

Minutes of Area 45, Southern NJ Winter Assembly, 2026

Date: February 15th, 2026

Location: Seaview Fire Rescue Social Hall, Seaview NJ

New GSR/DCM Orientation Commenced at 8:55AM

Assembly Meeting

- Opened with the Serenity Prayer at 10:05
- Roll Call by Secretary
- Anonymity Statement and Welcome Read by Chair
- Introductions of new GSRs/DCMs and AA Anniversaries Celebrated
- Explanation of Reporting Procedure and Timing Read by Policy Chair

Reports (in order given)

INTERGROUP CHAIR REPORTS

Cape Atlantic Intergroup - Michelle S

My name is Michelle and I am an alcoholic. I am also the new chairperson for Cape Atlantic Intergroup. I was voted in, along with the new co-chair - Jen H, during our November business meeting.

When I first came into AA I swore I wouldn't raise my hand, speak to too many people, and I certainly wasn't going to help anyone! And here we are! This God and AA doing for me. I am grateful and humbled to be of service, which has helped save my life.

I'm also grateful to report that all panel positions and committee chair positions are presently filled -- which is amazing, and we're looking forward to a really fun two years!

We're already well underway with the work at hand. We learned that our office space lease will not be granted a renewal in June so we are actively looking for a new space with the help of an outside realtor and our new Trustee Ken T.. We have also had to adjust our literature pricing to meet the increases that went into effect by AAWS as of 2/1. Our new lit chair Elly is in the back selling literature for us today.

Our amazing Round Up Committee for our 2026 event is also hard at work and has already secured a weekend, place and theme for the event - which is our 20th! It will take place at

Resorts Casino Hotel in Atlantic City from Friday November 13 to Sunday November 15 and the theme is TRUST THE PROCESS. More to come on that!

That's my report for today. Thank you for letting me serve!

Michelle S

Cape Atlantic Intergroup Chairperson

Central Jersey Intergroup - Jami D

Not Present, not submitted

South Jersey Intergroup - Gina H Reported from online

Hello All,

I'm Gina and I'm an alcoholic and I'm blessed to serve as SJIG chair for the next two years.

We are pleased to report that we have had a successful turnover of our Steering Committee, including some new trustees as well as many of the committee chairs' positions.

Our vibrant committees, such as Public Information, Hotline, Newsletter and Social Events, just to name a few, have started the year with renewed energy.

At this time, all committee chair positions are filled by trusted servants, but there is still room for some co-chairs and always room for committee members. If you are in Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, or Salem county and would like to get into service (beyond the group level), please go to aasj.org or send an email at info@aasj.org for more information.

Our Intergroup meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8pm at St Bart's in Cherry Hill and is Hybrid so you can join online also. See our website at aasj.org for more information.

Warmly, Gina H.

SECTIONS

Section I

District 24 - Nellie (Alt DCM)

D24 has 5 or 6 active GSRs.

Just had a successful (50 peeps) AA bingo/tricky tray social in January.

Planning a spring event.

Will have treasury numbers in Spring report.

Thanks

District 3 - Clark

This a report for district 3. We are starting with a new DCM, Treasurer and Secretary. There is nothing new to report.

District 25 - Brian H

Opening Remarks

Good morning and warm greetings to everyone.

I would like to begin by expressing my thanks to all who collaborated in organizing and supporting this Winter Assembly — from the New Area officers and committee chairs to the volunteers who worked behind the scenes to make this event possible. Your time, effort, and dedication truly reflect the spirit of service and unity that defines our fellowship.

District Overview

District 25 continues to meet on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Hightstown. Average attendance remains between 5-8 GSRs, along with our Alternate DCM, Secretary, Treasurer and Section 1 Lead.

The district currently has 16 groups, including 2 Spanish-speaking groups with 8 active GSRs. Thanks to outreach we now have contact with all the active groups within District 25. We continue outreach efforts to encourage participation. Our Section I Lead has started a DCM call with our section (3, 4, 22-23, 24 & 25) to collaborate on events being held and getting the word out!

District 25 Upcoming Events

Annual Unity Picnic – Mercer County Park (August/September) Chair & Committee Elected
Workshops – (History & Literature) Chair & Committee Elected
Gratitude Banquet – 26 th Anniversary – Chair & Committee Elected
Joint Events with Section I (3,4,22-23,24 & 25)

Budget and Finance Update

Our district budget has been consolidated. After all expenses were paid, we successfully maintained our prudent reserve and carried forward a portion of unspent COVID relief funds. These funds are earmarked for this year's events to cover costs for everyone's involvement.

Themes and Ongoing Discussions

A key topic of discussion among GSRs and district members has been the involvement of other groups in our section. With the inception of a monthly zoom call with fellow DCM's in Section I we've discussed what's happening in our districts. That discussion now has us getting involved with each other's events (District's 22-23 Alcahthon, District 24's Bingo Nite and possible joint trips (Bill W's home).

Acknowledgments

Sincere gratitude to all GSRs, officers, and volunteers for their ongoing service and dedication. A special thank you to our new Lead Section 1 (Jonathon H) for his continued commitment to communication and coordination. — helping to ensure our direction remains connected and efficient.

Closing Reflection

District 25 continues to thrive through service, unity, and recovery. As we look ahead, our focus remains on outreach, bilingual inclusion, and collaboration with other districts. We are grateful for every member who contributes to carrying the message and ensuring that the hand of AA is always there when anyone reaches out for help.

In service and gratitude,

Brian Holleran District Committee Member (DCM)
Area 45 -District 25 – Section 1

District 22/23 - Derik W

Good morning to my fellow AA's, and our area panel. My name is Derik and I am an Alcoholic.

I first want to say thank you to everyone for your dedication and service. On behalf of district 22/23, we would like to also thank Section 4 and all its districts for hosting today's assembly.

Since our last assembly we kicked off 2026 with a bang, with our New Year's Day Alcolthon. And to wrap up for 2025, we had a busy year starting with our 2025 alcolthon, we hosted two workshops, and we co-hosted the summer assembly with other districts from section 1.

In December we held our elections for new panel members, I am happy to say all positions are filled.

We host a zoom meeting on the 4 th Monday of every month we average 7-10 attendees per meeting except for last month. We had around 14 attendees. We are looking forward to working with the other districts in section 1 this year to help extend the hand of AA to anyone that wants to grab ahold of it.

Final Note Please join us March 20,21,22 at Ballies in Atlantic city for Area 45 60th annual convention we look forward to having a cup of coffee with you.

Thank you for allowing me to be in service
Derik W. DCM District 22/23

Section I Lead - Jonathan H

Good morning...my name is Jonathan...I am an alcoholic.

I am the also the Section 1 Lead for Districts 3, 4, 22/23, 24 and 25.

I would like to congratulate and welcome the new Area Panel and also thank Section 4 for their service in hosting today's Assembly.

I had been the Acting Section 1 Lead since this past Summer, and was just recently voted in for a full two year term.

In the Section 1 Districts:

District 3 has a newly elected DCM.

District 4 is currently has no positions filled.

So I have asked District 4s GSRs attending the District 3 monthly meetings (and work together with them) until a DCM is found.

District 22/23 has a newly elected DCM and an Alternate DCM.

District 24 has a DCM and an Alternate DCM.

District 25 has a newly elected DCM and an Alternate DCM.

Our Section has a great core of active and service driven members...and 2025 was a good service year.

Our theme for 2026/2027 will be working together and to see if we can get more folks involved.

In an effort to accomplish this the DCMs and Alternate DCMs have agreed to a monthly "Section 1" meeting to do the following:

1. Maintain a Section 1 Events Calendar to avoid conflicts.
2. Maintain a rolling List of service roles looking for volunteers..for all our district events, (so this list can be put out to all the groups in all our districts).
3. To work together on solutions to common challenges...such as low Group and GSR involvement.
4. To facilitate Districts working together on events such as our New Years Alcathon, our Unity Picnic.. in addition to smaller events like workshops.

5. ...To better support each other's events by helping and/or spreading the word.

Our hope is that Section 1, (working together in Unity), can increase the reach of the hand of AA.

Thank you for your time and your service.

Section II

District 8 - Kim K.

Good Morning,

I'm Kim, the DCM for District 8. District 8 has 9 registered groups that offer 17 meetings. Our district meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We have a treasurer, secretary and 5 GSR's who are in regular attendance at our meetings. We currently have \$1,100.21 in our account.

At our District meeting on the 10th, the GSR's reported-
The Barber Group elected new service positions and we have a new GSR and Alt. GSR from their group.

Moorestown Men Into Action has started the planning for their yearly family bowling event at Laurel Lanes.

A few of our groups will be celebrating group anniversaries in March and May:

Feast First will celebrate their 3rd anniversary on Tuesday, March 10th with a speaker at 7:30 pm.

Sunday Night Spiritual will celebrate its 47th anniversary on Sunday, March 22nd. There will be food at 6pm and 2 speakers at 7pm.

Masonville's anniversary is set for Monday, May 18th with food at 6pm and speaker at 7pm.

Information about all the anniversaries will be posted on Intergroup and the Area websites.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,
Kim K
2/15/2026

District 26 - Jimmy R

Hello, I'm Jimmy and I am an alcoholic.

I currently serve as the DCM for District 26 as of January of this year.
Our current treasury has \$2903.

Also new officers for our area as of January are:

Alternate - DCM - Laura W.

Secretary - John G.

Treasurer - Katie K.

We also have 2 new positions for our district that were created.

We now have Lisa K. Who will serve as our Tech Coordinator.

We also have Jesse B. who will serve as our Workshop Coordinator. He will primarily work with individual workshop committees to help facilitate successful workshops.

We are currently organizing part 3 of a Service Workshop for late April or early May. This will cover service at the area level. If you'd like to participate please reach out to Laura W. or myself.

We have finalized details for a bus trip to GSO scheduled for May 29th. The bus will leave at 7 am. Tickets are \$50. Attendees will receive \$45 back after the event.

Gratefully submitted Jimmy R.

District 9 - Dawn M

Gratitude

In keeping with the attitude of gratitude that Alcoholics Anonymous teaches us, District 9 would like to thank the host Districts for their service and dedication in organizing and hosting the Area 45 Winter Assembly. Your commitment to service helps strengthen our fellowship and supports the ongoing work of the Area.

And a special thank you to Andy who has provided me with support and guidance as I transition into my new role as DCM for District 9.

Treasurer's Report

District 9 remains financially stable this quarter.

Total Balance: \$3,774.45

Contributions Received From:

- o Morning Glory
- o Primary Purpose Group
- o JFK Promises

We are grateful for the continued support of our groups.

District Participation & Announcements

District members are continuously informed of and encouraged to participate in Area and Regional events such as NERAASA in February, Area 45 Convention in May and EACYPAA at the end of March

District Business

Upcoming Meeting

Our District meeting is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The next District 9 meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 24th at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

District Support

Andy and I will begin visiting meetings within our District to encourage participation at all levels of service, with particular emphasis on the GSR position. Our goal is to increase representation, strengthen communication between the groups and the Area, and support continued growth in service.

Upcoming Event

The District discussed hosting another Bowling Party at Lucky Strike in Cherry Hill. This event has been well received and well attended in the past and continues to support fellowship and engagement within the district.

- Andy will contact the venue to obtain pricing and negotiate the best possible rate.
- The event is tentatively planned for the second or third week of April.

Closing

District 9 continues to focus on participation, communication, and fellowship within the district while maintaining financial stability and supporting Area initiatives.

Respectfully submitted with love and service.

Dawn Mickel

DCM District 9

District 7 - Not Present, Not Submitted

Section Lead - Not Present, Not Submitted

Section III

District 13 - Justin S, Read by Chad P

Good morning/afternoon, Area 45.

My name is Justin S. and I am the District Committee Member for District 13. I am currently traveling and unable to be with you in person today, so I want to start by extending a huge thank you to the person reading this report on my behalf.

I'd also like to acknowledge the Area officers, my fellow DCMs, and especially the GSRs here today. Thank you all for your dedicated service to our fellowship.

Treasury & District Updates

Treasury: Our district treasury remains unchanged since November. However, we are excited to put those available funds to good use shortly as we leverage them for an upcoming district workshop.

Woodstown Anniversary: The Woodstown Group recently celebrated a milestone 71st Anniversary! It was a fantastic event. District 13 was proud to support the celebration by providing several varieties of homemade chili and leading the sobriety countdown.

We used the Woodstown Anniversary as a springboard to launch our Salem County District 13 Diner Tour for 2026. We solicited participants to sign up via text for communications, and the response from the crowd was inspiring.

We held our first "Diner Tour" stop on February 6, which served as our district meeting. I am so grateful for the group that showed up to participate. The energy was high, and the focus of our discussion was a workshop idea presented by the GSR for the Good Morning Penns Grove group.

Out of the district diner meeting, we formed a plan to host a Tradition 1 Unity Workshop. In less than a week, we secured the Zion Community Church in Clarksboro on the next Friday, March 13, from 6-8pm. If you can join us, we have two speakers followed by small group breakouts to discuss and get help increasing Unity in our meetings and districts.

We are looking to keep this momentum going! Our next Diner Tour stop will be on the first Friday in March at The Pointe 40 Diner (near the Elmer Grange).

All are welcome to join us on the tour—it is a great way to stay connected. If you'd like to receive District 13 updates or join the text thread for our next stop, please reach out to me. Justin S. 609-315-1214. Just let me know who you are and that you want more District 13 info in the text.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service! And thanks again to Chad for organizing the workshop and reading this report!

Respectfully submitted, Justin S.

District 14 - Paula H

Good morning! My name is Paula H. and I am an alcoholic.

I am honored to have been chosen to be the new DCM for District 14.

Per our Treasurer, our current treasury balance as of 1/15/26 is \$2753.12.

I am excited to have come here with a brand new GSR in attendance, completing his training today, along with other GSRs and active members from our District.

Our district meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM at 1st UMC at 201 N. 2nd St, Millville NJ 08332. We have now made our district meetings hybrid to allow for participation from those who cannot attend physically. A shout out to Pat from the Accessibilities Committee for helping us set that up. (FYI: the Zoom Meeting ID is 84960882855 and the passcode is Access.)

Our members are excited to be of service. We will be setting up new committees this month for our annual Picnic, Camping Trip, another Unity Event and a couple of workshops. We also will be having numerous Alca-thons, hosted by various groups in the District. We are gaining momentum in participation, which is exciting. We are looking for a busy, and productive year.

As the new DCM, I have been visiting numerous groups in our District to encourage participation and to be of service.

Respectfully, in love and service,
Paula H.

Section III Lead - Dave B

1. Attended District 13 Meeting
2. Attended South Jersey Inter-group meeting
3. Working with District 13 Tradition 1 workshop:

March 13, 2026 6pm to 8 pm
Zion Community Church Clarksboro NJ

Section IV

District 15 - Pat J

Good Morning, I'm Pat J. and I'm an alcoholic. I'm district 15's new DCM after being a GSR for my home group. I am grateful for this service.

This past year saw District 15 continue serving the AA groups from Barnegat in the north to New Gretna in the south and including Long Beach Island. The biggest challenge to our district is the number of groups that do not send a GSR to the meetings or support district 15. Out of the 51 groups that welcome alcoholics to a life of sobriety, just 17 are on the rolls as having a GSR and regular attendance at our monthly meetings held the second Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Church of the Holy Spirit hover between seven to ten.

We are developing a committee to visit the meetings and talk up the importance and benefits of having a GSR and invite members to attend a district meeting. The GSRs that do attend report their meetings are healthy with between 35 and 50 regular attendees.

Despite the lack of bodies, the district has done considerable work to foster the spirit of AA fellowship by hosting two holiday parties and a holiday alcahthon that were all well attended.

In 2026, our outgoing officers initiated 4 workshops: three on the traditions and one on safety in AA.

We have successfully turned over all officer positions:

Dawn V is secretary, Jay D is Treasurer, Faith A is Alt treasurer, Pat J is DCM and Gary A is Alt. DCM.

We are in the process of approving our 2026 budget and we have the district treasury is solid. Thank you.

Districts 16/17 - Francine M

Hi I'm Francine, new DCM for District 16/17 our elections were held in November with new treasury /Ellie L Alt DCM

Our meetings are held currently at Cape /Atlantic Intergroup Hybrid First Thursday of every month @6:30.

Today we had the honor of hosting the breakfast for this assembly.

It is usually around 15 groups that come to our district meeting and we hope to follow Cape Atlantic to their new building for in person meetings.

We have treasury as of today \$1497 checking, and \$3,009 in savings.

We are planning on having workshops in the near future with some help from other districts. Also my plan is to try and go to the meetings in my district who are not involved in Area.

I would personally like to thank all my GSRs and for their service today

Thank you Bob our Section Leader for all your help

District 18 - Rob G

Spring workshop at the Sea Isle City Community Center, April 25th from 11 AM to 2 PM. The format will be an old timers meeting to discuss their story and as it pertains to history in aa in Cape May County.

We have about 25 active groups in the northern part of Cape May County, near here today.

Our finances are in good standing as we support GSO financially.

Our district meeting is held the first Sunday of every month live in person in Ocean City at 630pm

District 19 - Deb L

Hi, this is Deb Lyle

District 19 DCM

Report for assembly.

First I'd like to welcome the new panel for Area 45.

Our business meeting is held the last Sunday of every month at the 12 Step house on Oak St in Wildwood. January meeting was canceled due to the weather, but prior to that on January 15 we held a workshop on the plain language, Big Book and technology, which The Twelve Step House in Wildwood New Jersey had voted on starting a meeting using the plain language big book. Information on that meeting will be announced after their February business meeting.

Our account balance for our district is \$1,000.00 dollar prudent reserve and our balance as of January 1st is \$5509.42. For a total of \$6,509.42

At February's business meeting, we will be discussing having another workshop and what the topic will be.

Thank you for allowing me to be in service to our district and our area.

Section IV Lead - Bob D

Good Morning, my name is Bob Derbyshire and I am the newly elected DCM At Large/ Section 4 Leader.

I would like to first thank the Section 4 team, the DCM's and GSR for all their hard work to make today possible. I want to especially thank Deb L., from District 19 who organized the initial planning and guided me through the process.

It's exciting to be involved at the Area service level again. I look forward to working with the new panel and committee chairs.

I have been able to attend all 4 districts in person including a workshop in Wildwood for District 19. I have also met virtually with the Area Chair Julie and the other Section Leaders and some districts during the planning of the Assembly and for their monthly district meetings.

After conferring with various districts, I am confident the next two years are going to be special. They have some great things planned and I hope to assist wherever possible. Section 4 is at the center of several upcoming events including the Annual Area 45 General Service Convention, the Mini-Conference in Galloway and EGYAPAA at Harrah's in Atlantic City. I am offering any assistance these committees might need.

Again thanks to everyone who helped today. Bob D

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AdHoc Committee on Section Leads - Ken T

I'm an alcoholic, and my name is Ken.

I'm grateful to have been asked to serve as Ad-Hoc committee chair in an effort to address some concerns our newly elected Section Leaders have expressed. I've already consulted with some colleagues for their experience, as well as our literature, and look forward to meeting with our committee later this month.

Yours in Service

Ken T

Accessibilities - Joannie R

Hello everyone! My name is Joanie R and I am an alcoholic and I want to thank everyone for allowing me to be of service as your new accessibilities chairperson! I am new in this position, so please bear with me. We had an executive decision to split the budget with the convention committee to cover the audiovisual for the upcoming convention in Atlantic City With Patrick and Julie last week. The Clarksboro women's meeting which is located in Clarksboro NJ called women's big book study went to the cathedral kitchen to feed the poor in Camden in December. It was a huge success. We plan on doing more of them! Since I have been newly elected by my church, which is the Trinity Episcopal Church in Swedesboro as a New convention and conclave representative, I hope that jointly we can get some of the meetings back open that were shut down by Covid in the Gloucester County area. This will be determined the future discussions. In service, your trusted servant Joanie R!

Archives - George H

Archives Committee Chair has been reviewing archives manual and contents of the storage locker for February Assembly and March Archives room, making weekly trips to storage locker Egg Harbor Twp.

Participated in NE east Archivists first virtual meeting hosted by Area 49. Alerted GSO Archives to taking over Area 45 Position. Worked to get Archives email link and reviewed computer.

Attended 3 Convention Committee meetings in Pemberton and one on-site in Atlantic City.

Several new post boards have been developed for the convention, and a powerpoint on AA in Greater Philadelphia AA 1930-49. Coordinated research with SEPIA and Area 44.

Set up Archives Display for Area 45 Assembly and participated in Assembly Section IV.

Met with CJIG Archivist on a Section I Poster Board for Summer Assembly.

Wrote Area 45 news letter Archives article, including thank you to past Archivist Roy C.

Planned NERAASA and March National Archives event trip, reviewing available budget, and began looking at September 2026 National Archives Workshop Washington State.

Audio/Visual - Ken I

I'm Ken I, I'm the new audio/visual chair. We have one other member and are looking for anyone else that might be interested in helping spread the use of the equipment. We've been to the Woodstown Group Anniversary already and look forward to helping others..

Bridging the Gap - Gary F

Good morning! I am Gary F and I am a grateful, recovering alcoholic. It is an honor and privilege to serve as the Area 45 Bridging the Gap Committee Chairperson for Panel 76.

Thank you for entrusting me with this responsibility.

For those unfamiliar with our committee's mission, Bridging the Gap enables patients in treatment facilities to connect with a temporary contact from our fellowship post-discharge and assist them with becoming acclimated to the local AA community.

Our committee is in search of new members to serve in various capacities. As always, we are seeking those willing to serve as Temporary Contact Volunteers. In our transition between general service panels, we have been updating our volunteer databases and noticing a disturbing decline in our rosters. Thus, we need more support in most of our regions, but particularly in Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, & Salem Counties. If you are looking for an opportunity to get involved, please stop at our table and see us.

We continue to work with the treatment facilities that we've been associated with, and we are beginning to gradually reach out to new ones. We need support reaching out to facilities to promote this service. If you or your group bring a meeting into a treatment facility, please try to mention Bridging the Gap. We suggest that you bring our blue "New Member" pamphlets which explain all the details of this service.

We will be attending both the Area 45 and Young Peoples' conventions in Atlantic City in March, so stop down and see us. I will be attending NERAASA next weekend in Maine and hope to come away with some new information, particularly after attending the Corrections & Bridging the Gap roundtables.

As always, Bridging the Gap stands ready to assist you in your district events.

Our committee meets virtually on the second Monday of each month at 7pm. Zoom meeting ID and password are available on the Area 45 website calendar, and all are welcome.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our previous chairperson Josh P and coordinator Scott P for their guidance in preparing me for this detail.

Thank you all for allowing me to be of service.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary F
Chairperson
SNJAA Area 45 Bridging the Gap Committee

Budget & Finance - Frank C

The Budget Committee will confer with all committees in re their budget needs for 2027 and will begin drafting the budget for 2027. Budget Committee plans to have a draft budget available for the Spring 2026 assembly. Budget Committee will host Q&A sessions related to the budget in the Summer between the Spring and Summer Assemblies.

Frank C.

Convention - Jessica S

Hi, my name is Jess B and I am an alcoholic and also grateful to serve as your convention chair! We are only 35 days away from the convention and things are definitely picking up! I have a sign-up sheet with me for anyone who would like to chair a marathon meeting, please come sign up! Also, if any committees are having tables at the convention, please come to see me today for some additional information.

Some information about the convention. Online registration is open until March 10 th . The online merchandise store is open as well with fun tie dye prints, preorder and you can pick up at the convention. March 1st is the last day to reserve a hotel room with our discount. Please reserve rooms through the link provided on the convention website so we get credit for the rooms to meet our room counts in our contract. March 6 th is the last day to purchase meals.

And finally, as per the policy at Bally's, No outside food or beverage is permitted in the conference center where the convention will be held. Reusable water bottles are allowed.

Water and coffee will be provided. I hope to see you all at the convention! And don't forget the sixties theme, come in your best outfits!

In love and service,
Jess B

CPC/PI - Donna C

Hi,

I am Donna C and I am an alcoholic. I've just rotated into the position of Chair of CPC-PI Committee. Thank you, Katie T. for all your assistance and patience as I begin this new service position. I know you will assist in any way needed.

I am excited to be a trusted servant of this position.

I am passionate about this service position. I have worked as a nurse for 47 years, I have seen, firsthand, how alcoholics are treated in the ED and/or in an inpatient setting.

I believe that educating the professional community about AA can only help alcoholics a way to get and stay sober. I will choose my words wisely and follow the AA Guidelines.

My plan is to contact:

1. Nursing schools
2. Medical Schools
3. Lawyers
4. Courts
5. High Schools
6. Doctor's Offices
7. Fire and EMT Stations
8. Police Departments etc.

Please come over to our table to sign up and assist.

I know this will be rewarding.

Thank you to Section 4 for hosting this assembly. Your food never disappoints. Thanks to Rich H. for always telling me it will work out.

I will begin monthly zoom meetings and take it from there.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

In Grateful Service,
Donna C

Corrections - Mark M

Appointed Corrections Committee chair for the next 2 years.

Since joining the Corrections committee I have been able to talk with a lot for our speakers and meeting coordinators and I have gained a much better understanding of the value of the service area 45 Corrections Committee provides and it's an honor for me to be in a position to help our speakers in any way I possibly can. I would like to thank area 45 for giving me that opportunity to serve.

I would also like to thank Kelly S, Josh P for helping aid my transition to the chair position and being available for any questions I have had along the way. I believe in process not perfection, the only way you learn and grow is to use the people God makes available to you, for guidance and direction. Thanks you

Orientation - Wendy M

We had a combination of 48 new GSR's, DCM's, and Alternates.

Grapevine - Pat M

Hello everyone

Thanks for letting me serve as your grapevine chair. I was able to get with Roseanne and get the grapevine stuff. She explained the position. I also spoke with Joe E about the position and took a few of his suggestions. I attended the area 44 grapevine meeting and got some great contacts. I plan on attending most area functions and being the cheerleader for grapevine. So I do have an ask of everyone, if your district, home group or Committee is having any sort of function and you would like the Grapevine to come out and set up a table. Please contact me at grapevine@snjaa.org

Newsletter - Tara C

Area 45's first-quarter newsletter dropped in your inbox this week. Didn't get it? Check your Spam folder; then white list my and other email addresses ending in "@snjaa.org"

A shout out of thanks to past-Newsletter Chair Heather and Chair Julie W for extra eyeballs, Secretary Charlie T for distribution. Also, I'm acknowledging the extensive contribution of Archives Committee Chair George who is building upon the work of outgoing Chair Roy C. - thanks fellas. You can expect more from the Area Archives in future issues.

Looking ahead, I am on a quest for content to share:

Templates of what has worked, (see pages 12-13)

Your service stories (see page 1) ,

Examples of how your home group worked together on behalf of AA and our Fellowship (read the Archives story)

Dig deep into your Experience, Strength & Hope lockers. Your story or idea could inspire or help someone else.

Lastly, this newsletter is yours. My questions for you and your groups:

1. What do you want to see in there?
2. What would you pass on?
3. Find me here at Assembly during lunch and let me know
4. Complete an upcoming online survey
5. Reach out to me to pass it on

Newsletter@snjaa.org — that email is on page 14. I hope this issue's content will get you there.

Yours in Service, Tara C., Newsletter Editor

Policy - Stephanie L

Good morning,

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Policy Chair for Panel 76. It's an honor to serve Area 45 and AA.

As we begin this panel, the Policy Committee is forming. I'm pleased to share that Fred E. and Rich H. have agreed to serve, and I look forward to working alongside them in support of the Area.

I also want to acknowledge that I was not able to have the Area Handbook updated, reformatted, and printed in time for this Assembly. The reformatting is being finalized, and the final approved version will be posted to the Area 45 website very soon. Printed copies will be available at the next Assembly.

Thank you for your patience as we get everything aligned for the new panel. I'm grateful for the trust placed in me and look forward to serving this Area to the best of my ability.

Thank you.

Scholarship - Kelly W

Hi, my name is Kelly, and I am an alcoholic. It's my privilege to serve as your Panel 76 Scholarship Committee Chair.

The purpose of the Scholarship Committee is to help facilitate scholarships for Area members to attend Northeast region-related events. The two events we support are NERAASA and the Northeast Regional Forum.

Before I continue, I do want to take a quick moment to say thank you to the people who have supported me in this role — our past Scholarship Chair, Michelle, for facilitating much of my rotation in; Julie, our Area Chair; Justin, our webmaster; Maureen, our treasurer; and Charlie, our secretary. I may have reached out more than once with questions — Julie in particular — and everyone handled them like absolute pros. Honestly, looking back, I probably should have started most of my communications with, "At the risk of sounding like a nudge..." but no one ever treated me that way, and I'm really grateful for how responsive and supportive everyone has been.

NERAASA is coming up very soon — in just about a week — and there is still time to apply for a scholarship. The scholarship amount is \$250. To receive reimbursement, you'll need to complete a short Google Form and provide a copy of your registration confirmation or invoice, so our treasurer has documentation that you attended the event. New GSRs, new DCMs, and first-time attendees will receive priority. That said, there is still plenty of scholarship money left in the budget, so even if you don't fall into one of those categories, please do go ahead and apply.

For members who have already applied, reimbursements will likely be handled at the event or shortly afterward. From this point forward, anyone who applies and attends NERAASA will receive their reimbursement after the event.

If you haven't seen the flyer yet, it's posted in the Announcements section of the Area 45 website. If you have trouble finding it, or just want the link directly, come see me today and I'll make sure you get it.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Website - Justin Z

Good morning my name is Justin

Since January I have been on a bit of a learn curve rollercoaster. Part of that learning curve was Learning area 45s email system. I believe I am in a good place now and have an understanding of it. If you have any questions about your account please see me today and or write me an email at webadmin@snjaa.org

I also made changes to the website and added in some new announcements and updates. I had to learn more about word press but I was able to catch up pretty quickly on the design parts.

I believe there some outstanding requests I need to take a look at and get updated, which should be completed soon if it has not been completed yet.

As for any new requests or updates please visit the website and use the appropriate forms under the Reports and Forms Tab to request what is needed such as events or group meetings. I also want to thank Pam and Carolyn who have helped me out with transitioning into this position.

Lastly If you want to design some websites or work some email accounts hit me up. Team work makes the dream work.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service
-Justin

Virtual Tech - Kerry K

Good morning, I would like to thank the section for hosting the assembly. Great job!

Congratulations to the incoming panel. It is going to be a great two years. I want to thank Julie for asking me to take this position. I want to thank Vikki for agreeing to sit on the committee. She is making sure that everyone online is in and is receiving all the information. A big shout out to Justin for showing me the ropes today and how to set everything up. If anyone is interested in being on the committee and helping to ensure that the meetings are secure please let me know.

with gratitude,
Kerry K
Virtual Tech Chairperson

Young People - Jake S

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service!

First and foremost, you may be asking what the age limit is to be a young person in AA and the common understanding is that anyone who is young, young at heart, or still has room to grow is a young person in AA.

I would like to change the description of this position found on page 12 of the handbook and will be making the recommendation of the following language to the area committee this afternoon:

The Young People's Committee chair will serve as a liaison between the Area and any active YPAA committees or young people's meetings in Area 45 to encourage mutual support and participation. They will establish workshops and events to grow and maintain young people's participation in Area Service. Also, they will be a resource to young people who are interested in service at any level.

This statement also reflects my goals while I serve the committee and I look forward to collaborating with the area panel and all of you to achieve them.

Finally, we are 38 days away from the Eastern Area Convention of Young People in AA (EACYPA) which will be held the last weekend in March at Harrahs in AC. There are over 1,000 people registered from all over the country and we expect to see you there! Also, if you are willing to contribute a scholarship it will help someone attend this convention who may not even be sober as we speak today. We are currently looking for speakers for panels on military service, staying sober during covid, careers, and personal relationships.

I will include the preregistration information to be sent out in the minutes or you can see us at the back table during lunch!

Yours in love and service,
Jake S.

Registration - Kyle L

My name is Kyle, and I'm an alcoholic.

I'm your new registration chair. I apologize if I'm just a tad less jubilant than our previous registration chair. Thanks for all your help Bob!

Congrats to all new panel officers

Thank you section IV and everyone that helped put this assembly together.

Thanks also to Ralph who makes our committee a committee, and thanks to Kerry, Katie, and Jean for helping us get the digital registration together.

The following numbers are representative of the folks that took part in our digital registration.

We had a total of 124 register for today's assembly.

20 virtual

22 Districts are represented here today.

A couple folks weren't sure. If you still aren't sure of your district please stop by and Ralph or myself can help you out.

52 responded that they were attending the DCM/GSR orientation (includes online)

- 51 GSRs
- 8 Alts
- 12 DCMs
- 5 Alts
- 3 Section Leaders
- 16 Committee Chairs
- 1 Intergroup Chair
- 5 Panel Members
- 3 Past Delegates
- 3 area 45 Tech team members
- 14 Area 45 members
- 13 Guest/Other

Yours in service,
Kyle L

PANEL REPORTS

Secretary - Charlie T

Good morning, I'm Charlie and I'm an alcoholic and I'm grateful to serve as your Area 45 Secretary for Panel 76.

Since commencing my term on January 1st, I have done the ordinary tasks associated with rotation into a new position including gaining credentials and access to email accounts and learning platforms such as Mailchimp. I want to thank Panel 74 Secretary Tanya for spending some time with me bringing me up to speed with the role.

I have also spent time getting acquainted with my fellow panelists establishing our rhythm, as well as working directly with our new Treasurer Maureen as she takes over my prior role.

I look forward to continuing to learn the ways in which I can bring the best of myself to the role in support of Area 45 and its members.

In closing, I am commuted to the timely distribution of Assembly minutes. I ask that all reports be submitted to the secretary email at secretary@snjaa.org by **no later** than Friday February 20th.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie T

Registrar - Katie T

Good morning Area 45 members. I am honored and grateful that you all have accepted and voted me in to be your Panel 76 Registrar. We have several open positions available across our Area and I will be reaching out to your section leaders to advise them of this vacancy and get those inactive districts back to active.

Thank you for taking the time out of your day and putting the aa welfare of others first in bringing your groups the service report of this assembly.

Gratefully your in loving Service,
Katie

Treasurer - Maureen D

Hello, I'm an alcoholic named Maureen and I am the Area 45 Treasurer. I stepped into this role in January as part of the new service rotations and have been learning the ropes. We hit a few bumps along the way getting me onto accounts, but I do have some access now and have been able to send bill pay reimbursements for submitted expense reports. Please send your reports monthly so I can stay on top of this for you.

2025 review:

7 th Tradition Contributions for 2025 = \$36,263

Total Expenses 2025 = \$48,140

Based on this, our Prudent Reserve (PR) for 2026 = \$24,070

7 th Tradition Checking – 1/1 - \$45,220.56 opening balance. Current balance \$46,886.49

Deposits in January were \$2,110.70 but did not post until 2/3 so they are not reconciled in the 1/31 balance.

Payments to Verizon, mail chimp, insurance and expense reports

7 th Tradition Savings - \$21,815 which is just shy of the new estimated PR

Thank you for allowing me to be of service

Chair - Julie W

Hello everyone, my name is Julie and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is May 19, 2002, my home group is Pen to Paper in Audobon and Wendy M is my sponsor. Thank you for entrusting me to be your Area 45 Chair.

Thank you again to Section 4 and District 18 for hosting us today.

I spent the majority of my time after the elections and before the New Year, appointing your Area Committee Chairs. Since I am new to Area 45, I want to thank everyone who helped with suggestions. I am happy to say all but one Committees have a Chair. If anyone has a suggestion for Workshop Chair, please contact me.

After officially rotating in as Chair, I met with the Panel, Committee Chairs and Section Leaders. During these meetings, I spoke about my three goals for this rotation, bringing the fire, unity and communication. My hope is to make General Service fun and attract more people to get involved in Area service.

If you were at the last Assembly, I'm sure everyone remembers we went a bit long for Area 45. When we did adjourn, we forgot to do something and I want to make this wrong right before we go on. If you were a part of Panel 74, please stand up. By being a part of Panel 74, you ensured Area 45 was unified and carried the message to the still suffering alcoholic. Service is not always convenient, but it is necessary and can be thankless. Panel 74, thank you for all of the time, love and effort you put into your service position.

Alternate Delegate - Phil K

I have been attending, either virtually or in-person, the monthly body meetings of Central Jersey Intergroup, South Jersey Intergroup, and Cape-Atlantic Intergroup. My reports to the three intergroups include details of upcoming area 45 events, correspondence I receive from the General Service Office, and invitations and encouragement for all in attendance at the intergroup meetings to get onto the Area 45 email list, to be kept updated on happenings in Area 45.

I have been supporting my fellow panelmates, upon request, on matters related to either their specific responsibilities or general concerns to the area. My attention, as well as that of the area delegate, is increasingly towards the General Service Conference (GSC) and working with our delegate to prepare for the GSC.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil K

A45/P76 Alternate Delegate

Delegate - Joe E

Fostering Unity and Communication in Our Fellowship

Hello Area 45 friends! I'm excited to share some important updates and highlights to help keep everyone connected and informed as we approach a season filled with service and unity. Whether you're new to General Service or a longtime participant, this report is designed to keep you in the loop and energized for what's ahead.

Area 45 Mini Conference: Mark Your Calendars!

The Area 45 Mini Conference is just around the corner! This year, we're pleased to offer both virtual and in-person options to ensure everyone has a chance to participate. The virtual session will take place on Wednesday April 8th, followed by the in-person session on Saturday April 18th at the Atlantic County Library in Galloway, NJ. These meetings are a fantastic opportunity to share your voice and stay involved in shaping the future of our fellowship.

Panel 76 Theme: Unity

Our guiding theme for Panel 76 is Unity. This core principle reminds us that, as members of Area 45, we are strongest when we work together. The quote, "United we live; disunited we shall perish," truly resonates as we face challenges and celebrate our successes. Let's keep this spirit alive as we move forward, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and valued.

General Service Conference: Stay Informed

The General Service Conference will convene from April 26th to May 2nd, bringing together voices from across the country. We encourage all members to stay informed on key topics and participate in discussions. Your input matters!

General Service Report Back: Trial Run

We're excited to announce a trial run for the General Service Report Back, designed to make it easier for you to learn about what's happening at the conference and how it impacts Area 45. I would like to partner with our Section Leaders to see if a homegroup in their Section would like to host a report back. The intent is to bring the report back to each section and make the information more available.

Area 45 Panel 76 Committee Assignments

- CPC & Archives: Our Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) and Archives committees are working hard to build relationships and preserve our rich history.

Delegate's Corner: Area 45 Website

Don't forget to check out the Area 45 Website for the latest news, events, and resources. The Delegate's Corner is regularly updated with important announcements and conference highlights.

Communication: Email via the Area 45 Secretary

If you have questions, need support, or want to share feedback, you can always email the me directly at delegate@snjaa.org. This channel is a great way to stay connected and ensure your voice is heard.

District Visits: Calling All DCMs!

We're looking for dedicated District Committee Members (DCMs) to send me an email directly and let me know the when and where of your district meetings. I want to come visit!! Please email me at delegate@snjaa.org to let me know. Your involvement is vital to strengthening our unity and making sure all districts are well-represented.

Conclusion: United We Move Forward

Thank you for your continued commitment and enthusiasm. Together, and only together, can we carry out our primary purpose. Let's embrace the Panel 76 theme of unity, support one another, and look forward to an inspiring Mini Conference and General Service season. "United we live; disunited we shall perish." See you soon, friends!

In love and service,

Joe E. Area 45 Delegate
CPC/Archives

11:56AM - Assembly Closed with the Responsibility Pledge

LUNCH

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

- Opened with the Serenity Prayer
- Roll Call by Secretary
- Anonymity Statement Read by Chair
- Explanation of Voting Eligibility and Discussion of Motions Read by Policy Chair

Call for Motions for Items to be placed on the Agenda for the Spring Assembly by Chair

Motion 1: Made by Jake S - Young People's Committee Chair:

"Delete current language on page 12 of the area handbook

Change to:

The Young People's Committee chair will serve as a liaison between the Area and any active YPAA committees or young people's meetings in Area 45 to encourage mutual support and participation. Establish workshops and events to grow and maintain young people's participation in Area Service. Be a resource to young people who are interested in service at any level"

Motion being made out of Committee was placed on the Agenda for Spring Assembly without discussion.

Motion 2: Made by Wendy M

“To have the Policy Committee review and make a recommendation regarding which Panel officers are issued an Area credit card or bank card for the purpose of conducting approved Area business and travel related to their service responsibilities.”

The motion was Seconded by Ken T.

The following background was provided by Wendy M:

Historically, Area 45 has ensured that the Delegate’s travel and service-related expenses are supported by the Area. Records indicate that, as early as Panel 48, expenses were reimbursed. At some point in subsequent panels, the practice evolved to issuing the Delegate an Area bank card to facilitate real-time travel and service expenses. While debit cards were not widely used in earlier years, financial tools and practices have evolved over time.

The Area 45 Handbook outlines the Delegate’s responsibility to represent the Area at the General Service Conference, regional events, and other service functions, and the Treasurer’s responsibility to manage Area funds and make travel arrangements for the Panel. The Handbook does not define the specific mechanism for handling Delegate travel expenses.

Recently, the practice of issuing a bank card to the Delegate was discontinued by panel decision, without formal Assembly discussion or a recorded action. Because this concerns how the Delegate position functions operationally, it is appropriate for the Assembly to consider and determine its direction moving forward.

Operational Realities

The Delegate represents Area 45 at the General Service Conference and regional events and travels independently while doing so. The Delegate also serves as a corporate officer of Area 45 under New Jersey nonprofit requirements, carrying legal and fiduciary responsibilities associated with the position.

In recent panels, there have been instances in which lodging was not secured in advance, requiring the Delegate to obtain last-minute accommodations. At the General Service Conference, required expenses such as parking have totaled approximately \$750 for the week. While these expenses are reimbursed by GSO, reimbursement is delayed by several weeks.

The Delegate is also responsible for ordering Conference pins and related materials. Current pricing estimates exceed \$400 and have reached as high as \$800 in prior panels. These expenses are incurred upfront and reimbursed later.

The cumulative effect of travel contingencies, Conference-related costs, and required materials can result in the Delegate advancing significant funds.

The Handbook states that the Treasurer is responsible for travel arrangements for the Panel. However, most hotels require the physical presentation of a credit or debit card at check-in. If the card used to reserve the room is not physically present, the Delegate must provide a personal card in order to secure the lodging.

Principles & Forward Focus

Concept I reminds us that ultimate responsibility and authority rest in the collective conscience. Concept III grants trusted servants the Right of Decision within their responsibilities; however, when longstanding Area practices affect a position shift, it strengthens the Assembly's unity to have the conversation together.

This motion is not about the current Delegate. It is about the position itself and how Area 45 equips future Delegates. We do not know who future Delegates will be or what their financial capacity may be. Service at that level should not depend on an individual's ability to front significant travel-related expenses or manage real-time financial obligations independently.

Bringing this matter before the Assembly allows the Area, as the voice of the groups, to determine how best to support the Delegate role going forward.

Motion was followed by brief discussion by:

Ken T
Charlie T
Stephanie L

Vote was held with following result

31 For
0 Against

Motion carried to be added to Agenda for Spring Assembly.

No more motions being brought, Area Committee Meeting was closed with the Responsibility Pledge.