

Area 45 Summer Assembly Minutes 2024

The summer assembly was held at the Carslake Community Center, 207 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown NJ 08505 on August 18, 2024.

GSR/DCM orientation was held at 8:45 am.

Assembly Meeting

The assembly meeting was opened with the serenity prayer at 10:02AM

Roll Call by Secretary

Anonymity Statement

Welcome from the Chair

Introductions of new GSRs/DCMs and AA Anniversaries Celebrated

Reports were provided and are presented below in the order given:

Intergroup Chair Reports

Cape Atlantic Intergroup: Dawn I.

Good Morning All!

I'm a grateful recovering alcoholic named Dawn. CAIG is alive, well and busy as ever.

On July 26th we hosted a successful bus trip to GSO. 23 participants enjoyed a beautiful day touring the facility, attending a meeting and fellowshiping during lunch.

Our amazing new Technology Chair Doug W and the Ad Hoc team worked hard at researching, purchasing and installing an upgraded audio/visual system. This will enhance our virtual capabilities and improve our hybrid experience.

Some upcoming excitement:

CAYPAA invites everyone to come Burn your Resentments at the annual Bonfire on Saturday September 14th in Ventnor.

We are looking forward to the upcoming Day of Sharing on October 5th. I believe there are flyers available for distribution.

Our Unity Breakfast will be held at the Greate Bay Country Club in Somers Point on Sunday October 13th.

And please be sure to get registered for the 18th Annual Round Up "The Fellowship you Crave". It will be held November 15-17th at The Claridge in AC.

Flyers and registration forms for all upcoming events can be found on our website CapeAtlanticaa.org.

Our treasury and prudent reserves are in great shape. We still have 3 chair positions open: Archives, Newsletter and Website. We are grateful for those who have been volunteering to keep those committees current.

I'm really looking forward to seeing you on October 5th. Bring your appetites. Breakfast is gonna be amazing!!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!!
Yours in Service
Dawn I, CAIG Chairperson

Central Jersey Intergroup: Dean (on behalf of Chuck D.)

All positions of our panel were filled by election in December and are continuing to work together to serve the groups in Central Jersey. CJI continues to flourish with the committees currently active and working. All committees have participants that meet monthly. A little about what our committees are working on right now:

- The Unity committee is currently seeking women to actively participate in that committee to take the Unity message into women's meetings.
- H&I Chair Allyssa T has held successful committee meetings which last month included participation from the Bridging the Gap committee. CJI H&I and Bridging the gap are working together to brainstorm ideas on how to get the message out to the folks needing assistance upon discharge. There has been a new rehab facility opened in the area; Avant Rehab on Brunswick Ave. in Trenton. We are currently looking for people to take meetings into that facility.
- Lit on Wheels is always available to be at any event (Homegroup anniversaries or AA events) to sell literature.
- We have a new Newsletter Chair, Mike C., who is diligently working to work toward getting our Summer newsletter published and out on the website this month. We are currently publishing the newsletter online and in print.
- Corrections – Our Corrections committee has also been working with Josh from Bridging the Gap to learn more about how to help inmates inside & upon release. This committee had a table at our Speaker Jam yesterday.
- Social – This committee has been doing big things in CJI. Libby put together a great team that has pulled together multiple events since in office. Yesterday was the latest, the Speaker Jam held at Columbus Baptist Church. We are looking forward to at least 2 more social events this year; a Halloween dance and our Annual Gratitude breakfast.
- We want to give a special shout out to Area 45's alt delegate Joe, who is committed to serving and shows up at our meeting monthly to give his report.

Along with all that the committees are doing, we also have a very active Steering Committee. We created a committee to review our Intergroup Handbook & By-laws. We saw some minor changes that needed to be made regarding the Spirit of Rotation and presented that at our last Body meeting. We continue to have more & more attendance at the body meeting which is

held on the 1st Wednesday of each month. We'll all continue to serve with gratitude. Thank you.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Chuck D, CJI Chair

South Jersey Intergroup: No Report

DCM / Section Leader Reports

Section I

Section I Leader: Kerry W.

Good Morning,

My name is Kerry and I am the Section 1 lead. I want to thank everyone who came out this morning to help set up for this assembly. District 3 and 4 provided breakfast for you this morning. District 25 decorated the tables and Districts 22/23/ and 24 provided the lunch. Please give them a round of applause. The districts in Section 1 have been busy this quarter. I want to personally give Jeremy a heartfelt thank you for leading District 22/23 for his term. He did an amazing job as DCM. I welcome Jon to the new District 22/23 DCM position. I look forward to getting to know him better. I am sure he is going to do an amazing job. Unfortunately do to health reasons the District 24 DCM needed to step down. District 24 is in need of a DCM so if you or you know of anyone in the District that would be interested please let them know that their District meeting is on the third Monday of the Month which is tomorrow.

Throughout this quarter I have attended several District meetings and they have a lot of great things happening in their Districts. They have worked with area committee chairs to hold service workshops and collaborated with Central Jersey Intergroup and District 25 to hold their annual picnic. The GSR's and DCM's have been extremely busy working going out to groups to get their GSR information to ensure information that is being passed down from GSO and the Area makes it to all of their groups. They are working with Jean to ensure that she has all of the contact information and helping to clean up her list of inactive groups. Each District is planning workshops and events for the fall and winter months. I want to thank all the GSR's and DCM's for working all of their hard work and helping to carry the message.

With love and gratitude,

Kerry K
Section 1 Lead.

District 3: Donna C. – Verbal only

District 4: Brian F.

We have 3 active GSR & Alternates for our 3 active home groups. We are in contact with 3 other home groups in our district who are not fully active in Area service, 2 of those groups are too small to have the resources to participate with a GSR representative and 1 group is still trying to learn

about how they fit into the AA structure. We are communicating with those groups in an effort to keep them connected to the Area, at least via communication.

District 4 has at least 2 home groups willing to contribute 7th tradition towards a district service budget and we elected a treasurer, Jenny G. We are working on establishing our budget and treasurer position.

All 3 of our home groups that are active in Area service were represented at the Summer Assembly.

That is the end of our report.

Brian F
DCM District 4

District 22/23: Jonathan H.

Good afternoon. My name is Jonathan and I am an alcoholic.

I was recently elected as the DCM for District 22/23 and I will serve in the position until the end of 2025.

I would like to thank our Section One Assembly Planning Committee, any other volunteers, and the Panel Leadership for setting up, and hosting today's event.

District 22/23 meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 pm on Zoom.

At our online meetings we have been averaging 6 to 8 GSR attendees.

With approximately 70 active meetings in District 22/23 we should have more GSRs than that attending...so Group Visitation and getting more GSRs involved will be something that we will be focusing on.

We will also be trying to help Jean W (our Registrar) in getting updated Group and GSR information.

After just paying our share for the opportunity to co-host the recent Unity Picnic and subtracting our budgeted \$250 needed to co-host today's Assembly... our District treasury balance will be approximately \$2270.

As I just mentioned...Our Section One and Central Jersey Intergroup recently co-hosted the Unity Picnic on July 14th and in and out of the rainstorms...good food and a good time was had by about 250 sober visitors!

Our district is about to begin the planning of a Fall workshop. The topic is yet to be determined. We hope it will be a collaboration with, at least, the other districts in our section and possibly others. Watch for the flyer.

Thank you for your time.

District 25: Alberto B.

**Summer Assembly
District 25 Report
8/18/2024**

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Districts 24 and 22/23, as well as CJI, for their generous sponsorship and support of our Unity Picnic last month. The event was a great success, gathering over 200 attendees, featuring excellent guest speakers, and offering a variety of games and fellowship opportunities. Despite the rainy weather, the dedication of our committee members, volunteers, and the enthusiastic crowd ensured that the day went smoothly. We look forward to continuing this tradition next year!

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events planned:

Workshop

Date: Saturday, October 12, 2024

Location: First Presbyterian Church, Hightstown

Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Details: Join us for a workshop featuring breakfast and lunch. We are seeking 3-4 guest speakers who can share their experiences about how service has played a role in their recovery process and its significance in Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). We are looking for individuals interested in participating in our panel. If you are interested, please contact [Job B] and Alberto B during lunch.

Gratitude Banquet

Date: Saturday, November 9, 2024

Time: 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Location: Saint Anthony of Padua, Hightstown

Details: We are excited about our Gratitude Banquet and invite Districts, parents, and volunteers to participate in this special event. More details will be provided soon.

We are also reviewing the status of our district groups to ensure they remain active and responsive to the needs of their members. If your group is still operating, we encourage you to appoint a General Service Representative (GSR) to represent your group. This will help us stay informed and provide the necessary support.

Additionally, we are interested in understanding what types of support or services might be needed from the district. Please let us know if there are specific areas where your group requires assistance or if there are services that could enhance your group's operation.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Yours in Service,
Alberto B

Section II

District 7: Mike L. – Verbal only

District 8: Kim

First, thank you to Section 1 and the many volunteers for hosting today's assembly.

Over the past few months we have worked to breathe new life into District 8 and we are seeing positive results.

We have regular monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Moorestown. At our meetings we've had regular attendance by our section leader, DCM, secretary, treasurer and usually 3 GSRs.

Since the last assembly the Barber Group, Moorestown Men's and Masonville all celebrated Group Anniversaries and reported great attendance. Additionally a few of our GSRs have reported increased homegroup attendance with newcomers coming regularly.

We have \$961.36 in our account.

Going forward we will continue to promote the importance of having a GSR to our groups that do not currently have a representative.

We look forward to working with the other districts in section 2 to host the fall assembly.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.
Kim K.

District 27: Rich (on behalf of Trevor I.) – Verbal only

District 26: Lisa B. – Verbal only

District 9: Andy E.

GM All

Sorry, I couldn't be there in person.

District 9 has been quiet this summer.

We're going to plan a workshop or event for the fall.

Bank balance: \$1,915.08 Thanks for your support!

Still reaching out to our Groups and encouraging involvement...

Thanks for allowing me to be of Service.

Peace... Andy E.

Section II Leader: Frank M.

8.18.24 Summer Assembly / Section 2 Report

Hi everybody my name is Frank, I'm an Alcoholic, and Section 2 Leader.

First of all, thanks to Section 1 for hosting today's event. And of course, thanks to all the volunteers who put together all this great food and beverages.

Thank you, Wendy and the Panel, for all your hard work on our behalf here at Area 45 and GSO. I attended a number of district meetings in my section this quarter, Districts 7,8,9,26 and 27. This summer has been a little slow in regard to district activities.

Looking forward, Section II is hosting the Fall Assembly on the THIRD Sunday in November (11/17.2024), at the Gibson House Community Center in Marlton. I will be organizing two DCM meetings to confirm food and beverage budgets as well as volunteering help.

Yours in service,
Frank M.

Section IV

District 19: Deb L. – Verbal only

District 15: Rich J.

District Fifteen meets in-person on the second Wednesday of each month at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 220 East Main Street in Tuckerton. Currently serving are a DCM, Secretary, Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer. GSR support numbers have fluctuated between one and five for the current quarter.

The summer months have marked a District 15 service lull beyond its lackluster, historic baseline. Apparently, this is heavy lifting and 50 groups in our jurisdiction have a bad back. Regretfully, we elected to cancel the District 15 monthly meeting for July when only the DCM and three GSRs showed up for it. We did, however, resume business in August with a slightly better showing so maybe we're snapping out of it.

Efforts to solve this Zen riddle of service apathy and muster support have me under the bed reciting the Greek alphabet. We may try reverse psychology, as alcoholics are inclined to stand up when told to sit down. Don't come to district meetings. We don't want you here and don't care what you think. If that approach yields positive results, we will launch an all-out anti-support campaign.

Joking aside, it is all the more rewarding and important to serve in times of difficulty. It is a privilege that I do not take for granted. As the Section IV leader said during our last meeting, "Even when we don't have the resources to get much done, the doors are open and that's the most important thing".

Our August 2024 treasury balance is \$4,086.67.

Yours in Loving Service,

Rich J, District 15 DCM

Section IV Leader: Rob M. (written report only, read aloud by the chairperson)

2024 SUMMER ASSEMBLY

Hello my name is Rob and I am an alcoholic. I've had the honor and privilege to serve as the Area 45 Section 4 Leader.

Unfortunately I will be stepping down as the Section 4 Leader just short of holding it for the last 2 years, due to work and family obligations. I have been involved in Area service for the last 8 years, serving as a GSR, Alt DCM, DCM, Area Archives Chair and Section Leader. It has been an amazing experience and has helped me in my sobriety journey more than I can express in words. It has always been a struggle time wise but I've always understood that if I don't allow AA to inconvenience my life then I simply won't have a life. My current job and family obligations don't allow me the time needed to properly serve as the Section Leader and it's not fair to the position and the Area that I continue to hold it.

I would like to thank the current panel and all the past panels and numerous friends I have made during my journey in Area Service for all their help and support.

In Love and Service,
Rob M.

Section III

District 14: Marci R.

Great attendance and GSR and alt GSR involvement from 90% of our district represented. The majority of our district makes a 4 way contribution regularly. We meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at 630pm at 2nd and pine in Millville

We had a new meeting start on Fridays in Millville at 8pm at the hope center 102 south 2nd street. It is a big book study

Our treasury balance as of 7/31/24 is \$3,556.16

Our annual picnic is next Sunday! Parvins St Park. Great fun filled day of fellowship

We are planning our 2nd workshop of the year. Ad hock committee for that will sept 12 630pm at 2nd and pine Millville. Our topic idea so far are archives/history of AA

We are planning 3 more Alcathon a to end the year (we do 5 total a year) on Thanksgiving day, Christmas Day and NYE

Our final unity event for the year will be a fellowship dinner in December. Details to follow!

Our goals discussed at our last meeting are to go as a group to attend meetings in our district struggling with attendance and to also try to get more people involved in service on our and yocj committees.

District 13: Mike (on behalf of Dave B.) – Verbal only

District 12: Nancy – Verbal only

Section III Leader: Bill F.

AREA 45 SUMMER ASSEMBLY 9/18/2024 Section 3 Report

Good morning Area 45, I'm an alcoholic and my name is Bill. Section 3 has been active in their respective Districts, and I have had the opportunity to speak to GSR members in all of them. I am trying to gather more members contact information from each district and would like to ask that any members from Section 3 are here today that I have not had the pleasure to meet, please get with me so I may introduce myself and get phone numbers and email. We are starting to have more participation in the Section and looking forward to setting up some Section events. I wanted to thank Wayne P for helping me with Districts 28-29 and being a trusted servant of AA.

I wanted to announce that the AREA 45 inventory which will be hosted by Section 3 this year was moved to October 19th due to scheduling conflicts. It will still be held at the Elmer Grange Hall where the Spring Assembly is always held.

Once again, if any members of D-20, 21, 28 and 29 are in attendance please come introduce yourself so we may be able share our information and have a chance to talk.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Forte Section 3 Leader

SPECIAL DISTRICT(S) District 42 (Virtual): Heather S.

Greetings and Salutations!

To start we have finally found a fellow to be in service and gratefully elected Bill W. from FHLU (Faith, Hope, Love and Unity) as our District Treasurer! District 42 has been hustling since last Assembly and I can't believe we're here again already! Taking in the feedback at our Spring Assembly and seeing the turnout from Area 45 at our first Workshop Planning Meeting offered so much more insight already. Our Fall Workshop is seeking a Co-Chair or preferably Chairs as a three-point system has proven to be extremely beneficial and the extra hands in service the more balanced we can be. Please remember that being in service for this Workshop that's open to all can be as simple as helping with just one piece of the process. So many parts go into a Workshop and most of the work is many of those before the big day. If there's a skill you have, we would love your help on that project. Our next meeting is this Wednesday @ 8:30pm, fliers for D42 are always available on the Area website and we use our regular Zoom room found there.

One of the most exciting things to see popping out more is Reps asking for updates when they miss a meeting and the faces of interested home group members since our last Assembly. A most humbling moment was when a newcomer counting days attended our meeting and introduced themselves with their reason for coming as wanting to listen and learn about the virtual program experience saving their life. They heard about it during A.A. Announcements, asked someone about it and came. They felt comfortable enough to participate and ask questions.

Two of the main unique service highlights we were humbled to participate in was having one of our GSR's, Amanda P. from The Honesty Room and Keep It Simple speaking at a workshop and myself on a Virtual DCM Panel. Amanda was able to speak to her personal experience as a home bound member for our Hybrid Area Accessibilities Workshop, which is a community we've become a part of. Her experience, strength and hope are rooted in D42, A45 and SJIG making meetings and being in active service available despite her various barriers. Having Area 45 embrace recommendations from this committee has opened many eyes and minds to a variety of ways to keep every fellow connected whatever their barrier.

I was asked to speak on a Virtual DCM Panel with (5) of the (7) established Virtual Districts. Each DCM spoke about their District in relation to questions an Ad-Hoc Committee prepared to explore our virtual structured community. Each DCM showed how much the same we are but also how we all have incredibly significant slight differences that appeal to each fellowship's identity. Answering questions and speaking to one another's strengths was a very communal experience that also showed the unity amongst us. It truly defined attraction not promotion as multiple people referred the Chair my way to represent D42 across the country. The support of having multiple District entrusted servants there as well showed the strength and belief we have in what we are working towards.

The Proposal for Permanency this afternoon is something our District has worked to build from an unknown opportunity greater than anyone can understand. We are fully aware that there is an incredible amount of work to be done and learned through experience to approach this trial as a time to learn in what ways this Virtual District had the interest of others and then the ability to sustain and grow as people became interested in the service required to endure and withstand time. District 42 and its members have expressed that another 2-year trial is not necessary to permanently become a part of Area 45. By no means is the work done for this Virtual District however it is established within the Area, within the Country, out of the country, within the A.A. greater whole, by GSO and by standards beyond our measure as "one of the (5) established Virtual Districts" in existence. The foundation of existence in our Society is established and can remain while that much more service that is needed is continued by ongoing entrusted servants. We showed the ability and desire from our fellows to be in service with something alcoholics want and need, or we would have no one standing today for this proposal. If a respectable number of fellows speak for this, we are showing we are worthy of being accepted despite the much-needed help we openly always want.

District 42 has been a life changing experience for all of us. We came into service with excitement and uncertainty. We have felt overwhelmed and humbled recognizing how great a service we've been entrusted with. We have literally traveled the Area, the Virtual Districts, the Country, and the World always finding a place to be in service and educate fascinated fellows about Virtual District 42. In the beginning we were directed to study other Virtual Districts and then our own wonderful Area Districts and it offered so much variety. Unchartered territory is always an adventure and something we will never forget. If this proposal does not pass and this is my last report, we do recommend that if another Virtual District is created that it has stronger guidance for the DCM and clear directives of what is expected to be approved for permanency in advance. I cannot thank each of you for the piece of my story I could never have dreamed of, and the future of possibilities Area 45 has opened to this alcoholic. The Representatives of District 42 are some of the most impassioned humans I have ever been fortunate enough to work beside. Each Home Group has been represented and is ready to jump into our Fall Workshop so hopefully we'll see you Wednesday and as always, the last Monday of the months at 7:30pm EST!

Humbly in Service, Still Heather S. DCM D42, A45

Committee Chairs

Archives: Roy C.

Archives Committee Summer Assembly Report
Area 45 Panel 74
Date: 8/14/2024

The Archives Committee continues to serve Area 45 as previously described. Our last e-mail update was 7/9/2024.

Since the last report we attended the Legacy Panel on June 8th in Absecon, N.J. We were represented by George H. committee alternate chair. We continue to be actively involved in planning the International Hospitality Suite with Area 44. Our contacts with the National AA Archives workshop in Des Moines, Iowa has led to an invitation to present a program. The program will highlight recent work with digitalization of the Area 45 Archives. It is called "An old dog learns new tricks, bringing the Area 45 Archives into the digital age".

Our plans are to continue to serve as outlined in the Area 45 handbook. We have a motion that will be presented to the assembly today. It allows this work to continue. Two committee members Trish C. and I are attending the National AA Archives workshop in September. Trish is using her Southwest "Rapid Rewards" points to accompany me. The committee has been asked to display at the Waves Roundup in November. We continue to gather member histories at Area 45 events. If you have not given your member history, please contact an Archives Committee member. The repair and restoration of literature used in meetings is on-going.

Yours in Service,
Roy C. Chair Archives Committee, Area 45, Panel 74

Accessibilities: Pat M.

Since our last meeting we had our first workshop in Burlington. Thanks so much to District 3, thanks Jean and Wendy for coming out. Thanks to everyone who attended. We had 34 in attendance and really had a good time spreading word about the neurodivergence call out and collected good information for GSO. Our treasure report was submitted and we were reimbursed for the 430.14.

We have been working hard on an informational sheet to put up in the website along with some resource links. We finalized everything in Thursday's meeting and I will be getting this information over to the web chair. So in a few days look for a new Accessibilities tab in our area website.

Budget & Finance: Maureen D.

Hello, my name is Maureen and I'm an alcoholic. I chair the Budget & Finance committee for 2025-26 budget years. We presented our preliminary budget at the spring assembly, held two zoom Q&A sessions and provided an email to submit any questions regarding the budget. No changes have been made since the Spring Assembly.

Yours in service,
Maureen D

DCM/GSR Orientation: Ken T. – Verbal only

Convention: Mark L.

Thanks section 1 for hosting

Hello everyone. Our theme for the 2025 convention will be "Beyond our wildest dreams". Don't forget to save the date March 14-16 to Area 45 biggest event in NJ. I did visit our office in NY and I met our Friday night speaker at a meeting. If you haven't been to our office in NY, I would recommend since we live so close. They are there to help. As you know everything is going up in price and we must be self-supporting. We have a great committee working hard to keep the registration the same and bring you another Great Convention. If you like to join the committee, our next convention meeting will be held September 8, 6 Pemberton St Pemberton NJ. I like to thank our convention committee for their devoted work.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve.

Respectfully Mark G
Convention Chair

Corrections - Regular: Kelly G.

The corrections committee meets virtually the first Tuesday of the month.

We are currently running 15 commitments into the prisons at the Federal, State, and county level. The committee does a great job communicating if support is needed- whether it be with scheduling, bringing in new people, or if they need more literature. Mercer County Jail just opened back up for speaking commitments and Central Jersey Intergroup will be taking that commitment with the help of Area 45.

After several meetings with the admin at Ann Klein Forensic center, we are up and running with the Sponsorship program. We have a team of 5 women helping with this commitment which involves reaching out to the aa volunteers and giving weekly reports on the progress of the program to report back to Ann Klein. This has opened up 20 new service commitments and 15 inmates are now being sponsored through the big book. Ann Klein is thrilled with us and has also asked us to come celebrate Recovery month with them in September. I want to thank Amber, Kristin, Nikki, Heather and Ashley for your hard work in getting this program off the ground and for your continued help. Also thank you to the web chair, Carolyn, for creating a QR code and a form on the Area 45 website. I have been getting several people that are interested that we now have a waitlist.

We attended the Corrections workshop on June 29th hosted by districts 13 and 14. We received applications for NJ state, Camden County, and Salem County. Thank you Amy, Marlene and Peggy for your help with this event.

We also attended the Central Jersey Speaker Jam yesterday. Thank you, Fran, for your service in Central Jersey Corrections and for inviting us out. Central Jersey Intergroup Corrections received applications for Mercer County, BTG volunteers, Ann Klein sponsorship volunteers and several corrections correspondence forms were handed in.

Correction - Bridging the GAP: Scott P.

Good Morning Everyone,

Bridging the Gap would like to thank all its volunteers whose support and commitment have kept this service operational. The BTG service pamphlets are available here today. You will find them located on the tables in front of you. We encourage you to take some to your home groups to ensure a better understanding of what the service is and how everyone can participate. We are working to distribute them to the facilities we serve.

Our main focus now is to announce the availability of the BTG service to those undergoing treatment or in a correctional facility. We are asking any area 45 AA member speaking at these locations, to announce the availability of the BTG service and the support it offers to interested individuals. This can be accomplished by informing them of the information in the pamphlets or having them contact us using the BTG phone line (856-728-3318). We want to ensure that everyone knows we are here to help them begin in their recovery. Without the BTG service being mentioned at facilities, the new person simply may not know it's available and that we are here to help them.

We are continuing to work with each intergroup, area treatment, and corrections chair to present the service to our new friends in recovery. We are looking forward to more contact with facilities here in Southern NJ which will create a larger need for more temporary contact volunteers in both Central & Cape Atlantic intergroup locations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott P
Area 45 BTG Coordinator
Bridgingtgegap@snjaa.org

Registration: Bob W.

Here's the registration chair report for Sunday, August 18, 2024

Total attendance to the assembly = (179) *(Revised from original verbal report of 176)

Via physical sign-in registration, and confirmed by head-count = (137) + *(3 late arrivals) = **(140)**

Via on-line registration and attending on Zoom = **(39)**

Here's the registration breakdown for sign-in format used:

In-house physical sign-in form = (76)

GSR - 44, ALT GSR - 2, DCM- 7, CommChairs - 2, I.G. reps - 1, Panel - 1, Past Dels - 4, Area 45 Mmbrs & Guests - 15

In-house QR code sign-in form = (61) + (3 late arrivals) = (64)

GSR - 28, ALT GSR - 5, DCM - 3, ALT DCM - 2, CommChairs - 9, I.G. reps - 1, Panel - 4, Past Dels - 2, TechTeam - 2, Area 45 Mmbrs - 4, Guests - 4

On-line QR code = (39)

Respectively Submitted,
Bob W. (Registration Chair)

Policy: Frank C.

The Policy & Charter Committee is currently a committee of one (1). I'm looking for volunteers to sit on the committee, help with the review of the SNJ Area 45 Handbook for 2026-2027, and to address any additional issues that came up during the panel's tenure.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank C

Grapevine: Roseanne F. – Verbal only

2025 NERASSA Host Committee: Andrew L.

<Note: this is not an area-level service committee, however Area 45 is hosting the virtual-only NERAASA in February 2025 and the work of hosting is undertaken by Area 45 members>

2025 Virtual NERAASA
Report to Area 45 Assembly
August 18th, 2024

Good morning, everyone and thank you to Section 1 for hosting today's assembly.

My name is Andrew L. and I am a Past Delegate from Area 45 the General Service Conference of AA. I served on Panel 66 as the Delegate Chair to Public Information.

There have been several changes to the 2025 Virtual NERAASA Committee structure. First Wendy M. stepped down from the Chair position and asked me to be the new NERAASA Chair. Thank you, Wendy for your service. Wendy will still participate in the Steering Committee as the Delegate Liaison from the Northeast Region.

Joe E. (Alt. Delegate) rotated into the Treasurer position, that I previously occupied.

The 2025 Virtual Steering Committee has been meeting regularly since March of this year and we have progressed on the following items:

1. Named a vendor to facilitate the virtual weekend
2. Opened registration at - <https://neraasa.org> or <https://area45snjaa.org/neraasa-2025-registration/> registration is \$35
3. We have a draft budget and
4. We have a program and agenda for the weekend that is that is in development.

I just wanted to make a special thank you to Charlie the Area 45 Treasurer for all of his help setting up the NERAASA account and working with Joe E. and myself to get checks and activate the account.

NERAASA has a very talented Steering Committee, and I thank all of them for their month of hard work and enthusiasm to continue to make the 2025 Virtual NERASSA a success. Thank you, to Randi, Joe, Rich, Carolyn, Jean, Stephanie, Wendy, Fred, Katie and Evelyn.

The full 2025 Virtual Steering Committee meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 8pm. All are welcomed. The meeting is virtual and the information for the meeting can be found on the calendar on the area website.

Thank you for allowing me to server,

Andrew L.
Delegate Panel 66 Area 45

Scholarship: Michelle C. – Verbal Only

Website: Carolyn M. – Verbal Only

Virtual Tech: Tom J. – Verbal Only

Young People: Ryan S.

August 18th 2024, Area 45, YPAA Sub Committee Report

Hi, my name is Ryan, I'm an Alcoholic. I've been involved in service since getting sober and while going through the steps. I currently serve as the (DEEP INHALE) Southern New Jersey Service Liaison for the New Jersey Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous 2025 Bid Committee (aka N-J-YPAA or NJYPAA). I'm also the Co-Chair of the Cape Atlantic Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous Service Committee (also known as CAYPAA).

I'm going to give an overview of what these two committees do and what their aim is.

Cape Atlantic Young People of AA (CAYPAA): CAYPAA serves as a hub for young people in recovery within the Cape Atlantic area. Our mission is to create a space where young people can find fellowship, support, and service opportunities. Currently, we are focused on organizing events like a Beach Sober Olympics on August 24th, our Annual Resentment Bonfire in September, a Halloween Costume Karaoke party in October and our Roller Rink Meeting in December. The main point of organizing these meetings is to engage our local AA community, by reaffirming over and over that "we are not a glum lot". To make sobriety irresistibly attractive by insisting on enjoying life. We do this to create the fellowship we crave, for ourselves and for other alcoholics..

(A MONSTROUS INHALE) The New Jersey Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous Bid Committee for the Eastern Area Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (The NJYPAA Bid For EACYPAA):

The Committee's mission is to host an annual New Jersey state YPAA convention. New Jersey is one of the only states on the east coast that doesn't have its own annual state YPAA convention. We believe that by creating a rallying point around bidding for EACYPAA (the Eastern Area Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) and then hosting that Conference we can gain enough experience inside the committee and drum up enough interest from within the state to consistently host our own State Convention. This falls perfectly in line with our Primary Purpose. Staying sober ourselves, and helping other alcoholics to stay sober. By showing how admitting defeat and consigning ourselves to be Alcoholics DOES NOT mean the death of Joy or Comradery. That if anything it means screaming while dancing on chairs, 1000+ people in meetings, spiritual connection with a higher power, and connection with alcoholics around the state, country and around the world. Getting the ball rolling on our own state convention could provide service opportunities long after we have left the committee and an environment of joy for future members of our fellowship. We are currently preparing our bid for the upcoming EACYPAA

convention and are focused on our hotel contracts and following the suggestions given from the advisory committee last time. Better Hotel contracts, tighter more organized budget, and creating a stronger North and South Jersey connection by Co-hosting events like the Sober Olympics.

Workshop: Kelly W.

My name is Kelly and I am an alcoholic. It is my privilege to serve as your Workshop Committee Chair for Panel 74.

Our Committee has had quite an active quarter since our May Assembly. Stephanie, Fred and I have been working diligently in the new, hopefully soon-to-be official, expanded Workshop Committee responsibilities. In the past three months we have been able to do this largely because so many of you have reached out and availed yourselves of the kind of supportive framework we are now offering to our local service entities in workshop and event planning.

This quarter, we have had the opportunity to meet with our Grapevine Committee Chair, Roseanne F., to assist in bouncing around ideas for her Committee's focus and activities, Stephanie sat in with a workshop planning meeting with Virtual District 42 and worked with them on narrowing focus and planning next steps, I spoke with Gina from District 27 about their September workshop and in the process ended up being asked to speak about Service sponsorship (go me for suggesting that as one of the topics!), we provided materials to District 13 as they begin their planning process for a future event, we had the opportunity to cooperate with Central Jersey Intergroup and met with one of their trustees, Justine, to brainstorm ways to make a table at their Speaker Jam both fun and informative, and lastly I had a lovely meeting with Alberto and John from District 25 as they plan a very creative and original take on hosting their service-themed workshop.

Today we will present a recommendation for a new Workshop Committee definition for our Area 45 Handbook as well as a follow-up motion that the Workshop Committee be included in the current Area budget in effect through to the end of 2024.

At present, we are most interested in continuing to hear from YOU. We are available and here to support. One thing we would like to remind everyone hosting workshops is to please let us know about them and share your fliers with us in addition to sharing them with our Area 45 webmaster to be included on our Area calendar.

Please feel free to grab us sometime today or please email us at workshop@snjaa.org as things come up and you think we can help.

We look forward to exploring many new ways we can help serve the districts and committees of Area 45!

In grateful service,
Kelly W.

Area Panel 74 Reports

Registrar: Jean W.

Hello, my name is Jean and I am an alcoholic.
Thank you, Section I, for hosting this event and everyone else who has a part.

Fellowship Connection as of 8/17/2024

Type of Meeting:	Active	Inactive
Regular Groups	296	386
Virtual Groups	13	1

*These numbers are by
Downloaded Reports from FC*

Groups (by Group Status):	Number
Active Groups	311
Unknown	217
Groups Inactive or Merged:	455
Pre-Dated Group	1

Total District Records:	Number
DCMs	17
Alt-DCMs	2

Total Group Records:	Number
GSRs	46
Alt-GSRs	67
Mail Contacts	261
Pre-Dated GSR	1

There is a DCM FC Training at 7:00 pm on September, 16, 2024 via Zoom - [flyer](#). This training is geared towards the DCMs since they have view access to FC along with our Delegate. It's also helpful to those learning more about GSO's Fellowship Connection.

I am working with the Section Leaders to restart the DCM Roundtables. These are meetings where there would be a topic, service speaker and open discussion. Historically it involved Section Leaders, Registrar, DCMs and Alt-DCMs with a few GSRs along the way. We are in the process of identifying a time convenient for as many as possible.

If a Committee Chair or DCM is missing or has incorrect information on the Contact List, please let me know. Please continue to work on adding GSRs, Alt-GSRs or Mail Contacts for our groups. 41% of active groups (active+ unknown group status) who previously had information sent to them by Area and GSO, no longer do.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Respectively submitted,
Jean W

Treasurer: Charlie T.

Hello, My name is Charlie and I'm an Alcoholic serving as your Panel 74 Treasurer for Area 45. As always, I wish to express my gratitude for the service you have entrusted me with and its unbounding contribution to my sobriety.

A brief report on Area finances through August 17th:

- Area Contributions through August 17th totaled \$28,651, up \$1,463, or 5.4% year over year from 2023.
- Total expenses were \$38,908 compared to expenses of \$35,500 in the same period last year. This represents a 9.6% increase in expenses year over year.
- Please remember that the budgets prepared over the last 2 cycles have been oriented toward spending down a prudent reserve greater than required by our Area handbook and which developed during Covid when contributions were well ahead of expenses. If contributions and expenses continue upon the current track of up 5.4% in contributions and up 9.6% in expenses, we will spend down only \$10,000 in 2024 compared to the current year budgeted spend down of \$33,600.
- Total funds on hand for Area 45 stood at \$71,341.12 as of August 17th. This represents a snapshot prudent reserve of 10.2 months of expenses based upon the 2024 budget, and 16.3 months based upon 2023 actual expenditures.
- I want to take this time to, once again, request that all group treasurers be reminded to appropriately identify their groups on their contribution checks. We want to properly credit each group for their generosity.
- Lastly, I wanted to, once again, thank the incredible members of the Budget & Finance Committee, its chair Maureen D, along with Gina H and Phil K for their tireless efforts in producing a proposed budget for today's vote. I also wanted to thank those who took the time to join us on our Q&A sessions advocating for their groups and districts. Together we keep AA strong.

I look forward to continuing to serve you

Thank you again.

Secretary: Tanya D.

Hello, my name is Tanya and I'm an alcoholic. It's an honor and privilege to serve as your Area 45 Panel 74 Secretary. I want to thank everyone for attending the assembly today. Please email your reports to secretary@snjaa.org for the meeting minutes by Sunday, August 25th by midnight. If you are not receiving emails from me, please let me know whether through email or in person today. Our email open rate is about 55% and I know we can get that to 100%.

Yours In Service – Tanya D.

Chair: Phil K.

My name is Phil and I am an alcoholic.

I'm grateful to serve as your Area 45 Chairperson for Panel 74.

The Area 45 Inventory is being rescheduled, from September 7 to October 19 (2024). The event will be held at the Elmer Grange Hall in Elmer, NJ and details will be forthcoming.

The Area 45 Audio Committee and Newsletter Committee remain in need of support. There are interested and helpful folks who have served on these committees recently who can be excellent resources to whoever steps up to lead (chair) these two committees. Each committee does important work that benefits all of Area 45 and I'm extremely hopeful that members step up to fill these roles. If anyone has any questions about these service opportunities, come talk to me after the assembly or email me at chair at snjaa dot org.

Thank you,
Phil K

Alternate Delegate: Joe E.

Good morning everyone!! My name is Joe and I am an Alcoholic. I have the honor and privilege to serve as the Area 45 Alternate Delegate and a proud team member for Panel 74. Primarily, I would like to thank Section I for hosting this assembly, as well both the Audio Chair and Virtual Tech Team. We could not do this without you.

Since last Assembly, I have attended the NERAASA Committee, NERD, all 3 Intergroup Meetings, and the International Convention Hospitality Suite Meeting.

In tandem with all 3 of our partner Intergroups, the yearly Day of Sharing will be on Saturday October 5th from 9 am to 12 pm at the Northfield Diner and will be hosted by the Cape Atlantic Intergroup. I hope to see everyone there!!

I continue to fulfill all my duties as Alternate Delegate with the most important duty being that I offer steadfast support to our Delegate, with anything that she may need and to be prepared in case Area 45 needs me to serve.

In Love and Service,
Joe E. Area 45 Alternate Delegate

Delegate: Wendy M.

I'm here to provide an update on the last three months since the conference in NY. Fortunately, our assembly was right after the recent General Service Board (GSB) Meeting held in July 2024. I'll also share what I have been up to in the area since we last met, and I want to briefly discuss an essential aspect of our service structure.

General Service Board Overview:

The GSB meeting, chaired by Scott H., the new board chair, was held at a hotel in New York. The session began with the Responsibility Statement. The Board reviewed and approved motions and decisions from prior meetings.

Committee Reports:

1 **Archives Committee:** The committee continues its work on the Archives Audiovisual Preservation Project and has introduced new guidelines for digitizing archival materials to ensure historical records are maintained. They are also preparing for the 50th anniversary of the Archives Department in 2025.

2 Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) and Treatment/Accessibilities Committee: The committee is focused on outreach efforts related to the unhoused, neurodivergent, and mental health communities. They are working on various exhibits, including a planned presentation at the American Correctional Association's annual conference. Additionally, the committee is reviewing and updating materials to better inform professionals about A.A.'s work.

3 Corrections Committee: The committee has made progress on implementing actions from the 74th General Service Conference. They are developing a new service piece to guide online meetings in correctional facilities and are collaborating on efforts to bring A.A. to more correctional facilities. The committee is also updating materials and videos to serve incarcerated members better.

4 Finance & Budgetary Committee: The financial health of our Fellowship remains stable, with total revenue of \$9.71 million, which is 5% higher than expected. Operating expenses totaled \$9.18 million, 5% lower than budgeted. This has resulted in an operating surplus of \$529,497, a significant improvement over the initially projected deficit. Contributions have been strong, with \$5.6 million received, exceeding budgeted expectations and last year's figures. However, literature sales are slightly down, with \$7.0 million in net sales, 10% less than budgeted. Despite these positive numbers, we still have some concerns. Our prudent reserve currently covers 6.33 months of operating expenses, which is below our target of 9-12 months. While the prudent reserve is slightly up since the conference from interest we still need to make sufficient strides to restore the prudent reserve to the desired level. This remains an area that requires our ongoing attention and careful financial management.

5 International Committee: The committee is preparing for the 28th World Service Meeting and is involved in translating and distributing A.A. literature worldwide. It also manages the International Literature Fund to support the availability of literature in various languages.

6 International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee: Preparations for the upcoming International Convention are ongoing, with registration set to open soon. The committee is also planning a Special Forum for A.A. members who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. They continue to focus on making these events as accessible and inclusive as possible.

7 International Committee: The committee is preparing for the 28th World Service Meeting and is involved in translating and distributing A.A. literature worldwide. It also manages the International Literature Fund to support the availability of literature in various languages.

8 Public Information Committee: To enhance communication within the Fellowship, the committee is developing a 2025 Comprehensive Media Plan and renewing the Membership Survey. It is also exploring the use of LinkedIn and other digital platforms to reach professionals.

9 General Service Conference Committee: The committee is focused on ensuring the smooth operation of the General Service Conference. It has established three subcommittees to address improvements, equitable workload distribution, and inventory tasks. The committee also set a submission deadline of September 30, 2024, for Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs) for the 2025 General Service Conference.

10 Literature Committee: The Literature Committee oversees several major projects, including developing a Fifth Edition of the Big Book and a Fourth Edition of *Alcohólicos Anónimos*. The committee is also working on pamphlet revisions and developing new pamphlets, such as one for Asian American alcoholics and another for transgender alcoholics. The committee is committed to ensuring that A.A. literature remains relevant and accessible to all members of the Fellowship. They also discussed the PLBB, but I'll share more about that in a moment.

11 Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee is working on filling several upcoming vacancies on the General Service Board, including Class A (nonalcoholic) and Class B (alcoholic) trustee positions. The committee is also reviewing its procedures to ensure that the selection process for trustees and other service positions is fair, transparent, and in line with A.A.'s principles.

Grapevine/La Viña Financial Update: The Grapevine and La Viña have seen both successes and challenges this year. Subscription revenue for Grapevine is about 2% below the 2024 budget but 11% above last year at this same time. La Viña has shown impressive growth, with total circulation almost 15% above last year and income 18% above budget. However, Grapevine has experienced a net loss of \$487,363 for the first six months of 2024, primarily due to delayed impacts from a subscription price increase and higher-than-expected costs related to App development and professional fees. The reforecast for the full year anticipates a total loss of \$672,449 for Grapevine, slightly higher than initially budgeted. La Viña's financials remain more stable, with revenues and expenses closely aligning with the budget. However, there is still a need for careful management to ensure these publications continue to serve the Fellowship effectively while maintaining financial viability.

As we move forward, it will be important to monitor these trends and consider any necessary adjustments to support the long-term sustainability of both Grapevine and La Viña.

Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Update: The Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission Form is now live. Members, groups, and service entities are encouraged to submit suggestions for topics to be discussed at the General Service Conference. The deadline for submissions is September 30, 2024. Assistance with the submission process is available upon request.

Plain Language Big Book (PLBBB) Update: The GSB reviewed correspondence received regarding the Plain Language Big Book since the recent General Service Conference. The Trustees Literature Committee has decided to proceed with the PLBBB, incorporating minor editorial changes as outlined by the conference's Advisory Action. The book is expected to be available in November 2024, with a list price of \$11.00.

Summary of Correspondence: Between April 20, 2024, and July 29, 2024, the GSB received 33 correspondence. These communications covered various topics, including:

1 **Plain Language Big Book (PLBB):** Concerns, support, and suggestions about the title, content, and implications of the PLBB for the Fellowship.

2 **Concept V Appeals:** Appeals related to board leadership vacancies and concerns about the General Service Conference's handling of certain matters.

3 **Financial Matters:** Concerns about financial decisions, including support for the Grapevine and alignment with the Fellowship's principles.

4 **Group and Member Feedback:** General feedback from A.A. groups and members on issues such as literature distribution, changes to the Preamble, and the impact of board decisions on local groups.

5 **Floor Actions and Conference Procedures:** Concerns about the handling of certain floor actions at the 74th General Service Conference.

Area 45 Activity Update: In addition to these updates, I would like to acknowledge the ongoing efforts within our Area.

The Accessibility Committee recently invited me to share at an event regarding Neurodivergence for the Treatment and Accessibilities Committee. Members received two responses on the day, and a follow-up survey was sent out. Feedback from members with a neurodivergent diagnosis is welcomed. If you are still waiting to receive the survey from neurodivergent members, please see me or email me. I'll ensure you get it, as those answers will help guide current and upcoming literature under the Treatment and Accessibility Conference Committee.

I also attended the CAIG picnic, where I was invited to speak, and the Section 1/CJI picnic. Each was well-attended. Thank you for the invites. If you would like me to attend an upcoming service event, please send me an email, and I'll do my best to make it.

Concept 9 and Leadership in Service: I also want to take this opportunity to talk about Concept 9, which emphasizes the importance of good leadership within our service structure. Concept 9 reminds us that while our service structure is vital, it is only as effective as the people who lead and serve within it. It states, "Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety."

As we prepare for the upcoming election for a Trustee-at-large to represent Area 45, it's crucial that we remember the principles outlined in Concept 9. When we hear from the candidates, let's focus on how they exemplify the qualities of effective leadership—dedication, stability, and the ability to inspire confidence and trust in those they serve. It's not just about filling a role; it's about ensuring that our future leaders are capable of guiding us through the challenges and opportunities ahead.

On a lighter note, when choosing a General Service Representative (GSR) for your group, think of it like choosing someone to represent your family at a big event. You wouldn't want to send Uncle Joe who nods off halfway through the meeting, right? You want someone who listens, understands the needs of your group, and can effectively communicate those needs at the Area level. Concept 9 isn't just for the Trustees or Delegates—it's for all of us, right up to the group level.

Ignoring the principles of Concept 9 can lead to a breakdown in our service structure. When we prioritize good leadership, we avoid weakening the very foundation of our Fellowship. It's easy to brush off concerns or avoid difficult conversations, but Concept 9 teaches us that these discussions are necessary to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of A.A. at all levels. If we don't address issues head-on, we allow them to fester, potentially causing harm to our Fellowship.

Young People's Videos Introduction: Before we conclude, I'd like to introduce you to the new Young People's videos that have been released. These videos are powerful testimonies from young A.A. members who share their stories of recovery and hope. One story, in particular, struck a deep chord with me—a young woman who spoke about how she now sees in colors after attending the conference. Her story resonated with me because it reminded me of the scared little girl who walked into the rooms at 16 years old. Seeing her growth and the hope she found here reflects my own journey and the immense power of A.A. in transforming lives. I encourage you all to take the time to watch these videos and reflect on the message of hope they bring to our Fellowship.

Closing Remarks: As we move forward, let's keep Concept 9 in mind—not just as a guiding principle for our leaders, but as a reminder for all of us to strive for the best in our service to A.A. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out.

Thank you.

Motions on the Floor:

- 1) Motion made by Joe E. (Alt Delegate):** \$5,000 for shared expenses related to a hospitality suite (Area 45 partnering with Area 44) for the 2025 Vancouver International Convention.

Motion passes by simple majority.

- 2) Motion #1 made by Kelly W. (Workshop Committee Chair):**

The Workshop Committee recommends that the description of the Workshop Committee in the Area 45 Handbook be updated as follows:

"The Workshop Committee in Area 45 is dedicated to assisting Area Committees and Districts interested in hosting workshops on various AA service-related topics.

The Committee Chair, appointed every two years starting in January of even-numbered years, aids in the coordination, facilitation, and provision of resources for these workshops. They will assemble a committee to support these efforts. The Workshop Committee helps Committees and Districts by suggesting themes, outlines, formats, and speakers for workshops. They provide materials and encourage the involvement of Area 45 General

Service officers, committee members, or other participants upon request. Additionally, the Committee collects and shares valuable resources for future workshops, ensures alignment with the Area 45 calendar, and assists in scheduling to avoid conflicts. The Committee may also provide support in addressing accessibility needs and in acquiring necessary resources. Upon request and with the Area Chair's approval, the Workshop Committee may conduct service-themed workshops during Area Assemblies."

Motion passes by two-thirds majority.

3) Motion #2 made by Kelly W. (Workshop Committee Chair):

The Workshop Committee requests that it be included in the current Area 45 budget through to the end of 2024 for the amount of \$400.

Motion passes by simple majority.

4) Motion made by Heather S. (DCM District 42): To establish District 42 (a virtual district within Area 45 that was created on a 2-year "test" basis in August 2022) as a permanent district within Area 45.

Background:

District 42, a virtual district within Area 45, was created on a 2-year "test" basis in August 2022.

During the COVID pandemic phase when legally permitted to return to brick-and-mortar, many groups transitioned permanently from in-person geographical locations to virtual/online meetings while others remained hybrid connecting both communities. Additionally, for various reasons groups have formed or branched off without connecting to GSO, which begins at a District level. District 42 is the 3rd of now only seven virtual districts in existence at various stages. While the two-year trial basis for this District expires in August (2024) the District has only been actively functional since holding elections on May 11, 2023, yet has evidenced stability with unique limitless room for growth. During travels across the country other virtual meetings inquired as to the ability to become members of District 42 and representatives have come to monthly meetings to learn more and report back to their Group Conscience, including those from other established Virtual Districts. With accessibility being a barrier, District 42 works to overcome and increase inclusivity utilizing the virtual community's intimate and unique knowledge and experience to bridge this while educating others about the challenges and opportunities of virtual recovery.

GSO now recognizes Virtual District's, who in practice, resemble Linguistic District's, where groups are gathered by language preference opposed to geographical location. These special districts allow groups to have a representative voice within A.A. at all levels, be in active service in numerous ways, provide communication opportunities and offer workshop insight as we have members who attend virtual, hybrid and in-person meetings regularly.

Two-thirds majority required. 41/74 in favor (55%), 33/74 (45% opposed) - Motion does not pass

- 5) **Motion made by Roy C. (Archives Committee Chair):** To increase the 2024 Archives committee budget to \$1,000 and approve up to \$2,000 for committee chairperson attendance at the National AA Archives Workshop in Des Moines, Iowa.

Background:

The Archives committee is very active in representing the history of Area 45. Over \$450.00 was spent to display at the 2024 convention. This exhausted most of our budget. We still have yearly mileage to the repository and quarterly assemblies to pay for. Supplies for maintaining the Archives will add to the needed budget increase.

Last year attendance and involvement in the NAAAW was approved for up to \$2,000.00 and we came in under that budget by a small amount. This year's estimate is about the same amount. This is an important opportunity to represent Area 45 nationally and help the still suffering alcoholic.

Support of this motion will demonstrate Area 45's willingness to use 7th tradition funding in a proactive manner and encourage more AAs to become involved in service.

Motion passes by simple majority.

- 6) **Motion made by Maureen D. (Budget and Finance Committee Chair) to approve the proposed 2025/2026 Area 45 Budget:** (see budget spreadsheet) Note - proposed budget underwent no changes between the draft that was distributed at the May Assembly and vote today.

Motion passes by simple majority.

- 7) **Motion #1 made by Wendy M. (Delegate):**

I propose ending oral area highlights at the yearly General Service Conference. Instead, Area Service Highlights should be documented in the Conference Manual and Final Conference Report. The Conference can instead use the time for committee work, sharing sessions, or reportbacks.

Background:

In 1976, an advisory action highlighted the significance of ensuring that our Conference proceedings are conducted in a manner that allows for thorough discussion and deliberation of committee reports. Fast forward to 2018, and we find a renewed emphasis on the importance of an edited version of Area Highlights in our final Conference report, ensuring clarity and coherence in our communication efforts.

Building upon these guiding principles, I propose a motion to suspend the practice of presenting oral Area Highlights during our Conference proceedings. Instead, we should redirect this time towards more meaningful discussions on committee work, sharing sessions, and reportbacks.

making this adjustment, we honor the spirit of the 1976 advisory action and acknowledge the evolving needs of our fellowship. We must utilize our time wisely, focusing on matters that are of the utmost importance to Alcoholics Anonymous's continued success and growth.

Motion passes by two-thirds majority.

8) Motion #2 made by Wendy M. (Delegate):

I propose that the General Service Board Minutes from the GSB Board Reports be fully anonymized and sent to all 93 Delegates in English, French, and Spanish within six weeks of the Board Weekends.

Background:

Anonymous (AA) emphasizes transparency, unity, and effective communication in its governance, guided by the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. This motion proposes that the General Service Board (GSB) Minutes be fully anonymized and distributed to all 93 Delegates in English, French, and Spanish within six weeks of the Board Weekends. Anonymized minutes protect confidentiality while ensuring delegates are well-informed and fostering better participation and decision-making. The multilingual approach ensures inclusivity, reflecting AA's commitment to accessibility and unity across diverse linguistic groups.

Motion passes by two-thirds majority.

Motion to close the Assembly was made and seconded. The assembly was closed with the Responsibility Pledge.

Area Committee Meeting

The Area Committee Meeting was opened with the serenity prayer.

Role Call by Secretary

Details for Area 45 business to be put on the agenda for the November 2024 Assembly:

Brian F., District 4 DCM: Made a motion for a new 2-year "trial period" for a virtual district within Area 45. Motion was seconded. Discussion followed.

Friendly amendment: Shorten the trial period from 2 years to 1 year. Motion to make the change described in the friendly amendment was seconded and passed with simple majority. Motion to place the amended motion onto the November agenda passed by simple majority.

Charlie T., Treasurer: Change the two-year Area 45 budget cycle to a one-year budget cycle. Motion comes out of committee (Budget and Finance) and will be placed on the November assembly agenda.

Charlie T., Treasurer: Update Handbook to state that the proposed budget will be presented to the Area in August (instead of May) and the proposed budget will be voted on in November (instead of August). Motion comes out of committee (Budget and Finance) and will be placed on the November assembly agenda.

Brian F., District 4: Consolidate DCM reports (during Assemblies) and have the corresponding Section Leader report provide details of district activities, instead of individual DCM reports. Motion seconded. Motion did not receive sufficient support (<50%) and will not be placed on the November assembly agenda.

Wendy, M., Delegate: Establish a dedicated Bridging the GAP Committee with its own budget, independent from the Corrections Committee. Motion seconded. Motion passes by simple majority and will be placed on the November assembly agenda.

Frank C., Policy: Adopt the revised bylaws (developed and finalized by a 2023 (Panel 72) ad-hoc committee working in conjunction with the Area 45 attorney) and add the revised bylaws to the Area 45 Handbook. Motion comes out of committee (Policy and Charter) and will be placed on the November assembly agenda.

Motion to close the committee meeting was made and seconded. The committee meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer.