

050418

Area 45 Winter Assembly 2018 Minutes

The winter assembly was held on February 18, 2018 at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, New Jersey.

GSR/DCM orientation was held at 9AM.

Assembly Meeting

The assembly meeting began at 10AM and was opened with the serenity prayer and a reading.

After roll call was taken, GSRs, DCMs, Section Leaders, and Committee Chairs were organized for an emergency election for a new Treasurer.

No one was nominated or stood for the position. The election was closed, and another emergency election will be held at May's assembly for a new treasurer.

Reports were given as follows:

Committee Chairs

Archives - Verbal report, no written report submitted.

Audio – All equipment has been transferred from the previous audio chair. Thanks to the website chair for helping set up and operate the sound equipment at today's assembly.

Budget & Finance – Verbal report, no written report submitted.

Convention – I would like to first congratulate the new Panel 68 and all new committee chairs. The Convention committee looks forward to serving the new panel. I would like to extend my warm appreciation to our previous Area Chair for his support and patience while we formulated a new plan for the current convention. My co-chair will be reaching out to new committee chairs that historically either display an exhibit and/or perform workshops during the Convention. We have an opportunity to allow the new committee chairs to become comfortable with their service position due to the delay in timing of this year's convention.

The Convention Committee took a short one-month recess, due to the extended service length. However, steering and essential committees did meet in January to ensure that we are keeping with the current timetable.

We have bookmarks with save the date information along with flyers here today to take back to your groups. We are hoping to reach out to all the area intergroups to arrange registration access to those who may not have the internet available. There is a good possibility that there will be no walk-in registration this year.

The committee conducted a hotel walk-thru on Jan 28th, along with a Unity event at the Water Park. Both were productive, and we hope that anyone interested in joining the committee please contact us, there is a ton of work and plenty of planning left to do.

Please be aware that we have a NEW convention website. It can be reach directly or thru the Area's website: area45convention.org.

Cooperation with Professional Community/ Public Information – verbal report

Corrections – Good morning to the Panel and all Assembly attendees. I'm an alcoholic. I have the honor and privilege to serve you as Area 45's Corrections Committee Chair.

I would like to take a moment to thank the previous committee Chair & Co-Chair for all their dedicated time and hard work in Area 45 Corrections. We wish you both best of luck in your future service commitments.

The transfer of all committee materials took place recently and Kathleen and I went to TD BANK to finalize the transfer of the (LIPS) Corrections account. The bank has requested additional Panel signatures on a document to complete the process. I have it here with me today to present to the Panel.

We owe a great deal of gratitude towards our volunteers and our donor meetings for their generous financial support. It's their continued efforts and interest that help carry the message of recovery to our confined members behind the walls here within Area 45.

Literature orders can be filled by contacting the committee. Any group who would like a LIPS can for their group please see me by the registration table. We are looking for volunteers at locations throughout all of Area 45. Our contact information is on the new contact sheets or via the snjaa.org website Corrections committee tab.

DCM/GSR Orientation – 15 GSRs 3 Alternate GSRs 5 DCMs 1 Visitor

Grapevine – Carrying the Message “Our Meeting in Print” The Grapevine

www.aagrapevine.org/contribute-submityourstory

2018 Help Carry the Message of AA AA Grapevine 2018 Subscription Challenge

Encourage each group to purchase a subscription for the group in print and make it available for purchase at meetings. Subscriptions are also available online as an app as well. The website also has a 7 day free trail. Grapevine has a daily quote you can receive as an email. Some new Grapevine book publications are: “Voices of Women in AA” and “Making Amends”. These book publications are available online and in intergroup offices. Another book publication “One on One: AA Sponsorship in Action” sold out in a workshop District 12 had on sponsorship in December 2017.

Thank you Section 4!

JalCon – Vacant

Policy & Charter – The handbooks are out. In the next printing we will have to correct our current Delegate's term years. It is 2018-2019, not 2017-2018.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Registration – Verbal report, no written report received.

Accessibility/Special Needs – Vacant

Website – The Area 45 website was updated and changed a lot in the last 2 months and is still in the process of even more transformations. I am working with the Policy & Charter committee to oversee major changes to the website for the future.

Workshop – Vacant

Newsletter – I am the newsletter chairperson. I am still working on putting the newsletter together for the Spring edition. I have been reviewing old editions to see exactly what needs to be included. I do have another alcoholic who knows how to format the technology and is helping with this. If anyone would like to share what they use it would be greatly appreciated. I hope to be posting one soon.

Adhoc – Website - Verbal report, no written report received.

Adhoc – NERF - Verbal report, no written report received.

Young People – Vacant

Cape Atlantic Intergroup Chair – Good Morning and good tidings from Cape Atlantic Intergroup, I am an alcoholic, and I am grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous, and I am grateful to serve as cape Atlantic intergroup chair. Our panel seems to have gotten off to a good start. We have all our panel and committee positions filled. And have had good attendance at our first few steering meetings and our first business meeting went off without a hitch. Our H&I Committee chair coordinates the groups commitments to take meetings into the institutions. we have approximately 15 commitments at this time. H&I is currently in the process of taking on a new facility. Our PICPC chair & his committee manages the IDRC commitments, attends health fairs and distributes pamphlets and information to area doctor's offices. They are hoping to implement the sponsor a Dr. program. Literature sales are steady and our literature chair Diana sold literature at her first event at a traditions workshop put on by Easypa last wknd The literature committee will be selling literature at several events this year including, the day of sharing, the area 45 convention, our waves of sobriety, round up, CAIG Unity Belfast, and CAIG unity picnic. Also, our literature committee & H&I Committee continue to supply Cape May and Atlantic County Jail with literature for their women's and men's meetings. Our Caypaa Committee plans to have a pig roast at the end of the summer the date is to be announced.

Our special needs committee continues to work on reaching out to the home bound & hospitalized members who need a meeting and to work with groups to keep the meeting list updated with current information about handicap accessible meeting places.

Our web chair keeps our website up-to-date with upcoming events and group anniversaries and most current meeting list changes.

Our unity committee did an excellent job with the New Year's Eve dance. We served over 100 members food, fun and fellowship while ringing in a sober New Year! The unity chair has a tentative date for the unity picnic of the second Saturday in May at Birch Grove Park and a tentative date of September 30th for the unity breakfast at the grand Hotel in Cape May. Please look for more information to be announced on our website.

Our phone chair has all 56 phone slots filled at this time and is working on re-assessing our hotline to see if changes are needed.

Our round up chair has done a fantastic job with her research. We were uprooted from the grand Hotel

in Cape May because of new ownership and pricing. At this time the deal on the table is for the Seaview Marriott in Galloway. She is working with her committee to negotiate pricing. The tentative date would be Nov. 16, 17 & 18th. This Wednesday at the business meeting she will present the changes. Thank you to our panel chairs. And lastly, we look forward to hosting the day if sharing October 20th. Location to be announced. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve with such dedicated trusted servants. You all continue to inspire me to grow in many ways, I look forward to the upcoming year. Thank you

Central Jersey Intergroup Chair – Verbal report, no written report received.

South Jersey Intergroup Chair – We have nominated and approved all new Chairs and Co-chairs for all the committees.

Our H&I continues to do an outstanding job with 179 commitments per month. We have a few day time vacancies that remain hard to fill.

For the April meeting I will bring our Treasurer's report and more details from the new committees.

Section Leaders and DCMs

Section1 – Verbal report, no written report received.

District 3 – District 3 meets the second Sunday of every month at St. Stephens in Beverly. GSR's from eight groups regularly attend these meetings. There are no known group issues to address with the Area. District 3 is hosting a workshop and dance on Saturday, March 24th, at St. Mary's Guild Hall in Burlington. Growing Spiritually Through Service workshop will begin at 6:00pm with food to follow. A dance will begin at 8:00pm and a \$5 donation is requested. As of February 11th, the treasury balance was \$701.49. Thank you.

District 4 – Verbal report, no written report received.

District 22 & 23 – I'm the newly elected DCM for district 22/23. Our meetings are held the third Monday of every month at the Divine Word Seminary in Bordentown on Park St. Since being elected we have hosted an alkathon on [New Year's Day](#). It was well attended. We are currently looking for a secretary as well. This weekend we are sending 4 representatives to NERASAA, which I had the privilege of attending last year. Thank you for letting me be of service

District 25 – District 25 continues to meet at St. David's Church in Cranbury the first Monday of each month. Our current treasury balance is approximately \$2,400.

We held our elections on January 15 after a weather delay. We elected a DCM and alternate DCM. We are still actively looking for a new Secretary and Treasurer as we are doing double duty.

We have decided on a Step 4 Workshop and we are working on the details now, most importantly looking for a lead. We hope to be booking the Mercer County Park for the Picnic on Tuesday, 2/20/18 as the sites book quickly. The Picnic is a joint venture with CJI and District 22/23.

I am looking forward to the next 2 years, along with butterflies. Butterflies are good, hopefully they won't last long. Sobriety has given me the opportunity for 'firsts'.

District – 30 & 31 – Vacant

Section II Leader – Vacant

District 6 – Vacant

District 7 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District 8 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District – 9 – Vacant

District 10 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District 26 – Since the last report at the Fall assembly, District 26 has moved into their new meeting location at Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church, Calvin Hall meeting room, 18 W Merchant St, Audubon, NJ 08106. Thank you again for your help in securing a new meeting location. Our first District 26 meeting held at the new location was held December 13, 2017. Our discussion centered on the idea of holding a spring workshop. Locations were explored and two possible locations for the workshop have been found within the District. Also discussed with probability of partnering with other district in Section two in order to increase participation and help in setting up the workshop. Other details of the workshop were put on hold due to illness and Valentine days at the time for monthly meetings in January and February. The treasury balance as of this date is \$3104.00. All the GSR's attending district 26 meeting have been supplied with the 2017 updated A.A. Service Manual.

District 27 - Verbal report, no written report received.

Section III Leader – Vacant

District 12 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District 13 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District 14 – The district meetings are held the 3rd Thursday at 2nd and Pine Streets in Millville. A workshop entitled “Getting Involved” will be held on the last Saturday in April from 11 – 4. The treasurer's report: the district has a surplus of \$400.00.

District 20 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District 21 – Vacant

District 28 - Verbal report, no written report received.

District 29 - Verbal report, no written report received.

Section IV Leader – Verbal report, no written report received.

District 15 – Verbal report, no written report received.

District 16 & 17 – On December 5th 2017, our District had an election in which through the spirit of rotation, changed positions. I had the honor and privilege to be named DCM for this term. However, I will not be this alone as we have 2 new leaders as well.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing DCM for all of her service and mentoring this past term. She has been a true teammate and friend, and we wish her much success as she continues her journey in service.

From a District standpoint, we are still in search of a treasurer, however are confident that as our district grows, a team member will step up and take advantage of this service position. Our balance as of today is as follow:

Balance - \$2,675.05

Prudent Reserve - \$1,500.57

We have had two meetings this year, and amongst the topics has been our meeting attendance. As we have 6-8 strong, committed members, we know that there is more out there. There are many groups that are not represented. One of our initial tactics is going to be stepping out of our comfort zone, and not going to the same meetings that we always go to. During the announcement portion of those meetings, announcing the date and time of our next meeting. We are sincerely hoping that this will raise questions such as, "What is that, or what do you do there?" I know I got started in service in a very similar way. We have also spoken about leaving a flyer for the group to post on their announcement board. As always, any suggestions or guidance is welcome.

We are also in the beginning stages of planning a bus trip to the General Service Office in New York. This was a successful trip last year, and was requested that we put together again and are shooting for May.

District 18 – I'm the DCM for District 18. I'd like to thank our new section (4) leader, for all their efforts to arrange this nice place to meet today. It's an honor to be part of the host section and bring some breakfast today!

District 18 is planning a workshop for April in Sea Isle City.

We meet on the first Sunday of the month (unless it falls on Super bowl Sunday, when the Eagles win) at Holy Trinity Church, 30th and Bay Avenue in Ocean City.

Our current bank balance is \$3700.

District 19 – Verbal report, no written report received.

Panel

Delegate – Welcome. Good morning everyone. I am an alcoholic. I have the honor and privilege to serve you as the Panel 68 Delegate to the General Service Conference.

I want to extend a warm welcome to all the new GSRs/DCMs and anyone else new to the Assembly this morning. I am glad you are all here. Additionally, I want to thank Section 4 and all the Districts for hosting today's Assembly and Committee meetings.

GSO

There is an Opening for non-trustee Appointed Committee Member (A.C.M.) for the Trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities. One of the qualities most desirable is a background in the Armed Forces (United States or Canada). Please contact me if you would like further information. Deadline is May 1, 2018.

I am so excited to be making preparations to attend the 68th General Service Conference, held in NYC this year (April 22-28) The Theme is "A.A. – A Solution for All Generations". I have just received the background material (650 Pages) for the Conference Agenda Items, which are on the table. I have been assigned to the Finance Committee. I have also been assigned a buddy from Area 40 Montana, who has already reached out to me. I have been working with our Alternate Delegate to keep him informed of everything I get from GSO. So now I need to start reading.

Finance

Both the General Service Office and Grapevine are exceeding budgeted profit margins for last year. Nevertheless, the offices still encourage all members to give either directly or through their groups as we are getting closer to fully self-supporting the services provided by the General Service Office.

North East Region

NERAASA will be held on February 23-25 in Cromwell CT. NERAASA is an event that all should attend. It helps to provide attendees with information about Conference related items and allows for round table discussions for GSR's, DCM's, Intergroup and Area Officers and Committee members. If you have not attended please make plans to attend.

The alternate Delegate, the past Delegate and I will be attending NERD (Northeast Region Delegate's Get Together) hosted by Area 49 in Tarrytown, NY on March 9-11.

The alternate delegate and I attended the Area 44 Luncheon last weekend, held at Forsgate Country Club. It was truly amazing to see the Area 44 GSR's/DCM line up and introduce themselves. Wonderful speakers including both our Northeast Regional Trustee and Class A trustee. Thank you alternate delegate for driving and also getting the Class A Trustee to the Airport on time in the rain. Next year I would love to see Area 45 host a whole table.

Area 45

As you may have seen on the Area 45 website and the contact sheet, our Area 45/Panel 68 theme is "Participation" Is the Key to Harmony". This is from the Service Manual, Concept IV TOC page vii. I chose this as our theme, to remind us to concentrate on increasing our Area 45 participation. I have ordered the pins for the conference and this will be written on them. You will get one next Assembly with my report.

I have reached out to the Literature Chair from GSO as a potential speaker from our Area 45 Convention. I will let the convention committee know as soon as I hear back.

Don't forget the Mini Conference on Saturday April 7. Flyers are on the table. It will be held in Section 4 this year, right here at Ocean Acres Community Center.

You will also find on the table the final Agenda for the 68th General Service Conference. Please review this Agenda and share it with your GSR's at your next district meeting or Committee members at your next Committee meeting. I would like to hear back from you about the items from the agenda that you would like to discuss at the Mini Conference. Please email or call me with your feedback. My info is on the contact sheet.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve this wonderful fellowship!

Alternate Delegate – I am honored to serve Area 45 as alternate delegate. In December I accompanied to South Jersey and Central Jersey's Intergroup meetings. On February 7, 2018 I attended the CJIG meeting in Hamilton and on February 14 I attended the SJIG steering meeting in Pennsauken. I plan to attend the Cape Atlantic Intergroup meeting this [Wednesday](#) . Also, on [February 11](#) I accompanied the Delegate to the Area 44 GSR luncheon in Monroe Twp. New Jersey. I continue to endeavor to fulfill my primary duties as Alternate Delegate by carefully reviewing the materials the Delegate has provided from GSO and by praying daily for her continued good health so that I don't have to fill in for her at the Conference.

Chair – I am an alcoholic and I am grateful to be serving Area 45 as Chair for Panel 68. I want to thank all of you for the vote of confidence in last November's election.

With God's loving guidance and your support, my intention is to serve as best I can, and help support our Delegate, and provide good service to our Area.

Since the election, I've attended 2 convention committee meetings, a panel meeting, started a new prison commitment, spoke at a Traditions workshop sponsored by ECPAA, and effectively rotated out of CAIG as chair for the last panel.

Congratulations to the new Area Panel, and thank you to all who accepted committee chairs and support positions.

I also want to thank all who paved the way, and supported my journey to this point. I am truly grateful to serve in any way, our beautiful fellowship. Thanks to my home group, Atlantic City Young People's group, my service sponsor, past and present Delegates, all who came before me, and those waiting for the gift of sobriety and service.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve with all of you. I am looking forward to participating in the growth of Area 45, and the personal growth I receive through service.

Treasurer – To the panel, the assembly, and my friends... First, I want to thank the Delegate for reading my final report as Area 45 Treasurer.

At the last Assembly, the opportunity to stand for the Area Treasurer position was presented to me somewhat unexpectedly. After months of prayer and intentional consideration, I had already decided my work life, home life and service commitments in Salem County were too much to allow me to serve effectively as Chair. Then... when I was asked if I wanted to serve again as Treasurer. I rightly hesitated. In that moment, I should have realized that the same reasons why I couldn't be Chair at this

time would interfere with being Treasurer. To put it simply... my gut said no... and then my ego stepped up and said "Sure, I can do this, no problem. I'll do it." And then I was elected.

What happened after the assembly? After a couple weeks of trying my best, God taught me in true pain-filled alcoholic fashion, that ROTATION is for my own good. Please accept my sincere apology for failing to follow through after you all placed your trust in me. But I trust God will give the Area the right person. Someone who can do far better than me for the remainder of this panel. Or maybe He already did... I forget whether or not the vote will happen before this is read.

In any case, thanks for the chance to serve over the past couple years. I love you all. I look forward to seeing you again soon as we trudge the road of happy destiny.

Thanks and God bless!

Registrar – Hello I am an Alcoholic. I want to thank Section IV for hosting our assembly. I appreciate your efforts to serve us.

In December, we held our last CPC/PI - Cooperation with Professional Community/Public Information meeting at the Recovery Advocates office in Hamilton, NJ. We had a last meeting celebration party, and there were refreshments. Our new incoming chair was invited to attend. We went around the table and each person spoke of the highlights of their service experience the past 2 years. It was a moving occasion and I will miss the committee very much.

This also has been my first quarter in my new service position as Registrar. It has been a fun and learning experience. On December 9, I was given my panel computer, and my first lesson for training. First obstacle; low and behold the computer was a Microsoft, uh oh - I am an Apple geek! Had to practice on this puppy.

We met on January 14 for my second lesson to learn the GSO data program and complete my first assignment for a mailing. We will probably have one more training together.

I continue with my other commitments to the maximum-security prison, Edna Mahan in Clinton NJ, and answering intergroup phones one night a month.

This quarter I also went to Princeton House, trained a sponsee at the intergroup office. Made coffee for the week, (my group meets 6 days), lead a meeting on Wednesday's for a month, and picked up another sponsee, who now has 21 days, God bless her!

Secretary – I am an alcoholic. Thank you Section 4 for hosting today's assembly. Since the last assembly I have ended my position as Registrar for Area 45 and rotated in as Secretary. Thank you all so much for allowing me to continue to serve. Service has become an integral part of my sobriety and I am grateful for this opportunity. I was able to attend Day of Sharing in October, the New Year's Alkathon in Florence, and New Year's Day Alkathon in Bordentown. Thanks to everyone who organized and helped at these events. They were awesome. I am looking forward to attending NERAASA and the upcoming mini-conference and hope that you can all make it too. Please email me your reports or leave a copy

with me before you leave today so I can include them in the assembly minutes which will be posted on the Area 45 website and in the Newsletter. My email address is on the area contact sheet.

There was no old business to attend to.

No motions were made to discuss or vote on.

The assembly meeting was closed and lunch was served.

Afternoon Committee Meeting

The afternoon committee meeting was opened after lunch with the serenity prayer.

No motions were made to discuss or vote on.

The afternoon committee meeting was closed with the responsibility pledge.