

Area 82 Nova Scotia/Newfoundland and Labrador
53rd Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous
October 6th- 8th, 2017, St. John's, NL

Friday, October 6th, 2017

Area Officers/DCMS Meeting: Chairperson, Boyd B. called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Boyd welcomed all in attendance, with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Introductions Area officers and DCMS

Chairperson- Boyd B., GSD- Tim M., Alt. GSD- Kirk S., Treasurer- Dwayne M., Sec/Registrar- Trudy D., GSO Guest- Sandra W. DCMS: District 1- Samaira G., District 2- Cathy M., District 3- Polly H., District 4- Don B., District 5- Stan E., District 6- Matt M., District 7- John Hugh G., District 8- Don C., District 9- Malcolm C., District 10- Bill A., District 12- Alfred S., District 13- (rep) Geof W., District 14- Absent., District 15- Gerry W., District 17- Monique M., Districts 11 & 16- No DCM present; Observers: Gary O. 12 Traditions read by Gerry W.

2016 minutes were read by Trudy D. No errors or omissions. Motion to accept the minutes made by Malcolm C. and 2nd by Monique M. All in favor and the minutes were adopted.

Roll Call: Active Groups

District 1- (24), District 2- (14), District 3- (11), District 4- (7), District 5- (6), District 6- (9), District 7- (14), District 8- (13), District 9- (21), District 10- (7), District 11- (6), District 12- (10), District 13- (3), District 14- (11), District 15- (35), District 16- (7), District 17- (7). Total Active Groups: (205).

Before Boyd B. Chairperson reviewed Assembly Weekend agenda he wanted to let people know that after he published this Agenda there was an email of a proposal by Alfred S. (DCM District 12). This proposal reads: **Proposal to amend Area 82 guidelines, to allow all D.C.M.s pass or present, unless they have held the position previously, to let their names stand for election to Area Officer positions.** There was much discussion about if this should go on the floor at this Assembly, or go back to the groups, as it will be an amendment to the Guidelines. It was decided by Alfred to table this proposal for the upcoming Service weekends to allow discussion by the groups to be voted on before the start of new business at the next assembly.

Review of the Agenda- Saturday morning we start off with the Opening Remarks, Introductions, 12 Traditions, Sympathies, Mission Statement, Minutes of previous 2016 Area Assembly, approval of the minutes, business arising from the minutes, approval of agenda, DCM reports, greetings from GSO guest, Past Delegates address, coffee break, Treasurers report, Alternate GSD's report, GSD 's report, Lunch, Remote Communities report- Jane is here and will give a Remote Communities report to the floor, Kirk will give the Webmasters report and AACYPAA report, Roll call [all GSR's must be present]. **Old business- rotation of NS Provincial Roundup-** There was much discussion concerning the rotation of NS provincial roundup being on the business for the assembly. Cathy pointed out that it is old business arising from last year's assembly minutes and therefore needs to be discussed on the floor. All of the GSR's have spoken to their groups about this. We will let the floor decide what to do about this issue; **AACYPAA-** needs to be decided if there is a district willing to host an AACYPAA 2018. **New Business- 1. Election of Webmaster-** there are two resumes for the position of webmaster. The first is Matt D. whose Home Group is the Fundy group in district three. The second is Rod H. whose Home Group is Pictou Harbour in district seven. Both resumes are on the wall in the other room, please let your GSR's know to read both before the vote tomorrow afternoon; **2. Pre-conference Assembly proposal-** there was much discussion about this proposal. Tim will present the proposal. Gary will follow up on the information he gathered concerning cost

for the Nova Scotia groups. Costing does not affect the Newfoundland groups because they move their service weekend around every year to different districts. The GSR's will pay the same amount no matter if it's in March, April or May; **3. Excess funds guidelines proposal**- Dwayne will present the proposal as he explained it at both service weekends; **4. Amendment to guidelines [wording on page iii in bold print]**- this is a separate item from the one that Alfred brought forward. We will leave it on the agenda for discussion on the floor; **5. Approval of the budget**- Dwayne will present the budget and we will discuss and approve line by line; **6. Area Inventory [moved to end]**- we would like to try to get the business done before tackling the Area Inventory. We have if we move the Inventory to the end, this will allow us to see how much we can get done in one sitting. We may have to break up the inventory we have into a few Assemblies. Cathy made a motion to move the inventory until after the budget, seconded by Samaira, vote was taken. Gerry was the minority voice. He believes by moving the Inventory, we are De-emphasizing the importance of the Inventory. Boyd asked if anybody in the majority wish to change their vote. A few did want to change their vote so we voted again. The vote was 11 for- 5 against. The motion carried. Next on the Agenda is supper. After supper, continue with new business and/or continue with Inventory if necessary. Sunday morning continue with the agenda items / Inventory as necessary; Close assembly.

Treasurer Report: enclosed

Dwayne M. gave his report. Dwayne tried to do this report as requested at the Nova Scotia Service weekend. This is just basically an update of the 2rd quarter right up until the 3rd of October. I did take in some checks today, when I get a chance to total them then I will give you the balance tomorrow. When I took over on January 1st we had a bank balance of \$36,163.67. We had outstanding checks of \$668.72. Transfer to top of the prudent reserve on January 3, \$420.53. That left us an operating ledger balance of \$35,074.42. Our budget amount for 2017 was \$30,860. Our amount on hand for the 2018 budget is \$4,214.42. Our incomes of AA Group contributions January 1 to September 30 was \$8,329.30, minus a group contribution NSF cheque for \$140 = \$8,189.30 in income. Our budget amount was \$30,860. Amount distributed against the budget is the second column of the report. I have broken down to the best of my ability the actual expenses to date. Against this budget we have written a total of \$26,827.09. Actual expenses to date is \$20,603.26. That leaves as a total operational ledger balance as of October 4 of \$16,436.63. A breakdown of the operational ledger balance - operational balance \$16,542.46 plus cash on hand zero, minus outstanding checks of \$105.83, leaves us a total of \$16,436.63. As you'll see a case two are operational account has a balance of \$16,542.46. We have an amount on hand for the 2018 budget of 12,399.97. Our prudent reserve account balances \$15,434.89. With the amount on hand for the 2018 budget, plus our prudent reserve, we do not have the same amount of money that we had for a budget last year. There was much discussion around we spent last year. We can look at changing the budgeted amounts tomorrow with the GSR's. Dwayne made it very clear at both the Newfoundland and the Nova Scotia Service weekends that we did not have enough money for this year's budget. We only had 20% of what we needed. He sent out a letter to all the DCM's letting them know to tell their groups we were in need of funds for next year. There was much discussion about how we should set our budget. Districts usually set a budget and then let the district groups know how much money they need. Area usually sets its budget with the money that it has in the account. It was decided that if we set the budget and let the groups know that we need funds, we had to have faith that the groups will come through with the money needed. If every group gives \$40.00 for that year we could have enough money to function with 204 active groups. Trudy discussed that a letter had been sent out to all DCM's, however she has been contacted by a number of GSR's over the past few days who never received that letter for their groups. It is frustrating when we do our best to make sure the districts are informed but the information provided does not make it to the groups. We have to do a better job as DCM's passing all the information given on to the groups. A motion was made by Dwayne and 2nd by Alfred S. to approve the report. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tim M. Seconded by All in favor. Boyd B. Chairperson closed the meeting with the Responsibility Pledge.

Saturday, October 7th, 2017

9:30am Boyd B. Chairperson opened the meeting with a few minutes of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Introductions of Area 82 DCMS & Area Officers:

Chairperson- Boyd B., GSD- Tim M., Alt. GSD- Kirk S., Treasurer- Dwayne M., Sec/Registrar- Trudy D., GSO Guest- Sandra W. DCMS: District 1- Samaira G., District 2- Cathy M., District 3- Polly H., District 4- Don B., District 5- Stan E., District 6- Matt M., District 7-John Hugh G., District 8- Don C., District 9- Malcolm C., District 10- Bill A., District 12- Alfred S., District 13- (rep) Geof W., District 14- Tom G., District 15- Gerry W., District 17- Monique M., Districts 11 & 16- No DCMS present. **12 Traditions** read by Don C.

Sympathies: Members spoke the names of the AA members we have lost over this past year from our Area. A few moments of silence were observed to remember the members who passed away.

Mission Statement was read by GSD Tim M. He also read from page S20 of the service manual. (Enclosed)

Minutes from the 2016 Area 82 Assembly were read by Trudy D. 1 error- under the Pre-Conference Assembly Committee the last name should be Bill A. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by David C., seconded by Ellen N. Motion passed unanimously. Minutes adopted.

Business arising from the minutes- Cathy brought forward 2 items. First there was a Finance Guideline Committee. Will we be getting a report from that committee? Dwayne commented that the committee was formed and made a proposal for excess funds. He will report more on this in his treasurer's report. The second item is that AACYPAA report is not on the agenda. Tim commented that Corner Brook tried to have an AACYPAA earlier this year, but due to lack of response for registration it was canceled. The provincial roundup rotation for NS is also not on the agenda. Tim again commented that this is an issue for Nova Scotia only and should not be brought up at the Assembly. Sonny commented that it was brought up at the last NS Service Weekend and the DCM's did not have direction from their district so it was to come here to the assembly for discussion. The next provincial roundup will be held in district seven so we have some time to figure out what the rotation will be.

Review of the Agenda- Saturday morning we start off with the Opening Remarks, Introductions, 12 Traditions, Sympathies, Mission Statement, Minutes of previous 2016 Area Assembly, approval of the minutes, business arising from the minutes, approval of agenda, DCM reports, greetings from GSO guest, Past Delegates address, coffee break, Treasurers report, Alternate GSD's report, GSD's report, Lunch, Remote Communities report- Jane is here and will give a Remote Communities report to the floor, Kirk will give the Webmasters report and AACYPAA report, Roll call [all GSR's must be present]. **Old business- rotation of NS Provincial Roundup-** There was much discussion concerning the rotation of NS provincial roundup being on the business for the assembly. Cathy pointed out that it is old business arising from last year's assembly minutes and therefore needs to be discussed on the floor. All of the GSR's have spoken to their groups about this. We will let the floor decide what to do about this issue; **AACYPAA-** needs to be decided if there is a district willing to host an AACYPAA 2018. **New Business- 1. Election of Webmaster-** there are two resumes for the position of webmaster. The first is Matt D. whose Home Group is the Fundy group in district three. The second is Rod H. whose Home Group is Pictou Harbour in district seven. Both resumes are on the wall in the other room, please let your GSR's know to read both before the vote tomorrow afternoon; **2. Pre-conference Assembly proposal-** there was much discussion about this proposal. Tim will present the proposal. Gary will follow up on the information he gathered concerning cost for the Nova Scotia groups. Costing does not affect the Newfoundland groups because they move their service weekend around every year to different districts. The GSR's will pay the same amount no matter if

it's in March, April or May; **3. Excess funds guidelines proposal**- Dwayne will present the proposal as he explained it at both service weekends; **4. Amendment to guidelines [wording on page iii in bold print]**- this is a separate item from the one that Alfred brought forward. We will leave it on the agenda for discussion on the floor; **5. Approval of the budget**- Dwayne will present the budget and we will discuss and approve line by line; **6. Area Inventory [moved to end]**- we would like to try to get the business done before tackling the Area Inventory. We have If we move the Inventory to the end, this will allow us to see how much we can get done in one sitting. We may have to break up the inventory we have into a few Assemblies. Cathy made a motion to move the inventory until after the budget, seconded by Samaira, vote was taken. Gerry was the minority voice. He believes by moving the Inventory, we are De-emphasizing the importance of the Inventory. Boyd asked if anybody in the majority wish to change their vote. A few did want to change their vote so we voted again. The vote was 11 for- 5 against. The motion carried. Next on the Agenda is supper. After supper, continue with new business and/or continue with Inventory if necessary. Sunday morning continue with the agenda items / Inventory as necessary; Close assembly. Motion to approve the Agenda made by Tim M. and seconded by Lisa. Approved unanimously.

D.C.M. Reports- are attached. There is no report from District 11 and no DCM in 16.

Coffee Break

GSO Guest Address- See report attached.

Sandra W. works on the Literature desk at GSO. GSO is ours so we should use it! Our website is aa.org. It has so much information available. Please take the time to look it up.

Past Delegates Address- Sonny S. Past Delegate Panel 47 welcomed all and it is great to be here. From the DCM reports I can say that AA is improving at a great rate. We have a great responsibility to continue the work with people to pass on Service. Boyd pointed out that the Eastern Regional Trustee position is available. We have no one to put forward this year.

Lunch

Treasurer Report- See report attached

Dwayne M. gave his report. Dwayne tried to do this report as requested at the Nova Scotia Service weekend. This is just basically an update of the 2rd quarter right up until the 3rd of October. I did take in some checks today, when I get a chance to total them then I will give you the balance tomorrow. When I took over on January 1st we had a bank balance of \$36,163.67. We had outstanding checks of \$668.72. Transfer to top of the prudent reserve on January 3, \$420.53. That left us an operating ledger balance of \$35,074.42. Our budget amount for 2017 was \$30,860. Our amount on hand for the 2018 budget is \$4,214.42. Our incomes of AA Group contributions January 1 to September 30 was \$8,329.30, minus a group contribution NSF cheque for \$140 = \$8,189.30 in income. Our budget amount was \$30,860. Amount distributed against the budget is the second column of the report. I have broken down to the best of my ability the actual expenses to date. Against this budget we have written a total of \$26,827.09. Actual expenses to date is \$20,603.26. That leaves as a total operational ledger balance as of October 4 of \$16,436.63. A breakdown of the operational ledger balance - operational balance \$16,542.46 plus cash on hand zero, minus outstanding checks of \$105.83, leaves us a total of \$16,436.63. As you'll see our operational account has a balance of \$16,542.46. We have an amount on hand for the 2018 budget of \$12,399.97. Our prudent reserve account balances \$15,434.89. With the amount on hand for the 2018 budget, plus our prudent reserve, we do not have the same amount of money that we had for a budget last year. Dwayne moved that his report be accepted as read. Seconded by Geof. All in favour. Report accepted.

Because we're using the big room this afternoon, we need to be finished by 4:00 so that the staff can ready the room for the banquet. We will not have the chairs to use upstairs, so we will be forced to close business

until after the banquet. We will get as much done as we can in the meantime, however we may have to postpone the area inventory until tomorrow morning. We will continue with the rest of the afternoon without a coffee break and get as much done as we can.

Alt. Delegate Report: See report attached

Kirk S. gave his Alternate General Service Delegate report.

General Service Delegate Report: See report attached

Tim M. gave his General Service Delegate report. There was discussion around how groups divide their money. The DCM's at the meeting last night talked about the pamphlet Where Money and Spirituality Mix. Sandra noted that at the top of the Pie Charts it uses the word "samples". Each group and district can decide for themselves, with an informed group conscience, how best to divide the money to help AA as a whole.

Active Area Committee reports: See reports attached.

1. Remote Committee report: Jane gave her report. 2. Webmaster report: Kirk S. read Hal M's report.

Motion to accept all the reports by Jerome. Seconded by Rick M. Voted and all in favor.

Roll Call:

Trudy D. Secretary conducted the Roll Call of the group's attendance with the following results.

District 1- 7 out of 24	District 7- 7 out of 14	District 13- 1 out of 3
District 2- 6 out of 14	District 8- 0 out of 13	District 14- 3 out of 11
District 3- 5 out of 11	District 9- 0 out of 21	District 15- 19 out of 35
District 4- 0 out of 7	District 10- 4 out of 7	District 16- 0 out of 7
District 5- 0 out of 6	District 11- 0 out of 6	District 17- 4 out of 7
District 6- 4 out of 9	District 12- 7 out of 10	

Total 205 Groups, 67 GSR's present, 5 Area Officers, 15 DCMS = 87 Votes

Old Business:

1. **AACYPAA** - Boyd commented that AACYPAA stands for All Atlantic Conference of Young People in AA. It started off in Nova Scotia after many successful Round-ups in Nova Scotia. Newfoundland took up the cause and held a couple. We tried to rotate each year between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. After a few successful years support seemed to dwindle and neither Nova Scotia nor Newfoundland wanted to take the roundup. PEI decided to have a roundup with their Area Assembly. It was fantastic however we have not had a big interest again. Corner Brook tried to have an AACYPAA earlier this year, but due to lack of response for registration it was canceled. Matt M. the DCM for district 6 spoke of his experience with the early Nova Scotia Conference. He talked about all the support the young people received from the older members in those early years. He believes the young people need support and the AACYPAA conference would be an amazing experience in both service and personal recovery for everyone involved. Evan wondered if this included PEI and New Brunswick as well. We have always sent them invitations and are open to expanding the rotation to include these two provinces. Trudy spoke to her experience with the conference in Nova Scotia. She encouraged anyone who wishes to see this continue to please talk to their DCM's about even just having a one-day event to get it started up again. Gary asked for clarification about if this is just specifically for young people. Trudy reassured Gary it is a conference for everyone but the focus is on young people because they have a hard time fitting in when they first come into recovery. Evan would like to see more promotion about what this event brings that is different from other Round-ups. Monique made a motion to piggyback on AACYPAA with the service weekends. David seconded that motion. Brent reminded us that we have a proposal on the floor to change the service weekends to pre-conference weekends. If we pass that today it would be in effect for 2018 in service weekends. Monique amended the motion to piggyback off the assemblies. David seconder agrees to the amendment. Motion voted on. Minority voice was heard. If you have it in

the fall it might not be a good time for young people as they are just started back in school. It's also difficult because the people who would be involved in service would also be interested in going to the AACYPAA events. After hearing the minority voice does anybody wish to change their vote. No one in the majority wished to change their vote. Motion passed. The next assembly is in Corner Brook so they get a second chance to host an AACYPAA event!

- 2. Rotation for NS Districts to host the Provincial Round ups-** Monique made a motion that where we are so short on time why not leave this until the Nova Scotia Service weekend. Dwayne seconded the motion. There was discussion on this motion. Sonny mentioned that it was brought up at the service weekend to be discussed here at the assembly. Dwayne said that this does not have anything to do with Newfoundland and so it should be discussed at the Nova Scotia Service weekend. We have a district who wishes to host the Provincial roundup in 2018 so we have time to decide what to do after that. It was voted on and minority voice was heard. Evan reminded us that it was brought back two the groups and districts to be discussed here so why are we not discussing here. Shayne said that he voted no because there's 37 Nova Scotia GSR's here and there was only a little over 40 at the service weekend so we could vote here. Blair reminded us that we are supposed to be voting on a rotation but if we do not know now who is interested then it is hard to make a rotation in time for next year. A new vote was taken as some of the majority wished to change their vote. 41 in favor of the motion- 31 against. Motion carried with a majority vote of 50% plus 1.

New Business:

- 1. Election of Webmaster-** Kirk conducted the election of webmaster. There are two resumes for the position of webmaster. The first is the Matt D. whose Home Group is the Fundy group in District 3. The second is Rod H. whose Home Group is Pictou Harbour in District 7.

	First Ballot	Second Ballot
Matt D.	47	58
Rod H.	37	27

Matt D. was elected after the 2nd ballot. Congratulations and welcome Matt.

Supper

Boyd opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Continuation with New Business Items:

- 1. Pre-conference Assembly proposal-** Tim presented the proposal. **Proposal:** To replace the Service Weekends with a Pre- Conference Service Assembly in each province. (late March early April). **Background:** The A.A Group – the Final Voice of the Fellowship Alcoholics Anonymous has been called the upside – down organization because “the ultimate responsibility and the final authority for World Services resides with the groups – rather than the trustees of the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York. The Pre-Conference Service Assembly is intended to prepare the Delegate for the April General Service Conference. This Assembly would be open to all members in Area 82. The purpose of the Pre – Conference Assembly is to discuss key GSC agenda items and to make recommendations to the Delegate. Members will be divided into Subcommittees for the purpose of discussing the agenda items. The Delegate will review the Conference Final Agenda and identify the agenda items of most significance to the fellowship. The Delegate should also make every effort to review the GSC background material and identify the background material relevant to the selected agenda item. This material should be available at the Pre – Conference Assembly and every effort to get the material to the subcommittees facilitators prior to the Assembly. **How it would work:** The Friday night portion of our Assembly would remain the same, with a workshop and Archive Meeting and the

D.C.M. and Area Officer's meeting. On Saturday morning from 9 am to 12 pm we would break up into 5 or 6 groups each with a facilitator to discuss an agenda item. After lunch each group will report their finding to the Delegate. Then we would have the business portion of the Assembly, with D.C.M. report, area officer reports, and any business that needed to be discussed. This might carry over into Sunday. The facilitators would be area officers and/or past Delegates. Gary followed up on the information he gathered concerning cost for the Nova Scotia groups. Costing does not affect the Newfoundland groups because they move their service weekend around every year to different districts. The GSR's will pay the same amount no matter if it's in March, April or May. there was much discussion about this proposal. Tim put a motion on the floor that we change the Service Weekends to Preconference Assemblies in each province. In one province it could be the third weekend in March and the other April 6 to 8. Motion seconded by Samaira. The question was called. All in favor of voting. 54 votes in favor of the motion, 22 opposed the motion. Minority voice was heard. There was a lot of discussion about past attempts to get information out before the conference. It would be more beneficial for Tim to send out some information on each agenda item he wishes each district to help develop a group conscience. Each district could then discuss with Tim what their groups think of the agenda items given. Polly mentioned if we get a snowstorm on the weekend that we decide to have the Preconference assembly we would still be losing the conscience of the group. She believes it would be better for Tim to send out the information. Vote was retaken. 33 for the motion, 36 against the motion. Motion failed. Tim thanked everyone for the time they took to debate this important motion.

2. **Excess funds guidelines proposal**- Dwayne presented the proposal as he explained it at both service weekends. When Area 82 is fortunate enough that funds available for the following year's budget exceeds the amount of that budget at the time of the Area 82 Assembly, the following procedure shall be followed: With the approval of the new budget, any funds in the Area 82 Operational Funds Bank Account that exceed (a) the remaining amount budgeted for the current year, and (b) the amount of the newly set budget will be: A. Transferred to the prudent reserve. B. If the prudent reserve exceeds ½ (one-half) the greater amount of the upcoming year's budget, or the current budget, then excess funds will be contributed to GSO. Funds received following that contribution to GSO will be reserved until the next Assembly's budget. Dwayne made a motion that would that the proposal on the floor. Samaira seconded the motion. A vote was taken. Minority opinion was discussed. Some one wish to change their vote. A new vote was taken. Motion passed.
3. **Amendment to guidelines [wording on page iii in bold print]**- the wording in the guidelines states **"furthermore, this document is in no way to be construed as a substitute, alteration or replacement all of the AA Service Manual"**. The easiest way to clear this up is just to say let's remove the bold print so that our Guidelines are what we follow since that is what the Area voted in. Dwayne made that motion and Monique seconded the motion. A vote was taken 54 for the motion, 19 against the motion. Minority voice was asked for and a question was asked about if we can change the guidelines anytime we want. The answer is if it's voted for then we can change the guidelines anytime. No one in the majority wished to change their vote therefore the motion passed.
4. **Approval of the budget**- Dwayne presented the budget. We have \$14,848.72 after the contributions from this weekend. With our prudent reserve amount of \$15,434.89, we now have an amount of \$30,283.61 to work with for a budget. It was discussed and approved line by line. There was discussion about the area active committee amount. The budget proposed by the remote communities committee for 2018 totaled \$5,300. Jane spoke to her request for the budget, it would only be \$700 for travel not \$1,400 for her because both the service weekend and assembly are held in Newfoundland next year. Trudy spoke to the request. She enjoyed meeting the people who came down from Labrador the past

few years, however the communication since they have been to these weekends hasn't been kept up. If the idea is for every group to be fully self supporting, and we have helped kick start interest in Labrador, I believe it is time for them to be self supporting. A vote was taken about if we want the \$2,600 to come out of the budget hole from Labrador. Majority voted not to include that. The remote communities budget will be \$1,540 dollars and \$500 for the AACYPAA committee. We have budgeted \$3,500 for active area committees so if any other committees need money out of that budget \$1,100 will be there. The final amount of our 2018 budget is \$28,110. If we spend all of our budget next year our prudent reserve amount will be \$2,173.61. If every group of our 205 groups contributed \$240 a year next year (\$20.00 a month), we would have our prudent reserve back and enough money in the budget to pass a budget next year around the same amount we have passed this year. The next year if the groups contributed \$120 each (\$10.00 a month), we would have enough to pass a budget around the same as 2017, and our prudent reserve would not need to be touched. Gary raised a question concerning our miscellaneous amount. He wondered why we were not told before now that are Nova Scotia Service weekend lost money. He believed if we were told about this before we voted on the pre-conference assembly it may have changed the vote. This is where the communication seems to be breaking down. Boyd asked that anyone interested in further discussion about the Nova Scotia Service weekend stayed behind for a few moments at the end of this session. Dwayne had a motion that our line item budget be approved. Because we approved it line by line it is approved. Please refer to the budget document at the end of these minutes for the finalized budget.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Dwayne. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Boyd asked that anyone interested in the NS Service weekend shortfall please stay behind. He explained that he signed a contract for a certain number of rooms. We did not use the whole number, but were charged according to the contract signed. He did state that he will try to make contact with the college and sort this out for next years contract.

Sunday, October 8th, 2017

Area Chair opened meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

5. Area Inventory:

It was determined by assembly body that because of the time constraint, the inventory would be completed in two settings. Accordingly, the assembly will tackle part of the inventory now and complete the remainder at a subsequent assembly meeting.

The following is a synopsis of the comments shared:

GROUPS/DISTRICTS

1. How can we better convey the importance of the principle of participation in Area 82 General Service by our respective Groups and Districts?

- Service sponsorship;
- Bring members (especially newcomers) to various area level functions;
- Inform members of the importance to the service structure: Recovery/Unity/Service;
- Talk more in recovery and business meetings about the importance of service with the intent of attracting more newcomers to service. Inform groups about what is being done (i.e., make sure to bring back useful information to the groups.

2. Is the business of Area 82 seen as a result of a year-round process by its Groups and Districts? How well do our groups understand the General Service Structure?

- Make service events more attractive;

- Inform groups about what is being done (i.e., make sure to bring back useful information to the groups);
 - Every group should have a “greeter” -- making sure that everyone who walks through the door is greeted and made to feel welcome;
 - Make sure members understand that their “voice” counts;
 - Provide newcomers with responsibilities and explain the service structure (i.e., giving them service position – even small jobs); taking newcomers “under your wing”
 - Convey the message that doing service provides a feeling of inclusiveness – being part of the greater whole;
 - Focus on the solution;
 - Make sure groups provide a “safe” place and that members feel welcome, hopeful;
 - Recognize that service and sponsorship may not be everyone’s “cup of tea”;
 - Sharing personal experience – carrying the message of the 12 steps, gratitude and finding a power greater than ourselves;
 - Informing/showing newcomers what it means to join a group (i.e., service commitments, attendance at business meetings);
 - Get back to the “basics” – our singleness of purpose;
 - Determine why we cannot seem to attract “younger” newcomers – what are we doing that may be turning younger members away from groups/service
 - A member shared that her group changed its format from discussion meetings to 12x12 meetings with one meeting a month focused on the Traditions; and as a result, their meeting is now very well attended
 - Be patient with newcomers;
 - Provide “temporary” sponsors
 - “Recovery-based” (focusing on the Steps and Traditions) groups seem to be more involved in service than groups that are not;
 - Group members should show concern for each other (i.e., calling on sick members).
3. Is the business of Area 82 seen as a result of a year-round process by its Groups and Districts? How well do our groups understand the General Service Structure?
- Groups – year-round process/Area – not a year-round process’
 - There needs to be an improvement in the communications between the area and the groups (i.e., providing the assembly agendas earlier to allow time for more review and preparation).
4. Considering Concept 1, “the final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. World Services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship” (the A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority....), do the groups in Area 82 have everything they need to carry out this responsibility? If not, how could Area 82 support and provide what they need?
- GSD Corner newsletter along with providing contact information on the website has been found to be helpful: a quarterly report/or Area newsletter may be helpful as well;
 - Develop a monthly magazine focusing on the Traditions/what’s going on at G.S.O., etc. – a “Reader’s Digest” of A.A.;

- Increase dialogue between “trusted servants” and members to make sure members understand upside down triangle and the structure/service of A.A.; remind GSRs and DCMs to provide information to groups;
- Provide more round-ups;
- Make sure website (s) provide updated information;
- Provide workshops for GSRs which would be held in advance of assemblies/round ups;
- More communication during the year between Area and GSRs as to what to expect (i.e., provide agendas earlier, provide topics/issues);
- Provide “rules of order” which can be practiced at business meetings;
- Are we allowing the message of A.A. to dwindle – losing some of our members? Are we A.A. or N.A.? – make sure that we do not stray from our singleness of purpose.

Boyd B. closed the Assembly with the Responsibility Pledge for those who wished.



**Alcoholics Anonymous
Area 82**

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 82 is to carry a message of hope, strength and knowledge through communication of Alcoholics Anonymous' Twelve Steps in an efficient and prudent manner.

We Believe:

The Twelve Step message is the primary reason for our deliberations. The General Service Representatives, District Committee Members and Area Officers have the opportunity to share, discuss and receive valuable insights that will be of assistance at the local group.

Action Plan:

1. Present the message in a positive, concise manner.
2. Discuss Area / District business in a focused, orderly, time sensitive way.
3. Recommend through informed group conscience sessions considerations to be brought to the Assembly, where all final decisions are voted on and approved.
4. Provide opportunities for constructive growth through shared examples, proven research, Twelve Steps, the Traditions and Twelve Concepts.
5. Communicate in a clear, concise, appropriate way the successes and concerns of those we represent.
6. Provide as much information as possible so that we will walk away from a service weekend or assembly with as much understanding of Alcoholics Anonymous and service.
7. Read page S19 of the Service Manual.

Area 82 NS/NL Assembly Agenda
October 6-8, 2017- Comfort Inn, Airport Road, St. John's ,NL

Friday	7:30 pm	DCM's and Area Officer's Meeting GSR's Workshop			
Saturday	9:00 am	Opening	Remarks,	Introductions,	12 Traditions,
		Sympathies, Mission Statement Minutes of previous 2016 Area Assembly Business arising from the minutes Approval of Agenda DCM Reports Greetings from GSO Guest Past Delegates Address			
	10:30 am	Coffee Break			
	10:50 am	Treasurer's Report Alt. GSD's Report GSD's Report			
	12:00 pm	Lunch			
	1:30 pm	Remote Communities Report Webmasters Report			
	1:45 pm	Roll Call (all GSR's must be present) Old Business New Business Area Inventory Election of Webmaster Pre-Conference Assembly Proposal Excess Funds Guidelines Proposal Amend Guidelines (wording on p. iii in bold print)			
	3:30 pm	Coffee Break			
	3:45 pm	Continue with new business Approve Budget			
	5:00 pm	Supper			
	8:00 pm	Continue with agenda items if necessary			
Sunday	9:00 am	Continue with agenda items if necessary Close Assembly			

Area 82 (NS/NL) – 53rd Assembly - 2017

DCM'S AND AREA OFFICER'S (FRIDAY NIGHT) MEETING

"SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE"

1. Call to order: moment of silence; serenity prayer
2. Welcome; introductions
3. Twelve Traditions
4. Minutes
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Roll call
7. Review Agenda
8. Close meeting

District 1 Report

Hello, I am Samaira and I am an alcoholic. I have the honour and responsibility of serving District 1 as the DCM.

Our area is basically the HRM, Halifax to Hubbards and all places in between. We have a total of 24 registered groups and two meetings, as far as I know, to date.

We hold workshop on Service Work every of month before our monthly District meeting, which is held on the last Sunday of the month, they are doing well. You are welcome to join us if you are in the area.

District 1 and District 2 have a Central Service that serves both Districts. I will share on six of the Committees Central Service is responsible for.

Phone Committee - The Committee has a Chair and two Co-Chairs. We have a phone line that is answered 24/7, with members answering the phone during the week and groups on the weekends. The number is 902-461-1119. Each member that answers the phone has a binder filled with information about all Districts in Area 82. We do at times, get calls from other District and this way, we can direct the call to their District.

Webmaster - Our Website is AAhalifax.org and receives thousands of hits a month, from meeting lists, to email contacts, and special events. The top pages/posts visited continue to be: Meeting List, Newsletter and Contact Us pages. We have 598 subscribed members getting the monthly email.

Cooperation with Professional community or C.P.C. Committee - They have 5 members, which is huge since it has been run on a committee of one for years. They have been working hard to create relationships with the Professional Community and have been asked to return to many of the sessions they have run. They continue to with closely with Public Information.

Public Information or P.I. Committee - They have around 10 members in the committee to date. They have contacted many clinics in the area to place AA Literature. They also have signs in many of the Busses in Halifax area. They hold monthly meeting to brainstorm new items on how to get the message out.

Treatment Committee - They hold three different meeting. One at the Detox at the Nova Scotia Hospital twice a week. One at the Forensic Unit once a week, and the Marguarite House, a long-term recovery facility for women.

Corrections - We hold two meetings a week at the provincial facility in Dartmouth. We have one for women and one for men. We have a schedule of 10 men and 10 women who are approved by the Corrections facility.

Thank you for your time,

Yours in Service

Samaira G.

District 2 Report to Area 82 - October 7, 2017

District 2 consists of the City of Dartmouth and extends north to Fall River and Enfield and east to Sheet Harbour. We lost one group that deregistered in NY but still continues to hold 5 open meetings a week. We have one new meeting that has yet to register in NY. We have a total of 14 groups and 3 meetings.

There is good participation in District 2 with 8 of the groups regularly attending District meetings and participating in some form of 12th step work. We have a workshop every two months that is coordinated by the Alternate DCM and are on some aspect of service and are held the week before our district meetings.

Along with District 1 and the Central Service Committee of D1 and D2, we have moved all committees to report to Central Service. This was a six-month long process that was finalized in July of 2017. Therefore, each district will report on half of the committees. There is a newsletter committee which publishes a monthly newsletter and distributes on-line at our Website and by hard copy. There is a Midwinter roundup committee that plans, organizes and executes our annual roundup every February. We have an E-mail help line manned by a member who responds to questions through our website. There is also a hospital visitation committee that visits hospitalized members on request through the website or the phones. Our literature committee holds an \$8000 inventory on hand in order to facilitate literature purchases for our groups.

Yours in loving service, Cathy M DCM District 2

District 03 DCM Report
Newfoundland and Labrador Assembly
October 6, 2017 - October 8, 2017

Hello, My name Polly, and I am a grateful alcoholic. I serve as DCM for District 3, in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia. My home group is Cambridge Fellowship Group. We meet Thursday nights. If you are ever in the Valley come and visit any of the active 12 groups or 2 meetings.

Good day to the GDS, Alt GDS, Assembly Committee, DCMS, GSRS, and all my friends in recovery.

This is my first visit to this wonderful province. It's one of the many gifts of this gracious program.

District 3 monthly meetings are held every 3rd Sunday of the month from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

We also have a monthly workshop at 1 p.m. prior to the district meeting. Everyone is welcome.

We have well attended District meetings on a continuous basis usually 10 out of 12 groups representing.

We have recently adopted guidelines for our district committee.

CPC/PI is making more connections with the community, and our district has recently introduced and become involved in the Corrections Correspondence Service.

We provide institutional meetings at Crosbie Center, Tuesday at 8 pm in New Minas and Middleton Detox Wednesday at 8 pm. Both are running smoothly. Oakville and Ledgehill recovery houses have started inviting our member into their facilities to speak with their clients.

Our district phone is becoming more active, and we have our information posted on Kings Transit.

In closing, I am proud to say that District 3 is functioning well and with God's grace, may we continue to grow in recovery, unity, and service.

District 4 DCM Report Oct 6th-8th, 2017 St. John's N.L.

Good morning everyone:

My name is Don B and I am an alcoholic.

Through the spirituality of the program, hard work, and good supportive friends that I have met in the rooms of AA, I am pleased to be here today in service and having the position of DCM for District 4.

Group updates: District 4 has 7 active AA groups in Digby, Meteghan, Clare, Yarmouth and Amirault's Hill with a total of approx. 90 members.

Meetings in Yarmouth are held 7 days per week. Steps and traditions meetings are held in Yarmouth every Friday and Sunday night, District 4 no longer hosts a meeting at the Yarmouth Hospital Detox Unit on Wednesday evening, this is due to the new change of no longer having in-patients, it is now being converted to a daily first come basis, and clients return to their homes at night. I understand this is working out better with more people attending meetings outside the hospital. In the past few months, low attendance had been a problem for most of the groups in our District, Hopefully as of last GSR meeting I was advised that all meetings are picking up with new people as well as older members returning. They are financially stable. A couple groups have yet to choose a new GSR or Alt. Plus other positions among the groups. This is mainly due to older members that do not wish to run again or members too new to the program. Clare group at the University will be celebrating 43 years, end of October 2017.

Institutional meetings have now begun at The Yarmouth Correctional Center every other Tuesday and is working well, hopefully this will soon be once per week. The Roundup Committee, as well as the District Meetings, meet at the end of each month. To date, they have been well attended.

The 39th Annual Lighthouse Round Up will take place in Yarmouth on November 3rd, 4th and 5th 2017 if anybody would like more information on this event, there are some flyers available at the registration table. If you wish you can reserve through me during this weekend.

Yours in Service, Don B.

District 5 DCM Report

Hi, my name is Stan and I am an alcoholic. I am also a member of the Junction group in Springhill, Nova Scotia and have the privilege of being DCM for District 5. District 5 is made up of 6 active groups which hold 11 meetings a week. We also have 2 meetings and a coffee house at Detox at All Saints Hospital in Springhill. We hold one meeting a week at the Springhill Institution. Attendance is down in most groups. Also, it is getting really hard to get people interested in service work. We hold district meetings once a month that are not very well attended. I have concerns for the overall health of the district unless more people get involved. In closing I would like to thank everyone in District 5 for their support.

Respectfully,
Stan DCM District5

District 6 report

District 6 has 9 groups located in the Truro, Tatamagouche, Millbrook and Shubenacadie.

Our area contains the Federal women's prison which members put a meeting on. Attendance has been a bit lower lately and some meetings have not happened because of management problems. These meetings are very important as I have seen first hand a lady speak at the round up that had been in the Nova institute. The Shubenacadie Group is holding meetings at the Eagles Nest which is a recovery center on the Indian Brook reserve.

Hubtown group in Truro is also helping District 7 put on meetings at the Pictou detox.

We had another good mid summer round up which was attended well. The 2nd annual softball game was held Sunday afternoon at the local softball field and everyone had a blast looking forward to the game next year.

Halifax had challenged Truro to a softball game and between districts 5 and 6 we were able to scrape together enough guys to put a team together and have a day of ball much fun had by all.

The recent passing of Charlie S was a big hit to our district, Charlie was very well known because of his serenity solutions business, anyone that has attended a round up in NS had most likely met Charlie.

Matt M DCM District 6

October 7, 2017

Good Morning,

My name is John Hugh G... and I am privileged to be DCM for District 7.

District 7 consists of the County of Pictou through to the Town of Port Hawkesbury. There are 14 Groups in District 7. There are 24 meetings weekly.

The District 7 GSR meeting is held the third Sunday of each month. After each meeting, the host group conducts a workshop.

The position of PI/CPC has not currently been filled in District 7. Jim M. from the New Glasgow How Group and Blaise S. from the Antigonish Group are currently fulfilling the responsibilities. Meeting cards are being distributed to Doctors' offices and Hotels and our local radio station, CJFX, is airing AA public service announcements on a regular basis.

Clark G. from the Stellarton Discussion Group is liaison for the new jail in Pictou County. There is a meeting held every Wednesday evening with two AA members attending each week. There are nine members that are cleared to participate in the meeting, and three more are waiting for security clearance. The correctional staff and inmates of the institution have responded favourably to the meetings. Clark G. has ordered AA literature designed specifically for inmates.

Rod H. is liaison for Pictou Detox. There is an information meeting held each Sunday afternoon at 2:30 p. m. at Pictou Detox, which is conducted by groups in District 7. The Hub Town Group from District 6 also participates in hosting the detox meetings. There are several other groups in District 6 that have expressed an interest in participating, as well. Rod H. has AA literature and meeting cards available for patients.

The 2018 NS Provincial Roundup will be held in District 7.

Yours in service,

John Hugh G...
DCM, District 7

District 8 Report to the 2017 N.S. Service Weekend

Good Afternoon, Friends. My name is Donald C. I'm an alcoholic.

I am honored to serve District 8 as the DCM for this term. District 8 includes the Cape Breton Island counties of Inverness, Richmond, and Victoria.

Our District meeting takes place the third Sunday of the month between 2PM and 4PM.

As a travel sharing arrangement, we rotate the meeting locations between Port Hawkesbury and Margaree. District 8 thanks the Glendale group for providing the District 8 meeting venue for many years.

We start the meeting with a study workshop, followed by the business meeting.

The study workshop usually covers one of AAs 12 traditions, or twelve concepts. Recently, we have been studying the AA Service Manual. Each month a district member volunteers to prepare and teach the designated service manual topic. Currently we are studying Appendix E: Bylaws of the General Service Board. Next meeting is October 15 in Margaree.

I was alternate DCM until 2 weeks ago and have moved into the DCM position, as our current DCM, Donnie MacL., had to resign due to personal commitments. The alternate DCM position is vacant and pending nominations. Gerard MacP volunteered to support the DCM until a new alternate is elected.

District 8 currently has 13 active groups. We are blessed with a dedicated core group of district members that keep the positions filled so that District operations run smoothly and creates a spirit of service that is supported by the local members and groups.

The Baddeck Bay group is held during summer months only due to limited group membership and finances. District 8 encourages all groups to visit other groups in their district, especially to support some of the very small groups in remote areas.

District 8 supports the Strait-Richmond Hospital Detox unit in two ways.

Monday at 8pm there is an open speaker service meeting where one or two AA members share their experience, strength and hope with residents of the detox. Participating groups in District 8, along with the Port Hawkesbury group in District 7, rotate the chairing responsibilities. We are having some issues with certain groups that autonomously override procedures and meeting formats that were agreed to at the District 8 meetings.

District 8 members may also sign up for "Bridging the Gap", a personal sharing session in a more intimate discussion setting with only the residents of the detox. The detox residents are encouraged to ask questions and to be more interactive with the AA member.

I am happy to report that the membership of District 8 is doing an admirable job of keeping the doors open, and carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Yours in Service,
Donald C.
DCM, District 8

DCM Report District 9 October 2017.

As you District Committee Member for District #9 I bring you greetings from Beautiful Cape Breton Island. It is great to be back in Newfoundland and Labrador. Our District has active committees and District Meetings take place on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The Alternate DCM opens the meeting and a Tradition is read & discussed prior to the core business of the meeting. Immediately following the DCM takes the chair and the regular business of the district is conducted. Committee reports are given by the committee chairpersons and discussion on reports follows. Committee reports are given in order:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Marie Y. provides a monthly financial report to the district and ensures that the financial commitments are made to the various services that District 9 employees to get the message out to the Groups and Membership.

CPC/PI: Chairperson John Mac is currently working on new schedules and has placed packages of information in the various professional offices in the CBRM. Members have come forward to assist with this and the committee is always ready to assist with information and getting the message of recovery out to the community. Public Service Announcements are being heard on a local radio station that covers the CBRM. The Local AA contact phone number is published in our meeting schedules and the member contact list has been revised.

Institutions & Corrections Committee: Joe Mac reports that he has been very active at the Correctional Center and the meeting are going well. Chairperson Joe Mac reported that he has two new members with an application given to a French speaking member who is interested in becoming a member of the correction committee, the committee is also instrumental in assisting those individuals who ask for information about other services in the area once they are released.

Joe also raised the issue of our groups going into the Detox Centre at the Regional Hospital. At the service weekend, in June 2017 Joe was informed that groups from all around the province are going in to the Detox Centers to put on meetings. Joe will follow up with a contact to the Detox manager.

Round – Up Committee: Chantal is the new chair of the roundup committee, with Basil as co-chair. First meeting was held immediately following the district meeting in May 2017 and they will continue to be held on Sundays immediately after the regular District meeting. A new venue has been chosen this year and we have an early bird flyer available for members to take back to their respective groups. Once again, we extend out thanks to all who attend our round- up and look forward to seeing old friend this year again in 2018. This year the Round – up will take place in March 09- 11, 2018.

Safety: The safety statement that was drafted by the committee was attached to the April minutes. Last month the ADCM Basil, suggested that the statement be reviewed by each group at their business meeting to decide whether to incorporate it to their format.

The membership in the District is increasing or declining depending on the group. Support by other groups for those groups that are experiencing a decline in attendance is a way that members keep doors open, as all meetings are essential to the still suffering Alcoholic. Groups are very aware of this and express the need for support at meetings and at the District. There are 22 Active Groups with meetings every day of the week. Individual and Group Anniversary announcements are provided to the District and are published in the minutes.

All Committee Chair Persons are providing information and carrying the message of AA to the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. And for that, “we are responsible!”

Yours in Love and Service. Malcolm C. DCM District 9

District 10 DCM report

Good morning friends my name is Bill and I am an alcoholic. I'm privileged to serve as the DCM for District 10 on Nova Scotia's South shore.

Our district has seven active groups which meet in Mahone Bay, Lunenburg, three in Bridgewater, Liverpool and Shelbourne. Also, there are three active meetings that meet in Bridgewater. One being the Women's Set Aside Sisters study meeting, the Monday noontime meeting, and the new Back to Basics meeting which began on September 15, 2017. Active membership for the group's total approximately 105 members.

District meetings are held in Liverpool the last Sunday of each month with excellent representation by GSR's, some alternates, guests, as well as the Secretary/ Treasurer. The phone committee directed by Pat R. with group members receives calls on the cell phone on a rotating basis. Calls are tracked the outcomes are recorded for the monthly report. Michelle P. posts birthday announcements and AA events, AA history, poems and spiritual quotes to members and groups in the form of a monthly newsletter. Ed J. of the literature committee provides AA books, literature and pamphlets, chips and medallions to the groups. PI /CPC Committee continues to make progress in discovering new ways to reach the still-suffering alcoholic.

Since our June 2017 service weekend, we have involved the groups in discussion regarding Safety in AA- Our common welfare in developing a protocol with a district workshop to cope with difficult situations at the group level. The area inventory questionnaire was also distributed to the groups and their input and data recorded at the district by Alternate DCM Mary Lee G., who sadly was unable to travel and be with us this weekend because of an illness. We miss her and keep her in our prayers. Our next project will be the inventory questionnaire on the 12 Traditions in AA.

In closing I will share that I wasn't confident that I could fill the responsibilities of DCM, and I was correct. I can't but we can. Thank you to all our members through perhaps in willing hands and hearts I remain in love and service.

Bill A. DCM

Area 82 District 12
Corner Brook, Deer Lake and Area
DCM Service Assembly Report
October 6-8, 2017

Hello, My name is Alfred and I am an alcoholic. I am the District Committee Member for District 12, and a member of the First Things First group that has regular closed discussion meetings every Saturday night at All Saints Church, Clarence Street in Corner Brook.

District 12 takes in the western area of Newfoundland, from Corner Brook, Bay Of Islands and Deer Lake north to southern Labrador, and has a total of 10 active groups. With meetings scheduled seven nights per week, in addition to a Sunday Morning, Wednesday noon and a Women's meeting on Saturday mornings.

The district continues our commitment to the Treatment Facility in Corner Brook with an active Committee and a group of dedicated volunteers, who host AA meetings within the facility every Tuesday and Thursday night. Our District has a Public Information / CPC Committee, and district meetings are very well attended.

District 12 was scheduled to host the AACYPAA Conference in May of this year. We provided flyers and notices to Districts and groups with all the necessary information. However due to very low interest and sales of registration tickets. The committee had to cancel the Conference.

February past I was given the opportunity to attend CERAASA in Moncton, NB. This was my first CERAASA it was a great learning experience, the people I met, and the information I received, and the experience that I had was unforgettable.

District 12 is working hard to be of service in Western Newfoundland. I am very grateful for this opportunity to serve District 12.

Yours in service and fellowship Alfred S.

Alcoholics Anonymous District 13 Report

5.3rd Assembly Area 82

October 6-8, 2017

DCM Earl R. , Alt DCM Ed D. , Secretary/Treasurer Sue L.

District 13 consists of AA groups active in 3 central Newfoundland communities: Glovertown, Gander, and Grand Falls/ Windsor.

The GSR's and the District representatives gather every second month to discuss the business, events, concerns and other issues that may be raised by the group or district level. This meeting also provides a good opportunity to share information and network at a group level.

At the last District meeting on September 17, 2017 the issue of Bridging the Gap was raised. It was felt that this aspect of "carrying the message" could be improved at our district level. Earl R. (DCM) forwarded this subject to Trudy D (Secretary of Area 82).

The 3 active groups within the District all have a healthy membership, involving those with long term sobriety, as well as the new comer.

Gander hosted the Area 82 Service weekend in May, 2017. Another great event to gather information, share ideas and discuss the business aspect of the Area. District 13 enjoyed hosting this event and looks forward to the opportunity to do it again.

Financially, District 13 is maintaining the ability to send a representative to each of the Assembly's/Service Weekends. Recognizing the increase in travel expenses, the district has asked the individual groups to increase their contributions to their District. This request has been approved by each of the groups and contributions have increased.

District 14 DCM Report

Hi, my name is Tom G. I'm an alcoholic and DCM for District 14, things are going well for the most part in our District, most groups are doing well, except we lost (the Hand of AA group) in St Josephs St Mary's bay due to lack of attendance.

We are happy to have 16 registered groups in our district , We are also happy to inform all other districts that our District 14 will be having our annual Christmas party, and was fortunate enough to get the same facility as last years Christmas party , which will be Dec 9th 2017 at Berry Hight's camp and retreat Salmonier line, first right North of TCH,,, and glad to say there are tickets here at this conference ,,there will be a catered served at table Turkey dinner with all the trimmings plus a desert, DINNER FOLLOWED BY A GOOD OLD NEWFY KITCHEN PARTY Bring your own instruments all for the low, low price of \$20.00,,,there are only 100 tickets printed ,,Sooo get you tickets early ..to reserve your tickets contact Wanda M.@709-765-6663 or Tom G.@ 709-683-4863 or Jeff B. @709-597-3236 or most of our GSR,s on the Avalon area.

We are also glad to say our AA day on July 15 went really well, we are hoping to have an AA day every year.

We are sad to say that the Town of Victoria counsel rejected a proposal by U-Turn to open a halfway rehab house in a building donated to U-Turn in the TOWN

I guess that about it for my report ..

yours in service,

Tom G.

DCM district 14 Area 82

Newfoundland & Labrador and Nova Scotia

District 15 Report, October 6th-8th, 2017

District 15 comprises 36 groups, which are geographically constrained along a straight line connecting St Shott's on the Southern tip of the Avalon Peninsula to Kelligrews and then along Conception Bay to encompass the metropolitan areas of St John's, Mt Pearl, CBS and surrounding communities as well as the remainder of the Southern Shore back to Trepassey and St Shotts. Thirty of these groups are either within or in close proximity to metropolitan St John's. Six outlying groups are thinly scattered along the Southern Shore and Conception Bay. One registered group is located within the local penitentiary while five meetings are held weekly within the local Recovery center. The meetings at the penitentiary and the Recovery Center are facilitated and overseen by our Institutions Committee. There is one dedicated Speaker meeting (Sunday morning) while two other groups conduct a monthly Speakers meeting. Our District meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month and are attended by an average of twelve GSRs.

All District positions are filled. Our secretary and treasurer provide monthly reports while our Alternate DCM keeps the District updated on items of interest in the Grapevine as well as new literature / books available from GSO. We get a regular monthly activity report from CPC / PI Committee as well as an informal update from the St John's Intergroup. District 15 has a very active Institutions Committee which reports to District 15 and to the local St John's Intergroup. Funding to support the literature and activities of these committees comes jointly from District 15 and Intergroup through Group contributions with Intergroup shouldering the largest percentage of the costs. The CPC/PI committee has provided displays at numerous Health and Wellness shows (both single day and weekend events). One of these (Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association) was done at the request of GSO who provided the material and paid the registration. The committee has active contacts with labour unions, workplace EAP committees, senior's complexes, professionals and clergy. The committee provides speakers for the Drunk Driving Awareness program at Eastern Health as well as for all levels of our educational system. The committee is responsible for ads in most local papers, Metrobus signage, staff communications newsletters. They also provide literature to hospitals and have provided GSO approved PSA's to local radio and TV networks. The CPC / PI chair also attends the Addictions Treatment Services Association (ATSA) as an observer. She does not vote on issues presented at this body but the contact has generated many opportunities to further carry our message of recovery.

A number of the Groups within District 15 have taken the Inventory Questions provided at the workshop conducted at the Service Weekend in Gander back to their groups for discussion. The feedback from the GSR's at the District meeting has been positive. They are looking forward to the Area 82 Inventory. District 15 has been conducting monthly two-hour Sharing Sessions / Workshops on topics which are pertinent to current issues within the local AA community. These will resume immediately after the 53rd Assembly is put to bed. Many thanks to Jim P. and his outstanding committee for the work put into making this all happen this weekend. District 15 will be hosting the Service Weekend in May of 2018. A decision was taken by District 15 to not conduct a Roundup parallel to the Service Weekend in May 2018.

District 15 is still active and dynamic. The theme of our Convention "Supporting our Future" is timely. Many of our groups are seeing a noticeable increase in younger members among the steady flow of new arrivals. These new and often still struggling members are our future leaders. They often carry more complex backgrounds which include alcohol as well as drugs. They also carry an updated set of tech savvy abilities which will be useful if we allow them to fit in. These are the folk who will be carrying the AA message when we have passed from active service. How we sponsor these new members in the areas of Recovery, Unity and Service will determine the future strength and even the survival of our AA program.

Gerry W., DCM, District 15

District 17 DCM Report for the NS/NL Assembly
Oct.6th- 8th, 2017.

Good morning friends; my name is Monique M. and I am an Alcoholic. I am, also the DCM for District 17, serving West Hants and Wolfville. Even though we are still a fairly new district, we are going strong. There are 12 meetings per week in our district with approximately 80 members. There are four non-registered meetings and seven registered groups in our district: Brooklyn, Hantsport, St. Croix, Three Mile Plains, Wolfville, Windsor Saturday Night, and Sisters in Sobriety. The Hantsport and St. Croix groups hold two meetings per week. The Windsor/Brooklyn Group changed their name to Windsor Saturday Night Group and Sisters in Sobriety became a registered group in November 2016.

Along with District 3, we continue to put meetings on at Crosbie House in New Minas on Tuesday nights and Middleton Detox on Wednesday nights. Districts 3 and 17 continue to work very well together. This year we put on the 52nd Provincial Round-up, the theme was "Supporting Our Future" at the Louis Millet Centre in New Minas, with District 3, attendance was down compared to the 2014 Round-up. Also, we are working with Districts 3 and 4 with the posters on the Kings Transit Buses.

Jim H. is serving as our Alt. DCM and is a valued member of our committee and District. Diane L. is our Secretary and is doing a wonderful job. Paul B. was elected as our Treasurer, however due to his work commitments is still unable to attend our district meetings; however, Gary O. has the tentative Treasurer and is doing a great job, thank-you Gary. Our Institutions Representative is Debbie F.; due to medical reasons, she had to step back a little. She is still making sure; District 17 is meeting our commitments with Institutions. We have been unable to fill our PI/CPC position; after the Assembly, Pete L. and I will be meeting with Mark Z. from District 3 PI/CPC to brainstorm new ideas. Jo MS is our Newsletter Editor and is a welcomed member to our district and committee. She is very efficient with the information for the Newsletter and distributes the Newsletter in a timely manner. Jeannette G. is the Webmaster and keeps our website up-to-date as possible. John S. is the chairperson for District 17 AA Telephone Answering Service. This is a 3-year position and John's term is up at the end of this year. On average we receive two to six calls per month. Our phone number is 902-790-6066. Pete L. looks after our Insurance Policy; we have 16 groups from four districts on our policy and have formed a separate committee. Gary O. is Treasurer of the committee.

Our District holds a district meeting every month, with a workshop every two months; however we did take the summer off. On June 25th, Mark R. from District 3 held very informative workshop on the Traditions and Concepts for us. We will be having a workshop on "How to Chair a Meeting" plus a district meeting, on October 29th.

We held the 53rd Windsor and Area Mini Round-Up. I am not sure if this is trend we are seeing with the Round-ups or because we had torrential rainfall on August 19th; our attendance this year was also down by about 40 people. This year's theme was "Coming Home". There were many compliments from attendees.

A few members from our district have formed a KISMIF (Keep It Simple Make It Fun) committee for AA members, AL anon and their spouses. So far, we have had a "Le Dine en Blanc" event, which was held at the home of Terri BC and Peter C. This event, you are supposed to wear white clothing, bring a picnic basket, festive decorations and meet in a secret location (For various reasons our location was known). Unfortunately, I was unable to attend, however there was tremendous feedback. There were approximately 40 people in attendance and everyone enjoyed themselves. There were many compliments on the beautiful decorations for those in attendance and people driving by. The committee are in the works for putting a New Year's Eve dance, the hall has booked and plans are underway.


Yours in Love of Service
Monique M.
DCM District 17

Area 82 Financial Report Quarter 3, 2017				
Opening Bank Balance Jan. 1			\$	36,163.67
(MINUS) Cheques Outstanding Jan. 1			\$	668.72
(MINUS) Transfer to Top Up Prudent Reserve Jan. 3			\$	420.53
Opening Operational Ledger Balance				\$ 35,074.42
Budgeted Amount			\$	30,860.00
Amount on Hand for 2018 Budget Jan. 1			\$	4,214.42
INCOME				
(PLUS) Group Contributions Jan. 1 to Sep. 30				\$ 8,329.30
(MINUS) Group Contribution NSF Cheque				\$ 140.00
EXPENSES				
	Budgeted Amount (\$30,860.00)	Amount Distributed Against Budget	Actual Expense To Date (\$20,603.26)	
GSO Conference	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
GSD Expenses	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,369.37	
GSD Office Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
Alt. GSD Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,092.64	
Area Chair Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,333.72	
Secretary Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,496.54	
Secretary Office Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
Treasurer Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,705.10	
Treasurer Office Supplies	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 76.92	
NL Archive Upkeep & Storage	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,172.28	
NL Archive Travel Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 266.52	
NS Archive Upkeep & Storage	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 861.11	
NS Archive Travel Expenses	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 631.97	
Web Host & Domain	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	
Webmaster Assembly Travel	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	
NS/NL Area Active Committees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,572.56	\$ 3,572.56	
GSO Guest	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	
Regional Forums/CERASSA	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	
Misc	\$ 250.00	\$ 450.28	\$ 450.28	
Bank Charges	\$ 60.00	\$ 54.25	\$ 54.25	
(MINUS) Total Disbursed Funds		\$ 26,827.09		\$ 26,827.09
OPERATIONAL LEDGER BALANCE (Oct. 4)				
(Starting Operational Ledger Balance minus Total Disbursed Funds Plus Contributions)				\$ 16,436.63
OPERATIONAL LEDGER BALANCE BREAKDOWN				
Operational Account Balance (Oct. 4)			\$	16,542.46
(PLUS) Cash on Hand (Oct. 4)			\$	-
(MINUS) Outstanding Cheques			\$	105.83
Total			\$	16,436.63
Continued on Page 2				


Amount on Hand for 2018 Budget (Oct. 4)		\$ 12,399.97
Prudent Reserve Account Balance (Oct. 4)		\$ 15,434.89

Account Balances - AREA 82 NS/NL

4 Oct 2017

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[Printable Version](#) 

Chequing/Savings	USD	CAD
Operational		16,542.46
Prudent Reserve		15,434.89
Total:		31,977.35

Thank You,
Yours in Service,



Dwayne MacD.
Treasurer, Area 82

**Area 82 NS/NL
Assembly Approved Operating Budget, 2018**

ITEM	2017 Budget	Actual Amount YTD	2018 Budget	2016/2017 Contributions	Prudent Reserve	Funds Available for 2018 Budget
GSO Conference	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 14,848.72	\$ 15,434.89	\$ 30,283.61
GSD Expenses/Supplies	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 2,369.37	\$ 4,300.00	Remaning Funds in Reserve For 2019 Budget		
Alt. GSD Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,092.64	\$ 2,000.00			
Area Chair Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,333.72	\$ 2,000.00			
Secretary Expenses/Supplies	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 1,496.54	\$ 2,300.00	In order for Area 82 to meet the 2019 budget, and replace the \$13,261 removed from the Prudent Reserve to cover the 2018 budget, we will need to raise \$42,826.39 over the next 12 months. It sounds like a lot, but...		
Treasurer Expenses/Supplies	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 1,705.10	\$ 2,100.00			
NL Archive Upkeep & Storage	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,172.28	\$ 1,200.00			
NL Archive Travel	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 266.52	\$ 1,000.00	There 205 groups in Area 82. If each group gave:		
NS Archive Upkeep & Storage	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 861.11	\$ 1,000.00	Yearly	\$ 208.91	
NS Archive Travel Expenses	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 631.97	\$ 1,300.00	Monthly	\$ 17.41	
Webmaster Assembly Travel	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	Weekly	\$ 4.05	
NS/NL Area Active Comittees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,137.04	\$ 3,500.00	We would replenish the prudent reserve AND cover the 2019 budget. If your group can afford more, please help cover those groups that can afford but little. EVERY PENNY COUNTS!!!		
GSO Guest	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,198.89	\$ 1,500.00			
Regional Forums/CER ASSA	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,500.00			
Assembly Seed Money	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	Thank You. Yours in Service Dwayne MacD. Area 82 Treasurer		
Misc	\$ 250.00	\$ 450.28	\$ 250.00			
Bank Charges	\$ 60.00	\$ 50.50	\$ 60.00			
Total	\$ 30,610.00	\$ 26,823.34	\$ 28,110.00			

Area 82 Website Report 2017

The site's domain name and hosting is provided by Jaguarpc.com. The domain name payment has been made, and the website domain is paid up to Oct 20, 2019, we paid for 3 years and received the old rate of \$12.95 USD.

The hosting fee has been paid, \$178.92 USD for 3 years and is paid up until Nov 20, 2019.

Since the beginning of 2017, the website is visited an average of 9,943 times per month by an average of 6,521 unique visitors.

Over 1400 emails have be sent and received through the webmaster inbox so far this year. Several support tickets have been opened with JaguarPC for various site related problems. I am very pleased with the response time and the quality of service from JaguarPC's support team.

In closing, the site is very active and stable, JaguarPC is a great host, with very good support.

feel free to contact me at any questions.

yours in service Hal

Remote Communities

Outline:

A. Definition of Remote Communities from pg 3 of the 2016 Communicator.

Any community where it is difficult to carry the message because of language, culture, or geography. However each Area determines for itself how to apply this definition to its specific circumstances.

B. History of Remote Communities Committee from the 2016 and the 2007 Communicator pg. 3.

The History of Remote Communities Meetings is interesting. The seeds were first planted at the 50th anniversary of AA in Canada at Toronto in July 1993. At that time a handful of Canadian Delegates met to discuss the problem of carrying the message to remote Canadian communities. Not much happened other than the fact that the need was expressed that something had to be done and members were encouraged to continue to do whatever they were already doing in their Areas.

Then in February, 1996, at the Western Canada Regional Forum in Calgary, the then Trustee-at-large Canada organized a breakfast meeting with delegates, trustees and the G.S.O. Manager to discuss creating a Canadian Committee that would deal with some perceived remote communities issues. The outcomes of that meeting were: 1. they needed to create a committee, 2. needed to get support to set up a luncheon at the upcoming General Service Conference, 3. they needed to work towards holding a special conference geared toward establishing a working committee consisting of 14 Canadian Areas and Alaska.

In April of that same year, 1996, at the 46th General Service Conference, they met with some delegates, some GSO staff and Board Members to discuss the movement and to move ahead. A staff member was assigned to help coordinate efforts. By July of 1996 the first Remote Communities Conference was held in Toronto with all 15 Delegates. It was at that meeting that the definition of Remote Communities was decided to be any community to which it was difficult to carry the message due to language, culture or geography. It was also decided at that meeting that we needed to continue to meet and that the most effective time would be prior to the yearly General Service Conference.

In 1997 the Remote Communities Committee met prior to the opening of the 47th General Service Conference. In attendance were the original 15 delegates and a few invited delegates from the US areas that experienced some of the same concerns, several trustees and GSO staff members. The remote communities definition was reviewed and

recommitted to, as was the purpose of the committee. The only action taken at this meeting was to open up the membership to the whole conference.

It was determined that after 1997 the committee would have 4 co-chairs, one each from Western and Eastern Canada and one from each side of the Mississippi in the US. A newsletter was also to be developed to assist in reporting what was happening in this vital area of 12th step work.

C. The Present

By 2016, it was reported to the 66th General Service Conference that the Remote Communities meeting continues with 2 co-chairs and a staff member who provides support and assistance. As well the newsletter -Remote Communities Communicator- continues to be produced.

D. Area 82

There have been some encouraging developments in remote communities in Area 82 in the last little while. Our Area covers Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador on the east coast of Canada, an area which faces severe challenges due to climate, weather, and distance. In October 2015, our Remote Communities Committee made it possible for a member from the Lab City/Wabush area to attend our Area Assembly and to meet with Area committee members. This goes a long way towards helping these areas to feel a part of the bigger AA community.

Then in October 2016, another member from that region was brought out to Nova Scotia to attend the Area Assembly in Dartmouth. More recently, in February 2017, Martine T gave a presentation at the CERAASA pre-conference meeting for Remote Communities in Moncton, NB. Establishing these connections has greatly enhanced the quality of AA in Labrador West. This particular District which, until recently, was considered a dark District, is coming into it's own and District 16 is being rejuvenated. It is so encouraging to see the work that is being done by some very dedicated members in that District.

This same District has also done some PR work with Mental Health and Addictions in another attempt to help the suffering alcoholic. As in any small community, sponsorship and anonymity are major hurdles. Trying to put on meetings with the same people all the time brings its own challenges. Topics tend to get stale and interest wanes. Some of these groups have been encouraged to take advantage of online meetings and AA speakers online.

There is another group in the Area who have a teleconference meeting every second Friday for several months of the year. This group has been on-going for several years

now. It includes members from Cartwright, Battle Harbor, Rigolet, Lanse Au Loup, St. John's, Corner Brook and Florida. The attendance is good and the topics are always interesting. This summer Mike Y decided to continue the meetings during the summer months. We have added to that list by offering the service to alcoholics who attend the Treatment Center here and will be returning home to some of these remote communities.

One of the members of our RC committee attended the Service weekend in Gander in May and met with Area officers. He presented a budget proposal to the Area with District 16 in Western Labrador being the main focus. He also highlighted the Labrador east area where some inroads have been made. In fact a member from Sheshatshui also attended that weekend.

Later in the summer we had a request to bring a meeting to Flowers Cove on the Northern Peninsula of NL and then perhaps to visit southern Labrador. This type of endeavor requires a fair degree of planning and of course it is difficult to connect with people during the summer. This is a project we will look into in the coming months and hopefully have something in place by next spring or early summer.

E. Accessibilities Workbook

Suggestions for Working With Underserved or Remote Communities

Many A.A. members live in underserved or remote communities — communities that are difficult to reach because of the geography, language or culture. It might be a community that is far away, or one that is right around the corner; one that is comfortable using English-language resources or one that is not. It could be any number of groups of people who have frequently been underserved.

In areas where these populations are not being reached, Accessibilities Committees may support such A.A. members in a number of ways:

- Organize regular telephone/teleconferencing/video conferencing meetings with members in remote communities for both recovery and service meetings;
- Coordinate with C.P.C./P.I. committees to develop and access communication vehicles in these communities, such as radio and television services, which can help carry the message to underserved communities or remote locations;
- Identify familiar community resources within specific ethnic and cultural communities (such as local media outlets, places of worship, medical providers, social clubs, schools) and coordinate with C.P.C./P.I. committees to provide such culturally-significant targets with PSAs, A.A. literature and information;
- Identify individual community leaders in ethnic/cultural communities and coordinate with C.P.C./P.I. efforts to provide them with basic information about A.A. and establish ongoing communication;
- Make sure there is an A.A. presence in underserved areas — consider starting meetings in communities where none exist;
- Work directly with existing members in underserved communities to take regular A.A. meetings onto Native American reservations, into inner city communities, special language enclaves, remote areas, or help set up online meetings and mobile collaborations;
- Insure that A.A. members in remote areas are aware of the Loners/Internationalist Meeting (LIM), which prints correspondence from A.A. members in isolated areas, at sea, or home- or hospital-bound;
- Keep local members informed regarding Regional or Local Forums or other A.A. service events that may be occurring in their areas;
- Provide regular reports — in accessible formats — of service workshops, district meetings, and other service information that will help keep these areas connected to the whole of A.A.

Alt. G.S.D. Report
2017

Good morning everyone; my name is Kirk and I am an alcoholic. I have the privilege of servicing area 82 as the Alternate Service Delegate.

In Area 82 there are many active P.I., C.P.C., treatment and Corrections committees in most districts. I have been receiving most district meeting minutes, which keeps me informed on their active committees.

The largest change in corrections this year is members can now carry the message to fellow Canadians inmates. All a member has to do is sign up with corrections at G.S.O. You can state what province or area you would like to carry the message to. This will make it much easier to relate to your pen pal if your from the same region.

The Grapevine has just released a new book called "Voices Of Women In AA" which has 61 stories by women in the early AA days to the present. The price is \$11.50 per book or \$10.99 for five or more copies. You can order by visiting AAGrapevine.org or call 1-800-631-6025.

Our Webmaster will be rotating out at the end of the year. I would like to thank Hal for an excellent job of looking after the area 82 web page for the last 2 years.

The Archives in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland both have new archivists. I would like to welcome Kathy in Nova Scotia and Jim in Newfoundland.

In closing I would like to thank you for the honor of serving you as a trusted servant.

Thank You

KIRK

Alt. GSD

Delegates Report
October 7th/2017
St. John's NL

Good morning all,

I would like to begin by thanking you all for allowing me to serve Alcoholics Anonymous as the Panel 67 Delegate for Area 82. It has been an amazing experience thus far.

My report will consist of two parts, part one will be some information that I would like to share with you, part two I will take a few minutes and go through the Final Conference Report with you. I know you are probably very disappointed that I don't have a power point, I will have one at the Service Weekend.

Part 1

AA.Org What's new. I just wanted to mention again the A.A. Website and the "What's New" feature.

Vacancy for Appointed Committee Member on Trustees' Literature Committee. (letter attached)

Quarterly Report from G.S.O. (available online at AA.org)

Box 459 Fall 2017-Intergroup/Central Service Then and Now. (Dianne's Story attached)

Estimates of A.A. Groups and Members.

The General Service Board and A.A. World Services Inc. Board of Directors have taken action to secure the 1939 Printers Copy of the manuscript of our Big Book.

Harvey Storm Relief Update (letter attached)

The 67th G.S.C. Final Report is now posted on our website.

G.S.O Financial Results:

Net literature sales during the first six months of 2017 were \$7,211,306, which is \$175,867 (2.5%) greater than budget and \$422,738(6.3%) greater than last year.

Seventh Tradition contributions during the first six months of 2017 were \$3,771,670, which is \$442,896(13.3%) greater than budgeted and \$330,186, (9.6%) more than last year.

Adding gross profit from literature and contributions resulted in net revenues of \$8,788,186, which is \$869,769(11%) greater than budget, and \$799,455(10%) greater than last year.

Total operating expenses for the first six months of 2017 were \$7,821,310, which is \$82,119(1%) less than budget, but \$138,440 (1.8%) greater than last year.

In summary, total revenue for the first six months of 2017 was \$8,788,186, compared to total expenses of \$7,821,310, resulting in net profit for 2017 of \$966,876. This compares with a budgeted profit of \$14,988 and the prior year profit of \$305,860.

Part two

Review the 67th G.S.C. Final Report

In closing, later today when we do our inventory and carry out the business of Area 82, my hope would be that we would be respectful of others and remember our primary purpose to help the still suffering Alcoholic in Area 82. In hopes that a new comer attending the Roundup might stick their head in the door and see Alcoholics in Action and want to join us.

In Love and Service

Tim M.

Panel 67 Delegate

Area 82 NS/NL

Policy/Admission

General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115
Telephone: (212) 870-3019

General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3019

Please direct all communications to:
P.O. Box 466
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3019

Vacancy for Appointed Committee Member on Trustees' Literature Committee

The trustees' Literature Committee has an opening for an appointed committee member (ACM). We are searching for an appropriate individual to fill this position and would appreciate any recommendations.

- Some of the qualities most desirable for this appointed committee member opening are:
- Expertise in and familiarity with the use of current technology and communications tools.
 - Availability for meetings of this trustees' committee held during General Service Board weekends (usually the last weekend in January, July and October), as well as one meeting during the General Service Conference in April. Available time for participation in subcommittees of the trustees' committee, as appointed.
 - At least five years of continuous sobriety.
 - The ability to work within the committee structure.
 - Experience in A.A. service, and in carrying the message to young people.

In seeking applications for all vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large applicant file of qualified persons that reflects the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A. itself. To obtain a résumé form for this opening, please call the Literature desk at G.S.O. (212) 870-3019, or email literature@aa.org. Résumés should be returned to the General Service Office by October 27, 2017.

Dianne's Story

"I was actually a 'Coast Guard brat,'" notes Diana L., currently serving on the Corrections assignment. She arrived at G.S.O. on March 13, having moved from San Diego. Diana's father (African-American) was in the Coast Guard and her mother (Scottish-Canadian) was a graphic artist. When she was young, Diana lived on Guam and "bounced back and forth" in various towns along the California coast. She got sober in 1982 at the age of 15, having started to drink when she was eight. In the meetings she attended, no one could believe she was there to quit drinking: "They thought I was there doing a school report," Diana says. When she found out she was pregnant after 35 days of sobriety, she was faced with a "spiritual dilemma," and made a decision to stick with A.A., which she has, for 35 years. Staying sober, Diana finished high school, working jobs that ranged from bank janitor to fast food cashier. She backpacked around Europe, touching base with the global fellowship of A.A. in places like Denmark and Greece. She returned to California, and got her B.S. in Chemistry from U.C. San Diego and her M.S. in Chemistry from U.S.C. Los Angeles. After a career as a biotech researcher (co-authoring 10 patents) and years of A.A. service work, she heard there was a staff position open at G.S.O. in New York. She interviewed for that job and didn't get it, but when the next opening came up, she took a second chance, applied again, and was hired. Her early experience in A.A. has helped her on the Corrections assignment. "When I think of the Responsibility Pledge, I'm really moved by the hands that reach back from behind the walls. When I was new, I would go on H&I panels to jails and I was in such bad shape that a lot of the inmates who had sobriety would tell me to hang in there, saying, 'You have nothing to lose. Sobriety is worth it.' They were in prison, but had experienced a new freedom." Now, corresponding with prisoners and working with local Corrections committees, Diana says, "I love giving back to members of the Fellowship who are on the 'inside' and learning more about how they pass it on. People who are blind, people who speak other languages.... One woman reads A.A. literature to those with different reading levels. The local committees who bring meetings in, who correspond with inmates and coordinate pre-release contacts — they are great examples of love and service."

Harvey Storm Relief Update

We are really touched by the outpouring of support for the fellowship of A.A. in our area who suffered from the tropical storm Harvey. The donations of literature, and especially the monetary donations have far exceeded our fondest hopes.

So far, we have been very active in getting Big Books and 12 & 12's into shelters. In addition, we have started resupplying groups who were wiped out in the flooding. We know that there will be more to come.

For now, PLEASE hold off any more gifts for storm relief until we can sort out the situation at the many shelters, and groups. We believe that we have the immediate future covered through your generosity.

However, if you'd like to help us financially to keep carrying the message in our very large metropolitan area, we welcome those contributions as they are always needed. Donations can be made under the website's "Service and Donations" page. We will keep you informed as the situation unfolds.

Houston Intergroup Association

Dear General Service Conference member,

I'm writing to inform you of recent actions taken by the General Service Board and the A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors to secure the 1939 Printer's Copy of the manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, our Big Book. The Printer's Copy (also called the working manuscript) has handwritten notes from Bill W. and others and shows the evolution of what became the first published edition of the Big Book.

The manuscript was gifted to A.A.W.S. by Barry L., an A.A. member, who had received the manuscript from Lois Wilson, the widow of Bill W., a co-founder of our Fellowship. Although A.A.W.S. possessed the letter in its files at the time of Barry L.'s death in 1985, no one within the organization was aware of the gift or of our right to ownership until the letter was found in our archives in 2007.

We recently learned that the manuscript was going to appear at public auction in June. Because the manuscript undeniably belongs in the G.S.O. Archives, we have requested and were granted a temporary restraining order by New York State Supreme Court to prevent the manuscript from being sold.

Pursuing litigation is not something to be taken lightly. As you know, within our Traditions and Concepts, and expressed succinctly in the Preamble is the principle that we shall do nothing to incite public controversy. We focus strictly on carrying the message of recovery to still-suffering alcoholics and serving the A.A. groups. However, as part of the General Service Board's and A.A.W.S.'s fiduciary responsibility and to protect and preserve the manuscript in our archives – for A.A. groups, individual members and for future generations – the Board took the action described above.

It is important that the members of our Conference, as representatives of the A.A. groups of the United States and Canada, know what steps both A.A.W.S. and the General Service Board have taken.

We ask that all inquiries you may receive concerning the Printer's Copy of the manuscript of the Big Book be forwarded to the Public Information coordinator, Clay R. His direct line is 212-870-3119, and his email is publicinfo@aa.org

We have requested each trusted servant (trustee, delegate, director) and employee in our office to use common sense and discretion, and not to attempt to answer questions concerning this ongoing matter, but simply to refer questions to the P.I. desk of the General Service Office, as noted above.

With gratitude for your service to Alcoholics Anonymous,

Greg

G. Gregory T

General Manager

General Service Office of A.A.

www.aa.org

Pre -Conference / N.S. Service Weekend
Proposed sometime in April
This is to replace current N.S Service week-end

Location: Three Mile Plains

Hall Rental Friday noon till Sunday noon \$175.00

Lunch Saturday Sandwiches = \$475.00 (wraps and sandwiches)

Banquet Meal Saturday Roast beef/ Roast Pork or Turkey and dessert @ \$13.00 a plate x 125 plates = \$1625.00

Coffee/tea and milk for weekend = \$100.00

Water based on 125 people x 3 per person = 375 bottles. 16 cases of 24 @ \$5.00 a case = \$80.00

Accommodations:

Super 8 Windsor- 902-792-8888 (66 rooms)

1 room with 2 double beds, 40 rooms available with double beds @ \$131.00 + tax per night (cheaper if we block rooms) also Complimentary Breakfast

Down East Motel Garlands Crossing- 902-798-8374 (20 rooms)

1 room with 2 double beds + WiFi, cable tv, bath tub with shower and mini fridge and microwave @ \$85.00 per night + tax better rates available for longer stays

\$175.00 (hall rental) + \$475.00 (lunch Saturday) + \$1625 (Saturday evening meal) + \$100.00 (coffee) + \$80.00 (water) = \$2,455.00 Based on 125 people, which is \$19.64 per person + room rate.

Location: Louis Millett Complex, New Minas N.S.

Rental Friday noon till Sunday noon \$700.00 on 1 weekend left for 2018

Lunch Saturday Sandwiches = \$475.00 (wraps and sandwiches)

Banquet Meal Saturday Roast beef/Pork/Turkey with choice of 2 veggies + Dessert @\$13.00 per plate x 125 plates = \$1625.00

Coffee/tea/ milk for weekend = \$100.00 (Our own)

Water based on 125 people x 3 per person = 375 bottles. 16 cases of 24 @ \$5.00 per case = \$80.00

\$700.00 (hall rental) + \$475.00 (lunch Saturday) + \$1625.00 (Saturday evening meal) + \$100.00 (coffee) + \$80.00 (water) = \$2980.00 Based on 125 people, which is \$23.84 per person + room rate.

AREA 82 OFFICER ELECTIONS—AA SERVICE RESUME SHEET

OPTIONAL SERVICE SHEET

WEBMASTER POSITION

NAME: ROD H SOBRIETY DATE: NOV 24, 2014

HOME GROUP: PICTOU HARBOUR, NS DISTRICT 7 AREA 82

A.A. SERVICE BACKGROUND

Hello, my name is Rod and I am an alcoholic.

I am entering my name to be considered for the Area 82 Webmaster Position.

I have been the secretary for the Pictou Harbour Group for the past year. I am also the AA Liaison for the provincial Detox Center in Pictou which serves AA Districts 6 and 7.

I am now retired from a 30-year career in Industrial Control Systems engineering consulting. I have worked extensively with computers and their applications since the mid 1970's. I am very comfortable with user interface programming and design, and I enjoy working and collaborating with others. I would find this service opportunity both stimulating and rewarding.

MUST BE POSTED FOR VIEWING FRIDAY EVENING

AREA 82 OFFICER ELECTIONS—AA SERVICE RESUME SHEET

SERVICE POSITION: WEBMASTER

NAME: Matt D

SOBRIETY DATE: July 5, 2006

HOME GROUP: Fundy Group

DISTRICT: 3

AREA: 82

A.A. SERVICE BACKGROUND

Note: some of the earlier dates are approximate

Treasurer: Granville Island Men's Meeting, Vancouver, BC November 2006 – July 2008

Alt. Secretary: Sat. Morning Dilemma Group, Vancouver, BC January 2007 – December 2007

Secretary: Saturday Morning Dilemma Group, Vancouver, BC January 2008 – December 2012

Treasurer: Thurs. Night Big Book Study Meeting, Vancouver, BC January 2010 – December 2011

GSR: Thursday Night Big Book Study Meeting, Vancouver, BC January 2012 – December 2013

Phone Rep: Saturday Morning Dilemma Group, Vancouver, BC January 2012 – December 2014

Newsletter: District 3, Kentville, NS January 2017 – Present

Alternate GSR: Fundy Group, Kentville, NS October 2017 – Present

Cofounded / Co-chaired Thursday Night Big Book Study

Active in sponsorship throughout sobriety

Experience for Webmaster Service Position

I have not managed a website before nor used the HTML language. However, I learn quickly and frequently use internet resources for self teaching. I have a brother (not part of AA) that is a website designer that I will lean on for help as well.

Very computer literate, daily use of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Bluebeam & AdobePro PDF writers, etc. for my work. I use Open Office for word processing and spreadsheets at home.

Frequent use of file sharing sites (Dropbox, Accelion) for file transfer, posting, uploading and downloading.

Daily use of MS Outlook and online platforms (Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo) for email.

Self taught Visual Basic programming to build an order entry and inventory control database for a past job and Macro driven MS Excel spreadsheets for current job.

MUST BE POSTED FOR VIEWING FRIDAY EVENING

Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

August 4, 2017

To: Trustees, Directors, Delegates, Committee Members, G.S.O. and Grapevine Staff, and Central Offices and Intergroups for the U.S. and Canada.

Re: Opening for Nontrustee Appointed Committee Member for Trustees' Committee on Literature

Dear Friends,

The trustees' Committee on Literature of the General Service Board has an opening for a nontrustee appointed committee member. We are searching for a suitable individual to fill this position and would appreciate any recommendations.

In seeking applications for vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large file of applicants that reflects the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A. itself. Currently, A.A. literature directed towards young people is being revised. Thus, the committee would like to hear from A.A. members with experience carrying the message to young people.

As you know, the success of our General Service Board rests not only on the capabilities of the trustees themselves but also on the competence of the nontrustee committee members, corporate board Directors, and Staff members who actively carry on A.A.'s world services.

Some of the qualities most desirable for this nontrustee opening are:

1. Expertise in and familiarity with the use of current technology and communications tools.
2. Available time to attend the meetings of the trustees' committee to which appointed and the Saturday afternoon general sharing session. Attendance at the Saturday night dinner and A.A. meeting during Board weekends is optional. Available to attend a joint committee meeting on Sunday afternoon of the General Service Conference. Attendance at the Sunday night Conference dinner is optional. Available for participation in subcommittees of the trustees' committee to which appointed. Completion of subcommittee projects often involves participation in conference calls.
3. At least five years of continuous sobriety.
4. The ability to work within the committee structure.
5. Experience in A.A. service, and in carrying the message to young people.

-2-

Attached is a resume form that should be completed by applicants for this opening and returned to the General Service Office by October 27, 2017.

Applicants should mail forms to:

Attn: Sandra Wilson, Secretary
Trustees' Literature Committee
475 Riverside Drive
11th Floor
New York, NY 10115

Or email to:

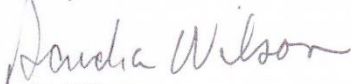
literature@aa.org

All applicants will be considered and all will be advised by the secretary of the committee when a selection has been approved by the trustees' Nominating Committee. The Chairperson of the General Service Board will notify the individual chosen. Appointed committee members are appointed for one year but the term may be extended, depending on committee projects (maximum four years).

Should the applicant be a past General Service Conference Delegate, he/she is not eligible to apply for the opening until one year after his/her last Conference.

We look forward to receiving the resumes of your suggested applicants.

Sincerely,



Sandra Wilson
Secretary
Trustees' Committee on Literature

Enclosures: Procedures for Appointed Committee Members for G.S. Board
Committees Resume Sheet for Appointed Committee Members

APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBER RESUME SHEET
GENERAL SERVICE BOARD COMMITTEES

TRUSTEES' COMMITTEE ON _____
(Name of Trustees' Committee)

NAME : _____ RESIDENCE PHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____ BUSINESS PHONE: _____
_____ FAX: _____
_____ -mail address: _____

DATE OF SOBRIETY: _____ EDUCATION: _____

SPECIAL OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

A.A. BACKGROUND

CURRENT AND PAST ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE A.A.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____

DATE: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE ATTACHED.

GSO Guest Report

Good morning. My name is Sandra, and I'm a grateful alcoholic who found sobriety in A.A. It has been a pleasure to be with you this weekend at Area 82's Assembly/Round-up.

I am one of the 12 paid staff members -- "Special Workers" mentioned in A.A.'s Eight Tradition. Every day A.A.'s shared experience comes to life in the assignments of 12 GSO employees like myself who are required to be sober alcoholics and members of A.A.

G.S.O. Staff assignments include: Staff Coordinator, Conference, Nominating, International, Public Information, Regional Forums, Group Services, Literature, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment and Accessibilities, Corrections, and Communication Services

In 2017 we welcomed two new staff members at GSO—Diana L. who is serving the Corrections desk and Patrick C. who is on the Treatment and Accessibilities assignment.

Every 2 years staff change assignments, pack up personal items and change offices and staff assistants. Assignment rotation assures each of us can cover another's position, also do not get too entrenched, and keeps our ears open to the needs of the Fellowship from various perspectives - the ultimate cross training! – it also strengthens the team and keeps us humble!

Whether we turn to A.A. Literature, various subject files, Archives, Grapevine's Digital Archives or other resources, as GSO Staff we do our best to share from A.A.'s collected experience to support the local, informed group conscience.

Each staff member serves as secretary to trustees, Conference, and/or Corporate Board committees. These roles provide wonderful opportunities to work with delegates, directors and trustees and gain an understanding of their meetings and deliberations as well as provide resources of experience and information to the committee members.

In accordance with Concept 4 (Right of Participation) G.S.O. staff are Conference members with a voice and a vote at the annual General Service Conference

Contact with A.A. members is of vital importance to GSO staff, questions about remote communities and central and intergroup offices are particular areas folded into existing assignments

Inquiries from outside the US and Canada go to the International assignment

To handle the high volume of calls and emails, staff members are assigned to each of the eight regions that make up the Conference structure in the US and Canada (Currently the regional correspondent for Eastern Canada is Jeff Wine who is also the Staff member on the CPC assignment.)

Many of the emails, letters and calls staff receive from various regions have to do with Traditions questions or group problems. A close second in volume are inquiries related to personality conflicts upsetting A.A. unity in the group.

We are frequently asked for an official opinion on a variety of subjects, our reply is that we don't have an "official" opinion on any subject. Perhaps some of you have received one of our letters or emails where we share collected experience and information. They are usually

phrased something like, “Experience has shown that on the one hand some groups have done such and such, yet, on the other hand some groups have done so and so.”

Often, we are asked to provide letters with which one member can go back to their group and impress the group or some old-timer in the group with GSO’s “official” opinion—which, of course, they expect will be aligned with their own. The discovery that we won’t get drawn into any local controversy is sometimes disappointing.

We also know we’re in trouble when a phone call starts out like this: “I have 500 years of sobriety and let me tell you, I’ve never seen anything like this!” Or, “This group is violating the Traditions, what are you going to do about it?!”

As you might imagine, inquiries and inquiring members are never dull! Whatever arises, we do our best to share from A.A.’s collected experience, from A.A. literature and from our various subject files. We also can turn to the Archives as well as A.A. Grapevine’s Digital Archives as resources. In addition, we often refer members to their Area delegate.

What we can do at GSO is help members and groups become more informed so they can find solutions to local challenges. Again, and again, we say in our responses that the solution to almost all group problems lies in the informed group conscience. GSO has not been granted any authority over members or groups; we don’t give personal opinions; and we’re definitely not the A.A. police. Our purpose is to help facilitate the Twelfth Step work done by members and groups.

SO LET’S TAKE A TOUR OF THE OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

The Communication Services staff member serves as the liaison for information about G.S.O.’s A.A. website, www.aa.org, collecting feedback on design and content from visitors to the website; chairing G.S.O.’s Website Committee; and collaborating with G.S.O.’s Digital Media manager to continually update and improve the site. Collected experience with local website committees is shared from this desk upon request. There is a project underway to redesign our A.A. Website.

CONFERENCE ASSIGNMENT

Each year in April, approximately 135 Conference members come together for a week to convene the annual General Service Conference. At the Conference, the collective group conscience of A.A. comes together, taking actions that will guide the groups in the years to come; making policy about A.A. services; and giving guidance to the trustees, to G.S.O. and to Grapevine.

The Conference Staff person is in touch with conference members year-round, and sends out information and inquiries in response to queries and agenda suggestions.

The 2017 Final Conference Report is out, and is available for the first time in anonymity-protected digital version. G.S.O. is striving to provide background in English, French and Spanish in keeping with the Advisory Action that resulted from a floor action. We’re gearing up for the 2018 Conference.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY ASSIGNMENT

This assignment is responsible for answering calls and letters from the non-A.A. professional community such as doctors, nurses, and lawyers, human resource directors and anyone who wants information on A.A., or wants to know who we are and what we do.

Every year our C.P.C. desk coordinates with local committees to exhibit at National Conferences of Professional Organizations throughout the U.S. and Canada.

CORRECTIONS ASSIGNMENT

Anything having to do with correctional facilities is handled from this assignment. There are many A.A. meetings in jails and prisons. There is also a pre-release program which helps insiders get to meetings quickly when released. The General Service Office sends A.A. literature to inside A.A. members and coordinates a correspondence service between inside and outside A.A.'s. More than 600 letters are received monthly at the G.S.O. Corrections desk. Along with requests for help and sharing of A.A. experience, strength and hope, many inmates express their gratitude.

Last year Corrections Canada agreed to help raise awareness of CCS. So far, a handful of Canadian inmates have requested correspondents. We are hoping for more as the word gets out. We are hoping for more as word gets inside. We can always use more 'outside' correspondents, especially men. Right now, they'd be corresponding with U.S. inmates but as soon as we get more requests from Canadian inmates we will match them with Canadian correspondents.

GROUP SERVICES

This assignment oversees Service Material, revisions and updates to *A.A. Guidelines*, and contents of Kits sent out to A.A. groups. The individual on this assignment serves as a liaison with G.S.O.'s Records department. As well as liaison to local Intergroups and Central Offices. The Group Services staff member serves as secretary to the General Service Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENT

The staff member on this assignment serves as the liaison to A.A. members and groups outside of the U.S. and Canada. Currently, A.A. has a presence in approximately 176 countries. Mary recently shared at a staff meeting of her first A.A. contact in Afghanistan with an A.A. group that is not military. Group started two years ago – now with 200 members.

Every two years, this desk coordinates the World Service Meeting for countries that have an established service structure. The meeting is for sharing experience, strength and hope at the international level. The meeting location rotates every (2) two years, alternating out of New York.

Currently, the International desk is focused on preparations for the zonal meetings (REDELA Meeting of the Americas where our two trustees-at-large represent the US/Canada in Costa Rica in October, and the ESM where we will attend as observers in England in October) that take place in the years when there is no World Service Meeting and preparations are also underway for the 25th World Service Meeting that will take place in Durban, South Africa in October 2018.

NOMINATING ASSIGNMENT

The staff member on this assignment assists the trustees' committee as they fulfill their responsibility to see that all vacancies on the General Service Board, A.A. World Service Board and A.A. Grapevine Board are properly filled with members of the greatest possible competence, stability and industry.

Julio is also the Coordinator for the 2020 International Convention which will be held July 2-5 2020 in Detroit. Continue to check the aa.org website for more recent news regarding the 2020 International Convention.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – CLAY R

This assignment shares information about Alcoholics Anonymous with all levels of media i.e., television, radio, newspapers and magazines, by communicating directly with media professionals, and helping local P.I. committees with similar efforts. Anonymity breaks at the public level are addressed by this assignment through close work with the local area delegate. There are also many inquiries every year from elementary school students to college students who are writing papers on Alcoholics Anonymous, and we try to provide them with information.

The PSA "I have Hope" is available on our aa.org website in all three languages (English/French/Spanish).

REGIONAL FORUMS

The staff member on this assignment helps coordinate the Regional Forums and supports Local Forums.

Regional Forums are weekend long events designed to improve communications at all levels of the Fellowship and offer the opportunity to meet other A.A. members, members of the General Service Board, and Staff and directors from the General Service Office and Grapevine. The Forums are a meeting place to ask questions and spark new ideas to help carry the A.A. message of hope to the still-suffering alcoholic. Four regional forums are held each year. The forums rotate among the eight regions in the U.S. and Canada so that each region can host a Forum every other year. Regional Forums went well in 2016. Over 1800 members attended Forums, including 1077 first timers.

STAFF COORDINATOR – EVA S

The responsibilities of the Staff Coordinator include chairing the weekly staff meeting and handling bequests made to A.A. The Staff Coordinator is responsible to make sure that the Staff Assignments are covered without interruptions when staff are away from the office for travel, vacation, the General Service Conference or Word Service Meeting, etc.

Also, the staff coordinator serves as a Director on the Board of A.A. World Services. As Assistant Secretary to the General Service Board, the staff coordinator helps organize the Board's agendas, minutes, rosters, and more.

TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES ASSIGNMENT

The staff member on the Treatment and Accessibilities, assignment has two areas of service and support. G.S.O. cooperates and shares experience with members on Treatment committees. While A.A. is not affiliated with any alcoholism treatment facility or other

treatment setting, local A.A. committees bring A.A. meetings and literature into treatment settings.

A.A. strives to make the A.A. message receivable to every alcoholic who reaches out for help. While there are no 'special' alcoholics, there are alcoholics whose circumstances present particular barriers for receiving the A.A. message. These may include blindness, deafness, and many less apparent challenges. G.S.O. supports local Accessibilities committees working to surmount these barriers in order to carry the A.A. message to all who reach out for it.

Recently, a new Appointed Committee Member, Brianna G., has begun service on the trustees' Committee on CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities. Bri has some excellent professional experience to bring to the Committee related to overcoming accessibility barriers. Bri happens to be blind herself. This is a great opportunity for GSO to learn how we can ensure we understand any accessibility needs that our newest trusted servant might require to be able to fully participate as an Appointed Committee Member on a Trustee Committee.

As the staff member on the Literature desk, I serve as secretary to the trustees and Conference Literature Committees, and A.A.W.S. Publishing Committee, and coordinates the logistics of background and subcommittee work related to the development or revision of Conference-approved literature. A proposed work is thoroughly reviewed by the Conference to ensure that it reflects A.A. experience as a whole. It takes at least two years for new or revised literature to receive Conference approval, if it does.

Current projects include the update to the pamphlets: A.A. for the Woman, Young People and A.A., Too Young? A.A. and the Gay-Lesbian Alcoholic, The Twelve Traditions Illustrated, and Inside A.A.; additionally, we are developing literature for alcoholics with mental health issues and those who sponsor them.

The GSO newsletter, *Box 459*, sent to all groups, is also the responsibility of this assignment.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO BEING IN TOUCH

You have an open invitation to visit the G.S.O. office, which is open 8:45 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tours can be pre-scheduled and are given on the hour. Come, you can see the office firsthand, and immerse yourself in Archives, and meet many of my colleagues!

If you arrive on a Friday, you might plan to attend the 11 a.m. open A.A. meeting which typically is held in G.S.O.'s main conference room. You will be joined by members not only from the U.S. and Canada, but often from many places around the world. We have a seat saved for you.

Thank you for your attention!