

# **Area 83 Eastern Ontario International**

## *Virtual* Area Assembly Minutes

October 30, 2022

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Seventh Tradition<sup>i</sup>

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## 11. OLD BUSINESS

None

## 12. NEW BUSINESS

### a) Report from Ad Hoc Committee for Area 83 Digital Resources.

- Mel C., Panel 63 Delegate

### b) Recommended by the Area Committee

That Area 83 make an additional contribution up to \$10,000 to the General Service Board. This contribution is in addition to the \$5,000 approved in the Proposed Spending Guidelines at the Spring 2022 Assembly and is subject to sufficient funds being available, as determined by the Area 83 Treasurer.

- Dave L, Area Treasurer

### c) Recommended by the Area Committee

That Area 83 submit a bid to host the 2035 International Convention in Toronto.

- Kimberley M. Panel 71 Delegate

### d) Election of Area 83 nominee for Trustee at Large for Canada

- Jan L., Panel 54 Delegate Area 86 and Past Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

### e) Area 83 Election of Officers for 2023 & 2024 term

- Mel C., Panel 63 Delegate

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## Area Assembly – October 30, 2022

### 1. OPENING

Meeting opened at 10am.

Good morning everyone. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Liverpool Group in District 26, and my name is Amy. I have the honor and privilege of serving Area 83 as your Chairperson.

Let's start this meeting with a Moment's Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

May we have that moment now,

12 Traditions –	John C	GSR – Streetsville Group
12 Concepts – Short Form	Bill C	Member – Mount Royal Group

Welcome everybody to the Fall Assembly. Did everyone enjoy the Service Information Day yesterday? Let's give a hand to the Service Information Day Committee for the great line up of workshops, and to all of the presenters- you did very well. Thank you.

Did you hear the speaker meeting last night? Trudy had a great message. Thank you.

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 ZoomOps, should you have any technical difficulties. While it might seem like a good idea to chat to me during the meeting, unless you have an urgent 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 ZoomOps 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 so I can see you.

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.

### Introduction

This is our fourth and last Assembly in this term. During the remainder of this term, we will continue to work together and elect our trusted servants for the next term. All of this done with the goal of providing continued strength and direction to A.A. in Area 83. Our common goal always, is to keep

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

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 refers to the Assembly meeting as the heart of each area *“where the democratic voice of our Fellowship expresses 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 **601** Active Groups, **16** of those are registered as virtual groups and 8 correctional groups.

Some of us have been here before as an elected trusted servant or as a visitor. For some, it is your first Assembly and from my personal experience it can seem overwhelming! How many of you are here today attending your first Assembly? Could you raise your virtual hand please? 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 the two-year term we have made 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 should be 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 from our computers with a renewed belief that A.A. is alive and well in our Area and that our message of hope is clear and available 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 acting Secretary James, will be transcribed in full in the minutes, for all in Area 83 to read.

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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.

**Area 83 Officers**

First, Our Panel 71 Delegate..... Kimberley M.  
The Alternate Delegate..... James O’D.  
Acting Secretary..... James O’D.  
Treasurer..... Dave L.  
Registrar..... Bill C.  
Our Panel 69 Immediate Past Delegate..... Rob M.  
and *I am your Chair*

## 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 B.
Grapevine Chair .....	Jane S.
Self-Support Chair .....	Bev H.
Archives Chair .....	Shane H.
Service Information Chair .....	Trevor F.

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

I would like to now introduce Past Delegates, people with appointed Area Service Position and visitors from outside Area 83.

### Today we have with us as Past Delegates:

Panel 53 Delegate Roy R  
Panel 61 Delegate Robb W  
Panel 63 Delegate Mel C  
Panel 67 Delegate Kim S

And in **Appointed positions** we have

Area Archivist David T  
Area Webmaster George M

Also, we have with us as **visitor(s)** from outside of Area 83:

Jan L., Panel 54 Delegate Area 86 who also served as the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee 2018-2022

Trudy D., Panel 71 Delegate, Area 82 Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador

Our good friends from Area 86, Dale S. Panel 68 Delegate; Sandi W., Panel 70 Delegate, and the current Delegate, Jeff S.

## Housekeeping:

### Registration

It is important that everyone has gone through the registration process. If by chance you did not go through this process when you arrived, please message one of our **Registration members** in the chat window. They will have REG in their name.

# ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

## 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 we can 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 Fall 2022 Assembly. The Area committee, which is comprised of the Area Officers, Sub-Committee Chairs, and District Committee Members, will meet four times this year. We have already met in January. Our next Area Committee Meeting will be on June 4. 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 included in the minutes.

Year	Date	Status	Type of Meeting	Where
2022	December 3	Confirmed	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2023	January 14	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church
2023	March 24-26	Confirmed	Area Assembly	To Be Determined
2023	June 3	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Westminster United Church

<sup>1</sup>Voted and approved at March 25<sup>th</sup> Assembly, see agenda [item 15](#) in these minutes.

**NOTE:** the term for the Webmaster will be coming to an end in December. I have sent out a call letter for the positions of Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster effective on January 1, 2023. Please share this need with prospective applicants. Please ask them to apply. Applications can be found on the Chairs page on Area 83's website.

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## SEVENTH TRADITION

The 7<sup>th</sup> 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.



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These are:

- All Area Officers, including the Immediate Past Delegate, but not the Chair.
- All Area Sub-Committee Chairs and the Webmaster.
- 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.

In the interest of time and to give all those with a voice an equal opportunity to speak to a motion, I would ask that you only come to the mic once on the motion being discussed. After everyone has had a chance to share, we can do round 2 if necessary.

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 prevailing side of the vote wishes to change their vote, that person may make a motion to reconsider.** If this is seconded and passes by a simple majority, we start discussion again on the **original** motion.

### **CALLING THE QUESTION:**

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

### **WHO MAY ADDRESS THE 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 heard.
- 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.

*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.

Can we test out the polling function to make sure that everyone knows how to participate. In THIS poll, this will be for Everyone to participate.

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:	John M – GSR D18	
Seconded:	Jack R – A83 PI Chair	
Discussion	None	
All those in favour:	93	If you are on a telephone, or you need assistance, one of our ZoomOps will be moving you into a breakout room.
All those opposed:	0	
abstentions:	1	
Motion:	Carried	

## 2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Does anyone have revisions to the Agenda as distributed, with respect to old business?

### **OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED**

None.

Does anyone have revisions to the Agenda as distributed with respect to New Business?

### **NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED** *including Floor Motions*

None.

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

Moved:	Lisa B – D12 - GSR - The Hill Group	
Seconded:	Maria M – DCM D30	
Discussion	None	
All those in favour:	94	
All those opposed:	0	
Abstentions:	1	
Motion:	Carried	

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

### 3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF Spring ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY March 27, 2022

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 at this time to consider any ERRORS OR OMISSIONS in the minutes of March 27, 2022 as distributed?

Maria M is District 30 and not 34.

#### Motion to accept minutes as amended.

Moved:	Jeffary F – DCM D86
Seconded:	Christine F – DCM D18
Discussion	none
All those in favour:	94
All those opposed:	0
abstentions:	2
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 George M, 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.

Again, I would request that all please respect the time allotted to them.

#### **District 48 SEAWAY VALLEY NORTH .....Sharon C.**

Good Morning Friends.

My name is Sharon C and I am grateful to be alcoholic. I am a member of Kemptville Friday Step Meeting 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.

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I am very optimistic for the future of District 48, though we have seen meetings not reopen or close post COVID, there have been several meetings that have really flourished. We have welcomed many newcomers in our meetings.

Over the past 2 months the District table has welcomed new and old faces. I am confident that a new table with enthusiastic and knowledgeable people will present itself and the work of district 48 will continue. We elect our table this week.

We are planning a winter round up and have a committee organizing that, it'll be the first in 3 years. I have been the reluctant DCM! But I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve AA in this way and have enjoyed the experience immensely. I hope to remain in service and will continue to be grateful to AA for the life I now lead.

Love in service, Sharon C

**District 78 MADAWASKA VALLEY ..... Barbara C.**

Our District is doing well with all groups holding in-person meetings.

I am happy to announce that all the positions at the District table have been filled, including Archives. District meetings are still being held on Zoom.

We held our annual Roundup on October 1<sup>st</sup> and had a good turnout. Everyone enjoyed the speakers and a great dinner. Thanks to everyone who attended our Festival of Colours. Hope to see you all next fall.

Finally, thank you for allowing me to be of service over this term. I am happy to have met many great people and have learned a lot about being a District Committee Member.

Yours in Love and Service, Barbara C

**District 14 TORONTO NORTH CENTRAL.....Bill W.**

Good day all . it is my pleasure to sever as the DCM for Toronto North district 14.

My name is Bill

AA is thriving in our district. Many group have reopened to in person meeting. Several groups remain hybrid. Only a few are still closed.

We received an encouraging update last month at the table that our service meetings maybe opening up to us soon.

We continue to support GSO , Area and intergroup with regular contributions.

Attendance at the table has been quite low unfortunately. We started to find our elections in September to fill the various service positions. However many positions still remain open. We are hopeful that subsequent meeting may garner more interest and participation. Several people have expressed their interest in stay for the next term which is helpful.

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Together with our ADCM Dianne we hope to draw more people to the monthly meeting by reaching out in person or via phone asking for support.

Yours in service Bill W

**District 28 LAKESHORE EAST..... Kathie T.**

Good morning, everyone! I'm an alcoholic, member of the Motor City Group, and my name is Kathie. It's a pleasure to serve as District Committee Member for District 28 Lakeshore East. Our Incoming DCM, James S., is also here today.

We continue to have 20 registered groups in our District - the majority have re-opened with attendance slowly increasing. Some groups are hybrid, a few remain online only, and some hold live meetings one night, and online discussion meetings another night.

For meeting updates, please visit Lakeshore Districts Intergroup:

<https://www.aadurham.org>. Intergroup is open on Thursdays for pre-arranged pickup of literature, pins, and medallions.

We will continue to have hybrid District meetings for the foreseeable future. It's been quite exciting to get this going. Most of our District positions are filled, with the exception of Grapevine and Archives. We are also in need of a District Secretary - I'm confident these positions will be filled shortly.

We are in good shape financially, and meeting our commitments.

Our CPC-PI Committee is hosting a "Bring a Friend" event on Wed Nov 16, 200 Thornton Road, Oshawa. There will be three guest speakers, and it promises to be a fun evening of sharing and fellowship. It's worth the drive to Oshawa, but it is a hybrid event, and accessible on-line...hope to see you there!

Thank you for my sobriety.

Yours in love and service, Kathie T. - District Committee Member - District 28, Lakeshore East

**District 66 GOLDEN TRIANGLE.....Theresa L.**

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 Golden Triangle.

The District currently hosts 41 meetings per week; 29 in-person, 6 on-line and 6 in a hybrid format. Two remain inactive. One group, Perth Sunday morning has chosen to dissolve as a recognized group, but will continue to hold regular meetings. One previously inactive meeting of the Tri Group happily announced that they are back to holding meetings.

GSR's report that attendance at their meetings remains steady. In those that have reported, groups have newly elected officers in place for the 2023/2024 term.

GSR attendance at District meetings continues to hover at 25-30%.

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The District remains in good financial standing.

Insurance requirements necessary for the District meeting venue have been met and the District will hold it's first in-person/hybrid meeting Nov. 30, 2022.

District 66 Elections were held Sept 28, 2022. At the conclusion, 6 positions remained vacant. At our Oct 26 District meeting these positions were presented for consideration again. As a result, 3 of the openings were filled. Currently the District has openings for Treasurer, Telephone Answering Service chair and Accessibility chair.

Corrections Chair Rod D. reported at our Oct. meeting that AA meetings will be resuming at the Brockville jail and Secure Treatment Unit. The first safety training session for approved volunteers will be conducted Nov 7 , and then meetings can begin.

In person meetings at treatment centers have not resumed. Treatment chair Janet C. continues to monitor Bridging the Gap requests.

District 66 Golden Triangle continues to carry the message of recovery. Service in AA is alive and well. I am honored to serve in the role of District Committee Member.

Theresa L - DCM District 66 Golden Triangle

**District 62 OTTAWA WEST..... Trevor F.**

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 (DCM) for District 62 Ottawa West. My name is Trevor F.

District 62 held elections at our October 10th District Meeting, facilitated by Sue L. Joining our incoming District Committee Member Jamie B at the District Table will be Alternate DCM Steven B, Secretary Jocelyne B, Corrections and Treatment Committee Liaison Matty M, and Intergroup Liaison Peter I. Our Registrar, Treasurer, PI/CPC liaison, Archives Liaison and Grapevine Representative positions are vacant, but a few members have expressed interest in different positions. Our elections did happen to fall on Thanksgiving Monday, but we're looking to get the remaining positions filled in the next couple of months. We continue to encourage the GSRs of the District to bring back to their groups the need for more volunteers to join our local service committees.

Our total number of groups is up to 52 and we're usually seeing about 20 groups at our District meetings. Service meetings at the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Centre, our local Corrections facilities and Pre-Treatment Centres will hopefully be starting back up shortly. Planning is also under way for the Ottawa Alkathon to happen in person this year over Christmas and New Year's.

Financially, District 62 is stable - contributions are coming in and expenses are relatively low with the District continuing to meet on zoom. It's great to see everyone today, and a big thank you to all who will let their name stand in the Area Elections.

Yours in Love & Service,

Trevor F - District Committee Member - District 62 , Ottawa West - trevorfdistrict62@gmail.com

**District 12 TORONTO SOUTH WEST .....Norm B.**

Good morning, everyone, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Hill Group in Toronto and currently have the privilege of serving District 12 Toronto Southwest as District Committee Member. My name is Norm.

District 12 currently has 22 active groups across Toronto Southwest, and we are seeing approximately 50% attendance by GSRs at our district meetings. Our district meetings are still virtual and may stay that way for a while. We are in contact with our previous venue but have not made an arrangement with them yet.

Since the Spring Assembly, we have had the pleasure of welcoming two new groups District 12: We have The Big Chunks of Truth Group meeting on Tuesday nights at the Humbercrest United Church in Toronto at 6:00pm (16 Baby Point Rd.), and more recently the Gladstone Group, meeting on Monday nights at 8:00pm at St. Wenceslaus Church – 496 Gladstone Ave in Toronto. If you're in the area, please drop by.

More of our groups are returning to in person meetings. Some are discontinuing their Zoom meetings, while other are going hybrid.

As far as table positions, I'm very happy to announce that John L. of the Friendly Group has stepped up as Alternate DCM for District 12. He joins us here today. Currently, we are looking for a Corrections Chair and Accessibility Chair.

Thank you to James O'D for facilitating our District Inventory, on Oct 12. It was a great evening with lots of good discussion. And thanks in advance to Mel C., who will be helping us with our District Elections on Nov 9.

For service meetings, we currently have 3 commitments that are given to groups in District 12 on a rotating basis. The Saturday Noon meeting which has gone back to in person, Women's Renascent online on Sunday nights at 8:00pm, and St. Felix House Tuesdays at 7PM. We are actively looking for more service opportunities in the district.

Overall, District 12 is doing well and remains active and financially healthy and are meeting our commitments.

Thank you, and I am so grateful to have this opportunity to serve.

Yours in love and Service, Norm

**District 34 QUINTE EAST .....Inge D.**

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.



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With my term almost at its end I have been trying to attend meetings in our district which have reopened and I have a few more to visit.

Our district is in good financial shape and we are once again meeting in person with our September meeting being the first. Elections were held and we have three positions left vacant and are trying to fill those positions before the end of the term.

Most of the groups in district 34 have reopened their doors with 3 groups being permanently closed.

Yours in love and service, Inge D

**District 2 MALTON ..... Patrick B.**

(Patrick was absent. Report read by Vince R – Alternate DCM)

Good Afternoon my name is Patrick B. and I'm an alcoholic. It is my honour and privilege to serve as DCM for District 2. District 2 is alive and well although attendance is still low. We continue to hold our monthly business meeting on Zoom on the second Sunday of every month.

We are doing well financially as expenses have been low during Covid.

We held our elections at our last business meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vince R. was elected DCM. Bob E. was elected alternate DCM. Ray R. Was elected Secretary. I wish them a fabulous service experience during the upcoming term. We look forward to filling more positions when the new GSRs rotate into District in January.

Bob E is our current Corrections Chair and continues to take meetings into Maplehurst Correctional Complex for residents that were at OCI as that facility is under renovations.

Our Treatment Chair Candis W. continues to take meetings into Addiction Rehab Toronto on the third Wednesday of every month. We are also going into McLaughlin Detox once again on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Meetings had stopped at the Detox during Covid. Treatment is also taking meetings into St. Leonards House in Brampton Tuesdays at 7pm.

Ray R. has stepped up to be our new Self Support Chair. Although our attendance is low, our energy and passion are high. A few can accomplish a lot. That is all for District 2 for now. I wish you all another 24.

YILS, Patrick B.

**District 70 RENFREW/PONTIAC ..... Lisa R.**

Absent – No Report

**District 54 OTTAWA RIDEAU .....Kevin O.**

Good morning, 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.

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District 54 held its Elections at our October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, District 54 monthly meeting. The District 54 table will look pretty much the same going into this next term. I have the honour and privilege of staying on as DCM for another term. Two table officer positions remain open for the next term, and we will be working to fill the Alt DCM and Treasurer position for the up coming term in 2023/2024. Committee positions for PI/CPC, CFT and Grapevine Rep are filled, and they will continue with the work they have been doing throughout the last term. I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to past DCM D54 Jo Anne D. for presiding the elections and Lori as scrutineer.

District 54 continue to meet regularly with good attendance, full agenda, and excellent service committee reports. The PI/CPC committee has been busy with initiatives with senior centers, medical clinics, recreation centers and participated the WOW festival in Ottawa (previously known as Recovery Day). The corrections committee has been busy working on returning to DETOX Centers and Correctional Facilities. Our Grapevine rep is actively getting out to in person meetings that he has been invited to.

District 54 is in good financial standing. Now that more in person meetings are taking place, we are starting to see an increase in contributions. We can support our local committees needs as they are becoming more active with local services slowly make there way back to somewhat normal operations.

And I am hopeful that with increased attendance to in person meetings that we will see an increased interest in getting involved in Service. This is also an opportunity to reach out to groups who do not presently have GSR's at the table to better understand the challenges there and to encourage the importance of the GSR and Alt GSR role for their groups.

District 54 continues to meet virtually for our monthly District meetings and will be for the foreseeable future.

I am grateful and honoured to be serving as the DCM for District 54. Thank you!!

Be safe and stay healthy.

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Kevin O. - DCM District 54

**District 30 QUINTE WEST..... Maria M.**

Good morning, friends, I am 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.

All financial responsibilities continue to be met and finances are healthy, a contribution of \$400 was made to Area 83 last month. Literature and Grapevine sales are still steady. All but two groups in the District are open, groups are reporting good attendance, as a result, some are experiencing a growth in their group membership. Unfortunately volunteers still have not been able to attend the group inside the Penitentiary. Groups have been reminded to send updated information to the District Registrar after their group elections take place. The phoneline gets an average of 10 calls per month, there is a list being compiled of new volunteers for the phoneline as well as 12 Step call work and a point of contact list. The District website is current and up to date, the Webmaster has been working on a PDF

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meeting list, it will be ready for distribution this month. A few more subcommittee chair positions have been filled for the new term. District 30 Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) chair Jody H. took part in the CPC workshop yesterday afternoon, his presentation was as inspiring as the work he does carrying the message in the District.

In closing I would like to thank the Panel 71 Area Officers, Area DCM'S and the District 30 table for an amazing service journey experience, one that has helped me grow.

Yours in Gratitude and Service

Maria M.

**District 6 MISSISSAUGA ..... Jill B.**

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

At this time, I'd like to introduce to you Marrey P, from the Streetsville Group as our incoming District Committee Member. And Rob D, from the Erin Mills Group as our incoming Alternate District Committee Member. I know I leave the District in good hands as I rotate out.

District 6 is comprised of 36 registered groups; covers Mississauga, East Oakville and West Etobicoke. All Sub-Committee Chair positions are filled. Attendance has dropped to around 40%. There have been a couple months of late where we did not have quorum to conduct business. I do find that decline a concern. However, through our DCM Sharing Sessions I know that our District is not unique in this experience.

District 6 remains in good financial shape and continues to provide financial support for all their Sub-Committee commitments, Area 83 Eastern Ontario International and the General Service Office.

Our Public Information Chair, Dorothy A and our Alternate CPC Chair Rob D have been extremely busy involved in PI work that we haven't been exposed to yet. In September they attended a Peel Police Community Day which aided in generating a contact in the police services for future PI and outreach work. On October 13, 2022, they attended the Wellness Day Fair at the University of Toronto Campus in Mississauga. Response to this day was very positive, and there's been inquiry to see if there's a possibility to bring an AA meeting to the campus.

Our Grapevine Chair, Scott M was active with the recent Grapevine Writing Funshop held on Oct 22, 2022. We were also able to have the District's Grapevine Display and books for sale at the Mississauga Fall Roundup on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.

That's just some of the recent highlights of the hard work and commitment from the members of District 6.

In closing, I'd like to thank the Area for their continued support and guidance these past couple of years. And enormous thanks, to the members of District 6 who remained active and enthusiastic during these challenging past 2 years. I've been truly blessed to have been a part of such an amazing District.

Yours in love & service,

Jill B

District Committee Member - District 6

**District 16 DISTRITO HISPANO de TORONTO .....Gregorio A.**

Absent – No Report

**District 26 LAKESHORE WEST ..... Rob F.**

Good morning, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Ajax Friday Night Group, it is my privilege to serve as the District Committee Member for District 26, Lakeshore West and my name is Rob.

We have 24 registered groups in our district and since our last Area Assembly, our attendance has been at the District meetings has been consistent. On average, 42% of our Groups were in attendance and 77% of our officers.

Our finances are solid and we have been meeting our commitments.

We held our Lakeshore Districts Conference from August 12-14th. Attendance was 288 for the conference and 105 for the banquet.

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, District 86, Kawartha hosted Area 83's Zone 2 Service Day and BBQ at the Peterborough Intergroup office. There were presentations from our Delegate and various subcommittee chairs from our Zone. Carl O, our Treatment Rep did his very first PowerPoint presentation. He knocked it out of the Ballpark!! Our previous Eastern Canada Trustee Jan shared her experience, strength, and hope with us. The attendance was greater than expected, with practically a full house of about 60 attendees.

Interchange is a program we have with District 28 where participating groups hold a meeting at another home group.

Since our District has largely swung back to live meetings, we have transitioned back to a live Interchange schedule. It was compiled by Allen, our Alternate DCM and James, his counterpart in District 28. It was sent out to all participating groups. There 3 more groups participating this year that the previous year.

Our treatment centres and hospitals continued to be closed to meetings and we are hoping that access to them will be freed up in the coming year.

We had our District elections during our last meeting. DCM, Alternate DCM, Treatment, Chairperson, Secretary/Registrar and Treasurer, Grapevine positions were filled. We'll continue to try and fill the other positions.

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

Yours in Love and Service, Rob F, DCM – District 26 - 647-895-4120

**District 18 TORONTO CITY EAST ..... Christine F.**

Greetings, I am an alcoholic, a member of Steps to Serenity group in Toronto, have the privilege of being District 18's District Committee Member, and my name is Christy F.

We are well into our transition to the next term, 2023-2024. Our Officer elections are finished, and we are pleased to present our incoming cadre of trusted servants: John M. of the Danforth Group, is our incoming District Committee Member. Our ADCM has stepped down for personal reasons. That role will be filled in time. Our new Treasure, Allan L. from the Markham Village group, our Registrar, former ADCM, Greg R., and our Secretary, Shannon S. from the Unionville group. We hold elections for our Sub-committee Chairs in December.

Our District is spiritually and financially fit, having made contributions to Area 83 and The General Service Office as recently as this month.

We began hybrid business meetings two months ago; I am so very grateful for the patience and expertise of our members to make this possible. Our new location is well outfitted and is a great new home.

Our home groups meet in all available modalities and continue to modify as group conscience's dictate. All are listed at: [district18.org](http://district18.org)

Our Sub-committee remain active and busy, with two weekly service meetings being held by our home groups in month-by-month rotations. One meeting is at a co-ed withdrawal management centre and the other is at a Fred Victor long term housing complex. We continue to communicate with our former agencies and look forward to being of service where we are required.

I am a changed person for having served District 18 as their District Committee Member. I am forever grateful for the love, tolerance, and especially the patience of our members while I learned and fulfilled my responsibilities. I am unable to repay these kindnesses save for being ready when ever and wherever I am next required. I thank the members of District 18 and all members of Area 83 for giving my sobriety such depth and meaning over the last two years.

Yours, Christy F.

**District 82 VICTORIA HALIBURTON.....Joe C.**

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

I'm happy to report that our 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Victoria/Haliburton Conference went off without a hitch, providing a great day of Speakers, Fellowship, good food and lots of fun! We handed out 13 Big Books to newcomers and helped pass on our 5<sup>th</sup> tradition, with attraction rather than promotion, and a great day was had by all.

A special thanks to the Conference Committee for all their hard work, and of course our many Speakers and our Banquet Speaker Mr. Ali H. All of whom made it a great day for everyone who attended. Also, a big thank you to our caterers at Sugar and Spice Catering, for their awesome food and of course... deserts!

At last, some good news for a change in regards to holding meetings at Central East Correctional Centre. We were allowed to start with the Womens Meetings on Monday October 24<sup>th</sup>, and the Men's Meeting

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beginning on November 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be the first time since the pandemic began that we will be allowed back in there over 2 and a half years ago! Wow... saying that out loud just seems a bit surreal!

We have started our elections process and are looking forward to new members arriving at our District table for the upcoming term. We will hold our voting process next month, and I feel pretty confident that the majority of the positions will be filled after speaking to many different district members who have an interest in service work. My fingers are crossed, just in case!

After a bit of a slow start, it seems our groups are seeing a little better attendance in the past few months, nowhere near the levels we were at before the pandemic unfortunately, but it's still good news.

Our finances are stable and we will be able to meet all of our obligations.

As this will be my last report as District 82's DCM, let me say it was a privilege working with you all, there's not enough time to name all of you, but I'd like to thank each and every one of you who helped me through my term as DCM for District 82.

Yours in Love and Service

Joe C. - DCM District 82 - Victoria/Haliburton

**District 74 PEMBROKE ..... Julie F.**

I'm an alcoholic and have the privilege to serve as DCM for District 74, Pembroke. I'm a member of the River Group and my name is Julie.

Of the ten groups in District 74, eight have resumed in-person meetings and two continue to meet virtually. Some groups use the hybrid format on birthdays and anniversaries. The ability to access meetings virtually has been a blessing for many. Soon our District meetings will happen in-person with a hybrid component for those who need it and would not attend otherwise. The hybrid option has become important in maintaining accessibility.

We will hold elections in November. Very few nominations have been announced in advance, which is typical. We welcome this time of renewal among District servants. It's encouraging to see members who are relatively young in sobriety show interest in serving the District. It's the principle of rotation in action. The opportunity to serve has been an education and a pleasure.

Yours in Love and Service, Julie F. - DCM, District 74

**District 22 SCARBOROUGH ..... George W.**

Currently, District 22 has 23 groups on its roster. Of these groups, one is a seasonal group started in the first summer of the pandemic; the Sunday Scarborough Group is listed as inactive; the Bellamy group is struggling but continues an online meeting; the Wanstead group has officially folded; one former service meeting, the Saturday Main Street is now an unofficial group, not yet registered as such; there is one on-line group that has listed itself in our district, Full Catastrophe Sobriety. The Rouge Valley Group, at the Rouge Valley Centenary Hospital, is now holding meetings again. This hospital is the only one in Scarborough with a mental health facility. There are a number of active service meetings, mostly daytime, in our district.

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In terms of representation at the district table, there has been a fairly regular representation of 8 to 12 groups. There are GSRs, but few groups have alternates, a few have only a contact person. Several groups have not been at the district table in some time. Those who do attend are enthusiastic and actively participate in district meetings and affairs. I was pleased to see the representation of our district at the Fall Assembly.

In spring this year, Bert J (Silverbirch) was elected incoming DCM. We are pleased that Joe A (One Paragraph at a time) was elected as alternate DCM. Both are strong Three Legacy members of AA. The positions of secretary and treasurer for the coming term remain vacant. Thanks to Robb McA (immediate past delegate) for chairing the election. We will be having elections for sub-committee chairs at this November's meeting.

The district meets virtually on the second Sunday of each month at 1pm. Our meeting typically run 2.5 hours. While there have been discussion of meeting in-person/ hybrid, no consensus amongst the current GSRs exists to move forward on this. Agreement exists that in the event the meeting ought to be a hybrid format for reasons of accessibility and convenience; some express the view that business is conducted efficiently on-line, and at much less cost. Still, the low turnout and difficulty of filling and keeping service positions filled might suggest otherwise.

The district has approved a new set of operating procedures and guidelines. Some revisions have already been put forward, but the new document is much clearer. Thanks to the ad-hoc committee of past DCMs for their diligent work.

The district held its first in-person Service Day in two years. Many thanks to all those who pitched in, presented, and showed up. Thanks to Kimberly M., our Area 83 delegate for her talk. The potluck lunch, tradition skit performance, and evening social added colour to the event.

The past two years have been a challenge to keep on top of group meeting status, group representation, and sub- committee representation at the GTA district committee meetings. The district has managed to maintain a flow of information and connection between the groups, and between groups and the larger General Service structure. Our District22 Newsie is a two page newsletter of district and general service announcements which has been helpful in this regard. Thanks to Darlene D (GSR 12 Steps) for taking this on.

The heart beat of AA is the home group, and as Bert and I travel around the district we experience and fell that beat. It will only be by patient attention and constant nurturing of this that the 12<sup>th</sup> Step of recovery can blossom. Thanks to all those who filled a service position and represented their group this term.

Yours in service, George W - DCM- D22

**District 42 ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL ..... Milner G.**

My name is Milner G and I am a grateful 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 International.

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**District Elections**

We held our District Elections (phase 1) on October 26 and elected Natalie N., our current Alt-DCM, as our 2023-24 DCM and Brent C. is our new Alt DCM. Congratulations Natalie and Brent! (both are here today).

We also elected the Panel 73 officers (Alt-DCM, Secretary, Treasurer) and Committee Chairs (Corrections, Cooperation with the Professional Community/Public Information, Archives, and Webmaster).

Next month we will work on filling the remaining positions: Registrar, Treatment Chair, and Literature / Grapevine Chair. David D., our Registrar, will forward information to the Area Registrar and Area Secretary.

**District Status**

We are continuing to meet via Zoom on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, with 6-10 in attendance.

Here are recent highlights:

- District Membership: We now have three new groups from Massena who have joined our district. All meet at the "Serenity Club", and were previously affiliated with District 19 of Area 48.
- Operating Procedures: Thanks to all the DCMs who responded to my question about whether "Meetings" (not registered with GSO) are allowed to vote at their district meetings. All who responded said "no". We discussed and made a similar decision and will update our Operating Procedures.
- Finances: Our District Treasurer, David L., notes that we are currently solvent and meeting expenses. He forwarded a contribution of \$400 to GSO per our September approval.
- Corrections: Ted R. reports that meetings are now being permitted at the two New York State prisons in the district.
  - Riverview Correctional Facility (Ogdensburg) currently has two meetings per week.
  - Gouverneur Correctional Facility has no meetings that we know of.
  - St. Lawrence County Correctional Facility has discontinued Zoom access for its meetings. At present Ted is going in for a Men's meeting every other week and Brittany H., a newly enlisted volunteer, is going in for a Women's meeting.
- Covid Status: Most groups are still meeting in person; two are remaining virtual at this time.

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

12 Riverside Drive, Massena NY 13676 USA

315-244-4959 (cell)

[DCM42@aa-stlawrenceny.org](mailto:DCM42@aa-stlawrenceny.org)

[grimsled@gmail.com](mailto:grimsled@gmail.com)

**District 50 CORNWALL ..... Steph L.**

Absent – No report

**District 36 KINGSTON AND THE ISLANDS .....Jonathan C-J.**

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 C-J.



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The District is financially stable with groups continuing to contribute both to District and higher levels. Turnout at District meetings dropped below quorum over the fall, but was very good for our elections meeting this month.

Most groups have returned to in-person meetings while a few continue with Zoom. Some groups have had difficulty finding an in-person venue that suits them, as well as obtaining insurance policies that more venues seem to require now, but so far all have succeeded. The annual Founders' Day committee is restarting with the intention of resuming their service day in 2023.

Treatment meetings continue on Zoom for now with participation from many groups and individuals in the District.

**Corrections:**

1. Internal inside Walls AA meetings are still alive and well in both CBI (Medium/ Minimum) and JI (Minimum). No internally led AA activities are being held at JAU (assessment unit).
2. AA meetings led by outside volunteers (i.e., Corrections Volunteers AA members) continue to be attended well on Tuesdays at CBI with approx. ten attendees led by an AA volunteer.
3. CBI weekend morning meetings have been held by our Corrections Volunteers) but have been unattended by inmates. Current volunteers now not going in until need & attendances confirmed.
4. Collins Bay Scott Pringle (CBI Min) has been approached for an update ETA's and only one person is cleared for ETA. There are several others in progress but the process to get inmates cleared is lengthy. Only one CBI ETA is cleared release date November 15th . No other updates.
5. CBI Min has had 3 meetings since last report on Thursdays at 6.00pm led by an AA volunteer. Meetings attended well some materials handed out with more provided on Thursday 27th Oct.
6. Some clearances have lapsed and Trisha Mitchell (JI) is awaiting the full list to be updated. There are no meetings allowed at the assessment unit. Trisha and Ashley Kipper JI run the Joyceville Minimum social programs.
7. Area 83 Corrections Chair Marty M was updated October 24 latest updates from our district and will be updated following this meeting. District 36 was thanked for all for your great service and updates. AA area assembly is this coming weekend. All welcome.
8. Literature is available in good quantities and your acting chair will meet with members that have needs for big book, 12&12 and chips etc. Some materials handed to CBI and Joyceville getting some small 12&12 and big book.

The District continues to use a hybrid format business meeting and even held our elections by hybrid this month. All subcommittee positions are filled. Welcome to all the new table members.

The District website is now compatible with the AA Meeting Guide app. Thanks to our webmaster Cory M. for a lot of work. I'd also like to thank my alternate DCM Rich K. for his help over the past two years, introduce him as the incoming DCM, and acknowledge an outstanding table of Craig, Monique, Seth & Trevor, Lisa, Amanda, Nicole, Dianne and Peter.

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Jonathan C.

**District 86 KAWARTHA .....Jeffary F.**

I am an alcoholic; a grateful member of the Coffee Club Group in Peterborough and my name is Jeffary F and currently servicing as District 86 DCM. I want to acknowledge that I am here due to the unnecessary passing of Bruce B in May as I was his Alternate DCM. Bruce truly believed “Let Gratitude be your Attitude” and I am grateful that he was a part of my recovery and his spirit is still alive in District 86. At our September District meeting we held open nominations for our 2023-2024 District Table. Since that date we have a filled district table except for the position of Self Support chairperson but I feel that it will be occupied shortly as this opportunity of service is a great opportunity of recovery. Giving back what we have greatly received. Currently we have a variety of groups in the district from meeting in person, meeting virtually and one group meeting as a “hybrid” in person and on line which happens to be my home group. Both with happiness and sadness, we have both groups officially joining the district and one group closing, having their last meeting on line this evening. The slogan “Change we must” truly reflects on our district. We had a fantastic one day round up this year in our district. The theme was Together Again.

With Gratitude, DCM District 86 - Jeffary F. - d86dcm@gmail.com

**District 10 TORONTO SOUTH CENTRAL ..... Ann J.**

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 has 24 active groups covering a broad and diverse range of: ages, social demographics, including some that are LGBTQ2S+, two secular groups, and a fully online group with international membership.

Group Activities: What do our District AA meetings look like right now? Not including our online-only group, all but 3 groups are meeting in person again and most are still running online or hybrid meetings as well. With over 60 meetings a week, there’s about an even split between in-person, hybrid, and online only meetings offered. LOTS OF CHOICES FOR EVERYONE’S NEEDS!

At the District level we average 18 attendees at our monthly meetings, including 12-14 GSR’s /Alt’s who attend regularly 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.

Financially:

Each month we receive one to two contributions from our groups, and are in good financial shape, partially due to the online vs in person assemblies and other expenditures which are currently lighter than pre-covid. As such, at our upcoming monthly meeting the table will be voting on a motion to contribute excess funds to both Area and GSO.

People and Positions/ Service Commitments and Service Committees:

As of October we have elected our incoming DCM, Paddy A and Alternate DCM, Bill C., and will be holding elections for 2023/24 officers and committee chairs beginning in November.

We've learned through experience that setting realistic expectations for positions is important, and we now have a job role description for each position with the details of the role, complementary skills, as well as the time commitment they require. We hope this serves us well in not only attracting but keeping our members who have stepped forward in service.

Our sub-committee chairs are active and busy, and GSR's are also signing their groups up for the 12-15 treatment service meetings per month.

In Summary:

Given it's end of the table's term, I'd like to sincerely thank those who are serving, have departed or are departing, as well as those who have recently joined, for their service and commitment. You are so much appreciated! It has been such a pleasure and I'm and so grateful 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., DCM – District 10

Thank you to all District Committee Members for your reports. If you did not already give your report to James, 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 have the honour and privilege of serving as your Panel 71 Public Information Committee chair for Area 83. My name is Jack R.

Thank you again to the SID committee for another fantastic, well-run Service Information Day yesterday, and thank you to those who attended the Public Information Committee workshop as well. Although I was not at my best, I appreciated the support of those who attended and enjoyed taking in the other workshops. Today's report will also be brief.

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I have been attending meetings with the Public Information chairs of the districts, most recently a joint session with Jo D, Area 83 CPC chair and the district CPC chairs in late August. I also have been attending the meetings of the GTA intergroup Public Information Committee chaired by Joe A.

I enjoyed participating in the ad hoc committee on digital resources for Area 83 which gave its recommendations to the Area committee at the ACM in early September; we will hear this report given by Mel C. this afternoon. Thanks to all the committee members for their many hours of research.

I am looking forward to chairing one of the Comprehensive Media Plan sessions hosted by Area 83 in November. I received an enquiry from Annette L. in Area 90 (Gatineau / Hull/ Aylmer) about our plan to include French translation for the sessions; she assured me that she would pass the word around in her area for interested members to attend.

It is hard to believe that the term is nearly over and we will be rotating out again. I have learned so much in this position and I am grateful for all the support and input that I have received. I look forward to wherever my higher power directs me on my service journey.

Yours in Gratitude and Service,

Jack R.  
Panel 71 Chair, Public Information Committee  
Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

**B. Cooperation with the Professional Community .....Jo D.**

My name is Jo D. I am an alcoholic. My Home Group is Search for Serenity in District 54, Ottawa Rideau. This is my final report to an Assembly as your Area 83 CPC Chair. I sincerely want to thank you for allowing me to serve. I want to extend a special thank you to the District CPC Chairs with whom I have collaborated these past two years.

Many of these individuals have made the two years so worthwhile with their interest, their engagement and their dedicated service. Let me say again how grateful I am to Jody H. from District 30 and Dorothy A. from District 6 who spoke at the Service Information Day CPC workshop yesterday. As we heard from Jody, a one-person committee can carry the message to numerous individuals. Dorothy demonstrated the power of a cold calls that led to participation in a university health fair and to taking part in a community police event.

Area 83 continues to be active in CPC service at both the Area level and the District level. We have continued with our quarterly meetings to share information and ideas on ways to cooperate with professionals. I go to the monthly PICPC meetings in Ottawa and the GTA.

Some of the highlights of CPC service since the Spring Assembly: District 22 held two information sessions for professionals, in June. Dr. Al Mooney, Class A Trustee of the General Service Board, gave with members involved in CPC service some valuable suggestions for how to connect with and what to say to professionals. I was honoured to be asked to make a presentation to the professional who attended. Other Districts are thinking about holding similar sessions after hearing about the District 22 experience.

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The return to in-person activities provided opportunities to bring CPC exhibits to community and professional events. The Ottawa Committee, comprising Districts 54 and 62, staffed an exhibit at the annual WOW Festival in September. WOW (Working on Wellness) is a day of recovery organizations coming together to share information with the public about recovery programs.

The Ottawa PICPC Committee is also exploring the idea of creating a District LinkedIn account. LinkedIn is viewed as a sensible and expedient way of connecting electronically with local professionals. The Ottawa Committee is in the early stages of that exploration; but that's a pretty exciting project.

Jack R., Area 83 PI Chair and I held a joint CPC and PI meeting of District chairs in August. This was a meeting primarily to discuss the upcoming information sessions on the Comprehensive Media Plan and to ask for their help in developing a list of questions and issues they would like to hear about. Thank you to those of you who responded! I submitted all of those questions to the working group organizing those sessions.

Planning for the second annual North America CPC and PI Conference is underway. Area 83 and Area 81 in New Brunswick are currently on the Planning Committee. In 2023 it will truly be a North America conference as a result of a decision to include Mexico. This was an initiative that Area 83 has participated in over two terms, i.e., these past four years. The hope is that this CPC and PI Conference becomes an annual event with the status similar to that of the National Archives and National Corrections conferences.

If you are now or are considering becoming involved in CPC service work but want to know more about what's involved, please contact me directly; I will be happy to talk about it with you.

Also, you might want to consider joining a couple of the National PI & CPC Working Group meetings. They meet every month on the second Saturday. There is so much valuable information that is shared every month and available in the shared drives – like power point presentations for professionals, poster samples, etc. Moreover, GSO has and may to continue to use this forum to reach out to members. Several months ago, Patrick, the GSO staff coordinator for Public Information used the forum for what he termed, his call to action to members. At the October meeting earlier this month, Michael R. the brand new CPC staffer on the CPC desk attended the meeting. If you are interested, here is the Zoom meeting ID and password

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87803113474?pwd=TzFtMEplbkZBSXF0V0ZVc1NRMVZOUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 0311 3474

Passcode: 411

I will finish my term being as active as I can to the end. I'll be participating in the ad hoc Committee on PreConference Agenda Sharing; a first meeting is coming up next week.

Again, thank you for allowing me to be part of Area 83 in this CPC Chair role. What a gift. Blessings to you all!

Yours in service,

Jo D

Area 83 Chair

Cooperation with the Professional Community

**C. Correctional Facilities .....Marty M.**

Hello everyone, I am a grateful alcoholic my name is Marty. I am privileged to serve as your Area 83 Corrections Chair.

As I reached out to our District chairs, I learned that the correctional institutions all have different challenges. Therefore, our ability to carry the A.A. message to inside members behind the walls is still somewhat challenging. Some have opened back up and are willing to have members come and put on meetings, others not so much. Not yet that is.

Here is the breakdown starting from the West.

District 2 – Bob E with some other members are successfully bringing meetings in to OCI, which is temporarily at Maplehurst complex in Milton. They are having weekly step 1-2-3 meetings every Monday, and the last Monday of the month is a speaker meeting. They have around 5 participants. Also, a member is going in for one on ones each week.

District 6 – Robbie reports there's no change. The Tuesday day meetings continue with hardly any lockdowns. There has been no indication when the Wednesday night meeting will return.

District 22 – Toronto East - Gale: still no face-to-face meetings. They continue to provide soft cover big books, pamphlets, and Grapevines. Two home groups in D22 have purchased subscriptions to be sent into Toronto East; Danforth Group and Silverbirch, way to go!

District 30 – Maria reports No meetings yet at Warkworth Institution.

District 34 - Deborah: Still no meetings at Bath Institution. Two male members are going into Millhaven monthly, also male and female members are going into Quinte Detention Centre.

District 36 – Collins Bay Institution (Min & Med security) are allowing meetings to come in. Weeknight meetings are well attended. A weekend meeting was tried but has been cancelled due to lack of attendance. On the CB Minimum side, one person has been cleared as an ETA (escorted temporary absence). This means an outside A.A. member can take this person to an outside A.A. meeting. Joyceville (Min security) regular meetings are brought in. I want to say congratulations to Trevor O for being elected as the District 36 Corrections Chair for the 2023-24 term. Trevor stepped into this position, when it became vacant part way through this term and he will now continue. He's doing a great job.

Districts 54 & 62 – Nicky: Ottawa Carlton Detention Centre is currently having a once-a-month women's meeting. However, this meeting has been cancelled many times due to lack of staff. More orientations are coming up in November.

District 42 – Ted: St Lawrence County Correctional Facility in Canton, N.Y. is being covered, weekly meetings are taking place. Riverview Correctional in Ogdensburg, N.Y. is having meetings once per month. There are currently no meetings at Gouverneur Correctional Facility.

That's it from me. I thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 83 and Alcoholics Anonymous. Enjoy the rest of your day.

God Bless

Yours in Love and Service, Marty M

**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. Most Districts are busy taking meetings into Treatment and Withdrawal Management Centers. There is not many left that are not allowing us to come in and carry the message. The Treatment Committees have been very persistent with Centers during Covid so they could get back in without any more delay than necessary.

Our last Sub-Committee Meeting was held August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and the next meeting will be November 27<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Any one is welcome to attend this meeting and I will send the invitation to the Webmaster to add to the calendar. Our attendance at these meetings has been small but there have been a lot of great discussions. I have been able to share some knowledge and have learned so much.

I enjoyed the Service Information Day yesterday and was able to take in many workshops. I believe that the Treatment Workshop yesterday went very well and I would like to thank all those that attended. Special thanks to Stephen who presented on the introductory message that he carries into Treatment Centers. I would like to thank the District Treatment Chairs that attended the workshop. I would also like to thank all these chairs for making this term an absolute pleasure and I am so happy I was able to meet you all.

Thanks to the Secretaries who send me District Minutes as I enjoy receiving and reading them. It keeps me informed of what is going on in the Area and where I may be able to better serve. I am available whenever you need me, so feel free to invite me to any events taking place where I could be of assistance. I am a little sad that this will be my last assembly as Treatment Chair but I'm starting to feel comfortable in the role. That is a sure sign it is time to rotate out. Thank you for your friendship and for being an important part of my sobriety.

Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service,

Tim F.

[treatment@area83aa.org](mailto:treatment@area83aa.org)

**E. Grapevine .....Jane S.**

October 30, 2022

I AM AN ALCOHOLIC, MEMBER OF THE HAND of AA GROUP IN DISTRICT 74  
AND MY NAME IS JANE S. IT HAS BEEN MY HONOUR TO SERVE AS THE AREA 83 GRAPEVINE CHAIR FOR PANEL 71.

\*\*\*\*\*

The local sheriff was looking for a deputy, and a drunk went in to try out for the job.

"Ok", the sheriff said, "what is 1 and 1?"

"Eleven", the drunk replied

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The sheriff thought for a moment and said to himself, "that's not what I mean t, but he is right."  
Then the sheriff asked, "What two days of the week start with the letter "T"?"  
"Today and Tomorrow" replied the drunk  
The sheriff was again surprised that the drunk supplied an answer that he hadn't thought of himself.  
"Now listen carefully," he said to the drunk, "who killed Abraham Lincoln?"  
The drunk thought about it for a minute and finally said, "I don't know"  
The sheriff told him, "well, why don't you go home and work on that one."  
So the drunk wandered over the the bar where is pals were waiting to hear the results of the interview. The drunk was exultant. "It went great! First day on the job and I'm already working on a murder case!"

Gaylen F., Columbus Nebraska  
February 2000 Issue

It is with great love that I write this report to the Area 83 Fall Assembly as your Grapevine Chair. This experience has been a highlight of my time in AA service thus far. The welcome and warmth that In have received from all of you is something I will carry with me forever. I know that I have made lifelong friends. We have seen each other in our best times and for some us of some very difficult times. I thank each and every one of you for your support and for my sobriety.

++++  
Some highlights from AA Grapevine are:

Carry the Message 2022 project is now almost through the year. Thus far, the Canadian contribution is only 87 subscriptions. With over 600 groups in our AREA, we could substantially increases this number! If you or your group or district can provide Grapevine subscriptions to someone in need please check out [aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message](http://aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message). Our magazine can be a lifeline for so many still suffering alcoholics unable to get out for various reasons.

The continued decline in Grapevine subscriptions and increase in production costs has created a reforecasted budget deficit \$262,218 compared to the deficit of \$112,618 the previous year. LaVina's deficit is projected at \$557,723. Please call upon your district GV and LV reps to come to your meetings and service meetings to share the joy of the Grapevine Magazine. Did you know? In 1959 the Grapevine Conference Committee recommended "State and area conferences be encouraged to have local Grapevine representatives in attendance at conferences or conventions to encourage subscriptions by individuals and groups." ? We are ready and willing to attend your events with displays and inventory. Please let us know where we can be of service.

The AA podcast is quickly growing in popularity. There have been over 250,000 downloads so far. You can try it at [aagrapevine.org/podcast](http://aagrapevine.org/podcast) or your favourite podcast platform. New episodes every Monday.

Instagram has been active now for 15 months and has 8491 followers. LaVina has 1029 followers. Posts include inspiration, daily quotes, upcoming events, new books and humour on Friday's.

If your District Grapevine Rep has rotated in or out, please drop me an email with the new information. [grapevine@area83aa.org](mailto:grapevine@area83aa.org).



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I was able to attend my second Area Grapevine Representative workshop in October. We learned the final draft of A Guide to AA Grapevine is prepared and will be available “very soon” on the AA Grapevine website. The GV and LV handbook is also being updated and will be available Spring 2023. FYI there are currently 10,200 active GV reps and 831 Active LV reps registered with AA Grapevine.

We also learned that a new Guide to AA Grapevine will be available in September for GV and LV Reps. There are many complimentary tools such as post cards and other printable at the aa [grapevine.org](http://grapevine.org) website under GVR Resources. The YouTube Channel also has Grapevine Rep Videos available for free download presentations.

Finally, an AA Grapevine and AA La Vina APP are in progress to integrate everything in one place. We anticipate this to be available September 2023. This will be in addition to the magazine, not in place of. Currently there is a request for input from the fellowship on what you may like to see on the APP (sobriety calculator, pop ups, reminders, check lists, links to bookstore, links to the Meeting Guide APP, etc). You can access this and let your voice be heard at [AAgrapevine.org](http://AAgrapevine.org).

Price increases will take effect on January 1, 2023 for books and other ancillary items. Shipping is free from November 1 to December 31, 2022. Now is the time to stock up on literature!

There will be a new book introduced titled “Homegroup” which will include pandemic responses.

I was gifted Grapevine Magazines in boxes all the way back to the 1950’s from a member of D66 who passed away, Stan C. I have been in contact with Dave T, Area 83 Archivist and we will fill in the gaps of any missing magazines in the Area 83 archives and the remainder will stay with the Area 83 Grapevine Chair.

Almost without exception alcoholics are tortured by loneliness.....Bill W.  
Perhaps the AA Grapevine can ease that loneliness for someone you know today.....

Yours in Love and Service,

Jane S  
Area 83 Eastern Ontario International  
Grapevine Chair, Panel 71

*The AA Grapevine Statement of Purpose - The AA Grapevine is the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Written, edited, illustrated, and read by AA members and others interested in the AA program of recovery from alcoholism, the Grapevine is a lifeline linking one alcoholic to another.*

**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.

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I have continued to attend the GTA Intergroup Self-support meetings. 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 continue to hold self-support meetings – the first Thursday of the month with the District Chairs of Area 83. We will continue to do this until the end of the term. We are an enthusiastic group. And again, anyone who would like to attend this monthly meeting, you are more than welcome.

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. And my thanks to the Service Information Day Committee – who provided the fellowship of Area 83 with another great Service Information Day!!

I want to thank those districts who continue to send me their monthly district minutes. I enjoy reading them and finding out what is happening in your respective districts.

As you have heard over the course of the weekend, Area 83 is hosting a series of workshops – Comprehensive Media Plan Panel Discussions starting in November. I would encourage you to not miss out on the opportunity to take part.

For anyone who is thinking of letting your name stand for elections, this afternoon, I wish you all the best.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Yours in Love and Service,

Bev H  
Self-Support Chair, Panel 71,  
Area 83 Eastern Ontario International.  
selfsupport@area83aa.org

**G. Archives .....Shane H.**

EMAIL SENT TO REQUEST REPORT

**H. Accessibilities .....Jenny C.**

Hello Friends

Im a member of the smiths falls Saturday night group in district 66 currently serving as your panel 71 Accessibilities Chair. My name is Jenny and I'm an alcoholic.

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I can't believe this is our last assembly for panel 71. I am filled with more emotion than normal these days but I assure you all the feels are real and I will try and keep my composure by not looking at any of you and only reading what is on my screen. Just to warn you pregnancy might get the better of me.

**Food for thought...**

The last survey completed for Canada states that 22% of Canadians had at least one disability. This represents 6.2 million people. This survey was completed in 2017 with another survey taking place right now. 10% with mobility issues and 10% with hearing or seeing.

There is currently a membership survey happening with GSO the results should be out after the general service conference in April 2023. There will be information in the results that will help us identify how many members of AA or living with a form of disability.

The biggest thing that we learned over the course of this term is if we keep the conversation going we learn more and have the opportunity to discover what barriers are there and how we can make change happen.

Over the course of the term, we have been able to accomplish a lot. While meeting monthly were taking place we were able to Finalize

Meetings to go Tool Kit

Trifold pamphlet on accessibilities

How to organize a hybrid meeting

Accessibilities Power point presentation

More will be posted to the area website under the accessibilities tab after this weekend.

Things that we are still working hard on is trying to have an ASL interpreted meeting consistently added to our area meeting list. Funding and Attendance at meetings are still part of the process that we are trying to sort out. Please stay tuned as I am sure this is something that we are going to be bringing up again.

Lastly, I need to thank ALL the members of the Area Accessibilities Committee. I have been but a voice for them and all the hard work that they did over the course of this term. They all did all of the heavy lifting, and we wouldn't have been able to do as much as we did without them.

We still meet the first Thursday of the month at 8pm. All are welcome to attend and the details are on the area website on the events calendar. You can also email me at [accessibilities@area83aa.org](mailto:accessibilities@area83aa.org) for more information.

If you want to help others I promise Accessibilities will open doors you didn't know existed. I have been able to grow not only thought service but personally as an individual and parent. I am a better person because of all of you and because of this position.

Lets keep the conversation going – there are so many Alcoholics out there that need us. Lets do what we can to make them feel welcome and a part of. Together we can achieve great things!!

Yours in love and service

Jenny B

Panel 71 Accessibilities Chair

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

**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:

Our Secretary 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 very much missed but with us in spirit is Bruce B - District 86 – Kawartha, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

I would like to take this moment to thank the Committee for a job well done. It really is a wonderful group. It seemed really smooth in putting together this Service Information Day, which tells us it's time to rotate out. 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 enthusiasm about service. Thanks to all of our Workshop chairs for their hard work in putting together their workshops - your love of service really shows, and I wish I was able to attend all of them. And a special thanks to all of our Zoom Tech and Secretary volunteers - your service was greatly appreciated to help make this day possible.

We will read through all of the surveys that have been submitted in order to get your feedback and pass along that information to the next committee. 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.

With it being the last Service Information Day of the term, I would like to recommend to all of the incoming District Committee Members to seriously consider letting your name stand for the Service Information Day Committee at the January Area Committee Meeting. It really has been an amazing experience for me, and I had the pleasure of meeting so many great AA members along the way, as well as being a part of a fantastic team. Leading up to last January's Area Meeting, I wasn't sure about it, but there are always lots of people willing to help out and share their experience and guidance along the way. Special thanks to our Chairperson Amy, who was a tremendous help this term, especially early on. It's been a pleasure serving on the Committee, and I look forward to seeing the workshops that next term's committee puts together.

Yours in love and service,

Trevor F

Service Information Day Committee Chairperson

Area 83 - Eastern Ontario International

**J. Webmaster .....George McQ.**

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 1,108 visitors between April and May of this year.

The highlight was Monday October 17th, when we had 58 unique visitors to the website.

**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

**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. Let me know if you have a poster and want it included.

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

[Webmaster@Area83AA.org](mailto:Webmaster@Area83AA.org)

**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](http://area83aa.org) at the top of the Home Page click "A.A. Contributions". Then click "I am an A.A. Member".

There have been 57 contributions via e-Transfer so far in 2022. 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.

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Service Meetings, even though they may not have a Service Number, can still make Contributions to a District or Area 83. If any of you attend Service Meetings, please inform them that they can make Contributions if they so wish.

Let's discuss the Financial Statements for the period ending October 21, 2022.

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

Income for the period as at October 21, 2022:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition collected to date is \$1,914.55, including \$345.00 from the September Area Committee Meeting
- Flow Through Contributions to GSO were \$475.00
- Group, District and Individual Contributions \$35,692.61, which is already well above the total year Guideline amount of \$30,339.60

Total Income for the period is \$38,082.16

Expenses for the period as at October 21, 2022:

- Committee expenses were \$2,868.32, which will be discussed on Page 2
- Area Contributions to GSO were \$5,100, including an in Memoria contribution of \$100 for Bruce B, DCM District 86
- Area Committee Meeting costs of \$951.55
- General Service Conference Assessment \$10,445.60 (\$8,000 US)
- Bank Service Charges \$32.45
- Forums costs of \$2,183.78 for our Delegate and Alternate Delegate to attend
- Flow Through Contributions to GSO were \$475.00
- Ontario Delegates' Committee \$1,093.69
- CERAASA and Eastern Canadian Delegates Orientation \$301.82

Total Expenses for the period are \$23,457.50

The opening bank balance at January 1, 2022 was \$46,492.09. Total income of \$38,082.16 less expenses of \$23,457.50 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$61,116.75. As of October 21, 2022, our expenses were \$14,624.66 less than income. Thank you to the 100 Groups, 12 Districts and 2 Individuals for your generous contributions to Area 83.

Page 2 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:

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- Travel expenses of \$2,232.60 for several committee members related to travel expenses to the June and September Area Committee Meetings, including \$366.48 for the Delegate's travel for General Service Conference presentations and Membership Survey meetings.
- The amount shown for the Chairperson as Miscellaneous of \$208.00 relates to ZOOM account costs for larger attendees for PCAS, Spring and Fall Assemblies. The budget for the ZOOM account is now with the Chairperson, rather than the Alternate Delegate.
- The amount shown for Treasurer, totalling \$389.26, relates to ACM travel, postage, and printing
- The amount shown for the Corrections Facilities (\$67.12) relates to postage for Grapevine magazines sent to Correctional Institutions.
- The amount shown for the Grapevine (\$99.93) relates to postage for Grapevine Calendars and Pocket Planner orders for 2021.

Regarding 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 2022 In Person GSC was \$8,000.00 USD, or \$10,445.60 CDN, which has been paid in full.

To summarize, our financial position as at October 21, 2022 compared to October 2021 is as follows: Income for 2022 is \$10,530.06 more than the same period in 2021. Expenses to date for 2022 are \$14,629.06 more than the same period in 2021. The net change to the Operating Account is an increase of \$14,624.66.

The increase of contributions in 2022 versus 2021 is \$10,856.51.

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

Area 83 is in a very strong financial position and there is a motion for a further Contribution to GSO under New Business.

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 in Kingston.

We will be collecting a 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition today by way of e-transfer. Please e-transfer your contribution and reference the ACM in the memo field.

The email address is [treasurer@area83aa.org](mailto:treasurer@area83aa.org).

I will report the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions from the Fall Assembly at the December Area Committee Meeting.

On a personal note, due to the increasing challenges and impact of some family health issues, I will not be standing for any Area positions in the upcoming elections. I also made this announcement at the September Area Committee Meeting.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my various Area 83 roles and the many friends I have made.

I will continue to focus on carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 83.

Yours in Love and Service,

Dave L – Area 83 Treasurer – Panel 71

## 7. Interim SECRETARY'S REPORT

James O'D.

It was wonderful co-presenting the Secretary/Registrar workshop yesterday with Bill. Special thanks to those members who joined yesterday for your presence, great questions and your dedication to AA.

The Area roster for this term will continue to be updated so that our Area subcommittees will have up to date rosters to be able to continue carrying the message.

Many people have been asking about the Panel 73 District roster for the up coming term. One District has already sent in their new slate so thank you for that. Feel free to send in the information as it finalizes for your District. I will be working closely with the incoming Area secretary to prepare the new roster so that the 2023-24 Area committee can hit the ground running on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

On page 9 of the Area 83 Operating Procedures it states:

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

Over the next few months Amy and I will get together and review the motions that passed and make sure that the Operating Procedures are up to date.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your interim secretary and feel free to reach out if I can be of assistance in any way.

## 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 C. I have the honour and privilege to serve as your Panel 71 Registrar for Area 83, Eastern Ontario International.



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As Registrar, I have been entrusted with the responsibility for maintaining and updating Area 83's 592 Group records (575 Regular and 17 Virtual Groups) and serving as the liaison with the General Service Office for matters concerning Group registration and Group records.

The Fellowship Connection is used for all the 93 Areas Canada and the United States of America. The database keeps track of all our Service Members, Groups, Districts and Areas and allows the Area Registrar to make real time updates to the Area database. DCM's as well as the Delegate have read-only access to the Fellowship Connection Database.

The number of Virtual groups has grown considerably in the past couple of years. In fact, Area 83 has 17 Virtual Groups. Many of these Virtual groups register directly with the General Service Office (GSO). Our Delegate, Kimberly M and I now receive a notification from the GSO when a new group has been registered. When we receive a notification, we send a welcome letter to ensure that the Virtual Groups first and foremost feel welcomed into Area 83 and hopefully into a District. We believe it is important that the Virtual Groups realize that they are part of the Service Structure of A.A. And most important that they have a voice and a vote.

We have 585 Active groups in our Area. Our District registrars are starting to send the District Table and Group changes. This is great as it ensures that our roster will be up to date when the new Registrar takes on the responsibilities. Appreciation to all the Registrars, Secretaries and DMC's who have helped over these past 2 years.

New Group Change Forms (fillable PDF) have been developed and have been posted on the A83 website. News GSR's are encouraged to get the electronic GSR kits – these are available immediately (here is the [link](#) from our Website) – digital content is the trend for GSO, but physical kits can be ordered.

A shout out to all the Volunteer Registrars who helped us today. A special shout out to Taylor J, Dewi M, and Robb W.

In closing, I will make myself available to Districts and Groups to assist you with Registrar-related issues where I can. Don't hesitate to touch base -- please remember that communication is most important.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Yours in Love and Service, Bill C

Bill C  
Panel 71 Registrar  
Area 83 - Eastern Ontario International  
[registrar@area83aa.org](mailto:registrar@area83aa.org)

# ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

## Roll Call 2022 Fall Assembly

District	DCM	Alt-DCM	District Officer s-Other	Comm Chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups Attending	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups in District	% Groups Attending
02	0	1	0	1	4	0	0	4	6	4	26	15%
06	1	1	0	4	0	1	0	6	12	7	36	17%
10	1	1	0	0	8	0	1	8	11	9	25	32%
12	1	1	1	1	6	0	3	6	11	7	29	21%
14	1	1	0	0	6	0	1	6	8	7	34	18%
16-SP	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	10	0%
18	1	1	1	0	6	0	1	6	9	7	23	26%
22	1	1	1	2	8	0	1	8	13	9	22	36%
26	1	0	0	1	6	1	0	6	9	7	26	23%
28	1	1	1	0	7	0	0	7	9	8	23	30%
30	1	1	0	0	7	0	1	7	10	8	17	41%
34	1	0	1	0	5	0	0	5	6	6	40	13%
36	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	5	3	30	7%
42	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	2	23	4%
48	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	22	5%
50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0%
54	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	5	4	28	11%
58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0%
62	1	0	0	0	6	0	2	6	9	7	52	12%
66	1	1	1	2	5	0	2	5	10	6	26	19%
70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0%
74	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	3	3	10	20%
78	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	3	3	7	29%
82	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	4	3	20	10%
86	1	1	0	1	5	1	4	5	13	6	25	20%
DUnknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0%
CF					0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0%
	DCM	Alt-DCM	District Officer s-Other	Comm chairs	GSR	Alt-GSR	Visitors	Total Groups	Total Delegation	Total Votes	Total Groups	
ALL	21	15	6	15	92	3	16	98	162	119	623	16%

## 9. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

James O'D.

### Intergroup

I continue to attend as many Intergroup meetings as I can get to and am forwarding relevant items from the Area and GSO for Intergroup publications. These have become an important way to carry the message.

### CERAASA

As a member of the CERAASA steering committee, the Delegates and Alternates get together every two months to prepare for the upcoming assembly in February. Our next meeting is on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Remote Communities

In the spirit of rotation, Area 83 will be passing along the chairing of the Inter Area Remote Communities Work Group to another Area for the next term. Area 72 has stepped forward with their Zoom account and a chair will be elected at our next meeting. We meet monthly to share how we are carrying the message to communities that are often only accessible by fly-in or boat. If anyone is interested in receiving the minutes from these meetings please contact me.

We are organizing a virtual inter-Area RC Forum on December 17<sup>th</sup>. The poster is being finalized and as soon as it is ready we will be sending it out – far and wide.

As a committee we have approached the Meeting Guide app to create a new tab under COMMUNITIES. We would like to add the category REMOTE as an option.

If you haven't had a chance to read the latest "hot off the presses" Box 4-5-9 then you are missing a particularly fabulous edition. Not only does it highlight new indigenous translations of our literature and has several sections devoted to Remote Communities, there is also a wonderful article about our very own Joyce S. – Eastern Canada Regional Trustee.

### Ad hoc Community

As a member of the PCAS committee we are meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup> to begin planning for our virtual sessions in the new year.

### DCM Sharing Sessions

It has been a wonderful transition period to see the new DCMs and Alternates join us at the sessions and begin to share. We continue to meet monthly to discuss challenges and solutions – sharing our experience – about what is happening in the Districts and in AA in general.

August – "Comprehensive Media Plan"

September – "Elections: District & Area....Please stand up!"

October - "District end of term: Handing off the baton of service"

We started these meetings in February 2021 on a trial run and it has been a huge success! The members have decided to continue them moving forward and have shared how useful these sessions have been. I look forward to the last two meetings of the year and am thrilled with the feeling of unity and camaraderie these meetings have created.

Other fantastic service adventures I have been on include:

1. D66 Virtual Elections September 28<sup>th</sup>

2. District 12 Virtual Inventory – October 12th
3. Serving on the 2013-2015 GSC Inventory Compendium Report Discussion Group
4. The Hill Group (in person) Inventory – October 15<sup>th</sup>
5. The Church Street Group Virtual Inventory – October 22<sup>nd</sup>
6. Facilitated D36 Hybrid Elections – October 26th

In closing I would like to thank Area 83 for allowing me to serve as your Panel 71 Alternate Delegate. This experience has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my service journey. I have come to a new appreciation for Bill's words in Chapter 7 – Working With Others

“Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends - this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.”

## 10. DELEGATE'S REPORT

Kimberley M.

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

What a wonderful Service Information Day yesterday! Thank you to everyone for your informative presentations and all who attended. A special thank you to Trudy, for her workshop and a great talk last night!

Thank you to those who attended the Delegate's plenary yesterday where I shared somethings that have been going on beyond area 83. The presentation will be posted on our area 83 website soon and is already available of the glideApp I am testing. I will ask our zoom tech to post the link in the chat in a bit. You have already heard about what has been going on within Area 83 this morning! Thank you to everyone for your reports and your service.

Here is what I have been up to ....

Since our Area Committee meeting, the 2022 Membership Survey has taken place. We last completed an AA Membership Survey in 2014. To prepare to distribute the survey, I attended a Q & A hosted by Patrick, of the PI desk at the General Service Office on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Eight out of the nine randomly selected groups completed the survey. Six groups choose to complete the survey on paper and 2 groups completed digital surveys since they were virtual meetings. Members found the survey quick and easy to complete. Thank you to Jack, our PI chair, Rob, our immediate past delegate and Marrey, alternate DCM for district 6 for your assistance in facilitating the surveys for these groups.

On September 24<sup>th</sup> I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the AA Service Day hosted by district 22. Thank you for a day of wonderful presentations and a fun Traditions Skit!

On October 20<sup>th</sup> I attended the January Conference call that is now taking place in October because of the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process. Our Conference Agenda Committee met virtually to provide input regarding several proposed agenda items for consideration at the upcoming Conference. Our feedback will be shared with the trustees to help them decide whether these items should be included in the

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Conference agenda. The Board weekend is happening right now, and they will determine which items shall be included in the Conference agenda. It will then be turned over to the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process which will review it and redistribute some agenda items to other committees to balance out the workload for each Conference committee. The resulting agenda will be reviewed at the January Board weekend and shared with us in early February.

James, Jill and Christy and I continue to meet and discuss the 2013-2015 General Service Conference inventory results. This document includes some great suggestions and has sparked some dynamic discussions.

I also participated in the ad hoc committee looking into the Digital Needs of Area 83.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, I look forward to attending the first planning meeting for the 2023 Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing (PCAS) sessions. The four sessions on the Comprehensive Media Plan(CMP) are fast approaching. Please register to receive the meeting ID for these 90-minute sessions. Each begins at 7pm. The first session takes place on November 16<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be “Carrying the Message: An Introduction to the CMP”. On November 23<sup>rd</sup> we will discuss “Is AA Advertising? Google grants and more”. The topic for November 30<sup>th</sup> is “AA on Social Media – LinkedIn, Instagram & YouTube”. And on December 7<sup>th</sup> the discussion will be about “Apps, Websites and Content Creation”. Each night will include 2 to 3 panelists that are staff from the GSO or Trustees who work closely with the CMP. These sessions will be very informative and provide members and trusted servants with a great foundational understanding of how AA is embracing various forms of media to carry our message to the still suffering alcoholic while keeping within our traditions. Attendees will be invited to ask their questions and provide feedback for our panelists throughout the sessions. (Post link to flyer in chat) Thank you to Amy, Jo and Taylor for helping to organize these sessions and those who will be assisting on those evenings.

The final agenda for the 73<sup>rd</sup> General Service Conference should be available in early February. Groups and districts are then encouraged to begin discussing these items to allow our membership to be a part of the decision-making Conference process. You will have about a month to gather as much feedback as possible from members before the PCAS sharing sessions will begin. PCAS stands for Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing. The purpose of these sessions is to inform the Delegate of the feedback that has been gathered from members for as many items as possible. The PCAS schedule will come out in early January to allow you to put them on your calendar. Any member can attend.

Information for the PCAS sessions will be sent out by email, and posted on our area 83 Website. You can also access more information through a glideApp that we are testing, which you can access on any device. Our zoom tech will post the link in the chat.

The CERAASA steering committee meeting, comprised of the delegates and alternate delegates of the 10 areas in Eastern Canada and our regional trustee, continue to meet bi-monthly. Each area has contributed \$186.85 to cover the costs of interpretation in French and English. I was unable to attend the September meeting but look forward to the November meeting. (CERAASA = Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly)

You are all invited to join enthusiastic AA members from all over Canada’s Eastern Region and be part of CERAASA 2023. This Canadian Eastern Regional AA Service Assembly only takes place once every 2 years. The weekend is packed with panels, presentations, open mic sharing, speakers and fellowship. As a region we will exchange ideas and discuss pertinent aspects of Alcoholics Anonymous. It will be an experience you will not want to miss. This service assembly will be hosted by Area 86, and is taking place February 24-26 in St. Catharines. Book before December 26 to get the discounted room rate. Registration and Hotel details can be

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found on the [ceraasa.org](http://ceraasa.org) website. Those who register will receive an agenda for the weekend which will include items to be discussed and voted on during the business meeting portion of the weekend.

In 2024, Area 83 will be hosting the Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Ottawa, August 23 – 25 if you would like to put that on your calendar and save the date.

This afternoon we will discuss whether Area 83 should put in a bid for the 2025 International Convention which marks 100 years of Alcoholics Anonymous.

It has been an amazing experience serving Area 83 as your delegate through our first, and hopefully last, pandemic. Although it has been a challenging term, it has also been exciting and rewarding to navigate these uncharted waters together. We adapted and learned new ways to fulfill our commitments and we did our part to keep service alive and well in Area 83. Thank you to all who persevered!

It was wonderful to attend the virtual General Service Conference in 2021 but one of the highlights as delegate was to be at the 2022 General Service Conference in person, face to face and able to hug fellow delegates and other Conference members. Other highlights include getting to know many of you this term and I look forward to continued friendships. I'd like to encourage all who are eligible to consider letting your name for election this afternoon. Service truly does add a whole other dimension to sobriety for which I will be eternally grateful. Thank you so much for this opportunity to be of service.

With gratitude, love and service, Kimberley M

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**AMY L.**

It is customary that the chair gives a report at the last assembly of the Term. I apologize that this was not included on the Agenda.

It has been a huge honour and privilege to serve Area 83 over the years. While some positions and terms are more difficult than others, this one has been particularly challenging personally not to mention the challenges of looking after the needs of the Area during a pandemic. I have heard it said many times in the rooms that growth comes following difficulties. I have grown immensely with you all at my side.

As for the Area, I am most impressed by our growth and ability to adapt. This term may not have looked exactly as you had expected, but I do think there have been some pretty amazing gifts that have come from this slow measured expansion. We can sometimes focus on what is missing, but I wish to direct your attention to what has come in a general way, from this very transformative term.

We are seeing that AA is more accessible to those who are physically limited due to our comfort with online technology. We've seen inter-district and interarea cooperative projects that have made our 12-step work limitless. We are working very hard to open the lines of communication with the General Service Conference via the Preconference Agenda Sharing Sessions. We have all seen newcomers entering the program who have never met another AA member face to face.... And they don't know that which some of us feel is essential for recovery. They are demonstrating that which we thought was essential, may not be. I don't know if you saw my mouth fall open when Marty mentioned that tablets are getting into the hands of

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our members behind the walls....albeit this is happening in the US, but our time is coming. All of these gifts we could not have conceived in 2019....

We can often look at ourselves and think our program of recovery is not happening fast enough, because we are looking around at others and making comparisons. The only comparison I am looking at is where we were in January 2021... and where we are today. It has been an absolute honour to watch Area 83 grow.

I am most grateful for your support through this term. Yours in Love and Service, Amy

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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 – DCM D62	
Seconded:	Jane S – Area GV Chair	
Discussion	None	
All those in favour:	115	
All those opposed:	0	
Abstentions:	3	
Motion:	Carried	

1. OLD BUSINESS

None

2. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Report from Ad Hoc Committee for Area 83 Digital Resources ..... Mel C., Panel 63 Delegate**

Hello, my name is Mel C. and I am an alcoholic,

In January of this year, I was asked by Amy L., Area 83 Chairperson, to chair an ad hoc committee to examine the digital resources of Area 83.

This is an interim report, to bring the fellowship up to date on our committee.

Along with myself, Amy asked:

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George M., our current Area Webmaster  
Kimberly M. our P71 Delegate  
Bill C. our P71 Area Registrar  
Jack R. our P71 Area Public Information Chair  
&  
Ryan D. of the Courtice 12&12 Group

We were asked to have a look at our website and email structure to see if improvements could be made. It has been posited that many of our members are becoming more comfortable with online Alcoholics Anonymous activities and that our digital footprint could be improved. That static webpages such as the one we have now, which went live in 2008 and was updated in 2014 are not serving our audience optimally. This committee was formed to assess our situation to see if that is indeed true.

Our terms of reference/mission were to examine 4 basic questions and come back to the Area Committee with recommendations. Our ad hoc committee is not concerned with construction and roll-out of a new digital presence, just assessment and recommendations respecting our current one.

The four questions we were asked to consider were:

#1) What are the needs of Area 83 for digital resources including, but not limited to Website, Email and Cloud-based storage?

#2) How could these digital assets be used to improve our communication to the still suffering alcoholic, our membership, including those with accessibility needs, and to friends of AA?

#3) Identify possible service providers & relevant costs for the needs identified in item 1.

#4) Include in your deliberations whether a third party should be hired to create a website for Area 83. We added a 5<sup>th</sup> question in anticipation of an assessment that an upgrade in our digital resources might be required:

#5) What budget might we require/request should we feel a third-party ought to be involved?

### Findings & Decisions

In the course of our investigations, we examined the other 92 Areas in North America and assessed each site for their success at addressing the three main important audiences we identified: 1) The alcoholic that still suffers 2) the member ship of AA and those interested in it and 3) the needs of our Area 83 members in service. We also looked at costs to create a new digital footprint, resources on who we could call upon to help us and finally and perhaps most importantly, whether or not we NEEDED to go down this road.



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As a committee we decided fairly quickly that we ought to freshen our Area's digital footprint with a more user friendly, clean and intuitive site.

At this stage we had made good progress investigating what the other 92 Areas in N. America were doing. How their websites were organized as well as how they dealt with email, cloud storage, ability for our AA service workers to access digital tools, update them and have our digital presence a useful tool in their service journey. We went on to identify possible service providers, best practices, assessment of future needs & relevant costs and we got a good feel for what a revamp might entail.

A surprising upshot of our research was that we observed many Areas were now going with having a Technology Chair, the Webmaster but one component of an integrated digital approach.

After informed discussion, we concluded that our Area 83 ought to have a Technology Chair.

We are currently writing draft or suggested SOPs for an organizational structure. As stated at the beginning, it was envisaged by Amy our Chair that any potential change has two stages, the investigation stage which this committee has had as its mandate and the implementation stage yet to come. We wanted to give whoever makes up the next stage the benefit of a running start with the written accumulation of all the knowledge we have been able to assemble.

This is where the committee stands at the present time, and we will have a further report at the next Area Committee Meeting in Belleville in December.

Thank you.

Mel C.

Panel 63 Delegate, Area 83

**B. *Recommended by the Area Committee***

**That Area 83 make an additional contribution up to \$10,000 to the General Service Board. This contribution is in addition to the \$5,000 approved in the Proposed Spending Guidelines at the Spring 2022 Assembly and is subject to sufficient funds being available, as determined by the Area 83 Treasurer .....Dave L, Area Treasurer**

Kathie T – D28 DCM – Fully support this motion. We have lots of money.

Jack R – PI Chair – Fully support this motion. Better to use the funds then let it sit in a bank account.

Vince R – DCM D02 – We are not in business and should not be holding onto excessive reserves.

Bill C – Registrar – Support this motion.

Sue – GSR Church Street Group – Expressing full support.

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George W DCM D22 – We often don't spend money in our guidelines. Why did GSO have to pay for a recent event but we aren't paying for regional events? The principal of self support is in question here. We also don't often make use of funds available from Intergroup. Can we not use the funds raised in our Area for events in the Area. What about insurance? WE could help our here. Some don't have intergroups to rely on. Could we subsidize insurance for groups in our Area?

Irene D – GSR D30 – I support this motion.

John C – GSR D06 – I support this motion. It seems there is money above what is written in the report.

Dave – Treasurer – What is posted in the report is a projected amount after expenses and disbursements.

Rick W – GSR D30 – CALL THE QUESTION.

Seconder – George W – DCM D22

**RESULTS**

Yes – 109

No – 8

Abs – 3

**DISCUSSION IS OVER AND WE MOVE TO A VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION**

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	Yes
All those in favour:	116
opposed:	3
abstentions:	2
Motion:	Carried

Voice of the minority? None

**C. Recommended by the Area Committee**

**That Area 83 submit a bid to host the 2035 International**

**Convention in Toronto .....Kimberley M. Panel 71 Delegate**

The 2035 International Convention will celebrate 100 years for Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Site Selection process for this Convention will take place during 2023. This is to allow for the widest range of cities available to select from for the dates of these events.

Traditionally the International Convention is held over the first weekend of July which would be July 5-8, 2035. These dates have been selected in the past to take advantage of favourable "holiday weekend" hotel

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rates, and to allow attendees extra days to vacation in the selected city. However, to allow bidding cities the flexibility to provide their best offer that would maximize hotel and facility rates, equal consideration will be given to any weekend in the months of June or July 2035.

The role of the host area is to provide a local volunteer committee of approximately 4,000 A.A. members.

The due date for areas to bid is November 30, 2022.

If our area returns the bid form, our city's convention bureau independently completes a bid questionnaire. The convention bureau will deal directly with the General Service Office regarding any questions on the site selection process or bid presentations.

Each presentation is given careful and serious consideration by the Convention Site Selection Committee, meeting in executive session. Evaluations are based on the following criteria, which are not necessarily in order of importance:

Facilities, Hotel package, Local transportation, Travel access, General cost climate (average cost to attendee), city attractions, City convention experience, Walkability and gathering places, Regional rotation of site, Historical interest to the Fellowship, Financial ramifications.

Lisa M – GSR D10 – Have we ever had this opportunity before?

Mark H – GSR D22 – How does the bidding process work?

Delegate – It involves the delegate gather facts and numbers. Creating a list of events, conferences that have taken place in Ontario in the last 5 years. What kind of involvement we might have. Have contacted the conference center here in Toronto and they will be doing research on their end. There will be no cost to the Area to make the bid.

Jeff K – GSR D28 – Will there be favouritism as this will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary? Perhaps New York or Akron?

Shelley – GSR D86 – I was with Wes B at the last one.

Maira – GSR D12 – Gladstone Group – Toronto had it in 1965 and we got the Responsibility Statement. Then we got it again in 2005 and we rocked it! Three times lucky! WE have everything we need to put on an event like this.

Steve – GSR D28 – If we don't bid we don't get it.

Jeff C – GSR D14 – North Toronto Group – What other cities are submitting bids?

Delegate – I don't know.

Kim S – P67 Delegate – WE started out with a lot of volunteers at the beginning but by the end we had so many, possibly too many!

Marwyn – GSR D14 – King City Group – Does the BC International put us on the back burner as a contender?

Milner G – DCM D42 – There are usually 3-5 finalists that proceed to the final selection.

Carolina – GSR D22 – Let's make a bid!

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Lisa M – GSR D10 – Zoo Crew – CALL THE QUESTION. – DENIED BY CHAIR (member commented and called the question)

Randy B – GSR D28 – Would be great to do this event.

Les M – GSR D34 – CALL THE QUESTION

SECONDED: Carolina C GSR D22

**RESULTS**

Yes – 115

No - 6

Abs - 3

**DISCUSSION IS OVER AND WE MOVE TO A VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION**

Discussion	
All those in favour:	117
Opposed:	5
Abstentions:	4
Motion:	Carried

Voice of the minority? NONE.

**D. Election of Area 83 nominee for Trustee at Large for Canada**

..... Jan L., Panel 54 Delegate Area 86 &  
Past Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

FOR THE POSITION OF		Area 83 Nominee for- CANADA TRUSTEE AT LARGE					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Mel C	56	70	80	82	87	
2	Robb W	33	20	X	X	X	
3	Rob M	36	36	47	45	39	
4							
5							
6							
7							
	Total Votes Cast	125	126	127	127	126	
	2/3 of Votes Cast	84	84	85	85	84	
	1/5 of Votes Cast	25	26	26	26	26	
	1/3 of Votes Cast	42	42	43	43	42	

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**E. Area 83 Election of Officers for 2023 & 2024 term .....Mel C., Panel 63 Delegate**

FOR THE POSITION OF		DELEGATE					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Amy L	41	30				
2	James O'D	77	88				
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
	Total Votes Cast	118	118				
	2/3 of Votes Cast	79	79				
	1/5 of Votes Cast	24	24				
\	1/3 of Votes Cast						

FOR THE POSITION OF		ALTERNATE DELEGATE					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Bill C	12					
2	Amy L	102					
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
	Total Votes Cast	114					
	2/3 of Votes Cast	76					
	1/5 of Votes Cast	23					
	1/3 of Votes Cast						

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FOR THE POSITION OF		CHAIR					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Jack R	21					
2	Bill C	97					
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
	Total Votes Cast	118					
	2/3 of Votes Cast	79					
	1/5 of Votes Cast	24					
	1/3 of Votes Cast						

FOR THE POSITION OF		SECRETARY					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Trevor F	32	40	48	42		
2	Maria M	15	7	X	X		
3	Jill B	35	49	66	73		
4	Tim F	6	3	X	X		
5	Jack R	6	2	X	X		
6	Jo D	18	13	X	X		
7							
	Total Votes Cast	112	114	114	115		
	2/3 of Votes Cast	75	76	76	77		
	1/5 of Votes Cast	23	23	23	23		
	1/3 of Votes Cast						

**MOTION TO GO TO THE 5<sup>TH</sup> BALLOT:**

Motion: Jack R – PI Chair

Secunder: Milner G – DCM D42

Yes = 114

No = 13

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Moved. We go to a 5<sup>th</sup> ballot.

FOR THE POSITION OF		TREASURER					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Kathie T	45	30				
2	Jack R	68	82				
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
	Total Votes Cast	113	112				
	2/3 of Votes Cast	76	75				
	1/5 of Votes Cast	23	23				
	1/3 of Votes Cast						

FOR THE POSITION OF		REGISTRAR					
	CANDIDATE NAME	BALLOT #1	BALLOT #2	BALLOT #3	BALLOT #4	BALLOT #5	THE HAT
1	Julie F	6	3				
2	Trevor F	69	81				
3	Maria M	10	6				
4	Christine F	17	11				
5	Marty M	8	4				
6							
7							
	Total Votes Cast	110	101				
	2/3 of Votes Cast	74	68				
	1/5 of Votes Cast	22	21				
	1/3 of Votes Cast						

- Motion to destroy the ballots (if not done already by Mel)

Moved:	Tom M – GSR D28
Seconded:	John M – GSR D18
Discussion	None
All those in favour:	94
All those opposed:	0
abstentions:	3
Motion:	Carried

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

This is when all attendees can address the Assembly. Would you please raise your virtual hand and I will call on you.

Ed V – D12 – History of the international dates of the Conference. Every 20 years it seems to come to Canada so it won't be a problem about BC.

John M – GSR D18 – Congrats to everyone who stood here today. It takes a lot of humility. Dorothy C died on Friday. Condolences.

Eddy G – D22 – DCM and Alternates sharing sessions decided not to have visitors. All the other committees allowed visitors. It's not allowing members to be included. DCMs to make that decision.

Scott M – GSR D06 – Panel 61 Delegate celebrates an anniversary.

Sue G – GSR D10 – Church Street Group – Thank you everyone who stood and got elected. Thanks to everyone in the background who have brought us through this challenging time. Electronic voting is much more efficient and something the new panel should consider the tech to do this in person.

Tara – ADCM D36 – Thanks to everyone who stood today and all those on the tech team. Appreciate everyone who was elected today.

Rob M – Panel 69 Delegate – Thank you for standing today and so many wonderful candidates for coming forward.

Steve B – GSR D28 – Thank you!

Bert J – ADCM D22 – See you at the ACM!!!

### 4. NEXT ASSEMBLY AND SERVICE INFORMATION DAY

March 24, 25, 26, 2023 (location and format to be determined)



Meeting dates only. No location specified.

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

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

Moved:	Maria	District	DCM D30
Seconded:	SteveB	District	06 GSR
Discussion	None		
All those in favour:	78		
opposed:	1		
abstentions:	3		
Motion:	Carried		
Minority Opinion	NO		

## 5. CLOSING

I would like to thank everyone for staying and a very special thanks to Trudy, the Delegate from Area 82, and all those who have showed up 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, you really helped to make this run Smoothly.

AS A REMINDER - Our next Area Committee Meeting will be held in person at the Westminster Church in Quinte West on December 3, at 10:00 a.m. The Agenda will be coming out sometime this week.

It is now 5:49 pm, may I have a motion to close the meeting?

- Motion to close the meeting

Moved:	Bev H	Area Self Support Chair
Seconded:	Lisa B	GSR The Hill Group D12
Discussion	none	
All those in favour:	72	
All those opposed:	3	
Any abstentions:	2	
Motion:	Passed	

## **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 depends our lives, and the lives of those to come.**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

**EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83  
as at October 21, 2022**

RESERVE ACCOUNT		Actual	Guideline	+/-
January 1, 2022 Opening Balance		20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00
Interest				0.00
Transfer to Operating Account				0.00
RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE		20,000.00		0.00

INCOME			
7th Tradition	1,914.55	3,200.00	(1,285.45)
Cost Recoveries	0.00	0.00	0.00
Flow Through to GSO	475.00	300.00	175.00
Grapevine Seasonals	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
Group, District & Individual Contributions	35,692.61	30,339.60	5,353.01
			0.00
TOTAL INCOME	38,082.16	35,339.60	2,742.56
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE	0.00		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS	38,082.16	35,339.60	2,742.56

EXPENSES			
Accommodations	0.00	250.00	(250.00)
Meals	30.88	1,100.00	(1,069.12)
Travel	2,232.60	7,485.00	(5,252.40)
Long Distance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Postage	288.64	1,030.00	(741.36)
Printing	108.20	1,129.00	(1,020.80)
Literature	0.00	800.00	(800.00)
Stationery	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
Miscellaneous	208.00	1,175.00	(967.00)
Total Committee Expenses	2,868.32	13,069.00	(10,200.68)
Ad Hoc Committees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Area Contribution to GSO	5,100.00	5,000.00	100.00
Area Committee Meetings	951.55	1,300.00	(348.45)
General Service Conf. Assessment	10,445.60	10,445.60	0.00
Bank Service Charges	32.45	100.00	(67.55)
Paypal fees	5.29	25.00	(19.71)
Forums	2,183.78	2,300.00	(116.22)
Grapevine Seasonal	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
GSO Flow Through	475.00	300.00	175.00
Ontario Delegates' Committee (ODC)	1,093.69	1,100.00	(6.31)
CERAASA / ECDO	301.82	200.00	101.82
International Convention	0.00		0.00
Total Other Expenses	20,589.18	22,270.60	(1,681.42)
TOTAL EXPENSES	23,457.50	35,339.60	(11,882.10)

OPERATING ACCOUNT			
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2022	46,492.09		
Total Income & Transfers	38,082.16	35,339.60	2,742.56
Total Expenses	(23,457.50)	(35,339.60)	(11,882.10)
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE	61,116.75	0.00	14,624.66

# ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International  
Details of Expenditures  
as at October 31, 2022

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Loans	Postage	Printing	Literature	Stationery	Misc.	Total	Approved Spending Guideline	Balance +/-	YTD Usage
<b>COMMITTEE EXPENSES</b>													
Delegate	0.00	30.88	431.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	462.35	\$2,275.00	1812.65	20.32%
At-Delegate	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.00	\$710.00	570.00	20.32%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	0.00	212.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	212.80	\$450.00	237.20	47.29%
Secretary	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.98	62.98	\$275.00	212.02	17.29%
Treasurer	0.00	0.00	159.47	0.00	121.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	281.06	\$590.00	840.00	6.87%
Registrar	0.00	0.00	367.20	0.00	0.00	106.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	367.20	\$645.00	560.74	40.97%
Webmaster / Web Site	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$645.00	277.80	56.93%
Archivist	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$995.00	995.00	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	\$814.00	814.00	0.00%
Cooperation Facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$175.00	175.00	0.00%
Dispersive	0.00	0.00	291.80	0.00	61.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	352.92	\$750.00	385.08	48.66%
Dispersive	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.15	\$950.00	950.00	10.00%
Self Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$275.00	275.00	0.00%
Treatment	0.00	0.00	171.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.20	\$275.00	275.00	31.13%
Accessibility	0.00	0.00	293.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	293.20	\$655.00	378.80	31.13%
Service into Day Centre	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$585.00	391.50	42.80%
Self Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$30.00	30.00	0.00%
Self Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$30.00	30.00	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 30.88</b>	<b>\$ 2,232.60</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 288.64</b>	<b>\$ 108.20</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,888.60</b>	<b>\$ 2,888.60</b>	<b>\$ 13,069.50</b>	<b>\$ 10,209.88</b>	<b>21.59%</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>													
Area 83 Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	\$0.00	0.00	0.00%
Area 83 Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	951.56	951.56	\$1,300.00	348.45	73.20%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.45	32.45	\$5,000.00	-100.60	102.00%
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.29	5.29	\$100.00	67.55	32.45%
Payroll Fees	825.42	161.12	1157.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,183.78	\$2,300.00	116.22	21.16%
Forums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	\$1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,445.60	10,445.60	\$10,445.60	0.00	100.00%
GSO Assessment	548.94	217.55	327.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,093.69	1,093.69	\$1,100.00	-6.31	100.00%
GSO New Year Committee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	301.82	301.82	\$200.00	101.82	150.91%
GSO New Year Committee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$200.00	0.00	0.00%
CERBASA / ECDIO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$200.00	0.00	0.00%
International Convention	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$200.00	0.00	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,374.36</b>	<b>\$ 378.67</b>	<b>\$ 1,524.44</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,738.71</b>	<b>\$ 20,589.18</b>	<b>\$ 22,270.60</b>	<b>\$ 1,681.42</b>	<b>32.45%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,374.36</b>	<b>\$ 409.55</b>	<b>\$ 3,757.04</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 288.64</b>	<b>\$ 108.20</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,844.71</b>	<b>\$ 23,457.50</b>	<b>\$ 35,339.60</b>	<b>\$ 11,882.16</b>	<b>66.38%</b>

<b>Income Summary :</b>			
10/21/2022	10/21/2022	10/21/2022	10/21/2022
7th Tradition	1,914.55		
8th Tradition	2,452.40		
GSO Flow Through	475.00		
Contributions	35,692.61		
Cost Recoveries	-		
Grapevine Seasonals	-		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 39,082.16</b>		

<b>Income To Date</b>			
YTD 2022	Oct 2021	Difference	
Income To Date	38,082.16	27,552.10	10,530.06
Expenses To Date	23,457.50	14,452.40	9,005.10
<b>Net Change To Operating Account</b>	<b>\$ 14,624.66</b>	<b>\$ 13,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,524.66</b>
Contributions	\$35,692.61	\$24,836.10	\$10,856.51
Contributing Groups	100	83	17
Contributing Districts	12	10	2
Contributing Individuals	2	1	1

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

<b>GROUP &amp; DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS as at October 21, 2022</b>
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District	0	Unspecified, Individual	\$250.00
District	2	Malton	\$182.96
District	6	Mississauga	\$4,195.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$2,677.00
District	12	Toronto South West	\$3,031.87
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,523.96
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$0.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$3,729.78
District	22	Scarborough	\$770.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$1,586.00
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$1,734.40
District	30	Quinte West	\$1,475.00
District	34	Quinte East	\$1,233.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$975.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$280.79
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$500.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$200.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$570.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$375.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$4,627.85
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$1,920.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$1,325.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$1,160.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$100.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$250.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$1,020.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$35,692.61

Total from Groups	\$26,875.71	100	Groups
Total from Districts	\$8,566.90	12	Districts
Total from Individuals	\$250.00	2	Individuals

**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

**Delegate's Plenary - A look at how communication works within the General Service Structure, along with some recent communication highlights. Updates on last year's advisory actions and a look at AA's Comprehensive Media Plan through our upcoming information sessions.**

**Workshop Title: Delegate's Plenary Session**

**Workshop Presenter: Kimberley Mowatt, Area 83 Delegate**

**Secretary: Kathie T., SID Secretary**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

Q1. Karen A., ADCM D54 - What a pleasure to be here today. Kimberley, wow, you just blew me away with your presentation, there's so much information that you pack into this not even an hour. I have a question about the slide you showed for Publishing...is there any advice to districts or committees as to what to do with these older versions of pamphlets. One of our committees has boxes of pamphlets that look like they're from the '80's. Should they be destroyed? Are we autonomous, it should be up to us?

A - I think you're right, it's pretty much an autonomous decision what your committee would like to do...One thought is to create a QR code sticker that links the current version on aa.org. That way they still have the pamphlet, it's still being used, you can still hand it out and they can have access to the updated version via QR code.

Q2. Amy L. - Wow, Kimberley, great, lots of information, so much so, wondering if you might put a link to your presentation on the Glide app. I think a lot of people could use the information.

A. Thank you, Amy...full disclosure, I did gather that information from the most recent version of the Quarterly Report that was sent out. I will put up a link as well.

Q3 Eddy - Will your presentation be put on the website for the members to see?

A. - Sure, I will pass that along to our Webmaster, and ask him to post it, you bet!

**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

*Third Legacy Election Procedures / The Spirit of Rotation - Join us as we Review the Spirit of rotation and the third legacy procedure. Questions and discussion to follow a power point Presentation.*

**Workshop Title: Third Legacy Election Procedures / The Spirit of Rotation**

**Workshop Presenter: Mel C**

**Secretary: Sue S (Secretary, District 66)**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

When members stand for a position, are they supposed to talk about themselves?

Those who wish to stand for a position are encouraged to give a brief resume of their experience relative to the position, history of service or interest in the position.

Are AA Groups supposed to follow the same election format as Area?

All groups are autonomous in how they run their elections, but the format/procedures can be used as a guideline, especially at the District level.

As we are not registering in person during virtual Area Assembly, how does the Area Registrar figure out who is allowed to vote? Is voting it based on the honor system?

Prior to the online elections, you will be assigned voting rights, i.e. you will be asked what your role is and your screen name will be changed to indicate if you are a voting member or not. This will also be recorded in a spreadsheet. It is based on the honor system, but the Registrar will do his/her best to ensure that there is only one vote per group.

Our District has issues getting people involved at the District level - what have other Districts done to promote service at the District level?

- Send texts instead of email – may appeal to younger members
- Limit use of acronyms – very confusing for those who are new to service
- Encourage the spirit of rotation; promote by example
- Provide education on different service positions, especially for those who only know AA via Zoom – each role is more than just sitting in front of a screen
- Food is a great motivator; have a pizza night
- Contact people by phone as opposed to email – add a personal touch
- Promote audience participation – address perceived constraints and concerns
- “Sell” the positions with a strong emphasis on the advantages
- Know your “audience” and tailor promotions towards them, i.e. fun presentations, videos, not just text
- Service information sessions prior to District elections; with current District officers/chairs giving a presentation on their roles and responsibilities followed by a Q&A session
- Promote the vast array of resources available on Area and GSO websites - service manual, videos, literature; email to Area offices or GSO personnel; stress that assistance is always available

**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

**Public Information - Public Information: How can we become more visible to the suffering alcoholic?**

**Workshop Title: Public Information**

**Workshop Presenter: Jack R. Area 83 Public Information Chair**

**Secretary: Pauline E**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

Leslie H. Toronto, Question:

With regard to the Comprehensive Media Plan is it a stand-alone committee?

Answer: Jack R. There is not a committee for the area. It is an AA coordinated effort hosted by area 83. Included in the Comprehensive Media Plan are the PI and CPC chairs from the area and the GSO as well as technical support persons.

Question: Should there be a committee just for the CMP?

Answer: Half of the areas have a technical committee and chair. Virtual meetings have virtual groups for tech. A lot of Areas have Technology Committees.

Joe C. DCM D-82, Comment: The meeting Guide app is constantly changing. More efficient and economical than a printed version

Dorothy A. PI Chair D06, Question; Is there a technology chair at the district level? She would vote for a tech. chair at the district level.

Answer: Jack R. There are area PI and CPC chairs and committees.

Heather T. Land O Lakes Group, Question: Are there statistics on new comers who joined during the pandemic? How many members have joined in the last two years?

Answer: Jack R. Awaiting data as well as finding out how these people found AA.



**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

***Treasurer / Self-Support - The role of the Area Treasurer and the information sources available to Group and District Treasurers. Also, the ongoing need for Contributions to the General Service Office. The impact of self-support for you, your group, district and beyond.***

**Workshop Title: Treasurer/Self-Support**

**Workshop Presenters: Treasurer: Dave L - Area 83 Treasurer/Self-Support: Bev H - Area 83 Self-Support Chair**

**Secretary: Ann J - DCM D10**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

- Question 1
  - Question asked by: Mark H. with a question regarding Self-support  
How is self-support rallied from people/members at large, especially at the the group level? Would it be possible to do it through service stories? There is much is service strength and hope in service stories, and stories would move people into contributing through self-support.
  - Answered by: Presenter Bev H  
First, go to your district table. For Bev that's where the seed was planted. She's been part of service since then. Give it a shot! Not everyone wants to wear a service hat, but set up a room, be on the 12<sup>th</sup> step call list, be part of your district. Get a service sponsor. Ask yourself ...why are you in service? What are you getting out of it? Go from there. Once you wear a hat, like self-support, reach out to the groups and go and share!
  - Additional Answer by: Presenter Dave L  
If you're interested in raising more contributions and providing more information about self support, ask the District or area person to come to share at the group. Generate interest at the member level on how contributions are used.
- Question 2:
  - Question asked by: Barbara T with a question regarding the Treasury presentation  
Barbara was Interested in one of the items that Dave talked about, the delegate attending the virtual 2022 conference cost \$2200. That piqued her interest.
  - Answered by: Presenter Dave L  
The virtual GSC costs much less than in person. However there are still costs. Items such as outside technical services used by the GSC, a lot of GSO staff work behind scenes to put things together, as well as preparing and printing conference report. Basically, there is still a lot of behind the scene work in preparing for and running a virtual conference.
- Question 3
  - Question asked by: Maria M regarding making presentations available  
Great presentation to both Bev and Dave. Could we have both your presentations posted on the website so we could read through and use that information?

Dave L - Absolutely, he will put under the Treasurer tab

Bev H - Yes absolutely
- Question 4
  - Question/comment by Greg R regarding service sponsorship  
Thanked both presenters. Was told about service sponsorship last year, in his 9<sup>th</sup> year into sobriety. He got one who's been great at getting him involved in a number areas of service. Greg recommends talking

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
AREA 83 EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL**

about service opportunities in group meetings on a regular basis, so people are aware there are service opportunities, and they can step forward. Also mention service sponsorship as much as possible.

- Answered by Presenter Dave L Presenter

Greg made some great suggestions. In looking for a service sponsor, Dave suggests look a few levels higher than where you are volunteering, so the sponsor can speak from experience on a variety of things. Also, service opportunity and sponsorship are something to raise at business meetings.

- Answered additionally by Presenter Bev H

Bev has been blessed to be asked to go and share in some districts. A couple of times it sparked an interest in self-support and positions were filled.

- Question 5

- Question/comments by: Gerry M regarding self-support ideas

Gerry had opportunity to attend assemblies when he was in D22 in Toronto. Two things come to mind today, gratitude month, and how close is it? Also, the AA Birthday plan where you make a contribution on your birthday, the amount depending on your years of sobriety.

Also, Silent collection is a USA thing. In Canada we put in a lot of coins. Perhaps once a month a group could have a “silent collection” to put paper money only in the basket.

Would also like to know if GSO is able to accept a plan where money could come out of a bank account in Canada on a monthly basis? GTA intergroup used to do that.

These are just some of the ways that he feels he can support AA better

- Answered by: Presenter Dave L

Dave thinks Gerry’s suggestions are good ones

**THIS WAS THE END OF THE QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD**

Please save your document using the workshop title, as example, *traditions101112.doc*

and mail to: [Service Information Day Secretary dcmdistrict28@gmail.com](mailto:Service Information Day Secretary dcmdistrict28@gmail.com)

**Thank you very much, Service Information Day Committee**

**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

*Concepts X, XI, XII - Come and see how we can apply the spiritual principles of the Concepts into our groups and daily lives. What a Concept!*

Workshop Title: Concepts X, XI, XII  
Workshop Presenter: James O'D: Area 83 Alternate Delegate  
Secretary: Ann J - DCM D10  
Questions and Answers Summary:

- Question 1
  - Question asked by: Marrey P regarding making presentation content available  
Great presentation. Loved the content from UK and also the concepts illustrated. Will the presentation be made available on the area website?
  - Answered by: presenter James O'D  
Yes, he will absolutely send the presentation to our area 83 webmaster
- Question 2
  - Comment asked by: Gord G regarding group conscience documents  
Gord spent 33 yrs of sobriety in the Air Force and about 11 or so AA groups. He would have loved to have gone through AA group conscience documents or procedures, but they didn't exist in any group he attended.  
  
Gord did find that meeting format documents with meeting flow, and meeting content, was a great way to learn about the group.
- Question 3
  - Question asked by: Linda R regarding charters vs procedures  
Is there a difference between Group charter and operating procedures
  - Answered by: presenter James O'D.  
From what he's seen charters, operating procedures, and guidelines seem to be the same in nature
- Question 4
  - Question asked by: Natalie N regarding a template for group guidelines  
Has met Debbie Davis and think she's awesome. She is wondering if there is a template available for group guidelines anywhere.
  - Answered by: presenter James O'D  
The pamphlet The AA Group: Where it all Begins, is a good place to start. In our group anything we discuss and vote on it is added to our operating procedures. You could also look at other operating procedures for other groups, district, or area.
  - Additional Answered by: Amy L regarding group procedures  
Amy thanks James for his presentation. She mentions that there are groups who have procedures and/or guidelines, but they're not compiled into a single document. They are generally documented when they are discussed, and motions are passed. Each business meeting is really a group conscience meeting and a history on how you've been operating. Going back in history, people will find the decisions that have been made.  
  
Amy asks if James has anything to add.
  - James responds that he has nothing to add

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- Question 6
  - Question asked by: Steve B regarding groups who cannot afford to send funds to GSO  
You were talking about providing money to GSO. I attend a group and we're barely in a position to pay rent and maintain a prudent reserve. Whether we're in the 60 or the 40 is a hard thing for a group to think about, who can barely retain a prudent reserve
  - Answered by: presenter James O'D  
Groups are autonomous. The most important thing is keeping the group running. However, knowing where the 7<sup>th</sup> goes sometimes causes it to go up. People knowing the 7<sup>th</sup> is more than just about coffee and rent makes a difference
- Question 7
  - Question asked by: Brenda H regarding where info about the seventh traditions is available.  
Where would more info about the seventh tradition be available. It has made her think about the 7<sup>th</sup> and service beyond the group.
  - Answered by: presenter James O'D  
There is a card and info on the aa.org website
  - Answered also by: Joanne (?)  
The self-support card is online but intergroup would also have them.

**THIS WAS THE END OF THE QUESTION-AND-ANSWER PERIOD**

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**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

*Corrections - We will continue with the theme "Hearing the A.A. Message From the Inside". A brief share from AA members who not only received the AA message of hope, but got sober behind the walls.*

**Workshop Title: Corrections**

**Workshop Presenter: Marty M**

**Secretary: Sue S (Secretary, District 66)**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

No time for questions.

**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

***Accessibilities - How a lack of accessibility can have a long lasting impact on individual's sobriety journey.***

**Workshop Title: Accessibilities**

**Workshop Presenter: Jenny Barnes**

**Secretary: Kathie T**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

**Q1** - Ed - I really enjoyed your talk, you have a distinctive name, and if you're sensitive about your anonymity, as we all, when I give my report to my district, should I use your name, or just say "the speaker"? And also, you brought up a point that I relate to. I really hate when people black out their screen so you can't see them. I know people have all the excuses in the world, but it really bothers me when I can't identify what people are doing.

A - In an AA meeting, this is my anonymity, and my name is fine...outside, I prefer not to use my name, so you can just say that I'm a presenter.

**Q2** - Colleen - Thank you, it was a wonderful talk. I have you pinned to my screen, because I need to see your face, too. I need to see your expression when you're talking. I need to see your hands moving. I don't speak ASL, but I need to see you. I've been to a few meetings, there was one in particular I remember, somehow they had the speaker and the ASL interpreter side-by-side, and that is how they presented it, and it was good. I could focus on the speaker, instead of the interpreter (no offense Inga!). The thing about your name...I'm fairly certain, I'm guessing, it's possible people come on with fake names on an on-line platform, they could use any name they wanted to. So, in the deaf community, could someone come online with a fake name, in order to protect their anonymity?

A - Our presenter touched base on this...when you're going through Canadian Hearing Services, you don't have to provide the name of the individual who needs the service, just that the service needs to be available, and then that protects their anonymity...

First point, with the CHS, they will ask who the interpreter is for, but if someone else asks for the interpreter service, you can keep the anonymity. These people that work there know deaf culture, and know the deaf community, the community is small, and some people know someone, and that someone knows everyone, information can spread fast.

Secondly, I notice people will talk to the interpreter and look at the interpreter, but when I'm here, you look at me, you know, I'm the person that's speaking, it's my voice, I'm the one who's speaking, so look at me. Some of my friends have told me, it's my experience, they say "I'm so sorry you're deaf", and I say, really? I'm not sorry, you know, and don't feel sorry for me, or look down on me, or, poor me, like I'm helpless? No, I'm not, and none of us are, I was born without hearing, that's all, God made me the way I am for a reason.

**Q3** - Greg - That was amazing, thank you both...just wanted to touch on something, is it possible or how do we determine that a meeting is going to be attended by a deaf person? We can't arrange it that day, or if someone pops in, and if we plan two weeks in advance, is it possible that we can request an interpreter without giving a specific name, and then that meeting could become known as a meeting where an ASL interpreter will be there. Maybe posted on a meeting list. How can we anticipate and organize an ASL interpreter to be at select meetings, and members know they can come there. How can we move that forward? Also, how do we frame "deaf person, hearing impaired person", we need to spend some time looking at what the appropriate description is at our future meetings, so we don't offend folks.

A - For the A.A. meetings, I have an idea...can A.A. bring services for interpretive accessibility, they should be letting people know, and get the word around for where the meetings are...you could also have a zoom in zoom accessibility, interpreter ready at a certain event or meeting. It's really hard, because a deaf person, when they get in the meeting, they should put in a request for an interpreter, but that's really hard, everything's really hard right now cuz everything is so new...and I agree, we could have a workshop and explain the identity issue...deaf, deafened later in life, hard of hearing, cochlear implant, etc. "Deaf" is not a scary word, for sure, and for us, we'd be grateful if you used the word deaf for people like me. There's nothing to be ashamed of, I really value my deafness, and my culture, my first communication is ASL; ASL is my first language, and it's a really beautiful language.

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**Q4** - Bert, ADCM D22 - thank you for your talk...I had the idea that I would like a meeting with an ASL interpreter, so I contacted Canadian Hearing Service, and they asked to have a deaf person present for the interpreter to be there. So that's a question of anonymity. We always say "bring the message, not the messenger" to protect the name of the person. So if we spread the word, you said it's a tight community, where can we find them, and how can we find them? This is why I want to bring this to our home group, especially since it's a hybrid meeting, so I'm trying to spread the word, it's a work in progress, and we have to carry on.

**Q5** - Greg - the member that has barriers shouldn't have to ask for help. A.A. in general should respect and protect someone's dignity, not make them ask, provide before they ask, anticipate, rather than have to ask, that's sad if people have to ask.

And an idea - what if we had service committees that we go...we hold detox meetings, parole meetings, all these different service meetings, what if we had a service meeting with each district to create an online zoom meeting that would have an interpreter, and does it on the seven days of the week. So each group might handle it on a Monday night, or a Tuesday night, whatever, every day or every night, with an ASL interpreter present, and we publish it, and going forward, it would be something a deaf person would attend, knowing that every night, there is an interpreter there, and they could attend.

**A** - There is the Texas Intergroup for the Deaf, they have a daily meeting with an ASL interpreter. The difference is, you're going to Texas, so you wouldn't have the inclusivity of being with people from your area. What we're working on, and trying to hammer out the details, is having at least one meeting in the area with ASL interpretation.

/kt

Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes

*AA's Three Legacies - Our Common Solution - The Delegate from Area 82 (Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador) speaks on the theme of the 2023 General Service Conference.*

Workshop Title: A.A.'s Three Legacies: Our Common Solution

Workshop Presenter: Trudy D

Secretary: Maria M.

Questions and Answers Summary:

No time for questions.



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**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

*Traditions 10,11,12 - In the fourth 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 10,11 and 12.*

**Workshop Title: Traditions 10, 11, 12**

**Workshop Presenter: Jill B - D06**

**Secretary: Karen A - D54**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

**Joanne D-30**

In regards to Tradition 10 - I will often hear a chairman at a meeting say that something shared about is an "outside issue" eg ADHD or golf tournament, and a variety of other topics but these are things that members might want to talk about.

**Response from Norm**

Thank you so much for the questions you went, and I think this is a big part of not just this tradition, but all the traditions, and I do think that the term outside issue is used very broadly to cover a couple of different things. Often it has to do with our primary purpose as opposed to tradition 10 so when people talk about things other than alcohol people start to throw the word outside issue around.

Similarly, if there's something to do with the golf tournament, or some other event that's going on, that might be more related to an affiliation with another organization that they're concerned about. I think the outside issue in tradition 10 it's used as an umbrella sometimes to try to cover many of the traditions, if not all the traditions. When that does come up we have to again remind ourselves why are we taking exception to something being talked about in a meeting? Is it really going against the spirit of tradition? Is it going to cause some sort of controversy that could split us apart, or is it going against some other tradition that might prevent us from carrying the message.

What I didn't talk about is what I do in those situations. I use the principles that I see in tradition 10, which are, tolerance, acceptance, and neutrality. For myself, I try to stay in that space as much as I can and not, get caught up in a side.

**Valerie L GSR D22** - This is an open question to the floor looking for homegroup experiences of the impact of the pandemic especially at beginning and going into this fall as numbers are going up... found it distressing that the pandemic is an outside issue, it did get controversial - concerned if we go back into restrictions and how to be a trusted servant during this time. Jill opened up to panelists, no response

**Colleen L** - Shared that at meetings there have been questions about "opinions and comments to the effect that outside issues are topics that will be volatile and we need consider the impact or impression on a newcomer. During Fellowship, as an example, our discussions could involve outside issues but a newcomer may overhear and develop a negative impression about AA vs staying to get help. No actual question

**Kathie T, D28** - thanks for presentations - to respond to the question from Valerie - there have been much controversy regarding the pandemic and restrictions. This is new, and this could be trial and error but consider principles before personalities.

**Joanne D-30** - respond to Valerie question regarding the pandemic. Noted that AA is not above the law and group obtained provincial legislation and voted to follow through group conscious.

**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

**Treatment - Carrying the message in Treatment Centers and Bridging the Gap.**

**Workshop Title:** Treatment

**Workshop Presenter:** Tim F

**Secretary:** Sue S (Secretary, District 66)

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

It was mentioned that Treatment Centers should be stocked with AA literature. Is it the responsibility of each District to keep Treatment Centers within their District stocked with AA literature?

Generally yes. Either the Treatment Committee or CPC/PI Committee should have a budget for AA literature.

Our District is currently experiencing issues getting back into Treatment Centers and the Hospital after COVID? Are other Districts experiencing the same thing?

Yes, most are. Give it time.

Is there ever any feedback from Bridging the Gap Requests?

Occasionally feedback is received, but not often.

Will the Treatment presentation be available?

Yes, it will be posted on the Area 83 website under Treatment.

Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes

*The Role of a Trustee - There are 21 trustees that sit on your General Service Board - Class A and Class B. Find out who they are, and what their roles and responsibilities to the Fellowship entail.*

Workshop Title: The Role of Trustee

Workshop Presenter: Jan L Immed. Past Eastern Regional Trustee, P54 Area86 Delegate

Secretary: George W DCM D22

Questions and Answers Summary:

Question: Is the Service Manual study Jan L will be hosting in January open to all?

Answer: No, numbers are limited. Jan L was interested, in part, to start this study because the new manual contains information not previously in the Service Manuals.

Question: Who can be a trustee emeritus?

Answer: Only trustees who served as Chair of the General Service Board are given this status. There are currently six trustee emeriti.

Question: Can the Chair of the board be a class B trustee?

Answer: Historically, only class A trustees have been considered. A Class B trustee would be restricted by the principle of anonymity in speaking on behalf of AA as a whole, and there is the possibility of an alcoholic relapse.

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**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

***Secretary / Registrar - In this workshop, we will review the role that the Secretary and Registrar play in Area 83 and look in a bit more detail at the responsibilities and commitments of each position.***

**Workshop Title: Secretary/Registrar**

**Workshop Presenter: James O'D Area 83 Alt. Delegate / Bill C. Area 83 Registrar**

**Secretary: Pauline E**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

Question: George B. District 14 Registrar, At some point will I have to use Fellowship Connection? Answer: Bill C. No, a form will be sent to you fill it out and that is what you send.

Question: Bart B. Registrar / Webmaster D06, Can we update lists ourselves?

Answer: Bill C. No. The GSO has 93 people that they work with to do this.

Question: Bart B. Registrar/ Webmaster D06, Is the meeting app owned by the GSO? Where does the data come from?

Answer: James O'D, Members in California developed the app locally and as it was a success the GSO took it over nationally. History available in Box 459.

Question: Bart B. What is the source for the meeting app.? Sometimes the data is not accurate.

Answer Bill C. Comes down to stewardship. Sometimes there are discrepancies.

Question: Bart B. Do you have to "chase after" groups to register, is there a timeline?

Answer: Bill C. Twice a year a current list is sent out to verify groups. At first this was a lot of work but, as time goes on less work involved. More comfortable with the program - even new groups can be updated easily.

Question: Greg R. Registrar District 18, Do districts update data on line?

Answer: Bill C., Fill out the form (pdf is on line) and send it in. Fairly straight forward.

Question: Jocelyn B. Where / when is the training for the Registrar's? What is the time line for future Registrar's?

Answer: Bill C: Last training session was two years ago. Training is done by GSO for accessing The Fellowship Connection. We hold elections now and the email list will be updated in January. There will be a new secretary after October 30th.

James O'D - We do not want a large input to do at that time of year therefore it is spread out

**Workshop Title: Archives**

***Archives – A look at what goes on at a repository and how to get started.***

**Workshop Presenters: Shane H/David T/Eddy G**  
**Secretary: Mike H**

Q1-Jane S

I have been gifted Grapevine's by a friend will you take them or should I try to give them elsewhere?

A - we try to keep two pairs of each month of Grapevine going back as far as we can and if we need to fulfil those pairs will use yours if not we can keep them for other uses.

Q2: Andrew- when taking oral history recordings are thank you letters OK and or should official letters of thanks be used for something like that?

A – Yes, absolutely, send official letters of thanks.

Q3 Richard

How do you convince older members to participate in the oral history recordings?

A - Convince them that you're building a history of when they were around and what it was like and how it has evolved and then finish it with an official thank you letter.

Qb: Do we do with older grapevines? I put them in newcomer booklets.

Ab: that's a great thing to do and you may inspire them to order a Grapevine subscription.

Q4: How do we access not so old Grapevine's to give away to newcomers?

A - Talk to Eddie he can help us he has some grapevines just for that purpose.

Q5: Jamie B: where did we benefit from archives coming into the pandemic and secondly what benefits are there to archive?

A – The big book talked about modem to modem and we are doing that now! We use forms of communication we never thought we'd use. Saving any historical item we are going to be able to look back and see what did we do during the last pandemic.

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**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

*Participation of Online Groups in General Service - How can online groups participate in our general service structure? Do they have a vote at the district? The area? Is their voice heard in AA as a whole? This town hall style workshop will provide information and ask for participants' discussion and feedback.*

**Workshop Title: Participation of On-line Groups in General Service**

**Workshop Presenter: Rob McArthur**

**Secretary: Kathie T**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

**Q1 - Bill C.** - I'd like to share a little from the Registrar's perspective. As Rob talked about, there's been a huge increase in Area 83 WRT online or virtual groups. The first observation is that probably half of our online groups in Area 83, currently 16, have come directly by way of GSO and the Fellowship Connection. Kimberley and I have composed a "welcome letter" to reach out and make sure the new group understands that they have the right of participation, they have a voice and a vote. Secondly, there have been quite a few virtual group workshops that have occurred. We're letting them know about these...we want to make sure there's dialogue happening. In our area, we have one group where the GSR is located in Area 83, and the alternate is located in Washington. We're experiencing this international component, there's also a group in our Area with members from the U.K., and someone that's a member of a physical group here, is also a member of a virtual group in Scotland. It's working in a variety of ways...the question of the voice, vote, and where this will occur, is certainly going to be discussed over the next few years. The growth of online groups will remain. Perhaps another question is the question of hybrid groups. Area 83 is a very active area for online group activity right now.

**A** - The international perspective is a tricky one...if we have online groups that are registered in Area 83, and they have members from all over the world, and those members are contributing to their digital seventh, and Area 83 is contributing to their local district, or to Area 83, or to the General Service Office, is that taking away from the seventh tradition or service participation from other countries? These are the things we need to discuss, and the Ad Hoc committee is trying to figure out.

**Q2 - Kathie T** - Thanks for your information, Rob. At D28, Lakeshore District East, we had a summer break and then in September, we had our very first hybrid District meeting. We'll be continuing with this until the end of the term, and will discuss it at our District table about continuing hybrid district meetings next term. We certainly think this is the way for us to go...two of our groups have not returned to in-person meetings and they have no intention at this point of doing it. They were at our District meeting, they had full participation, asked questions, gave opinions, and voted in our District elections. It was really great, and accessible to anyone in our district that wants to attend.

**A** - Yes, hybrid service meetings are interesting options, and maybe a simple option...if we have hybrid districts that allow full participation of online groups, and that district belongs to a hybrid area that is allowing full participation, then do we need a virtual area? And if we do end up with a virtual service area, will the General Service Conference have to be held hybrid, to accommodate the online delegate? These are things that have to be considered, moving forward. One of the benefits of a hybrid district within a hybrid area is that GSRs and DCMs would be able to choose whether they would attend service events and assemblies in person, or online. In area 83, our last two area committee meetings have been hybrid, and some of the DCMs joined online, and they had full participation. Our assemblies for next term are still unclear at this point, but I'm sure that sometime down the road, we'll be starting to meet again in-person for our area assemblies. There's been discussion about having these hybrid, and if we do, GSRs or DCMs would have full participation at the assembly.

**Q3 - Randy C.** - Our group, the Freedom Recovery Group, out in Brampton, D02, we're a relatively new group, and formed an in-person group before the pandemic. During the pandemic, we formed an

online group, and we just voted to continue both the online and the in person meetings. We're going to continue both, but to continue a connection between the two, we made our business meeting hybrid. We couldn't have a hybrid business meeting, we would have to have two business meetings for the in person group. So we created a liaison position, someone who attended both meetings. Of course, creating service positions at this time, when we're

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looking to fill service positions, makes for a dilemma. Right now, I think we would appear to area as an in-person meeting, but we are supporting an on-line, so you would have no visibility to that, unless there's a hybrid situation at area level, or even district level. So the visibility of online groups now...are we sure we're seeing ALL of them? As we evolve, I believe both are going to continue, so maintaining connection between the two, whether it's a hybrid, or not, does it mean we have to have a person with feet on the street to liaise back to the online. Those are my thoughts, after lots of discussion in our group and the district level.

**Q4** - Colleen L - The group I belong to is two online, two in person, and it's difficult because we can't seem to manage to get a hybrid meeting going for the business meeting, and that's unfortunate. I wanted to talk more about my personal experience during the pandemic, and some things I've heard about. So I went to a "Get into Action" committee, and it was about the online groups. So the seventh, if I'm a Canadian and belong to an American group, I could trick you all, and vote in two places. (I wouldn't do it, it doesn't follow the Traditions, and I could get drunk, but that was a question that was brought up. Or say I'm contributing to the seventh tradition in another country, Scotland, wherever, so where does the seventh go to?

A - If someone is a member of a group in another country, and started sending seventh contributions, I would say that's where your contribution is going, to the other country. And so are you supporting your local AA that way?

**Q5** - Trudy - We have a group in our Area that is online, and they're having issue, because the district meets in person, and they want to be supported and be able to attend the district meetings online, and our assemblies online, they feel like they're kind of out in the weeds, and all I can tell them is that GSO is working on it, and once they know, then we'll know what we can do at our level to support that group, cuz right now, they don't want to have anything to do with service, they want to have their meeting, but they don't feel they're being supported at their level, I can't wait to see what happens. I keep saying "You're pioneers, it's all new, don't give up, you will affect change somehow in a positive way, and try to be positive...it's very interesting what's going on in Area 82.

A - That is one of the dilemmas that some online groups are facing...if the district that they've aligned themselves with is not meeting hybrid, that online group either has to show up in person, and they don't have participation. That's one of the reasons the group that Colleen mentioned is investigating this idea of an online only area, where groups can belong and be able to participate in the service structure that way. Currently, there are two online only districts that I know of in the U.S., one is part of A72 Washington, and A48, New Jersey, so they've set up online districts that their online groups can associate with.

**Q6** -Greg R., ADCM D18 - I'm big on online and hybrid, and one of the things our Accessibilities committee put together a Hybrid meeting guide, that will probably be posted by tonight, I bet, on the GTA Accessibilities. How to run a meeting, how to set up the equipment, it's amazing. In our Accessibilities workshop, we had a deaf speaker, and one of the things she talked about was the difficulty finding a meeting with ASL interpretation, so we all started thinking about it... What is each

district had their groups take on one night every so often, so we'd fill up the calendar, like we do with service meetings with the hospitals. Just wanted to put it out there...

**Q7** - Joanne D30 - On your power point, you said there were 595 online groups...is that registered groups? In 93 areas? Do we know how many people are in these groups? I attend a meeting out of St. Louis, and there's over 300 people on it, it's workshops every Sunday. And my general comment, I think it's wonderful - the pandemic could have shut down A.A. In fifty years, most of us will be dead, but we have to look at this for future generations that live on their phones. I also think it's a big bonus for indigenous communities, remote communities...we've always really struggled to get the word out to those communities, and now all we need to do is send them a computer. As far as money goes, if I sat on the border of two different areas, and bounced back and forth between meetings, I could join meetings in each area, and nobody would know. It's all a matter of trust, and God working in all of our lives, and I think we can either make this a big deal or a small deal.

A - Those numbers are as of April, when the report was given at the General Service Conference, and have increased since then. The General Service Office doesn't keep track of how many people are on a meeting, but they can tell you how many members are in each group. And I agree, online meetings are here to stay...we need to look at how everyone in A.A. can have equal participation.

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**Q8** - George W., DCM D22 - Thanks Rob. We currently have one online group, unfortunately they haven't sent a GSR to our district table yet, we meet hybrid, so our meeting is accessible to them. I contacted them several times, but no sign of a member showing up. We also have some groups that are geographically in our district that continue to meet online. Geography, where the group comes from, affects their decision as to whether they want to be part of the district or an online area, or maybe part of our area. As a district, and as an area, we have an obligation to extend the hand of A.A., as to any new group or newcomer, so if there's a way we can assist an online group, or any group, to participate, it's on us to do that. As to the group, it's up to group conscience, whether they want to continue online, or where they want to belong. At the same time, there are accessibility issues that an online group may be able to help with, as long as they can afford the internet service to support that, their group conscience is their group conscience...how they decide to continue, and where they decide to participate, is a matter of group conscience. We're there to facilitate that - it's not a top-down issue, it's a bottom-up issue.

**Q9** - Marwyn AGSR D14 - It seems to me we're not talking about, say, for example, my group, the King City group, we have an online component, that's not the situation we're talking about, right, our group is transient, but our goal is to go back to in-person meetings totally, so I don't think you're speaking to us. If we're talking global, it seems the only format we can have is an online district.

A - The whole international aspect of it complicates the whole situation, and maybe geographical boundaries aren't so necessary anymore. We're a world-wide fellowship.

**Q10** - Amy L. - I think it's kind of interesting, when a group has an issue, we've always said each group is autonomous, so I would think that an online group, in their business meeting, if they're international, can decide. In their business meeting, they can decide where the money goes, it presents a problem, but it'll probably go to send it to the place that needs the money. I think GSO will do fine, even if the money goes to Mexico, or wherever. Online groups need to figure out where they can best serve in an organized manner, even though we're not organized,

**Q11** George M, Webmaster - my home group in D74 is meeting virtually at the moment, and we still get a seventh tradition coming in, but we really don't have any use for it, we have no expenses, we don't make coffee, we pass on a few pamphlets. It sounds like people are worried about where the

money goes...you don't have to give it to the group, you can give it to the district, or the area, or GSO, you can send your money where you think it's going to do the most good. For my home group, we just turn around and send it to someone else. That option is available for anyone.

A - I don't think that we would be really talking about a lot of money anyway, but the one consideration is if members in France are sending money to the General Service Office in New York, are they really supporting their local A.A.?

/kt



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**Service Information Day Workshop Secretary Notes**

*Cooperation with the Professional Community - Hear from several District CPC Chairs about the successful projects they have been working on.*

**Workshop Title: Co-operation with the Professional Community**

**Workshop Presenter: Jo D Area 83 CPC Chair**

**Secretary: Pauline E.**

**Questions and Answers Summary:**

Question: Jo D.: Because military bases are located all over who do you reach out to for a contact on the base?

Answer: Jody H. District 30 CPC, Base hospitals have addiction counselors. They are the appropriate contact.

Question: Jack R. Area 83 PI chair, Jody R. sent out 150 packages to doctors offices and clinics, how did that work?

Answer: Jody R. I googled family physician's offices as well as the Municipal Health Districts. Did not request permission, just sent them out. Word back from Spiritual Advisors, one Police response but most feedback from the Military Base according to the webmaster.

Comment: James O'D, Area 83 Alt. Delegate: How inspiring sending out those 150 packages and getting feedback! A lot of effort but you never know when you have planted a seed.

**Workshop Title: Grapevine**

***Grapevine – This grapevine workshop will incorporate a brief overview of the Grapevine and interactive question and answer panel of outgoing Grapevine reps for anyone interested in becoming a Grapevine or La Vina rep.***

**Presenter: Jane S, Sarah M, Scott M, Nancy T**  
**Secretary: Mike H**

Q1. Ken- Will groups get the updated price list.

A: Jane- I will get the new price list to the DCM's and the Grapevine reps very soon.

Q2: if a district has five subscriptions does it count as one number towards the carry the message program which sends magazines to institutions and treatment centres.

A: so the carrier the message numbers are sent to people that have requested a magazine so it would likely be an individual number. Out of all of the groups in area 83, 87 subscriptions have been paid for to support the carrying the message program

Q3: Ken: are we able to purchase 50 copies of old Grapevine issues like we used to?

A: Jane S: I believe yes you can from Grapevine.org, you can also order individual issues and not the complete your subscription.

Q4: Karen: how can I answer to people that say Grapevine is not conference approved literature?

A Jane S: Conference approved doesn't mean we approve or disapprove of materials read at meetings, conference approved literature means literature that AA has decided to produce

Q5: Ken: is there an answer when Grapevine started?

A: Scott M: June 1944

**Ask-It-Basket Workshop**

Chair - Trevor F., DCM D62, Service Information Day Chair

Secretary - Kathie T., DCM D28 Service Information Day Secretary

Q1 - How do you feel about members who have served as a DCM twenty years ago returning to service as a new AltDCM? Maybe a Past Delegate could answer this? (from Spirit of Rotation workshop).

A - Rob M., A83, P69 Del: I guess it's up to the individual...typically, the spirit of rotation, if you've filled a position once, you don't usually do it again, but if it's been twenty years, especially if it's a smaller district, or a district that doesn't have a lot of participation, after twenty years, it would be an okay thing. It's really a personal thing to decide if you feel it's necessary or not.

Dale S., A86, P68 Del: Some members coming back is a good thing, if no one else is willing to stand, as long as they're willing to mentor new members to carry on.

Q2- We run a hybrid meeting. Can we use our own wording around the seventh tradition?

A - Dave L., Area Treasurer: I would think it would be fine, as each group is autonomous.

Q3 - Why were last names used when introducing folks at the Plenary session?

A- Amy L., Area Chair: Our traditions state that anonymity is at the level of press, radio, and film. We're not anonymous inside A.A., we are anonymous to the outside world, so within this room, everyone with a service position is an alcoholic, and we have to be able to identify that specific person, so it's okay to use last names. I gave an anonymity statement asking people not to photograph, videotape or take pictures of us to be broadcast outside of these rooms. to the public. I actually chatted to a Bill C., and I sent it to the wrong Bill C., it was intended for Bill C., our Registrar, so it gets kind of confusing if we don't use last names within these rooms.

Q4 - For tomorrow's elections, will Area 83 Committee Chair positions also be elected, or just Officers?

A-Trevor F., SID Chair: Tomorrow, we will be electing the following positions: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and Registrar. We'll also be electing a nominee for Trustee-At-Large, and the sub-committee positions are elected at the December Area Committee meeting.

Q5 - Will copies of presentations be available on the Area website?

A - Trevor F., SID Chair: They probably will be, but give them a few days to do it. Also, people can feel free to email the individual workshop chairs, and ask for the presentation directly.

Q6 - I missed doing one of the surveys...can I still fill one out?

A - Trevor F., SID Chair: Yes, I'm putting it into the Chat right now, giving you access to all the surveys.

Q7 - This is regarding Traditions 10, 11,12 Workshop – How would the application of these Traditions be different for virtual meetings? For example, outside issues banter before or after the meeting?

A -Trevor F., SID Chair: I would think they would be treated the same way as at an in-person meeting - Traditions are Traditions, whether the meeting is virtual or in-person.

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Q8 - It was mentioned that the Fellowship Connection requires a personal email address. When you rotate out of a position, should your access not be discontinued?

A - Bill C., Registrar: If I could have Screen Share, I can show you...the reason FC is requesting a personal email is that it actually does more than just Fellowship Connection. It connects us with our Service history, but it also allows and provides access to Literature, so when you order literature, that's your signature, or key, to get in. It also allows us to make Contributions via the personal email address, so that part of it stays with you. When we're in a service position, however, the required data for putting in an individual allows a position email to be associated with that position. For instance, there are a number of districts that have position emails for their officers and committee members, and it allows a continuous train of history for that particular position. Your individual email, however, is still required to get access to the Literature and Contributions part of it. Hopefully, that answers the question.

Q9 - In the Area 83 Accessibilities committee meetings, we've been trying to think how to offer ASL interpretive meetings, they are expensive. There are groups willing that don't have the money. Now it seems that Area 83 has TOO much money, and will be deciding tomorrow whether to send a big bunch away to the General Service Office. Can we start a discussion about using Area83 money for Twelve Step work, and remove barriers by offering ASL interpretive meetings financially supported by Area 83?

A- Jenny B., Accessibilities Chair: One of the things we've been trying to come up with is a plan on how to have Area83 accessible to anyone that needs an ASL interpreter. In order for that to happen, for it to be cost free, there has to be an individual at that meeting that needs it. If we can't guarantee there will be someone there that needs it, then there is a cost to have the interpreter show up.

So, in order for us to bring it forward to the Area, we would need more information about when the meeting would take place, how consistently, the exact cost...I didn't necessarily feel comfortable about bringing it forward on the agenda tomorrow. However, it's definitely something to be mindful about, because we do have funds that we consistently disperse, this is something that's right in our backyard, and there has been an expressed need that members of Area 83 DO need an ASL interpreter, but we do not currently facilitate a meeting that we can put on our meetings lists that allow that to happen. We did a little bit of math, in the Area Accessibilities meeting, and it costs, for one meeting a week, an average of \$8,000 for the year. It's easy to say there are other meetings that people can go to; Texas has a meeting with an ASL interpreter, and has a deaf intergroup, but going to a meeting in Texas isn't the same as a meeting in your own neighborhood or country. We want to make this happen, but some of the fine details, like do we distribute the costs to one specific group that is willing to take that on, or a district, or is this something the Area would consider funding? A meeting for our Area, on our meeting lists, the same as we now have a virtual or hybrid meeting in Spanish. This would allow us to be a little more accessible to a lot more people.

Q10 - This is a comment regarding financial contributions for online meetings: I'm involved with several on-line meetings. Two have their own link, email VenMo info for contributions, and another has a link to the intergroup near the host origin, that suggest donating either there, or the attendee's local intergroup...it's up to the individual. I have a home group in one district, but attend a meeting in another district, and support both groups. So this isn't really a question, more of a comment.

A-Rob M., Immediate Past Delegate: As far as VenMo, I believe it's an American app, and I don't think you can access it in Canada.

Q11-When you rotate out, are your privileges updated, i.e. no longer update access?

A-Bill C., Registrar: Yes, my access as of Dec 31 will be completely disabled, and Area 83 will have an entirely new Registrar, who will set up a new password and sign in protocol.

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Q12 Gord, D86 - This is a question for Jenny: With an expense amount of \$8,000, is that the best way to use that money to better A.A., and could the live transcription function, much like you're using today, completely meet that requirement for a lot less money? What are your thoughts on this, Jenny?

A-Jenny B., Accessibilities Chair: If the funds used help an alcoholic achieve the sobriety that they need, is it money not well spent? The deaf community is a very tight group, so for them to reach out for help and ask for services would break their anonymity within their community. If you build it, they will come...so people with a disability might not necessarily feel comfortable coming forward all the time, saying "I have a disability, I want you to accommodate me"; instead, if we're accommodating it from the start, they'll show up and feel comfortable, and be a part of the process. The thing with the live transcription is that if I'm deaf, my first language is ASL, so I might not be able to read English, because that's not my first language. So, to answer your question, No, closed captioning does not fill that need.

Q13. Rob F., DCM D26 - Just further to ASL, we used to run a meeting on Saturday nights, and were lucky to get ASL interpretation. I don't believe we pay for it...there's some society in Canada that provides ASL interpreters, but you need to schedule in advance. Sometimes they just didn't show up.

A-Jenny B.: Today, we had an interpreter at the Accessibilities workshop. The speaker that spoke today, she is a deaf member of Alcoholics Anonymous, and when she wants to go to meetings, she has somebody she can reach out to, and they'll just show up and interpret it for her. The Canadian Hearing Service is a service provided for individuals that need it. They ask if there's an individual in the meeting that needs this service, so us, being the honest group that we are, I can't say "Yes" if there's not going to be someone there. If I can't guarantee there'll be a deaf member at that meeting, we should fund it to make sure that the interpreter is there. Whereas, if we know that there is going to be somebody there that needs the service, they will fund it for us. We also want to be able to post it on our meeting list, and on the Meeting Guide App, and we can't if we don't consistently have an interpreter for every single week. If someone shows up, and there's no interpreter, they miss out.

Amy L. - I think, Jenny, you're onto something. It would be a good investment to start a meeting where people could rely on that kind of service, and pretty soon, people would be showing up on a regular basis who need it, and then perhaps the cost could be absorbed elsewhere. Interesting.

Jenny B. - At our Accessibilities meeting, we discussed we have over 400 groups in Area83...while each group is autonomous, and every group should be self-supporting, if we had 50 groups that potentially would be willing to contribute, it would be \$160 for the year per group. The \$8,000 doesn't seem so big when it gets broken down. It is our Area, and there is a vocalized need for this service in our Area.

Jan A, D86 Accessibilities - I agree with the "if you build it, they will come". We don't know how many people would join A.A. or would come to our meetings if they knew this service was available. It's a risk, yes, it's a lot of money, but I take seriously the words "I want the hand of A.A. always to be there". I don't want someone to have to beg for that hand. In my opinion, we'll come up with the money if we have an alcoholic who needs that service to achieve sobriety, I say that somehow, our fellowship will find the money for that person. We don't know if there's someone out there that's avoiding our meetings, or wishing they could come. Could we establish a prudent reserve for Accessibilities for anything that might arise in the future?

Colleen - Today we talked a lot about interpreters for ASL...what about interpreters for language barriers? That's something that's been in my mind for about 6 months – are we serving people who are newly arrived, and I would think, just like the deaf community, it would be a matter of anonymity, keeping anonymity within that community, but also being able to access Alcoholics Anonymous.

Jenny B. - At this specific moment, we have not looked into it, it's a completely valid point, especially with things happening all over the place. Sometimes we literally have to focus on one thing at a time, but as the need arises, it opens the door that much more to make it accessible to anyone that needs us.

Theresa - This is more a comment, I was just thinking what a valuable service this is, and it's just the tip of the iceberg for all the other accessibility issues...we recently got insurance for the venue that we hold our district meetings in, and it was under the umbrella of a program that this insurance company sets up, and a whole bunch of other groups have it...I'm wondering, not in the small areas, in bigger areas, maybe in the GTA, do churches have an interpreter that comes for their services? Is it something we can come in under, where the venue has perhaps a contract with a company that supplies interpreters? Just a thought, it might be another way of getting around the cost and guarantee that someone is there?

Ken, D14 - at the Ontario Regional Conference, every time I've attended, there's been someone doing sign language, it's also wheelchair accessible, and also for the blind. Is there any way, Jenny, could you get a hold of these people that put large conferences on and make sure they're totally accessible to everyone, to help out with a Zoom meeting?

Jenny B. - Finding out who these individuals are that are organizing other forums is definitely a key, and something we can look into. And then the flip side, it's a question of Quality vs Quantity. We really want to make sure that if we have an interpreter, that they're an interpreter, not somebody that just speaks ASL, because there is a difference between somebody that can speak it and an actual interpreter. We do know the Canadian Hearing Service is available, and it's who we've reached out to; we can always do a little more research to find out who has what service available, and how to contact them to get those services, and the costs. An ASL interpreter can be funded if an individual requests ASL at an A.A. meeting, but Canadian Hearing Service will not fund A.A. workshops, service meetings, or conventions. We attempted to get an interpreter for the Comprehensive Media Plan, but because it is a service function, it is different than the necessity of an A.A. meeting.

Marwyn - Based on the figure, and I'm for "providing the service, and they will come", if we have an interpreter at 10 meetings, but only 5 meetings needed it, does it cut the expense in half?

Jenny - So here's the example, and this is for one meeting a week to consistently have an interpreter, so we would make sure it got posted, for everyone in our Area to see, so that's not even for multiple meetings, so if the service isn't required, I don't know if they have a cancellation fee, I haven't looked into that. We wanted to have some kind of number, even just as a ballpark, for the year, for one group, if we had to pay for every meeting, it would be roughly \$8,000.

Scott M. - I've seen an ASL interpreter at The Hill. I'm just texting a member this question... "Yes, we have an ASL interpreter at The Hill, we've just reconfirmed with CHS for November and December...the meeting is hybrid, the interpreter is there in person, the camera is trained on the speaker, and you probably wouldn't get a good view of the interpreter if you pulled the camera way back." Hmm, anyway, we're getting closer to an answer, and there's food for thought. Thanks.

Barbara T. - One thing that impacts this discussion is Anonymity – if I need to break my anonymity in order to come to A.A., is that really what we're offering? I know I went to one meeting, and asked for closed captioning, and they suggested I go to another meeting, and it feels like that's what we're doing now, to

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some extent. There are meetings in Texas and California that have ASL, so Y'all just go there, and if you want to come to A.A. here, you have to break your anonymity...I don't think that is really the direction we want to go.

Greg, GTA Accessibilities - That's really cool that The Hill has an ASL interpreter...I wonder how many other meetings have ASL interpreter, and how can we organize that, put it on our Accessibilities websites, something to make it easy for people who are looking for those types of meetings? Go to one spot, list them all, I wonder if that's possible?

Ken - Do Canadian Hearing Service ASL interpreters have to sign a paper of confidentiality?

Jenny - Yes, they are a professional service, and do have confidentiality rules and regulations that they have to follow...breach of those could result in loss of their job. When we had our Accessibilities workshop, I made it clear that we did have two interpreters in the room, one to sign and one to speak, and the anonymity was protected in the room. That can be a red flag or a concern for some people, but they are held to a standard, and breach of that standard can result in consequences for them.

Q12 Rob M. - Amy, have we heard anything from the Ambassador Hotel whether they'll be able to host in person Assemblies next year, and if not, will we consider other venues to get back to in person assemblies for next year?

A. Amy L.: I can't speak for next term...I can tell you my conversations with the Ambassador. They said "We want to be a conference destination." I pressed them on, asking if this meant offering this kind of technology. Frankly, the person I spoke to could neither confirm nor deny. I think they are planning to be a destination like that, and what we're going to do next spring, I'm happy to work with the incoming Chair to find a new venue in case the Ambassador, there's still much to be revealed there, they've got no details for me yet, so I think the Area needs to have a back-up plan. Hybrid technology should be one of the criteria to evaluate, clearly everyone is saying they want both live and online available.