

AREA 82 NS/NL

ARCHIVIST MEETING

AREA OFFICERS and DCM MEETING

MAY 19, 2021

Present: Chair- Dwayne MacD., GSD- Trudy D., Alt GSD- Gerry W., Secretary- Monique McL., NS Archivist, - Kathy SC., DCM 1- Paul B., DCM 2- Blair A., DCM 3- John W., DCM 6- Trevor J., DCM 7- Darrell MacN., DCM 9 – Brian P., DCM 10- Pat R., DCM 12- Ray S., DCM 15- George S. DCM 17- Gary O.

Observers: Edie? D6, Ellen N.D10, Pat F. (Alt.DCM) D10

Absent: DCM 4- Pete N., DCM 5- Rich D., DCM 8- Joe S., DCM11- Mark B., DCM 13-Stu K., DCM 14 Jeff B.,

Dwayne MacD., welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The 12 Traditions were read by John W. We went over the agenda; Monique McL. motioned for the approval and was second by Pat R., all in favor- Agenda approved.

NS Archivist, Kathy SC. gave her report and is sending tidbits of AA history to districts who are interested, in including it in their Newsletter (please see attached).

NL Archivist report was given by Gerry W. Alt. GSD, the position is currently vacant, one person has applied for the position. The archives are safe and secure in a storage facility in District 15.

Gary O. asked Kathy SC., what things is she looking for in her time capsule. Kathy answered his questions.

Minutes were read by Monique McL., she motioned for the minutes to be accepted. There was one correction (Geoff S. is secretary of D15 and not the Alt. DCM); also, one omission (12 step calls- men be with men and women should be with women). Gary O. motioned minutes to be accepted as read with the corrections, second by Ray S., all in favor: minutes accepted.

Treasurer Report was given by Dwayne MacD. (Please see attached). Paul B., Gary O., and John W. had questions** [please see note](#)**. Monique McL. motioned to send more money to GSO for the General Service Conference expense. Pat R., second the motion. The increase will be the difference \$2500.00 and \$2800.00, motion carried.

There are 212 active groups in Area 82, Monique McL. will send out an email to the districts not here tonight, for an updated list of their active/inactive groups.

Reviewed and discussed the Agenda for the NS/NL Spring Assembly being held from May 28th-May30th. The proposal from D2, Blair A. was discussed and will be added to the Agenda as Item 3. Also, Pat R. requested the Active Area Committees added to the agenda and with the time. Paul B., DCM 1 moved that these items were added to the agenda, it second by Blair A., -all in favor.

Monique McL., motioned for the meeting to be adjourned.

****Please note the motherboard on my computer fried the first week of June. I am getting another computer and having my hard drive installed in it. Once I get it, I will add the missing content in another color to differentiate, what has already been sent.**

Monique McL.

Area 82 NS/NL

Secretary/ Registrar

NS/NL

Spring Assembly

May 28th-30th,2021

9:00- Dwayne MacD., called the meeting to order and asked for a few seconds of silence, followed by the Serenity prayer. Darrell MacN. Read the 12 Traditions. We did the Introductions, Sympathies and Trudy D., read the Mission Statement.

Introductions: - Chair- Dwayne MacD., GSD- Trudy D., Alt GSD- Gerry W., Secretary- Monique McL., NS Archivist, - Kathy SC., Arlene P. Remote Communities Chair, Tyler G. Webmaster, Jan L. ERCT, DCM 1- Paul B., DCM 2- Blair A., DCM 3- John W., DCM 4- Pete N. DCM 6- Trevor J., DCM 7- Darrell MacN., DCM 8- Joe S. DCM 10- Pat R., DCM 12- Ray S., DCM 15- George S. DCM 17- Gary O.

Housekeeping- Two-minute talk clock, with a 30 second warning. Minutes were read by Monique McL. and Trudy D., with no corrections or omissions. Monique moved the minutes be accepted as read, seconded by Ray S., All in favor.

Business arising from the minutes- Blair A. asked/believes (1) the proposal from District 10, excess funds, (2) the ad hoc forming committee, (3) the Guidelines would be under old business, not new business.

Reviewed the agenda - approval with the amendments. Blair A., moved and Paul B., seconded. All approved.

DCM reports – see attached. Monique asked for the DCMs to send their reports.

Treasurer's Report- Given by Dwayne, Gerry is Chair for the moment. Blair A., asked for clarity of the bank balance as of January 1st (to have it broke down into group contributions and officer returned funds), Dwayne motioned to accept the report with amendments to be made for the next Treasurer's report. Passed. **Treasurer's report is a separate attachment.**

Reports- GSD, Alt. GSD, Remote Communities, Webmaster, Active Committees, NS Archivist and NL Archivist- see attached. Monique motioned for all reports to be accept as read, seconded by Garnet. Reports were accepted.

ELECTIONS: Jocelyn I. was the only one to submit a resume' for the Treasurer's position; a vote was taken, 34 for- 10 against. Angela W. of the Sunrise Group from District 6 spoke in the minority vote, no one wanted to change their vote. Congratulations Jocelyn. There were only two resumes for the co-chairs of the Active Area Committees. Mark Z. District 3 for the NS Public Information and Boyd B. for the NL Public Information co-chairs. Congratulations to both. Gary O. moved for Tyler to continue as Webmaster, seconded by Pat R. – all in favor. **SEND RESUMES'IN FOR THE ASSEMBLY IN OCTOBER.** There was much discussion- Bert, Tamar, Leah. One minority spoke; no one wanted to change their vote. NL Archivist- Sharon- unanimous.

Old Business: There was no discussion involving the Access Funds Guidelines. There was a lot of discussion about motion to form an Ad-hoc committee, to review the Treasurer Guidelines and the timing and disbursement of Area funds: moved by John W., seconded by Pat R. There was a lot of discussion on this motion- Gary, Blair, Garnet, Paul, Pat and Barry. 29 for- 11 against, minority voice spoke; a revote was taken 17 for- 21 against- motion defeated. Dwayne thanked everyone. To have the Active Area Committee meeting to the agenda, also to have the Alt. GSD's responsibilities be updated.

New Business: (1) District 17 Proposal – see attached. Gary O. motioned, seconded by Peter M. 21 against- 16 for, minority voice spoke; another vote was taken 20 against- 17 for. Motion defeated.

(2) District 3 Proposal- see attached. John W. motioned, seconded by Kevin (Aylesford GSR). 30 against- 6 for, minority voice spoke, one person wanted to change their vote- 29 against-7 for. Motion defeated. Dwayne thanked us again.

(3) District 2- are we continuing with the rotation for the NS Provincial Roundup and Assemblies? The Spring Assembly in May, be held on Zoom and the Fall Assembly in October be held in person-33 for. There was a lot of discussion on this, and the motion passed unanimously.

There was some discussion on when we should meet for the Active Area Committees meeting (Monday night, Sunday morning, or to continue Saturday night. We decided to meet Saturday night.

Monique McL.

Area 82

Secretary/Registrar

District 1 DCM Report
Nova Scotia Service Weekend
May 29/2020

Good day members of Alcohols Anonymous my name is Paul B, and I am an Alcoholic. I Serve as the DCM for District 1 which has 28 active Groups. The area of District 1 encompasses the southwest of one third of Halifax Regional Municipality. The district borders Lunenburg County in the west and in the east it, borders are Halifax Harbour, the Bedford Bypass, and Cobequid Road. Northern borders are Windsor Junction Road, Beaver Bank Road, and, for the most part, the Hants County line. The southern border of District 1 is the Atlantic Ocean. Towns or cities with A.A. meetings in District 1 include Hubbards, Upper Tantallon, Timberlea, Halifax, Bedford, Lower Sackville, and Mount Uniacke. Most of our meetings are on The Zoom platform. They are well attended with a lot of participation.

District 1 Activities

- Workshops are held in District 1 every other month and are organized by the District 1 ALT Delegate. Our last workshop was called Safety in AA Our common Welfare should come first. There were 40 members in attendance, and it was presented by Jan L
- District 1 has just elected a new Alt Treasurer. We are in need of an Alt DCM and Secretary. So, if any of you want to join the best District in Area 82, please contact me and don't come all at once
- District 1 holds its Monthly meeting on the last Wednesday of the Month. We have an average between 6-11 groups represented at our monthly meetings
- On June 12, there will be a Provincial Round up hosted by District 3 and 17. Hope to see you all present

We attend the Central Service meetings which represents District 1 and 2 and show our support in Carrying the message to the alcohols who suffers. Central Service has various committees and since Covid some are shut down, but some are still active like the Phones, Help Email Literature to say a few

In closing I would like to say thank you to all the Area Executive and any members of AA in helping to carry the message to us as DCMs as we work together to help the Suffering Alcoholic.

District 2 DCM Report May 29, 2021

My name is Blair Andrews, and I am an Alcoholic and the DCM of District 2. District 2 consists of the Dartmouth portion of HRM and continues north to Enfield, east to Musquodoboit Harbour, and west to Fall River. District 2 has 14 active registered groups who host a total of 24 meetings a week. Our District meeting is held the third Sunday of each month at 2pm at Club 24. Currently we are meeting on Zoom at the same date and time. The District Committee consists of Chris V. as Treasurer, Michael A. as Alt. DCM, and the Secretary position is currently vacant.

Until late April all the groups were back to meeting in person but now there is six groups meeting on Zoom, six groups meeting in person, and two meetings not meeting. In February District 2 went back to holding their monthly District Meetings on Zoom and will do so until September. District 2 has struggled with holding their bi-monthly workshops in 2021 due to the restrictions on social gatherings. District 2 participated in the 2021 Mid-Winter Round Upheld virtually in February.

District 2 is supported by the Central Service Committee for Districts 1 & 2 through each group having a Central Service Representative attend their monthly meeting. In addition to the CSR from each group they consist of a Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and Chair of each subcommittee. They are a great help to District 2 by carrying out the work of CPC, PI, Corrections, and Treatment. PI has remained active by meeting virtually with other organizations in the Education, Health Care, and Legal field. Corrections and Treatment have not been able to meet in person with the residents but communicate through telephone and dropping off literature. CPC has not been active since the Chair position has been vacant. Central Service also has a committee for Entertainment, Literature, Newsletter, Help E-Mail, Hospital Visitation, Telephone, Webmaster, and Mid-Winter Roundup. An Ad-Hoc Committee for Bridging the Gap is currently in the process of being established. I would like to thank Mike H., Central Service Chair and anyone involved with carrying the message to current and potential members of AA. More information on what activities and services are being offered is available by visiting aahalifax.org.

Even with reduced contributions to District 2, we are in a position to help with some outreach funding. I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity and encouragement to continue in the role of DCM for District 2. God has given us this opportunity to push through our fears and carry the message to the suffering alcoholic in new and creative ways. I look forward to being part of Area 82 and working with all of you during these challenging and uncertain times.

Yours in Service,
Blair Andrews
DCM District 2
Area 82

DCM report, area 82, district 3

May 2021

District 3 stretches from Kentville in the east to Annapolis in the west in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley

There are 12 groups with a total of 16 meetings per week. There are an additional 2 meetings each week

All groups continue to meet either in person, on zoom or hybrid meetings.

We continue to have either in person, zoom or hybrid district meetings on the third Sunday of each month with strong attendance. As well, we have an information session before the district meeting each month.

Institution meetings are on hold right now. However, our "bridging the gap" at Crosbie house continues every fourth Wednesday.

Our district literature committee is still functioning and providing material when and where required.

CPC/PI is slow right now but raring to go when restrictions are lifted.

Our monthly newsletter continues to be published each month.

We share a phone with district 17 and though sporadic, we continue to get calls.

We have been busy working with area 17 and lots of assistance from other areas for our provincial round up on June 12. Please take advantage of any and all opportunities to spread the word

It's been a tough year. However, we are doing well and continue to carry the message.

Yours in service,

AREA 82, DISTRICT 4 DCM REPORT
to the 2021 AREA 82 SPRING ASSEMBLY (via ZOOM)

May 28th - 30th, 2021

Good morning friends, my name is Pete N. a proud recovering alcoholic and am honored to be back for a second term as the DCM of District 4 which consists of six active groups dispersed over a large area from Digby to Amiraults Hill, southeast of Yarmouth.

This continues to be a challenging year for all of us. I am proud of the Groups in this district for keeping their members in the loop, either by using Zoom meetings or when and if possible having limited in person meetings. Unfortunately, we did lose the Clare Group in Jan 21, but COVID was not the primary reason for this.

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel once again our annual Lighthouse Round-up this coming November. It was our feeling that even if COVID was under control by that time, there would be many past attendees who would not attend this year due to uncertainty how long it might be for another wave to hit us. This decision was made at our monthly GSR meeting in Jan. of 2021. With luck, we will resume holding this Round-up in 2022.

Here's hoping that we can back in person sooner than later.

Yours in Service Pete N

Spring Assembly

DCM report

May 29/21.

I'm new to position, and still learning, bear with me. There are 11 groups in our district,4 groups are meeting face to face,6 groups are zooming,1 group is not meeting at all until covid restitutions allow their venue to open. We are all working together during this pandemic to keep the message going

Thank you, God bless.

Trevor J.

District 6 DCM.

DCM talk for Assembly May 29, 2021

Good morning everyone. My name is Pat R, and I am an alcoholic. I serve as DCM for District 10. My home group is the Action Group in Bridgewater. We meet Wednesday night at 8 and you can join us at Zoom 306 487 814, password 178214. District 10 is found on the South Shore of Nova Scotia, in Lunenburg, Queens, and Shelburne Counties. There are seven established groups, one group in the making, and three meetings that sprung from two groups. Right now, these provide 6 online meetings a week on Zoom. There are currently no face-to-face meetings in District 10, but there want to be! You can find the up-to-date list on our District 10 newsletter or on the Area website. Our trusty phone committee keeps its ears open 24/7, at 902-521-8114. Currently we get calls from our own area and (strangely enough) most of Area 25 in Kansas. As each of you know from personal experience, our biggest challenge is maintaining and growing in sobriety during Covid 19, and the shutdowns mandated in each of our provinces. I've heard it estimated that there are just over 100 of us in recovery in District 10. The last 14 months have been brutal and very hard on sobriety for those 100+ of us recovering alcoholics. For some of us, relief has been found on our computers and cell phones on the Zoom platform. For others, staying home with our AA literature and making phone calls has been the key. Or, maybe, for some folks, there has been nothing but fear and isolation. As we come back out of lockdown, some will be sicker than others and herein lies the challenge for AA on the South Shore. How will we deal with the folks who haven't had a drink, but who haven't attended a meeting for over a year? They're out there, dry as a bone and crazy. We have used Tradition One a lot. It puts our common welfare first. We have to have a structure built for everyone to recover before anyone of us can recover individually. All this depends on Unity. At our District meetings, we have discussed how in the world to keep the Zoomers and the non-Zoomers unified. In District 10, we have approved and will implement as soon as allowed, a hybrid form of District meeting, with seats available in Bridgewater for those who can attend in person (suitably distanced). Others will chime in over Zoom. This is based on the model developed and used by the Serenity Group in Lunenburg. Serenity has generously shared their technical expertise and experience. For the future, we are committed to continue this hybrid form of district meeting that involves more of the fellowship. For those of you who were wondering, we missed May Day for the second year. There are a bunch of us in District 10 who miss all the hugs and fellowship and fine dining, too. We have high hopes for 2022. To wrap up, we have wonderful can-do folks in our District and it's an honor to serve alongside them. Big virtual hug from the South Shore!

DCM Report District 12

Good evening everyone,

In these troubled times, I am happy to say we have 8 groups with 10 meetings a week. 9 of these meetings are face to face with one of them on Zoom.

The sad news is that there is only one or two people opening at these groups. Attendance is at an all-time low with an average of about 11 people at the face-to-face meetings, due to covid restrictions. It is not surprising that funds collected at these meetings are low.

However, on the bright side, we have a good treatment committee at Humberwood with Loyola G. as chair of this committee. He has 14 members rotating Thursday night here. Also, Humberwood allows them to attend Monday night meetings and supplies a taxi service for them to attend.

We also have a PI chaired by Ken B. who is in the process of refreshing pamphlets at Humberwood and around town.

For the time being, however, the district is in good shape financially. There is only 3 GSR's attending on a regular basis.

Enclosing, I would like to thank all committee members and groups in the district for their support.

Yours in Sobriety,

Ray S.

DCM Report May 2021 District 17 Area 82

Hi all, hope you are all coping with this lockdown again. It is really tough only having 10 allowed to attend AA in person meetings. Hopefully we follow Covid Protocol, and we will be back to some kind of normal soon. I would like to remind groups that this is not the time to push the rules, or the Guidelines set out by Dr. Strang and Dept. of Health. Our Groups are allowed to meet in person, where a lot of other organizations cannot. We will get to the other side of this Pandemic.

I would like to remind our AA Groups that our Area 82 Spring Assembly is less than 2 weeks away. It would be really nice if each AA Group in our District could have at least 1 person represent their Group on Zoom for the Assembly. This is the time where we are informed about things like where Area 82 as a whole is in this Pandemic, Financial situation for Area and GSO, voting on changes of operating Area procedures, Workshops, Presentations and all District and sitting Committee members give reports. This is the place to see how our Area operates as a whole.

The 2021 Provincial Round up Committee is still looking for Volunteers to help with the Meetings and overseeing the log in of people over the day. District 3 and 17 have been meeting every Friday evening at 8:30 pm for some time now preparing for this Round – Up. Our next meeting will be Friday May 2021 on ZOOM the Meeting number is 822 1246 4974 and Password is 777211. All welcome to attend. I would like to thank Marsha P. for overseeing the Log in Procedure for this Round Up. If this is something you would like to help with see Marsha.

New CPC/PI District 17 (business cards) have been ordered so we can give them out to help spread the word we are here and active. Our AA phone number is on these cards and the Area 82 web site. These are not new, just needed to replenish our supply.

GSO is in the process of redoing all AA Group numbers to update their system. When this is completed, your Group will have a new number. For now, continue to use the number your Group has been using. You will be notified when the change is completed and will be issued a new Group Number.

Thanks to all the Groups who have continued to meet in person or on Zoom and follow the Covid Protocol. Our message and recovery are very important not only to the Newcomer but to all AA members in these trying times. Please all stay safe and continue the good work we do.

Yours in the love of AA Service

DCM District 17

Gary Oickle

Hello everyone, my name is Trudy D. and I'm an alcoholic. I have the honor and privilege of serving as your Area 82 Panel 71 General Service Delegate.

Before I start my report, I would like to thank all of Area 82 for their support during the past few months. I have spent the past two months taking care of my sister. For that I owe Area 82 a debt of Gratitude that I can never pay back. Your love and support helped carry me through the times I felt alone and unsure of what to do. I truly believe that Alcoholics Anonymous allowed me to be the best sister I could be, in the time my family needed me to be. Gerry stepped up to the role of acting GSD for really the whole 3 months of February, March, and April. He attended many GSO Committee meetings for me in those few months. He did this all while still doing his regular duties as Alternate GSD. He hates the spotlight, but I believe he deserves to be recognized for all he did.

I sat on the Treatment and Accessibility's committee. Because of zoom we were able to meet a few times before the start of the Conference. In a normal setting, Committee people do not get to meet each other until we start meeting after we've gotten to New York. It was nice to get to know these people before we had to start working together.

Our committee had eight members. 4 from Panel 70 and 4 from Panel 71, one of which was Tom W. Area 15 South Florida/Bahamas/ Virgin Islands/ Antigua. Ok so full disclosure, not that I don't love my Area but, if I could trade Areas for 2 weeks in February, yes please!!! Our secretary is Irene D. She's a staff member with Treatment and Accessibilities at GSO.

Preconference Day, Saturday, April 17th, was a precursor to the actual conference. We started with a hospitality breakout room where Panel 71s like me could ask questions of last year's Panel 70s and the Trustees about what to expect. It was a wonderful 2 hours. We started with a game that was led by Jan L. our Eastern Canadian Trustee. We had breakout rooms where people could bounce around and ask questions of each other. This was also an opportunity to meet all the different people that we were going to be with for the next 8 days.

After the two-hour icebreaking session, we had our 1728 meeting. Like me, you may be asking “What does 1728 mean?” 1728 is 12 steps x 12 traditions x 12 concepts = 1728. It's a unique meeting that GSO only schedules for the 1 day preceding the start of Conference.

The next meeting was Remote Communities. This was moderated by Irene D. GSO staff and co-chaired by Brad F. and Linda B. Remote Communities is not a stand-alone Committee at GSO. It is a part of the Treatment & Accessibilities Committee that I sit on. I was really excited to be asked to do a 7-minute presentation on “What are the challenges and solutions to carrying the AA messages to a geographic community”? Gerry and I worked on this presentation together. (Mostly Gerry). It was well received with many positive comments after I was done.

Next was the presentation on the archives by Michelle M, who is the GSO archivist. She gave a wonderful presentation. Every time I see a presentation of the archives, I am amazed by the amount of history the Archives has been able to keep records of. She spoke of how they are keeping documents in the archives about how AA is changing and adapting during the pandemic. They're even documenting themselves and the GSO Staff having to work away from the office.

After the presentation, we met for the Area Delegates only meeting that was chaired by the Delegate chairperson Donnie M from Area 80 Manitoba, Panel 70. This is a time for the delegates to get together and listen to the shared Service experience of 3 Panel 70 Delegates. I understood exactly why I am where I am right now, why I love service the way I do and how these people will be friends for a lifetime.

It was a fantastic day. I can't wait until tomorrow. To be continued.

Day 1, Sunday, April 18th. It's the official start day of the 71st annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. I can honestly say I was not sure I was ever going to get here. At the conference they start every day with a meeting called the Serenity meeting. It's “suggested” to be a really great way to start your day. I decided that I would dive in and give it a try. We started out each day around 11:30 AST. It started late because we had Delegates as far away as Hawaii and 11:30 in the morning, Hawaii time is 5:30 AM. The delegate from Hawaii

was at the Serenity meeting every morning. He put in the effort and deserved a big round of applause every morning when he came in the room. Every day there was a different topic already chosen. The first day's topic was "lack of Power. That was our dilemma. We had to find a Power by which we could live, and it had to be a Power greater than ourselves, obviously. But where and how were we to find this Power? Alcoholics Anonymous page 45." I can honestly say that when I saw that topic it brought me right back to the beginning of my alcoholism. I felt such utter despair. I remember feeling like I was just plain crazy and there wasn't any hope for me. I didn't know anything about a Higher Power. I'm glad I stuck around long enough to find out.

At 1:00 we opened with a welcome from the chair of the General Service Board Michele G. Michele then conducted roll call followed by greetings from Donnie MacL, Manitoba and a keynote address from Newton P, Trustee at Large for the US. This was followed by some procedural presentations on what to expect during conference week then a break.

Some of the key points from her report are:

- The General service Board met 13 times
- 10 Special Meetings
- 3 Regular Quarterly Meetings
- Many more ad hoc committee and subcommittee meetings
- Strategic planning- The board will model inclusivity and acceptance
- The G.S.B. will seek to improve the effectiveness of its communications to remain relevant and connected to those it serves
- The G.S.B. acts as a role model in promoting the critical importance of our Traditions
- Cancellation of in person events such as GSC, International Convention, World Service Meeting
- Budget concerns from Literature sales and contributions cut in half in March and April
- Large refund demand from cancellation of the International Convention
- Cutting costs and stopping any noncritical service was necessary
- Carrying the Message continued- Corrections/Grapevine and AAWS Publishing combine to get our materials into the digital libraries used by the prisons in the US. Canada is next.
- Literature Committee continues efforts to support our discussion about the accessibility of our message
- Conference committee hard at work to improve the online Conference experience
- Rotation and leadership- Thank you for the years of service from all the employees that took the VRIP

- Welcome to the new employees at GSO including our new General Manager we look forward to working with you
- The Nominating committee was very busy this year conducting 27 interviews for the Chair of the Board and the Class A Trustees.

The next report was from the AAWS board chair Beau B. We got to hear how much progress has been made with Correctional Service of Canada. He let us know that they are working with Corrections to get the Correspondence program up and running in our country. One of our Eastern Canada Delegates Ruth L. from Area 87 is instrumental in helping get us connected with the Correctional Service. Beau had told us that he needed to pass on a message from a gentleman that went into a facility on AA's behalf. As he was leaving the facility, an inmate said to him, "Don't forget us". It was heart wrenching to think that these people are waiting to hear from us and receive the message of recovery. Committees of the A.A.W.S. board are: Technology/Communication/Services, which addresses the digital content needs of all service assignments and seeks to improve communication between the A.A.W.S. board and the Fellowship, including innovative technologies, and oversees G.S.O.'s A.A. website, Meeting Guide app, YouTube channel and Google for Non-profits projects; Publishing, which reviews sales results, format requests, reprints, international translations of literature and other publishing matters; Finance, which oversees budgeting and financial results and considers self-support matters; Internal Audit, which reviews all internal audit processes and documentation and sets parameters that keep us aligned with the New York State guidance and our spiritual principles; and Nominating, which recommends candidates for A.A.W.S. non-trustee director and general service trustee vacancies. The board, in turn, discusses all committee reports and votes on any recommendations presented. Implementation of the office-wide enterprise resource planning (ERP) NetSuite system and the development of the Fellowship Connection portal designed to facilitate information sharing between areas and G.S.O. Combining multiple office functions on one platform provides a flexibility and cohesion for services to the Fellowship and while the implementation of the ERP system has not come without difficulty, the positive impact on office operations is becoming clearer every day. US/CANS- A total of over 4,100 members attended, including almost 2,000 first time attendees; and an aggregate total of over 1,000 questions were addressed during the Q&A and Ask It Basket sessions of the Virtual East and West US/CANS held December 5 and 19. Meeting Guide app The A.A.W.S. App team launched the first Meeting Guide application upgrade. YouTube channel There are 113 AAWS videos posted to YouTube (some in English only, others in English, Spanish and French) and as of January 2021, the channel has over 5,400 subscribers. Google Ads the AAWS Google Ads have been live since December 2020. Next was the AA Grapevine report. This report was given by the chairperson Kathy F. It was a good report and it showed how the Grapevine / La Vina is

adapting with the new platform in virtual times as well as how much it still touches the newcomer.

After this meeting, it was time for the conference committees to finally meet for the first-time during Conference. we covered the first agenda item reviewing the pamphlet "AA for the Older Alcoholic". We requested that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought to the 2022 Conference Committee.

Day 2, Monday, April 19th. Once again, we started with the gratitude meeting. The topic for the day was "We are sure God wants us to be happy, joyous and free. We cannot subscribe to the belief that this life is a veil of tears, though it once was just that for many of us. But we made our own misery. God didn't do it." Alcoholics Anonymous. Page 133.

The meeting this morning was wonderful. The sharing was real and honest. Many people talked about early recovery and how they had to learn how to be happy, joyous, and free. One Delegate in particular, Steve L is the Area 61, Panel 70 Delegate from Rhode Island. He claimed with good humour that his home state was neither a road nor an island. At the meeting, Steve talked about his experience with "Happy, Joyous and Free". He was taught that "Happy was when I got something. Joyous was when I gave something. And Free came as the result of taking uncomfortable actions via 12 Steps." It really resonated with me. And I have to say that I will continue to spread that message to every sponsee that I have.

After the meeting Our committee had a lot to consider, and we started the day by asking for an explanation about the submitted Armed Services PSA videos. Our job was to decide if the PSA's conveyed the message of Alcoholics Anonymous as we felt it should or if they needed to get additional stories, more representative stories. We decided, after talking with the media developer, that three of the four PSAs were valuable and fit for publication to our website. We then discussed future improvements in this area.

Since GSO represents North America not just the USA, I asked why there were no Canadian stories. We were told that they are working towards developing stories from both the US and Canada. I will be contacting some of my fellow delegates from across Canada reaching out to

find Canadian Military / Veteran stories that GSO can develop into PSA's. So, anybody who is a pass service person, watch out, you are on my radar.

After our committee session we met for our afternoon evening session. Leslie Bacchus, the Treasurer of the General Service Board presented the Financial Report. The full Financial Report is titled "Around the Picnic Table".

I will not go into the full details here because, honestly, it is a lot to go into. I will give you some of the highlights.

- The 7th tradition was a record \$10.26 million in 2020. Up 15.8% from the \$8.86 million in 2019.
- Cost of services was \$10.81 million in 2020, down 14.9% from \$12.7 million in 2019.
- Self-support covered 94.9% of cost of services in 2020 compared to 69.8% in 2019.
- AAWS Publishing showed gross profits of \$6.58 million, down 29.7% from \$9.36 million in 2019. It was used to cover \$550,000 shortfall between the 7th tradition contributions and cost of services.
- The 2021 GSO **Budget**.
 - Total revenue \$15,594,000 compared to \$16,926,318 in 2020.
 - Contributions \$9,725,000 compared to \$10,256,687 in 2020.
 - Gross literature profit \$5,639,400 compared to \$6,582,266 in 2020.
 - Total operating expense \$15,652,814 compared to \$16,446,727 in 2020.
 - Operating deficit of \$58,814 not including pension expenses compared to \$479,571 surplus in 2020.

Of course, there's much more in the presentation. It was over an hour and a half long.

After the Finance Report, there was a presentation on the AA International. The presenter was Trish LaN. who's Trustee at Large for Canada. The 26th World Service Meeting was held from November 28th to the 30th virtually, of course. Trish gave some details, and personal stories that were just amazing. Her full report is available online. There were then some questions about the workshops that Newton P, the Trustee at Large US had been part of. Newton also gave his report on carrying the message virtually in the Americas. It was a fantastic presentation by both. I really could picture them being there and feeling the spirit of AA in the Americas. The 21st Annual REDELA meeting, which is the "AA Zonal meeting of the Americas", was held before the pandemic on September 29th to October 3rd, 2019. We didn't get to hear much about it because of the pandemic shortened 70th General Service Conference. He gave a quick synopsis of what happened at the REDELA and passed on the information that the 22nd REDELA is planned to occur in-person, October 3rd to the 7th in Guatemala

Day 3, Tuesday, April 20th. The Serenity meeting topic for the day was “Our first objective will be the development of self-restraint. This carries a top priority rating when we speak or act hastily or rashly. The ability to be fair minded and tolerant evaporates on the stock spot.” 12 Traditions, 12 steps and 12 traditions page 91. I heard many great things on how to use the 10th step, General Service, when we were wrong, promptly admitting it, and being able to make mistakes.

From 1:00 o'clock until 4:15 we again met in our respective conference committees. This was the last day that the committees met on their own. We felt a great deal of pressure to get through the agenda. Even though we only had four topics to discuss, we were thorough and so took up quite a bit of time. Because of the varying degrees of experience within our committee, there were a lot of questions.

At the end of our meeting, it was time for the conference chair to be elected for next year. *Pam K.* from Area 39 is the new Delegate chair for next year's Conference. *Mary M.* from Area 85 from our Eastern Canadian Delegates is the Alternate chair. As the Alternate chair, she will serve as the Mail person for next year. She will be a busy bee, but I know that she will do a wonderful job. It was so amazing. Our day was over early at just 10:00 pm!

Day 4, Wednesday, April 21st. begins with the serenity meeting. The topic for that day is that the life of each individual AA member and of each group is built around our 12 steps and 12 traditions. “We know that the penalty for extensive disobedience to these principles is death. For the individual and dissolution. For the group, but an even greater force for AA, Unity is our compelling love for our fellow Members and for our principles.” 12 concepts for World Service. Page 6. On paper, Day 4 appeared to be a simple day. But let's remember that I'm a panel 71 and I really don't know anything. opening and moved directly into the elections. These elections were to select the East Central Regional Trustee, the Southeast Regional Trustee, and the Trustee at Large for the US. Initially, I didn't know what that meant. I now understand that the Delegates from those three regions were choosing Trustees. The rest of us were interested spectators. We got to hear each region talk about the Trustee nominee from their area and how they have contributed throughout their life to Alcoholics Anonymous in their region.

It was particularly exciting for me was to see *Sandy W*, the delegate from Area 86 who's also Eastern Canadian, chair the election. It was a lot of fun. She did a wonderful job.

The first position voted for was East Central Regional Trustee. Kathy C from Area 23 was elected. Next was the Southeast Regional Trustee. It went all the way to the hat and Tom H from Area 16, was elected through the hat. Lastly was the Trustee at Large US. Kathy F helped with the selection, and it was amazing to watch Marietta HR. from Area 42 get elected.

We started the Wednesday evening session with Committee reports and discussion. The first committee up was the Corrections Committee. They had met three times prior to the GSC including a Joint Committee meeting with the Trustees Correction Committee on March 16th.

The committee accepted the report of the Trustees Committee and considered the following agenda item.

“To consider a request for a review of all correction related literature to replace terms such as inmate and offender with less stigmatizing language.” The committee recommended revisions to WS literature directed to members behind the walls and replace the terms inmate and offender with person in custody. I was quite surprised at the amount of discussion surrounding this Agenda item. After a lot of questions and discussion, it was voted down. The recommendation to reconsider was voted on and it was passed. By now we had already gone an hour and a half on that one discussion item and had gone over our time scheduled for that day. We would pick it up again the next day.

Day 5, Thursday, April 22nd. The topic at the Serenity meeting was “We are now on a different basis. The basis of trusting and relying upon God. We trust infinite God rather than our finite selves. Just to the extent that we do as we think He would have us do and humbly rely on Him, does he enable us to match calamity with Serenity.” Alcoholics Anonymous. Page 68. There was lots of wonderful sharing about exactly where we're supposed to be in the program and trusting our higher power rather than relying on ourselves. It was exactly what we needed to start the morning, although I did not know it at the time.

We started at 1:15 with a resumption of the committee reports. We were still working on the first committee, Corrections. It was now time to vote again, having reconsidered the recommendation.

Conference is a place where you see our Twelve Concepts come to life and it is always neat to see Concept 5 in action. We re-voted “To Consider requests for review of all correction related literature to replace terms such as inmate and offender with less stigmatizing language.”

The committee recommended revisions to a WS literature directed to members behind the walls and to replace the terms inmate and offender with person in custody. It passed after another hour of questions and comments. After passing this recommendation, we considered the request “That trustees review the language used in Correction materials for correction professionals and explore the need for developing different language to refer to person in custody.” There are five pieces of literature. The cost of editing would be minimal, and it would be enacted on a rolling basis. A full list of all Committee considerations will be included in the Final Reports which will be available on the aa.org website. That put an end to the Corrections Committee.

Next up was the Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities, the committee that I sat on. Our committee had met three times prior to the GSC including once in a joint meeting with the Trustees Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment and Accessibilities. During that meeting on Thursday, March 18th, our committee accepted the report of the Trustees Committee and considered the following agenda items.

We reviewed progress report on audio interviews with AA members in the Armed Forces. The committee recommended that the following audio interviews with A.A. members who are in the Armed Forces, developed by the trustees’ Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities, be approved and posted on G.S.O.’s A.A. website:

- Male – Navy Captain
- Female – Air Force Pilot
- Male – Army Combat Medic

Our presenter let the body listen to the shortest PSA, which was the Female Air Force pilot. It showed how you could really connect to the person and the disease. After an hour of conversation and questions this recommendation passed.

We then started with the Committee on Public Information. This committee did a lot of work. They had. Seven recommendations on the floor to be voted on.

1. The committee recommended that in keeping with the “Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in Videos Produced by the

General Service Board or Its Affiliates,” the video PSA utilizing full face actors “Party” (working title) be approved with the following revisions: That the voiceover “scratch tracks” be replaced, and other minor editorial edits to be conducted in post-production. After discussion, this recommendation passed.

2. The committee recommended that in keeping with the “Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or Its Affiliates,” the video PSA utilizing full face actors “Wall” (working title) be approved with the following revisions: That the voiceover “scratch tracks” be replaced, and other minor editorial edits to be conducted in post-production. This also brought on much discussion before being passed.
3. The committee recommended that in addition to the work of local committees, one to two PSAs be centrally distributed to broadcast media, tracked, and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$60,000, and that the information gathered from the process be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information. This also passed.
4. The committee recommended that a feasibility study on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms including, but not limited to, Netflix, Hulu, and YouTube be conducted and that a report on the research be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information. This one had a lot of Discussion. And in the end, did pass.
5. The committee recommended that podcasts providing sharing within the Fellowship and information about A.A. to the public be produced and distributed by G.S.O. in cooperation with the Grapevine Office. The committee requested that a progress report on the development and implementation of podcasts be forwarded to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information. This also passed.
6. The committee recommended that the trustees’ Public Information Committee revise the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings” to better reflect carrying the A.A. message to diverse public audiences in non-A.A. settings and include a section on media training/press interviews, and that a draft or progress report on the revision be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information. That passed.
7. The committee recommended that the trustees’ Public Information Committee revise the flyer “A Message to Teenagers” to better reflect carrying the A.A. message to young people. In addition to revisions to language in the twelve

questions and updated graphics, the committee requested that the trustees' Public Information Committee provide suggestions on what the best format would be to present information contained in the flyer. This also passed.

Next up was the conference Committee on CPC. They had three recommendations on the floor.

1. The committee recommended that the goals expressed in the 2018 Advisory Action establishing a dynamic A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page be implemented by G.S.O., to provide current and relevant content about A.A. to professionals in accordance with A.A. principles and Traditions; and that a progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of implementing these updates on the A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community. This recommendation had some debate and questions and passed within half an hour.
2. The Committee recommended that the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities develop a pamphlet directed to mental health professionals. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought to the 2022 Conference Committee Cooperation with the Professional Community. This was the first time that I started to see the Delegates feeling a little stressed. The recommendation passed at first. A motion to reconsider resulted in a recommendation for an amendment which was subsequently voted down.

By this time, it was almost 11:00 o'clock at night. We asked the conference committee to look at our schedule. We realized at this point, with only two days left to deliberate on the rest of the committees, that we would probably not get all the work done. Because of the shortened conference last year, there was so much more this year and we really wanted to try to get through it all so that next year's committees did not have the same trouble. We understood that it was going to be a daunting task to get through all the rest of the committees since we had only gotten through four out of 13 in two days. At that time, they decided to call it a night. There was a lot of energy in the air. I was tired. They were having an ice cream social. I didn't stay. I went to bed feeling a little frustrated and surprised that this recommendation was taking so long.

Day 6, Friday, April 23rd I woke up on Day 6 to a new schedule and a hopeful attitude. After all the discussion on Thursday evening, I was still feeling a little agitated. When I went to the Serenity meeting, the topic was "As we go through the day, we pause when agitated or doubtful and ask for the right thought or action." Alcoholics Anonymous. Page 87. This really

made me laugh. I realized that the people picking these topics understood that we were probably going to be feeling this way on this day. It was reassuring to know that I was in the right place and everybody who spoke at the meeting said the same thing.

We waded back into CPC and the recommendation that had been on the floor the night before. After some discussion. It passed with unanimity. It was an amazing thing to experience and see. And I felt like we were all on the same page moving into the rest of the day.

3. The committee recommended that the updated draft pamphlet “Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous” be approved with minor editorial changes and retitled “Faith Leaders Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous.” It passed with unanimity.

Conference Committee on Finance

A. Review the pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.” 1. Consider a request regarding contribution percentages to service entities. The committee recommended the addition of a watermark to the 2nd and 3rd pie charts with the word “SAMPLE” on page 13 of the pamphlet, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.” The committee recommended adding the following language to the pamphlet “Self- Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” as follows. This passed rather quickly in only an hour. We had a 30-minute break then time for Committee on Trustees

B. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. The committee recommended the following slate of trustees of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board on April 24, 2021, following presentation at the 2021 General Service Conference for disapproval if any of the names. The committee recommended the following slate of officers of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board on April 24, 2021, following presentation at the 2021 General Service Conference for disapproval if any of the names

C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. The committee recommended the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board on April 24, 2021, following presentation at the 2021 General Service Conference for disapproval if any of the names.

D. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc. The committee recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA

Grapevine Corporate Board on April 24, 2021, following presentation at the 2021 General Service Conference for disapproval if any of the names.

E. Review the Statement of Concern and motion to censure the General Service Board. The committee recommended that the General Service Conference charge the General Service Board with the setup of quarterly virtual meetings of Conference Members, to begin following the October 2021 General Service Board Weekend. These meetings would follow several weeks after each Quarterly Board Meeting, to allow Conference Members the opportunity to request additional information, ask clarifying questions, and to secure a greater sense of transparency. The committee agreed that the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most important treasure we have as a Fellowship. The committee also agreed that A.A.'s service structure is equally valuable.

The committee appreciated the extensive additional input provided by the interim general manager of G.S.O. and the chair of the A.A.W.S. Board. The committee noted that the General Service Board and A.A.W.S. board have a good understanding on finances and organizational strategy and expressed appreciation for the progress being made related to bringing modern communication formats and financial reporting to the General Service Office. The committee also discussed the authority delegated to the General Service Board and legal responsibilities involving communication, financial prudence, and transparency.

The committee noted that several major decisions previously made by the General Service Board and corporate affiliate, A.A.W.S. Inc., were not fully or promptly reported out to the Fellowship. The committee recognized that the lack of providing clear, comprehensible answers in a timely manner has caused many in the Fellowship to have strong feelings on all sides of this issue.

This first did not pass then got the recommendation to reconsider that had passed so we voted on it again we did get majority on the second vote but not unanimity, so this was the first recommendation that did not pass.

Conference Committee on Report and Charter had 4 Recommendations.

A. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., and Western U.S.).

The committee recommended that the compilation and printing of the A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., and Western U.S.) be discontinued.

B. Review the draft of The A.A. Service Manual and the Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2021-2023 Edition.

The committee recommended that the revised manuscript distributed to all Conference members in April 2021 with the inclusion of the Original Conference Charter be approved as the 2021-2023 Edition of The A.A. Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service.

NOTE: The A.A.W.S. Publishing department will do a final proofing prior to publication to correct any inaccuracies.

C. Consider a request to amend paragraph one, the Purpose of the current Conference Charter. The committee recommended that paragraph one, the Purpose statement of the Current Conference Charter, found in the Appendices of The A.A. Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service, which currently reads: Purpose: The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is the guardian of world services and of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Conference shall be a service body only; never a government for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Be amended to read: Purpose: The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is the guardian of world services and of the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Conference shall be a service body only, never a government for Alcoholics Anonymous.

D. Consider a request to revise Concept Eleven essay of The Twelve Concepts for World Service. The committee recommended that a new section be added at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled "Amendments," and that it contain an updated version of the Concept XI essay that incorporates the information in the current footnotes and endnotes, along with comprehensive descriptions of the current General Service Board committees, and that a draft or progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Report and Charter. These all got unanimity within an hour the conference was flowing.

Conference Committee on the AA Grapevine and La Viña

A. Review progress report on development of an Instagram account. The committee recommended that the AA Grapevine Board implement an Instagram account and requested that a report on the Instagram account be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña. This had lots of talk and lots of questions and even a little bit of debate we spent over an hour on this at the end it did pass.

it was time for Literature !!!

A. Review proposed "A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format." The committee recommended that the "A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format," approved by the A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors in January 2020, be acknowledged and accepted by the General Service Conference.

The committee noted the usefulness and relevancy of video formats of existing literature, especially items that are basic and addressing the broader aspects of A.A. The committee also noted the importance of a prioritized list of possible print to video projects being presented to the Conference for selection of projects to reflect the expressed need of the Fellowship. This past within 20 minutes.

B. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous: Develop a Fifth Edition. The committee recommended that a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that: "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion,' 'Dr. Bob's Nightmare,' and the Appendices remain as is," and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. There was an hour and a half but after some time this passed. You could see on the committees faces the excitement because there was a lot of work on this

C. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous: Develop a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V. The committee recommended that, pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface, and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V. These also passed with a lot of excitement.

D. Consider requests to revise the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions: To remove the phrase "opposite sex" from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter "Step Twelve." The committee recommended a revision to page 117 in the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, replacing the phrase "opposite sex" with the word "partner" as follows, and that a footnote be added to provide context to the change as it relates to inclusivity: The text on page 117 which currently reads: "Nearly every sound human being experiences, at some time in life, a compelling desire to find a mate of the opposite sex with whom the fullest possible union can be made – spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical. This mighty urge is the root of great human accomplishments, a creative energy that deeply influences our lives. God fashioned us that way. ..." Be revised to read: "Nearly every sound human being experienced, at some time in life, a compelling desire to find a partner with whom the fullest possible union can be made – spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical. This mighty urge is the root of great human accomplishments, a creative energy that deeply influences our lives. God fashioned us that way. ..." There was debate and lots and lots of questions, but this did pass.

E. Consider requests to revise the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions: To reconsider use of the phrase "lustful enough to rape" in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter "Step Six." The committee recommended that the sentence which includes the phrase "lustful enough to rape" in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter "Step Six" of the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, be revised to refer to the Seven Deadly Sins without specific mention of examples that are severe in nature as follows, and that a footnote be added to provide context as to the basis for the change: The text on page 66 which currently reads: "No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health." Be revised to read: "No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust, or gluttony." This might have been a hot topic of the day it was first voted down then was voted to reconsider where that passed and then we voted on it again and because of the fifth concepts they said passed!

F. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet "The A.A. Group." The committee recommended that the pamphlet, "The A.A. Group... Where it All Begins," be revised to omit the line on page 13, "Non-alcoholic may attend open meetings as observers," as follows: The paragraphs on page 13 currently read: Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking." Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism. Non-alcoholic may attend open meetings as observers. Be revised to read: Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking." Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism Was voted down

Day 7, Saturday, April 24th, the final day it was a upon us. We had a one-hour gratitude meeting before we were to start, we all knew we had a lot of work in front of us. We were talking about God's will not ours and we are going to get exactly what we need to get done and take as long as it was going to take us. There was a lot of gratitude and love in that meeting it was very surreal.

We start at two hours early so we could get all the work done.

It was back to literature after the vote of reconsider had passed and more debate was going on, it was time to vote on F. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet "The A.A. Group." The committee recommended that the pamphlet, "The A.A. Group... Where it All Begins," be revised to omit the line on page 13, "Non-alcoholic may attend open meetings as observers," as follows: The paragraphs on page 13 currently read: Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking." Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism. Non-alcoholic may attend open meetings as observers. Be revised to read: Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking." Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism. And again, this had failed to get unanimity, so it did not pass.

G. Consider updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic." The committee recommended that the pamphlet "A.A. for the Black and African- American Alcoholic" be updated to include fresh stories and a new title that is respectful and inclusive and that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. The committee expressed appreciation for the tentative plans outlined by the trustees' Literature Committee to foster expedience with moving forward on this item should it become an Advisory Action. The committee noted the importance of involving members of the community from the intended primary audience of the pamphlet in the development of the pamphlet, including providing input for a title that is respectful and inclusive of members throughout the U.S. and Canada. This passed in 37 minutes the Quickest literature recommendation.

H. "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" pamphlet: Discuss draft update of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated." The committee recommended that the draft update of the pamphlet, "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated," be approved with the title, "Experience Has Taught Us: Our Twelve Traditions Illustrated." First it was voted to table the Recommendation And we would wait until we saw what happened with item I, but it made it back to the floor this recommendation did pass.

"The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" pamphlet: Consider not retiring the existing version of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated." The committee recommended not to retire the existing version of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated." The committee noted that the draft updated version of the pamphlet, pending its approval, is well-suited for an introduction to the Traditions, and the existing version is helpful for more in-depth consideration of the Traditions. This just passed within 45 minutes.

At this point part of me started thinking OK this is going to be a long day, but I knew in my heart we were going to be able to get everything done.

Then we were to tackle J. Consider adding the Long Form of each Tradition at the beginning of each essay for that Tradition in the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. The committee recommended that the Long Form of each Tradition be included at the end of each essay for that Tradition in the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and that the complete set of Traditions at the back of the book be retained as is. There was a motion to amend, it did not pass. Then the actual recommendation did pass, there was so much debate and talk and questions, but this was a very important item.

K. Consider development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos. The committee recommended that a Fourth Edition of the book, Alcohólicos Anónimos, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. With lots of heart and soul in this topic this also passed there was lots of excitement on the virtual floor.

By this time, we were already halfway through the afternoon we looked at L. Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A." The committee recommended that the pamphlet, "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A." be revised on by omitting the text on page 17 "...including coffee, sandwiches, cakes or whatever else may be served," as follows: The line on page 17 currently reads: "...to defray the cost of renting a meeting place and other meeting expenses, including coffee, sandwiches, cakes or whatever else may be served." Be revised to read: "...to defray the cost of renting a meeting place and other meeting expenses." This passed within an hour.

It was time for another recommendation that we all knew was going to have a lot of debate. M. Consider revising the pamphlet "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship": Change the suggestion that sponsor, and newcomer be of the same sex. The committee recommended that the paragraph containing the suggestion that sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex on page

12 in the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be revised as follows: The paragraph on page 12 currently reads: In most instances, A.A. custom does suggest one limitation, already noted on page 10: If the group is large enough to allow a choice, sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex. The reasons are the same from both viewpoints; we A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from "our primary purpose." Be revised to read: A.A. custom does suggest one limitation: sponsorship should be avoided whenever a romantic entanglement might arise between sponsor and sponsee. We A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from "our primary purpose." Amazingly this past within an hour.

Time for N. Review the draft of the new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A. The committee recommended that the draft pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A. be approved. It also passed rather quick.

We couldn't believe it we were on to the last recommendation of literature O. Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations, and large print versions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution. The committee recommended that a draft version of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition), be translated into plain and simple language and be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible and that a progress report or draft be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. As you could figure this was possibly the biggest topic and had the most abate heartfelt conversation and questions, but within less than two hours this was passed, the whole floor felt like something truly amazing was accomplished not just with this recommendation, but with all the recommendations that we are just passed.

We made it to Late evening, and it was time to get into Conference Committee on Agenda The 3 Recommendations were A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2022 General Service Conference. The committee recommended the following theme for the 2022 General Service Conference: "A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service."

B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 72nd GSC

The committee recommended the following presentation/discussion topics for the 2022 General Service Conference: 1. How do A.A.s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve? 2. Going Beyond Fear

3. How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere

C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2022 General Service Conference.

The committee recommended the following workshop topic for the 2022 General Service Conference: The Warranties – Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World. All Three passed within approximately 45 minutes and we felt we had made up some time seeing we were supposed to adjourn at 7:30 and it was now 8:00.

Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions A. Review the floor action process. The committee recommended that the procedure for floor actions which is currently as follows: When a floor action is to be heard, its maker will be given two (2) minutes to state the rationale behind the action, after which the chair shall ask if there is a motion that the Conference decline to consider the floor action. A motion to decline to hear a floor action:

- Must be made without comment
- Requires a second
- Is not debatable
- Requires a two-thirds majority

Be changed to: When a floor action is to be heard, its maker will be given two (2) minutes to state the rationale behind the action, after which the chair shall ask if there is a motion that the Conference consider the floor action. A motion to hear a floor action:

- Must be made without comment
- Requires a second
- Is not debatable
- Requires a simple majority

There was lots of debate on this, but this recommendation did not pass.

Then we looked at B. Consider revising the process for polling the General Service Conference between annual meetings to make use of virtual meeting technologies. The committee recommended that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee make use of virtual meeting technologies to develop a process for polling the General Service Conference between annual meetings, to enable real-time discussion and debate, broad participation, and greater efficiency than the current process. This did pass.

Then C. Discuss the revised proposed process for equitable distribution of workload. The committee recommended that the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process, as detailed in the Report from the 2020 trustees' General Service Conference Committee, be implemented for the 72nd General Service Conference on a three-year trial basis, with a progress report to be brought to the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions after each year of the trial. With a healthy debate this passed.

Going into D. Consider requests regarding part of online groups in the General Service structure. The committee recommended that the U.S./Canada General Service Structure recognize online groups and encourage their participation, listing those groups who ask to be listed within the group's preferred district and area, with the default option being the location of the group's primary contact. This supersedes the 1997 Advisory Action that designated online groups as "International Correspondence Meetings." This first failed, then it was considered to reconsider and that passed. Then the recommendation passed. It is amazing to see the fifth concept Alive and well. The committee recommended that the General Service Board form a committee to explore future possibilities for the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada General Service structure. And this passed.

The Conference Committee on Archives report had no recommendations. There were a few considerations and questions.

Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums did not have any recommendations. It did have some considerations.

It was well past Midnight, and we were all very tired but now it's time the floor actions.

Floor Action #1: It was recommended that: The Original "Ad Hoc Committee Progress Report - Google Grants and the 7th Tradition," from the trustees' Finance Committee, dated March 30, 2020, be immediately released to all members of the 71st General Service Conference. We feel strongly that this information is indispensable for the purposes of looking at the Google Grants through the lens of our AA Principles. This did not pass.

Floor Action #2: It was recommended that: The A.A. Preamble be changed from:
Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. To:
In Alcoholics Anonymous we share our experience, strength, and hope with each other that we may solve our common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. After lots of questions this did pass.

Floor Action #3:

It was recommended that: The first sentence of the A.A. Preamble be revised with gender-neutral language by replacing the words "men and women" with the word "people" to read: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism."

Revision: The first sentence of the A.A. Preamble as it currently reads: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism." Be revised to read: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism." This also passed and have lots of conversation.

Floor Action #4: It was recommended that: Edits to the chapters "To Wives," "The Family Afterward" and "To Employers" (pgs. 104- 149) in the book Alcoholics Anonymous will be allowed, but the Preface, the Forewords, "The Doctor's Opinion" (pgs. xi-xxxii), "Dr. Bob's Nightmare" and the Appendices remain as is. Was Retracted.

Floor Action #5: It was recommended that: That the pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American" be updated to include language that is both respectful and inclusive of all Indigenous peoples as well as add fresh stories and updating inaccuracies contained in the current pamphlet and that a draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. And I am so grateful to say this passed.

Then it was the final Floor Action #6: It was recommended that: The Preamble revision described in the third-floor action of the 71st GSC as the new revised A.A Preamble be presented to the General Service Board for approval. After lots of great discussion this First missed out on unanimity by one vote then was asked to reconsider which past and then finally the floor action did pass!

It had just passed 3 AM and we were all very tired. Michelle G our chairwoman was very emotional, she started it by saying we had a vision and as a conference body we had made changes this week but surely, we're going to help still suffering alcoholic. The gratitude and love were very apparent in this 95 hour of conference work. The language of the heart tied with Roberts rules of order and lots of debate was able to be combined into a lot of Accomplishments. I am so proud to say area 82s Voice was heard loud and clear and I am so grateful for the opportunity to have been your voice.

General service or any type of service is the greatest thing that we can do for our program. It lets us put our hand out to the still suffering alcoholic. We always hear you can't keep what you don't give away and although it does sound very much like a paradox, it is so very true. Maybe, because of what happened at the 71st General service conference a newcomer is going to find the rooms and get that same amazing feeling "Today I am free of the drink".

It was 3:19 am and I was ready for bed, but I could go to sleep again feeling like our area and our Fellowship had accomplished so much in those eight days!

Yours In Love and Service,

Area 82, Panel 71 Delegate

Trudy D., Treatment & Accessibilities Committee

Alternate GSD Report Assembly 2021

May 29th, 2021

Hi folks,

It has been my privilege to serve Area 82 as the Alternate General Service Delegate since January of 2021. There has been a steep learning curve which shows no sign of flattening out.

When I started in January 2021, I had read the Area 82 Guidelines and the Service manual to inform myself regarding my duties as Alternate GSD but had only a faint inkling of the volume of work involved. It proved to be, however, an enormous amount of fun. With the pandemic still a critical factor in our ability to physically meet, we have continued with our meetings on the Zoom platform.

As the AGSD, my primary duty is to provide backup to our GSD, Trudy D. This year has been particularly difficult for her and as a result I learned firsthand just how much work is involved in getting our Delegate ready for the GSC.

In previous years we often got feedback from a couple of the more populous Districts on the “hot button” topics on the agenda to be addressed at the GSC for that year. Many members in more rural parts of the Area were unaware of the value of this set of Pre-Conference discussions and considerations. This year, we were able to use our new proficiency with Zoom to conduct two separate workshop sessions, an all-day affair on March 27th and a second, shorter session on April 10th which was used to address some agenda items that were not covered on March 27th.

Prior to the March 27th Workshop the GSC Agenda and background information was divided among, and distributed to, the 17 Districts within Area 82. There were 101 individual agenda items attached to the 13 separate Conference Committees. Although the timeline was short, the response was wonderful. We received the GSC Agenda and background information during the last week of February and passed on a Flyer and Pre-Conference Agenda by March 3rd.

Based on feedback from the District Reports at the March 27th Workshop and subsequent fill-in discussions at the April 10th session we were able to provide a sense of where Area 82 stood on the agenda items under consideration by 11 of the 13 Committees to be addressed at the 2021 General Service Conference. We compiled our deliberations and resulting Area 82 Group conscience into a spreadsheet that our Delegate Trudy could consult during the GSC. I want to thank everyone who participated in making sure that Area 82 was well

represented. Trudy arrived at the GSC well prepared thanks to you folk, your hard work and dedication to Service.

Secondary, but still important duties of the Alt GSD.

1. During 2020 the Active Area Committees meeting expanded its role to include sharing from all committees which are active in carrying the AA message of Recovery in Area 82. The purpose of the meeting is to encourage sharing of practical experience among the various committees scattered throughout Area 82. We meet on the last Monday of each month at 6:30 AST. Minutes are compiled for each meeting and distributed to attendees to document and distribute ideas and activities which might stimulate ideas and initiate growth in other Districts. A more complete presentation of our discussions will occur Saturday evening at 6:30pm followed by an open sharing session for all members of any Committee active within Area 82
2. Part of the Alt-GSD's duties is to provide oversight for the Area 82 website. Because we were unable to replace our outstanding webmaster Matt D. with someone from within the AA community, for the first six months of 2021 we have contracted the Webmaster duties. Tyler has stepped in and with help from the membership has managed to keep the site reasonably "up to date". He will be providing a separate report later.
3. Based on a decision taken at the 2020 Fall Assembly we have been conducting more frequent Area officers and DCM meetings.
4. I have been working closely with our new Remote Communities Chair Arlene P. There are some exciting opportunities coming in this area.
5. Because of the availability of virtual meetings, we have been able to hold frequent Area Executive meetings which allows us to be aware of and respond to situations as they develop within the Area.
6. When invited, I have attended, often while accompanying the GSD, monthly District meetings throughout our Area. Sometimes we were invited to lend support. The usual result however was that my own Program grew as a result of watching the practical application of our Traditions and Concepts within those Districts. My biggest regret is that I am a lousy scheduler, so I often wound up having to be in two or more places at the same time. I still haven't developed that skill set. 😊
7. I've also conducted a number of Workshops at the request of Districts that were well attended and fun (at least for me) 😊
8. Another of my duties as AGSD is to be a member of the CERAASA Steering Committee. Along with the GSD I attended these Zoom meetings every 2 months. The acronym CERAASA represents the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. It takes place every 2 years, on the odd years. It consists of the 10 Areas from 81- 90 that make up Eastern Canada. The meetings are conducted with the help of an informal translator and because of that everything said must be repeated twice. This

can be time-consuming, but the meetings are both enlightening as well as entertaining. The Service Assembly focuses on the Eastern Canada conscience of the GSO Conference Agenda items that are sent out every year for our Delegate to review and vote our Area 82 conscience at the GSO Conference. It is a larger, more informed version of the Pre-Conference Workshops Area 82 conducted this year. It is particularly important event for our Area Delegate and Alternate to familiarize themselves with the agenda items. This year it was replaced by a virtual forum entitled Eastern Canada Delegates' Orientation where both Trudy and I gave presentations, she on her committee "Treatment and Accessibilities" and I on the most obscure topic of "Inform – Communicate". We had literally just gotten the GSC Agenda and material and hadn't had an opportunity to even flip through it.

In closing I would like to say that this has been a very exciting five months. Sobriety and Recovery had fallen into such old, familiar patterns over the years that my personal and Program challenges had fixed, comfortable solutions. This round of Service during this enforced "Time of Change", has shaken my personal "comfort zone" to the core and forced me to re-evaluate myself, my Program, and my approach to carrying the AA message. I have, however, a deep, abiding faith in the AA Program, that "WE' together can do what "I alone" cannot, that we, as a society, will emerge from this "Time of Change" stronger, with newer communication tools and able to carry our message of Hope even deeper into the darkness of Alcoholism.

Our Fifth Tradition. Each Group has but one Primary Purpose... to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Yours in loving service,

Gerry W.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gerry W.", written in black ink.

Panel 71 Alternate General Service Delegate Area 82

NL Archives Report May 19th, 2021

The role of NL Provincial Archivist is currently vacant. One member has submitted a resume for consideration by the NL GSR's and DCMs at the Spring Assembly (May 28th to 30th)

The NL Archives are safe and secure. The Archives are stored in climate-controlled storage at the U-Haul premises at 183 Kenmount Road, St Johns, NL. The Archives are accessible by the current DCM for District 15 and the Area 82 Alternate GSD.

Area 82 issued a cheque for \$1200.00 to cover the rental costs for the upcoming year. On February 22nd, 2021 a rental fee of \$1172.28 was paid to U-Haul from this cheque to cover this. The remaining \$27.72 was returned to the Area 82 Treasury on April 10th, 2021.

The storage unit is paid up to March 13th, 2022

Gerry W.

Area 82 Alt. GSD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gerry W.', written in a cursive style.

Hi everyone, my name is Kathy Silver-Crowell, I am alcoholic. I am also privileged to be your Area 82 Nova Scotia AA Archivist, and it is my pleasure to bring you this report and to keep you updated on your archives.

As many things during these Covid times, things have been very different this past year for the archives. Normally we would have attended many AA events and returned with boxes, bags and sometimes totes full of treasures for me to shift through, but sadly that has not happened since the Pandemic hit. On a brighter note, I have once again found the top of the table in my "archives" room. Something I very rarely saw over the past few years. So needless to say, not too much in the way of contributions over the past year.

So having said that I would still like to tell you what has been happening for your archives and your Archivist. I have received items for the time capsule I opened up over a year ago and I have decided to continue to receive items for the capsule until the end of 2021, then we shall close it and wait for the year 2045, when it will be once again opened. I suspect there will be a few giggles and Wow moments then. God willing, I just may be alive to witness this event.

Although there has been a lot of negative during this Pandemic, I try to stay on the positive side and focus on the good, and here are some of the positive things for me during these restricted times. Over the past year I allowed myself to go out of my comfort zone and become one of the many members, who if we wanted a meeting we went way above our technical abilities and found out it wasn't such a bad nor hard thing to do. Also, one of the Zoom bonuses I had was having the opportunity to attend two events that made Covid times even tolerable.

One of those was a presentation on the life of Bill Wilson in pictures -my friends it was amazing and an hour and half full of pictures and learning for me. The other was a presentation on the life of one of your First Ladies in AA, Marty Mann. That to be an awesome presentation full of facts and pictures I will have with me for a long time to come. In both these presentations I am reminded of how grateful I should be for all those who went before me, who worked so tirelessly so I could enjoy a fellowship that in comparison to what those people went through, is a wonderful, caring and loving fellowship of recovery. And so that is what the technical side of the Pandemic has done for me. It has allowed me to challenge myself and to grow ever so much better than my previous day.

I have also been involved with the virtual Committee meetings held by Trudy and now by Gerry. I look forward to these meetings and contributing when and where I can. I always remind myself that what we discuss at those meetings will someday be a part of the archives, because it is my experience that whatever problem may be occurring today -somewhere, sometime that has happened before and the answer lies buried in the archives - and I have had the opportunity sometimes in discovering these answers.

This coming June at the Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup, held virtually this year, I have been asked to put on a presentation and I was both honored and pleased to be asked. It will be a brief history of AA in Nova Scotia from 1949 to 1966 and then, with the help of some very special friends, we will be presenting just a few treasures from your archives. So please join me for that - there will be more coming out in this event very shortly.

I would also like to add to this report that I have only one more year left in my term as your NS Archivist. For myself, and Gary as well, we will be sad to end this part of our journey in AA and we have been truly grateful to be of service to the fellowship. It truly has been a labor of love for us, and it will be like giving up a child. So, if you know of anyone in your Districts who may be interested in taking on this rewarding opportunity - I urge you to encourage them, and Gary and I will always be available to answer any questions. Once again, we would like to thank the fellowship for the trust, we were given over the past 13 years. It has truly been a pleasure.

So at the start I said not much happening for the Archives because of Covid, but I seem to have filled my time slot here with what I have been up to. So, I thank you for your time, your patience and your love.

Yours in Service

Kathy Silver-Crowell. Area82 NS AA Archivist

Proposal for Area 82 Spring Assembly May 28th- 30th 2021

Motion Put forward by Hantsport AA Group District 17

This Motion was passed at our District 17 Meeting in February to put forward to the Spring Assembly.

Hi all in Service. I had the opportunity to sit in on the Closing DCM and Area Committee meeting in December 2020 on ZOOM to represent District 17 as incoming DCM. There was discussion at that time that Area maybe sitting on too much money. At the Fall Assembly of Area 82 our Prudent Reserve was increased to 70% of the 2021 budget to protect us of a money short fall because of Covid restrictions. The concern was that GSO is in need of Money. At that time there also was discussion on our situation with Covid and the number of Groups who were not allowed to have in person meetings which was affecting their 7th Tradition. This also affects Group contributions to Districts, and which could affect Contributions to Area 82. At that time, we had not fully met our 2021 Area 82 Budget and Prudent Reserve. It was suggested that we not rush into this and that we are having an Area 82 Spring Assembly with N.S. and N.F.L.D. on Zoom. We have the option to bring a motion to the floor after going over our Area 82 Treasure Budget Report for a vote on if we are able to send some contributions to GSO.

District 17 Motion:

At our Area 82 Spring Assembly, after reviewing the Treasurer Report of the Area's financial situation we take a vote on whether we can send some contributions to GSO. The amount will also be determined by a vote at that time.

Yours in the love of AA Service

DCM District 17

Gary O.

From District 3:

In response to the communication from Area 82 Secretary; Re: the vacant position of Area Treasurer

There may be individuals who could provide a valuable service to Area 82 in the role as Area Treasurer, but unfortunately, they would not be able to offer for the position based on the eligibility requirements outlined in the Area 82 Guidelines.

Area 82 Guidelines - Page 4

Section III - Election and Rotation of Officers

The 5 Area Officer positions are open to:

— All current and past DCMs

— Sitting officers who have not held the position previously

These two stipulations for eligibility for election to an Area Officer position eliminates some members who may have a desire to fill that position. AA members who may wish to perform service for the Fellowship at the area level are ineligible, only because they have not held a previous area position or have not been or are currently a DCM. This also keeps the availability for selection to an area position open to a small list of candidates, when others who may wish to offer their name for election are being bypassed.

Area 82 Guidelines - Page 5

Section IV - Voting Members

The voting members of the Area Assembly are the DCMs, Area Officers and GSRs (or Alternate GSR, or a group member whom the group has delegated to represent the group in the GSRs absence)

This guideline gives voting authority to Alternate GSRs or group representatives, some who may be new to service and have limited experience with the Fellowship. Alternate GSRs and group representatives have the right to vote for an Area Officer position, but not the right to run for an area position themselves.

Area 82 Guidelines - Page 5

Those eligible members letting their names stand for Area Officers are required to post a resume on the Friday evening of the Assembly.

If individuals who are vying for an Area Officer position are required to post a resume, then the voting membership will make an informed decision based on the information contained in those resumes. The election process should be the will of the voting membership, and not be limited to past involvement with the Area executive.

The Area 82 Webmaster duties have been contracted out to an outside source, and the Area 82 Treasurer position has now sat vacant for at least three months. Are the Area 82 Guidelines, as they are presently written, too restrictive with eligibility for involvement?

District 3 proposes: the two stipulations for Election and Rotation of Officers, as written in the Area 82 Guidelines, page 4, Section III, be removed. This would allow for a broader slate of individuals to submit their name for service to Area 82.

We are a Fellowship that promotes total inclusion, never exclusion. We as a Fellowship, must make our best efforts to practice these principles in all our affairs.