

Area 45 Fall Assembly Minutes 2024

The summer assembly was held at the Gibson House Community Center, 535 E Main Street, Evesham NJ on November 17, 2024.

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

Assembly Meeting

The assembly meeting was opened with the serenity prayer.

The meeting started with the Area 45 Trustee-at-large election:

- Nominees: Andrew L.
 - Andrew L. provided their service resume.
 - No other members stood for the position.
- Since Andrew ran unopposed, Andrew won unanimously.

Roll Call by Secretary

Anonymity Statement – Lauren

Welcome from the Chair

Introductions of new GSRs/DCMs and AA Anniversaries Celebrated

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

2025 NERASSA Committee: Andrew L. – Verbal

Area 45 Policy Chair – Explains Reporting Procedure and Timing

Intergroup Chairs Reports

Cape Atlantic: Dawn I. – No report

Central Jersey: Chuck D. – No report

South Jersey Intergroup: Bill T. – No report

DCM / Section Leader Reports

Section II

District 7: Mike L.

Hello, I'm an alcoholic, my name is Michael L. I'm grateful to be the DCM for District 7. Thank you to all Districts in Section 2 for hosting the assembly.

District 7 includes all meetings at the 400 Club with 3 registered groups of 28 meetings that take place at this location. These 3 group's GSRs are actively building and promoting the understanding among fellow members that healthy groups are a benefit to all involved, and I thank them for their service.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at my home but will soon move the district meeting to the Club when a time slot is agreed upon.

We are in the planning stages of Holiday Alcothons (sp?) and hope to help support one this season.

Our treasury balance is \$0. Although we expect to begin building a treasury very soon.

District 6 is the city of Camden, currently holding three meetings a week. Two on Mon/Tues at the Catholic Diocese office on Broad and one on Friday at one of the drop-in/wellness centers downtown. These meetings are well attended but lack regular attendance from many long-timers, but we are hopeful that more meetings will be created in the future.

The Spanish language meeting that had been there before lockdown is dark and I have been unsuccessful in reaching any POC. Pero, tengo esperanza. (But, I am hopeful.)

And a big thank you to Frank M., our section leader, for your guidance and mentorship.

Respectfully submitted
Michael L., D7

District 8: Kim

District 8 has regular monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Trinity Episcopal Church in Moorestown.

At our meetings we've had regular attendance by our section leader, secretary, treasurer and 3 to 5 GSRs.

A few of our GSRs have reported increased homegroup attendance with newcomers coming regularly.

Prior to today's assembly our treasurer reported \$1,003.36 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.

Last, I'd like to thank the volunteers from not only my district, but also Districts 6/7, 9, 26 and 27 who worked together to host today's assembly.

Yours in service
Kim K.

District 27: Trevor I.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Frank for his dedicated service and for guiding me as I stepped into this role. The District 27 DCM vacancy should be filled soon, as we currently have two interested members. We're optimistic that a decision will be reached shortly.

On September 22nd, the GSRs successfully hosted a service workshop from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The event was well-attended, and participants engaged in discussions on key topics such as: - Sponsorship - AA Hotline - Literature The Hemingway Group celebrated its anniversary on October 23, 2024, at 6 PM. The event was a great success, with approximately 75 attendees coming together for fellowship and celebration.

The district's current balance stands at \$1,445.56.

Looking ahead, District 27 is planning a New Year's event, potentially featuring a celebration or marathon meetings. We invite any other districts interested in collaborating to reach out.

Lastly, I want to highlight the upcoming Area 45 Convention, scheduled for March 14-16 at the Claridge Hotel in Atlantic City. Registration is now open, and I encourage everyone to sign up and join us for this exciting event. It's an honor to continue serving as the Public Information Chair, and I look forward to seeing everyone there.

In service and fellowship, we move forward together, grateful for the strength and unity of our AA community.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to carrying the message of recovery.

District 9: Andy E.

Good Morning.

Thanks to all our Section 2 members for today's fantastic treats.

Thanks to Frank M, Section 2 Leader, for his Service

Applause to Trevor L. for stepping up to fill Frank's shoes.

District 9 has added 2 more Groups this quarter and continues to encourage the quiet Groups to get involved.

We have \$2,169 in our treasury, less today's expenses.

Thanks to our Program for allowing me to be sober and of Service to our Fellowship.

Peace... Andy

District 26: Lisa B.

District 26 meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month 6:30 at Logan Presbyterian Church in Audubon.

We continue to be hybrid to be accessible to those who may not be able to make in person.

Our treasury balance as of 10/31 is \$2,201.24.

The group voted to have a member read and give a brief summary of the concept of that month.

As Frank rotates out of the section leader, I want to thank him for his service and support to our district. Welcome to Trevor our new section leader!

We are hoping to put together a workshop this winter. Thank you to the panel and committees for their service. Also thank you to everyone in who helped with today's assembly.

With gratitude
Lisa Barr
DCM District 26

Section II Leader: Frank M. – Verbal

Section III

District 13: Dave B.

District 13 Report November 17th 2024

1. Balance is \$1,608.25
2. District 13 meeting had 2 groups attend
3. We decide to put on hold hosting a workshop. However, we decided taking on a commitment with our District's limited involvement might better serve Salem County.

4. God provided our answer and working towards getting an AA meeting every Friday night at Salem County Prison.

Thanks for letting me serve and get another day.

District 14: Marci R.

Our district is doing well!!! We are having an Alcathon on 11/28 (thanksgiving) from 9am until 5pm at SVUMC in Vineland hosted by the Vineland nooners group and the Vineland group.

We are in the early stages of planning a Holiday Fellowship Dinner! The tentative date for that will be 12/28. We are waiting on confirmation on our location that we can use there hall. This will be a practically free event at \$1 a ticket just so we can get a headcount. More details and flyers and tickets to come!

Our district meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month. As of our last district meeting on 10/16/24 our budget had a total of \$4,275.61.

Section III Leader: Bill F.

Good morning, Area 45. I'm an alcoholic and my name is Bill. I am the Section Leader 3 and this quarter I have continued to collect GSR contact information from 12,13 20,21,28 and 29, and have made some headway. I continue to look forward to building the Section stronger with the respective District GSR's, giving insight into how to bring district meetings back into their areas. Right now, the only districts having District meetings are 13 and 14.

This quarter, Section 3 held the Area 45 Inventory at the Elmer Grange Hall. It was my first and was quite interesting and informative.

I received a call from a Director of a Adult Residential facility in Bridgeton, requesting a AA meeting. I been in communication with SJ intergroup, H&I and Accessibility chair to help develop a volunteer roster for this site. Volunteer members from D-14 have been keeping the meeting going.

So today, I am asking that any Section 3 member that is willing to share contact information with me I would greatly appreciate it. I will be here all day.

In service,
Bill F Section 3 Leader

Section IV

District 16/17: Pat C. – Verbal

District 19: Deb L. – Verbal

District 15: James M. (on behalf of Rich J.)

District 15 meets in-person on the second Wednesday of each month at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 220 East Main Street in Tuckerton. Meeting time was changed to 6PM. Currently serving are a DCM, Secretary and Treasurer. Of the 52 groups represented, 3-5 send GSRs to sit in on monthly business.

Service anemia makes the most basic tasks, such as workshops, difficult to accomplish. Nonetheless, we've managed to conduct monthly business consistently on a skeleton staff. The door is open and the lights are on. That's an important minimum.

I have spent much of my 2-year DCM trustee commitment toiling over the service apathy that exists above the group level. Throughout the community, group-level service thrives with vitality while the service landscape beyond the group level looks like nuclear fallout. Although exhaustive corrective efforts have proved ineffective, I've gained valuable insight from these initiatives.

I believe that educational workshops and informative outreach efforts have positive results but are a pittance of effect over the real problem. More than anything else, service decisions at one level of AA have resounding and longstanding ripple effects upon other levels. That is the crux of the problem.

Grassroots AA service above the group level gets its faith and inspiration from upstream service operations. It's a vital but fragile element. If people are inspired by GSO, they are inclined to get involved at local levels. Under those conditions, workshops and education become instrumental. On the other hand, if there is disapproval or distrust in high-level service, enthusiasm withers, willingness detracts and service apathy ensues on the local front. Education and workshops lose effectiveness.

If there is validity to this observation then it begs the question, "What inspires the service base?" I refer to Dr Bob's last words to Bill Wilson, "Remember, Bill, let's not louse this thing up. Let's keep it simple." In recent years, high-level AA service has taken a trajectory of complicating things to a fault and has disenchanting its base. The problem appears to be egocentric.

Our generation inherited an effective global AA movement from those that came before us. While minor changes are always beneficial, we are, by and large, successful across a century of history. In 2013 the Library of Congress named AA as one of the 88 books that shaped America. Nonetheless, high-level service trustees repeatedly justify radical changes and have created a dangerous trend. One of the ripple effects is a disenfranchised service base that turns away from global continuity.

The grassroots base of AA is trying to communicate a message to the decision-

making trustees at GSO. The pioneering phase is over. Ours is to preserve and maintain that which has been established and refined to a level of effectiveness that has shaped America. It's been given to us like an heirloom. That is a boring endeavor for those tripping over ego; a problem which is addressed in steps prior to Step Twelve. To tamper with AA in this day and age is to touch butterfly wings.

This generation has reinvented the century-old Big Book on the premise that it is too complicated. If that decision does not reflect the will of the base, unity suffers. This generation rewrote Grapevine Magazine's AA Preamble. If not in line with base sentiment, base will become disenfranchised. This generation squandered millions of AA dollars on failed GSO renovations. If the ordeal created distrust, the base will refuse to support the service structure. This generation has gone to great effort and expense to create the Fellowship Connection database. GSO uses the technology to send quarterly reports that 'rat out' or attempt to publicly shame AA groups that are not supporting them financially. Does the base consider this approach incentivizing?

An AA group is a microcosm of the global AA community in which unity, fellowship and adherence to primary purpose can thrive within the confines of four walls and independent of outside factors. If the group feels uninspired, betrayed or estranged from the wider community, it will do just that.

We would do well to stay mindful of co-founder's last words co-founder. District 15's current treasury balance is \$1,668.51.

Yours in Loving Service,

Rich J, District 15 DCM

Section IV Leader: Sandy M.

I am Sandy M (grateful recovering alcoholic) Section 4 Leader. I am happy to report the Districts are doing very well they are making their groups proud and vice versa. I have visited all Districts since our last assembly. 1 of the Districts is virtual only. 3 of the Districts are in person & virtual, and two of those are going virtual recently making access to their meetings possible for more to attend. Section 4 will be hosting the Area 45 Winter Assembly February 16th, 2025. Hoping to see you all again soon. Thank You for letting me serve. It is a privilege and a pleasure.

Section I

District 4: Brian F.

District 4 is planning an Alcahthon for New Years Eve at the 449 club in Pemberton, plan is to run meetings from 5pm to 1 pm on Tuesday, December 31st. There are flyers printed out to take back to home groups.

Right now we have 3 active home groups with GSR representation and are in contact with 3 other small groups in our district.

Right now the only find we have in our treasury are to cover the rent for our upcoming Alcathon event.

Brian F
District 4 DCM
609-741-0181

District 22/23: Derek (on behalf of Jonathan H.)

Good morning/afternoon, my name is Jonathan H. and I am an alcoholic and also the DCM for District 22/23. Thanks to Section II for hosting today's Assembly.

As of our last District meeting our bank balance was \$3139.12.

So we are in good shape for our District's New Years Day 2025 Alcathon in Yardville. Please grab a flyer either here today or online at SNJAA.ORG or CJI.COM and share with the meetings you attend.

We would like to also extend invitations to Literature on Wheels, Archives, Bridging the Gap and the Area Panel. We hope to see you all there.

GSR attendance at our district meetings has been up and down and we get by with a core of service dedicated GSRs.

We are hoping to have a spring event. If the funds and the help is there...planning will begin soon.

Thank you for your time and your service.

District 25: Brian H. (on behalf of Alberto B.)

We meet on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Hightstown, NJ. Our treasurer regularly provides an outline budget that includes expenses, group contributions, and balances. We continuously explore ways to allocate funds in a manner that aligns with the 12 Concepts and 12 Traditions.

Our secretary distributes the meeting minutes ahead of time, which helps us efficiently address old business and new items. The Secretary and our Lead Section attend meetings regularly, offering valuable updates on activities from other districts, collaboration opportunities, and supporting the registration of new GSRs. They also share the latest information about NERASSA 2025 and the International Convention in 2025.

Each meeting typically has 8-12 GSRs and alternate GSRs attending from our area. We've been working closely with the registrar to maintain an up-to-date inventory of active groups, ensuring all contact information is current so we can keep everyone informed. At each meeting, GSRs share the strengths of their respective groups and the need for support.

This Summer, we hosted a well-attended workshop called "SERVICES: ANYONE CAN DO IT!" an inspiring event with 4 guest speakers who shared their personal stories about how getting involved in A.A. service has enriched their recovery journey, this workshop offered valuable insights into the power of service work in strengthening our sobriety.

On Saturday November 9 we hosted a Gratitude banquet, we enjoyed a spectacular evening filled with delicious food, an inspiring speaker, and an unforgettable dance party. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been supporting our efforts!

In our next meeting, we'll be focusing on finalizing our event calendar—stay tuned for exciting upcoming events. We are also looking forward to collaborating with other Districts in our future endeavors.

Overall, things are going well, and we remain committed to our work. Your continued support makes all the difference!

District 3: Donna C. – Verbal

Section I Leader: Kerry W.

Good Morning,

I want to thank the host section for doing a great job with the fall assembly. I want to thank the panel for their diligent work and staying in communication with us about all that is happening. Section 1 has had a very busy quarter. I have had the opportunity to visit the district's monthly meetings throughout this quarter, sit in on numerous planning meetings and being of service any way I can. The districts within the section have hosted some amazing service workshops in collaboration with the area committee and hosted a gratitude dinner dance. The DCM's in the district have been busy at work planning new years eve and new years day alcathons within their districts and are working tirelessly to ensure that their groups are being represented. They are visiting their meetings to stress the importance of each group having a GSR contact. They cleaned up the registers list of unaccounted for groups and are always brainstorming ways to bring more workshops to their districts. I want to thank all of the GSR's and DCM's for their work. District 24 is still in need of a DCM and we are hoping that someone will step up and take on this position soon.

With love in service

Kerry K

Section 1 Lead.

Committee Chairs

Accessibilities: Pat M.

Since our last assembly we've continued to meeting every 3rd Thursday of the month via zoom. You'll notice we have new flyer, please take a few back to your homegroups. It also has the QR code to take the short survey. Same survey , but we've added a question or 2. Last assembly I told everyone that Carolyn created us a spectacle Accessibilities webpage, and that it would soon be live. It's now live, you can scroll down and find the link right on the homepage or navigate to the committee tab and there you'll find a link as well. We were able to get out to 3 service workshops and give away a subscription to the digital grapevine at each. We had a table at the waves round up this weekend, Thanks Joe O for managing it. We have been attending the convention meetings and are very close to securing a CART captioning service. We are partnering wit the NERAASA committee on that to save a little money. We have reached out to our Spanish and Polish-speaking friends to possibly hold a meeting at the convention.

Patrick M.

Archives: Roy C.

Hello, my name is Roy, alcoholic, today my report is ad-lib, please point out any mistakes. We have been busy. I traveled to Des Moines, Iowa in September and presented at the National AA Archives Workshop. The topic was digitalization of the Area 45 Archives. This was done with the generosity of Area 45, 7th tradition funding.

This weekend my Alternate Chair (George H.), hit one out of the ballpark with his presentation (The evolution of AA in Area 45) at the 2024 Waves round-up! I am blessed with a great committee.

We are very involved with hosting a hospitality suite at the 2025 International Convention. There is a need for those that are travelling to the convention to serve at the hospitality suite. The IHSC meetings are held the last Thursday of each month (except this November, Thanksgiving). Our next meeting is November 21, 2024, at 7pm at the Zoom. ID: 833 5908 4488 PW: 0540445. Please see our flyer at snjaa.org for more information.

Roy C.

Chair Archives Committee, Area 45, Panel 74
Co-Chair International Hospitality Suite Committee 2025

Convention: Mark L.

Good Morning all thanks sec 2

Beyond your wildest dreams we have an amazing committee, and we are on track to bring you area 45 biggest event of the year! into Reality- Fun, service ,fellowship and a learning weekend experience, if you have one day or 50 years what a wonderful way to start off

the year with the waking of spring, whether you come for the weekend or the Day and we want another year to be self-supporting and here we need everyone's help by getting the word out even if you can make it that weekend, you can still be of service please take a flier back with you take a picture with your phone an announce at meetings, you can go to area45convention.org website to register

Our finances

Beginning balance 12359.09 we turned over 7696.83 back to area 45 this was excess budget money over the last 4 years leaving us a working balance of 4209.77
Our next committee meeting will be Dec 8th at 9 am 6 Pemberton st Pemberton nj all welcome

Thank you
for allowing me to serve
Mark G
Convention Committee Chair

Budget & Finance: Maureen D.

The 2025-2026 budget was approved at the Summer Assembly. Thank you to Gina, Charlie and Phil for all your hard work and support. I will be scheduling a time with Charlie to start the 2024 audit in the coming week.

Yours in service,

Maureen D
Budget & Finance Chair

CPC/PI: Katie T.

So far the CPC / PI committee is off to an amazing start the past couple of months I have been reaching out to local police stations/ fire stations and doctors office across South Jersey. Kinda knew there were a bunch not this many lol. I have met with the Cape Atlantic Intergroup CPC / PI chair recently this week at the Cape Atlantic intergroup convention. Where Area 45 CPC / PI had a table and wasn't just asked where the bathroom was. I had a couple of people sign up to assist me with research and outreach. This is a major undertaking but prior to me taking over Michele our prior CPC chair gathered a lot out phone numbers and addresses of the police/fire and ems stations which is a big help. I have a couple of ideas of where I see this committee heading. I will be meeting with our area 45 chair Phil and discuss this outreach plan I think attending future symposiums and conferences through southern NJ is going to help in this effort.

Thank you section 2 for hosting this event and thank you to the panel for the other online and in this room for all that you do and continue to do in service.

Gratefully yours in loving service. Katie T

Corrections: Kelly G.

The corrections committee meets virtually the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

The committee has done an amazing job this year. Our volunteers show up to bring the message of aa no matter how many hurdles **we** have faced. We have faced many. Everything from working with the NJ DOC-making sure applications are exactly how they want them, the turnaround time it takes to get cleared can take months-leaving current volunteers without help, or the shortage of staff at the prisons has made it difficult to get full attendance at meetings. However, our volunteers show up week after week with love and tolerance.

Events that we have attended this quarter-

We had a table set up at Ann Klein forensic center to educate the staff on our services. We displayed our corrections correspondence program, BTG, the new sponsorship program and many of our corrections pamphlets.

We also attended the celebrate recovery banquet. This is an annual event at Ann Klein to celebrate the patients who have completed the recovery program at the facility. Thank you to Mark B for showing up and speaking on behalf of aa and the corrections committee.

We currently have a table at the Cape Atlantic Round Up. We have provided them with Big Books, 12 and 12's and Daily Reflections, and are asking members to sign each book with a message of hope. We decided to only ask for donations and not sell the books this year. The books will be distributed as needed to the prisons.

Thank you to all the meetings and individuals who donate to the LIPs can. From Jan until now we have been able to provide literature to every single prison we serve upon request, and the total spent on literature to date is \$9,405. Thank you.

DCM/GSR Orientation: Ken T.

We had 7 new GSR'S at the assembly today.

With Gratitude
Ken

Grapevine: Roseanne F.

Thank You for allowing me to be of service as your Grapevine Chair. The following is my report.

On 10-22-24, I attended a virtual meeting with GVAC Office Hour zoom meeting. This is a new meeting that has been set up for all grapevine chairs to come together and share news, ideas, and ask questions. It was a great first meeting and I'm looking forward to attending in November.

On 11-16-24 I attended the Cape Atlantic Intergroup Waves Roundup. I set up the grapevine table and gave out flyers and spoke with people about signing up for the app. Thank you Cape Atlantic for a job well done.

I am still learning about this position and researching how and where to get the Grapevine to AA members. If you have any ideas, please stop at the grapevine table or contact me via phone or email.

And of course, if you don't get the Grapevine let's get that set up for you. It's an amazing source of AA at your fingertips.

My phone number is 609-213- 7853

Or email me at grapevine@snjaa.org Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Newsletter: Heather S. – Verbal Online

Policy: Frank C.

The Policy & Charter Committee remains 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

Registration: Bob W.

A special thank you all those from District 26 and Section Two who worked so hard to make this all possible. I would also like to thank everyone for taking time to stop by the Registration table to sign in and grab a name tag. We have seen much improvement over recent assemblies with all attendees at this event signing in and making the overall process easier for the registration chair, the registrar, and anyone counting votes against the sign-in sheets. This also helps to accurately keep track of our attendance from event to event. The QR code sign-in will return for the next Assembly. A personal thanks to Jean W for providing the registration table with alphabetized lists of towns and meeting places in our Area which enabled attendees easy access to their proper sign-in sheet. This made the whole process go smoothly and kept the flow of people coming into the assembly room “bottleneck” free.

Also, a shout-out to my sponsee Ben L. for stepping up and helping the old man keep things organized and keeping the ruckus down to a minimum. Thank you for your service.

Our total count including both in-person and on-line attendees: **117**

Total in-person attendees who signed in at the registration table (which also matched the physical head-count): **95**

GSR's: 48
Panel Members: 5
Alt GSR's: 2
Committee Chairs: 7 + 3 Co-Chairs
DCM's: 10
Past Delegates: 7
Alt DCM's: 3
Intergroup Reps: 0
Section Leaders: 4
Guests: 6

Total online attendees: **22**

GSR's: 13 DCM's: 1
Panel Member: 1
*Techs, Alt's and AA guests?: 7
(sorry but I didn't copy all numerical designations at time of the sign-in)

Respectively submitted, Bob W - Area 45 Registration Chair (and un-official Greeter)

Website: Pam (on behalf of Carolyn M.)

There are two new pages on the Area website:

1) Accessibilities

<https://area45snjaa.org/accessibilities-in-a-a/>

2) Find a Meeting or Hotline

Here is the page for Find a Meeting:

<https://area45snjaa.org/find-local-meetingshotlines/>

Both of these pages are accessible from the Menu at the top

Scholarship: Michelle C.

My name is Michelle. I'm an alcoholic and the chairperson for the scholarship committee. Are you interested in attending the virtual NERAASA in February 2025? If so, we are offering many scholarship to those who register and pay the \$35 fee.

Here's how it will work;

You will register for NERAASA, then after the scholarship google form goes live in about a week or so, you will be able to fill it out and click submit. The form will be available on the area 45 website. The instructions will tell you to forward your registration confirmation to me. After that point a refund will be issued.

In love and service,
Michelle

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 August Assembly. Stephanie, Fred and I have been working diligently under the newly expanded Workshop Committee responsibilities. 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, I have had the opportunity to participate in two of the workshops our Committee was invited to assist in planning. Both District 27 and District 25 held very fun, informative, and dare I say well-run and executed service-themed workshops, so hats off to both of your districts and everyone involved in organizing and presenting.

We also recently met with some very enthusiastic and motivated folks who are hitting the ground running to once again get District 4 active by offering a New Year's Eve Alkathon. Brian and his team are already off to a great start and we are very excited for them and their efforts.

At present, we continue to be interested in hearing from you- our Area 45 Districts and Committees. 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 flyers 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.

In grateful service,
Kelly W.

Young People: Ryan S. – Verbal

Virtual Tech: Tom J.

No new business. Thanks to co-chair Justin for in-person tech support. Thanks to security team for Zoom room monitoring support.

22 participants online today (registered). Hybrid meeting continues to be an effective method of increasing service involvement.

Thank you,
Tom J.
Virtual Tech Chair

Area Panel 74 Reports

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 Friday, November 22nd. 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 40-50% out of 600+ subscribers.

Yours In Service – Tanya D.

Registrar: Jean W.

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

I sent out a report yesterday with a mapping of Towns with Zip Codes, Area and Districts. It's currently about 88% complete. Once it's sufficiently updated, it is targeted to be available on the Area website (<https://area45snjaa.org/>) to search by Town or Zip Code.

Virtual DCM GSR Orientation was having internet challenges. At the Gibson House Orientation is in the basement with very spotty internet. The Tech Team will try to work with the Gibson House and see if we can connect directly to the router at the next assembly.

Fellowship Connection as of 11/16/2024

*These numbers are by
Downloaded Reports from FC*

Groups (by Group Status:	Nov	Aug
Active Groups	301	301
Unknown	231	217
Groups Inactive or Merged:	459	455

Pre-Dated Group	2	1
Pending Active	1	0

Total District Records:	Number
DCMs	17
Alt-DCMs	1
Total Group Records:	
GSRs	252
Alt-GSRs	43
Mail Contacts	66
Pre-Dated GSR	1

Looking at the active position holders in Fellowship Connection (FC) here is something we (Registrar, Section Leaders and DCMs) need to review in more detail. 'Active' Start Dates for members:

1977-1989	17
1990-1999	11
2000-2017	115
2018-2019	34
2020-2021	34

The Pending Active group starts on 12/2, is:
Thirsty Thursday Group in District 22-23 and has a GSR

The Pre-Dated groups are:
Dignity and Grace Group in District 29 with a Mail Contact as of 10/21
The Cranbury Rise Shine Group in District 25 with a GSR as of 11/6

Additionally, I am serving as the 2025 Virtual NERAASA Outreach Chair. Please registrar early! It's a lot of fun, lots of ideas, shared experiences and so much to learn during this weekend. Experience it and welcome the experience to be part of your sobriety and others.

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 allowing me to serve Alcoholics Anonymous and Area 45.

A brief report on Area finances through October 31st, 2024:

- Area Contributions through October 31st totaled \$35,647.05, up \$1,585, or 4.7% year over year from 2023.
- Total expenses were \$42,819 compared to expenses of \$39,065 in the same period last year. This represents a 9.6% increase in expenses year over year. It should be noted that 38% of the YOY increase is preregistration and travel expense for 2025 international convention which is covered in the 2025 budget. As such, the real increase in expenses is 5.9%.
- If contributions and expenses continue upon the current track of up 4.7% in contributions and up 5.9% in expenses, we will spend down only \$15,516 in 2024 compared to the current year budgeted spend down of \$33,600.
- Total funds on hand for Area 45 stood at \$81,527 as of November 16th. This represents a snapshot prudent reserve of 11.7 months of expenses based upon the 2024 budget, and 18.6 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, as Committee Chairs submit for reimbursement for any committee expenses, please don't forget to use the Expense Report Form found in the "Reports and Forms" drop-down on the Area45snjaa.org website. Once completed please mail to treasurer@snjaa.org along with any receipts corresponding with the submission.

I look forward to continuing to serve you. Thank you again.

Chair: Phil K.

My name is Phil and I'm an alcoholic. I'm grateful to serve as your Panel 74 Chairperson. First, I want to thank everyone who has made this event possible. This includes all the volunteers from districts 6, 7, 8, 9, 26, and 27; both the virtual tech team and the onsite tech team; the South Jersey Intergroup Literature Road show, the committees with info set up, Leader Frank. It has been a pleasure to work closely with Frank for these past few years. I also want to thank all the service leaders we have heard from today. I can't say enough good things about our committee chairs, our DCMs, Kerry and Bill, our Section I and Section III Leaders, respectively, and our partners in Central Jersey, South Jersey, and Cape-Atlantic Intergroup.

In addition to the new GSRs and DCMs that we welcomed this morning, I'm very excited to welcome two new Section Leaders since our Summer Assembly. Please welcome and support Sandy and Trevor in their new AA jobs! I'm also excited to welcome Heather S into the role of Newsletter Committee Chair. Alcoholics like to be heard and the resurgence of the 4th Dimension, our newsletter, is an opportunity for any of you to put your finger to keyboard (or pen to paper) and contribute something.

Since we last got together for the Summer Assembly in Bordentown on August 17, I have helped some of our virtual AA groups find new homes in geographic districts within Area 45. While we have a vote later today on establishing a "trial period" virtual district in Area

45, it was very important to find district "homes" for virtual groups after the expiration of District 42 this past August, because a group without a district is a group without a voice. Thank you to Jean, Wendy, GSRs of virtual groups that I spoke and emailed with, and the new "home" districts for these groups.

I attended the Area 45 inventory in Elmer on October 19 and would like to thank everyone who attended, everyone from Section III who helped make that event possible, plus the virtual and onsite tech teams for their crucial role.

Not a day goes by without me talking, texting, or emailing with the group of friends and service leaders we have assembled together today. The support that I get from you seems to far exceed the support that I give to you. Thank you! If you have a question or concern about anything you see or hear today, please reach out to me: chair@snjaa.org or my number is on the contact sheet.

Respectfully submitted, 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 2 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 consistently attended the 2025 Virtual NERAASA Committee Meeting (as I have the honor to serve as the NERAASA Treasurer), NERD (every 3rd Sunday evening of the month), all 3 Intergroup Meetings (Central Jersey, South Jersey, and Cape Atlantic), and the 2025 International Convention Hospitality Suite Meeting. If you are attending the International Convention in person this year, Area 45 is co-hosting a hospitality suite with Area 44 and we need volunteers. If you can make yourself available, please let either Roy C. or myself know.

From an events perspective, I was also able to participate as a facilitator for the Day of Sharing as well as reprise my role as "On a Mission Mike" in our "Rusted Servants" skit at the Cape Atlantic Intergroup Round up.

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.

Hello Area 45,

My name is Wendy and I serve as your Area 45 Delegate.

I want to thank Section 2 for hosting today.

Since our last assembly:

I attended all the North East Regional Delegates (NERD) meetings, which provided an opportunity to connect with fellow Delegates and Delegate-elects. As the year comes to a close, it's bittersweet to reflect on the impact of the Panel 73 Delegates, whose service and experience will be greatly missed.

I also attended the Full Conference - General Service Conference's online meeting, where the topic was Tradition 2.

I've participated in several virtual NERAASA planning meetings, where the committee's focus on creating a valuable and inclusive event has been evident. Their dedication to making this virtual event successful has been inspiring, and I look forward to seeing the outcome.

Thank you to Districts 27 and 25 for organizing excellent workshops that were both engaging and impactful. I also participated in the Area Inventory, and I'd like to thank Ken and Phil for their efforts in making that a productive experience.

I would also like to thank Phil and Jean for their invaluable help in coordinating the transition of groups from District 42 to their corresponding geographic districts. With this transition complete, AAWS Member Services has now closed District 42, and all groups have been reassigned to their in-person districts.

One of the quarter's highlights was attending a joint meeting with the Conference Treatment and Accessibility Committee and the Trustee Chair of Treatment and Accessibility to review a Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) with three distinct parts. Each part was carefully reviewed and discussed. Ultimately, the committee agreed that only one part—the recommendation for the aa.org website to be ADA-compatible—should move forward. The other two parts were not recommended for advancement, as we felt they could potentially limit areas' autonomy in addressing treatment and accessibility according to their specific needs. After reaching this consensus, we asked the Trustee Committee Chair to discuss the potential of moving forward with the ADA compatibility piece. However, the final decision on which, if any, part of this PAI will be brought to the Conference rests with the Trustee's Committee on Treatment and Accessibility. This review process emphasized the importance of balancing inclusivity with respect for each area's ability to make local decisions and adapt to their unique needs.

I also wrote and presented the annual Area 45 skit for the CAIG Round-Up, which felt different this year due to the adjusted timeline for Proposed Agenda Items. GSO has revised the release schedule, which will streamline the items available for consideration:

- Preliminary GSC Agenda: November 11-16
- Final GSC Agenda: February 17-25
- PAIs Not Forwarded to GSC: February 24-28

The Trustees General Service Conference Committee decided to release only PAIs that will be forwarded to the Conference. This approach was designed to focus Conference members on items directly impacting the agenda and to reduce any premature discussion on items that may not move forward. However, some Delegates are questioning whether the release of PAIs only after the final GSC agenda is in place conflicts with a 2016 Advisory Action that emphasized transparency and timely access to information for Conference members. This topic remains an ongoing discussion among Delegates, and clarity may emerge as we approach the Conference. As of Friday the 15th, the delegates received the first set of preliminary agenda items. A total of 143 proposed agenda items were submitted currently 25 PAIs were turned into 11 new agenda items. One of the two proposed agenda items Area 45 submitted was sent through to the conference so far which was about Oral Highlights. It will be on the agenda as: Consider the request to suspend oral presentations of all Area Service Highlights and continue printing highlights in the final report. I have not received an email that the other proposed agenda item for Area 45 was approved or not.

Regarding the Plain Language Big Book (PLBB), its release in November has prompted some questions on whether the Advisory Action from the 74th Conference was fully followed. The Advisory Action approved the draft manuscript of the Plain Language Big Book with certain minor editorial changes, including relocating the "A.A. Steps Table" to an appendix and replacing references to "addiction" and "addicted" with language specific to alcoholism. An unintentional oversight related to this language was identified. This oversight will be corrected in the second printing of the PLBB, and discussions are ongoing to determine any further steps needed to address it.

This brings us back to why the General Service Conference exists: to ensure accountability and shared responsibility in decisions that affect A.A. as a whole. According to The A.A. Service Manual, the Conference serves as "the effective conscience of our society in its world affairs." I hope to gain more clarity on this issue at the upcoming full Conference Committee meeting.

Additionally, on the financial front, GSO reported a total operating revenue of \$14,591,894 as of September 30, 2024, which is 3% above the year-to-date budget. While contributions have increased and the Reserve Fund is at 6.41 months of coverage, the current balance remains below the target of nine to 12 months. Literature sales are below budgeted figures, and Grapevine's net income has seen some shortfall against reforecast figures despite an increase in subscriptions.

Looking ahead, I'll be hosting Delegate Roundtables starting on January 16th to discuss topics relevant to Area 45 and A.A. as a whole. From April 1 until the Conference, I'll also host Weekly Delegate Hours to answer questions on all Agenda Items.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve Area 45. I look forward to continuing our work together.

In gratitude,
Wendy

Lunch (30 minutes). Assembly resumed after lunch.

Motions on the Floor:

- 1) **Brian F., District 4 DCM motion:** 1-year “trial period” for a virtual district within Area 45. Motion discussed. Brian F. made a motion to withdraw the motion.
Motion to withdraw passes by simple majority.
- 2) **Charlie T., Treasurer motion:** Change the two-year Area 45 budget cycle to a one-year budget cycle.
Motion passes by simple majority.
- 3) **Charlie T., Treasurer motion:** Update the Treasurer description in the Area 45 Handbook to state the budget will be presented at the Summer Assembly in August and voted on at the Fall Assembly in November.
Motion passes by simple majority.
- 4) **Wendy, M., Delegate motion:** Establish a dedicated Bridging the GAP Committee with its own budget, independent from the Corrections Committee.
Motion passes unanimously.
- 5) **Frank C., Policy Chair motion:** 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 passes unanimously.

The assembly closed with the Responsibility Pledge.

Committee Meeting

The committee meeting was opened with the serenity prayer.

Role Call by Secretary

Area 45 Policy Chair – Explains Reporting Procedure and Timing

Motions Discussed:

None

The committee meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge.