

*"We have found much of heaven and we have been rocketed into a*

# Fourth Dimension

*of existence of which we had not even dreamed."*

*[Big Book, "There is a Solution," page 25]*

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**a newsletter for Southern New Jersey  
Area General Service Assembly, Alcoholics Anonymous**

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# Area 45 2016 Delegate's Report on the 66<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference

Good Morning Everyone my name is Andrew and I am Alcoholic. I had the honor and privilege of representing Area 45 Southern NJ at the 66<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Conference was held from April 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Crowne Plaza in Times Square in New York City. I would like to thank our immediate Past Delegate Joe Mc A. for picking me up and dropping me off at the train station in Hamilton on Saturday April 22.

Before I tell you about the decisions that were made at the conference I want to speak directly to the GSR's, DCM's, Committee Chairs and the elected Panel Officers and Past Delegates of Area 45 and say "thank you", for all of your support over the years to the Panel and the Delegate. Your support allowed me to go to the conference fully prepared and ready to participate. Some of the support that you have continually provided is through the Area 45 Budget, by sending the Panel Officers to events like NERAASA, NERD and the Forums. My attendance at these events gave me a solid foundation and thoroughly prepared me for how the conference operates. At times, during the week, I thought that I was over prepared and quickly realized that this was a good thing. So again, "Thank you".

As I think back to all of the stories that I have been told about the conference from our Past Delegates, I realized that my conference experience was very different from each of theirs. For me, the timing of the conference seemed to me very much like a normal work week. Some days we started at 8am and some we started at 9am and all nights we were finished by no earlier than 9:30pm. I found the conference proceedings to be very relaxed and not as formal as had been described. For instance, when speaking at the microphone most people did not always say their name, panel number, Area and committee assignment. When speaking at the microphone people often times were allowed to go over 2 minutes to finish their point and during the reading of the Area Highlights the timer was not even used.

Just a note to all of you future Delegates. When reading your background information, focus on your committee but read all of the background information at least once. I found that by reading all of the background information I had a better understanding of the items that came out of committee and therefore there was less time needed for me to discuss the items. It was obvious that several people only read and focused on their committee assignment background which lead to long discussions about recommendations that could have been easily avoided.

The following section is a quick over view of the weeklong Agenda for the Delegate at the Conference.

## *Saturday – 4/16 (not part of the conference)*

3:00pm – 4:00pm – 1728 meeting – open meeting where arriving delegates, past delegates and trustees can attend to get acquainted and start to meet each other.

4:30pm – 6:00pm – Remote Communities meeting – discussion and presentation about Remote Communities

7:00pm – 9:00pm – Delegate Only meeting – introduce yourself and here experiences from the previous year's Delegates

## *Sunday – 4/17 Conference Begins*

9:00am – Noon – Registration, Opening remarks, roll call, finance presentation and orientation

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1:00pm – 5:00pm – Presentation and those delegates assigned to a committee that have a corresponding Trustees Committee get to meet with that committee.

6:00pm – 9:00pm – Opening Dinner – Rich H. Area 45 Chairman was my guest.

*Monday – 4/18*

9:00am – Noon – Conference Committee Meetings – individual conference committees meet to discuss the items listed on the conference agenda. I was appointed to serve on the Public Information Committee and we decided to meet at 8:00am each morning.

1:00pm – 6:00pm – A.A.W.S. Report, Grapevine Report, Feasibility Study Presentation, Area Highlights, and general sharing session.

7:00pm – 9:00pm – Presentation – Connecting With Each Other and Area Highlights

*Tuesday – 4/19*

9:00am – Noon – Conference Committee Meetings – 8:00am for the Public information Committee

1:00pm – 2:00pm – Area Highlights – I read the Area 45 Highlights (see below for complete text of highlights)

2:15pm – 5:00pm – Trip to GSO and Grapevine Offices

*Wednesday – 4/20*

9:00am – 11:00am – Workshop Sessions – we were broken into small groups to discuss the Brainstorming questions about the feasibility study

11:00am – Noon – Area Highlights

1:30pm – 3:00pm – Elections for the West Central Regional and Western Canada Regional Trustee

3:00pm – 5:15pm – Committee Reports and Discussion

7:00pm – 9:30pm – Committee Reports and Discussion and General Sharing Session

*Thursday – 4/21*

8:00am – 10:45am - Feasibility Study Workshop Reports and Presentation – Connecting with AA as a Whole

10:45am – Noon – Committee Reports and Discussion

1:15pm – 5:15pm – Committee Reports and Discussion

7:00pm – 7:45pm – Grapevine Presentation

7:45pm -10:00pm – Committee Reports and Discussion

*Friday – 4/22*

8:30 – Noon – Committee Reports and Discussion

1:15 – 9:00pm – Committee Reports and Discussion, Floor Actions, Closing Remarks and Farewells by Rotating Delegates

*Saturday 4/23*

8:00am – 10:00am – Breakfast, Farewell Talks by Rotating Trustees

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## Highlights of the week

### The Committee Process

I am assigned to serve on the Public Information Committee. The Committee is made up of 4 Panel 65 Delegates who served on the committee last year and 5 Panel 66 Delegates. The committee process, on this level, is different from any other committee in which I have participated. The committee is far more diverse than a bunch of people in Southern NJ getting together to talk about how something works. There were people from Alaska, Washington State, Arkansas, Florida, Quebec, New York, Illinois and Michigan that make up the committee. All of us had very different views, opinions and experiences (sober and drunk) that influenced the way we thought about the particular items that we needed to discuss. One of the biggest things that will stick with me for a longtime is the way that the committee came to consensus on all of the agenda items that we were asked to look at, using vastly different opinions and viewpoints. The Public Information Committee came to consensus on each of the items that we were asked to discuss and we did not have any dissenting opinions or votes. At the end of the second day of committee discussion each committee elects a new, first year, Delegate to Chair the committee. I was elected Delegate Chair for the Public Information Committee for the 2017 Conference.

### Financial Report

Our Class A Trustee David Morris gave a financial report and spoke about future trend data for the Fellowship. He spoke about the 2015 budget vs actual results for the GSO and Grapevine. Both GSO and Grapevine finished the year with profits of \$192,500 and \$240,811 respectively. The two reasons for this were that contributions were greater than budgeted and operating expense for both corporations were less than budgeted. At the end of 2015 the Reserve Fund balance represented approximately 10.4 months of operating expenses, compared to a budget of 9.8 month. What this means is that GSO did not have to use the reserve fund to cover the budget for Grapevine or GSO.

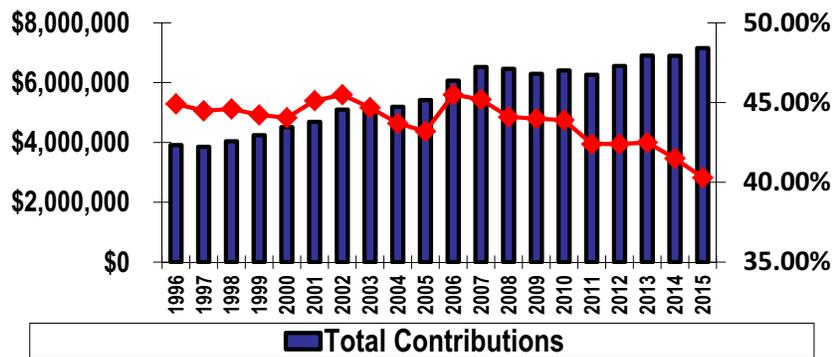
There is another side to the finances for the GSO and Grapevine. It may look like we are doing well but future trends tell a different story. The cost of services has increased while the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions have stayed flat over the past several years. Services provided by the GSO include: Group Services, Loners International and Remote Communities, the General Serviced Conference, Regional Forums, Archives, CPC, Public Information, Corrections, Treatment, Special Needs etc. Services are items that are provide at little or no cost to the Fellowship. Currently, 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Contributions are only covering 74.3% of these costs. Literature sale make up the short fall needed to provide services to the Fellowship.

The General Service Office receives contributions from only 26,500 groups or 40.3% of all of the active groups. The problem is that over the past 20 years less groups have been contributing to the GSO. Actual contributions have gone up over the past 10 years but stayed stagnate over the past 3 years. As more groups stop contributing to GSO it places a hire burden on those groups that do contribute. The challenge is how does AA start to get the other 59.7% of the groups that are not contributing to start to contribute? This is the focus of the Feasibility Study and Brain Storming ideas. The goal is not to get the people and groups that already give to give more but to receive contributions from those individuals and groups that currently do not give.

The graph below shows the disturbing trend of less groups supporting the General Service Office versus the amount of 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions sent by groups.

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**7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION SELF-SUPPORT – 1996 – 2015**

It is estimated that the total cost of Services per member of AA is \$7.14 per year.

Late last year the General Service Office started accepting direct reoccurring contributions from individuals and allowing groups to make contributions online from the AA.org website. Information on making direct individual or group contributions can be found on line at:

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

**Feasibility study**

The Feasibility Study was included as part of the background materials that all Delegates received. This was discussed at the conference and I am sharing it with you to read and share with your home groups in case you have ideas that you would like to share about how we can increase contributions and participation in services throughout the Fellowship.

**Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.**

The construction and co-location project was completed on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and although there are a number of small items that need to be resolved, the Grapevine is now settled into their new workspace.

Last year AAWS was the defendant in two law suits. The first was in California, the Mendez case, where the trial court dismissed the allegation of liability for wrongful death. You may remember this case as it reached national attention last year. This was the case in which a person attending AA started to date a woman in AA and then murdered the woman. The time to file an appeal has passed so the dismissal is final.

The second suit is still pending. In Toronto, the Knight Case, alleges the violation of Canada's Human Rights code. This action stems from the Toronto Intergroup delisting an atheist and agnostic meeting from the meeting list. The groups that make up the Toronto Intergroup voted to delist these groups after the groups published a version of the 12 Steps that differs from the AA 12 steps, on its website. This has been a very public and now legal issue in Toronto with several anonymity breaks. The Toronto Intergroup has gone so far as to state that they are a religious group and that a belief in a higher power is required to be a part of the Toronto Intergroup.

In both cases, the allegations are that the AAWS failed to exercise authority and control over other aspects of the service structure. In the Mendez case it was alleged that AAWS provide guidelines and polices for AA groups throughout the United States and further that AAWS was grossly negligent in failing to establish guidelines and policies concerning sexual predators who use AA meetings to locate their victims and establish policies regarding the role of a sponsor to provide supervision of sponsees.

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In the Knight Case it is alleged that the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup discriminated against the plaintiff by removing his group from the Intergroup Directory because members of his group are agnostic. The allegation of discrimination against AAWS is that AAWS has failed to direct the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup to include this group in their Directory.

The AAWS Board has made it clear in both of these cases that ours is a pure service function without control of or authority over the actions of any other service entity. Even the listing of groups is an aid to provide communication and not a means of control.

### **Grapevine**

The Grapevine presentation focused on their new mobile app. You can now subscribe through the app, access the magazine through your smart phone or tablet, download issues for offline viewing and email favorite articles to friends. Phase 1 of the app roll-out has begun and will be for Apple devices with future phases following soon. The yearly subscription cost is \$23.99 which is cheaper than the print subscription.

Additional items presented by the Grapevine include the Grapevine Audio Project., which dates back to 2013. This is a project in which individuals can record their story in 7 minutes or call the Grapevine and record their story over the phone and send the recording directly to Grapevine. The Grapevine will use excerpts or transcriptions of these stories in The Grapevine magazine, on the website or other print material. This is just another way to share your story with the Grapevine. The Grapevine is in desperate need of those who can speak Spanish for this service. See this link for more information <http://www.aagrapevine.org/audio-portal> .

### **Area 45 Highlights**

During each Conference the new Panel of Delegates reads short summaries about their particular Delegate Area. The text of the Area 45 Highlights that I read at this year's Conference are as follows:

Area 45 serves approximately 9000 members attending 550 groups in 29 Districts throughout all of Southern New Jersey. Recent efforts have focused on ensuring that all of these Districts are active in our Assembly. Many of our Districts host service related workshops as well as picnics and dances. We have 14 standing committees. Our quarterly Assembly and Committee meetings are hosted by our Districts and we offer a new DCM/GSR Orientation before each of our Assemblies. We host an annual convention; 2016 is our 52<sup>nd</sup>. The convention is followed by our yearly mini-conference which provides our Delegate with an overview of the Area's group conscience. We join our three Intergroups in hosting an annual Day of Sharing and our Alternate Delegate acts as a liaison to the Intergroups. Our Special Needs Committee has been working closely with the Intergroups to accurately update meeting lists for those in need of special facilities. We have a long standing tradition of cooperating with Al-Anon by providing literature, hosting meetings and having an AA speaker at their annual state-wide convention. Our Grapevine Committee hosts a biennial Grape-Fest and writer's workshop. We have a website at [snjaa.org](http://snjaa.org) and our Fourth Dimension newsletter is available online. Area 45 is a thriving community of alcoholics united behind our current theme of "Principles before Personalities".

### **Conference Actions and Floor Actions**

This is the point in the Conference where committees present their reports and make recommendations to the rest of the Conference. These recommendations are motions or actions that get discussed and debated and then voted on. If passed, these actions become Conference Advisory Actions. Agenda items not coming out of committee can be deemed as "take no action" or "the committee took no action", and the committee can ask for additional consideration of any of the items listed on the agenda. Both of the actions, "take no action" and "additional consideration" are not debatable by the Conference.

**NOTE:** These are Advisory Actions only.  
Details are contained in full  
Conference committee reports.

## CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 66<sup>th</sup> GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The following recommendations were approved by the 66<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference:

### **Floor Actions**

It was recommended that:

1. General Service Conference delegates be provided a copy of the final approved annual General Service Office and A.A. Grapevine budgets with the pre- Conference material for all future Conferences.
2. The General Service Board develop a new policy and a plan that enhances the General Service Conference agenda Review and Selection Process, providing the area delegate members of the Conference a role in the vetting and selection of proposed agenda items through the Conference process to be brought to the 2017 General Service Conference.
3. The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference create a plan to translate Conference background material, considering all possible methods, with a progress report to be forwarded to the 2017 Conference Committee on Policy/ Admissions that describes the process and costs.

### **Agenda**

It was recommended that:

4. The theme for the 2017 General Service Conference be: "Supporting Our Future."
5. The following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2017 General Service Conference:
  - a. Growth:
    1. Diversity -- Outreach and Attraction
    2. Safety – An Important Consideration
    3. Communication – Today and Tomorrow
  - b. Participation:
    1. Fellowship vs. Membership

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2. Leadership: “I am Responsible...”
  3. Is Your Voice Heard?
- c. Contributions:
1. Spirituality and Money
  2. Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations
  3. Apathy and Power of the Purse
6. The Conference Agenda Committee review the summary of the previous year’s Conference evaluations and, where appropriate, make suggestions for improvement to the trustees’ Committee on the General Service Conference.
  7. The General Service Office post to the Conference dashboard, and regularly update information concerning the status of all proposed Conference agenda items.

## Archives<sup>1</sup>

No recommendations.

## Cooperation With the Professional Community

It was recommended that:

8. A new section on A.A. and medications be added to the pamphlet “If You are a Professional...” with the following text:
  - A.A. Members and Medications
  - A.A. does not provide medical advice; all medical advice and treatment should come from a qualified health care professional. The suggestions provided in the pamphlet “The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs” may help A.A. members minimize the risk of relapse.
9. Text be added to the last paragraph of the first page of the pamphlet “Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?” to read (additions in **bold**):
  - A.A. can help organizations, **corporations and businesses, regardless of size**, contact men and women who have achieved sobriety, and are willing to share their experience freely with anyone who seeks help.
10. Several minor revisions to the pamphlet “How A.A. Members Cooperate With Professionals” be approved.
11. An introductory paragraph for professionals be added to the pamphlet “Problems Other Than Alcohol” addressing the notion that while some language in the 1958 pamphlet is dated, the issues are prevalent today, and asked that a draft introductory paragraph be brought back to the 2017 Conference Cooperation With the Professional Community Committee for review.

<sup>1</sup> Members of this committee serve on this as a secondary committee assignment.

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## **Corrections**

It was recommended that:

12. The video to replace “It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell” with the title “A New Freedom” be approved.

## **Finance**

No recommendations.

## **Grapevine**

It was recommended that:

13. The delegate chair for the Grapevine Conference Committee be allowed the same participation at the January A.A. Grapevine Board Meeting as all other delegate chairs at their corresponding trustees’ committees.

## **International Conventions/Regional Forums<sup>1</sup>**

No recommendations.

## **Literature**

It was recommended that:

14. The trustees’ Literature Committee develop a plan that includes a systematic schedule for the annual review of recovery literature items, taking into consideration the following: content, relevance, and usefulness; and prioritized by time span since last review. The committee requested that the plan also include an annual report, to be forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee, reflecting the results of their review and any other items for proposed updates or revisions.
15. The trustees’ Literature Committee revise the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” to include information about young people’s conferences and that the proposed text be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee for review.
16. The trustees’ Literature Committee update the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” to better reflect the experiences of young people in A.A. today. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee.
17. The trustees’ Literature Committee undertake a comprehensive revision of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” with a modernized presentation of both text and illustrations to reflect contemporary A.A. experience. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee.

## **Policy/Admissions**

It was recommended that:

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18. Mykhailo Araslanov, past World Service Meeting delegate, and Yury Tarnavskyy from Ukraine be admitted to the 66<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference as observers.
19. Implementation of Phase 1 of the Conference Translation Project to translate pre- Conference and Conference material into Spanish and French, as described in the 2015 Advisory Action, continue with an estimated cost of \$50,000 - \$100,000.
20. The 69<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference be held April 28-May 4, 2019 since these dates do not conflict with any significant holiday or hotel availability.

**Public Information**

It was recommended that:

21. A proposal for implementing a Google-for-Non-Profits account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for review.
22. A proposal for the implementation of a Twitter account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for review.
23. The English- and French-language versions of the video public service announcement “Tengo Esperanza,” be centrally distributed, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, in addition to distribution by local committees, and that the information gathered from the process be forwarded to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for their review.
24. The video public service announcement “I Thought” be discontinued.

**Report and Charter**

It was recommended that:

25. A new section on “Local Forums” be added to Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of *The A.A. Service Manual*, after the “Regional Forums” section with the following text:

Local Forums

In October 2006, the concept of Local Forums was approved by the General Service Board. The purpose of Local Forums is to bring Forum information to A.A. members in remote, sparsely populated areas, urban neighborhoods or underserved A.A. communities. Any A.A. community or service entity may request a one-and-a-half or two day Local Forum. Unlike Regional Forums, the responsibility for Forum expenses such as meeting room rental and miscellaneous expenses are assumed by the Local Forum Committee. The General Service Board will send two participants, one from the Board and one from the General Service Office or Grapevine office, and display literature at Board expense. Like Regional Forums, Board participation in Local Forums requires the approval of the trustees’ Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. The Regional Forums coordinator works closely with the Local Forum organizing committee to create an agenda that is responsive to local needs.

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26. The following text in endnote 4 be removed from Concept XII on page 73 of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*:

4. Bill here, apparently inadvertently, used the phrase “in action and spirit,” instead of “in thought and action,” that appears elsewhere in both the Conference Charter and the statement of Concept XII.

27. The following text be removed from the Concept XI essay on page 58 of *Twelve Concepts for World Service*:

Women workers present still another problem. Our Headquarters is pretty much a man’s world. Some men are apt to feel, unconsciously, that they are women’s superiors, thus producing a reflex reaction in the gals. Then, too, some of us — of both sexes — have been emotionally damaged in the area of man-woman relations. Our drinking has made us wrongly dependent on our marriage partners. We have turned them into our “moms” and “pops,” and then we have deeply resented that situation. Perhaps maladjustment has taken still other turns which leave us with a hangover of hostility that we are apt to project into any man- woman relatedness that we undertake.

It is possible for these forces to defeat the good working partnerships we would like to have. But if we are fully aware of these tendencies they can be the more easily overcome, and forgiven. We can be aware also that any sound working relation between adult men and women must be in the character of a partnership, a non-competitive one in which each partner complements the other. It is not a question of superiority or inferiority at all. Men, for example, because they are men, are apt to be better at business. But suppose we replaced our six women staff members with six men? In these positions could the men possibly relate themselves so uniquely and so effectively to our Fellowship as the women? Of course not. The women can handle this assignment far better, just because they are women. 10

28. Endnote 10, on page 59 in *Twelve Concepts for World Service* in the Concept XI essay be revised by the Publishing Department with language noting that two paragraphs have been removed from the Concept XI essay and are available upon request from the G.S.O. Archives Department as a reference to A.A. history.
29. *The A.A. Service Manual* be revised per existing schedule after the 2016 General Service Conference and that a new edition be published biannually (i.e., every two years), beginning in 2017 at a savings of approximately \$45,000 - 50,000 in alternate years when a new edition is not published. The next edition of *The A.A. Service Manual* is to be published in 2018 (after the Conference), the subsequent edition in 2020 (after the Conference), etc.
30. The category title “Online Meetings” be changed to “Online Meetings/Online Groups” on page vi and vii in the A.A. Directories.

## **Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities**

It was recommended that:

31. The term “Special Needs” be removed from the name of the Conference Committee on Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities and throughout the committee’s Composition, Scope

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and Procedure. The new name of the committee will be the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

## **Trustees**

It was recommended that:

32. The following slate of trustees be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Class A Trustees

Leslie S. Backus, B.A.  
Terrance M. Bedient, FACHE  
Hon. Christine Carpenter  
Hon. Ivan L.R. Lemelle  
Peter Luongo, Ph.D., LCSW-C  
Nancy J. McCarthy  
David M. Morris, C.P.A.

Class B Trustees

Thomas A.  
Richard B.  
Carole B.  
Joel C.  
Joe D.  
Bill F.  
Yolanda F.  
Scott H.  
William N.  
Chet P.  
Richard P.  
Bob W.  
Cate W.  
Albin Z.

33. The appointment of the following slate of officers of the General Service Board be approved at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Chairperson	Terrance M. Bedient, FACHE
First vice-chairperson	Bob W.
Second vice-chairperson	Chet P.
Treasurer	David M. Morris, C.P.A.
Secretary	Bill F.

34. The February 2016 appointment of the following officers by the chair of the General Service Board be approved at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2016:

Assistant Treasurer	Donald W. M.
Assistant Secretary	Eva S.

This appointment process is in accordance with the General Service Board Bylaws.

35. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Richard B.	William N.
Beau B.	Richard P.
Joe D.	Eva S.
Homer M.	Greg T.
David N.	

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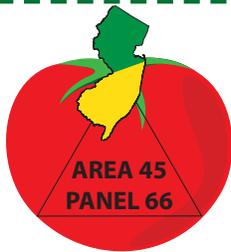
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36. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Lynda B.  | Yolanda F. |
| Carole B. | Ivan L.    |
| Ami B.    | Paz P.     |
| Joel C.   | Albin Z.   |
| Josh E.   |            |

37. If a vacancy for a regional trustee occurs prior to September 1 in the first year, then an election for a three-year term would occur at the following General Service Conference (GSC) for the affected region. If a vacancy for a regional trustee occurs between September 1 in the first year and August 31 of the third year then the delegates from the affected region would be given an option to hold an election for a six-year or five-year term, or leave the position vacant, depending on when the vacancy occurs. Regardless of whether the term was for three, five or six years, the regional trustee would be expected to serve two years on one of the two operating corporation boards.

###



## Southern New Jersey - Area 45 Panel 66

*"Principles before Personalities"*

# Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
August 21, 2016	Area 45 Summer Assembly Registration begins 8:30am DCM/GSR Orientation 9am Assembly 10am, Lunch 12:30pm Committee Meeting 1:30pm	Section I Carslake Community Center 207 Crosswicks St. Bordentown, NJ 08505
September 10, 2016	Area Inventory Begins 8:30am	St. Charles Church 175 Stagecoach Rd. Sicklerville, NJ 08081
To be determined	Day of Sharing Hosted by all 3 Intergroups and the Area 8:30am	To be determined
November 20, 2016	Area 45 Fall Assembly Registration begins 8:30am DCM/GSR Orientation 9am Election Assembly 10am, Lunch 12:30pm Committee Meeting 1:30pm	Section II Gibson House 535 East Main Street Marlton, NJ 08053

# Minutes from the May 15<sup>th</sup> Area Meeting

## Delegates Report to Area 45 Feb. 21, 2016

Area 45 Report May 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

Good Morning Everyone,

My name is Andrew L. and I am privileged to serve you as the Area 45 Delegate. Since last we met I have attended several service functions including NERAASA, NERD, Area 45 Convention, the mini conference and the 66<sup>th</sup> GSO Conference. You will hear more about all of these in my conference report.

Our Grapevine Chair Gail N. informed me that she would have to step down. This prompted me to start discussing and thinking about how the Committee functions and what is the best long term vision for the committee. After a large amount of discussion with past delegates, panel members committees chairs and the intergroups I have decided to try to implement an idea that was floated at the last Day of Sharing in which it was suggested that the Grapevine Committee stop selling merchandise and focus on promoting subscriptions and participation in the Grapevine.

My note to the Intergroup Chairs reads as the following:

Area 45 is in the process of transforming the Area Grapevine Committee from a committee that sells Grapevine literature and merchandise to a committee that promotes the subscription based magazine The AA Grapevine both in print and digital media and the services of the AA Grapevine. It is our hope to better focus on items such as monthly subscription sales, the AA Grapevine Audio Project and the AA Grapevine Archives with a goal to increase Fellowship wide understanding of the Grapevine, subscription sales and service participation from Group Grapevine Representatives.

To help Area 45 in this endeavor, the Area Delegate and Chair have reached out to all three (3) Intergroup chairs to gauge their support and willingness to sell Grapevine literature and merchandise as a service to the groups and fellowship. To help start this process the Area is willing to sell their inventory of Grapevine literature at cost to the Intergroups. The Area currently has about \$1600 in Grapevine merchandise which can be distributed evenly among the 3 Intergroups.

As part of this transition that Area Grapevine Committee will now focus on holding one day-long workshop each year, (Grapefest), focusing on greater fellowship participation with the Grapevine. The Committee will hold a writer's workshop, audio recording project and promote magazine distribution both through the traditional print media and digitally, through the new Grapevine App. Additionally, I will be asking the new Alternate Delegate to chair the Grapevine Committee as they are the link to the Intergroups. It is the desire of Area 45 to both form a closer partnership with the Inter-

*(Continues on the next page.)*

## Important Information to Clip & Save

- **Southern New Jersey Area 45**

P.O. Box 3724

Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

[www.snjaa.org](http://www.snjaa.org)

- **Central Jersey Intergroup**

P.O. Box 4096

Trenton, New Jersey 08610

(609) 656-8908 -or- (609) 656-8900

[www.centraljerseyintergroup.org](http://www.centraljerseyintergroup.org)

- **South Jersey Intergroup**

P.O. Box 2514

Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

(856) 486-4444

[www.aasj.org](http://www.aasj.org)

- **Cape Atlantic Intergroup**

P.O. Box 905

Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232

(609) 641-8855 or (800) 604-HELP (4357)

[www.capeatlanticaa.org](http://www.capeatlanticaa.org)

- **AA World Services, Inc.**

P.O. Box 459,

Grand Central Station

New York, New York 10163

(212) 870-3400

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

groups and improve distribution and fellowship wide participation in the AA Grapevine.

While speaking to the Intergroup Chairs each Cahir was very supportive of this and they each wanted to take this suggestion back to the Intergroups for approval and discussion.

In addition to the other things that I mentioned I attend two Budget and Finance Committee meetings and had several conversation with our Chair and Committee Chair about the budget being proposed today during the Committee meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Andrew L.

Area 45 Delegate

### **Alternate Delegate**

Now Rose S.

## **AREA PANEL OFFICERS**

### **Chair: Richard H.**

Chairperson's Panel Report 5/16/2016

My name is Rich H. and I am an alcoholic. On behalf of the Panel, I want to thank all those who are here in service to the fellowship, particularly those who are attending their first Area Assembly. In addition, I want to congratulate new panel members.

I also want to emphasize the Delegate's proposed changes to how Grapevine Committee will operate means that Area will be inviting the Intergroup to sell literature at Area Assemblies and other events.

Finally, to the Area chair fall many privileges but also some tougher duties, including making sure that the Area meetings get accurate news about issues that might affect them or Area as a whole. To that end, I need to tell you that this year's convention was a success in terms of carrying the message and helping to build unity in the area but at the end of the day, lost money largely because of lower attendance and even lower room purchases. The hotel bill exceeds the funds in the 52<sup>nd</sup> account by about \$4,900, funds that the Area itself will need to provide. I am trying to negotiate with the hotel to get them, to cut us a break on this year's bill. I am also going to try to see if we can get the Hotel to tweak the contract for next year because it is a two-year contact. Finally, Area is going to have to comprehensively evaluate its options for 2018. Area has sufficient funds in its operating account to meet the hotel obligation without dipping into its reserves, but nonetheless this is not a positive, the goal being for the convention to break even.

Thanks,

In love and service,

Rich H.

Chair, A, P66

### **Treasurer: Ted**

#### **05/15/2016 TREASURER'S REPORT**

The starting balance on 02/021/2016	\$30287.87
Interest earned	\$2.05
Expenses paid	\$10,290.76
Contributions received	\$7549.66 from groups
	\$30,000.00 from Convention Committee
Balance on 05/15/2016	Begin- 57,869.50
	Pending Trans- (39.87)
	Available- 57,829.63

Respectfully Submitted,

Theodore Wood Area 45 Treasurer

*(Continues on the next page.)*

**Registrar: Jessica S.****Secretary: Tammy C.**

Hi!!

I would first like to thank everyone for this opportunity to be of service to our area!! It is truly an honor!

I am Tammy C., Alcoholic and Secretary for Panel 66 of Area 45. Thank you to everyone who emailed their reports to me before the Assembly! This makes my job much easier and thorough!

For ALL OTHERS, please email them to me as soon as possible at tammypanel66@outlook.com. This way, the reports can all be properly put together for the newsletter so the area can be kept informed as thoroughly as possible!! I hope to see the remainder in my email following the meeting! Thank you again!!

I am sorry to say that I missed many events due to medical issues. I look forward to changing that situation as soon as possible!!

I was able to attend NERAASA. It was my first opportunity to attend and it was VERY informative and instructional!! It was fascinating to meet folks from different areas and learn new ways that folks do things!

I went to the Mini Conference – we addressed many fascinating topics! Anyone that doesn't attend these are really missing out on a wonderful day of service, fellowship and information!!

I enjoyed the Convention! It was very well assembled with wonderful speakers! Unfortunately, we didn't see the attendance that we have in the past. Hopefully, we will be able to increase that going forward. Perhaps more publicity will help.

I look forward to much active service going forward and working with you all in many ways!

Again, my email is tammypanel66@outlook.com. Please send your reports as soon as possible!!

On May 15, 2016 the meeting began with the Serenity prayer and Reading. This was followed by the introduction of the new GSRs and DCMs. We then acknowledged anniversaries that occurred between our February Assembly and today.

We had a nice lunch. I appreciate the hosting of the meeting! A wonderful job was accomplished!! Thank you so much!!

We now have a new Alternate Delegate in Rose S. We also have a new Treasurer in Justin S. Congratulations and welcome!!

We closed the meeting with the responsibility pledge.

With gratitude in service;

Tammy C.

Secretary

Area 45

Panel 66

On February 21, 2016, the meeting began with the Serenity prayer and Reading. This was followed by the introduction of the new GSRs and DCMs. We then acknowledged anniversaries that occurred between the November Assembly and today. District 26 will hold a short meeting at the beginning of lunch.

Reports are read.

Topics voted on are as follows:

Motion 1: Registration needs a computer. It is suggested that it should not exceed \$500 with no further software to be needed. Fred addressed Concept 3. Mike asked if we have the funds available to fund this endeavor since it is not a line item on the budget. It was determined that we do.

Vote: Unanimously passes

Motion 2: Start time for Orientation to be moved to 8:45 am to 9:15 am to be more efficient and streamline.

Vote: Unanimously passes

11:26 am LUNCH

12:26 pm reconvene.

*(Continues on the next page.)*

Section Leaders and District Leaders reports are read.

Agenda for May Assembly is discussed.

Gail – brought up increasing readership.

Andrew – refer to work with Policy and Charter.

Grapevine is a meeting in print.

Action suggested – would changing the tagline increase leadership possibilities?

Stephanie suggested referring to it as the International Journal of AA.

Ted suggested that it is not our place to change the name of the Grapevine.

Fred E. explained the market effect.

Ginger brought up her concern that several meetings share the same names.

Bob said that the Beverly group, “The Fellowship Group” is to change their name.

Andrew said that our “Young People’s” Committee has room to grow.

We can go over literature to have folks “edit”.

1:15 We closed with the Responsibility Prayer.

I am personally looking forward to NERASSA coming up on February 26, 27, 28 and the Area 45 52<sup>nd</sup> annual General Service Convention being held on April 1,2 and 3!!!

Thank you all!!

Tammy C.

Secretary

Panel 66

Area 45

## **AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

### **Archives: Rose**

Good Morning everyone. My name is Rose and I am an alcoholic. I am priviled to serve as your area 45 archives chair. Thank you Section III for hosting today’s assembly.

I want to thank Rich and Steve for helping pick up the archives to display at the convention. The convention was so great and displaying the archives just made it so much better. I really got to see all the convention archives we have including the logo paintings and convention cups. We really have a great display. Also if anyone has an extra convention cup please let me know as I still need this years cup.

I am available to display the Archives at your Area/District Events. Please let me know if you would like to have the archives displayed.

In Love and Service

Rose

### **Audio: Jamie D.**

Area 45 Report: 5/15/16

The convention went well! I was able to offer support to the convention planning committee. I'd like to thank Al and Bob for all of their help with that!

The mini conference was the following week, that was an event which I was unable to attend, I only went to go pick up the equipment long after the meeting had ended. So I'd like to thank Frank H, and everybody who helped out then.

*(Continues on the next page.)*

That leads me to my next point: I'm going to come up with a pool of three or four people that I can call upon to help out at a time like that and event in which I'm not able to attend.

My original idea was to have a cochair. But I want to shoulder the administrative responsibilities that come with being the "Audio Chair". The work is getting done, but I have 3 jobs, 2 kids....So it'd be best to have a group of people to help offer support WHEN NEEDED.

If you're open to being one of those people. Please just let me know.

Thank you!

Jamie D

No Report Submitted

### **Budget & Finance**

Vacant

No Report Submitted

### **Convention Committee (53<sup>rd</sup>): Kelly W.**

My name is Kelly W. and I am an alcoholic. I am also privileged to serve as the 53<sup>rd</sup> Area 45 General Service Convention Chair.

This year's Convention Committee began taking shape at our wrap-up meeting at the hotel immediately following the Convention. At that time, many people added their names to a growing list of those interested in making themselves available for Area service by helping out with the convention next year. We also had a large turnout for our first meeting which took place on May 1<sup>st</sup> and at present we have a total of 63 committee members ready for action!

My amazing Co-Chair Angela R. and I were able to put together an equally amazing Steering Committee which includes our Treasurer, Zoe M, Registration Chair, Laura H., Program Chair, Jen G., and Hospitality Chair, Heidi W. All of us together were in turn able to offer Chair positions to many of those who had expressed interest in helping and as of today all positions have been filled.

Next month we hope to choose our theme and logo. We've already had some great suggestions so we are anxious to get that settled in order to move forward with our Save-the-Dates and other preparations.

In July we will have our annual pool party at a new and very prestigious location- my mom and dad's house.

[Our next planning meeting will be held at the Hammonton Presbyterian Church at 1PM on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to mark your calendars for the convention which is still at the Crowne Plaza Cherry Hill the weekend of March 24-26, 2017.](#)

In grateful service,

Kelly W.

### **Outgoing Convention Committee Chair, Wallace D.**

Thank you to everyone who attended the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual convention back in April. The convention program provided service oriented workshops and the speakers were great. I'm sure a great time was had by all. One last thank you to the entire committee for all their hard work.

The convention lost money for a second year. Lower attendance is at the heart of the loss. We failed to sell our room block and were charged for the unsold rooms. Lower attendance also meant that our overall coffee bill was lower. However, this means that we did not meet the food and beverage minimum and in accordance with the contract, a charge was incurred for the use of the hotel meeting

*(Continues on the next page.)*



rooms. Income from the convention was approximately \$8k short of what is needed to cover the bill. Rich the area chair is attempting to negotiate with the hotel to reduce some of these charges.

As you can see from the bottom line, the convention needs more support and higher attendance. I ask all of you to help Kelly meet her attendance goals for next year.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the area.

### **Assembly Report CPC Committee: Randi J.**

Randi Alcoholic

I'd like to thank Section III for hosting our assembly today.

The following is this past quarter's CPC report.

The CPC Committee met for our March meeting, and went over our objectives for the Prison Project. As a result of our work, we found out that we will now have permission to bring AA meetings into all 13 state prisons. We only have to follow a certain procedure. Now we just need the people to volunteer! The prison commitment involves getting clearance for a state badge and your time.

I personally applied, passed the FBI screening, went to orientation, had fingerprints and a photo taken, and received my State Badge.

I started my assignment on April 17, with maximum security inmates, at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility, in Clinton.

I encourage anyone willing, and to encourage those you influence, to make roughly a 2 year commitment, to take on an assignment. Please see the corrections committee for an application. Also something to think about... if enough people in your home group can get clearance, you can split the commitment as a home group.

Next I wrote up a proposed budget for CPC for the years 2017 & 2018. Also, I was privileged to serve on the Budget Committee this year, and attended two meetings in Piedricksville.

I attended the Area 45 Convention and sat in my CPC booth for 3 days. I felt like Lucy in her stand in the Charlie Brown comics. "CPC for 5 cents."

Luckily, I had the best candy, and I was a big hit.

I attended the Mini Conference in Collingswood, where I was the moderator for the CPC table. It was a very productive workshop, and I learned a lot from the experience.

I was invited to speak at the District 3 meeting in Beverly on April 10, on what CPC is. I handed out "Sponsor your Doctor" kits and Prison volunteer applications there.

During the interim between meetings, I wrote to several organizations to ask if we could speak at their conventions. I also ordered all supplies for the "Sponsor Your Doctor" kits, to use when we stuffed envelopes till 9:10 pm, at our April CPC Committee meeting.

Also, Mark K and Allan B met with Trenton College of New Jersey, to explore some possibilities we may have there to be of service.

More information to follow next quarter.

Please Pick up "Sponsor Your Doctor" kits at lunch for yourself, your home group or your GSR's if you are a DCM.

Yours in Service, Randi J.

### **Public Information Committee: Jenn M.**

May 15, 2016

Area 45 Spring Assembly Meeting

Public Information Committee Meeting Report

Good Afternoon,

I apologize that I am not present today to give my report.

*(Continues on the next page.)*

I am in the process of scheduling a meeting for the first committee meeting. There are now 4 people on the committee. We will be following the suggestions as described in the Public Information Committee literature as outlined by the General Service Office.

Thank you.

In love & service,

Jenn M.

Chairperson

### **Corrections: Kathleen F**

#### **CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT – 5/15/15**

Good afternoon. I am Kathleen F. I am an alcoholic and I am privileged to serve as the Corrections Committee chair.

The Corrections Committee held its first Corrections Workshop Saturday morning, 4/2 at this year's annual Convention in Cherry Hill. Our goal was to recruit new individuals to carry the message of recovery into the various correctional facilities. We had two speakers who were ex-inmates and one speaker who is a volunteer who carries the message into facilities. Approximately 30 people attended, which we feel is a good number. We had several people pick up applications to fill out for the various facilities, including county jails as well as state prisons. Some of the attendees also donated to our LIPs can.

In addition to the Workshop, we had our Corrections Committee table set up in the promenade as we have in past years. Our literature donations at the convention were approximately \$1,100.00.

Literature orders filled since the last Assembly meeting was for Bayside, Southwoods, Southern State, Burlington County Jail, Fort Dix Correctional Facility, Garden State and Camden County Jail totaling approximately \$2,500.00.

If our budget allows, we are considering having a mini-brunch in the Fall for the volunteers who are currently going into the various facilities to show our appreciation and also as a way to find out what works best for each volunteer at the facilities they go in to.

Our Corrections Committee account balance as of 5/12/16 is \$4,300.58.

In grateful service,

Kathleen F.

Corrections Chair

### **DCM/GSR Orientation: Elaine McA.**

At this morning's Orientation Workshop, there were 7 new GSR's, 2 Alternate GSR's, 1 Section Leader and 2 visitors.

Everyone received an Orientation packet and an Area 45 Handbook. We discussed the General Service Structure, the structure of Area 45 and had an overview of what to expect from today's Assembly and Committee meetings. In addition, we talked about the responsibilities of being a GSR, Area and Regional events and other opportunities for service. Our Area Registrar, Jessica S. was on hand to help each attendee fill out the New Group change forms. Please make sure Jessica receives those forms before you leave today in order to be registered with the General Service Office and receive mailings from GSO. Our Area Delegate, Andrew L., addressed the group. He spoke in general about the General Service Conference he had participated in last month and which he will be reporting on later this morning.

I encouraged the new GSR's to meet with their respective DCM's during today's Assembly, so that they may be informed of their district functions.

I know that we all welcome our newest trusted servants to Area 45 as they start their service journey and wish for them to experience the joy of service that we all have found.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve.

Elaine McA.



*(Continues on the next page.)*

**Grapevine: Gail N.**

Area 45 Assembly, Southern NJ – Sunday, February 21, 2016

Grapevine Chair Report

Gail N – Grapevine Chair Area 45, Southern NJ

**JalCon: Danielle M.**

Here is the report for Jalcon...

The Al-Anon Convention is July 22, 23, 24 at the Sheraton Edison Hotel in Edison NJ. Online registration is [whoscoming.com/jalcon](http://whoscoming.com/jalcon)

Early registration is \$34, regular is \$40.

Hotel rates vary.

We need 7 AA meeting chairs.

The committee is still looking for chairs for co-chair, hotel liaison and alateen.

Thank you.

Danielle

Jalcon Rep

**Policy & Charter: Fred**

No report.

Respectively Submitted,

Fred.

**Registration: Matt C.**

My report for the May Area Assembly is:

54 GSRs

6 Alt GSRs

16 DCMs

2 Section Leaders

11 Committee Chairs

6 Panel Members

2 Intergroup Chairpersons

5 Past delegates

8 Visitors

There was one person who signed in as both a DCM and GSR so the total attendance was 109 people.

Matt

**AREA 45 SUMMER ASSEMBLY**  
**Sunday, August 21, 2016**

Carlslake Community Center  
 207 Crosswicks Street  
 Bordentown, NJ 08505

Registration: 8:30 AM  
 Orientation: 9:00 AM  
 Assembly: 10:00 AM

**Accessibility/Special Needs: Katie T.**

(Continues on the next page.)

**Website: Al B.**

Area 45 Webchair Report

We have continued to update the website monthly or as needed.

The Community and Professional Committee (CPC) was missing from the calendar. CPC is now included in the calendar.

Just remaining everyone to send a copy of all Area 45 related workshops and meetings to Webadmin.

Attended NERAASA.

Worked on Convention website.

Served as Audio chair for Area Convention

The Convention was great.

I have to date enjoyed being your Area Webchair.

Al B.

**Workshop: Cyndi W.**

No Report Submitted

**Newsletter Chair: Laura H.**

Laura H.

Newsletter Chair

May 15, 2016

Hi my name is Laura your newsletter chair. I would like to thank everyone for getting their reports to Tammy, our Area 45 secretary, almost on time. The reports are due 6 weeks prior to our following Assembly meeting. Please when submitting your reports do not include your last name, last initial is ok.

If you had the opportunity to read May's newsletter you would have noticed that we changed the reports to one column, your voices were heard and hope it was easier to read.

Articles and flyers for district events can be emailed directly to me at [area45newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:area45newsletter@gmail.com).

I would like to introduce and thank Michael E. as the Area 45's new newsletter co-chair. He came highly recommended and is involved in district 3.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your area's newsletter chair.

**Adhoc—Efficiency: John K.**

We can all agree that computer lives are like dog lives, every year is equivalent to 7. Our Area 45 Website has not been updated in at least 6 years. In addition to being out dated, there are several issues that need to be addressed. First, the site does not conform to GSO guidelines, nor current guidelines for internet sites. In addition, the template that the site was created with is no longer capable to the current version of Dreamweaver which makes maintenance tedious and difficult.

Area 45's website contains over 70 pages and more than 100 documents and PDF's that need to be brought up to compliance. This undertaking cannot be accomplished by 1 person. Considering that delaying the inevitable will just make the site further outdated, updating the site requires several steps. I have laid them out in a Project Proposal. Copies are circling around the room. The recommendation for the Ad Hoc committee members are based upon GSO guidelines.

**Young People: Dana L.**

*(Continues on the next page.)*

**INTERGROUP CHAIRS****Cape Atlantic Intergroup****South Jersey Intergroup: Brett R.**

5/15/16

SJIG Report Brett R.

- 1) Bass River Camping Trip was a success (last weekend)
- 2) June 12, Sunday 11am-3pm Fundraising Picnic Cooper River Park, Subaru Pavilion
- 3) NYC "Big Meeting" Trip, June 19, 1-3. A bus may be available
- 4) SJIG Supports the proposed transition of Grapevine Literature from Area to the IGs.

Brett R, Chair

NO REPORT

**AREA SECTION LEADERS and  
DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCMs)****Section I Leader: Ted W.**

NO REPORT

**Districts 01 & 02**

Moved to District 23

**District 03: Robert P.**

District 3 Report May 15 2016

May 8<sup>th</sup> was our most recent district meeting which was attended by 5 groups, and lead by Mike E. On May 14<sup>th</sup> we had our traditions workshop where we discussed the 12 traditions with each tradition being discussed by individual presenters.

District 3 treasure report: previous balance of \$573.51 we had deposits of \$70.00, and expenses of \$110.97. The current balance is \$532.54.

The district bank account is now officially listed with the new PO Box address of PO Box 3 Beverly NJ 08010 and the new checks have the new address listed.

The district had meetings on March 13 2016 and April 10 2016, I attended the mini- conference on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> the Burlington Big Book meeting will be hosting a ROOTS meeting Remembering our Old Timers Stories featuring 3 speakers with a total sobriety of 123 years.

The next district 3 meeting will be June 12, 2016 at 3:30pm.

Also, we are working on a bus trip to NYC.

Robert P. DCM district 3

**District 04: John G.**

No Report Submitted

*(Continues on the next page.)*

**Districts 22 & 23: Cherie S.**

DCM report for Spring Assembly Sunday, May 15, 2016

District 22/23 Cherie S.

Thank you for your service and for hosting this event today.

District 22/23 has been busy. We attended the mini-conference in Collingswood on 4/9.

We were happy to participate in the Area 45 convention with many GSR's and officers in attendance. We also donated scholarships for those who would not otherwise be able to attend and we learned that they were much appreciated and used.

We are planning an event on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at the Al-An Club 761 Cass St. Trenton, NJ . This event will start at 11:30 and includes lunch. The focus will be the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition and will play out in a Family Feud type game. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We are supporting Central Jersey Intergroup and other local districts in planning a picnic for July 11, 2016 at Mercer County Park, the East Pavilion. There will be a planning meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 7:45 pm at the Central Jersey Intergroup office at 348 Farnsworth Ave. Bordentown, NJ 08505. All are welcome to attend and/or help.

We supported Area registrar Jess S in updating the group contact information for the GSO directory and continue to update our meetings.

We are happy to have a new treasurer for District 22/23, Alane. Welcome and thank you. We are however, still looking for a Section One Leader for Districts in this section.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

**District 24: Mike R.**

All's well here in District 24. Our Tradition Workshop is going on it's 5<sup>th</sup> week. With 16 to 20 regular attendees. always room for more. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri of every month at 7:00pm, Ewing Pres Church, 100 scotch Road. In Ewing of course.

We are gearing up for our Annual Unity Picnic. Save the Date. Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup> at Rosedale Park in Hopewell Twps.

Sincerely yours

Mike R. DCM

**District 25: Craig M.****District 30 & 31 – Vacant**

No Report Submitted

**Section II Leader: Frank H.**

Short report. Just took the Section 2 commitment.

Have reached out to DCM's in district. Updating groups GSR's and will be supporting DCM's in Section going forward.

Contacting Gibson house to secure Nov assembly once Rich has firm date.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

Frank H.

Area 45 Section 2 leader

**District 06 - Vacant**

(Continues on the next page.)

**District 07: Tom E**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

**District 08: Chuck M.**

May 15, 2016 – Quarterly Report for District 8, Section 2

My name is Chuck M. and I am an Alcoholic. I am the DCM for District 8.

Our Treasury balance is \$957.16.

Our monthly meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church in Moorestown.

We are in the process of planning a summer picnic and hope to have definitive information on this soon.

We are also looking at ideas for a future workshop.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

Chuck M.

**District 09-VACANT****District 10: Peg I.****District 26: Frank F.**

I am an alcoholic, and my name is Frank F. I am pleased to serve as DCM of District 26.

District 26 is now alight.

There appear to be approximately 50 home groups at present that are active in the district, based upon the InterGroup meeting list.

Fourteen GSR / alt GSR positions have been updated and confirmed.

Seven GSRs / alt GSR are in attendance today.

Continued updating of the GSR / alt GSR contact info is in progress.

A District 26 GSR meeting is planned for this quarter.

Submitted in grateful service,

Frank F

DCM, District 26

**District 27: Allen B.****Section III: Justin**

Section III Report - 2/21/2016

Hi,

My name is Justin and I am an alcoholic, and very grateful to have served as Section III Leader. During the lunch break today I rotated out of this position. This is the second Assembly I've had the privilege of hosting, and I am sure my replacement will enjoy this opportunity as much as I did.

Since February, I attended the General Service Conference and served as moderator for the Finance and Literature agenda items during the Mini-Conference. I accepted a request to serve as the Budget & Finance Committee chair. Most impor-

*(Continues on the next page.)*

tantly, I worked with DCMs from Section III to ensure today's Assembly had a nice venue and plenty of good vittles to nourish all of you trusted servants.

I want to specifically thank Districts 13 & 14 for providing breakfast and lunch, respectively. The food they provide, as always, far exceeds my expectations.

Since this is my last report in this role, I want to finish with my hope... that the DCMs who have stepped up in the other Section III districts --- whom I have the utmost respect for taking a chance and growing in service --- continue to establish connections with groups and get GSRs engaged at a district-level. Greg, Jim, Al, Connie, Debbie, Jeff, and Ed are always welcome to call me if I can help.

Thanks and God Bless.

In love & service,

Justin S.

Section III

### **District 12: Edward S.**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

### **District 13**

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at Assembly God Church, Pennsville @ 6:30.

April 9<sup>th</sup>, Saturday Workshop

Topics are Women in AA and Young People in AA

Speakers are Star and Adam

Planning for Picnic Sat Aug 27<sup>th</sup> at Fort Mott State Park in Pennsville

Planning for Area 45 Meeting

### **District 14: Greg**

Area 45 Winter Assembly Alcoholics Anonymous May 15, 2016 Elmer, NJ District 14 DCM Report Hello, my name is Greg and I'm an alcoholic serving as DCM of District 14. Our district meets every third Thursday of the month at 6:45pm at First Presbyterian Church, corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Pine in Millville, NJ. Recently, we have seen an increased average of 10-12 GSRs in attendance. Since the last Area Assembly, District 14 has: 1. Discussed a new opportunity that has opened to possibly take meetings into Cumberland County Correctional Facility, after a number of years when no A.A. meetings were held at the facility. The District has been seeking members willing to serve as coordinators of this effort. 2. Celebrated a Bridgeton Wednesday Night Group anniversary on February 24, the Millville Friday Night Pass It On Group 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on February 26, the Millville Sober Saturday Group 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 5, and the Riverside Recovery Group 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 13. 3. Noted that the Vineland Nooners Group turned 23 years old on March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Buckshutem Group turned 27 years old on March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Serenity at Noon Group turned 16 years old on April 5<sup>th</sup>, and the Alcoholics Helping Another Alcoholic (AHAA) Group turned 23 years old on April 8<sup>th</sup>. 4. Purchased four Grapevine subscriptions to be taken into meetings at local correctional facilities. Looking ahead, the District plans to: 1. Hold the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual District 14 Food, Fun, and Fellowship Picnic at Parvin State Park on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. 2. Hold a second District Workshop this year, likely in the Fall

### **District 20: Debbie C., Acting DCM**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

### **District 21 – Vacant**

*(Continues on the next page.)*

**District 28: Connie M**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

**District 29: Al B.**

Judged on my intentions, I've been very active.

Judged on my actions, I have nothing to report.

Al B.

**Section IV Leader****District 15: Gail N.****District 16/17 report:****District 18**

District 18 Report Spring Assembly May 15<sup>th</sup> 2016 Thank you Section 3 for hosting this event. District 18 meets First Sunday of the month at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church 30th Street Ocean City NJ 6:30 pm Alternate DCM Lynn T. attended NERASA I attended General Conference in Cherry Hill. Planning July Bash on the Beach in Memory of Margaret B. Date to be announced Planning on workshop in the fall. We have been working on visiting groups in our district to update contact information and to educate on contributing and spirit of rotation. 10 of the 20 groups in our district have contacts or GSR New PO Box District 18 PO Box 483 Marmora NJ 08223 Treasures balance \$1493.00 Thanks Tish T. DCM

**District 19****Southern New Jersey Area General Service Assembly Alcoholics Anonymous****SNJ Fourth Dimension**

[area45newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:area45newsletter@gmail.com)

**AREA 45 THEME:** *"Principles Before Personalities"*

**Editorial Policy:** With readership in mind and our limited space, we suggest that article submissions not exceed 500 – 750 words and focus on our shared AA experience, strength, and hope. No specific philosophy or opinion will dominate Fourth Dimension pages, and in determining content, the editors rely on the principles of the Twelve Traditions. The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit articles for the purpose of clarity, length, and style.

We will make every effort to include the broadest viewpoint of our membership. Understanding that degree of latitude, the Newsletter Committee will exercise its right to accept or decline submissions with the greatest degree of care possible. Opinions expressed are those of the reader and not necessarily those of the editors or of Area 45 as a whole.

**Statement of Purpose:** The Fourth Dimension is published by the Newsletter Committee of Southern New Jersey Area 45 to promote the exchange of information within the Area.

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