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	6	7	6	23	26%
14	1	1	1	0	6	1	0	6	10	7	31	19%
16-SP	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	8	0%
18	1	1	3	2	6	0	1	6	11	7	27	22%
22	1	0	0	1	6	0	1	6	9	7	23	26%
26	0	1	0	0	4	2	2	5	10	5	25	20%
28	1	1	0	0	6	0	0	7	9	8	23	30%
30	1	1	1	1	6	0	1	6	10	7	16	38%
34	1	0	0	1	4	0	0	4	5	5	40	10%
36	1	1	2	2	3	0	0	3	7	4	28	11%
42	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	23	0%
48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	0%
50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0%
54	1	1	1	1	5	0	0	5	9	6	25	20%
58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	0%
62	1	1	0	0	8	0	0	9	11	10	52	17%
66	1	1	1	3	5	0	0	6	10	7	25	24%
70	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	18	6%
74	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	5	3	10	20%
78	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0%
82	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	3	5	4	18	17%
86	1	1	1	1	4	0	1	5	10	6	23	22%
CF					0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0%
District Officers-Alt-DCM Other Comm Chairs GSR Alt-GSR Visitors Total Groups Total Delegation Total Votes Total Groups												
ALL	20	12	13	16	98	6	15	103	174	123	594	17%
Area Committee									17	15		
Past Delegates									4			
Out of Area Visitors									6			
Total	20	12	13	16	98	6	15	103	195	138	594	

Appendix C Webmaster Traffic

Webpage on Area 83 website (www.Area83aa.org), and the detail to the type and duration of visits for each page.

Page ?		Page Views ? ↓	Unique Page Views ?	Avg. Time on Page ?	Entrances ?	Bounce Rate ?	% Exit ?
		5,149 % of Total: 100.00% (5,149)	3,797 % of Total: 100.00% (3,797)	00:01:04 Avg for View: 00:01:04 (0.00%)	2,133 % of Total: 100.00% (2,133)	43.27% Avg for View: 43.27% (0.00%)	41.43% Avg for View: 41.43% (0.00%)
1. /		2,003 (38.90%)	1,340 (35.29%)	00:00:32	1,267 (59.40%)	26.20%	42.14%
2. /resources		455 (8.84%)	304 (8.01%)	00:00:36	39 (1.83%)	15.38%	10.99%
3. /events/area-meeting-schedule		199 (3.86%)	138 (3.63%)	00:00:48	15 (0.70%)	60.00%	21.11%
4. /resources/delegates-page		163 (3.17%)	137 (3.61%)	00:03:26	62 (2.91%)	77.42%	66.26%
5. /about-area-83/area-minutes		138 (2.68%)	111 (2.92%)	00:01:18	12 (0.56%)	75.00%	38.41%
6. /area-83-covid-19-information		137 (2.66%)	118 (3.11%)	00:01:59	51 (2.39%)	78.43%	64.96%
7. /about-area-83/area-committee-meeting-2		135 (2.62%)	111 (2.92%)	00:01:12	49 (2.30%)	69.39%	51.11%
8. /how-it-works/is-aa-for-you/quick-self-assessment		118 (2.29%)	89 (2.34%)	00:01:38	84 (3.94%)	55.95%	63.56%
9. /how-it-works/helpline		108 (2.10%)	88 (2.32%)	00:02:09	73 (3.42%)	78.08%	67.59%
10. /how-it-works/district-websites-2		96 (1.86%)	86 (2.26%)	00:01:06	56 (2.63%)	69.64%	67.71%
11. /events		85 (1.65%)	66 (1.74%)	00:00:29	12 (0.56%)	91.67%	23.53%
12. /about-area-83/area-contributions		84 (1.63%)	68 (1.79%)	00:01:59	28 (1.31%)	71.43%	59.52%
13. /events/kingston-2		82 (1.59%)	60 (1.58%)	00:01:15	13 (0.61%)	61.54%	31.71%
14. /contactus		74 (1.44%)	56 (1.47%)	00:02:41	23 (1.08%)	56.52%	40.54%
15. /contactus/contacts		74 (1.44%)	61 (1.61%)	00:02:38	8 (0.38%)	75.00%	39.19%
16. /about-area-83/area-assembly		69 (1.34%)	64 (1.69%)	00:01:04	36 (1.69%)	58.33%	50.72%
17. /events/upcoming-events		69 (1.34%)	46 (1.21%)	00:00:30	10 (0.47%)	60.00%	27.54%
18. /resources/accessibility		64 (1.24%)	43 (1.13%)	00:02:29	11 (0.52%)	72.73%	40.62%
19. /events/calendar-of-events		62 (1.20%)	44 (1.16%)	00:01:22	3 (0.14%)	33.33%	12.90%
20. /how-it-works/bridging-the-gap-2		55 (1.07%)	42 (1.11%)	00:02:56	18 (0.84%)	88.89%	60.00%
21. /about-area-83/area-83-districts-map		47 (0.91%)	42 (1.11%)	00:03:44	8 (0.38%)	75.00%	57.45%
22. /about-area-83		46 (0.89%)	39 (1.03%)	00:00:19	6 (0.28%)	83.33%	41.30%
23. /infomation-on-aa/did-you-know		37 (0.72%)	31 (0.82%)	00:01:15	4 (0.19%)	25.00%	32.43%
24. /infomation-on-aa		33 (0.64%)	28 (0.74%)	00:00:32	10 (0.47%)	70.00%	45.45%
25. /resources/cooperation-with-professional-community		31 (0.60%)	30 (0.79%)	00:02:19	7 (0.33%)	71.43%	61.29%
26. /events/calendar		28 (0.54%)	27 (0.71%)	00:02:58	3 (0.14%)	66.67%	67.86%
27. /events/calendar-of-events/monthcalendar/2021/7/-		28 (0.54%)	13 (0.34%)	00:01:14	2 (0.09%)	100.00%	10.71%
28. /index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13&Itemid=86		28 (0.54%)	23 (0.61%)	00:00:13	21 (0.98%)	19.05%	25.00%
29. /resources/treatment-2		28 (0.54%)	22 (0.58%)	00:01:22	0 (0.00%)	0.00%	14.29%
30. /resources/alt-delegate		27 (0.52%)	25 (0.66%)	00:02:44	13 (0.61%)	100.00%	70.37%

Appendix D – Revisions to the Operating Procedures – Item 12 H

Revisions Required to Operating Procedures

12) New Business – Item H – Fall Assembly 2021

- e) Modifications to Area 83 Operating procedures resulting from motion at Spring Assembly March 28, 2021 Old Business – Item 11 C: “Area 83 Webmaster, or in their absence the Alternate Webmaster, be given a vote as well as a voice at the Area Committee Meetings and Area Assembly.”

The approval of the above motion affects numerous sections of Area 83 Operating Procedures. These proposed changes are outlined as follows.

- Items WM 1-10 require Area Committee and Assembly approval.

1

Item WM-1 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- **Reasoning:** The Preface states who should hold a copy of the Operating Procedures and to be consistent, Appointed Positions was added.

PREFACE:

From: (last sentence) ...A copy of the Assembly and Area Committee Operating Procedures for Area 83 should be held by: ...

To: Add Appointed Positions to the bottom of the list immediately after Area Accessibilities Chair.

2

Item WM-2 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- **Reasoning:** Appointed Positions should hold a copy of the Assembly and Area Committee Operating Procedures

1.02 COMPOSITION (table of positions)

Add: Appointed Positions below Area Accessibilities Chair.

Area Archives Chair	
Area Accessibility Chair	
Appointed Positions	

3

Item WM-3 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- **Reasoning:** The Area Webmaster now has a vote and the paragraph needs to be consistent.

1.03 VOTING PRIVILEGES Page 7 OP

From: All members of the Area Assembly, except the Area Chair, shall be eligible to vote on all matters brought before the Area Assembly. If a General Service Representative is absent from a meeting of the Area Assembly, the Alternate General Service Representative may vote. If both are absent another member of the same group may vote. If a District Committee Member is absent from a meeting of the Area Assembly, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote.

To: All members of the Area Assembly, except the Area Chair, shall be eligible to vote on all matters brought before the Area Assembly. If a General Service Representative is absent from a meeting of the Area Assembly, the Alternate General Service Representative may vote. If both are absent another member of the same group may vote. If a District Committee Member is absent from a meeting of the Area Assembly, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote. If the Area Webmaster is absent from a meeting of the Area Assembly, the Alternate Webmaster may vote.

4

Item WM-4 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- **Reasoning:** We now have elected members of the Assembly and one appointed position with a vote, therefore all members of the Assembly being elected no longer applies. The Webmaster is appointed and now has a vote.

SECTION 3: RESPONSIBILITIES Page 8 OP

From: It is recommended that all members of the Assembly, including the General Service Representatives, be elected in the even years, with the term of office commencing on January 1 of the following year.

To: It is recommended that **elected** members of the Assembly, including the General Service Representatives, be elected in the even years, with the term of office commencing on January 1 of the following year.

5

Item WM-5 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- **Reasoning:**

Webmaster is now a voting appointed member.

Removal of the portion of the sentence regarding the Service Information Day and that “the committee may require the Webmaster to do a workshop or participate in a panel or presenting displays” wasn’t necessary. None of the other Area Positions reference the Service Information Day.

To stay consistent with who has a vote, a sentence was added at the end of the last paragraph in Section 3.20.

6

Appendix D – Revisions to the Operating Procedures – Item 12 H-continued

Item WM-5 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

3.20 AREA WEBMASTER AND ALTERNATE WEBMASTER Start of Paragraph 3

From: The Webmaster, a non-voting appointed committee member will report to the Area Chair regularly, and to the Area Committee and the Assembly as necessary about new material received and give updates about ongoing projects. The Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster is suggested to attend the Area Committee Meetings and Area Assemblies.

The Area Committee shall ultimately be responsible for and give direction regarding the policy and content of the Area 83 website, thus requiring attendance of the Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster at Area Committee Meetings. Attendance at Assembly is expected however, the Service Information City Committee may require the Webmaster to do a workshop or participate in a panel or in presenting displays at the Assembly. All expenses, including but not limited to transportation, travel expense (including room and meals for the Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster), shall be paid by Area 83 or in the case of other requests, the requesting party or organization.

A separate line-item on the Area Spending Guidelines and Expense worksheet shall reflect expected area Webmaster expenses including the costs to maintain the Website.

An Alternate Webmaster will be appointed (or re-appointed) for a (2) two-year term by the Area 83 Chair from candidates recommended by the Webmaster from resumes submitted to the Area Chair. The Alternate Webmaster shall also be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 and assist in the design and maintenance of the Website and be available for meeting of the Area Committee/Assembly when the Area Webmaster is not able to attend. The overall position summary for the Area Webmaster shall apply to the Alternate Area Webmaster.

Item WM-5 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

To: The Webmaster, a voting appointed committee member will report to the Area Chair regularly, and to the Area Committee and the Assembly about new material received and give updates about ongoing projects. The Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster is **expected** to attend the Area Committee Meetings and Area Assemblies. The Area Committee shall ultimately be responsible for and give direction regarding the policy and content of the Area 83 website, thus requiring attendance of the Area Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster at Area Committee Meetings. Attendance at Assembly is expected. All expenses, including but not limited to transportation, travel expense (including room and meals for the Webmaster or Alternate Webmaster), shall be paid by Area 83 or in the case of other requests, the requesting party or organization.

A separate line-item on the Area Spending Guidelines and Expense worksheet shall reflect expected area Webmaster expenses including the costs to maintain the Website.

An Alternate Webmaster will be appointed (or re-appointed) for a (2) two-year term by the Area 83 Chair from candidates recommended by the Webmaster from resumes submitted to the Area Chair. The Alternate Webmaster shall also be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 and assist in the design and maintenance of the Website and be available for meetings of the Area Committee/Assembly when the Area Webmaster is not able to attend. The overall position summary for the Area Webmaster shall apply to the Alternate Area Webmaster. In the absence of the Area Webmaster, the Alternate Webmaster will have a vote.

7

8

Items WM-6 & WM 7 Require AC and Assembly Approval

• Reasoning

Assembly, Area Committee, and Interim Elections (Sections 4.01 and 4.02)

The Webmaster has been given a vote in all matters. The Webmaster, as an appointed position does not have the ability to stand for election to an Area Officer position. The Operating Procedures ought to stipulate that in matters of eligibility, only elected members of the committee are eligible to stand.

Eligibility, Who Votes and Election Processes updated to include the following:

- The Webmaster is an appointed position and is not eligible to stand in an election (Assembly, Area Committee and Interim Elections).
- Only **elected** members may stand in any election (Assembly, Area Committee and Interim Elections).
- **If the Area Webmaster is absent from this meeting, the Alternate Webmaster may vote.**

Item WM-8 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- Reasoning: The Webmaster, with a vote is a member of the Area Committee

5.02 COMPOSITION (list of positions)

Add: Area Webmaster* below Area Accessibilities Chair and add an asterisk below the table indicating that the Area Webmaster is appointed.

Area Webmaster*

*Appointed Position

9

10

Item WM-9 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- Reasoning: The Area Webmaster now has a vote and the paragraph needs to be consistent.

5.03 VOTING PRIVILEGES

From: All District Committee Members, Area subcommittee chairs and Area officers, except the Area Chair, shall be eligible to vote on all subjects brought before the Area Committee. If a District Committee Member is absent from a meeting of the Area Committee, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote.

To: All District Committee Members, Area subcommittee chairs, Webmaster and Area officers, except the Area Chair, shall be eligible to vote on all subjects brought before the Area Committee. If a District Committee Member is absent from a meeting of the Area Committee, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote. **If the Area Webmaster is absent from a meeting of the Area Committee, the Alternate Webmaster may vote.**

Item WM-10 Requires AC and Assembly Approval

- Reasoning: Clarity and consistency.

Section 7.01 General

From: Area 83 shall reimburse All Area Committee officers, Area chairs, Committee members on special assignment, workshop chairs / banquet speaker on Assembly weekends, as well as members of ad hoc committees, for costs of travel (at a rate of \$0.40/km), accommodation and meals, and other expenses, such as telephone, postage, photocopying and literature, incurred in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Area in amounts recommended from time to time by the Area Committee and approved by the Assembly. Any unexpected expense outside of Area 83 requires Area Committee approval in advance. All financial values in these operating procedures and appendices shall reflect Canadian currency.

To: Area 83 shall reimburse All Area Committee officers, Area chairs, Committee members on special assignment, workshop chairs / banquet speaker on Assembly weekends, as well as members of ad hoc committees, for costs of travel (at a rate of \$0.40/km), accommodation and meals, and other expenses, such as telephone, postage, photocopying and literature, incurred in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Area in amounts recommended from time to time by the Area Committee and approved by the Assembly. **See sections 3.19 and 3.20 for details of reimbursement to the Area's appointed positions.** Any unexpected expense outside of Area 83 requires Area Committee approval in advance. All financial values in these operating procedures and appendices shall reflect Canadian currency.

11

12

Appendix E₁ Service Information Day Fall 2021 Workshop Summaries

9:00 – 9:50 am	Delegate's Plenary – How does an item make its way to the agenda for the General Service Conference? What progress has been made since the 71st General Service Conference on some of the advisory actions? How to ensure that you are in the loop of two-way communication.
10:00 – 10:50 am	<p>Passing it on Through Sponsorship– As a sponsor, how do I carry the message of service to a sponsee and just what might that message be?</p> <p>Accessibilities– Personal experience in breaking down barriers and being of service to members through Accessibilities.</p> <p>Public Information– Why get involved and how can I help spread the word?</p>
11:00 – 11:50 am	<p>Secretary/Registrar– In this Workshop, we will review the most recent developments from the General Service Office regarding our Fellowship Connection database and the trends that are shaping the more digital-focused evolution of GSO. There will be ample time for questions and discussion</p> <p>Treatment– Responsibilities and Guidelines for carrying the A.A. message into Treatment enters. Temporary Contacts for Bridge the Gap between Treatment and A.A.</p> <p>Archives - Remembering our past as we move forward. Recording Oral Histories and Archiving Material.</p>
1:00 – 1:50 pm	<p>A.A. Around the World– A front row seat to the development of AA around the world, a retired Staff Member shares experience from 11 years as a special worker.</p> <p>Traditions 4,5,6– In the second of a series of 4 workshops this term covering the 12 Traditions, join us as three (3) District Committee Members from Area 83 present and share their interpretations of Traditions 4, 5 and 6.</p> <p>Cooperation With the Professional Community– Trying to get professionals "into" AA is not the same as trying to get people with drinking problems into AA. This workshop discusses key messaging to attract interest of various professionals.</p>
2:00 – 2:50 pm	<p>Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing– Find out how all members of Area 83 can be part of the decision-making process and share input on the items to be discussed at the upcoming General Service Conference. What are Pre-conference agenda sharing sessions? When do they take place? How can I participate?</p> <p>Concepts IV, V, VI– Recovery, Unity, Service - these are the Three Legacies of A.A. Let's dive into Service...what a Concept!</p> <p>Corrections– Registered AA Groups on the inside; Prison groups and Jail Groups.</p>
3:00 – 3:50 pm	<p>Safety and Safely In the Rooms– Safety in AA - be a part of the solution. Safely in AA - how is Area 83 returning to the rooms? Join the conversation</p> <p>Treasurer/Self-Support– The roles of the Area, District and Group Treasurers and the information available to them. Getting Back to the Basics of Self-Support.</p> <p>Grapevine– Grapevine representatives will share on their service experiences with Grapevine and some history on Grapevine.</p>
4:00 – 5:00 pm	Ask-It-Basket Session – Questions relating to AA can be submitted by any attendee of the Service Information Day via the email link (area83askitbasket@gmail.com). During this session, questions that have been submitted will be answered by knowledgeable trusted servants. Come out, it is usually a great way to wrap up the day.

Appendix E₂ Service Information Day Ask it Basket Questions October 23, 2021

Q1.

This question is for CPC – Could we consider issuing a new piece of literature based on Appendix III, the medical view on A.A. My thought is that Appendix III would remain unchanged, but we could trace back the history and get professionals and others to and even include the cost of untreated alcoholism, or the Doctor's opinion, or on all three?

A – Jo D. – Wow, well if you recall what Kimberley was saying earlier today, on how to take an agenda item to the General Service Conference, maybe a good start would be to have a conversation at one of our CPC Area – District Chairs meeting. The next one is coming up in November...I'm thinking that's the first step. I'd really like to see that written out, the whole thing, Trevor, maybe you could send that to me? Maybe we want to go through the process of pushing that through as an agenda item, so come to the next CPC Area 83 - District CPC Chairs meeting in November. That's my answer for now.

Q2.

This question is for Safety and Safely in A.A. - I wanted to ask about bullying, because it's been a topic of conversation at a few meetings I've been attending. For example, crosstalk at a meeting, speaking while someone else is speaking, being critical of someone, or speaking about someone else's share, or saying why someone else is wrong. I'm told some groups encourage crosstalk, and I'm not sure what to think about that. Is it bullying, if one person comments on another person's share in a zoom room, and that person is still there?

A - Kim S. - I would consider that bullying, yes, if people are commenting about a share. I wouldn't say it's "hard core bullying", but anything like that, while the person is in the room, it goes beyond gossip. Some groups have a thing that doesn't allow anyone else to say anything about another person's share, so your group could talk about that. I know if someone spoke to me about my share, it would make me feel really small, and I don't like to feel small.

Q2a

Peter G. Is it OK to talk one-on-one with someone? Is that offensive?

A – It's not offensive, I would rather someone spoke with me one-on-one if I mis-spoke or said something they didn't agree with. I wouldn't like it if they said it in front of everyone else.

Q3.

Roland - How often do you have business meetings?

A - Trevor – I don't have anyone particular to answer this, but my group meets once a month for its business meeting, and if a group conscious is needed, we'll ask people to stick around after the meeting to discuss.

Gail - "The AA Group" pamphlet suggests regular business meetings and is really helpful.

David T. - Business meetings need to be regular – my group meets monthly, but my wife's group meets regularly every 6 months. If they need a decision, they poll the group and they have a special meeting after the meeting... so, it depends on the group, and how often issues come up. Roland, you could talk to your DCM, or Delegate, and ask them what their experience is. I know some groups have trouble in this area, but we need to encourage them to have regular business meetings. Thanks, all.

Mike B. - Business meetings: If we have a GSR who attends monthly District meetings, they have a lot of information to bring back. That's the two-way communication between the Group, the District, the Area, and the General Service Office. You may also have an Intergroup office, and an Intergroup rep, who attends monthly Intergroup meetings. So, there's always information being passed back and forth. And it's not just decisions at your group that need to be discussed; it's also the transmission of the two-way communication between your home group all the way down the ladder to the General Service Office. I would add that "The AA Group" pamphlet is the group bible for my home group.

Karen - as far as crosstalk, we have written, right in our preamble, that there is no crosstalk in the meeting, our chairperson will enforce it (should it happen). We'll bring out the group safety policy or ask the person's sponsor to help out. We have on-the-spot sponsors, too, that can help them work through it if someone feels unsafe. As far as business meetings go, we have a regular monthly group and District meeting, and as a GSR, it's my responsibility to attend these and bring the information back to my group so that they can make informed decisions.

Mel C. - We have a few members around still, that call these business meetings "Responsibility Meetings", that's another term for it. The A.A. group has a lot of different jobs, too, other than just the 12 Steps for the alcoholic... there's the 12 Traditions for the group, they have obligations to different service arms, providing a meeting space, and so on. What I'm getting at, is, if you're not having a business meeting, it's very possible that there are other things that need looking at, and maybe what you need is a Group Inventory. You usually get somebody that's outside your group to facilitate it, and very often they use the 13 questions in The AA Group pamphlet. If it's run right, you'll get a good sense of what needs to be done in your group, and where you might have to pull up your socks.