

"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]

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

Area 45 in the Fall of 2010

**Thom O.
Chair, Panel 60**

In "A Vision for You" Bill wrote words that always lift my spirits and bring a chill to my spine: "Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny."

That's what we're on in Area 45 - the Road of Happy Destiny and, I must say, it is a distinct pleasure to be on this journey with you. Yes, You! I didn't choose you; my Higher Power did! I may not have chosen you, but then I'm an alcoholic and many of my choices have not always been the best for me over the years. Today, I try to rely on the Steps on a daily basis. When my Higher Power makes the choice, things work out very well indeed! So thank you to my Higher Power for this journey and thank you for coming along.

What are some of the sights we've seen this fall on our journey?

On September 18th, we held our Annual Area 45 Inventory. Folks gathered in Bordentown to talk about how we are doing in Area 45. While the inventory does not make policy for future actions, its suggestions are very important, because this open invitation allows every AA in Southern New Jersey the chance to speak their minds, to make suggestions and to participate. To plant the seeds that could grow into needed changes in how Area 45 continues to carry the AA message. Thanks to Fred E., our Immediate Past Delegate and to Joe B., Section I Leader, and Jason D., DCM, Districts 22 & 23, for organizing our Inventory.



Another sight we saw is the Corrections and Treatment Facility (CTF) Conference. This is an Inter-Area conference, inviting interested folks from many neighboring Areas and States.

"The Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous was in its seventh year when a pioneering warden at San Quentin asked nearby AAs to carry the message to alcoholics in the prison. The year was 1942 - the warden was Clinton Duffy. He was heard to say, 'If the AA program will help just one man, I want to start it.' Today there are hundreds of AA groups behind the walls, as well as corrections committees serving them."

"There are over 39,850 AAs in confinement and over 1,585 prison groups throughout the United States and Canada. These meetings answer only a fraction of the need for more groups in correctional facilities all across the country. Many there reach, but don't find the hand of AA."

Our Corrections and Treatment Facilities Committee is extending the hand of AA. In October, we held our 15th Annual Inter-Area CTF Conference. The primary purpose of this committee is to assist in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the alcoholic who is confined in either correctional or treatment facilities in Southern New Jersey. In conjunction with the three Intergroups in southern New Jersey, this committee works with the various administrations of these institutions. A constant pool of volunteers in the Area is needed to bring the meetings "inside."

The purpose of the Inter-Area Conference is to share our experience, strength and hope in carrying the message to those who cannot get to outside meetings and to generate the enthusiasm needed to have adequate numbers of volunteers willing to accept this important commitment. Many folks in AA are willing to help in any way they can; this Conference is a way of broadcasting information about a very critical need and letting folks know about another way they can help carry the message. Thanks to Paul B., our CTF Committee chair, and all the committee for your efforts in bringing us this chance to help others.

In October we also had our Annual Day of Sharing with the three Intergroups in southern New Jersey. Hosted this year by South Jersey Intergroup, we saw many roundtable discussions on topics affecting Area 45 and Intergroup. Many of our committees have the same function. This Day of Sharing helps us to strengthen cooperative ties and avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. Money is tight everywhere today and this sharing helps us use our resources in the most efficient way possible. It also allows us to renew friendships and increase our enthusiasm for our various responsibilities and commitments. Just as AA is built on the premise of one

continued on page 7

Jal-Con 2010

When, I was asked to be the Jal-Con liaison from Area 45, I wasn't really sure of what I was getting into, but I have worked on convention committees before, and Jal-Con is the New Jersey Al-Anon Convention. Having worked with Al-Anon members on the Area 45 convention committee, I knew that they were hard working and always showed up to help put on the best convention they could. Besides, it was my wife who asked me to do the job, so I couldn't very well say no, could I?

I have attended other fun events with Al-Anon in the past and always enjoyed myself. They put on a super New Year's Eve Party each year, which is always fun.

At the first Jal-Con committee meeting last December, it was announced that the Chairperson had to step down; so the brand new Co-chair had to take the reins. I remember thinking that I didn't know if I could have done that. Obviously, it wasn't a problem, because Leslie did a spectacular job and the convention was super.

During this past year, I have had the opportunity to work with and become friends with a number of new people. One of them, Yvonne, gave me a lanyard that said "Got Bill" on it. I took it to San Antonio for the International Convention and used it for my name badge. I was wearing it on the elevator one morning when a hotel guest asked me what it meant. Knowing right away that he wasn't one of us, I said, "Have you seen the movies 'Get Bill' and 'Kill Bill'?" He said, "Why yes I did." "Well," I said, "this is the final movie 'Got Bill.'" Hey, he believed me! I was just having a little fun with the "normal" people!

This year's Jal-Con was held July 16, 17 and 18 at the East Brunswick Hilton in Brunswick, NJ. The hotel itself was beautiful, with a wonderful two-story waterfall in the center of

continued on page 5

Rocket inside to find...

- 47th Convention Flyer.....pages 2,3
- Concept-ually Speakingpage 4
- Waves of Sobrietypage 5
- CTF Conferencepage 6
- 11/7 AssemblyBusiness, p. 2

47th ANNUAL SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY AREA 45 GENERAL SERVICE CONVENTION MARCH 25th, 26th and 27th, 2011

The Crowne Plaza Hotel

2349 Marlton Pike (Rte 70)

Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Convention Chair: (609) 705-9179

Registration Chair: (609) 870-8382

REGISTER ONLINE!

<http://www.snjaaconvention.org>

We will know Peace



Program Highlights

Friday Early Bird Meeting
Convention Survival Guide Meeting
Around the Clock Marathon Meetings
Al-Anon and Ala-teen Programs and Speaker
National Acclaimed AA Speakers
Young Peoples Speaker
and more...
Coffee, Fellowship and Area Committee Exhibits in the
Promenade All Weekend Long

Sunrise Spirituality Meetings
DJ Dance and Karaoke Friday
and Saturday Nights
Workshops & Skits
Area 45 Archives Exhibit
Area 45 Committee Exhibits
Saturday Night Theme Banquet
Saturday Night Sobriety
Countdown

Answers to FAQs can be found on the web at www.snjaaconvention.org.

There you can register online or download and print this flyer for yourself or to take to your groups. Convention registration is still only \$35 and the elegant Saturday Night Banquet is still only \$40.

Registration opens at 2 PM on Friday. Check-in Time is 4:00 p.m. Checkout time is 11:00 a.m. All occupants of each guestroom will be required to check-in at hotel front desk. Payment for all incidental charges will be required at checkout. Incidental charges will not be split among roommates unless all occupants are present at checkout. There will be no refunds for charges after 5:00 p.m. on March 14th 2011. **There will be no refunds for missed meals and meal tickets cannot be exchanged for other meals.**

The members of Al-Anon cordially invite you, the relatives and friends of those affected by the family disease of alcoholism, to Al-Anon's participation in the 47th Annual Area 45 General Service Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Please Join us in finding happiness, even contentment, whether the alcoholic is still drinking or not.

For more information call Al-Anon South Jersey Information Service at 856-547-0855

This flier is paid for by: Southern New Jersey General Services Permit # 372

For additional information, e-mail questions to: registrar@snjaaconvention.org

* All reservations must be received by March 14, 2011, in order to guarantee the below reduced prices. *

<u>All Packages Include Convention Registration</u> Package Description:	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD	INDICATE SELECTION BY FILLING IN AMOUNT IN THIS COLUMN
Package #1 -- For Those Staying All Weekend -- Includes guestroom for Friday & Saturday nights, Friday Dinner, Saturday & Sunday Breakfast Friday Dinner Choice: <input type="checkbox"/> Fish <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable	\$362	\$238 per person	\$204 per person	\$182 per person	\$ _____
Package #2 -- For those arriving late Friday -- Includes guestroom for Friday & Saturday, Breakfast Saturday & Sunday	\$320	\$197 per person	\$163 per person	\$141 per person	\$ _____
Package #3 -- For those staying Friday night -- Includes guestroom for Friday night & Saturday Breakfast	\$177.50	\$116 per person	\$99 per person	\$88 per person	\$ _____
Package #4 -- For those staying Saturday night -- Includes guestroom for Saturday night & Sunday Breakfast	\$177.50	\$116 per person	\$99 per person	\$88 per person	\$ _____
Package #5 -- Guestroom for Friday & Saturday nights only -- <u>No meals included</u>	\$281.50	\$158.50 per person	\$124.50 per person	\$102.50 per person	\$ _____
Package #6 -- Guestroom for Friday night only -- -- <u>No meals included</u>	\$158.50	\$96.50 per person	\$80 per person	\$68.50 per person	\$ _____
Package #7 -- Guestroom for Saturday night only -- -- <u>No meals included</u>	\$158.50	\$96.50 per person	\$80 per person	\$68.50 per person	\$ _____
Please Select Preference	King Bed: <input type="checkbox"/>		2 Double Beds: <input type="checkbox"/>		
Registration only (only if no Package selected)	\$35				\$ _____
Add Saturday Evening Banquet (not included in any Packages)	\$40 Choose one please: <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Beef				\$ _____
Add Hooded Zippered Logo Sweatshirt (avail. pre-order only)	\$32	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL			\$ _____
Add 2010 Logo Tee Shirt	\$10	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL			\$ _____
Total	Add Package Amount + Banquet + Merchandise (if applicable) This is Amount to remit with registration.				\$ _____

Handicapped accessible Hearing Impaired Register for Old-timer's panel (20 years continuous sobriety or more as of 3/11)

If you are registering for a Double, Triple, or Quad, please provide the first and last names of your roommates (Please print clearly)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Your Information:

Name _____ Phone (inc. area code) _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check or Money Order enclosed: Amount \$ _____

(Payable to Area 45 Convention)

Charge my Credit Card below: Amount \$ _____ Visa MasterCard

Name on Credit Card _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____ / ____ (mo/yr)

3-digit security code on back of card _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Your first name, last initial, and home group will be printed on your convention badge.

Home Group _____

For Mail-in Registration, please complete the form entirely.

Mail entire form with Payment to:
Area 45 Convention, PO Box 8603, Turnersville, NJ 08012

OR Register on-line
www.snjaaconvention.org

Concept-ually Speaking

Concept X: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority -- the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws.

Our service structure cannot function effectively and harmoniously unless, at every level, each operational responsibility is matched by a corresponding authority to discharge it. This requires that authority must be delegated at every level -- and that the responsibility and authority of every entity are well defined and clearly understood.

"It is perfectly clear," says Bill, "that when delegated authority is operating well, it should not be constantly interfered with." Otherwise, he warns, "those charged with operating responsibly will be demoralized." For example, the General Service Board owns the two operating corporations and its authority over them is absolute. "Nevertheless, so long as things go well, it is highly important that the trustees do not unnecessarily interfere with or usurp the operating authority of these entities."

Simply stated, Concept X says that we will leave you alone and trust that you can do the job you were assigned. To give you an example, I am a high school counselor. I know what my job description is, and I carry out my responsibilities to the best of my ability. But there are times when I need a higher authority to help me out. Sometimes, I go to a colleague who has more experience, but when I need a definite decision that I cannot make on my own, I go directly to my boss, the ultimate authority. The same holds true in AA.

Because I have a job description, I understand what my responsibilities are and who my corresponding authorities are if I ever get stuck. In AA, the groups themselves have this type of responsibility and authority. Authority is relegated by the Groups to the Conference and the Trustees. For example, Conference Delegates representing the groups have authority over the Trustees. The Trustees are in authority over the General Service Board's service corporations -- AA World Services, Inc. and The AA Grapevine. The directors of these corporations are in authority over their officers who are in authority over their staffs. All of this is necessary because all of our service affairs and activities have to head up somewhere for final responsibility; therefore, authority is needed so that each worker or committee knows where and who the final boss is.



Did you ever feel like you were in a job where your boss dictated every little thing in your area of responsibilities? He/she told you how and when you would carry out your responsibilities leaving no room for creativity or any feelings of trust or independence? It's a feeling of being run by a dictatorship and that every little thing is micromanaged. Imagine if AA worked like that? I can imagine utter chaos. That's why this type of authority is used only in emergencies. My boss would hate it if I went to him for every single issue that came up throughout the day. He trusts me to carry out my responsibilities in my own creative fashion and knows the Department is running smoothly because he has that trust.

Emergencies arise when something goes deeply wrong. For example, if groups are dissatisfied with the Conference, they can elect better Delegates next time. That's the beauty of elections. The Delegates, in turn, can reorganize Trustees and the Trustees can do the same with the service corporations. If the corporation does not approve of the way its staff is conducting business, any or all can be fired. That's very extreme.

Concept X goes on to describe how the AA structure as a whole has defined authority and responsibility. The Conference Charter explains how the AA groups have delegated some of their ultimate authority and all needed operational authority to the Conference, including the Trustees and the active services. The Trustees have a legal right of "veto" over the Conference. This has been done in very rare cases. This gives them an administrative authority equal to their actual responsibility. Trustees can elect new boards of directors any time; they control the corporate budget and they can withhold operating funds. However, as long as things run smoothly, it is highly important that the Trustees do not unnecessarily interfere with these entities.

The Standing Committees of the General Service Board (for example, Public Relations, Finance and Budgetary, Policy, etc.) have the "Right of Decision" deciding what matters it will refer to the Board and which ones they will manage on their own. But what about when two different authorities are in conflict? Who has the ultimate power of resolution?

As with everything else, communication is the key factor here. I get so annoyed at work when I feel like I'm the last person to know something. Lack of communication is not only unnecessary, it shows a lack of respect. So, for example, at every meeting of The Grapevine, a representative of AA World Services is present and vice versa. The General

Policy Committee always contains one or more members of the Finance and Budgetary Committee, and vice versa. That way, everything is out in the open, and each committee knows what the other is doing. If there is a conflict in one of these meetings, what then? Imagine that a considerable sum of money is needed, and it goes before the Finance and Budgetary Committee. If they agree the monies needed are warranted, they can tell the General Policy Committee to make its recommendation to the Trustees. If the Finance and Budgetary Committee object, then it must file its objection to the Trustees and the Trustees will settle the issue. If the Trustees find it necessary, they can refer the matter to the Conference.

Also, if the Finance and Budgetary Committee proposes a large expenditure that may strongly affect AA feeling and policy, they must check with the General Policy Committee, even though the main jurisdiction still lies with the Finance and Budgetary Committee.

Another good example is that, as a DCM, I am in charge of holding sharing sessions (see our *Service Manual*, page S32). District 24 has been talking about dates and locations of the next sharing session. Thom suggested dates not to use because of possible conflicts with attendance. I can use his wider knowledge of Area events to avoid choosing dates that are already filled. I can take his suggestion, but as the DCM, I have ultimate authority over the date of our sharing session. This also helps us observe Tradition 4 by not setting up an event in competition with another District.

In all matters of joint or conflicting authority, a senior jurisdiction must be established. It should always be clear where the point of final decision is located. Sometimes the "Right of Appeal" and the "Right of Petition" may be used to make sure that every worker doing a job has an authority and a status proportionate with the responsibility involved.

All of our trusted servants have a clearly defined and appropriate authority to do their daily work and to carry out their clear responsibilities. We must seek to maintain a healthy balance between the two. Then and only then can we work with mutual respect toward one another. Bill said, "Let us always be sure that there is an abundance of final or ultimate authority to correct or to reorganize; but let us be equally sure that all of our trusted servants have a clearly defined and adequate authority to do their daily work and to discharge their clear responsibilities."

**Respectfully submitted,
Debbie H.**

Jal-Con 2010

(continued from the front page)

the lobby. The convention was a lot of fun, and it was very easy to get caught up in all the activities. Along with Phil M., the Area 44 AA liaison to Jal-Con, I was asked to conduct the countdown at the Saturday night meeting. So we introduced everyone to an AA style countdown. They seemed a little reluctant at first, but then the Alateens caught the spirit and, by the end, everyone in the room was just as loud and enthusiastic as at any AA convention I have ever attended.

In addition to an Al-Anon and an AA speaker, there was also an Alateen speaker, a young girl who spoke of her struggle to deal with her father's alcoholism. This young woman really gave us all new insight into what it is like for a child to have to deal with a parent's alcoholism. She took us through the trails of her daily life and dealing with the emotions and the pain of having an alcoholic father. Fortunately, she found Alateen and now, both she and her father are working on their individual recoveries.

If you have never attended an Al-Anon Convention, you are missing a great opportunity. As alcoholics, I feel we often tend to think we are at the center of the universe, and the world revolves around us. Jal-Con, and working on this committee, has shown me that this disease affects many others in addition to the alcoholic and to respect their need for their own recovery.

I am grateful to those who took AA speaking commitments at this year's Jal-Con. Thank you to Elaine Mc A, Janet S-C., Thom O., Kim R. and Paul B. Also thanks to Elaine and Janet for manning an AA Grapevine table at the convention. It gave conventions goers the opportunity to learn about our "meeting in print."

I am grateful for the opportunity for personal growth that this service has given me.

In service,
Joe McA.

Area 45 Liaison to Jal-Con



4th Annual Waves of Sobriety Roundup

November 19, 20 & 21, 2010

Location: Grand Hotel, 1045 Beach Avenue, Cape May, NJ 08204

Registration Information:

Pre-registration Cost: \$30.00 Walk-in Registration Cost: \$35.00

Register On-Line at caigroundup.org

Hotel Information:

Grand Hotel, 1045 Beach Avenue, Cape May, NJ 08204

Telephone: (609) 884-5611 Check In: 3:00 pm Check Out: 11:00 am

Hotel reservations MUST be made directly with the Grand Hotel.

Call (609) 884-5611 or (800) 257-8550 and give the group code: **Roundup**

Online Registrations: www.grandhotelcapemay.com Group Code: **37860**

You must still register for the Roundup separately.

AA & Al-Anon Speaker · Workshops · Dancing · Pool
· Long-timers' Panel · Marathon Meetings · Ice Cream Social
· Karaoke ...and so much more!!

Step Into the Sunlight

Good Orderly Directions:

From the North: Take the Garden State Parkway to end. Parkway becomes NJ109 S. NJ109 S then becomes Lafayette Street. Stay to the right and take Lafayette to Madison Avenue. Make a left onto Madison and take to Beach Drive. The hotel is on the left.

From Cherry Hill / Philadelphia Area: Take Atlantic City Expressway to Garden State Parkway. Follow above directions.

For more information, call:

Laurie C., Chair: (609) 837-2359 Donna S., Registration: (732) 600-9477
Chris C., Co-chair: (609) 837-2359 Bonnie K., Registration Co-chair: (609) 408-9447

Subscribe to the
Grapevine

12 issues: \$18.00

Please bill me Payment enclosed

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: AA Grapevine, Inc. • PO Box 1980
Grand Central Station • New York, NY 10163-1980

<http://www.aagrapevine.org/>

Experience, strength
and hope from AAs
around the world!

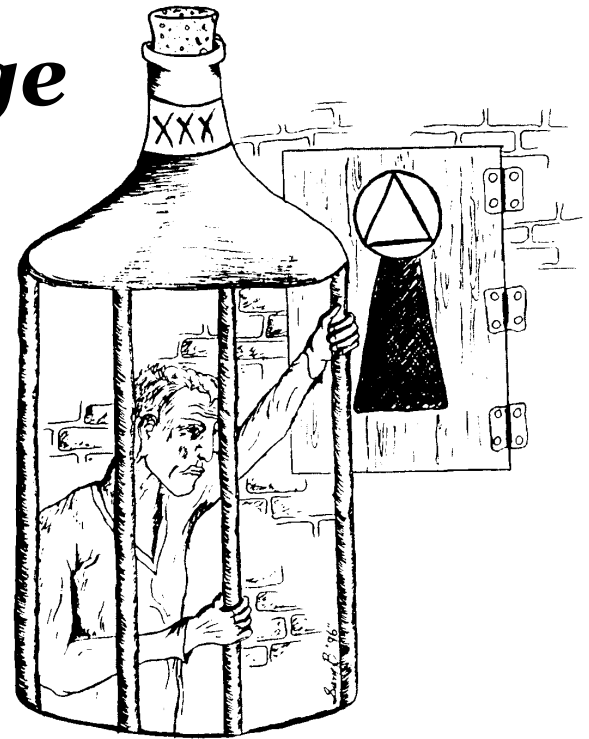
Freedom From Bondage

Area 45 Corrections & Treatment Facilities
**ANNUAL INTER-AREA
 CONFERENCE**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 9, 2010
 9am to 3pm

**LAMBS ROAD ASSEMBLY HALL
 SEWELL, NEW JERSEY**

Free - Dues have already been paid



Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail. This is our twelfth suggestion: Carry this message to other alcoholics! You can help when no one else can. You can secure their confidence when others fail. Remember they are very ill. Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends - this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.
 All quotes borrowed from AA Basic Text- Alcoholics Anonymous

If you wish to speak or suggest a person for a panel or need directions contact
 PAUL B.609-741-4195 or email @ bargainsgalore2@verizon.net
We Hope You Will Join Us!

CTF Conference Directions

Lambs Road Tudor Church Assembly Hall • 190 Lambs Rd., Sewell, NJ

From Atlantic City Expressway - Take Exit 41 - turn left after exit. Continue on Cross Keys Road across Black Horse Pike (Rt. 42). Proceed thru 4 traffic lights. Make right turn at next light (Pitman-Downer Rd). Go 3 miles to stop sign. Turn left at stop sign. Turn right on to Delsea Drive (Rt. 47), at 3rd traffic light (7.3miles) turn left onto Lambs Rd. (Rt. 635). Go 0.5mi. Cathedral on right.

From Philadelphia - Take Rt. 76 east to the Watt Whitman Bridge -follow signs for Atlantic City to Rt. 42 south. Take Rt. 55 South to exit 53A (Rt. 553 south). Take 553 to second traffic light, turn left onto Lambs Rd. (Rt. 635). Cathedral on left 0.3 mi.

From Delaware - Go over Delaware Memorial Bridge. Take Rt. 295 north to Rt. 322 east. Take Rt. 322 east to Rt. 55 north. Take 55 to exit 53. Take 553 south toward Pitman turning left at light. Go to 2nd traffic light. Turn left onto Lambs Rd. (Rt 635). Cathedral on left 0.5mi.

From North Jersey - Take the New Jersey Turnpike south to Exit 4 (Rt. 73). Take Rt. 73 north towards Phila/Camden. Take Rt. 295 South following signs to Atlantic City to Rt. 42 south. Take Rt. 42 south to Rt. 55 south to Exit 53A to Rt. 553 south. Take Rt. 553 to second traffic light, turn left onto Lambs Rd. (Rt. 635). Cathedral on left 0.5mi.

“...we have found ourselves in a new dimension...”

The Language of the Heart, pg. 246

Southern New Jersey - Area 45 Panel 60

Calendar of Events 2010



Date	Event	Location
October 9	CTF Conference Starts at 9:00 A.M.	CTF Committee Lambs Road Cathedral 190 Lambs Road Sewell, NJ 08080
October 16	Day of Sharing	TBA
November 7	Area 45 Fall Assembly Registration 8:30 A.M. New DCM/GSR Orientation 9:00 A.M. Assembly 10:00 A.M. Lunch 12:30 P.M. Workshop 12:45 P.M. Committee Meeting 1:30 P.M.	Section II Collingswood Senior Community Center Thirty Collings Ave. Collingswood, NJ 08108

Area 45 in the Fall of 2010

(continued from the front page)

alcoholic talking to another, mutual strength growing out of shared experience, the Day of Sharing is a chance to talk with others who have been there. Maybe this year you need guidance or encouragement or maybe this year you can give guidance or encouragement; here is a great opportunity to share. Thanks to Janet C-S., our Alternate Delegate, and to Connie, Cliff and Frank, the chairs of Central Jersey, Cape Atlantic and Southern New Jersey Intergroups for this wonderful experience and chance to serve and stay sober one more day.

Two of the efforts that Panel 60 has been involved with this fall are a search for two committee chairs and a search for possible sites for our 2012 Convention.

A Budget and Finance Committee chair and a Public Information chair are both needed to fill our roster. If you know someone who may be interested or you are interested, please, contact any Panel member and let us know.

At the summer Committee meeting, we discussed investigating alternative sites for our annual convention. Panel members are investigating likely sites throughout southern New Jersey. One limiting factor we have to consider is the size of our convention. The Area 45 is usually a very enthusiastic gathering of sober drunks numbering over 1,000. There aren't many places that can accommodate a group of our size but having the possibility of other sites will, at the very least, allow us a bargaining chip in any discussions we have with prospective convention sites. If you are interested in helping out with this please contact any Panel 60 member.

Our web site has a new look. It continues to bring us needed information, but Pat McK., our Web Site Committee chair, and the committee have been committed to bringing us the information in a more pleasant, easy to use manner. Take a look at our web site at www.snjaa.org. I think you'll agree with me that they have succeeded admirably.

The Grapevine[®] and *LA VIÑA*[®] need support. Our meetings in print are experiencing financial difficulties and need support. Part of the need is that few members subscribe and many members do not even know that these important sobriety tools exist. We can all help by subscribing, if possible, or by suggesting our Home Group subscribe and by telling new comers and other group members about *The Grapevine*[®] and *LA VIÑA*[®].

Guarding our anonymity online is an important issue. I was always told that while my anonymity was up to me, I couldn't make a decision about someone else's; I had to respect their choices. So if I see a friend in the supermarket, I don't yell across the aisles, "Hey, Thom, you going to the AA meeting tonight?" I should also avoid this type of thing online. Protecting anonymity is a major concern for members who are accessing the Internet in ever-growing numbers. A guiding resource of shared AA experience regarding Web sites is the GSO service piece "Frequently Asked Questions About AA Web Sites." This document is available for downloading at <http://www.aa.org/lang/en/subpage.cfm?page=43>. Another useful document is the AA Guidance document on the Internet available at: http://www.aa.org/lang/en/en_pdfs/mg-18_internet.pdf.

Our Fall Assembly and Committee will be hosted by Section II and held on November 7th at the Collingswood Senior Community Center, Thirty Collings Ave., Collingswood, NJ 08108. Please join us and bring your enthusiasm and your "joy of living" and help keep Area 45 on the Road of Happy Destiny.

i *Alcoholics Anonymous, 3rd Edition, AAWS, NYC, 1976 page 162*

ii *Corrections WORKBOOK Copyright © 1995 Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Grand Central Station, Box 459, New York, NY 10163 page 4*

iii *Carrying the Message Into Correctional Facilities Pamphlet F-5 AAWS, Inc. © 1989*

Hi my name is Frank Z., and I serve as co-chair to the the 47th Convention Committee. My Primary Duties as Co-Chair are as follows:

- Assist Chairperson in coordinating committees into a unified effort.
- To act as a liaison between Convention Committee and Area 45 Service Committees
- Assist committees throughout the year to maintain momentum heading towards Convention.

PROJECTED MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

- Help set agenda for Committee Meetings.
- Assist in selection of Committee Chairpersons.
- Attend monthly Committee Meetings.
- Assist with Budget process and creating Convention budget.
- Assist with developing Convention registration flyer.
- Attend Budget meeting with Area Finance Committee to approve budget.
- Obtain samples for mementos to present to committee.
- Assist Program with workshop Meeting.
- Assist Registration with stuffing for mailing.
- Communicate with and establish list of Area Committees needs for tables, electric, etc at Convention in Promenade area.
- Order mementos. Verify delivery to hotel at Convention.
- Assist in Registration Workshop.
- Attend Banquet tasting at hotel.
- Assist with Hospitality Workshop.
- Create diagram of Area Service Table layout/determine exact number of tables. Inform hotel of number and layout.
- Attend BEO meeting.
- Assist with Registration packet stuffing.
- Assist chairperson with Write-Thru meeting agenda.
- Attend write-thru meeting
- Attend meeting with hotel management team.(Pre-Con Meeting)
- Participate in Hotel Walk thru
- Assist Area Service committees to their tables.
- Assist with hotel accounts and settling bill at end of Convention.

Thanks For Allowing me to serve as your Co-Chair **Frank Z.....**



Business News

Minutes from the Aug. 15th Business Meeting

Opening:

Chair, Thom O., opened the Assembly with recognition of all new GSRs, DCMs, and Section Leaders followed by the recognition of all who had celebrated AA Anniversaries since our last meeting. Following his opening remarks, a short presentation was given on Concept X by Debbie H., District 24 Alt. DCM.

Area Panel Reports:

Delegate, Elaine McA.:

Thank you, Section I, for hosting our Assembly today.

During this past quarter, I have presented the Post Conference Delegate's Report in Sections I, II, and III. I will be giving the Report in Section IV on Sunday, October 17th, at 3:30pm, at the Seaview Baptist Church in Linwood, NJ. Thank you to the Section Leaders and DCMs for hosting these reports. I'd like to give a special thank you to Thom O. for using his expertise to prepare a PowerPoint presentation of my report and also for the use of his projector. Thom has attended all three of my reports and could probably give it himself by now! Thanks to our Ken T. for providing audio, also.

In addition to the reports given in each Section, I was invited to speak on the Conference at a Founder's Day celebration at the Simple Beginnings Group in Gloucester. It was a privilege to be there and I truly appreciated the opportunity.

I attended a workshop of our CTF Committee and South Jersey Intergroup H& I on June 12th. A lot of important information on taking prison commitments was shared in addition to the inspiration of several speakers who have benefited from the work of these committees.

Over the 4th of July weekend, I attended the International Convention in San Antonio, celebrating AA's 75th Anniversary. There were close to 53,000 people in attendance, with wonderful workshops, speaker meetings, and plenty of fellowship. I spent time visiting all the Hospitality Suites and enjoyed seeing the paintings done for our Area 45 Conventions on display at the combined Area 44 and 45 Hospitality Suite. I agree with the gentleman I heard remarking that we were blessed to enjoy the talents of the various artists who have provided us with those paintings over the years.

I attended a Delegate's Luncheon at the Convention, where I was happy to see many of my fellow Panel 60 and Panel 59 Delegates with whom I served at this year's Conference, in addition to many more Delegates who served before me. There was a Delegate present who had served at the 21st Conference.

A highlight of the Convention for me was the opportunity to write a short note to an AA Loner while visiting the LIM Room. Loners are those who, because of their occupation or just the

geography of where they live, have no access to AA meetings. They stay sober with their AA literature and the occasional letter they receive from other Loners in AA. To learn more about LIM, which is Loners Internationalists Meeting, go to aa.org and click on the groups and members tab.

On July 18th, I was invited to share at the Fellowship Group in Beverly, NJ for their anniversary meeting. Thank you to Janet C. for that invitation.

I attended the Jal-Con Convention on July 15 through the 17th. Thank you to the Jal-Con Committee for their kind invitation. I had the privilege of leading a discussion on the Twelve Concepts. Thank you, Joe M., for inviting me to do that. I also had the opportunity to talk about the AA Grapevine at our sales table while there.

I have attended several Area 45 Convention Committee meetings during the past quarter.

It is a spirited, lively committee, always ready to try out new ideas to make each year's convention even better than the one before it.

Please remember that I am available to your groups, your districts, your committees, and of course, to each of you. If I can provide any information or assist you in any way, it would be my privilege to do so. My contact information is on the contact sheets available at the registration desk, or I can be reached via our Area website. I always enjoy your correspondences, and I appreciate your support of the Delegate.

North East Region

In May 2011, our current North East Regional Trustee, John K. will rotate at the conclusion of the 61st General Service Conference. At the November 2010 Assembly, Area 45 will hold an election to choose our nominee for this position, whose name will then be submitted to the Trustee Committee on Nominations. A final election will be held at the 2011 General Service Conference to choose a NERT from among the candidates of each Area in the NE Region. Anyone interested in standing for the position of NERT should contact me ASAP for the required forms to apply. I must hear from you by October 31st in order to prepare your resumes in time for the November Assembly.

AAWS

The Conference desk reports that the Final Conference Report for the 60th General Service Conference will be mailed in late August. I had hoped to have them available for you today. Therefore, I will be bringing them to your districts starting in September. Thank you for your patience.

The AAWS E-Tech Committee serves as an oversight committee involved in short-term and long-term goals in support of the GSO E-Technology Team in the

development and delivery of electronic formats of AA literature and other means of electronic communication. AAWS has approved two recommendations from this committee. The first recommendation gives full support to GSO to begin developing e-publishing as a digital format that will enable electronic delivery of our literature.

The second recommendation gives full support for GSO to distribute a questionnaire that requests feedback from the Fellowship on preferences for digital devices and e-delivery. Those who attended the International Convention may have seen this questionnaire as it was first introduced there. I will be distributing this questionnaire to you today and ask that you take the few minutes necessary to answer the questions and return it to me. This will help me to meet the deadline for submitting it to GSO.

A newly created Digital Archives Exhibit has been launched at the Archives Portal of aa.org. There is presently just one display (AWARDS and Recognitions), but we can look forward to more in the future.

There is now an AAWS Copyright Committee whose purview it is to examine and consider present and future policies related to AA trademarks and copyrights. At the committee's first meeting, they met with Intellectual Property attorneys to receive information regarding the law on trademark and copyright use and protection.

Thanks to the efforts of the Fellowship, the Corrections desk

reports that the number of yet to be linked AA members on the "inside" has been cut in half. We still need volunteers for our Corrections Correspondence Service. Each day sees new requests from men and women who trust that the hand of AA will be there for them.

Financial

Since the June 10th "go-live" date, there has been a steady increase in the use of Contributions on Line and no significant problems or complaints have been reported.

As of June 30th, total distribution of all books is down by 26 % over the same six-month period in 2009. Actual units sold in 2010 were 864,161 as opposed to 1.5 million in 2009. This was not entirely unexpected, due to the large orders of books from non-AA distributors received last year just prior to the price increases that were enacted in July, 2009. Sales to non-AA purchasers accounted for 14.6% of all sales. For the same six-month period last year, non-AA purchases accounted for 30.6 % for the reason cited above. In both 2007 and 2008, these non-AA sales accounted for 19% of book sales revenue, so we appear to be moving towards our norm. Contributions, however, are 3% greater than the same period last year. Thus, total revenue is less than the same 6 month period last year by \$999,000.00.

Operating expenses were less than in either of the two prior years for the same six-month period. This is due to two factors. One is the continued effort at cost-containment at GSO and to

the receipt of an insurance payment to cover costs incurred due to a virus that struck our computer system in 2009.

These figures do not include the financial results of the 2010 International Convention. This will be calculated and reported in the third quarter.

Publications announced the availability of a limited number of the special soft-cover edition of "AA Comes of Age," which was the souvenir for the International Convention. They may be purchased on a first-come, first-served basis with a limit of 20 books per purchaser.

The AA Grapevine continues to struggle with decreased subscriptions.

La Viña is soliciting more articles to be contributed. While La Viña is NOT a translation of the AA Grapevine, it has had to use some translated articles on occasion when it doesn't receive enough Spanish article submissions. To help to remedy this, La Viña has reactivated an email address devoted to receiving Spanish articles and art work for La Viña. Articles should be submitted to manuscritosLV@aagrapevine.org. The La Viña Editor can be contacted at LV@aa.org. Please remember also that La Viña staff are available to speak at your group meetings or workshops in an effort to increase submissions of articles to the magazine.

At the request of the Conference Committee on the Grapevine, Area Delegates are conducting a survey on the Grapevine. At the

(continues on the next page)

Account Balances Report

As of 08/14/2010

Bank Accounts

Checking -- Operating Account	* \$ 29,260.32
Prudent Reserve -- TD Bank CDs	\$ 26,000.00
TOTAL	* \$ 55,260.32

Asset Accounts

Convention	\$ 4,010.18
Grapevine -- Inventory & Cash	\$ 2,195.00
SJYP Committee	\$ 900.00
CTF	\$ 1,585.13
Non-Profit Mail Permit #372	\$ 300.00
TOTAL	\$ 8,990.31

Credit Card Accounts

TD Bank Credit Cards	\$ 0.00
Staples Card	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 0.00

GRAND TOTAL \$ 64,250.63

* Correction to figures reported on 8/15/10: Income should have been \$9,189.40 and account balance on 8/14/10 should have been \$29,260.32. Error was result of automatic reconcile recording a deposit twice due to 10 cent difference between manual recording of deposit and computer record of deposit.

Report from the Aug. 15th Assembly (contd.)

(contd. from the previous page)

May Assembly, I distributed Grapevine surveys. Janet C. has distributed them at all three Intergroups. Of the 200 distributed, I have only received 30 back this far. Today, I am distributing them again! If you have not already filled one out, please do so today and leave them with me. This will enable me to meet the deadline set for submitting them back to the Conference Committee.

The AA Grapevine and La Viña magazines will be conducting their own survey soon. Unlike the Delegates' survey, this is limited to subscribers. Some subscribers, chosen at random, will receive the survey in the mail. If you receive one, please fill it out. Your participation will help the magazines to know what direction they should move in.

Alternate Delegate, Janet S-C.:

Good morning. My name is Janet; I am an alcoholic.

Thank you Section I for hosting our Assembly today. Except for visiting the different intergroups in Area 45, and taking a wonderful trip to the International Convention, in San Antonio, TX, the summer has been quiet. On July 16-17, I was invited to attend

Jal-Con in New Brunswick, NJ. Thank you, Joe McA., for asking me to speak on "Passing the Tools."

Please keep these dates in mind: **Saturday, September 18, 2010**, the Area 45 Inventory, to be held at Divine Word Seminary, 101 Park Ave., Bordentown, NJ. Registration begins at 8:30am.

Saturday, October, 16, 2010 - Area 45 Day of Sharing to be held at Christ Episcopal Church, 62 Delaware St., Woodbury, NJ 08096, 9am to 12:30pm. Registration will begin at 9am. This event will be hosted by your Alternate Delegate and all three Intergroups of Area 45. Breakfast will be provided.

Chair, Thom O.:

1. We have the following Committee chair openings:

Public Information

Budget and Finance

2. Attended the Convention Committee: July 11

3. Assisted Elaine with PowerPoint presentation of Delegates Report:

June 5 in Bordentown

June 19 in Sicklerville

June 26 in Collingswood

4. Participated in Group Inventories for:

Hightstown Big Book Study Group

Venture to Help in Ewing

5. Chaired an AA meeting at Jal-Con 2010. Thanks, Joe, for the opportunity; it's always a treat to visit Jal-Con.

6. Emailed an apology to the Area 44 Delegate and Chair for our lack of participation with the Hospitality Suite in San Antonio.

7. Visited the Westin Hotel in Princeton, NJ. Their main ballroom can accommodate about 1,100 people, and they have 294 rooms. Depending on their price schedule, this may be a viable alternative to the Crown Plaza in Cherry Hill as a site for future conventions.

Treasurer, Kim R.:

Good morning. My name is Kim, and I am an alcoholic. First of all, thank you to Section I for hosting this Assembly, and welcome to all of the new GSRs and DCMs. We greatly appreciate your service.

Since our May Assembly, I was asked to chair an AA meeting at Jal-Con on Saturday night, July 17th. I was not able to attend the whole convention, but I appreci-

ate being asked to be of service. Thanks, Joe, for allowing me to serve.

The area tax returns have been completed, and I have been focusing on ways to save the area money. I am now able to pay bills online through TD Bank's "bill pay" website. This will save the area the expense of postage, envelopes, checks, and time. Since the TD Bank website does not offer the ability to set up bill pay reminders, I set up reminders through my personal bank account's website to contact me ten days prior to the due date of any semi-recurring bills, such as TD credit card or Staples charge card, in order to avoid the area incurring any late fees.

I have revised the area expense voucher, particularly to remove the section for toll expenses incurred as tolls are not reimbursed separately but are reimbursed through the flat mileage reimbursement. I will be emailing all panel members and committee chairs a copy of this new expense voucher. For those of you who have a printer with scanning capabilities, you may email me your voucher and I will mail you a check. Typically, when I mail reimbursement checks out, I include a copy of your submitted voucher. Since these checks will now be mailed from TD Bank directly, no voucher copy will be included, so please make a copy for your records. Two signatures are required on area checks, but no signatures are required when sending checks directly from the bank, therefore, prior to the treasurer requesting any checks be sent, the area chair and/or delegate (whoever responds first) will approve checks via email.

Area 45 already possesses a stamp of the area mailing address; therefore, we will no longer incur the expense of having envelopes printed for us. I will purchase inexpensive blank envelopes and use the stamp for our return address, which is also less expensive than using my home printer. I had considered not including return envelopes when I mail out contribution confirmation letters to save money, however, it was decided that making contributing more difficult may have a negative effect on the amount and/or frequency of contributions received.

When mailing in your group's contribution to Area 45, please remember to include your group name as listed with the General Service Office, your group number, and a return address or email address to send the contribution confirmation to.

Per Area 45 policy and the panel budget notes that were distributed in February, 2010 and then again at the May 15, 2010 Area 45 Assembly, each committee that has their own bank account is required to have their monthly bank statements mailed directly to the Area PO Box for the treasurer to distribute. Presently, only the CTF Committee is complying with this policy. The Convention Committee, Grapevine Committee, and Young People's Committee need to notify the bank as soon as possible to

change their bank account address to the Area PO Box. In addition, I need these committees to forward a copy of all 2010 statements that were not previously mailed directly to the Area PO Box.

All checks received in the area post office box by Friday, August 13, 2010 have been deposited.

Your treasury report is as follows:

Beginning Balance	
05/15/10	\$25,125.99
Income	+ 9,930.67
Expenses	- 5,055.07
Subtotal	\$30,001.59
Prudent Reserve	+ 26,000.00
Total 08/14/10	\$56,001.59

Thank you to all of the groups that send contributions to the area thereby helping us to remain self-supporting, and thank you all for allowing me the privilege to serve.

Registrar, Wendy M.:

Good morning. My name is Wendy, and I am an alcoholic.

Everyone's information was added into the FNV that was given to me last quarter.

If you were supposed to get a packet from GSO and have not, please let me know at lunch.

If you are a new GSR or DCM, please give me a change form before you leave today.

I have been removing wrong addresses from the database, based on the unprocessed addresses from newsletters.

Secretary, Dave MacD.:

Hi. My name's Dave, and I am an alcoholic. Thank you to Section I for hosting this meeting.

Aside from organizing and submitting the minutes from the May, 2010 Assembly and Committee to the newsletter and website, I also attended the CTF workshop in Bordentown, the CTF workshop in Williamstown, the Delegate's report in Sicklerville, the International AA Convention in San Antonio (where I worked as a Hospitality volunteer along with my wife), and two meetings at District 14 to aid in planning the District 13/14 joint workshop on "Resentments."

For those who may be new to the Assembly, I'd like to remind everybody that all reports must be read at the Assembly/Committee Meeting in order to appear in the minutes. If you are unable to attend, please try to arrange in advance to get someone else to read your report.

All reports need to be written and submitted to me no later than two weeks after the Assembly/Committee Meeting. For this meeting, that deadline would be August 29th. Ideally, it would be best if you could email them to me before you give them. Second best is to email them to me after the meeting. Third best is to simply hand it to me at the meeting. I'm always looking for the easier, softer way, so anytime I can cut and paste, it makes my life a whole lot easier.

Area Committee Reports:

Archives, Lily McB.:

Since being gifted with this

(continues on the next page)

AREA ASSEMBLY/COMMITTEE MEETING Sunday, November 8, 2010

Host: Section II
Collingswood Senior Center
30 Collings Avenue in Collingswood, NJ 08108

8:30 am Registration
9 am New GSR/DCM Orientation
10 am General Service Assembly • 12:30 pm Lunch
12:45 pm Workshop • 1:30 pm Area Committee Meeting

Good Orderly Directions:

From North: follow NJ Turnpike South to exit 7. Exit and follow signs for I-295 south, which leads around the Pilot Truck Stop. Enter I-295 at Mile 56 and go south. Follow the directions for I-295 below.

From South: follow New Jersey Turnpike north to exit #3. At Exit 3 follow NJ Rt. 168 West to intersection with US 130. Follow directions for US 130 below.

From Southeast: follow NJ Rt. 47 to NJ Rt. 55. Follow 55 to end and junction with NJ Route 42. Follow 42 to exit 1D and then follow US Rt. 130 north and the directions below from Route 130 South, below.

From West: cross Delaware River on Benjamin Franklin Bridge and follow directions for US 30 east (below), or take the Walt Whitman Bridge and exit for US 130 north and follow the directions for From 130 South, below.

From East: follow US 30 (White Horse Pike) west until entering collingswood right after crossing Newton Creek and turn right on Collings Avenue. (Parkview Towers on right after turn.) Follow second half of directions below for From US 130 South, or take Atlantic City Expressway to Route 42 West, to Exit 1D and follow the directions for From Rt. 130 South, below.

FROM I-295 NORTH: or South take Exit 29 for Collingswood. Follow signs to US 30 West (White Horse Pike). Go approximately 4 miles through Oaklyn, across Newton Creek. Come to traffic light at Collings Ave. (Parkview Towers). Turn right onto Collings Ave. Go past Knight Park on left, under High Speed rail line. Community Center is on the right. Turn right at the building and park under Speed Line. Enter building from parking lot.

FROM US 38/70 WEST AND US 30 EAST: at Airport Circle, take US 130 South to Collingswood Circle (landmark is Collingswood Diner). Go around circle to US 30 East (White Horse Pike). At second light on 30 East (Collings Ave.) turn left.

FROM US 130 SOUTH: Come to circle and turn right onto US 30. Follow White Horse Pike East to 2nd traffic light. Turn left onto Collings Ave. (Parkview Towers on right after turn.) Go past Knight Park on left, under High Speed rail line. Community Center is on the right. Turn right at the building and park under Speed Line. Enter building from parking lot.

Minutes from the Aug. 15th Business Meeting (contd.)

(contd. from the previous page)

opportunity to serve, my time has been mainly devoted at activities to learn the full impact of the responsibility this position entails.

After a smooth and educational transfer from my predecessor, the able, talented Stella J., the necessary transfers of information were made with Area, Intergroup, and GSO.

Arrangements were made with the Area 44 Archives people to provide them with our Area 45 display at the NJ Hospitality Room at the AA International Convention, in San Antonio. That project was successfully completed.

At this writing, preparations are in progress to transfer Area 45 Archives from their present location in Glassboro, NJ, to a more accessible site in Tuckerton, NJ.

Contact has been made with other Area Archivists around the country so as to allow me to learn from their experience.

I also attended the Linwood Group's Archives meeting on 2/28, District 17 Workshop on 3/17, Area 45 Convention on 3/26-3/28, and Area 45 Mini-Conference on 4/10.

Audio, Ken T.:

No report submitted.

Budget and Finance, Andrew L., Interim Chair:
No report submitted.

Convention, 47th Annual, Frank Z. for Joanne C.:

I am happy to report that the 47th Convention is moving along well. We have our theme: "We will know Peace" and chose our logo this past meeting. We have put together an early registration form which you can find online and in the fall issue of the *Fourth Dimension*. Our new two-page registration flyer is ready, and the online registration is only days from going live.

All of our sub-committees are firing on all cylinders. We have our entertainment booked. On Saturday night, there will be a DJ dance, and both nights will have karaoke. I am pleased to report that the Program Committee was able to get their Saturday and Sunday speakers.

The Convention Chair had contacted the Crowne Plaza in order to confirm pricing so that we could get registration up and in full swing a little early this year.

Remember that if you want to download and print some registration flyers to take along to your home groups go to snjaa-convention.org and click on registration.

CPC, Buster R.:

No report submitted.

CTF & Bridging the Gap, Paul B.:

My name is Paul. I am an alcoholic.

Since the last report, CTF committee has been busy putting together the final details on our upcoming conference on Oct. 9 at Lambs Road Cathedral in Sewell, N.J. We have two great speakers set for that day, Billy N. from GSO and Superior Court Judge Michael C., along with a Corrections panel and a Treatment panel. I hope that everyone will attend on that day. I would hope that everyone will bring their sponces along, so they can learn why it is so important to carry this message. We know you will not want to miss this. There are flyers on the back table, please take some to your home group and any other meetings you go to; the CTF committee thanks you all for your support.

The CTF committee and the three intergroups put three workshops on. The theme was "Why We Carry the Message." The first workshop was in Cape Atlantic on April 17 with 58 attendees. The second was held in Central Jersey Intergroup on May 22 with 38 attendees. The third workshop was held in South Jersey Intergroup on June 12 with 53 attendees. The workshops were only half of what we have in store for you at the Conference. I would like to thank all three intergroups for their support. Our next committee meeting is August 22. Please come out and join the committee; all are welcome. The CTF committee was able to start four new meetings in Area 45 since the last time we met, bringing the total to 7 new meetings to this area since January, and three more are pending.

I was blessed to attend the International Convention, and I cannot begin to tell you what an experience; it was amazing. I also attended the Jal-Con Convention in North Jersey on July 17. Thanks, Joe, for inviting me.

BRIDGING THE GAP:

From the period 4-16 to now, we had a number of calls. As usual, the telemarketer calls at least three times a week. Also, a number of people asking for rides. We have received a two to three calls a week from Dan L. from Miami, Florida, District 15 BTG coordinator, to provide transitioning from rehabs in Florida to New Jersey. All calls were answered and volunteers were provided.

DCM/GSR Orientation, Laurie E.:

No report submitted.

Grapevine, Stephanie L.:

No report submitted.

Jal-Con, Joe McA.:

I would like to thank Section I for hosting today's assembly.

I'm happy to report that since our last Assembly, I was able to attend all of the Jal-Con planning meetings and attended the Jal-Con Convention, which was held July 16, 17 and 18 at the East Brunswick Hilton in Brunswick, NJ.

I would like to thank all of the people who took and fulfilled their speaking commitments at Jal-Con, making it so much easier on me. Elaine M., Janet C-S., Thom O., Kim R., and Paul B., thank you.

Our Delegate and Alternate Delegate did double duty by also setting up and manning an AA Grapevine table, thus giving some new people an opportunity to learn about our meeting in print.

The convention was a lot of fun, and it was very easy to get caught up in all the activities. Along with Phil M., the Area 44 AA liaison to Jal-Con, I conducted the countdown at the Saturday night meeting. So we introduced everyone to an AA countdown. They were a little slow in catching on at first, but by the end, everyone was just as loud and enthusiastic as any AA convention I have ever attended.

In addition to an Al-Anon and an AA speaker, there was an Alateen speaker, a young girl who spoke of her struggle to deal with her father's alcoholism.

If you have never attended an Al-Anon Convention, you are missing a great opportunity. It has taught me that this disease affects many others in addition to the alcoholic and to respect their need for their own recovery.

The Jal-Con Committee met informally yesterday, and we are already looking at ways to make next year's Convention even better!

I am grateful for the opportunity for personal growth that this service has given me.

Newsletter, Andrew L.:

No report submitted.

Policy and Charter, Mike L.:

No report submitted.

Public Information, Open Position:

No report submitted.

Registration, Judy C-P.:

In attendance today were:

- 6 Panel Members
- 9 Committee Chairs
- 2 Section Leaders
- 8 DCMs
- 53 GSRs
- 2 Visitors

For a total of 83 (including 1 Trustee)

Special Needs, Jill J.:

Good morning. I'm Jill J., your chairperson for Special Needs.

I apologize for not submitting a written report at the last Assembly. I brought a supply of the service pamphlet "Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs," courtesy of the GSO. Please distribute and discuss them within your groups.

I had the privilege of attending the International Convention in San Antonio. While I was there, I attended a topic meeting regarding special needs. I also had the opportunity to serve as a convention volunteer in San Antonio. As always, I get much more than I give whenever I have an opportunity for service. I saw first hand how "AAs throughout the fellowship are discovering that the

common bond of recovery can transcend the barriers of disabilities." (F-107, pg.2)

I discovered how much has already been done to make sure that the message of hope, recovery, and service is carried to alcoholics with additional challenges. The one example I want to share with you was when I realized that the volunteers directing pedestrian traffic at the shuttle bus stop were visually impaired. It took my breath away. Never before have I witnessed the degree of honesty, open mindedness, and willingness necessary to facilitate not only the pedestrian traffic directors but also scores of convention attendees who were afforded the opportunity to provide service in accordance with their capabilities.

So that the committee can facilitate an awareness of the current need, problems, and successes, I invite any AA member who has a question, concern, or idea to contact me at specialneed-sarea45@gmail.com.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Web Site, Pat M. (read by Dave MacD):

Unfortunately, I am unable to be in attendance for the Summer Assembly. I do have some good news though. After a few snags, we have a test site on a local machine and are currently processing all of the pages. Once all the pages are updated to the new script we should be able to go live with the new look.

We've been able to keep the current site up to date and have added a new type of calendar. There are a couple of events pages that were eliminated as redundancies while we complete the new site design with its easy navigation menus and such.

It appears that everyone has gotten used to the new website email: webadmin@snjaa.org. That is the link on the website pages if anyone needs to reach the website committee.

If anyone has any suggestions or wishes to help out on the website committee, please shoot us an email.

Thanks, so much, for the opportunity to serve AA & Area 45.

Workshop, Linda MacD.:

My name's Linda, and I'm an alcoholic.

Debbie H. presented Concept X this morning. Excellent presentation. Thank you, Debbie.

We are open for suggestions for the next Assembly Meeting in November.

I also attended the International Convention in San Antonio. Our hospitality room with archives had many great comments.

SJCYPAA, Jess M.:

Since our last Assembly, we have held SJCYPAA meetings every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at St. Luke's Church in Collingswood at 7 pm.

Our next event will be held on September 18th, starting at 2pm, at Cooper River Park, called "Fall into Fellowship." There will be food, music, and games. All are

(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

• **Central Jersey Intergroup**

P.O. Box 4096
Trenton, New Jersey 08610
(609) 656-8908 -or- (609) 656-8900
www.centraljerseyintergroup.org

• **South Jersey Intergroup**

P.O. Box 2514
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034
(856) 486-4444
www.aasj.org

• **Cape Atlantic Intergroup**

P.O. Box 905
Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232
(609) 641-8855 or
(800) 604-HELP (4357)
www.capeatlanticintergroup.org

• **AA World Services, Inc.**

P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, New York 10163
(212) 870-3400
www.alcoholics-anonymous.org

Minutes from the Aug. 15th Business Meeting (contd.)

(contd. from the previous page)

welcome to attend. Further information will be posted on the Area and Intergroup websites.

ICYPAA (the International Convention of Young People in AA) will be held in two weeks (August 26-29) at the Marquis Marriott in Times Square, NY. I will be attending to represent SJCYPAA.

Please come out to support our committee either at our committee meetings or our events. Remember, "young" means young at heart having room to grow.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Ad Hoc Outreach to the Hispanic Community, Fernando B.:

No report submitted.

Cape Atlantic Intergroup, Jim B., Vice-Chair:

My name is Jim. I am the Vice-Chairperson for Cape/Atlantic Intergroup.

Planning for the Roundup has been going very well. Event dates are November 19, 20 and 21. The Roundup now has its own website: www.caigroundup.org.

Due to a very busy summer season, our Trustee resigned last month. The position is vacant, and we will be holding our first round of elections for Trustee on Wednesday of this week, at the regular CAIG Business Meeting on August 18. More changes have occurred in our committee chair assignments. All of our appointed committee positions are currently filled, and responsibilities are being met.

Many new H&I commitments have been added to our monthly commitment roster, and I am very pleased to report that our intergroup reps quickly filled these commitments and are showing up to carry the message.

We are looking into getting a new office. An ad-hoc committee is being formed to discuss this matter.

The CAIG body has accepted a change to our By-laws, which allows us more freedom in choosing where we can hold the steering committee meeting. This amendment also adds the ability to delay the steering committee meeting in the event of an emergency.

Our "Young at Heart" committee had a canoe trip on July 10th. A lot of people showed up and canoed and kayaked in the rain. I skipped it...but everyone who attended said that the trip was fantastic, and very peaceful. The next canoe trip is August 22. flyers are available online.

Upcoming events:

- Sunday, August 22: The second canoe trip of 2010
- Saturday, September 18: Workshop in the Woods/Camping trip
- Sunday, September 26: Unity Breakfast
- November 19, 20, 21: CAIG Roundup (Grand Hotel, Cape May)

flyers and more information available online at www.caigrp.org.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

Central Jersey Intergroup, Connie Y.:

Hi. I am Connie, and I am an alcoholic. In May, we had our Hospitals & Institutions, Prisons, and Correctional Treatment Facilities workshop. We had several good speakers and several volunteers sign up to help with these committees in Central Jersey.

Not a lot else is going on in the summer. We are rolling along with carrying the message of AA.

I am working with South Jersey Intergroup on their hosting of the Day of Sharing in October.

South Jersey Intergroup, Frank Z.:

Good morning, everyone. My name is Frank, and I am an alcoholic and proud to serve as your South Jersey Intergroup Chair. Welcome to our newest GSRs. SJIG has been operating pretty much "business as usual" with only a few exceptions. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all the groups for your continued support.

Our Answering Service Committee is looking for a few volunteers to man two-hour phone shifts or perhaps an overnight phone shift.

Literature can always use volunteers to help out by distributing literature during two-hour shifts at the office in Pennsauken. They will arrange training at a time that is convenient for you.

We also have a team of volunteers that are going to different home groups and selling literature. If your group would like to have the road show come to your meeting to sell literature please contact the office.

Hospitals and Institutions is reporting an increase in the number of commitments that are not being fulfilled. Please, if you take a commitment, fulfill it or get it covered.

The Memorial Day Alcahons held at Woodbury Christ Episcopal Church on Delaware Ave. went very well. Thanks, Joey H. and his committee, for all their hard work.

Social Events Committee has

quite a few events lined up that will keep us busy and entertained over the summer months. Check out the list on our website at www.aasj.org.

Speaking of the website, be sure to submit your home group's anniversary announcements to the events page for an easy way to get the word out. If you submit a flyer, we'll be sure to have copies at our Intergroup meeting.

In closing, please don't forget about the Day Of Sharing on Oct. 16th. If you like to get involved, please see me after the Assembly.

Thanks for letting me serve.

New Business:

Agenda Items:

1. Approve the Budget for Panel 60 covering August, 2010 to December, 2010. (PASSED)
2. Add \$600.00 back to the CTF budget for the Annual CTF Conference. (PASSED)
3. Discuss the possibility of reducing the number of printed newsletters by up to half and moving to a wider-used electronic format. (Much discussion ensued)

Area Committee Meeting:

Section I, Joe B.:

No report submitted.

District 4, Mark G.:

No report submitted.

District 22 & 23, Jason D.:

No report submitted.

District 24, Debbie H.:

Thank you for the opportunity to give this report to you.

District 24 continues to meet at 6:30pm on the third Monday of the month. However, this Monday, the 16th, we will be meeting at Rosedale Park at 6:30pm to finalize plans for our District Picnic which will take place on Saturday, August 21st from 10:00am to 6:00pm. We are fortunate enough to have gotten Janet S-C., our Alternate Delegate, who will be speaking at 3:00pm.

We are still growing and at our last meeting, we counted at least 12 GSRs in attendance. At this time, we have a balance of \$1,718.21 in our treasury, which will be utilized for the picnic and our upcoming workshop. The sponsorship workshop will take place in the fall. We are still iron-

ing out the details.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your DCM.

Section II, Joe M.:

No report submitted.

District 9, Colin M.:

No report submitted.

District 26, Jeff P.:

Hello. My name is Jeff, and I am an alcoholic. I would like to thank Section I for hosting today's meeting. District 26 meets the last Tuesday of every month, at 7:00pm, at St. Marks Church in Oaklyn.

I attended the May Assembly.

District 26's current balance is \$832.97.

We are working to improve attendance at meetings. I'd like to thank John S. and Joan for getting out to groups to spread the word on the importance of a GSR. Currently working with Section II Leader to help support the Fall Assembly which will be held November 7th, at the Collingswood Senior Citizen Center, 30 Collings Ave., Collingswood.

District 26 has 7 GSRs or Alternate GSRs in attendance today.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

Section III, Joe McA.:

I would like to thank Section I for hosting today's Assembly.

We hosted the Delegate's Report to Section III on June 19th. Thanks to Linda MacD. (DCM of D-13) for her help. Thanks to Linda, we didn't have to eat with our fingers! I had somehow walked out of my house and left off the plastic knives and forks there.

I'm happy to report that since our last Assembly, Section III has received funds from some of the Districts. We now have \$125.00 in our account towards our next function. Thank you, D-14 and D-20, for your support. It will be a big help when the Section puts on our next event.

District 12, Barbara J.:

No report submitted.

District 13, Linda MacD.:

My name's Linda and I am an alcoholic.

We had no summer meeting due to the International Convention in San Antonio.

We will be holding a workshop with District 14 on September 25th from 1:30 to 3:30pm on Resentments at Second and Pine in Millville.

Thanks for letting me serve.

District 14, Mike L.:

No report submitted.

District 21, Jim L.:

No report submitted.

Section IV, Bob Z.:

No report submitted.

District 15, Scott B.:

No report submitted.

District 17, Pat P.:

Hello. My name is Pat P. I represent District 17. My homegroup is ACYP.

Thank you, Section I, for the great breakfast and lunch. It is an honor to be a part of today.

On Sept 10th, we will be hosting a workshop on How Important Being of Service is to those who need AA. We hope all will try to attend. Elaine McA., Ken T., Wendy M., and Steve G. will be our speakers.

District 17 meets the first Wednesday of the month in Ventnor. Please feel free to come to our meeting.

District 18, Lonna R.:

No report submitted.

District 19, Rob F.:

No report submitted.

New Business:

There were no new agenda items brought to the floor for voting at our November meeting. However, Chair, Thom O. asked those assembled for a sense of the group on the following three points:

1. Do we feel it would be worth looking at other hotels for our Convention starting in March, 2012? (Answer = Yes)
2. Would we like an Area Picnic for 2011? (Answer = No)
3. Would we like to change the day of the Assembly from Sunday to Saturday? (This was actually brought up as a possible agenda item but it failed to be brought forward by simple majority).

See you in Collingswood on November 7, 2010 at Collingswood Senior Citizen Center.

Southern New Jersey Area General Service Assembly, Alcoholics Anonymous

SNJ Fourth Dimension

area45newsletter@gmail.com

AREA 45 THEME: "We have found ourselves in a new dimension."

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous[®] and AA[®] are registered trademarks of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS), Inc. Quotes from AAWS or the AA Grapevine are used with permission.

P.O. BOX 3724
CHERRY HILL, NJ 08034

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
BELLMAWR, NJ
PERMIT NO. 372

