

"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



A Note from Your 44th Area 45 General Service Convention Chair

Greetings Everyone!

Now that winter is here, the 44th Area 45 Convention Committee will be ramping up our efforts so that we can put on one of the best conventions Area 45 has ever seen. The weekend of March 28th, 29th and 30th is not far away now. Get ready!!!!!!

First and foremost, please visit our website www.snjaaconvention.org. The website has lots of information about the Convention, including speakers, theme, workshops, downloadable registration flyer and more. Online registration is also open for your convenience. Laurie W., Registration Chair, and Joanne C., Treasurer, are busy processing registrations as we speak. Registration flyers have been distributed to all Area 45 homegroups and have been sent personally to everyone who registered for last year's convention. **We strongly encourage you to register as early as you possibly can. Last year the hotel sold out prior to the Convention, and we were unable to supply rooms for walk in registrants.**

Our theme for the 44th Convention will be *A New Pair of Glasses*, and we hope you will see how great this will be. Robbie T., our Hospitality Chair, is making sure the Hospitality Committee has some really upbeat ideas for us that go along with our theme. The weekend will kick off with a great speaker, John S., an editor for the *Grapevine*. Our other speakers will be the fabulous and lively Micki B from Bryan, TX. You will laugh and cry at her amazing story. The Convention will also feature John A. from Dallas, TX. John is perfect for the Sunday Morning Spiritual Meeting -- what an uplifting message. And those wonderful Al-Anons have come up with an exciting agenda of their own, including speaker Kathy H. from Cincinnati, OH.

Wallace D., Marathon Meeting Chair, and his committee have met to come up with our marathon meeting topics. The list of marathon meetings, topics and chairs will be posted on our website. There are still slots available. **If you are interested in signing up to chair a marathon meeting at the Convention, you can contact anyone on the Convention Committee or Area Panel or email me at chair@snjaaconvention.org.** Also, Pat M., Program Chair, and Maryann L., Program Co-Chair, are working to make sure the workshops are really fun and engaging, although I don't know how we will top the workshops from last year. Those OZ characters still have us laughing! But we know we'll have fun since Joey H., our Area 45 Chair, will be doing our Friday Night Fun Workshop again. Be sure to check out the tentative program inside this issue of the *Fourth Dimension* and the schedule section of the convention website for program updates.

And of course, please sign up for the fantastic Saturday Night Banquet. Maryann H., our Banquet Chair, has been working really hard to make sure we all have a lovely dining experience. Entertainment is going to be top notch this year with the Karaoke, a great DJ and live music from the Juliano Brothers. Thanks to Debbie S., our Entertainment Chair, we will be having a great time between 10 and 2 every evening.

We are still looking for committee members. We have a lot of work to do yet and there are still jobs available. We have a great committee, and we have loads of fun as we plan for this awesome event. I didn't mention everyone on the committee, but they are a magnificent bunch of people. We really have a fun and hard-working group! On behalf of my Co-Chair, Joe M., and the whole Convention Committee team, please consider joining the committee. It's not too late. We meet the first Sunday of each month in Hammonton. Directions are on our website.

Finally, Frank Z., our Public Information Chair, has been spreading the word to everyone about our convention. But we need your help. Pass the word about how much fun we have at our convention every year!!!!

Don't forget to check out www.snjaaconvention.org and **please, register early.** We don't want you to miss this!

Warm regards,
Alice W., 44th Convention Chair

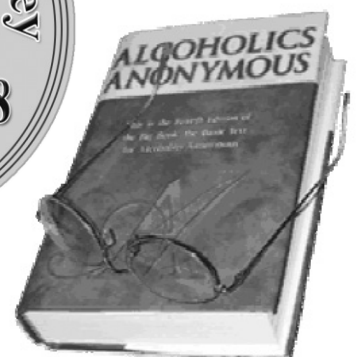
Welcome to the new Area Panel:

- Delegate:**
Fred E.
- Alternate Delegate:**
Elaine McA.
- Chairperson:**
Joey H.
- Treasurer:**
Heather Anne S.
- Secretary:**
Janet C.
- Registrar:**
Dave MacD.

Thank you to the outgoing Panel for your years of service:

- Delegate:**
Jimmy S.
- Alternate Delegate:**
Julie W.
- Chairperson:**
Elaine McA.
- Treasurer:**
Fred E.
- Secretary:**
Joe H.
- Registrar:**
Frank Z.

Be sure to check inside this issue of the Fourth Dimension for information and registration information about NERAASA '08 (page 8) and the 44th Annual Area 45 General Service Convention (pages 3-6)!



"A New Pair of Glasses"

Rocket inside to find...

- "To Serve is to Live"page 2
- Convention Registration & Infopages 3-6
- "The Greatest Fellowship on Earth.....page 7
- NERAASA (there's still time!)page 8
- Nov. Assembly Minutespages B1-B3

"To Serve is To Live"

Greetings my fellow Panel 58 trusted servants,

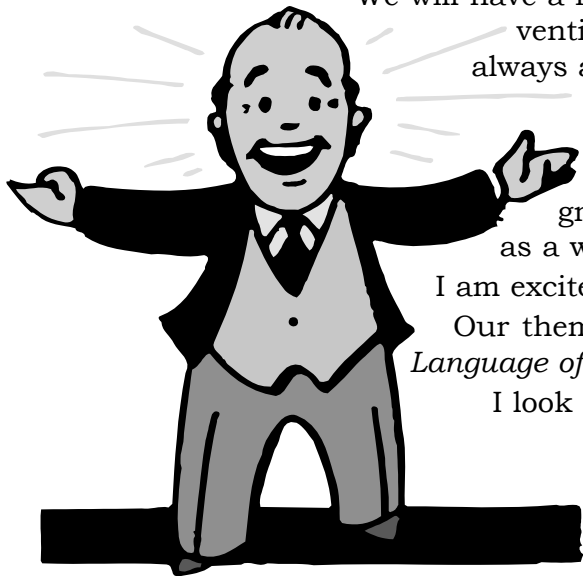
I would like to welcome those of you who have said yes to service. We have lots of new faces, a lot of energy and enthusiasm. We also have some great opportunities ahead of us this spring. Area 45 will host NERAASA '08 on February 22nd - 24th and the 44th annual Southern New Jersey Area 45 convention on March 28th - 30th. The Mini-Conference will take place in April. At NERAASA '08, the Northeast Region of AA will descend upon Southern New Jersey. This will be a once in a lifetime event for some of us. It will also be our chance to be infused with a level of service that is well beyond the homegroup. Our little pocket of enthusiasm will have the spotlight on it. My desire is for us to show the Northeast Region some Southern New Jersey hospitality, love and service. I would love for this to be the NERAASA that is talked about long after the event has left the Area. Let this be the NERAASA that other Areas try to emulate. Bring your energy and enthusiasm, and then experience the joy of service.

We will have a four-week break to catch our breath and switch hats for our annual convention. We will once again get the chance to put gratitude into action. This is always a fun-filled weekend with lots of workshops geared towards service. There are plenty of AA jobs for everyone this weekend.

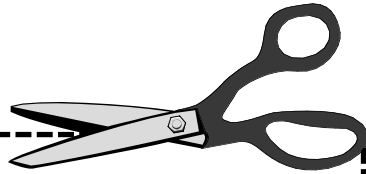
At the Mini-Conference, you will have the task of preparing me for the 58th General Service Conference in New York. This is where you and your group get to express its collective conscious as it pertains to matters of AA as a whole.

I am excited for you and for myself for the opportunities that wait ahead for us. Our theme for Panel 58 is "To Serve is To Live," taken from pages 129 & 130 of *Language of the Heart*, Bill W.'s *Grapevine* writings.

I look forward to serving and fellowshipping with you over the next two years.



**Yours in Love and Service,
Fred E.
Panel 58 Delegate
Area 45, Southern New Jersey**



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

We have great news for those who had an opportunity to enjoy the "Waves of Sobriety" roundup in Wildwood in November, as well as those who wish to attend the next one!



The new Cape Atlantic Intergroup chair, Wendy, and all of the wonderful volunteers at CAIG, have approved a second annual roundup for late Fall 2008. I know that Vinny, who is chairing this second roundup, along with all of his committee's volunteers, will come up with some great stuff for us to look forward to.

Check out your Spring issue of the *Fourth Dimension* for more details!

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

Experience, strength
and hope from AAs
around the world!

An Invitation to All AA Members in Area 45 to Participate in Alcoholics Anonymous Worldwide

WHEN: Saturday, April 12th, 2008
WHERE: Transfiguration Hall
 415 White Horse Pike
 Collingswood, NJ 08108
TIME: 9am-3:30pm
 8:30am Registration

The Area 45 Mini-Conference is a one-day event allowing the home group to participate in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship. Participation is desired from all GSRs, while all group members are encouraged and welcome to attend.

The Mini-Conference is modeled after the Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference held in New York City yearly. Agenda items discussed are those that will be addressed at our upcoming General Service Conference. They have been brought forth from various Areas throughout the U.S. and Canada. Through our committee discussion, the delegate is able to attend the GSC with an understanding of the collective group conscience of Area 45, and how it relates to matters that effect AA as a whole.

Please come and share in our worldwide Fellowship.

Good Orderly Directions:

From North: follow NJ Turnpike South to exit 7. Exit and follow signs for 1-295 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 Atlantic City Expressway 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.

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). Go to next traffic light at Magill Ave. and turn right. Turn right again into Transfiguration parking lot. Enter through solid double doors to right.

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 first light on 30 East (Magill Ave.), turn left. Turn right into Transfiguration parking lot. Enter building through solid double doors to right.

From US 130 South: Come to circle and turn right onto US 30. Follow White Horse Pike East to first traffic light. Turn left onto Magill Ave. Turn right into Transfiguration parking lot. Enter building through solid double doors to right.

44th ANNUAL SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY AREA 45 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

March 28, 29 and 30, 2008



Pre Registration: October 1, 2007 thru March 14, 2008
Walk-in Registration: Friday, March 28, 2008, 2 p.m. till 11 p.m.
 Saturday, March 29, 2008, 8 a.m. till 11 p.m.

Friday Night "Fun Workshop," Sobriety Countdown, Various Workshops, Sunrise Spirituality Meetings, Marathon Meetings, Al-Anon/Alateen Meetings, Nightly Entertainment, Friday Buffet, Saturday Banquet, Signer at Speaker Meetings for Hearing Impaired

The Crowne Placa
2349 Marlton Pike (Route 70)
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Pre-Registration Only: \$32.00 Walk-in Registration: \$35.00
Register Online! <http://www.snjaaconvention.org>

One registration form covers convention, hotel room, meals and banquet.
 We can now accept credit cards (early-registration only, deadline: March 14th).
 Anyone with 20 years or more of sobriety wishing to participate in the Old-Timers panel **MUST** register early - space on the panel is limited and no exceptions can be made.



AI-ANON Invites You!

The members of AI-Anon cordially invite you, the relatives and friends of those affected by the family disease of alcoholism, to AI-Anon's participation in the 44th 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 AI-Anon South Jersey Information Service at 856-547-0855.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 44TH ANNUAL AREA 45 CONVENTION AS WE LOOK THROUGH A NEW PAIR OF GLASSES!

44th Annual Southern New Jersey...

HOTEL PACKAGES

ALL PACKAGES INCLUDE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE

Package Description	OCCUPANCY			
	Single (Cost per person, includes convention registration)	Double	Triple	Quad
Package #1 For Those Staying All Weekend - Includes, guestroom for Friday & Saturday nights, Friday Dinner, Saturday & Sunday Breakfast	\$329.00	2@ \$216.50 each	3@ \$182.00 each	4@ \$162.50 each
Package #2 For those arriving late Friday - Includes, guestroom for Friday & Saturday, Breakfast Saturday and Sunday	\$295.00	2@ \$181.50 each	3@ \$147.00 each	4@ \$129.50 each
Package #3 For those staying Friday night - Includes guestroom for Friday night and Saturday breakfast	\$163.50	2@ \$ 107.00 each	3@ \$90.00 each	4@ \$80.00 each
Package #4 For those staying Saturday night - Includes guestroom for Saturday night and Sunday breakfast	\$163.50	2@ \$107.00 each	3@ \$90.00 each	4@ \$80.00 each
Package #5 Guestroom for Friday & Saturday nights only - <u>No meals included</u>	\$258.00	2@ \$145.50 each	3@ \$111.50 each	4@ \$ 91.50 each
Package #6 Guestroom for Friday night only - <u>No meals included</u>	\$145.00	2@ \$91.50 each	3@ \$72.00 each	4@ \$62.00 each
Package #7 Guestroom for Saturday night only - <u>No meals included</u>	\$145.00	2@ \$91.50 each	3@ \$72.00 each	4@ \$62.00 each

**** Saturday Night Banquet Tickets are not included in any hotel package. Banquet tickets are available for \$36 each and may be purchased through pre-registration or by walk-in registration. See page 3 of this form for more information.**

All occupants of each guestroom will be required to check-in at hotel front desk. Payment in full for all incidental charges will be required at checkout. Incidental charges will not be split among roommates unless all occupants are present at check-out. **There will be no refunds for package charges after 5:00 p.m. on March 14, 2008. There will be no refunds for missed meals and meal tickets cannot be exchanged for other meals.**

All reservations must be received by March 14, 2008 in order to guarantee the above-reduced prices. Reservations made after this date will be quoted the Crowne Plaza corporate rate plus sales and occupancy taxes, which are higher.

All reservations must be made directly with the Convention Committee by sending this form to Area 45 Convention, P.O. Box 2069, Ventnor, NJ 08406 or register online at <http://www.snjaaconvention.org>.

If you have any questions regarding packages, please call the Convention Committee at one of the numbers below. All mail reservations must be accompanied by a check or a valid credit card number for the full amount.

Refunds of deposits will only be made if canceling before March 14, 2008. Tickets for meal purchases will be distributed upon convention check-in and will be required for admission into all meal functions.

Hotel check-in time is 4:00 p.m. Checkout time is 11:00 a.m. Early arrivals may store their luggage with the Hotel Bellman.

To register online go to <http://www.snjaaconvention.org>

For more information call:

Laurie C. (609) 383-9665 Joanne C. (609) 705-9179

Alice W. (609) 272-8117 Joe M. (856) 939-8979

Email: registrar@snjaaconvention.org or chair@snjaaconvention.org

Mail to 44th Annual Convention Committee Area 45 Convention at:
P.O. Box 2069, Ventnor, NJ 08406

**NO CREDIT CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 14th
OR AT WALK-IN REGISTRATION**

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

- Q:** Do I have to contact the hotel for room and/or meal packages?
A: No. Just register with the convention for everything. You will be required to check in to the hotel once you arrive to receive your room key.
- Q:** Is the Banquet included in the Meal Package?
A: No. But you can easily add it to your registration. Check off the box on the form. Only \$36, and you can choose your entrée by checking the appropriate box on the form.
- Q:** Can I register on-line?
A: Yes. Simply go to <http://www.snjaaconvention.org> and click on convention.
- Q:** Can I register my roommates on the same form?
A: Unfortunately not. We want to make sure that we correctly record your individual registration preferences/requirements.
- Q:** Can I pay by credit card?
A: Yes. But only for pre-registrations. We can accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. All walk-in registrations must be cash or check.
- Q:** Do I need to contact the hotel to confirm?
A: No. We are handling everything. If you have a question, contact the Convention Committee. The numbers are listed on the flyer.
- Q:** How do I sign-up for the "Old-Timers Panel"?
A: Easy! Fill out the box on the form. Remember space is limited. Sign-up early.
- Q:** Is there a cut-off date for pre-registration?
A: Yes, March 14th. But you can still register in-person starting at 2:00pm Friday at an additional walk-in charge of \$2.00.
- Q:** Can I mail my registration in?
A: Yes. Simply fill out the form and enclose a check, money order or credit card information for all expenses. Mail it back to:
**Area 45 Convention
PO Box 2069
Ventnor, NJ 08406**
- Q:** I don't want to attend the Convention; I just want to go to the dances. Can I buy tickets for those?
A: Sorry! Our event is inclusive. Your \$32 Convention Registration covers everything. We don't sell tickets for the dances.

...Area 45 General Service Convention

REGISTRATION FORM

Please use ONE registration form for each person registering
To register on-line go to: <http://www.snjaaconvention.org>
For Mail-in registration, please complete the form below and mail to:
Area 45 Convention, P. O. Box 2069, Ventnor, NJ 08406

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

NAME: _____ One Bed _____
 Address: _____ Two Beds _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Friday night _____
 Phone: _____ Saturday night _____
 Cell Phone: _____ Both nights _____
 Email: _____ Arrival Date: _____
 Departure Date: _____

To insure your reservation is made correctly, please provide us the name of your roommates.

Name(s) of roommate: 1. _____ (First and last name)
 2. _____ (First and last name)
 3. _____ (First and last name)

Hotel Packages (includes Convention Registration fee of \$32.00). Saturday Banquet is not included in any packages.

Pkg#	Single	Double	Triple	Quad	Total
#1	\$329.00	\$216.50	\$182.00	\$162.50	_____
#2	\$295.00	\$181.50	\$147.00	\$129.50	_____
#3	\$163.50	\$107.00	\$90.00	\$80.00	_____
#4	\$163.50	\$107.00	\$90.00	\$80.00	_____
Rooms and Registration Only - none of the below packages include any meals					
#5	\$258.00	\$145.50	\$111.50	\$91.50	_____
#6	\$145.00	\$91.50	\$72.00	\$62.00	_____
#7	\$145.00	\$91.50	\$72.00	\$62.00	_____
#8	\$32.00 Registration only				_____
	\$36.00 Saturday Night Banquet				_____
	Choose One: Veggie _____ Chicken _____ Beef _____				_____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Check or Money Order enclosed: Amount \$ _____ (Make checks payable to "AREA 45 CONVENTION")

Please charge my credit card: Amount \$ _____

American Express _____ Visa _____ Master Card _____ Discover _____

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

Name on Credit Card: _____ Security Code: _____ (3 digits from back of card)

Name (if different from above): _____

*****If you need confirmation besides your cancelled check or credit card statement email
Registrar@snjaaconvention.org
*****No credit cards will be accepted after March 14, 2008, or for walk-in registrations*******

AA: _____ Al-Anon/Alateen: _____

Name on Badge: _____ Home Group: _____

I want to be on the Old-Timers Panel!!!! _____ Years of Sobriety: _____

Handicapped accessible: _____ Hearing Impaired: _____

Tentative Convention Program Schedule

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2008

- 2:00pm REGISTRATION BEGINS
- 4:30pm EARLY BIRD MEETING (red ball)
Crystal Ballroom
Chairperson: Joann C., Convention Treasurer
- 6:00pm DINNER (Meal Plan)
Terrace Room
- 7:00pm CONVENTION SURVIVAL GUIDE
Crystal Ballroom
- 8:00pm SPEAKER MEETING
(doors open 7:30pm)
Riverside Pavillion
Speaker: John S., Maryland
General Service Office, NY
Chairperson: Joe M., Convention Co-Chair
- 9:45pm WORKSHOP #1
to
11:05pm Riverside Pavillion
"Fun Workshop"
~time
~time
approximate~
Chairperson: Joey H., Area Chair
- 10:30pm LIVE BAND MUSIC
~time
approximate~
by Juliano Bros.
Grand Ballroom

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2008

- 6:00am to 7:00am SUNRISE SPIRITUAL MEETING
Crystal Ballroom
- 7:30am BREAKFAST BUFFET (meal plan)
Riverside Pavillion
- 8:30am INTERGROUP PANEL
to
9:30am Grand Ballroom A
Chairperson: Central Jersey Intergroup
- 9:30am CONVENTION PANEL
to
10:30am Grand Ballrooms B & C
Chairperson: Jimmy S., Past Area Delegate
- 10:30am OLD TIMERS' PANEL
to
12:30pm Grand Ballrooms B & C
Chairperson: Laurie E.
- 11:00am AL-ANON SPEAKER MEETING
Crystal Ballroom
Speaker: Kathie H., Cincinnati, OH

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2008 (contd.)

- 12:30pm LUNCH-DELI EXPRESS (meal plan)
Terrace Room
- 1:30pm AREA 45 PANEL SKIT - "AA DRAGNET"
to
2:30pm Grand Ballrooms B & C
Chair: Fred E., Delegate
- 2:30pm TOPIC WORKSHOP
to
3:30pm Grand Ballroom A
"The Greatest Fellowship on Earth"
Chairperson: Robbie W.
- 3:30pm AL-ANON SKIT
to
4:30pm Grand Ballrooms B & C
- 5:30pm BANQUET
Riverside Pavillion
"A New Pair of Glasses"
- 8:00pm SPEAKER MEETING
(doors open 7:30pm)
Grand Ballroom
Sobriety Countdown
Speaker: Micki B., Bryan, TX
Chairperson: Alice W., Convention Chair
- 10:30pm DJ DANCING
~time
approximate~
Grand Ballroom
- 10:30pm KARAOKE
~time
approximate~
Terrace Room

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2008

- 6:00am to 7:00am SUNRISE SPIRITUAL MEETING
Crystal Ballroom
- 7:30am BREAKFAST BUFFET (meal plan)
Riverside Pavillion
- 9:30am SPEAKER MEETING
Grand Ballroom
Speaker: John A., Dallas, TX
Chairperson: Pat M., Program Chair
- 11:30am CONVENTION WRAPUP MEETING
Crystal Ballroom

More Al-Anon Events and AA Marathon Meetings All Weekend Long

The Greatest Fellowship on Earth: Alcoholics Anonymous!

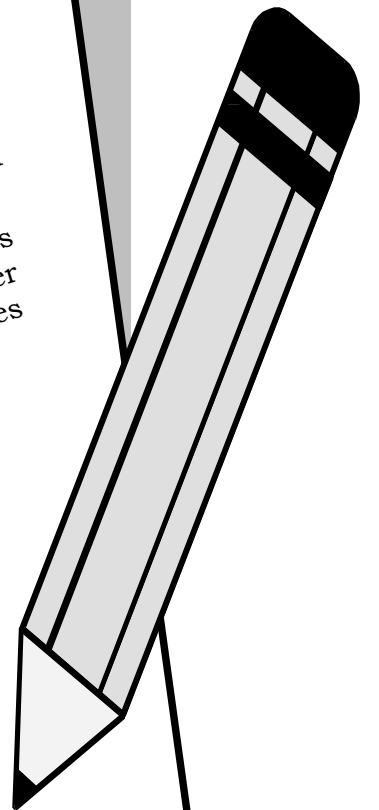
By: Robbie W.
Homegroup: The No-Balking Big Book Group

Hi Fourth Dimension reader, my name is Robbie, and I am an alcoholic! It's always an honor to be asked to submit an article for a worthy cause. When "Pat M." called me and asked me to be a part of the "inaugural" issue; as he begins his two-year stint as Newsletter Chair, I exclaimed, "You betcha' I'll submit an article, brother Pat!" So here goes.

I believe with all my heart and soul that I am a member of the *greatest fellowship on the face of the earth*. Why you may ask, do I feel this way? Allow me to count the ways:

1. The Fellowship of AA accepted me into its fold at a time in my life when no one else would. The authorities, rehab centers, and my own parents could no longer put up with my shenanigans. AA, however, welcomed me with open arms.
 2. We meet in AA as equals. There are no caste systems wherein one group of people are better or have more advantages than another. We are, in effect, a democratic society in thought, action, and membership. Where else do you really encounter this dynamic?
 3. AA asks only that you come to believe in a *Power Greater than Yourself*. Our own conception, however inadequate, was sufficient they said! In AA, I learned that the Realm of Spirit is broad, roomy, and all-inclusive; never exclusive. It was this kind of God I was searching for all my life, and I found Him right here in the greatest Fellowship on Earth!
 4. My imagination has been fired since becoming a member back in 1983. AA has taught me how to enjoy life, never forgetting of course, how I wanted to die due to alcoholism. It has taken me from a suicidal maniac prisoner to a healthy member of society.
 5. The Fellowship of AA has given me the necessary tools to be a good son, brother, employee, father, and husband. Due to AA, today, I have a design for living that works under all circumstances!
 6. In AA, we have been blessed with having the ability to apply the Twelve Steps; as passed down by our early pioneers, in all areas of our life. These Twelve Steps have enabled me to live a productive life, which I believe is pleasing to my God.
 7. AA has allowed me to have peace with the world around me. Today, I don't need to be 'right' on any given issue. AA has taught me that it is much more important to live happy, joyous, and free. Today I can allow others to have their own belief systems while I practice love and tolerance of their opinions.
- I hope that you, too, feel like I do concerning the Fellowship of alcoholics Anonymous. Is it the greatest Fellowship in the world to you? If not, meet a member that feels like me and find out the simple actions they took to change their attitudes and actions. If it worked for me, it can work for you. Happy trudging!

Editor's note: Be sure to come and join us for the "The Greatest Fellowship on Earth" workshop at your 44th Area 45 SNJAA Convention at 2:30 on Saturday, March 28th.





NERAASA '08

17TH ANNUAL

NORTHEAST REGIONAL ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SERVICE ASSEMBLY

2008 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE THEME

“COMMUNICATION AND PARTICIPATION -- THE KEY TO UNITY AND SELF-SUPPORT”

WEST ATLANTIC CITY, SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY 22ND, 23RD AND 24TH, 2008

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) is for GSR's, DCM's, Area Committee Members and Intergroup and Central Office Representatives of the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting A.A. as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the Areas of the Northeast Region.

ALL A.A. MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

LOCATION:

CLARION HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

6821 Black Horse Pike, Atlantic City West, EHT, NJ 08234

DEADLINES:

Hotel Registration - January 24, 2008

Event & Meal Registration - February 10, 2008

Registration available on-site

ON SITE REGISTRATION:

Begins at 1:00 pm

Friday, February 22, 2008

FIRST PANEL:

Begins at 3:00 pm

Friday, February 22, 2008

ICE BREAKER AA MEETING:

Thursday Evening at 8:00pm

February 21, 2008



www.neraasa.org

Good Orderly Directions:

From Philadelphia & West

Walt Whitman Bridge to Route 42 South to Atlantic City Expressway toward Atlantic City, to exit 7S Garden State Parkway South, to exit 37 toward US-40/Pleasantville/US-322/Atlantic City. Turn left at W Washington Ave. Turn right at Fire Rd. Turn left at Black Horse Pike/US-322 E/US-40 East. Hotel is on right.

From the Northeast

Garden State Parkway South to Exit 37 toward US-40/Pleasantville/US-322/Atlantic City. Turn left at W Washington Ave. Turn right at Fire Rd. Turn left at Black Horse Pike/US-322 E/US-40 East. Hotel is on right.

From the Northwest

It is recommended that you do an Internet map search for directions to the hotel from your location or to Philadelphia and follow directions *From Philadelphia*.

From the South (including Philadelphia Airport)

Interstate I-95 North to Philadelphia. Walt Whitman Bridge to Route 42 South to Atlantic City Expressway toward Atlantic City, to exit 7S Garden State Parkway South, to exit 37 toward US-40/Pleasantville/US-322/Atlantic City. Turn left at W Washington Ave. Turn right at Fire Rd. Turn left at Black Horse Pike/US-322 E/US-40 East. Hotel is on right.

Business News

Minutes from the Nov. 18th Business Meeting

Delegate: Jimmy S.

Thank you, Section II, for hosting today's event. Thank you, Area 45, for extending to me the opportunity to be of service for the last two years as your Panel 56 Delegate.

General Service Office Manager Greg M. reported that November is recognized as "Gratitude Month" by many AA groups in the U.S. (in Canada, it's in October). To celebrate the essence of gratitude, Bill W. encouraged AA groups to make special contributions to the General Service Board each November – contributions that are essential to AA's growth and purpose to reach each suffering alcoholic here and across the oceans.

The 22nd Annual Intergroup/Central Office Seminar, held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, during October 4-7, attracted over 170 workers serving front-line offices in the U.S. and Canada. Fifty-one workers were attending their first Seminar. The attendees included employees of offices located in large metropolitan areas, as well as volunteers who serve small or remote communities. Seminar workshops covered vital topics such as prudent reserves, accounting, Web sites, e-mail etiquette, volunteers, insurance, databases and how to best apply AA Traditions. The 23rd Seminar will take place in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, September 25-28, 2008; and, the 2009 Seminar will be held in Rochester, New York.

The Southwest Regional Forum in Denver, Colorado, attracted more than 800 members for a weekend of workshops, sharing sessions and valuable presentations. There were many questions on topics concerning the welfare, unity and growth of AA.

Our Records Department continues to process group updates/changes submitted in hardcopy and via the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) database. Regional Directories have been distributed. Proofing of Overseas and Domestic Intergroup/Central Office Directories is underway, with the publication dates pending.

The Loners-Internationalists-Homers (LIM) Directory will be replaced with a report prepared by FNV. When completed, the LIM report will be sent to applicable members. The change from Directory to Report will permit frequent, accurate updates for new LIM members.

Julio and Greg participated in the 14th European Service Meeting, October 19-21, in Frankfurt, Germany. They welcomed opportunities to share with 41 Delegates about the value of strong home groups and emphasized Public Information service. Julio gave the keynote address, and Greg shared closing remarks.

All documents formerly located in the obsolete Doc-X-Net system are now available in Laserfiche. Archivist Amy F. is working with three vendors to develop a plan for conversion of Microfiche. Those vendors have sample fiche to determine an efficient method of conversion to legible digital documents. The project is on budget and continues on target for completion by year-end. We currently have more than 100,000 pages of archival records in the Laserfiche program, and Archives' personnel are adding documents daily. The software allows word-search of a vast number of records with a single keystroke. When the search objective is located, personnel can cut, paste, print, e-mail and easily utilize the records. Archives' employees use the program consistently and are now able to complete a research request rapidly and efficiently.

Services

International – In early September,

our Trustees-at-Large, Dorothy W. and Jo-Anne L., traveled to Mongolia for the First General Service Conference of the Mongolian AA service structure. At this historical event, Dorothy and Jo-Anne shared experience related to the U.S./Canada General Service Conference and General Service Office.

Both Trustees-at-Large also attended the Fifteenth Meeting of the Americas (REDELA) in São Paulo, Brazil, during October 17-21. Delegates from the AA service structures in North America, Central America and South America met to share their experience, strength and hope on carrying the message of AA in their countries.

Literature - The staff member on the Literature Assignment works with the Publications Department involving editors, writers, artists, etc., and a team of GSO staff to discuss and review articles for future Box 459 issues. The current October/November Box 459 is a terrific example of this collaborative effort. It contains 15 articles on a wide variety of topics and range of AA experience – Hebrew Big Book, Anonymity, Q&A on Anonymity online, Local Forums, Spanish literature workshop, AA Guidelines, "Gratitude Month," an AA meeting in a head trauma facility, LIM, the Corrections Correspondence Service and more! The featured article is on young people staying sober.

Public Information – The 2007 TV PSA, "A Force of Nature," is being centrally distributed to French TV stations in Canada. The AA Videos for Young People Project is in full swing and submitters may now register online and upload their videos.

Regional Forums – There were 476 people in attendance at the West Central Regional Forum in Omaha, Nebraska in September. Information about Local Forums, including the request form, was posted on GSO's AA Web Site in September.

International Convention – Delegate bid questionnaires were sent to all areas, asking if they would be interested in hosting the 2020 International Convention and would be willing to provide a host committee of 3,000 to 4,000 volunteers.

Treatment Facilities – Warren attended the annual Bridging the Gap Workshop in White River Junction, Vermont, during September 14-16. The event brought together area and district BTG chairs from as far away as California and as close as New Hampshire. In all, more than 60 enthusiastic AAs were in attendance. Sharing sessions centered on ways to improve doing this very important Twelfth Step work. The event also featured a panel discussion led by a professional in the treatment field.

The AAWS Publishing Committee recommended the following pricings, which were approved by the full Board: Videos/Films: Young People in AA, Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous, Bill's Own Story and Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions in DVD format were priced at \$10.00 each. Audio: Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions, Three Legacies by Bill, and Voices of Our Co-founders in CD format were priced at \$6.00 each. The CD Pioneers of AA was priced at \$8.50.

Publications – Total distribution of all books through September 2007 was 1,597,662, up 10% from the same period in 2006, when 1,456,209 units were distributed. Year-to-date 2007 total AA purchases amounted to 1,285,038 units, while non-AAs accounted for 302,624 units, or 19% of the total. Through September 2007, 855,332 Big Book units (all

Editions) were distributed, compared to 790,534 during the same period in 2006. In September, gross sales were budgeted at \$867,760. Actual sales, unaudited, were \$939,989, or 8% over budget. During the same period of 2006, gross sales amounted to \$938,104.

Alternate Delegate: Julie W.

In September, I attended the Area Elections. Congratulations to your upcoming Panel 58 and all its members.

In October, I attended the CTF Conference and the 13th Annual Day of Sharing, hosted by South Jersey Intergroup here in Collingswood. The theme was "Our Common Welfare Comes First." We heard from the Area Chair, and the three Intergroup representatives gave their "State Of the Union," so to speak. It was staggering to hear we have 467 groups in Area 45 with only 12% attending Assemblies. Everyone shared their strengths and weakness. We played Sobriety Jeopardy! And finished with a roundtable discussion.

I would like to close with my thanks and extend my gratitude to Area 45 and its members. It was my privilege to serve the past two years as your Alternate Delegate. I will always be grateful that you allowed me that experience.

In Loving Service.

Chairperson: Elaine McA.

I would like to announce the appointment of a new Chairperson for our Young People's Committee.

Colleen T. was moved into that position in September. The Committee has experienced some difficulties, but they have a committed core of members that are willing to do the necessary work to make SJCPAA a viable committee. Colleen has her work cut out for her, but I have every confidence that she is up to the task.

I'd like to thank CAIG for extending an invitation to us to participate in their first Round-Up in Wildwood last weekend. We did a skit called "Don't Break the Chain." Those of you who were there know what a great time it was.

As this is the final Assembly for Panel 56, I'd like to thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Chairperson for the past two years. I am grateful for your trust. I believe that service keeps us sober, but it also helps us to learn about ourselves, about our strengths and also about our shortcomings. Thank you for allowing me to learn those lessons.

I want to thank my fellow officers for their service to the Area. Jimmy and Julie, it was truly an honor to serve with both of you. Fred, thank you for being there for me and lending me the benefit of your experience in this position. Frank and Joey, we could always count on you to keep us from taking ourselves too seriously!

To our Committee Chairs, I can't give enough thanks. First of all, for saying yes when I asked, and then, for sticking around and doing such a fantastic job. It is only through your considerable efforts that Area 45 has been able to carry its message of hope and recovery out of this room to the people who so desperately need to hear it. You are my heroes.

Our Section Leaders, we thank you for getting us the rooms and doing the leg work of making these Assemblies possible. Our District Committee Members, thank you for the work you do outside of this room within your districts. Our General Service Representatives and Alternates, thank you for being that

all important link to the Home Groups. We are here only because you are here.

I look forward to working with Panel 58. Julie has given me my all important set of directions to the Intergroups and will be showing me around the job in the upcoming weeks. Joey is ready and, indeed, eager to step into this position, so the transition is going forward.

So, again I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Area 45 as your Chairperson.

Treasurer Report: Fred E.

Hello, everyone. My name is Fred, and I am an alcoholic. This last quarter, I have attended the CTF Conference and the Annual Day of Sharing in October.

I have attended the Convention Committee meetings in October and November.

I had the honor and pleasure to attend and speak at the first Waves of Sobriety Roundup, sponsored by CAIG. This is going to be the new highlight of the fall season. I would like to thank Panel 56 for their service in the Area; I would also like to thank the GSRs, DCMs, Committee members and our past Delegates for their service to the fellowship. A complete report of expenditures has been given to the Area Chair. I want to also thank all the groups for their contributions to the Area.

Now for your treasurer's report, August 11 – November 17, 2007. We had a beginning balance of \$28,418.11 + \$18,000 PR = \$46,418.11. Contributions and returns were \$11,275.67. Expenses for the quarter were \$5,088.34. Ending balance \$34,605.44 + 18,000.00 PR = \$52,605.44

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Fred E.

Secretary: Joe H.

My name is Joey; I am an alcoholic proud to serve you as Area 45 secretary. Since the last Assembly, I have been very busy. I have attended District 19 and District 26 meeting. Thank you, Colon and Barbara, for inviting me to your business meeting.

I also attended the Area Convention meeting and went to the Wilson House in Vermont with the Convention Committee. I also attended the CTF Conference in October; thank you, Janet and your committee, for a great job! I was involved in the CAIG Roundup, and it turned out to be a spiritually uplifting experience. I thank everyone for their very hard work. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in Area 45 as secretary for the past two years.

I look forward to serving you as your new Area Chair. As my number is not on the contact sheet, it is 856-243-5198 and my address is 410 Atlanta Court, Sewell, NJ 08080.

I would like to thank you, Panel 56, for allowing me to serve with you all - Jimmy, Julie, Elaine, Fred, and Frank.

Registrar: Frank Z.

Registration totals for Assembly/Committee Meeting:

	totals
Panel Members	5
Committee Chairs	10
Intergroup Chairs	2
Intergroup Liaison	1
Section Leaders	3
DCM	10
GSR	42
New GSR	12
Vistors	13
Total in attendance	98

Archives: Stella J.

I am sorry that I cannot be with you today. I am at the North Jersey Intergroup Brunch in Woodbridge, NJ. I was invited to be their speaker today.

I want to thank Panel 56 for their service to Area 45.

Congratulations to Panel 58 for their upcoming service for the next two years, I look forward to working with all of you.

This Assembly's Archives display features our Grapevine Committee and NERAASA 2008. Please visit our display. NERAASA will be in Area 45 February. This is a wonderful service experience. Anyone who has a service position or is interested in service should attend this event. I hope to

(continued on the next page)

Area 45 Account Balances Report

As of 1/14/08

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Bank Accounts	
Checking -- Operating Account	35,923.00
Prudent Reserve -- Commerce Certificate	18,000.00
TOTAL Bank Accounts	53,923.69
Cash Accounts	
Grapevine Total -- Inventory/Cash	1,654.00
TOTAL Cash Accounts	1,654.00
Asset Accounts	
Convention -- \$3,000 operating money	5,000.00
NonProfit Permit Account- #372- PrePaid Post...	396.35
Prepaid Expense -- Apply to Following Year	0.00
Young Peoples -- \$2,300 operating money	539.15
TOTAL Asset Accounts	5,935.50
Credit Card Accounts	
Commerce Credit -- Visa Card	0.00
Office Max Card -- Credit Card	0.00
Staples Card -- Credit Card	0.00
TOTAL Credit Card Accounts	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	61,513.19

Minutes from the Nov. 18th Business Meeting (contd.)

(Continued from the previous page)

see you all there. Thank you, Laurie and the committee, for their service.

I want to thank Joe McA. for being Grapevine Chair and for all his hard work for the past two years. I know I refer to our "Meeting in Print" all the time – whether it be for reading the articles or just to have the booklet with me. Their digital services online are great. Joe contributed several pieces for our display today.

All materials on display will be incorporated in the Archives.

If anyone has any materials for the Archives, please contact me. My phone number is on the Panel Officers and Committee Chairs list.

Yours, in Love and Service.

44th Convention: Alice W.

We are really ramping out now. After the holidays, the Convention will be here before you know it.

Registration is now open. We've had over 8,000 flyers printed up, and most of them have been distributed to home groups throughout the Area. The word is really getting out in other ways as well. Frank Z., our Public Information Chair, has gotten our flyer out all over the East coast. Also, you can look for our article and advertisement in the current copy of the *Fourth Dimension*.

Registration forms can also be printed from our website and online registration is also available. Thanks to Angela R. for getting that accomplished for us. Total to date, we have three registrations, but it is very early. In December, we will be mailing flyers to each of the people that attended the Convention last year. If you are going to go, please register early. Last year, the hotel was sold out early, and there were no available rooms in the whole area, so don't let that happen to you.

There is still time to join the committee. There are still jobs available and slots to fill. And it's not all work. About 18 members of the Committee went to the Wilson House up in Vermont and had a wonderful time. There is talk of getting a trip together to go to Stepping Stones, Bill and Lois' house in New York state, in February. Our next meeting is on Sunday, December 2, at 1pm at the Hammonton Presbyterian Church on Route 54 in Hammonton. You can go to our website www.snjaconvention.org.

NERAASA '08: Laurie E.

I am an alcoholic; my name is Laurie.

NOW is the time to make plans for NERAASA. The rooms are selling, with the primary hotel nearly full. Please consider how your District or Group can sponsor a GSR, DCM or any member in need who will undoubtedly benefit from attendance at the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly.

Do you want to know the decisions that face Alcoholics Anonymous today? (The items on the agenda at your next General Service Conference in New York – April of 2008). Perhaps you need help with a new service commitment or just want to know what those committees do? PI (Public Information), Newsletter, CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community), Intergroup, CTF (Correction & Treatment Facilities) and Special Needs to just to name a few.

This is a unique opportunity to hear and share how this service works! Each Area has varied experiences and strengths on how to carry the message and reach the still suffering alcoholic. If you are new or old to service, you cannot help but to benefit from this Regional Assembly.

Registration is just \$20 (the same cost that it was for the 1st NERAASA 17 year ago) and a room for two people costs at total of \$105, which includes a deluxe continental breakfast. Registration forms are on-line at www.neraasa.org, in our Newsletter, and here today.

Please take advantage of this opportunity. It is worth repeating that NERAASA will not likely be in our Area again until 2020. The experience, strength and hope for service to our Fellowship is invaluable.

Thank you to the Districts that have been so generous to offer support of the Hospitality Room, which will no doubt have visitors from Maryland to Maine. If your District or Group would like to contribute, please contact Dave L. @ 609-513-1819 or dlauer123@yahoo.com.

Our next meeting is December 16th in Egg Harbor Township; it is not too late to get involved. Registration, Hospitality and our Spanish efforts need your help. If you have questions about any aspect of NERAASA, please don't hesitate to call Fred, the NERAASA Co-chair @ 856-784-4728 or me @ 609-425-4941.

Thank you, and don't forget – this is a Big Deal!

In Love & Service, Laurie E.

CPC: Maria M.

I thank you for the honor to serve you as CPC Chair to reach out to spread the message of AA. It has been a rewarding service and has certainly helped to keep me sober.

Area 45 supported Area 44, with funds and pamphlets, at the New Jersey School Counselors at Long Branch in October. The CPC committee attended the Teacher's Convention in Atlantic City on November 7, 8, 9, 2007, along with Area 44 and Cape Atlantic Intergroup. Arrangements are in the process, to attend a convention with Area 44 in February 2008. This information will be forwarded to the new CPC chair.

Public Information: Thom O.

We hosted an AA Information Booth at the Upper Freehold Township Community Day Fair on September 15th. I would like to thank Alice T. Debbie H., Eddie M., Kim S. and Pete R. for coming out and helping with the booth. We ranged in time from 30 years to a few months, and we shared and laughed and didn't drink. This was a terrific example of AA service work – drunks working together to help others and, by no accident, each other.

We hosted an AA information booth at the Upper Freehold Township "Alcohol Awareness" Conference on Friday, October 26th.

We provided students at Rider University with pamphlets and other AA literature during assigned auditing of an AA meeting.

I would like to thank all the Intergroup PI Chairs who participated in our committee meetings: Cape Atlantic Intergroup, Eve C.; South Jersey Intergroup, Joe and Darryl; Central Jersey Intergroup, myself; and the Area 45 representatives – Julie W., Alt Delegate; Elaine McA. Area 45 Chair; Maria M. and Fred E; NERAASA Co-Chair.

I would like to thank Karen C., Vickie S., Richard M., Robbie W., and all who helped by taking PI commitments during the previous two years.

Finally, I would like to thank Elaine for appointing me to the PI Chair position and for her confidence and support, and thanks to Area 45 for allowing me to serve. I learned some new things, had some fun, met some folks and most importantly, didn't drink. For an alcoholic, this is the greatest gift.

Newsletter: Kathie S.

Good morning. I, too, want to thank the Section II members for hosting today. As always, your efforts are appreciated by many.

Service = Sobriety = Appreciation

I want to thank the Area for the honor of serving as your Newsletter Chair. The formula for my sobriety, as always, included service, and this ingredient gives me the end result of unending gratitude. I remain available to serve the Area in any way I am needed.

GSR/DCM Orientation: Julie W.

Welcome, all new GSRs and DCMs to the Area 45 Assembly. Today in attendance there were 12 new GSRs. Please remember, we are all here to be of help you. The last thing we want any of you to feel is lost and get discouraged with your commitment. Please make sure you fill out the new GSR registration form and give it to our Area Registrar. I hope all the DCMs will meet with their new GSRs at some point today.

The Delegate, Jimmy S., and I are still visiting as many Districts and Section meetings as we can. Our main goal is to actually see how the District meetings are going, lend any experience, strength and hope, and for the Delegate to personally meet with the GSRs so he can get a better understanding of how the groups feel when he goes up to New York for the conference. We have been to the following Districts this quarter: District 19.

If we have not attended your District or Section meeting, we will; please continue to invite us. We especially want to visit Districts and or Sections that we have not been to yet.

Today's DCM workshop is cancelled due to the workshop on Service, so that you can all attend it.

Grapevine: Joe McA.

Good morning. My name is Joe McA., and I'm an alcoholic.

Sales of Grapevine material at the August Assembly totaled (\$301.00) and (\$301.00) was returned to the Area Treasurer. The rest was kept to use as change for sales.

Last quarter was a quite one.

The new CD, "Attitude Adjustment," is out.

The 2008 Calendars and Pocket Planners are available for pick up by those who ordered them. There are a few Pocket Planners left.

Even with this Panel running down, it is never to late stop over and pick up a subscription form for yourself or your group, or buy a piece of *Grapevine* material for yourself or someone you care about.

Everyone can take back this message to your group, having a Grapevine Representative is important, if not to your sobriety, then maybe someone in your group. We have picked up a number of Group Grapevine Representatives in the past two years. We could use a lot more; please talk to your home group about having a Grapevine Representative and also about ordering the *Grapevine* to have on hand at you home group.

Lastly I want to thank our Delegate, Jimmy S., for giving me the opportunity to serve Area 45 as your Grapevine Chair.

Special Needs: Bob W.

I would like to thank Section II for their hospitality today.

At the last committee meeting, I was informed of a person in a nursing home in need of a meeting. I contacted the person and found out that he was soon to be released from the home. Since his release, we have arranged for him to get transportation to several meetings. I spoke to the social worker at the home and suggested that we could bring a

meeting in if any other residents were interested, but there was no interest.

I have been informed of a person who is housebound and in need of a meeting, and we are in the process of setting up a meeting in the home for this person.

It has been my pleasure to be the Special Needs Chair for this Panel, and I hope I can assist the new Chair in what ever way he/she needs.

As many of you know, I will be moving in March 2008 and will no longer be in Area 45. If anyone is visiting in Area 47, Central NY, be sure to look me up.

Note my new email address is Bobw1489@gmail.com. This address is effective now.

My old address is still in effect, but will be discontinued when I move.

Respectively submitted

Cape Atlantic Intergroup: Robbie W.

Good morning, Assembly! Well, for those of us that were elected in 2005, our two years of service to our respective service entities and fellow alcoholics is coming to an end. Here is a summation of our Intergroup's combined efforts:

1. We kept the Unity Breakfast going strong. This is as event we hold in September at the Wildwood Convention Center. Our first year we had 425 guests; this year, we topped that number with 535 guests.
2. We have approximately 40-50 attendees at our monthly Business Meeting with 25-30 voting Intergroup Reps. Our meetings are very lively!
3. We are covering 12 outside H&I commitments on a weekly basis! Our groups are donating their time and efforts to carry the message of AA!!!
4. Our Phone Coordinator was on fire! He has all our phone slots covered. When you call for help, you will hear the voice of an understanding recovering alcoholic! Our phone guy has us all using our cell phones during off hours to answer the Intergroup pleas for help. It has worked fantastically.
5. Our other ten committees are constantly working towards ensuring the fact that we spend our group contributions in a manner that helps the still sick and suffering alcoholic.
6. Our elections are being held this month (November 21st), and it will be an honor to pass the baton on to a new Chairperson for the next two years.
7. Our groups approved our body to hold a weekend AA Roundup. I know quite a few of you in attendance here today attended. It was a huge success on many levels. Monetarily, our committee paid all its bills, returned seed money, and had a \$1,350.00 windfall. A special thank you to Elaine McA, Area 45's Chairperson, for chairing a workshop at the event. We also were graced with the presence of a few incoming Panel members. Special thank you to our Delegate-elect Fred E., our new Chair-elect Joey H., and our new Treasurer-elect Heather Anne for your participation at our first Roundup. Our Intergroup recognizes the importance of having unity between our respective service bodies and it is selfless members such as you that truly exemplify what a service worker in AA should be.

In closing, it has been an enriching, rewarding, and wonderful four years of service to Cape Atlantic Intergroup. This alcoholic is now looking forward to rotating on to just

(Concludes on the next page)

Southern New Jersey Area General Service Assembly, Alcoholics Anonymous

SNJ Fourth Dimension

patm@comcast.net

AREA 45 THEME: "To serve is to live" (p. 129 & 130, *Language of the Heart*).

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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Report from the Nov. 18th Assembly (contd.)

(Continued from the previous page)

being a "Past Delegate"! It will be a blessing to show up here at your Assemblies for the next two years and cheer on our newest Leaders as you blaze new paths that will open up gateways of recovery for the alcoholics of the future. It has been a true honor to serve AA as Cape Atlantic Intergroup Chairman these last two years. It will be a true joy to see our newest Panel members carrying the AA torch. This ongoing Intergroup Chair will do his best to make sure that our new Intergroup panel continues to work with Area 45 in what we know as workable channels. May God bless you all as you serve our wonderful AA Fellowship.

Central Jersey Intergroup: Matt M.

Greetings, all. It's nice to see you again. This will be my last report as Chairman, and I would like to express not only my sincere gratitude for this opportunity I had to serve, also it has been a pleasure getting to know all of you over the last two years. During this time our Intergroup has improved in some areas and maintained in others. I would like to thank Thom O. for all of his efforts. As the Web site chair, among other duties, he recently received an e-mail from West Piedmont, NC, asking for ideas on making a brochure for new Reps. Thom sent them our New Rep Handbook, and that is a good example of AA unity working between states. We recently held elections and we have a new panel for 2008 and 2009. Chuck, who is with me, is the new Chairman. I'll be working with Chuck during his transition. This year, the CJI will be running a workshop at the Convention, and it is our turn to host the Day of Sharing, so Chuck, you have your work cut out for you this year, good luck. Again, it has been a pleasure getting to know you all, and I look forward to seeing you again on that "Road of Happy Destiny."

District 3: Jimmy G.

Had a district meeting in October and have one scheduled for December. It will be held the second Sunday of the month, right after the meeting of the Fellowship Group at St. Stephens Church in Beverly, NJ. We still do not have a budget; we are not paying rent at present, but we are moving forward, having regular meetings. I am encouraging the GSRs to think about electing a new DCM next summer, and we do have a GRS willing to serve as an alternate DCM.

District 24: Christine P.

District 24 meets every month on the third Monday at 100 Scotch Road in Ewing, NJ, at 6:30pm. On November 19th, we will be holding elections, and I will rotating out as DCM. We are planning our annual New Years Alkathon, which will be held on New Years Eve at Slackwood Presbyterian Church in Lawrenceville, NJ. Further details will be available on Central New Jersey's website.

Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve.

Section II: Christine S.

Good morning; I would like to start off by saying thank you to the following people who helped set up today: Barbara, Gail, Dominick, Diane, Ed, Michele, Patty, Colin and Elaine. Without their help this wouldn't be possible.

Thank you, Panel 56, for your service.

I have attended two district meetings and three group business meetings as well as the CTF conference.

Today Section II has two DCMs and 12 GSRs in attendance, including our new DCM for District 8, bringing that district out of the dark.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

District 9: Colin M.

District 9 continues to hold regular business meetings on the second Tuesday of every month, 7pm, at the South Jersey Intergroup Office.

There is a strong need for additional group participation in our district. We're solvent only through the contributions of a very few groups in our district. However, we still have been able to contribute to CTF for literature, NERAASA for supplies, as well as the event here today, that has been hosted by Section II. Christina is the Section Leader.

I am happy to announce Jay T. as our new District 9 committee member. Congrats, and thank you, Jay, for your service. Our bank balance is \$646.92

District 26: Barbara B.

I am happy to report that District 26 has dedicated GSRs who are making progress in their home groups, reporting activities within the district, as well as financial needs. The GSRs have expressed concerns regarding their responsibilities. The *Service Manual* will be the topic at the next district business meeting.

Christina, the temporary Section Leader for Section II, has done a great job and has supported our business meetings, which is helping to unify the District. We hosted the September 9th elections, and the GSRs who volunteered to help with the November 18, 2007 Assembly was overwhelming. We had seven GSRs here at the Senior Center at 7:30am to assist, a total of 9 GSRs in attendance at the Assembly. Thank you, from your DCM of District 26.

Respectfully Submitted

Section III: Jeanne M.

Mike K. has agreed to be Section III leader; congrats and thank you. District 12 has elected a new DCM, Barbara J.; congratulations. District 12 is also planning a workshop in March.

District 13 held elections on October 29th, and Linda M. is the new DCM. I know she'll do a wonderful job. District 13 is planning to reorganize their district.

District 14 held a workshop on October 27th, and they are planning Alkathons for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.

Yours in Love and Service

District 12: Mike K.

This will be my last report as District 12 DCM. I will be replaced by Barbara J. As I reported last, we have decided to have a Workshop in April 2008. I also attended the CTF Conference in October at Lambs Rd. I would like to thank the District for the chance to serve as your DCM. The district treasury stands at \$513.05.

District 13: Linda MacD.

District 13 had their election last month. I will be the new DCM. Chris has been a strong leader, and I've enjoyed working with him at the district level. The transition should go smoothly. We are presently filling a couple of spots and are working the meeting times and places. Thank you for the privilege of serving.

District 14: Tim W.

District 14 is doing well; attendance at district meetings are good to fair. I'd like to welcome the new panel; good luck, you will need it. The district held its second workshop of the year on October 27 at 2nd and Pine in Millville. We had three speakers one on each topic. The topics for discussion were: We are Not a Glum Lot; Into Action; and Three Pertinent Ideas. Attendance was good; the food and fellowship were very good.

District 14 upcoming events are Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Alkathons from 6am until 11pm at 8th and Wood Sts. in Vineland. There are vacancies avail-

able to chair a one-hour meeting. The district is looking for a new secretary; I would like to thank our outgoing secretary, Terry, for her commitment and service to our District. I would like to thank Section II for hosting the Assembly; you did a great job.

Love & Service

District 15: Lily McB.

We are now running a regular district meeting on the second Wednesday of each month, held at The Holy Spirit Episcopal Church at 7:30pm. To increase participation in the district, we have a plan in operation to develop an e-mail notification program with the groups in our district.

I attended a GLBT Forum in Tinton, NJ, where I learned about the role of Special Interest Groups in our program and had a first-hand experience to see the challenges they deal with.

Happy to see our CAIG Public Information booth at the recent NJEA Convention in Atlantic City a week ago.

Lastly, congratulations to Panel 56 for a job well done, and welcome to Panel 58.

Section 16: Dave

Thank you, Section II and Christine, for hosting this Assembly.

I was in attendance of our Area Elections in September, along with

Donna S. from the Pleasantville Group. Congratulations, Fred, Elaine, Joey, Heather Anne, Janet and Dave - our Panel 58 officers. Thank you, Panel 56, for all of your service, direction, and guidance.

We ran 40 radio spots on 100.7 and 96.1 in September, provided by the GSO in NY. Thanks to Heather Anne and District 19 for putting us in contact with Equity Productions and Mike H. for your service to make this possible.

In January, we will be sponsoring a bus trip to the GSO in NY, and the cost should be around \$25. The date will be determined this week and is tentatively the 18th or 25th. Flyers will be distributed as soon as we receive confirmation from NY.

District 16 voted to provide \$200.00 toward the Area Assembly in February, which is to be held at the VFW in Mays Landing. \$100.00 was also set aside for our Section IV leader, Peder, to use toward NERAASA 08. \$150.00 was donated for the hospitality rooms for NERAASA and \$170.00 to District 19 literature drive.

Mike H. was voted in as District 16 Treasurer, and hopefully, we will have a new DCM by the end of the year.

District 18: Harry T.

On Monday night, October 15, 2007, we had our monthly district meeting.

We discussed the three agenda items. We are in favor of the Area Assembly purchasing the translation equipment. I informed my GSRs, the motion failed and was sent back to the Special Needs Committee for further study and consideration, prior to the actual purchasing of "said equipment." We were in favor of the other two agenda items.

We discussed having our first "District 18 Night Out Happening." Our theme will be Walking Through the Steps of Recovery Using the *Big Book*. The time, date and location will be in the first two weeks of March 2008. We hope to finalize our plans in February 2008. More will be revealed at the next Assembly in February 2008. We hope to have a good turn out.

We have three new GSRs in District 18: Marie H., Dennisville Group; Russ S., Woodbine Chance & Hope Group; Susan D., Ocean City Womens.

Our District meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at the Dennisville Community Center on Rte. 610 in Dennis Twp. We have \$1,880.00 in our treasury.

In Service

Agenda

1. Question: To eliminate the Intergroup Liaisons to Area 45?

AREA ASSEMBLY/COMMITTEE MEETING Sunday, February 17, 2008

VFW Post #220

1209 Route 50 • Mays Landing, NJ 08330

8:30 am Registration

9 am New GSR/DCM Orientation

10 am General Service Assembly • 11:45 am Lunch

12:30 pm Workshop • 1 pm Area Committee Meeting

Good Orderly Directions:

From Northwest: Take New Jersey Turnpike South toward Exit 14-14C (Portions toll). Take the US-206 Exit 7 toward Bordentown/Trenton. Merge onto US-206S toward McGuire AFB/Fort Dix. Enter next roundabout and take 2nd exit onto US-206. US-206 becomes NJ-54S. Merge onto Atlantic City Expressway East toward Atlantic City/Cape May. Take the Route 50 - Exit 17 toward Egg Harbor/Mays Landing. Merge onto NJ-50 South toward Mays Landing/Shore Points. ~ 3.9 miles to VFW Post.

From Northeast: Garden State Parkway South. Merge onto Atlantic City Expressway West via Exit 38A toward Camden/Phila. Take Exit 11 toward CR-575S/South Wrangleboro Rd. Turn slight right onto Black Horse Pike/US-322W/US-40W. Continue to follow Black Horse Pike/US-322W. Take the Route 50N ramp toward Egg Harbor/Mays Landing. Turn left onto NJ-50/Cape May Ave. ~ 1.2 miles to VFW Post.

From Southwest: (From I-295) US-40E toward Atlantic City. Turn left on US-40/NJ-45/NJ-48/West Ave. Continue to follow US-40 East. Pass through one circle. Turn left onto US-40/NJ-47/Delsea Dr./Harding Hwy. Turn slight right onto US-40/Harding Hwy. Stay straight to go onto NJ-50/Cape May Ave. ~ 1.2 miles to VFW Post.

From Southeast: Garden State Parkway North. Merge onto Atlantic City Expressway W via Exit 38A toward Camden/Phila. Take Exit 11 toward CR-575. Turn left onto CR-575S/South Wrangleboro Rd. Turn slight right onto Black Horse Pike/US-322W/US-40W. Continue to follow Black Horse Pike/US-322W. Take the Route 50N ramp toward Egg Harbor/Mays Landing. Turn left onto NJ-50/Cape May Ave. ~ 1.2 miles to VFW Post.

From West: Cross Delaware River on Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Merge onto I-676 S toward Walt Whitman Bridge. I-676 becomes I-76 East. I-76 East becomes NJ-42 South. NJ-42 South becomes Atlantic City Expressway SE. Take the Route 50 exit - Exit 17 - toward Egg Harbor/Mays Landing. Merge onto NJ-50 South toward Mays Landing/Shore Points. ~ 3.9 miles to VFW Post.

From East: Atlantic City Expressway West. Take Exit 11 toward CR-575. Turn left onto CR-575S/South Wrangleboro Rd. Turn slight right onto Black Horse Pike/US-322W/US-40W. Continue to follow Black Horse Pike/US-322W. Take the Route 50 North ramp toward Egg Harbor/Mays Landing. Take the Route 50 South ramp toward Mays Landing. Turn left onto NJ-50/Cape May Ave. ~ 1.2 miles to VFW Post.



**P.O. BOX 3724
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