

4TH DIMENSION NEWSLETTER

FINAL THOUGHTS

In this issue:

- Offerings and workshops with Area 45 and beyond
- Contributions from fellow local AAs
- A report back from our Archivist's recent travels
- The minutes from the Summer Assembly and Committee meetings
- Games!



From the Southern New Jersey Area 45
2022 Handbook (to access, click [HERE](#)):

The Newsletter Committee is responsible for producing a quarterly online newsletter called The Fourth Dimension. This newsletter carries information about Area 45 events and provides a format for exchange of information. It includes Area Assembly and Committee meeting minutes, agenda items *and location for the next Assembly meeting, and a listing of Area events.

Have something you'd like to share? Contact the Committee at newsletterarea45@gmail.com

[CLICK HERE](#)



News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.®

www.aa.org

Vol. 70, No. 2 / Summer 2023



**100 Members could
receive
\$250**

AREA 45 is ready to
reimburse \$250 of the cost
to attend the A.A. Service
conference called
NERAASA.



Last year, the **Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly** (NERAASA) gathered over 1000 A.A. members for an amazing weekend event.

learn more at the website:

www.NERAASA.org

Here's what to do.

- 1) First, visit the NERAASA website and register.
- 2) Then, scan this QR code to complete the Area 45 form.



Please note:
Booking and coordinating your stay
will be your responsibility.

*The scholarship funds will be
handed out at the conference
event.*

www.AREA45snjaa.org

Alcoholics Anonymous

Digital Press Kit

[Click Here](#)



DISTRICT 15

HOLIDAY

Party

DINNER & DANCE

DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 5PM - 9PM

HOLIDAY INN - MANAHAWKIN
TICKETS \$60 PER PERSON

CONTACT: RICH J. 609-384-3464



AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

JANUARY 2023 | SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGS

[CLICK HERE](#)

Carry The Message Project

Want To Help Another Alcoholic? Grapevine and La Viña are Great
Twelfth Step Tools!

3 Easy Ways!

Announcing: Completely revised and
redesigned pamphlet "Young People in A.A."
(Item P-4)

EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Young
People
in A.A.

[Click here](#)

Trudging the Road



of Happy Destiny

DON'T BELIEVE
EVERYTHING
YOU THINK

Making yourself available

(means taking time to do the next right thing... always)

Left to my own devices and in typical alcoholic fashion I might be prone to do anything that does not follow any sort of rhyme or reason, and maybe I'll just "take it easy", ya know... just like the program suggests. That seems like a pretty good idea. At least that's how I could roll with it - kick back and let it all go without any effort on my part to be the one to do anything about - anything. I'm not drinking and I've got my sobriety, so I'm good to go. Plus, I've got all the excuses in the world - why, why, and why not. It's not only because I deserve some me time, but I'm too busy most days with work, school, the kids running amuck and driving me crazy, plus I have to cook dinner, so... those A.A. responsibilities that I took on, heck, they can wait. Besides, someone else can pick up the slack and do those things. As far as reaching out, maybe I'll call my sponsor tomorrow because he doesn't need to talk to me and besides, he's probably too busy with his own life and his A.A. commitments. In fact I was supposed to meet with one of my sponsees this week too, but I'll put that off until they finish the 4th step homework assignment I gave them. That'll be at least a couple weeks. They're always calling me and leaving voice messages, asking too many questions anyway.

- WHOA WAIT A GOSH-DANG MINUTE !!!! -

That's not what the program of Alcoholics Anonymous is about, and that's certainly not what my sponsor has taught me. Once the veil of fog from drinking has lifted and we begin to see ourselves in a new light - the light of the program, we begin to see that: "We admitted..." is a rallying cry in that first step. It is the beginning of a new life that leads us toward personal liberation from alcohol for ourselves and in turn gives us a foundation to practice the program of recovery, and with good orderly direction unanimity encourages us to pass on what we will soon discover is one of the core underlying principles of the A.A. program: "Carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers..." This is one of the best ways to enhance our own sobriety and maintain a healthy attitude toward our fellow alcoholics. After all, "freely given, freely received" is the motto of those for whom helping others has in turn helped them time and time again, because we can't keep it unless we continually give it away. I have found myself at the crossroads many times concerning the helping hand dilemma, which is: whether it is an inconvenience, or my duty to listen to those that have come before me and act on the phrase my sponsor uttered to me many times, "Make yourself available". He always told me to be there for the next suffering alcoholic because you never know when that alcoholic might be you or a loved one reaching out for there hand of A.A.. He would say "After all, wasn't someone there for you when you needed help?" I could rest on my laurels and just allow the next person to answer that call, or I can be the one that possibly changes the life of an alcoholic in that moment of desperation just the way it was done for me. Making yourself available is actually easy, and I have found the slogan "Easy does it" is the way to go about it. Just "Do the next right thing" by making yourself available, and that means taking time to do the next right thing... always.

Bob W



Destination

*We must stop looking over our shoulders
and leave the past behind
Because the footprints we have left
will soon disappear into yesterday's walk through life*

*Today starts right here where we stand
and tomorrow is still on the road ahead
so with one foot in front of the other
we will get there by doing what we must do each day*

*We will only carry with us
what we have done today into tomorrow
where we will leave it behind to become
our memories of yesterday*

*So, when you ask yourself
who am I
what am I doing here
and
where am I headed...*

*You will find that you are not the person
you thought were when you started
That no matter how far you've traveled
you are exactly where you need to be at that moment*

*The destination you have set out to reach
is to be found in the journey itself*

We are the total sum of our experiences thus far, and each step we take on our journey enriches us; so that at the end of our lives, we can look back and see what a marvelous journey life has been.

Bob W.

Area 45 Southern New Jersey Hybrid FALL Assembly



Sunday
November 12, 2023

BREAKFAST
&
LUNCH

Nominations

The Gibson House
535 E. Main St.
Evesham, NJ 08053

Panel 74 Elections

SERVICE

[Click in PDF for Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 868 1264 9287

8:30 am Open/Registration

8:45 am DCM/GSR Orientation

10:00 am Area Elections

followed by the Area Assembly
then Committee Meeting



Provided virtually



ASL upon request, email Secretary@snjaa.org by 11/5/23

SAVE THE DATE!!!

March 15-17, 2024



On-line Registration Opens November 1, 2023

We sent him! Here's Roy's Report Back

26th NAAAW

Sept. 7-10, 2023, Sudbury, Ontario (Canada)

Travelog:

Day 1

This pilgrim set out on the highway early on 9/6/2023. The car is packed with road supplies and a display from Area 45 Archives. The organizers have promised table space for the display and the workshop schedule has been provided. I'm nervous as this is far from home and a foreign country.

It was a long drive. The weather was hot, but the road is smooth and familiar. The first stop is Buffalo, N.Y. A comfortable room and a baseball game in the evening soothed the traveler. A call home to check on my family help needed rest.

During the night I heard thunder and reports of heavy rain on the news. I'll wait until after breakfast and for better weather to travel on.

Day 2

I traveled after a lack-luster breakfast. The human at the desk for check-out was comforting and she is a great staff.

My next great encounter was at the border. The seasoned toll-booth guard was quietly amused with an inexperienced border crosser. Then the car was adjusted to metric. Speed, temperature, and everything. Now adjusting to driving in heavy morning traffic around Toronto. Everyone around me is going fast and knows the terrain. Before long it was just a long road trip. But Canada is beautiful. Flat lands filled with rocks and evergreens. Before it was dark, I arrived in Sudbury and the Workshop began.

Check-in was uneventful. This is an upscale hotel. A comfort for a tired traveler. Setup in the Archives room demanded negotiating and sharing. It seems everyone has something to show.

Dinner brought a surprise contact. Seating with strangers was the rule. As Jack H. always said, "Strangers are just friends you haven't met".

The opening remarks and speaker did the job. I got to sit with a fun group from Kentucky. Taking notes helped. I listened and wrote the following.

The strong role of Lois in Bill's sobriety is more apparent when considering Ebby and Roland both relapsed and Bill stayed sober. Who was there for Ebby and Roland?

Off to bed.

Day 3 AM #1

AA Archives 101

Mary and Don from Washington State shared a PowerPoint program. The points taken were.

1. Preserve in service of the basic goal of AA. Helping the still suffering alcoholic.
2. Sort fact from fiction, speak the truth.

3.express individual/collective experiences.

4.Collection, access and discard policies must be developed.

This pair work together often. They have close life experiences.

Day 3 AM #2

Covid effects on Archives and AA

Evan (presenter)

Technical advances were initially addressed in the 4th edition of the Big Book. Suffolk County intergroup addressed the issue also on May 11, 2020 bulletin. They solicited and received 800 stories on the topic. They also added “on-line meetings” to the responsibility pledge.

Day 3 PM #1

Developing an Area History

Linda (presenter)

In Northern Canada these started in 1990. French groups were often involved and used handwritten accounts. 1982 marked the first conference/ not called a roundup. Area 90 of Quebec had a call out to remote communities.

Day 3 PM #2

Oral History Interview

Paddy A. served as the interviewer and Joanne Mc. was the interviewee. This staged interview became very real when some genuine resentments were exposed to the audience. Joanne was very brave and said to me personally that she felt better after the interview.

Day 3 evening

GSO Senior Archivist

April Hegner

April presented prim and proper. She did her job for GSO Archives. That was to speak the message of accuracy and proper preservation of the history of AA.

Day 4 Morning #1

Digital Archives cataloging

Rebecca(hair), Linda

These two ladies were part of the group from Kentucky. Rebecca called herself the docent for her archives group and claims to have the original manuscript of the Big Book. She encouraged visits to her repository for tours.

Linda M. is a former lawyer. and archivist for the Greater Louisville Inter-group. She talked about keeping up with audio technology. She also played a recording of how to do an oral history. She described the use of Adobe Acrobat 12 in digitalizing documents. Fox-it PDF pro was recommended as cheaper. She saw that 1960-1970 seemed to be a lost period in AA, with little documented history.

The remainder of this session was an experience share. Many different approaches to digitalization are in use. MacIntosh got bad reviews.

Day 4 Morning #2

Writing and Collecting Group/District Histories

Bob Mc.

Bob gave a good presentation that he thoughtfully had placed on a flash drive and handed out. I got one. It is very helpful. It will be placed in Area 45 archives. The rest of this session was opened for individual sharing. The Area 45 display in the Archives room was mentioned by Fred from London, Ontario. I spoke of my experience in Area 45. The Kentucky women were quite vocal. And I got to sit next to an Archivist from Little Rock, Ark.

The Society of American Archivist online was recommended. Two important points made were that registration is a type of insurance for group histories. Covid entries need to be a part of recent group histories. This event has played a major role in AA history.

Day 4 afternoon #1

Women of the Big Book part 2

Nancy K.

Nancy is an older woman. She has developed a presentation that goes in depth about women's stories in the Big Book. Look for this on-line. Exhaustion was setting in. Nancy came close to collapsing on stage and the session was not recorded. Technical difficulties were often present, and the support volunteers were stretched thin.

Personally, I was weary of presenters and resorted to playing the ukulele at the Archives table I had set up. There I met many others and could talk about our Archives (sweet!). BTW, I did not attend the last posted presentation on Day 3 in the afternoon.

The Banquet

This affair was a great meeting place for me. I sat with Gaetanne G. (Chairperson), Jeff from Des Moines, Iowa (host of Area 24 in 2024), and Jamie, a former Delegate, Area 64, Panel 57, Akron, Ohio. The dinner was buffet rubber chicken. The key-note speaker Eddy G. with David T. on computer. He read about 80 years of AA in Ontario. It seemed to take that long. A seventh tradition was taken at the end to defer unexpected costs. My tablemates were engaging and helped with what could have been a long evening.

Day 5 Sunday

I skipped the NAAAW, Q and A with Joanne

Closing Talk

GSO Archives Going Forward

April Hegner

April let her hair down this morning. This allowed for a more relaxed presentation. I was in awe. She is very knowledgeable and used the audience to create an engaging two-way talk. A tape was played of Lois and Bill giving the responsibility pledge for the first time. Then it was spoken in French on tape. With a prompt from the audience two Spanish speaking members said the pledge live in Spanish. Then April played the entire 15-minute recording of the initial presentation of the Responsibility Pledge in several languages.

Final Chair Address

Gaetanne

The leader of this event came to the stage with grace and gratitude. In English and French, she spoke of thanks to those close to her that stepped up to make this a successful event.

The final chore was to pass the gavel to the next chair. This was done with appropriate fanfare and emotion. The final Responsibility Pledge was recited by the audience followed by the Lords Prayer. All said goodbyes and the Workshop was closed.

AA meeting

Daily 7-8 am (Georgian B)

Before I forget, the best part of the entire workshop was the daily AA meeting. It was chaired by a local AA member. The meeting was an open 3 topic share meeting. After traditional opening remarks, greetings, and readings the topics were solicited from the meeting members. The chair then wrote down the topics and handed the meeting over to the members. The topic sheet was given to a member to share and then passed to the next member for a share. No time limit was placed on shares. There were no "pass" offers and all identified themselves. This was not required, and common meeting practices were followed. No cross talking or advice giving. The meeting ended when all had been granted a chance to share. The meeting closed traditionally.

Traveling Home

Starting a journey home on Sunday afternoon was not wise. I spent Sunday afternoon in a short exploration of Sudbury as a tourist. Then stayed at the host hotel to rest in preparation for the long drive home. My journey home was uneventful. I look forward to the chance to share the experiences and knowledge gained this weekend.

Yours in Service,

February 22nd-25th, 2024

Hershey Lodge
325 University Dr
Hershey, PA 17033



**Northeast Regional Alcoholics
Anonymous Service Assembly**

[Register Here](#)

www.neraasa.org



Fumbling the First Step: A Chronic Relapser's Power Struggle

By Rob M, CJI Newsletter

The first step appeared deceptively simple when I first came to AA — a simplicity that invited misconception and neglect. The misreading centered on the word powerless. Seldom in my life had I even heard the word, instead encountering its opposite so often that a serious consequential lack of power was beyond my imagining. Ours is the most powerful nation, our sports heroes physically powerful, our political and corporate leaders awash in it. Admitting to a lack of power seemed almost un-American.

But I took the first step for granted, paid it little attention as if it went without saying, and instead moved onto what I considered the far more substantial remaining steps. This would prove to be a grave misreading leading to multiple relapses and rehabs — ultimately, I would make more than a dozen such in-house visits. In meetings I used to joke, as if it were a laughing matter, “I could write a *Zagat's Guide to Philly's Best Rehabs*.”

The trouble started around four months into my initial AA stint, when the prospect of not drinking *for the rest of my life* struck me as just too dispiriting. So, I decided to give my present experiment exactly two years, then see if I could arrive at a more restrained and manageable approach to drinking. My literary hero Norman Mailer, a heavy drinker, once quit for two years. I took him as a role model not only for his brilliant writing but also his drinking.

Sobriety was then bearable only because I knew it would end on July 13, 2001, exactly two years after my last tumbler of scotch. The date occupied a readily accessible corner of my mind almost as one might anticipate a wedding day or retirement date.

My misguided train of thought went something like this. After two years, my mind and body were free of alcohol and had reverted to the pure and pristine state of health that prevailed before my earliest excesses. Hardly was I aware that, as I later learned, my disease progressed even while abstaining.

Intending initially to limit my drinking to, say, two or three before calling it a day, it wasn't long before I would lose count and shatter all bounds. Working at home as a freelance writer made it all too easy to take a few steps from desk to the kitchen to pour another. Besides, I had no supervisor or coworkers from whom to shield my breath. Within a month I was once again physically addicted, reentering that prison where only further drinking spared me the horror of withdrawal. The 19th century English poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge, a morphine addict, noted the pattern of withdrawal relieved only by more of the toxicity that caused it: “The poison is the cure, and the cure is the poison.” The vicious cycle into which I had unwittingly stumbled is sadly familiar to many alcoholics.

This pattern would recur more times than I'd care to admit. In one particularly eventful 12-month period I made four visits to the same rehab, like a car coming in for a quarterly oil change. A lady staffer there, serving unofficially as the rehab's matronly comforter of sad souls, didn't say a word upon my final arrival but merely hugged me: Look who's back. Never would I couch the problem in terms of being powerless over alcohol. It was more like, okay, I overdid it again, now let's get back out there and use what I know about the disease to control it. All along I grossly misunderstood alcoholism's physical grip and my mental obsession. My grasp of the first step remained non-existent.

November 2020 mercifully brought a respite from this sorry track-record when God lifted that obsession and ushered in a new chance at health and happiness, coupled with the grace to enact His will and spread His love. My gratitude to the program and fellowship, and most of all to God, is boundless.

AA GRAPEVINE'S PODCAST

**To play
Episodes click
HERE**

Our Area 45 Handbook

My name is Kelly and I am an alcoholic. I am currently serving as the Area 45 4th Dimension Newsletter Chair for Panel 72.

Yesterday, as I was cruising into our Area Summer Assembly meeting, I stopped for a quick hello to our Archivist (and my friend) Roy. As we chatted, he mentioned he would like to ask me to write a few words about my experiences with making revisions to and updating our Area 45 Handbook over the years. I of course said “Sure!”, knowing full well that if I did not write this immediately it may not get done. That brings us to today.

It dawned on me a few minutes ago that my experience updating our Handbook goes back a bit further than when I actually served on the Area 45 Policy Committee. It started in July of 2015 when I was serving as District 22/23 DCM. Our then Area Chair, Stephanie L., had sent to the fellowship a document indicating where the proposed changes to the 2016 Handbook could be found and what those changes would be.

Looking at the document it seemed that, while I found this to be extremely fascinating and relevant and certainly something worth taking the time to compare and contrast to the previous Handbook, it might be a stretch to think that the GSRs in my district would dive into the two documents with as much gusto. I might also go as far as to say that at that time I took myself...ugh...I mean my role as DCM very seriously. That, and I am a teacher. It's in my DNA at this point. I hence took it upon myself to go back through the entire handbook and highlight where all of the changes could be found and what the edits and additions were and shared that with the GSRs of my district for ease of use so they could relay the changes to their groups and gather consensus on whether to approve the changes or not.

When I shared what I had done with Stephanie, she sent out to the Area the following (I must have saved this email for a reason): “Many of you are working with the groups and GSRs to review the proposed changes to the Area 45 Handbook in preparation for discussion and vote at the upcoming Area Assembly.

Kelly W., DCM-District 22/23 has gone through the copy of the Handbook that includes the proposed changes and has highlighted and noted the proposed changes. The highlighted and noted copy is attached. Please feel free to share if you find it useful.”

I (I mean *it*) was a hit! Looking back, I see that it was one of my earliest sober experiences of actually doing extra work that I did not have to do in order to benefit others. Was I super proud of myself? Yes. Was starting to engage in activity that could be useful to others and that I could be proud of a bad thing? No. Yes. Not necessarily. The business of General Service and learning to go above and beyond what I would ever have done prior has had many learning curves. Being proud versus being prideful and needing accolades has been but one treasured (occasionally cringy) personal life lesson.

In 2017, I chaired our 53rd Area 45 General Service Convention. It was an exhausting year. By the time I arrived at the Saturday Banquet, I was more than ready to take a much needed breaky-poo from Area service for a while. Then I bumped into one of our Past Delegates, Fred E. Fred cut right to the chase.

“What are you going to do next for a service job?”

“Ummm, nothing?”

He asked me if I’d be interested in joining the Policy committee he was chairing. I tried to say “no”. It was an honest try. I knew what the Policy chair did at Assemblies. They needed to act as parliamentarians and actually know stuff. He laughed and said he just needed someone else on the committee to help with Handbook updates. Edit a document? That was definitely within my wheelhouse of skill set and bandwidth at that point. I later learned he would slowly introduce me to and train me to be the actual Policy Chair but that’s a whole other story. The point is, this was the second time I had the opportunity to comb through the Handbook and highlight changes and edits. He even let me do the presentation of those changes to the whole Assembly which was daunting but exciting. At least by then I had a decent handle on what was actually in the Handbook, and it was while serving on that committee that I truly learned just how pertinent and useful its contents actually are.

While serving as Area Chair for Panel 70, I again had the opportunity to play a role in assisting with edits and changes to the 2020 Handbook. I would like to say that at present I know the Handbook like the back of my hand. In reality, what I actually have is a vague idea of where many questions that come up can be answered by looking in the book.

Case in point, very recently a committee chair asked me a question regarding Area protocol. I immediately said, “I don’t know, but I know it’s in the Handbook!”

**Alcoholics
Anonymous**

Frequently Asked Questions

CLICK HERE

THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL

combined with

TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE

by Bill W.



Weekly
A.A. Service Manual Study

Thursdays, 7:00-8:00pm EST
Begins September 7, 2023

Zoom ID: 978 5884 5621
Passcode: service

Attendance limit 100

Hosted by: NHAA / Area 43
Questions? graceflesher@gmail.com

2021-2023 Edition
REVISED AND UPDATED

IS YOUR AA GROUP IN OUTER SPACE



DISCONNECTED FROM THE AA WORLD?
MONTHLY DISTRICT 15 MEETING
SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM
HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPALIAN CHURCH
220 EAST MAIN STREET TUCKERTON
ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8TH
FOR ALL DISTRICT 15 SERVICE OFFICERS

Registrar's Corner

My Panel 72 term as Registrar has come to an end and would like to thank the GSA 45 Assembly and AA Membership for the opportunity to have been of service, and as Past Panel 68 and 70 Treasurer and on Archives Committee (research started 2018).

The November 2023 GSO AA Registrar Fellowship Connection has records and history dates of 982 Area 45 Groups (estimate 500 active) going back to 1940s AA origins Southern and Central, NJ. A GSR is the link of their local group conscience into a worldwide collective group conscience of an estimated >120000 Groups in the AA Fellowship in 2023 (AA GSO).

Work with the Area 45 Archives Committee and AA Historians has given better understanding of the history of Area 45 Groups in 1939-59, in context of AA overall and evolution of Traditions and General Service Structure. It isn't the primary role of Registrar but has been a rewarding part of experience.

The AA Big Book summarizes the experience of the first two AA Groups. It was written by Bill W in Newark, NJ in the office of the then Alcohol Foundation (now General Service Board and Office) and released April 10, 1940 by Works Publishing (now World Services). The term Group was not used in the 164 pages. First true definition of a Group was not until long form of Tradition #3 written in the mid-1940s, that "any 2-3 alcoholics gathered for sobriety can call themselves a Group as long as no outside affiliations".

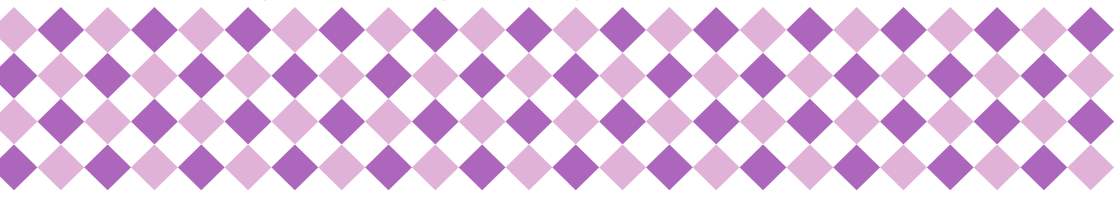
The date of the meeting of the original New Jersey Group is thought to be May 1939 at Hank P House in Montclair, attended by New Jersey members as well Bill and Lois W, Jim B and Fitz M of the original New York Group. AA "missionaries" Jim B and Fitz M carried the AA message (and a box of Big Books to sell) to co-found the Philadelphia Group in February 28, 1940, right after the famous February 8, 1940 Rockefeller Dinner that encouraged and help assist AA to be self-supporting (Tradition #7).

The South Jersey Group branched off from the New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia Group as a result Burwell's carrying the message, with the first meeting held in Camden, NJ on May 14, 1940. There were 5 AA members in October 1940 in Alcohol Foundation October 1940 Trustee Report and 35 members in 1941-42, with an address at 323 Market Street (next to old RCA Headquarters) and contacts from Camden and Woodbury/Mullica Hill Area (Alcohol Foundation dating Bulletin #1). It appears the membership moved to AA member houses in the suburbs after industrial war World War II broke out in December 1940, and formally listed again with Alcohol Foundation in 1945-46 and New Jersey/Philadelphia Intergroups in 1946.

An analysis of the 1st 25 AA Groups (by an Area 44 and North Jersey Intergroup AA historian) suggests that New Jersey Group was the 4th and South Jersey Group the 19th oldest Group overall in the world.

TIMELINE OF THE FIRST 25 A.A. GROUPS (>120000 in 2023 Worldwide)

Group (Reference *1)	First Meeting	2023 Status (George H Preliminary 2023 Research)
1. Ohio: Akron	July 4, 1935	Actively Meeting - King School
2. New York City	Fall of 1935	Active - Manhattan Grp - Intergroup Office
3. Ohio: Cleveland - Abby G. Grp	May 11, 1939	Closed - Became Coventry Group Closed 1990s
4. New Jersey: The New Jersey Grp	May 14, 1939	Active South Orange Group
5. Connecticut: Greenwich Blythewood Sanitariu	June 16, 1939	Closed - Became Local Committee Late 1960's
6. Illinois: Chicago	Sept 13, 1939	Closed - Group Became Chicago Metro Area AA
7. Ohio: Cleveland - Borton Group	Nov 16, 1939	Active - Borton Grp Cleveland Heights - Monday 730 PM
8. Ohio: Cleveland - Orchard Grove	Nov 20, 1939	Actively Meeting - Orchard Grove - Mon 730 PM, Lakewood
9. Washington, D.C.	Dec 1939	Likely Active - Metropolis Club? Waiting on Archivist
10. California: San Francisco	Dec 1939	Likely Closed - Needs Research/Superceded SF Central Com/CNCA?
11. California: Los Angeles	Dec 19, 1939	Closed - Per Area Archivist
12. New York: Orangeburg - Rockland State Hosp	Dec 1939	Closed - Local Feedback/Rockland Hospital Closed 1960s?
13. Michigan: Detroit	Dec 1939	Undetermined - Waiting on Area Archivist/Needs Research
14. Pennsylvania: Philadelphia	Feb 28, 1940	Undetermined - "Original" Center City Group & 4021 Walnut Street Club???
15. Texas: Houston	March 15, 1940	Undetermined - Club in 1947/Waiting on Local Archivist???
16. Arkansas: Little Rock	April 19, 1940	Undetermined - Cosmopolitan Group/120 Main Club 1947?
17. Indiana: Evansville	April 23, 1940	Undetermined - Request to Area Archivist
18. Ohio: Cleveland - West 50" Street Group	May 8, 1940	Active - West 25th St (Brooklyn/W52)
19. New Jersey: Camden (South Jersey Group)	May 14,1940	Researching - Collingswood Mon Night Group & 482 Club ties???
20. Virginia: Richmond	June 6, 1940	Closed early 1941 - New Grp Started:Tidewater Intergroup Archivist
21. Maryland: Baltimore	June 16, 1940	857 Club Active tied to Original AA 1940s Club (Per Area 29 Feedback)
22. Ohio: Dayton	July 8, 1940	Undetermined - Waiting Answer Area Archivist (Dayton Central?)
23. Michigan: Coldwater	Summer 1940	Undetermined - Waiting on Area Area Archivist- Monroe Street Club?
24. Ohio: Cleveland- Berea	Aug 27, 1940	Actively Meeting - Mon 730 PM Berea
25. Ohio: Cleveland - Westlake	Sep 20, 1940	Actively Meeting - 8 PM Lakeshore Thurs Mens?
Reference *1		
By John B.		
Big Book Study Group of South Orange, NJ		

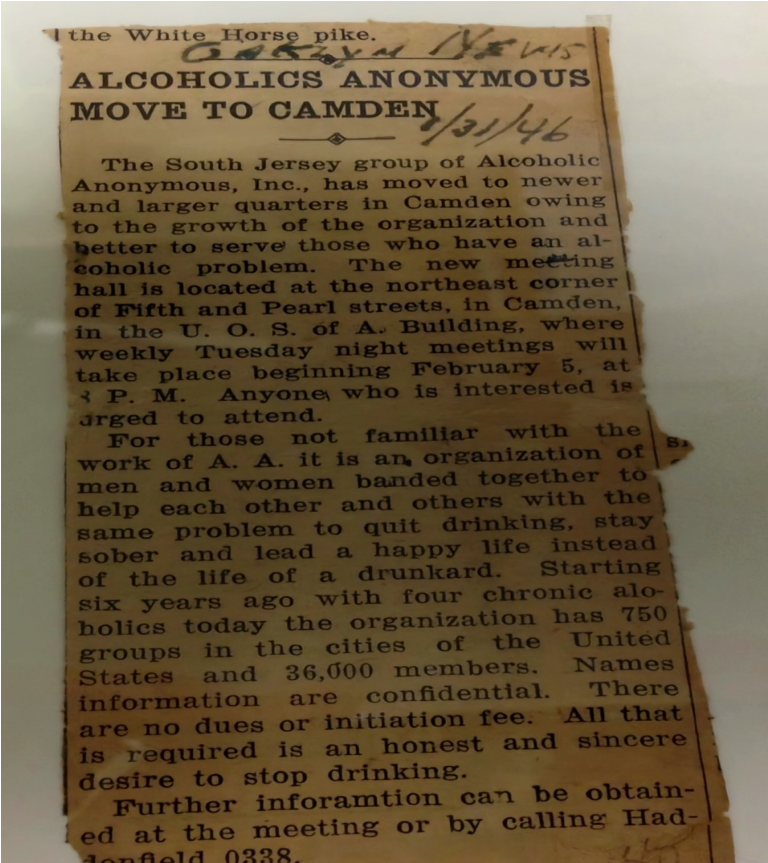


A preliminary attempt at assessing how many of these Groups might be considered still active and meeting in some form today and/or what the Group conscience evolved into (eg, metro intergroup or general service area general service structure).

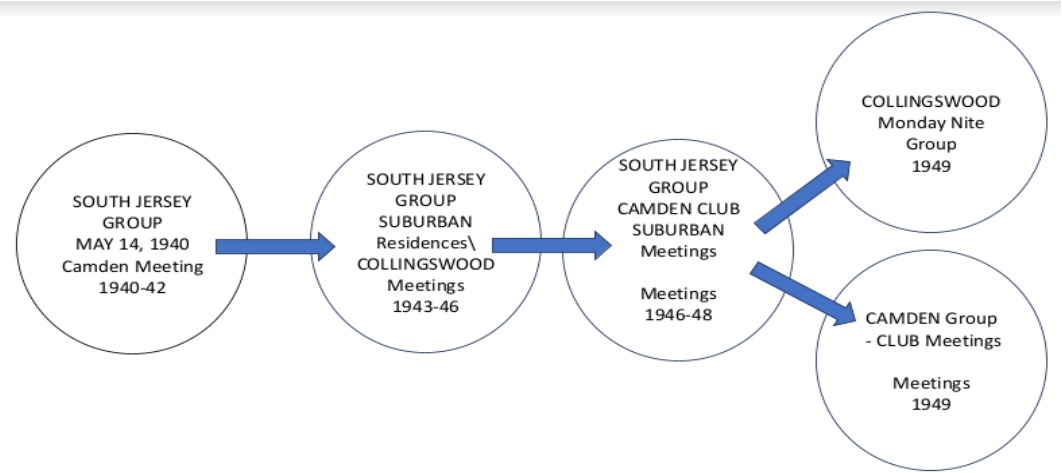
Prior to the AA Traditions in the late 1940s, (and approved by membership at the 1950 International Convention), an AA Club House was considered a Group. Traditions #3, #6 and #7 related directly to separation of AA Groups from Club Houses.

A lease on the first AA Club House by New York Group was also taken out that month to be paid by AA members, and a similar one opened in Philadelphia in fall 1940 as a kind of "alcoholic run hospital" near hospitals treating alcoholics and prisons. These early Clubs based metro Groups later became the model for Club Houses in Southern NJ and Worldwide as Traditions were written. The [4021 Walnut Street](#) Club in Philadelphia from the 1940s still hosts meetings.

Some evidence and interpretation of historical records suggest that Collingswood Monday Nite Group might be considered a suburban meeting of the Original South Jersey Group with ties back to the May 14, 1940, first meeting of the South Jersey Group in Camden County. The South Jersey Group meeting in Collingswood in 1946 opened a meeting in Camden at what became the Camden Club with a continued suburban meeting in Audubon that moved to Collinswood.



By 1947-49 these meetings became separate Camden and Collingswood Groups in GSO Records. The 482 Club inactive Groups (formerly District 5) in Pennsauken appears to be a direct legacy of the original Southern NJ AA Camden Club Group (various locations sometimes later called Camalan Club) whose meetings branched into many Groups with GSRs after the creation of the General Service Conference.



GSA Area 45 AA collective Group conscience in 2023, represents in a sense the original group conscience. First New Jersey Panel #2 (now Area 45) Assembly to elect a Delegate (from Atlantic City Group) was in March 1952 at a Camden Club then on Westfield Avenue. There were likely less than 10-15 Groups in existence at the time that had attended and voted at that first election Assembly.

GSO Membership Services communicates that consistent with Tradition #4 of Group autonomy, that each Group can decide their own history date whether first evidence of first meeting of AA members from Group records, first correspondence contact with Alcohol Foundation (General Service Office Membership Service now), first listing of Group with local Intergroup or AA World Directory.

George H., Area 45 Registrar Panel 72

Area 45 Summer Assembly

The Hybrid Summer Assembly was hosted by Section I at Columbus Grange #2, 102 Atlantic Ave, Columbus NJ08022 and virtually via Venmo.

GSR/DCM orientation was started at 8:45 AM.

The Assembly Meeting opened at 10:00 am with the Serenity Prayer followed by the A. A. Anonymity Statement.

Panel 72 Chairperson, Joe E

Intergroup Reports:

Cape Atlantic:

My name is Joe. I am currently serving as CAIG Trustee. As of July 1st we have moved to 1418 New Rd. Suite 4 Northfield, NJ 08225.

This will be the mailing address for all purposes including mailing donations for member groups. The Steering Committee and Body meetings will take place at that location on the 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays of each month. These will continue to be hybrid meetings.

As an example of Intergroup/Area comity District 16/17 will meet monthly at the office as well.

We have lost our Treasurer and Office Manager. Please spread the word among your groups that we need all the help we can get.

Our annual Unity Breakfast will be at the Great Bay Country Club in Somers Point on Sunday on October 1. Our annual Round Up will be November 17 - 19 at the Grand in Cape May. Please consult website: capeatlanticaa.org for details.

Written report submitted by Dawn I, which the Secretary did not have access to during the Assembly.

It has been a whirlwind here at CAIG since our last meeting.

By the Grace of God and this fellowship I was able to celebrate 10yrs of Sobriety on July 22.

We hosted Speaker Jams, our Annual Picnic, CAYPAA Beach Bash, a Bus Trip to GSO in NY and we moved!!! Our new beautiful spacious office is now on New Rd in Northfield.

Our Treasurer resigned, unexpectedly. Our Round Up Treasurer has graciously offered to step up as Acting Treasurer until upcoming elections. Our Recording Secretary also stepped down to attend school. We voted in new a Secretary at the August Business Meeting.

The proposed revisions to Bylaws were also voted on and unanimously approved. This project has been in the works for a long time. It took the last 6 months of intensive work to finalize.

Our current financial standing is very good. We were able to present a check for \$2000 to GSO at our recent visit. We have been filling over 20 H & I Commitments weekly. Our Hotline is averaging more than 100 calls a month.

The next few months are filled with lots of activity!! September 9th is a "Burn your Resentment" Bonfire, October 1st is the annual Breakfast, November 15th will be Elections for the next Panel and November 17-19th is the 17th Annual Round Up. Details for all of these Events and More can be found on the CapeAtlanticaa.org Website.

Respectfully Submitted
Dawn I, CAIG Chair.

Central Jersey:

Verbal Report

South Jersey

Good morning,

It's been a busy quarter for South Jersey Intergroup!

As of August 1, 2023, SJIG's net income is \$10,504.13. Thank you to all who have contributed. Due to issues outside of our control the SJIG office is closed to the general public. Literature is available on appointment only. Please email literature to make an appointment to purchase same. SJIG will be re-locating its office from 5090 Central Highway in Pennsauken. It is expected the new location will be in Voorhees, and the address will be published once the lease is signed. If you'd like to help us move in the coming months, we'd welcome the extra hands!

SJIG will be hosting Day of Sharing this year. It will be at Hope United Methodist Church located at Voorhees, NJ 08043 from 9AM to 12PM on October 14, 2023.

SJIG will be hosting its annual Gratitude Dinner Dance at Indian Springs Country Club in Marlton, NJ, from 7PM to 11PM on September 30, 2023. Tickets are available now. If you'd like to buy one please email the Social Events committee.

SJIG continues to service hospitals, detoxes and rehabs through H&I in the South Jersey area. Our Bookers committee remains as bustling as ever too.

Thank to you all of the groups who continue to participate and contribute to SJIG's activities. It's our pleasure to serve!

Yours in service,

Frank C.

SJIG Chair

DCM and Section Leader Reports:

Section I

Leader position – *Vacant*

District 3:

District has been meeting regularly on the second Thursday of the month, virtually. We averaged about 5-10 people. As of 7/13/2023 we had a bank balance of \$493.86.

We had a great time hosting the workshop "How It Works" (Area Service) on 6/24. We had about 30 in attendance. Thank you to everyone that came out, and a special thank you to Ken T, Roy and Bob W for being our presenters. Thanks to Wendy, Jean, and John from audio for your support at our workshop.

District 3 was involved in the NERAASA scholarship planning, summer assembly planning, set up, and clean up.

Thanks
In Love N Service

Patrick McN

District 4: *Vacant*

Districts 22 & 23:

Good morning. My name is Jeremy, I'm an alcoholic, and I am honored to serve as DCM for District 22/23.

I want to say thank you to the assembly planning committee and setup crew from section 1, with a special shout out to Kerry and Charlie for the work in the kitchen making the amazing breakfast!

District 22/23 meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 pm on Zoom. We routinely have 8-12 GSRs from the district represented in our monthly meeting.

As of July 25th, our district’s treasury balance was \$4,015. We supported the Unity picnic on July 30th along with CJI and district 25. We are also providing support to this Area assembly.

Our district is working with the Sunday night BYOBB meeting in Bordentown and Josh from the corrections committee to host a prison outreach workshop. We are providing up to \$375 for food and location donation. The workshop will be held on Saturday September 30th at Christ Church on Prince Street in Bordentown. The workshop starts at 1000. Light refreshments and snacks will be available.

Thank you for your time.
Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremy B.
District 22/23 DCM

District 24:
Verbal Report

District 25:
Verbal Report

District 30 &31: *Vacant*

Section II
Verbal Report

Districts: 6 & 7 - Vacant

District 8:
No report

District 9:
District 9 continues to grow participation and we are reaching more groups than in the past.

We look forward to participation in hosting the Fall Assembly in Marlton.

Our Bank Balance is: \$ 927.93

Thank you for the privilege of serving our fellowship.

Peace... Andy... ;-)

New address for District 9 Contributions:

District 9 c/o Andy E.
123 Virginia Ave.
Audubon, NJ 08106

District 26:
Hello, I’m Lisa, an alcoholic and the DCM for District 26. Thank you to those in service for today’s workshop.

On August 5 we held a corrections workshop. Thank you to Josh and Kelly for their time and experience in helping members with corrections service.

The treasury balance is \$5,230.45. This includes \$1500 to support GSRs who go to NERASSA 2024. We are looking forward to hosting the Fall Assembly.

On Saturday, Sept 30 from 12-2 we are hosting a workshop ‘AA History and Area Service. Roy, our Area Archivist will be presenting and Joe our Area Chairman will share his experience within General Service.

We continue to look for ways to increase home group participation with GSRs. Some ideas included an invitation to come to the district meeting in the thank you card sent regarding 7th tradition contributions. Attending home group meetings to share information regarding the group’s GSR role.

Our meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Logan Presbyterian Church in Audubon.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa B
District 26 DCM

District 27:
Verbal Report

Section III

Hi my name is Wayne and I'm an alcoholic.

First let me say I'm sorry for not being able to be with you today - I made vacation plans over a year ago and I couldn't change the date.

I've been working in this position for a year and trying my best to understand what needs to be done. The pandemic has slowed up this process - my first job was to find which meetings are still running and registered with our General Service Office. Many of the groups I've checked with have lost members. I'm glad to say they are coming back slowly.

What my goal was to have a more uniformed and friendly Section. Half of our districts are doing a wonderful job, I just need to try and get the one or two districts in my section a little more active. Presently I'm looking to fill District 20 with a DCM and District 12 seems to be in transition. If anyone can help me please contact me.

Thank you & God bless,

Wayne P.

District 12:
iDistrict is In transition

District 13:
Verbal Report
The Woodstown Group is celebrating it's 69th Anniversary on Jan 13, 2024 at the Holy Spirit Parish CTR, 2 Lamplighter Dr., Woodstown, NJ 08098 (Corner of Elm and Broad), 5:00 pm Food & Fellowship, Speaker 6:00 pm.

District 14:
Good Morning Area 45 Committee members, Section Leaders, GSR's, DCM's, Alternates and guests. My name is Bill and I am an alcoholic.

District 14 meets every 3rd Thursday of the month, 6:30pm at First United Methodist Church on 2nd St in Millville, NJ.

District 14 remains strong and active. Our monthly meetings average 6-14 GSR's and this month 1 new Alternative GSR and 1 new GSR were in attendance. The new GSR is from a group that is joining in on the District activities and it's functions after gaining more home group members. As of August 18th, Treasury report was 3504.16.

District 14 was one of the host districts for our Area 45 Spring Assembly in May at the Elmer Grange Hall in Elmer which had a great attendance and great food.

We had an Anniversary meeting June 12th for the "old 8th and wood" meeting that is now located at Main & Sherman which Celebrated 64 years of service to Alcoholics and was well attended. District 14th is excited to announce our 18th Annual Food, Fun and Fellowship picnic next Sunday the 27th at Parvin State Park (Thundergust Pavilion, 11-5 with food being served from 12-3. AI-Anon/AA speakers, Kids games, tie-dye table, volleyball and more.

DCM District 14

We are also happy to announce that we voted and approved a Unity Halloween Dance. Flyers for the first Committee meeting will be available at the picnic and we will also be forming a committee to host 1 more Workshop before years end.

Respectfully Submitted

Bill F.

Districts 20: *Vacant*

District 21: *Vacant*

Districts 28 & 29:

No report

Section IV

Hi. My name is Rob and I am an alcoholic. I have the honor and privilege of serving as the section 4 Leader. Thank you to Section 1 for hosting today's Assembly.

Since last assembly I have made a few out our districts meetings. I was able to help District 16/17 arrange to have a new live meeting location in the new Cape Atlantic Intergroup office. Thank you to all who helped, especially Dawn at Cape Atlantic Intergroup and to Alyssa the District 16/17 DCM.

As far as what's happening in the districts, I will let the DCM's cover in their reports.

In love and service,

Rob M.
Section 4 Leader

District 15:

D15 meets in-person and without the option for virtual attendance on the second Wednesday of each month at the Episcopalian Church of the Holy Spirit, 220 East Main St, Tuckerton. Actively serving as DCM, Alternate DCM, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Committee Chair and five to seven GSRs.

The approved July 2023 treasury report indicated a financial balance of \$4,477.84. Subsequent to the report were the following items: approval of payment of \$1,300 to Activities Committee, approval of purchase of case of AA Conference-Approved books for D15 meeting that requested financial support; up to \$200 and approximately \$600 in revenue generated from the Activities Committee's first event on August 12.

The event was a great success thanks to a dedicated committee and wide support throughout Area 45. Most importantly, it was a God-honoring event from inception to planning to implementation and outcome. I'm hopeful that these efforts will encourage unity and participation while remaining centered on the AA primary purpose. In the months to come D15 will look at all aspects of the completed events, identify areas needing improvement and incorporate the lessons learned into future events. Please keep your eyes open for an AA Halloween event sponsored by D15.

Yours in Loving Service,

Rich J
District 15 DCM

District 16 &17:

Verbal report

District 18:

My name is Paul H. I am the DCM for District 18 (northern Cape May County). I am grateful to have the opportunity to be of service.

Our most recent district meeting was held on June 4, 2023, at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 2998 Bay Ave, Ocean City. Two GSRs attended and Past Delegate Joe O.

Our next meeting will be September 3, 2023. We will discuss our dwindling participation. Another GSR has resigned since our last Assembly. We will also begin planning a fall workshop.

Our treasury is in good shape, and I want to thank our local groups for their continuing generosity.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul M

Districts 19:

Greetings everyone, I am Sandy M a grateful recovering alcoholic DCM District 19.

Our District 19 meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at Crest Community Church, Wildwood Crest NJ at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Our Treasure's report as of August 25, 2023 is \$4,213.96.

District 19 hosted a Corrections Application Workshop in June 24, 2023. I would like to thank Corrections Chair Josh P and his people for allowing us to do so. It was a nice turnout and we've gotten more volunteers on board and a special thanks to alternate ("Chief") John S. for his fabulous pulled pork sandwiches.

Coming up on Saturday, September 30, 2023 is our Annual District 19 Cape May Unity Picnic from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm at Lighthouse Park Ave Cape May NJ 08204 with live music, speaker, AA comedian with Food, Fun & Fellowship. Everyone is welcome.

I know in AA they say go to any and all lengths. Cape May is Exit 0 on the Garden State Parkway. I promise you'll have a good time, and you won't fall off the end of the earth.

I would like to thank everyone here in person and those virtual for your service, and helping me get another day of sobriety.

Special District(s)

District 42:

Verbal Report

Committee Reports

Accessibility – Vacant

Audio

Verbal Report

Budget & Finance

Nothing to report

Convention – 57th Annual

Verbal report

Archives

The Archives Committee continues to serve with the help and fellowship of Area 45, Panel 72. We continually seek new members to join in this service opportunity.

Since the last report there have been at least monthly visits to the repository, attending to the current archives. There have been historical contributions from fellowship members that have been archaically preserved and are on display. Today the 2022 NAAAW is featured with a PowerPoint presentation of my experience there. The Archives committee had the honor of introducing a District 3 workshop in June.

Coming up next month I will travel to Sudbury Ontario (Canada) for the 2023 NAAAW. I have been in touch with it's organizers and will represent Area 45. A display table similar to the one here today will be set in the Archives room. There will be archive displays from all over North America. I am proud and honored to represent Area 45.

Yours in Service,

Roy C. Archives Chair, Area 45, Panel 72

Cooperation with Professional Community/Public Information (CPC/PI)

We continue to pass out literature and meet with various groups of people. I provided the table set up to Peggy who attended an event for seniors a few weeks ago. She was able to distribute pamphlets and meet with the group. Interestingly, one of the people she spoke with was a funeral director. John M will be taking the table to central jerseys intergroup dance on august 26, with the intention of recruiting others to help. Our committee table will be set up for the **August 31st** international overdose awareness day. Their program is being held at Steinert High School in Hamilton from 5:30-8:00. We will have a table set up to distribute literature.

Ginger will be taking the table and attending the senior summit **September 20**, in Vineland.

Latino festival, September 30, table too.

I'm working on attending the Camden County mental health fair on **September 28**, in Voorhees.

All points media company contact me regarding their company. They have 98 digital screens that run a mile and half up and down the AC boardwalk. They want to know if we are interested in media planning and purchasing space on their screens. They are mini video billboards along with boardwalk. This is an exciting opportunity and I hope to have more information for you at the fall assembly.

If you have an event coming up near you please email me and I would be happy to set up the table or drop it off to you.

Thank you for your time,

Respectfully submitted

Michelle

DCM/GSR Orientation

GSR DCM Orientation had 12 new GSRs, 2 DCMs and (9) guests for a total of 23 live bodies and a cast of thousands online. Online folk's area asked to email me (dcm_gsr@snjaa.org) to set up a replay of orientation due to some technical issues today.

Rich

Corrections

Hi everyone, I am Josh P, and I am an alcoholic. I am also the area 45 Corrections Chair. It is both an honor and a privilege to be trusted with such a responsibility. We are busy. If you are looking for an opportunity to get involved please come and talk to me.

Our committee has been extremely busy. Thank you to all the area 45 members who stepped up to support our committee efforts. Special thanks to District 19, 16/17, & 26 for co-hosting our recent application workshops. It was extremely successful taking in multiple county, state, and federal applications. Thank you!! Any DCM interested in co-hosting an event, please reach out to me. Our goal is to visit every District.

State prison meetings no longer required to be vaccinated to apply. State facilities are now open to anyone interested. AA meetings have begun at Salem county jail, Cape May county jail, and Burlington county jail. We are in the process of starting up meetings at Salem county jail too. See the chair for applications or more information.

****State Volunteers - Please Note:** Renewals are currently running 6-7 weeks. Please allow yourself enough time to renew so you ID does not expire.

Our Area 45 Bridging the Gap (BTG) service is currently up and running. We need support building our temporary contact data base to support our treatment and correctional facilities. We need you to help bridge the gap from facility to AA. Please see Scott P, our BTG Coordinator, and pick up our BTG pamphlets and take a flyer for the home group. We are moving into our next phase, where we approach the facilities. If you have a relationship with a facility that may find this service useful, please see Scott P.

Our corrections committee meets virtually the first Tuesday of every month. Bridging the Gap meets virtually the second Wednesday of every month. Virtual meeting ID and password is available on the area 45 website under the area events section. All are welcome.

Please keep an eye out for our monthly reports which our area secretary shares using MailChimp. It contains our monthly meeting minutes with detailed information on our efforts, as well as, flyers about upcoming corrections events.

Thank you all for allowing me to be of service. I look forward to sharing corrections with you.

Gratefully,

Josh P
Area 45 Corrections Chair

Grapevine - Vacant

Jalcon—Vacant

Registration

32 GSRs, 10 Alt GSRs, 15 DCMs, 5 Alt-DCMs, 2 Section Leaders, 11 Committee Chairs, 2 Past Delegates, 6 Panel and 3 Guests = 86

Virtual Tech

Verbal report

Website

Verbal report

Newsletter

My name is Kelly and I am an alcoholic. It is my privilege to serve as your Panel 72 4th Dimension Newsletter Chair.

Many of you received the Summer issue emailed to you, and if you have not yet seen it, it is also available on our Area website area45snjaa.org. Thank you Jean and Pam for your roles in getting it distributed!

The theme for this Newsletter is Making Yourself Available. One article in particular I'd like to bring to the attention of every Area 45 member to read, whether you are eligible to vote in the upcoming Election Assembly or not, is the very thoughtful and informative submission by our Area 45 Panel 58 Past Delegate Fred E. In it, he details and explains both the purpose and procedures of our Area Panel elections. He does so in a manner that is not only eloquent, it is very accessible and clear and dare I say, a must read!

I would also like to extend my thanks to Dawn I, Bob W., Liz R., and to our Archivist Roy C. for their contributions, to our Area Chair Joe E. for always being available for guidance and support, and to our Area 45 Treasurer Phil K. for again to providing information for a Gratitude section of the Newsletter that includes the names of groups who contributed 7th Tradition money to Area 45 and also to Literatures in Prisons. Thank you also to all the DCMs and committees who sent along flyers to their meetings and events.

I'd also love to be so bold as to thank myself for my own submission, but that would be weird. Instead, I'll just invite you to read that submission as it highlights my own experience putting together our quarterly Area newsletter and is a cordial invitation to anyone to get in touch with me who may even just have a slight passing interest to potentially make yourself available to Chair the Newsletter Committee for Panel 74.

Regardless of whether I hear from you now or later, to whomever is appointed to the Newsletter Committee next Panel, in the spirit of our Principle of Rotation, I will continue to be available to help anyone in that role for as long as it takes for them to feel comfortable taking the training wheels off.

Moving forward, wheels are in motion for topics for and contributions to the Fall Newsletter. If you or anyone you know has some ideas for submissions or topics you'd like to see included, please send an email to newsletterarea45@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly W.

Policy

Hello, my is Tanya, and I'm an alcoholic. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your Area 45 Policy & Charter Chair for Panel 72.

The Policy committee met in July to discuss changes to the Area 45 Handbook. The draft will be present during the committee portion of the meeting today and will also be available on the website for review. Please send comments and questions to policy@snjaa.org. The final version of the 2024 Handbook will be presented during the Fall Assembly to be voted on by the assembly.

I participated in the bylaws Ad Hoc committee this month and will continue my work in that committee until the bylaws are ready to be presented to

the Area. Special thanks to Bob W. for spearheading this effort. I will be writing an essay for the archives committee about Policy.

I'm rotating out of this position at the end of the year. If anyone is interesting in Policy, please reach out to me.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Respectfully submitted

– Tanya D.

Young People

Hello, this is Mikey. I've been in contact the NJYPPA Events Chair about co-hosting an event with them. Currently we are just chatting, nothing is set yet. I am hoping to have something soon.

That's what I have for you now.

In loving service,

Mikey

Ad Hoc NERAASA Scholarship Committee

Verbal report

Ad Hoc Bylaws Revision Committee

Hi, my name is Bob and I am serving as the Ad Hoc bylaws Revision Committee Chair. The Committee has been charged with reviewing and updating the bylaws for nonprofit 501 (c) 3 status for Area 45. The committee included Joe E, Panel 72 Chair, Tanya W, Policy & Charter Chair, Rich H, immediate Past Delegate, and Dave R, Alt-GSR F Troop. Area 45's lawyer provided updates and the Committee is reviewing it to ensure the language so it aligns with AA, Area 45, and reflects our mission statement to help the next alcoholic who still suffers. The 'final' verbiage may not be available in advance of the Fall Assembly.

Panel Reports

Registrar

GSO Registration and Area 45 Registrar Questions Contact:
George H Registrar@snjaa.org text/call (856) 979-2734

1) Area 45 Registrar Activities

- Updated Area 45 Contact List (Panel, Committee Chairs & DCM)
- Updating GSO Fellowship Connection with DCM/GSR Groups
- Attended Number of Summer District Events
 - Supported Virtual District 42 Ad Hoc/Elections

2) Orientation Committee

- Made up 20 Literature Folders for Orientation
- Presented Registration at Orientation
- Developed one page GSR to do check list
- Registered New GSR/DCM from sign in list

3) GSO Fellowship Connection Group/Contact Information

- 532 "Actively Meeting Groups" August 2023 (138 Unknown/No Contact)
- 14 Registered Virtual Only Groups
- Guess-estimate 450 Actively Meeting (Silent Districts/Clubs particularly)

- 982 Total “Groups” Ever Since May 14, 1940
 - Group Total >1000 in 2024 or 2025
 - Group contact records reduced from 900+ start Panel 72 to 500+ by dropping records >2 years old and feedback from DCMs/Groups (100 still >2 years old)
 - Intergroup Meeting List 1,100/ meetings week still best estimate
- 4) Area 45 Contact List - Panel, Committees and DCM
- Made hard and Digital Copies Available Via Panel Secretary
 - 3 Sections with Leaders (lost one acting Section Leader)
 - 18 Districts with DCM (1 New DCM and lost 1 DCM)
 - 4 Silent Districts (No DCM)
 - Advised Section IV Section Leader on Redistricting
- 5) Fall Plans
- Give input on Policy Manual Registrar Position Description Update
 - Assess 138 Unknown Groups with DCM for GSO
 - Prepared Registrar Computer for Panel 74
- 6) Registrar Work With Archives Committee
- AA 980+”Groups have have history dates in Fellowship Connection and some of the 1940 and 1950 Groups have inaccurate 1970 dates when Group Numbers Assigned
 - AA in Southern NJ Area 45, Philadelphia and Baltimore will be 85 years old in 2025.
 - Research into History “Registration” with Alcohol Foundation/GSO 1940-80 and first 25 AA Groups (which still meeting and what became of others), particularly Burwell/Mayo after February 8 m, 1940 Rockefeller Dinner and Alcohol Foundation/Work Publishing events through June 1940.
 - Research into 4 Club House Based AA Groups (New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington) in 1941 first 165 and spread of Club Group Model nationally and Southern NJ in 1946 (Camden South Jersey Group and Atlantic City)

Secretary

Hello everyone, my name is Jean and I am Panel 72’s Secretary.

I would like to thank those who have submitted their written reports to me already. I am looking forward to receiving the additional ones at Secretary@snjaa.org. I always appreciate the ones in .doc best ☺

I have attended the monthly ALL Access Committee, which is Accessibilities, and 2 of the past 3 National PI CPC Committee meetings. I am active on the NERAASA Scholarship Committee. It was a privilege to attend the Virtual District 42 Ad Hoc Committee meetings and Elections to move from an Ad Hoc Committee to a Special District. How cool is that! I was also part of the Committee for the District 25, 22-23 & Central Intergroup for the 8th Annual Unity Picnic. I look forward to that event every year! I also attended some of the Section I meetings for this Assembly.

I am happy to say Pam R, Website Admin, was able to fix the Secretary Mail-Chimp account access. As you can imagine after weeks of having no access meant no email blasts being sent to the full Area 45 distribution list.

MailChimp Reports:

There 7 email blasts sent to the full Area 45 distribution list. The Spring minutes were sent out to all those GSRs/DCMs on the Delegate’s distribution list due to the issue I was having with logging into the account. That is also when fewer email blasts were sent out. The minutes were posted to the Area Website.

Subject	Send Date	Total Re- cipients	Hard Bounc- es	Unique Opens	Open Rate	Unsub- scribes
Meeting/ELECTION ** Virtual District 42	6-Jul-23	770	2	391	51.04%	1
Open Staff Member Positions at G.S.O.	13-Jul-23	767	2	385	50.39%	1
AA Publishing - Dai- ly Reflections NEW Formats	14-Jul-23	765	0	328	42.93%	0
Summer Newsletter	2-Aug-23	766	0	339	44.26%	0
GSO Announce- ments July/August	5-Aug-23	766	0	388	50.65%	0
GSO Proposed Agenda Items email	16-Aug-23	768	1	348	45.37%	0
Summer Assembly Reminder	16-Aug-23	767	0	324	42.24%	0

Speaking of MailChimp Wendy M, Alt-Delegate, is in the process of helping with the set-up of the MailChimp account. We are hoping to save some money by deleting ‘unsubscribed’ emails and possibly changing the type of account.

There are miscellaneous other things I get involved with. Members have reached out for help finding information so I do my best to point people in the right direction with minimal redirects. If you are interested in hearing more about the activities of the Area Secretary, reach out to me. Please share about the upcoming Area Elections. It’s a great process to be involved with. Service is a gift of this program and my HP.

I appreciate all of you who have supported and reached out to me during my family’s medical challenge over the last few weeks. It’s a testament on how our fellowship comes together for each other.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean

Secretary@snjaa.org (M) 908-553-1053

Due to a recent change, some of the emails previously on the Secretary Distribution List have been removed. If you want to be on the Area 45 Secretary’s Distribution List, please email me.

Treasurer

Verbal report

See **Attachments** for handout

Chairperson

Good morning, everyone and thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Area Chair. It is with my deepest appreciation that I thank the security staff and the body of this assembly for making this possible. Since our last Assembly, I have had the privilege to attend several of our Area 45 Committee Meetings. I have found these meetings to be super impactful when it comes to the information they share, but most importantly, they were fun. If you are interested in any of these for either the immediate future or next panel, please reach out to the current chairperson of that committee and have a brief conversation.

These chairpersons can be found on the contact list at the registration table. Moreover, we still have an opening for our Accessibilities Chair. If you know someone interested in serving Area 45, please let me know. Area 45 was also able to facilitate an election of trusted servants for our Virtual District 42! They are now a fully functioning district in Area 45, and I certainly look forward to their participation moving forward.

Our Fall Assembly will be held on Sunday November 12th this year at The Gibson House 535 E Main St Evesham, NJ 08053. This will be an Election Assembly, so we will certainly need your participation.

If you have an event that you would like to post on the website, please send me the flyer and I will see that our Web Chair posts it on our site as well as calendar. **(Chair@SNJAA.ORG)** Please check the website periodically, as I will be updating it with the latest information. *****Special Note***** Leverage our Area 45 Calendar to see when other Districts are meeting and may be attend their meeting. Each District goes about their business a little differently and you may be able to take something that they do very well, and implement at your District.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and look forward to speaking with everyone today.

Alternate Delegate

Hello, I am Wendy, and I serve as your Alternate Delegate.

First, thank you for letting me serve as this is the next to last assembly of my term, and in the spirit of rotation, I finally understand my role of Alternate Delegate right in time for me to rotate to whatever service position my HP wants me in next.

But, it also gives me a chance to challenge everyone here today to dare to ask themselves this question, am I settling for good when my HP wants better for me? You may wonder what this has to do with Service or my report. We will elect a new Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Treasurer, Secretary, and Registrar during our next assembly. Between now and then, ask yourself, am I settling for not making myself available because my current position is good or saying to yourself, I could never do that because I don't have enough time or experience? When God may want better for you... to learn about yourself and the spiritual principles of Service in a new way?

When I said yes to running for Alternate Delegate, I was ready to settle for being a committee chair or DCM, but my HP wanted something better. As a result of trusting him to run my life, I get to tell you that I left the last assembly and went straight to NERF, which was probably the best service conference I have ever attended, which is strange to say because I have been to plenty of conventions, NERAASAs, and a couple of NERDS.

If you have never been to a NERF, it's where GSO staff talk about what is happening in GSO; it's also where some current Delegates report on things like technology in AA and whose in the room, but more importantly, whose not in the room. But the most profound item that added to my spiritual cup was when our US Trustee at Large spoke about her AA work internationally. On paper, I know we have our literature translated into many languages, but to hear firsthand how AA is in countries where members have to sneak to meetings because alcohol is not allowed, so there must be no alcoholics. Still, drugs are, so NA is permitted. Blows my mind, I was instantly reminded that I am blessed to be sober, but we are in a part of the world that started AA and is thriving.

Another crucial spiritual lesson I learned was in a conversation with a current delegate. We were talking about the plain-language Big Book. She reminded me that the Big Book was a piece of literature written at the average grade level of education. It was meant to be read as a stand-alone piece so that people could recover by following the simple instructions. She said, this is what the plain-language Big Book does; it allows us to share what we have been so freely given with this generation where the average grade level is 3rd grade, so they can get sober in our remote English-speaking communities or in jails and institutions where members may not be allowed to bring in meetings. I found it a profound way of seeing something through new glasses. And as the US Trustee At-Large said, she went to the International Convention of AA, where they spoke about best practices for Technology and AA... she was reminded that not every country has an internet and our best way to reach those countries is a piece of literature translated for their understanding.

I could go on and on about all the other things she shared about the miracles in Cuba, Italy, and the Middle East regarding AA and its members, but I will move on to the other things I got to do. But please find me during lunch to hear about how AA changes lives in these countries. During NERF, there were many conversations about simple majority and substantial unanimity. And I want to thank Ken for coming to the North-East Region Alternate Delegates meeting I host. Ken, our Delegate, shared a detailed account of substantial unanimity during his conference committee votes which led to long conversations with our current and Past Trustee on the Committees' Composition of Scope and Procedure. And as a result of this conversation, Area 61, Rhode Island, went to their area with a PAI about changing to a more uniform meaning of substantial unanimity. I want to thank District 03, who had an event in Burlington. It was an excellent way to spend a Saturday afternoon and to see so many members there to listen and participate in learning about How It Works, and it was fun to see the Jeopardy game afterward. One of the other fantastic service events I could attend was our new District 42's election. It may have taken a bit to catch on, but I'm excited to follow how our online district blaze into newly chartered territories.

And, of course, as usual, it was a pleasure to visit all three Intergroup Business meetings and keep them abreast of Area business.

In love and Service,

Wendy M.
A45/P72/AD

Delegate

Welcome everyone!

I am an alcoholic, and my name is Ken. Privileged to serve as Area 45 Delegate, Panel 72.

Thank you to the hosts, and technical facilitators for making this meeting possible.

Welcome to the new GSR's, DCM's and Section Leaders.

Thank you All for your vital service to our Fellowship.

Since our last Assembly:

I attended the monthly Northeast Delegates and Alternates meeting, hosted by our newly elected Northeast Regional Trustee Ken T.

I attended the Unity Picnic hosted by District 22/23 and Central Jersey Intergroup.

I had the privilege of being chosen to serve on the GSB Inventory Working Group.

The inventory is a result of a Floor Action made at the 73rd General Service Conference with the hope of inspiring more transparency, and better communication from the GSB to the Fellowship.

Met with the Conference Committee on Trustees after the last quarterly General Service Board Weekend. Received updates of the slate of GSB nominees, and the search for a GSB Chair.

Attended the CAIG August business meeting in place of our Alternate Delegate Wendy M.

Want on the CAIG bust trip to GSO this past Friday, and connected with friends I had the honor of serving with at the GSC this year.

Thank you All again for your service to your groups and Area 45.

Please remember, our journey, and the journey of countless others begins at the AA Group. Do whatever you can to keep your group Unified, and grounded in AA Principles.

In Love & Service

Ken T

Area 45, Panel 72

Delegate

609/339-4386

Delegate@SNJAA.org

Motions

Motion 1:

An amendment to the approved 2023-2024 Area 45 budget is proposed, specifically an increase (from \$0 to \$800) for the line item "Northeast Regional Forum" (NERF) under the Event Expenses category.

Background:

NERF is a biennial event, taking place in odd-numbered years. During the preparation of the 2021-2022 Area 45 budget, no money was allocated for NERF 2021 because the event was cancelled due to covid. During the preparation of the 2023-2024 Area 45 budget, the line item for NERF 2023 remained at \$0, which was an oversight. Details for NERF 2023 had not been made available when the Budget & Finance Committee was preparing the current budget, however in retrospect it was clearly likely that NERF 2023 would return. This motion will fund the lodging, meals, and transportation expenses for our current Delegate and current Alternate Delegate.

Motion 1: ***Passed***

Motion 2:

Add PayPal as a way to accept contributions on the Area 45 website.

Background:

Area 45 only allows payments through a credit card system on their website or via checks sent to the Treasurer. Although, when you visit other Area, Integroups, and GSO's websites, they all have a secondary option of Paypal to accept contributions. The reason why the motion is for PayPal specifically, it is the system that is accepted worldwide. With the start of the Area 45 online district, many online groups have chosen PayPal to collect 7th Tradition. They are not going the traditional route of opening a bank account. There is no start-up fee for a PayPal account, and since Area 45 is a non-profit organization, the fees are discounted. So each transaction would be charged 1.99% + an additional \$0.49.

Motion 2: **Deferred**, this request needs to be further discussed, including the Website Admin and Panel. There are potentially additional impacts which need to be discussed

Motion 3:

Increase Corrections committee budget from \$500 to \$2,000.00

Background: During COVID the ability to fully engage Corrections within correction facilities and our Area was extremely limited. The expenses dropped significantly. When the budget was passed, it was based in prior year(s) expenses, thus lower than actual expenditures pre-COVID. When P72 Corrections Committee started to ramp up with gusto, including Bridging-the-Gap, the expenses went up sharply as the Committee has been holding a lot of workshops.

Motion 1: ***Passed***

Motion 4:

Increase the Audio budget to purchase a new P.A. system (Fender Passport P.A.) by \$1,500 dollars.

Background:

Present P.A. is very old. Functions are starting to break down. The new Fender Passport Venue P.A. will be 600 watts eliminating some of the challenges we have with the outdated system. Bluetooth and Instrument ready. Better recording. This is an overall upgrade.

Motion 1: ***Withdrawn***, funds are available in the Technology Updates line item

Closed the Assembly meeting with the Responsibility Pledge at 12:28 pm

SUMMER COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee Meeting opened at 1:11 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

During the Committee Meeting we set the agenda for the Spring Assembly.

Those eligible to vote on matters pertaining to area business are: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, Committee Chairpersons, DCMs, and Section Leaders. Panel Chairperson votes only to break ties.

Motion 1:

Reimburse the Archives Committee *up to* \$2,000 to attend the 26th National A.A. Archives Workshop (NAAAW) in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada.

Background:

Roy C attended the 2022 Workshop and learned a lot, such as, when to make a change or not, create paper trails, content, digital displays, potential equipment investments, etc. Area 45 is building a reputation for quality Archival content and displays and attendance at the NAAAW is key to the future development. There is a lot of A.A. history in Area 45 and capturing it now is important before it is lost. Additionally, building the framework and a process now, we will be better enabled to capture information as it happens. Initially the Committee requested \$1,000 but the Spring Committee attendees made a friendly amendment to increase the amount to \$2,000 given the anticipated increase in costs for this Workshop location.

Motion: Moves to the Fall Assembly Agenda

Motion 2:

Approve the changes and updates in the 2023 Area 45 Handbook.

Background:

The handbook has been updated for miscellaneous typos and punctuation. There are 3 areas of content to review specifically:

- In *Section VIII. Role of the Area Panel Members* updates have been made for the duration of the Panel for:

- C. The Area Chairperson, who is now the Corporation's President

- A. The Area Delegate, who is now the Vice President

- D. The Area Treasurer, who is now the Treasurer

- Added the process of how to bring an agenda item to the committee portion of the meeting

- There will be updates to the Bylaws by the Ad Hoc Bylaws Revision Committee. The updates may not be available immediately but they are expected to be completed by the Fall Assembly.

Motion: Moves to the Fall Assembly Agenda

Motion 3:

Provide Spanish Translation to Area 45 Assemblies, Mini-Conference and Day of Sharing.

Background:

There are 2 Spanish Groups in District 25 who have an interest in attending the Area events. Due to English as a second language (ESL), they do not attend. NERAASA provides a solid Spanish translation option which is available every year. The ALL Access Committee started in MD has some information regarding translation. Area 44 Translations Committee offered to help Area 45 get started at the 2022 Area 45 Convention Wrap Up meeting. Information is available.

Ad Hoc Spanish Translation Committee has been created and Charlie T, District 25 DCM, will be the Chairperson. The Ad Hoc committee is charged with exploring the options, execution and potential costs.

Attachments

The following attachments were distributed or discussed at the Summer Assembly:

2023 Area 45 Fall Assembly [Flyer](#)

Day of Sharing [Flyer](#)

Area 45 NERAASA Scholarship [flyer](#)

2023 Jan-Jul Budget-to-date [document](#)

2023 Oct 1 CAIG Unity Breakfast [flyer](#)

2023 Nov 17-19 CAIG Waves Roundup [flyer](#)

Meeting closed at 2:38 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

Games!

AA RECOVERY

T R Z R T P U O X J I N N F H M C I K I L F P S
N A L C O H O L I C Y O O G K J A B F O O I A X
E B B G T Z E V L T D I I U Y H R S B B L N R W
M F C T T W C E P R U T T H R N E P Z S W A R K
N G Z W B G N F B E I U I H E K L O M P S N G H
O N T B T F E I Q L G T B A M S E T P D N C G W
R I B T P M D L T A M I M V O G S D I G O I D G
I P P F Z R I E Y P C T A A R N S R R Z I A M E
V E N Y I Y F M O S J S J Q S I X I O A N L Q F
N E G U K A N O I E Y N U U E V Z N E P A D P F
E L E N M S O H I P M I C O E A V K V P P I R I
R S D G W E C Y D R B U Q Q H R G A A G M F M C
O N T X V A F P F E Q W A S Z C Z L R V O F N I
I I Z L Q G L P Z V P X M Z V J I O C Y C I O E
R Y M B W U E A P E C H U F H I A N V Y R C I N
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F L J L W G P N F T I V H X C N K M S I W L A Y
N U E G V Y K U U I C I X Q Y D L T O M O T T R
I C U U S N K C S O U Q T L T H B O A A L I U T
T I V S B N K J I N U T W F D O O G N F D E P Z
Q F L O S E T I M E F R O M W O R K H E D S E R
W F X O Y P F B S T C S L E H M G A H T G K R L
S I T C K Z W J L T Z N N E W O K X Z B P J K G
E D T U R D Z Q V H N J G N I Z I D R A P O E J

efficiency
unhappy home life
lower companions
self-confidence
reputation
ambition
careless

family
financial difficulties
difficulty in sleeping
drink alone
jeopardizing
cravings
RELAPSE PREVENTION

lose time from work
inferior environment
alcoholic
institution
remorse
crave

General Service Word Scramble

1. trtcsiid
2. eara
3. eleadteg
4. mteemioct
5. nlmaau
6. obhnkdao

Answers:

district	1. trtcsiid
area	2. eara
delegate	3. eleadteg
committee	4. mteemioct
manual	5. nlmaau
handbook	6. obhnkdao