

Answers to Area 86 Inventory Questions

(references to, or direct mention of, personal names redacted)

I. **When did you last attend the assembly?** (See attached spreadsheet)

II. **Do you understand the purpose of the Area 86 Committee and how it fits within the AA Service Structure?**

1. I guess you mean Area 86 Committee. Yes I think I understand it as the 1st step to carry the local groups messages up the ladder to GSO where our voice or opinions can be heard, among many others.
2. Yes I do.
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. Not totally. Working towards a better understanding through reading the manual and discussing with my service sponsor
6. Yes
7. What committee? The Inventory committee? Yes I understand and agree with self evaluation, however, the given name 'Inventory' is very confusing and misleading.
8. Yes
9. Yes. I perceive that it is a communication link between the GSO in New York and the Districts in our area. It passes on literature and other helpful resources and communicates any concerns we have back to NY. It reinforces our primary purpose to pass on our message to the still suffering alcoholic. It fosters growth in the program, and ensures the traditions and the world concepts.
10. Pretty well
11. Yes
12. The Committee sits between WSO and the District/Groups. The Committee provides communication between WSO and the Districts/Groups and also provides training for the Districts/Groups.
13. Yes
14. I think so
15. I understand fairly well. The committee's day to day activities are unknown to me but I understand their part in being a connection to AA as a whole for our area.
16. Yes
17. Yes
18. Half of the group answered yes and half answered no which made this an informative question to be asked in our group.
19. sure do.
20. Yes
21. Yes
22. Yes
23. Yes
24. Yes
25. I was learning.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. Yes
30. To promote Unity within the districts and groups. Also to carry our group conscience to GSO
31. Hi Jim
32. Yes. I believe it is to provide communication between our Area and GSO as well as assisting Groups and Districts in better serving AA and carrying our message.

33. YES
34. Yes
35. Yes
36. No
37. Yes
38. For the most part.
39. Yes somewhat. Still learning.
40. Yes
41. I understand more now than before assembly
42. Vaguely
43. Yes. It is the link between the groups in our various districts with GSO.
44. Yes
45. Yes
46. It is the soul purpose to inform the message of AA to all our members and what is new!
47. Not answered.
48. Yes
49. yes
50. Yes
51. Yes.
52. Yes.
53. As a DCM, yes
54. Yes
55. Yes
56. Group communication flows down, AA, GSO, and Conference Actions flow up to the groups. Area collects our districts (23 in Area 86) conscience and provides workshops that helps others to further our cause to help the sick and suffering alcoholic.
57. yes
58. I do.
59. Yes I do
60. yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM
61. Yes.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Yes.
65. Not fully, no
66. Yes.
67. Blank.
68. Mostly
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. Yes.
74. yes.
75. Yes, I think so.

III. What do feel the Committee is doing well? In what areas of Service does the AREA 86 Committee need improvement?

1. I know you are trying to become a paperless committee as most groups or org.'s are today. But remember, we are alcoholics; I think, in this particular case, paper forms should have

been handed out at Registration time; asking people to have them in at the end of the day, or the end of their time at the Assembly; Have a basket at each doorway for them to drop them in. You are assuming everyone has a computer; every group is informed and obviously, that is not true. You are not meeting people where they are at; you want them to be where you are at.

2. The Assemblies are well organized and the workshops are very helpful. I know some groups can't afford to send their GSR's to the Assemblies. I wondered if there was any opportunity to apply for subsidies/funding so that more GSR's could attend.
3. Does well in getting out to districts. Could have more information on area website.
4. In all areas
5. Not Answered
6. I guess there is always room for improvement. Before my husband died, he was in a wheelchair and had difficulty finding rooms with access. I think this will be an ongoing problem.
7. I guess you mean the Area 86 leadership. I only joined AA November 2013 and this conference is the only thing that connected me with the Area 86 function.
8. from everything I observed, the committee is communicating well between GSO and the districts. I'm not aware of any areas needing improvement.
9. I feel the Committee is communicating well and is responsive to our needs. They are open and accountable about finances and they spend our contributions responsibly. They also show enthusiasm and provide hope and inspiration to other sober alcoholics that you can lead full, happy and purposeful lives in the program.
10. Not answered.
11. Committee reports are very good. More direct contact via phone/in person/email would improve communication.
12. I feel that the Committee is doing well. Two areas that the Committee needs to address are: the application of Bridging the GAP to incarcerations (prisons), and abuse within the program, (13th Stepping).
13. need to improve assembly workshops
14. good in general
15. I assume the Committee is doing a fine job. As for growth or improvement, I don't know if I have the experience to make an educated comment here.
16. The members of the Committee are available for questions - both at the Assemblies and in general I find they are accountable and answer questions to the best of their ability (if they can't they do the research and follow-up) The Assemblies are extremely well run (sheduling, selection of workshops, etc) I like the fact that duties are shared (ie Chairperson and Alt Delegate are attending round ups, etc) I think **** is doing an exceptional job as Chairperson (I feel much more a 'part of' through his emails and regular contact than I have with past Chairs) I applaud the fact that our Delegate has the ability to delegate responsibilities I also really appreciate the 'appropriate' humour that is scattered throughout the Assembly time. I recall ***** once made a point of saying that telling jokes to fill time while ballots were counted was not appropriate as people had differing senses of humour. I agree and appreciated his comment. No areas of improvement come to mind at present
17. I really like that the delegates get out to district roundups to make reports. As well as representation at our district service day. We seem to be well informed at our district level as to what is going on at the area level
18. Good communication and participation at Area functions and events. Suggested improvements might include providing more "by the book" explanations at the Area Assembly workshops. Less opinion and more information that is truly in line with our written history has been requested. Other areas that may need improvement might be more

inclusiveness by districts outside of the Hamilton area (not sure the Committee can do anything about this since most committee members are elected but it was one note that was made).

19. i am currently in the process of getting back into service. I have moved to a district that service is not as active as it was in the district I served. This is do to the district is larger and more remote. I do find aa members here know little of what is offered at the area , or should I say the "attraction" of what the area has to offer.
20. This inventory is a fantastic idea!
21. The Area 86 Committee needs to remember that they are accountable to the AA membership as a whole. Transparency in all matters is needed.
22. The assembly is well organized. I would like to see some type of date deconflition but do not know if area has any control over this. London has the western conference very near the fall assembly and this year they are the same weekend!
23. Yes
24. can't speak to that
25. I am not very aware of what is going on at this level now. I think that special needs and remote communities could always use more support and awareness throughout AA membership. I very rarely ever hear it even mentioned.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Responding to Districts by attending and participating in Service days, round-ups, and other AA events. Providing support to District committees. Promoting AA in Area 86.
29. Most everything. Workshops that involve issues within a group & solving these issues. Ie gossip & what iit is& how to prevent it. Role play various scenarios.
30. Pass
31. Hello ****
32. I believe that the Area Committee's jobs are not easy to do. I believe they do the best the can in assisting the District's and DCM's in many areas so that we all can continue to carry the message of AA to the still suffering Alcoholic. I commend them all on their efforts.
33. Bridging the Gap
34. getting information out and listening to the gsr's
35. People are stepping up when needed..temporary replacement of Delegate & Chairperson when needed. The area could keep D.C.M.s aware of needs to split Districts when they are unable to keep in touch with groups on a personal level[too many groups in a District]
36. Unknown
37. Seems to be going OK to me
38. I imagine the committee is doing a fine job as there aren't many bumps occurring that I'm aware of. I'm sure it's already being sorted out but it seemed as though the Treasurer was having a few difficulties with the job. I would ask that the committee support the fellow with some positive encouragement.
39. The committee strives well to help those in need. Like above still learning so have no real impot that I can offer at this time.
40. Not Answered
41. I feel it is doing well as is
42. Yes
43. Absolutely yes. These volunteers are truly demonstrating graditude in action. The many assemblies I have attended have contributed greatly of the work we need to do and are doing to carry the message to those are still suffering.
44. all ok

45. The Committee is definitely creating and sustaining a sense of inclusiveness and unity within our Area but also with the GSO and the Conference. there is accessibility and continuity.
46. The committee seems to be doing well and things in which need to be dealt with are that some people has some strenght and aren't in there appropriate positions to maximize there true potential.
47. Pro: Attending local functions. Need: Better communication of concerns/activity of Area to members - (Maybe is is just our DCM's filter), GSO activity and concerns for AA's future. Great to hear all the financial numbers, but a 'simple joe' summary of what it means maybe would sink in to the membership better.
48. Better constructed assemblies , delegates talk to much about themselves , waist and are I'll prepared!
49. I believe they are doing things the way it was designed to be done
50. We need a new dcm district 7
51. Blank
52. Yes.
53. Doing an inventory, good. Having a survey that I've spent well over an hour on, not so much. After filling most of this out, I would have preferred a simple multiple choice rating with a spot for comments at the end. Spending time with alcoholics that can barely read, I can see how this survey could be problematic
54. Communication through out the Area. Trying to support all Districts and keeping them connected to AA as a whole. The Past Delegates need to put their egos and personalities aside and lead by example. We are missing out on a lot and the tension is obvious!
55. Communication is excellent. We can always improve our service through continued humility and love.
56. Communication from below is getting up to the districts. Having someone different from GSO at each assembly is a good informational and spiritual tool. Area members speak on the individual spiritual level while delivering the business. Would like to see more encouragement of communicating with each other..less territorial.
57. The information being received is concise and well documented. As a GSR I have many avenues to keep myself informed to relay any and all necessary information to my group. My role as information gatherer and "relayer" is made relatively easy. I would like to see the Area 86 Committee more present in and amongst the groups and not just at assemblies. Albeit I know how busy the role is, it would be great to keep all parts of the triangle in constant direct communication. And perhaps more talk of the committee members' experiences in service at say district meetings and at the group level somehow. It is awe inspiring how it all comes together in AA and how vast it is and the newcomer might really get a sense they are not alone but part of a fellowship of thousands of people in recovery trying to support one another to health. It may seem less intimidating if the Area Committee members make more appearances where it all began for them.
58. Being present,friendly and welcoming to new participants. Give complete and easy to understand reports of their activities. I'm too new at this to be able to say what they need to improve on.
59. Blank.
60. the committee is doing very well
61. The committee does a good job and provides the opportunity to become involved in service in our area. I believe a better job could be done to attract newcomers to service and emphasize it's spiritual importance.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.

64. I believe that all committee members are doing their job to the best of their ability. Don't see any need for improvement.
65. Sometimes I think communication is condescending - so brushing up on communication skills could be helpful. Not everyone has been around AA for years and years.
66. Assemblies are well run and organized, once you get there. Not much promotion of the value of attending assemblies in my Group or District.
67. Blank.
68. Motivates well.
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. They are getting the message out there, to all areas.
74. The committee is available quickly should questions come up or help needed. Answers honestly and respectfully. Passing along of all information is essential, needs some attention. All members of Area 86 need the information to make an informed group conscience when needed.
75. I like the way difficulties with finances are being improved, and this is being communicated, the formation of an Area 86 BTG committee. Growth: Archives and Website. I think some work needs to be done to get women more involved on ad hoc committees, as sub committee chairs, and Area 86 officers.

IV. What is meant by good by Leading by Example? What are qualities of a good Service leader?

1. Good Communication Skills - verbal and written as well as speaking; I love ***** **** but he speaks quickly, and, with his accent, I often cannot understand him - like when he was accepting his recent nomination as Trustee. If I was reading this, I would bring it to his attention so he can be aware of it.
2. The 12th tradition is a good guideline for 'leading by example'. I also think that an attitude of gratitude is an important quality as well. Attraction rather than promotion goes a long way too.
3. You need to have what others want in sobriety. A good service leader must be able to listen and be able to talk the traditions and concepts.
4. It is the same as you could be the only big book your friends read.
5. Walk the talk. Being fully accountable to group members in addressing concerns and delivering answers. Timely reporting, passion for AA and a desire to help others.
6. Attraction rather than promotion. Listening to all opinions.
7. Attendance at home group meetings and other district and area meetings that they are qualified to go to. Show enthusiasm, encouragement and support. Be approachable that they are real people and put their pants on one leg at a time too.
8. Having qualities that I want. Honesty, open-mindedness and willingness.
9. You walk the walk. You treat others the way you would want to be treated. Living a life of "GOD" (Good orderly direction) in and out of the AA rooms. Following the group conscience instead of your own agenda. Putting others ahead of yourself through sponsorship. Being open minded and honest as well as possessing good communication skills are also important qualities.
10. The example is walking, not just talking.
11. Humble servant vs Hierarchical leader. Elder Statesman vs Bleeding Deacon. A service leader takes action and does not just delegate or wait for others to "do"

12. **** * provides a good write-up on Leadership. Leading by Example is first doing what you ask others to do, (walk the walk). A good service leader is one who practices the 11 Step Prayer and the principles of the program (Steps, Traditions, and Concepts).
13. An open mind
14. to keep the "feel" of anonymity and not give the impression they are in politics to become delegate
15. Patience, good will, love/fellowship.
16. Interesting questions. Leading by Example translates to me as "do as I do". A leader needs to demonstrate characteristics of honesty, responsibility, accountability, approachability and professionalism through action.
17. making sure that the message is being carried at all levels levels of the service structure structure.
18. Leading by example is a matter of functioning in a way that is respectable, rather than demanding respect or attention. Qualities of a good leader are: the ability to listen beyond words and understand the intention of what is being said; Not taking negative comments to heart - being thick skinned and compassionate. The ability to resolve issues in a way were all parties are treated respectfully. Someone who doesn't assume that their opinions or perspectives are the only ways of looking at a situation. A good communicator.
19. leading by example is just that, making oneself available to serve the still suffering and the society alcoholics anonymous. Good service leaders are driven by love of the fellowship and desire to serve others, even if that means working behind the scene. The best read about the qualities of service leaders can be found in the service manual, concept 9,page 36. It says it better than i ever could
20. Getting the ego out of the way to serve. Listening skills and patience and a sponsor.
21. When an AA member becomes a leader, they have been given the privilege of holding a position of trust for a 2 year term, usually. Qualities would be: A basic understanding of the AA 12 traditions. Fulfilling the duties of the position is important. The ability to listen with an open mind. The ability to work with others on the Committee without being dominant and controlling.The ability to ask for help if needed.
22. Do as I do, not as I say. Service Leaders need integrity and good organizational skills. Punctuality and ability to keep meetings on topic are important. Need good communication skills, verbal, written and electronic.
23. Good communication skills. You may be the only AA person someone knows.
24. Practicing what you preach; don't ask the membership to do something you are not doing.
25. My own understanding of leading by example and qualities of a good service leader includes: Acts with commitment and integrity, includes others who are interested in participating in the area of service (e.g. PI/CPC), communicates with the AA fellowship via District Committee and AA groups, has genuine humility - open mind, sees service position as a privilege rather than a status symbol. Another vital quality of leading by example, is that an AA member experienced in Service work at the District, Area or World Service "level" humbly shares with new AA members how to become involved in service work and remains available for guidance as needed.
26. Good listener and communicator
27. Walk the walk. Consistency and good communication.
28. Action speaks louder than words. Our actions should reflect love, tolerance and traditions of AA.
29. Walking the walk not talking the talk. Commitment
30. Pass

31. Area 86 rocks
32. I believe the important qualities of a good leader are that they listen, encourage and promote service work. That they provide by example what it means to follow the principles of AA and that by their example those new to Service are inspired to continue to serve their District's and the Area. A good example of trusted servant.
33. A good example is someone who not only steps up to the plate when needed, but also brings someone with them so they can learn too. The trick is to show by example how much fun service can be. I always tell people "service is the most fun you can have in AA with your clothes on".
34. applying the traditions in all affairs following SOP's. showing patience, love, and tolerance at all times.
35. Good service leaders show the way by exposing members of the District to the workings of the service structure as a whole. One way is by encouragement of participation at District meetings and Area Assemblies.
36. Service "leader"..If I work my program, act on the directions given by the Big Book and my sponsor, service is on the list of things to do. Could a person be viewed as a "beacon" of sorts as to how it works? Absolutely, but a leader? Nope..You know the saying, don't walk in front of me I may not follow, don't walk behind me I may not lead, walk beside me and we'll make the journey together.
37. impeccable with their word
38. Leading by example is showing an ungodly amount of patience and compassion with the rest of us. Humility goes a long way too.
39. From what my sponsor is suggesting going to meetings and doing service is leading by example. And always being there for our fellow members and twelve step work.
40. leading by example means to me, that you are showing me the best way to live a better life when it comes to AA .. what the 'leader does' is the way many will think things are to be done, whether it be honesty/integrity or on the other side of the coin, dishonest etc..
41. I think some service leaders are EGO DRIVEN but majority are doing it for the good of AA and I think all are doing a great job
42. being present , being accountable, active
43. Not telling but showing. Actions speak louder than words. Prior service in the home all home group positions, to be enthusiastic and open to dialogue to all concerned.
44. living the steps and traditions
45. I think the people I have worked with and know live the Steps and Traditions of AA not just intellectually but intuitively i.e. in the spirit. Nothing is asked that is not part of their experience and are always there for you if you are experiencing difficulty with encouragement.
46. The important of a good Service Leader those what is important for the AA who still suffers and doesn't over power the positions and is humble.
47. Not answered.
48. Listening
49. doing the work that is in front of you.
50. When the delegate does aa service work at the group level
51. doing what the service manual states and keeping up to the traditions and concepts. a good service leader is someone who listens to people and allows others to make mistakes and not say I told you so but help understand what went wrong
52. Yes.
53. That's funny. First part of that question has the answer in it. Telling another alcoholic what to do tends to be futile. Showing that person what works for me, setting the example, seems more effective

54. Leading by example is simple. Remembering that we are here to serve and ensure the hand of AA is always there for the still suffering Alcoholic. Qualities: Honesty, Time Management Skills, Dedication, a good working knowledge of the Traditions and the Concepts, Integrity, a strong work ethic, able to be corrected and able to acknowledge their errors.
55. Leading by example is living our program 24/7 not working it when needed. It means showing people change not selling people on change. A good service leader must be humble, patient, practice listening and not take themselves too seriously.
56. Not Governing, doing just as how it works. Working in a manner where they are/were effected by the anvil of experience. Respect, Humility, not using their knowledge as a weapon on the less informed or ignorant.
57. Remembering to put principles above personalities, prioritizing our primary purpose, staying humble and remembering to listen attentively to the minority voice. Diplomacy and open mindedness.
58. It means to walk the walk as well as talk the talk. don't just talk about the program of AA but live the program. Important qualities - someone who is willing to go the extra mile to help the "still struggling". In service positions it means always having the newcomer in mind and being creative to find ways to help him/her to "Keep coming back"
59. One who is willing to admit they have made a mistake, no ego, willing to teach and talk to GSR's
60. talk the talk .. walk the walk. when these go well together, people notice
61. To represent yourself in such a way that people are drawn to respect your position on matters even though they do not necessarily share the same opinion. Honesty, patience, tolerance, perseverance.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. I believe the leader should spread enthusiasm, inspiration and knowledge
65. Walk the walk and talk the talk. I'm sure it's much better to learn from a good service leader; not picking up on a less than stellar leader's bad habits. As far as the qualities - someone who follows a solid AA program, who is willing to step up. Perfection is not a necessity.
66. 'Do what I do' not just what I say'. Enthusiasm, openmindedness, supportive, sound and first-hand knowledge of the AA program and service structure
67. Blank.
68. do as I do not necessarily only what I say. Then make sure what I do fits the suggestions of the program
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. Walk the walk, don't just talk it. Humility, Willingness to cooperate, can admit an error.
74. Someone who puts his money where his mouth is. Does not just talk but walks the walk.
75. I understand Leading by example to mean action: how a leader acts, how they behave doing their service job, how they interact with other trusted servants and with A.A. members. Are they respectful, courteous, fair to all members: men and women?. Do they refer to and use A.A.'s Three Legacies to make decisions regarding their service work, and inter action with A.A. members, and servants to the best of their ability. Do they encourage other A.A. members/trusted servants to use them. Are they open and can listen to various points of view. Is fair, courteous, and respectful to all trusted

servants and A.A. members: men and women. Doesn't bully or gossip. Works at becoming familiar with the job/service role they have agreed to do and do it. Do not try and do other trusted servants' jobs or interfere with them getting their job done. Are they proud of A.A. and it's accomplishments? Are they enthusiastic about A.A. and what it has to offer? Are they aware of its weaknesses and willing to try and do something to lessen them. Qualities: Can practice restraint. Patience, respectful, approachable, knowledgeable about our Steps, traditions, and Concepts and able to put them into effect. Is a consensus builder. Is open to group conscience even if they think it is incorrect. Willing to learn, Dedication, commitment, able to weigh up criticism. Not hasty. Enthusiastic, patient, prayerful, self-aware, have a sense of humour, humble and generous.

V. Does the Area 86 Committee listen and/or communicate well with the Membership it serves?

1. I believe it does. My DCM sends "everything to me (I am Secretary of our District). I send everything to all GSR's and Contacts in my database, and there are many. I mail out stuff to those who have no computer. So no one in my District can complain about not being informed. If they don't know, they didn't read or they didn't listen.
2. Yes through the structure the DCM and alternate DCM communicate to the GSR's at the District level.
3. Appears to from the time I spent in service.
4. I think so.
5. Not Answered
6. yes it does.
7. Unfortunately I would have to say probably not. It is entirely based upon the activity and communication with the DCM and GSR. As a new comer, all the acronyms are very confusing. I am a flow chart kind of person and would like to see that more visible and not hidden in a pamphlet that you might have read within your first month and it didn't mean anything to you at that time.
8. At Assemblies it does.
9. Yes. There are several opportunities to ask questions at Conferences as well as the ASk IT basket portion of the agenda. They are also available to members via email and phone. They also will attend district meetings, round ups, service days or group biz meetings to inform and discuss requested topics such as Special Needs or PIC.
10. Not answered.
11. Not sure. Depending on the result and actions taken from this survey, I guess we'll see.
12. I think they do.
13. Yes
14. Fairly well
15. They do at the area meetings. I hear very little from them during the interm, though I don't know if that's business as usual.
16. Absolutely - at least based on my experience
17. Yes
18. In our opinion, yes.
19. yes i think it does, from my experience the breakdown occurs at the district level.
20. Yes I have experienced this with the current committee.
21. In general they are making an effort, however, being accountable to the membership could be improved.
22. I think so
23. I think it does.

24. Not sure; Personally, I get really upset in my district at the Apathy of the groups in participating in the District meetings, the Assemblies, etc, but most of all for their lack of Financial support to all 4 levels of service.
25. In some areas (i.e. finances, phone service, website, Grapevine, GSR reports, Treatment Facilities, Special Events)
26. Yes. Very well. We are very blessed to have a great DCM who does a super job in keeping all GSRs and Alt. informed
27. Yes.
28. Communication is two ways; committee tries its best.
29. Very much so.
30. For the most part I think the committee does listen well. But there is room for growth.
31. Yes
32. Yes I think so. They are always willing to be of assistance, answer questions from Member's, provide guidance share their experience, assist District's with various functions, workshop's etc, They have been a great support to District 16 and their support is very much appreciated.
33. Committee members are good at getting back to anyone who asks questions.
34. Yes
35. All of the Committee chairs seem to be quite good at helping District subcommittee chairs with anything that's needed for service at that level.
36. Yes
37. Yes, I believe they do
38. It does at the area meeting. Is there an emailed newsletter that they send out on an annual basis? I don't recall getting any updates on what they are up to through out the year. Is it up to me to enquire or do I have to attend their meetings to find out? My district emails out the minutes of our district meetings, does the committee do the same?
39. To my knowledge and from my own eyes yes very much so.
40. Yes, I feel they listen to the GSRs when they come to the mike and also info is sent along via our DCM and GSRs.
41. YES
42. Yes
43. Not answered.
44. I believe so
45. Yes, but only if the individuals on the Membership do the same..sometimes it's like herding cats..
46. Yes.
47. Maybe they do to the District level but from there to members is not that good.
48. No.
49. I believe they do, it is sometimes the people receiving it that do not listen or fail to understand the answers
50. Yes
51. i think so, but does this communication always make it to the groups- no, this is when service leadership would kick in and the area folks make sure their counterparts know what to do with the information
52. Yes.
53. Considering the emails I get from this committee, and their timely responses to mine, I would agree
54. I believe so.
55. If the members want the information, it is there for the taking. Interest in Area level is quite low for most.
56. I believe it does.

57. When every part of the service structure is unified the service structure operates well. If all parts are well informed and transparent then resentments can't rear its ugly head. I believe things are going well.
58. It tries very hard to communicate with the membership it serves. As a newbie, I don't see yet how much a group is really interested in what is happening at the area level. That may just be my own group but it seems that our business meetings, which is where a lot of what happens at Area gets passed along, we mostly deal with our own little issues in the limited amount of time that we take for a business meeting.
59. Blank.
60. somewhat..but I am satisfied with Delegates helping when a district or even a sub committee rep. needs help
61. I believe for the most part yes. A transmitter has to have a receiver.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. i believe so, but hard to answer unasked questions or concerns
65. Somewhat
66. AA is run by those who show up.. Area 86 Committee listens to those who attend area committee meetings and assemblies but cannot 'communicate' with 'the membership' except through the web site and 'focus' - neither of which can be directly communicated to 'the membership'
67. Blank.
68. Jury is still out on that one
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. I believe so.
74. I think they try to listen and communicate but sometimes meet up with indifference or criticism from other members.
75. Agendas and minutes get out well. I think the spot on the agenda recently for some open discussion is a worthwhile idea. I think more work needs to be done to help District understand what sub committee Chairs can do for Districts

VI. Does Area 86 provide a communication link between General Service Office (GSO) and the Groups?

1. Yes, I believe so although I have not had a lot of experience but what I have had has been excellent.
2. Yes and the newsletter sent to my home is also an avenue to stay connected to the GSO.
3. Appears to from the time I spent in service.
4. Yes *** does an excellent job.
5. Not Answered
6. Yes.
7. As mentioned in 5, it is dependent upon the DCM & GSR. I am sure they are trying and doing their best. It's just like at the conference. I came to find out about service opportunities and to see how to better keep my GSR accountable and found out that this should not be the case. So we are not to evaluate our GSR, however, you guys are holding yourselves accountable but you are dependent upon individual which are not to be held accountable so that leads to break down.
8. At Assemblies it does.

9. Yes. I received information from GSO via mail as a result of communicating my address to the Area secretary. I also received info from my DCM at district meetings as a GSR which I in turn communicate to my group at our biz meetings.
10. Not answered.
11. Yes
12. Yes
13. Not answered.
14. Yes
15. I'm busy enough being a communication link between my group and district. I guess I have faith that they are doing the same.
16. Absolutely!
17. Yes
18. We believe so
19. this communication link is a responsibility to those who serve at the area level. communication up the triangle has improved over the years. I miss going to area events for this reason. I pray financially I am able to get back to hearing the message first hand.
20. Yes
21. Yes
22. I believe all important info gets funneled down to the districts and groups.
23. Yes
24. I am proud of our District 11 leaders who have done so much to reach out to all the Groups; asking how they can help; making sure they get all the information passed down to the member. There is a lot of negativity at the group level toward service, and they (the DCM and ALT DCM) are doing their best to turn that around.
25. Have not heard anything other than about the Grapevine. When I was involved with the District then I heard about Area 86 and its link with GSO. At the group level, I do not hear anything at all about Area 86 or GSO..except for recently..this survey was announced!!
26. Yes
27. Yes.
28. yes if groups use it.
29. Yes
30. Yes
31. True
32. Yes I believe our Delegate's try very hard to keep the membership informed. Our current Delegate not only keeps us informed, but shares his experience at various functions. From doing this he is in fact not only keeping us in the loop, but showing the new person to service, the rewards that being of service can bring.
33. Our Delegate and our alternate Delegate are both great in this area.
34. Yes but, I believe there could be even more done to benefit the groups
35. All of the recent Delegates & Alternate Delegates seem well versed in the importance of good communication between GSO & the groups of the area.
36. Yes
37. Yes.
38. Yes. Again at the Area meetings.
39. Like above most definitely.
40. yes .. of course this is mostly done through our Delegate and I feel that the reports back are quite good. It would be good though if there was a time for questions to the Delegate when reports are given. Sometimes we don't always understand what all has happened or why.

41. That I do not know
42. Yes
43. Yes
44. don't know
45. Yes I was encouraged to contact and avail the opportunities of the GSO. There is plenty of information on forums, conventions available to the membership. I enjoyed the guest at our latest Assembly from GSO and his ability to reach out to all of us..inclusivity and accessibility.
46. Yes, we have a great DCM.
47. I would hope so
48. Yes
49. yes
50. Yes
51. I think so
52. Yes.
53. Refer to above Q5 answer. However, the onus is on the district officers to communicate to the groups communication from GSO. As a group member, I've seen but a small fraction of the information I get going directly to the groups
54. Yes however I don't think all the DCM's understand it is their responsibility to share ALL emails with their Alternates and forward any information they receive to the GSR's and the rest of the District Committees in a prompt fashion. The GSR's sometimes are at a loss and don't get the information.
55. See above.
56. Greatly Improved
57. It is easy to stay informed but the personal vs impersonal access of information can make people feel disconnected. Maybe some of the agenda items of special concern or extra sensitivity need to be communicated firsthand by the Area 86 Committee at the groups level and not watered down through the current structure (ie. need for contributions and financial status of GSO to provide essential services for the still struggling alcoholic). The Committee members know the structure more so and their experience may help assist the group conscience in being more informed when voting. I don't know how that would be done but inspite of all efforts DCMs and GSRs make to relay the specifics of motions things do get lost in translation and that may alter a vote/motion's essence. As far as communication between GSO and Groups I feel the same, would like to see GSO more prevalent within the groups somehow. As a GSR I think I see and hear from GSO mostly at assemblies and the occasional Area Meeting I attend. This thing is so far reaching and sometimes I don't even realize how interconnected the hands of AA are. Having ***** *. talk really helped me in my recovery as did ***** *. 's talk at the Traditions Workshop. I am a busy mom and I don't often get the time to go to enough service functions to see or hear all parts of the triangle in action. I have to admit some days those talks kept me from stepping out of my own service position. I realize how important what I am doing is and that all my efforts are of use. It helps me feel purposeful.
58. It does - the information highway is a little backed up in my particular lane though. I find it very time consuming to keep up with all the info that comes. I also find it a really good sleep aid - two paragraphs in and I'm gone.
59. Blank.
60. yes, but I think the DCM should be a link as well
61. It is adequate.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.

64. I believe so, what else can be expected other than shared communications between area 86 and gso
65. I think so
66. No. By it's structure Area 86 communicates with a DCM and he/she decides what is important enough to forward to Group GSRs. The DCM decides if the information available is important enough to send on to the GSRs who in turn filter what they receive before presenting it to those who show up at a Group Business Meeting, weeks later. AA [and Area 86+] communicates via the "Trickle Down Theory". "The less than elegant metaphor that... if one feeds the horse enough oats... some will pass through to the road... for the sparrows" - John Kenneth Galbraith
67. Blank.
68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. I believe so.
74. Could use improvement.
75. In general, I think so. It seems to depend n the delegate to some degree. It is helpful to have a GSO staff and a Canadian Trustee attend an Assembly during the term.

VII. How is Area 86 doing in encouraging interest in General Service? Does Area 86 attract and keep members interested in Service at assemblies? Why or Why not?

1. I don't know as I have been involved only for one year, although I have been sober for many years.
2. Yes Area 86 does it's best to encourage interest in General Service but the District holds more opportunity to attract non participating GSR's to first and foremost attend District meetings so that they can represent their groups. Service days are another excellent opportunity to learn more about General Service and are a must at least once a year for each District.
3. Can't answer , other than see the training being provided at assemblies. There is tremendous apathy when it comes to service in our district and that is a direct result of poor sponsorship.
4. Yes the seminars are great.
5. I do not feel qualified to answer based on my service experience
6. Yes.
7. No. Even on the sign in sheets you only had room for up to 3 visitors to sign in. So the expectation to expand service is not there as well as many may be intimidated that it is for GSR's only. In one workshop, a question was asked if a non DCM could attend the DCM workshop and the reply was no that it should be looked at as a School for DCM's. What about those aspiring to be a DCM? I do not agree with that. I went to the GSR school before becoming a GSR to see what it was all about the expectations before I make a commitment.
8. When I attend the Assembly I am inspired by the enthusiasm and commitment of workshop leaders, speakers and those who get up to the mike and bring questions forward.
9. They encourage interest. Once I had some sobriety under my belt, only then could I start to comprehend how each level worked together to support one another. I worked at the group level first, now the district level but I am slowly becoming aware of the opportunities available at the area level. I think the displays work well. I think it's important to be visible at different gatherings, ie meetings, round ups, service days,

conferences and communicate the job descriptions of delegates etc. For example it was cool when ***** **** outlined what he does each day as part of his job.

10. Very well
11. Personalities and cliques exist at area. If you are in one of these you are encouraged to stay in service.
12. I think Area 86 is doing a good job in encouraging interest in General Service. Two areas that could be improved are: communicating the joys of service (friendship, humour and satisfaction), and focussing on Concept 4 Participation (it is not good enough to allow participation, but to ask for participation).
13. Not answered.
14. if it were possible to shorten the time it might be better, otherwise no opinion. I thing encouragement comes from sponsors.
15. Encouraging interest in General Service to an alcoholic is like asking them if they want a hang over with out all of the fussing around with the drink. I do believe that they should keep encouraging General Service work as they have had some great experience with it. To me asking "Why or Why not?" is just a numbers game. How many horses did they lead to water? How many of them drank?
16. I think the fact that present (and even past!) Committee and Sub-Committee members (ie *** *****) are willing to attend District Service Days is a big plus for General Service as is the message shared by a Committee member at Round Ups and Conferences. The workshops at our Assemblies are also highly encouraging and helpful. I do believe that, for the most part, Area 86 does attract and keep members interested. "Turn offs" seem to result from personality clashes and from individuals who become too driven and forget that 'the highest we ever get is sober'. Having said that, I am grateful for the fact that some individuals are more 'ambitious' and willing to take on the demands of Committee and Sub-Committee positions when others aren't. We need these type of people but also need their personal goals to be put aside. I support the spirit of rotation and believe that members who have served in the past best maintain and demonstrate their interest by supporting their sponsees to take on roles.
17. I can only really speak for myself when I say that I am very interested. I believe the committee displays an enthusiastic attitude about service that is attractive to others.
18. We believe assemblies are conducive to retaining service people but we don't believe there is any active pursuit of informing groups and individuals who have not previously participated about the worthiness, spirituality and depth of our service structure and are therefore not attracting new participants. There are many old timers who have little appreciation for the service structure of AA and their negativity can prevent newer members from taking an interest. In all fairness to those newer members, it would be wonderful if we (the District and Area, as well as those who already appreciate AA) had a means of informing these newcomers (and maybe even offering information to some of the old farts who've not previously been involved) as to what our program is set up to do and ways that they can be of service.
19. again this district I live in now does not promote area, not at the group level anyway. They did at the district. Those who represent the groups need to be more proactive with regards to generating interest in service, you could say promote the attraction. Encouragement needs to start at the top of the triangle, this is the groups responsibility.
20. Other Areas have female delegates. We need to get the women out of the secretary role and into Alternate delegate roles and I feel this will happen soon in Area 86.
21. Satisfactory re encouraging interest. Re attracting and keeping members, there seems to be a few dominant personalities that have driven people out of general service by having agendas to suit there own needs. This does not provide for a healthy atmosphere at assemblies and Area committee meetings.

22. not sure - seems we are all fighting the uphill battle here.
23. yes if we can get them there.
24. I think the Assemblies is a good way to inform people if you can get them there in the first place. We are the largest District but have the poorest attendance; it is embarrassing.
25. My experience is that only people who are already involved in District Service, who attend assemblies ever hear about what is involved beyond the group level. There is a GREAT disconnect between groups, individual members and "Service work" at District and Area levels. I found the Assemblies very informative and interesting. I was amazed at all that was going on. I would like to have continued but due to health and transportation difficulties, I have had to step down for the time being.
26. As well as they can
27. They are doing the best they can, but more is needed to spark interest with the ones coming up the ranks.
28. yes, it is mainly through personal contact, and leadership reflecting love, tolerance and service that they reach others. By being positive and reflecting their own growth through service.
29. It does, yet groups can only assist one or two to attend. The cost is prohibitive for most.
30. Pass
31. False
32. I think the Assemblies are Great! With the best one having been Spring 2014. There was a feeling of shared interest in AA, invitations to share and an awareness that the opinion's of Members, Groups and District's were welcome and wanted. It was one of the best Assemblies I have ever attended.
33. The information brought to the groups from the assemblies is well thought out and presented.
34. they show that service is work but they also show that they have fun while doing the work
35. It's a toss up! Some might not attend because of the change in venue from Kitchener to London[especially those from the northern part of the area where finances are scarce and offsetting costs for the GSR's can be a problem].
36. ??
37. Needs improvement.
38. Yes, as good as anyone could. Is there a magic word other than please that can get people to volunteer for service? ;)
39. Yes they do just from the showing of past delegates and how all service members will answer questions and if can not the find out for you.
40. I think that Area 86 is doing well in encouraging interest in General Service by having members of GSO come and take part in our Assembly. It is good to be able to get to know the members of GSO and see they are really down to earth people.
41. Yes they are doing a good job.If I was not in service now and attended the assembly I think I would be looking to get into service
42. tries it hardest
43. From the number of assemblies I have been to all those on the committee have always convaried how service work has enhanced their sobriety. A continual acknowledgement to new GSR,s and a host of informative workshops have kept me returning to our assemblies.
44. I am informed at all meetings
45. Not answered
46. SOme people should not have taken the Positions of GSR, just because it isn't there best qualities.

47. Unfortunately, attraction is either with the individual or it isn't. I feel sponsorship should emphasize service involvement and hope to ingnite an interest
48. Could be more aggressive
49. I believe the ones that go do reap the benefits
50. Service days
51. I do not know if they are
52. Yes.
53. The workshops seem to be a high point for most of the GSR's and committee members in our district
54. Yes I believe people get involved and thou not all stay a lot do. Again it is a shame we don't get more of the Past Delegates involved or even attending the Assemblies and ACM's.
55. The conference highlighted General Service opportunities for those gifted in such areas as are available. It takes time to become known at an Area level and have those opportunities come to fruition.
56. Perhaps more encouragement to be invited into the districts..talk personally to DCM's on this. Perhaps more encouragement to be invited into the districts..Chair make several suggestions of invitation. Perhaps a paper from the chair regarding interest in service assemblies, handed out to DCM's at meetings.
57. I would say again we need to have more experience communicated within the groups. The intimacy of one drunk talking to another and in the same conversation realizing the growth and possibilities of recovery. Maybe some type of publication of stories like grapevine that could be sent to all members, a repertoire of service experiences communicated in a more intimate way. Perhaps a chicklet on the website like "Stories of Service Experience"
58. I actually get quite enthused at the Area assemblies regarding my involvement in service. I feel it is an honor to represent my group at these gatherings. I also notice a great deal of enthusiasm on the part of the committee members and past delegates at these assemblies and it is contagious - at least for me.
59. I believe they do. IT is not the responibilitiy of area 86 to attract and keep members intereste in service at assemblies. They can show interst by example .
60. I feel it does encourage interest in service at area level..our problem seems to get interest getting members to serve at our district and group level.
61. I believe attendance is on the decline. I believe we need to try and get new people interested possibly by doing a better job through education on the importance of participation in the various levels of service.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. think thats more of a disrict role or personal thing to do that
65. I certainly know it tries. How successful it is I cannot say
66. Area 86 is doing a great job in encouraging interest, and participation, in general service. Evidence is in the elections and dedication of the sub-committee chairs. The real question is how to generate, and support, interest in general service at the District and Group level
67. Blank.
68. seems to be doing well at this
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.

73. I find it goes in spells, sometimes it's a feast, others a famine. Not everyone has political ambition, and when they get involved, they feel like targets for ridicule.
74. I think we try to encourage interest. What attracts and keeps members interested is being accepted for who we are and having fun. The administrative side of AA can be a bit dry. If the head table is not showing interest or are absent or do not appear to be working together well, it turns prospective service members off. Nothing deters like fighting and criticism.
75. I have often wondered if Area 86 officers and sub committee Chairs offering workshops outside Assemblies might be worth a trial to encourage this. I find a lot of the Area committee are generous in attending service days if asked.

VIII. Area Finances: Do you feel Area 86 provides a clear understanding of the Areas financial needs and encourages Groups/Districts to voluntarily contribute to the Area financially?

1. YES
2. This is probably not communicated to the Groups/Districts. It's difficult to talk about financial needs of the Area without causing more resistance from non participating Groups. Certainly participating Groups at the District level have a clear understanding but others who do not participate form their own bias and do not have the advantage of hearing about the whole picture. I feel it is the responsibility of the participating GSR's and alternate GSR's to educate and set a good Service example to those groups who are not attending District meetings and who do not have GSR's.
3. Not enough GSR's are attending assemblies and getting the information back to group business meetings. I've talked to many GSR's who do attend assemblies but never do "assembly reports" to their groups.
4. Yes I think that **** does a great job of carrying the message.
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. I know it is trying and that my Alt. DCM came to my home group business meeting to convey that. Because we submit based on a group conscious specific ratio's they did not committ to revisiting the ratios but I am going to look at the ratios and if out of line bring that back to a business meeting. But again you are depending upon the leadership of the group to convey the message and some of the message of contributing more on at personal basis at the 7th got lost in the application and translation because our leader was not as confident and comfortable about approaching the subject directly to the general group. As a Professional Accountant, I have further questions and concerns regarding the YTD September Financial statement but in no service position so no authority to use the microphone (so I was told). It all concerns about the budget forecast. It all depends on if the budget is based on straight line or if it based on historical fluctations, to see if the % of forcast is right. If based on flucated forcast then accurate, if not then misleading. It should also point out that the expectation of % budget forecast should be 100%. Also, I not mathimatically you can't divide a number by zero so no field in the budget should be zero it should have at least .01 or \$1 in the field so all fields calculate; please see some examples line 7, 10,37 for % of forcast. Regardless, it would also be most helpful to have the difference in dollars and that as a percentage. (**** it's me ***** from London, you have my card, we met at the coffee table).
8. Definitely
9. **** ***** does an excellent job of explaining his financial statements. He possesses excellent communication skills and is approachable and patience. I do not feel intimidated about asking him questions. He is self effacing and sincerely humble. He explains what areas need to improve and why we have to "dig deeper".
10. Not answered.

11. They ask for money but I don't know if they do a good job reporting why.
12. I think that yes the Area provides a clear understanding, however, I feel there is a gap between Area and non-participating Districts/Groups. A number of Districts/Groups do not participate.
13. Yes
14. yes. I have heard our current alternated delegate at least twice at roundups. He has done a good job of supplying information.
15. Due to the turnover every two years, I think that people get a handle on this stuff after a year and a bit of GSR service and involvement. By the time I can answer this question properly I will be a few months from turn over.
16. I believe this is made very clear at our Assemblies and that it is up to the GSR's, DCM's and other Districts Sub-Committee members to bring this information to their District.
17. Yes
18. Yes as far as providing an understanding of financial needs (providing updates on the Area budget) but I have never encountered any suggestion at the service level to have groups contribute to area directly. Our group is currently planning to do so but this is mainly because some of our members used to belong to other groups that did give money to the Area. The online contribution form is very good and useful.
19. lack of understanding about the 7th tradition is at the group level. the area can encourage all they want but if groups do not take the time to explain how money matters work in AA it makes it difficult for those down the triangle to be heard. The green card is under utilized
20. Yes
21. The financial needs of the Area are communicated well enough, however, some of the expenditures are not necessary.
22. Yes
23. Yes
24. I don't think so – no
25. When I was involved in District service I had a better understanding of the needs at Area and District level. However when I tried to communicate this to my home group they were not interested in hearing about it..they just laughed at me and cut me off. After 2 years of this, I finally changed groups. The group I am in now takes District more seriously. There is more communication and interest shown re: District and occasionally, Area. Very few AA members seem to grasp the importance of District and Area, unless they have been personally involved.this is my perception.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. This is so difficult & always an issue. Much depends on the DCM to express the "why" of group contributions.
30. Yes
31. Service rocks
32. Yes I believe they try. The treasurer's reports are informative and questions are invited and answers given when asked. They explain what is needed and what they are doing.
33. Our last Treasurer {now alternate Delegate} has done wonders in this area.
34. no I don't. I think the Area needs to voice that more, and when they do, be very informative but keep it simple!
35. Most of the DCM's are made aware [and seem to understand] by the Area when finances need to be bolstered. I heard one DCM recently say "the way to avoid this is to make sure that contributions keep up a steady pace in the first place.
36. Yes

37. Yes
38. Yes.
39. Yes.
40. yes i feel that our finances are explained well. I feel that the groups donate by giving to their District and it sometimes feels like we are being asked for more than we are able.. give give give.. some groups struggle to give to their District and then when they come to Assembly it seems you think we should give again. not possible
41. YES
42. Yes
43. Yes
44. Yes
45. Yes
46. Yes
47. No
48. No
49. yes
50. Yes
51. yes, now
52. Yes.
53. Sometimes you can't see the forest for the trees. Sometimes we can get preoccupied with one or two small trees. Even with our concise financial reports, it can be difficult to see the "bang for the buck". What is the return for the investment the groups make to the Area? Why should groups give less to their District or GSO?
54. No I think the Treasurer could keep it a bit simpler and not so wordy. He loses a lot of us. I think a better system could be arranged for the selling of Banquet tickets and we do the same thing for every Assembly.
55. Not really. I don't think more than a small number of people in AA could tell anyone about Area's financial needs and what it does with it's finances.
56. My Group feels that Area receives it's donation through our district. Does GSO have history archived on this matter and how did they encourage separate donation rather than a flow through from the districts? GSO provides a cost to each Group and Member. Perhaps the same should be brought forward from the Area level. Delegate expense to GSO (Donation) should be included with this.
57. Definitely not--something needs to be done to get more information out to GSRs so they can inform the group members and definitely something many can wrap their heads around that aren't so math savvy. Sure there's pamphlets and financial reports but that's not enough
58. Our particular group doesn't require a lot of encouragement to contribute - we just do it because it is the right thing to do. We trust that the monies generated from contributions from groups is well managed and appropriately used.
59. I believe more assistance in Areas 86 attending groups who are struggling
60. yes
61. The encouragement of contributing is there but I believe there is definitely room for improvement in helping the membership understand better where there funds are allocated and why
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Yes
65. Yes

66. I have attended the last 5 assemblies and listened to the Financial messages but have seen no evidence that message was ever tabled at our Group Business meeting by our GSRs. No idea if they received a message directly from the DCM
67. Blank.
68. I understand this has been an issue in the past. Seems ok now though
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. I believe so.
74. They try to.
75. I think recent proposed budgets have been clear. A workshop on "self-support" a term, early in the term, may be useful. A trail for a few terms might be useful and see if that impacts understanding and contributions.

IX. Area Finances: Does my Group support Area 86 financially?

1. YES
2. Yes my Group does.
3. Yes when we can.
4. Yes
5. Yes
6. Not at this time.
7. Yes, twice a year, initiated discussion on monthly but got tabled due to continuing concerned and lack of time. I am going to double check the % against literature suggestions. However, we contribute to intergroup which based on my memory is not within the literature. I asked my DCM about supporting the alcholthon because I know a request will be made at the next meeting and she said to ask how much was in their bank acount because they have enough. That groups should only support for overages not ahead of time. But we also have to allow/budget for items like this and others.
8. Yes
9. My group supports my district.
10. Yes
11. Yes
12. Yes.
13. No
14. our group voted and the district voted to give our donations from the bottom up. Ours goes to district, district is supposed to sent extra to area, and area extra to general service.
15. Yes
16. No. We support our District.
17. Yes
18. Yes and more is to come.
19. yes they do
20. No
21. Yes
22. Yes
23. Yes
24. Yes
25. When we are able, yes we do send what we can afford to Area.
26. Yes

27. No
28. Yes
29. Yes
30. Yes
31. AA rocks
32. Yes
33. Always!! I have been a member for almost 21 years and my group has always supported the Area. As a past DCM i have encouraged all the groups in my district to follow suit.
34. Sometimes
35. Always!!
36. Not answered.
37. Yes
38. Yes
39. Yes the group does.
40. My group supports Area 86 by giving to the District and then the District contributes to the Area.
41. Not answered.
42. only through district
43. Yes
44. Absolutely
45. yes, if we have the funds. We are a small group
46. Yes
47. via our District
48. Yes
49. yes
50. Yes
51. Yes
52. Yes.
53. We have, but I can't remember the last time we made a donation
54. Yes
55. yes
56. Infrequently when it's pried out of their fists! It's not understood and reluctantly donated to.
57. My group is large and so we are lucky to be able to contribute regularly. We have many experienced AAs that have done service in various positions within the service structure of AA so we are aware of the need but some groups I have been apart of don't even have a GSR. How do we get the information out then? I never knew much about the need until I joined a large group and I know we aren't the average size.
58. Our group does support the four service arms of our fellowship to the beat of our ability.
59. No as we are only have enough money to keep our doors open for the suffering alcoholic
60. not often enough
61. Yes
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Yes
65. Yes
66. yes annually

- 67. Blank.
- 68. Yes
- 69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
- 70. Yes.
- 71. Yes.
- 72. Yes.
- 73. Yes.
- 74. sometimes.
- 75. Yes.

X. Area Finances: Does my District support Area 86 financially?

- 1. YES
- 2. Yes it does.
- 3. Yes, at least in last year.
- 4. Yes
- 5. Not Answered
- 6. Yes. very well.
- 7. I believe so. I am going to the next district meeting and will find out.
- 8. Yes
- 9. Yes.
- 10. Yes
- 11. Yes
- 12. Yes.
- 13. Yes
- 14. our group voted and the district voted to give out donations from the bottom up, ours goes to district, district is supposed to send extra to area, and area extra to general service
- 15. Yes
- 16. Yes.
- 17. Yes
- 18. Last year they didn't which is what prompted our group to contribute directly. Most of our members felt it was unfair of our District to "punish" area for the mistakes of one errant member. Group conscience rules but it is not always morally "right".
- 19. yes they do
- 20. Yes
- 21. Yes
- 22. Yes
- 23. Yes
- 24. Yes
- 25. Yes they do.
- 26. Yes
- 27. Yes
- 28. Yes
- 29. Yes
- 30. Yes
- 31. **. ***
- 32. Yes
- 33. Most deffinetaly
- 34. Yes
- 35. Always
- 36. Not answered.

- 37. Yes
- 38. Yes
- 39. We do when we can. Has not been a good year at our district from other groups only three are supportive .
- 40. Yes my District supports Area 86 financially
- 41. Yes
- 42. Yes
- 43. Yes
- 44. Absolutely
- 45. Yes
- 46. Yes
- 47. yearly surplus goes to Area
- 48. Mm
- 49. they have in the past but our district has had a tight budget this year
- 50. No
- 51. Yes
- 52. Yes.
- 53. Yes
- 54. At the end of the year if there is any money left they do a split. They do not send the suggested group donation at start of the year.
- 55. yes
- 56. Yes.
- 57. yes
- 58. I believe it does.
- 59. Yes we do
- 60. yes
- 61. Yes
- 62. Yes.
- 63. Yes.
- 64. Yes
- 65. Yes
- 66. yes annually for the assessment + as surplus funds permit
- 67. Blank.
- 68. Yes
- 69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
- 70. Yes.
- 71. Yes.
- 72. Yes.
- 73. not sure.
- 74. yes.
- 75. Not recently as far as I know.

XI. Currently Area 86 Assemblies are held in the Spring and Fall. The Area Committee meetings are held in January, May, August (even years) and December (odd years only). What are your thoughts on: Frequency of the Area 86 Assemblies and Area 86 Committee meetings.

- 1. Sufficient; If funds are tight, perhaps they would need to reduce it to once a year.
- 2. I feel the frequency is fine but I do like to attend the Toronto conference and this past year I did not attend because they 2 were a week apart. I know it is difficult to work around this but a lot of the bigger conferences are held in the Spring as is our Spring Assembly.

3. Adequate
4. Great.
5. Good.
6. Once a year Assemblies would be enough.
7. I like the assemblies twice a year because I do not want any surprises with the financial statement after year end when it's too late. I also like the opportunity for further learning and the meetings after the meeting that take place afterward as well. I'm not sure if the financial statements are reviewed by an audit firm or not, I do not see it as a separate line item. If not then I believe they should be for the year ended December 31. And the spring Assembly financial report should be like any other not for profit and have the auditor there. So I think the timing of the spring assembly if it's in April should be enough time for an audit. The report at the fall assembly should focus on the YTD July 31 half of the year comparisons and then can provide additional months as requested. I am not sure of your accounting process, if it is cash basis or some form of modified accrual basis. Hopefully it is on some sort of accrual bases not cash. I am concerned that many groups cut cheques in December and the District may not even have them in time to cut a cheque by the end of December and then the Area wouldn't get that portion from the district until January and even the group cheques cut in December may not make it to Area until January. I am concerned with the expectations on Accounting, would hope a draft YTD may be available for January but the final YTD December would not be available until February. Otherwise Area committee meetings do not effect me. However, can DCM's go? Can anyone in AA go to an Area committee meeting?
8. Okay
9. good frequency
10. Not answered.
11. Fine
12. They are fine.
13. Fine
14. I have not been on a committee don't know if so many are needed. maybe on the off quarters that there is no area assemblies i.e. winter and summer?
15. Acceptable. Less, and it might be futile to have them. More, and I don't know if we could afford them, money and time wise.
16. Perfect. No need for more.
17. I think it is a reasonable schedule
18. The frequency of Assemblies is perfect in our opinion but some of our members think the Area committee meetings might be a little too frequent.
19. the changes made in the last couple of years have been for the good. The pre conference assembly is a great idea,,, it has taken time for people to understand what is being accomplished. the cool part is it allow the voice of the area to be heard by the delegate. I think it is great that the meetings are moved around the districts, allow for more member to check things out.
20. Remain as is.
21. 2 times a year is enough for assemblies. Area committee meetings are frequent enough. What happens at the area committee meetings is not communicated well enough. DCMs need to improve in that area.
22. Adequate
23. Good by me.
24. I think the Area assemblies are a good idea to inform the AA member about service, and, that our input is important. Can't speak to the Area committee meetings

25. I think the frequency is minimal. However it is excellent when it happens. (The biggest gap I see is how FEW AA members go to these assemblies. Therefore most AA members are very unaware of the vitality of Area service work and fellowship.)
26. Good
27. Good
28. Good
29. Weather must be considered for example January & December are difficult months for travel. This should be a big consideration.
30. Working well with the way it is setup
31. London
32. I think they are good, although I sometimes wonder why we have so many Area Meeting's. I often wonder if two per year wouldn't be enough. One in the winter and one in late summer, between the assemblies.
33. I agree with the frequency, but wish they were still in Kitchener. they were more central
34. I think all is good--no need to change
35. Don't fix it..it isn't broke.
36. ?
37. fine as they are
38. Just fine
39. They need no change.
40. I think the times setup at this time are fine.
41. If its not broke do not fix it
42. Ample
43. Fine
44. not involved at that level, no comment
45. No, seasonal issues. Our District is in the north and tourist (summer)regions. Summer is the time we have our heaviest work schedules. Winter driving can be dangerous. I was driving in a 'whiteout' yesterday. November-December are very unstable and unpredictable with winds and snow(squalls) off Georgian Bay and Lake Huron.
46. They ar good and very important for our group survival.
47. Committee meetings are confusing - three times a year in even years, once a year in odd years?? Doesn't sound workable to me. Assemblies ok.
48. No comment
49. they seem good to me, I attend them all due to being a DCM
50. We need 4 assemblies a year
51. it is good for the frequency but the pre conference assembly does not really do what it was intended- the pre conference assembly was to have the sub committees talk about the items on the agenda but it does not do that, the pre conference assembly is just before the conference. It would be better to have it after the conference so the delegate can report to the assembly what has happened
52. Yes.
53. Do we really need 2 Area committee meetings prior to the fall assembly? Especially if there are no agenda items?
54. Maybe the January ACM isn't necessary every year. We could save a lot of money if we held it only on even years (start of the new Panel).
55. Excellent and necessary,especially for new-comers exploring this area of service.
56. The Committee meetings seem too frequent, but my understanding of this may be premature. They are close enough together to see things are getting done, no time for idleness, Although I have witnessed prudence being observed which is good to see that we are not in too much of a hurry.

57. I think they are frequent enough. I have learned in AA it is good we move slow so we don't mess too much up. Gives us alcoholics a good chance to think. I am also relieved so I can wrap my head around what's going on and it is a pace I can handle leading a busy life. Had assemblies been more often I couldn't take the time and I would have had to turn down my position. And let's face it they're too costly to hold more regularly I would think. I know I can't go on the DCM because of the time commitment.
58. I wonder if we need to have 2 Assemblies per year - As stated before ,I'm new to this. It does seem to cost a lot to run these assemblies and in one instance, I know we were not self-supporting, since the cost of serving coffee was not covered by a seventh donation. It is also a hardship to groups to have to send their GSR to assemblies twice a year. I personally like to attend because it gives me the feeling of being connected to the whole of the fellowship not just my home group. It feels goo to feel a part of something as big as an assembly.
59. I like the way it is organized now
60. I would not change the frequency
61. I believe the summer ACM meeting is pointless.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. seem fine to me
65. It seems there are an abundance of committee meetings, but I'm sure they are necessary to complete their work for the Assemblies
66. Relatively new to the AA program. I have attended 5 Area Assemblies as a guest and 2 Area Committee meetings as a guest. Cannot comment on the frequency
67. Blank.
68. Enough
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. no thoughts.
74. fine.
75. I wonder if the pre Conference Assembly holds back sub committee workshops as the first Assembly of the term is asked to deal with Conference items. I like the idea of discus the items but wonder if there is a way to fill in the gap that many of the Districts find when they have new District sub committee Chairs but not a workshop geared wholly to their new job as it were.

XII. Currently Area 86 Assemblies are held in the Spring and Fall. The Area Committee meetings are held in January, May, August (even years) and December (odd years only). What are your thoughts on: Format of the Area 86 Assemblies and Area 86 Committee meetings.

1. OK I guess - have only been to 2
2. Format of the assembly is good I just find the first day - the Saturday a little too full and a long day.
3. Good from my experience.
4. Great
5. My first Assembly but I enjoyed the format and information presented. Ask it Basket should be held earlier in the day so that more attendees would be present. By 9:15 after a full day of meetings many people opted to retire for the evening rather than participate.
6. good.
7. I enjoyed the format of the is past assembly, only one I've been to.

8. Okay
9. good format
10. Not answered.
11. Fine
12. They are fine.
13. could use some improvemenet
14. Not answered.
15. The Assemblies are a good time. Never been to a Committee meeting.
16. Excellent.
17. I very much enjoy the assembly. I have been working to 2. Once as the voice of my group and once as gsr. I like the workshops very much. I think there is a lot of info that is vital to our program that is being provided in a very open and enjoyable format
18. Format of Assemblies is adequate but some of our members think elections should be held Saturday instead of Sunday as so many people have to drive home and want to be out at a decent time Sundays.
19. Not answered.
20. Not answered.
21. Nothing to compare with so it seems to be working as is.
22. Good
23. Good
24. I have only attended one Assembly, even though I have been sober a very long time. I do believe in service, but my service has been only on a local level, That is where I feel I can contribute the most., and have done for a vey long time.
25. I appreciated the Area Assemblies. Personally I was unable to attend morning sessions (for health reasons). I especially appreciated the workshops. The reports were sometimes long, but I learned a lot and found it to be very interesting and enlightening. I never had the opportunity to attend Area Committee meetings.
26. Good
27. Awesome
28. Good
29. Add a workshop round table discussion with a topic(s) from GSRs . More participation from this level is important.
30. Again just fine.
31. Area
32. Wouldn't change a thing here.
33. Love the format.especially getting DCM'S and past Delegates involved.
34. great job is always done
35. Good format...better than most!!
36. ?
37. OK
38. Assemblies are good. There was a mention/suggestion of holding the business part of the assembly at the beginning of the weekend rather than the end. This initially sounds like a good idea as any votes might be more focussed on the issue at hand rather than the urge to get going home. I don't know if that would effect the attendance of the last workshop of the weekend though, or whatever might be stuck on at the end of the weekend.
39. No change needed.
40. I do not know the answer, but it would be good if we could find a better time for the business and voting. It is sad that many of the GSRs leave before the end of business . I realize it is a long way to drive for many and being Sun Night many might need to get

home early to be ready for work on Mon night. Could business be done on Sun morning or Saturday.

41. SAME
42. no comment
43. Good
44. no comment
45. clear but unpredictable due hotel issues
46. it good
47. Not attended Committee meetings.
48. Poor
49. I believe they have been good
50. Yes
51. same as above
52. Yes.
53. blank
54. Fine. More time for concerns or questions that people are feeling they aren't getting answered.
55. Excellent and necessary, especially for new-comers exploring this area of service.
56. Assembly sub committee workshops seem not to be clear on how to deliver a split program when preconference exists. pre conference matters should be clear, concise and remain in a given time limit. Explain what they are doing, what the question is at hand for that meeting, record the results and move onto the workshop. Perhaps a better pre delivery preparation on preconference questions before workshops commence.
57. Perhaps a lunch would be better than a banquet so workshops could be later in the day so those travelling up Saturday morning could make it on time for more workshops to be able to learn more. Not everyone can go up on a Friday night and they miss out. Maybe a breakfast on the Sunday instead of the banquet on Saturday so more could attend that don't stay overnight because some groups can't afford to send their GSR's overnight. Perhaps at the breakfast or lunch the Area Committee members could share stories of experience. Sunday mornings are district reports and if they are sent later online than perhaps they can be Saturday instead. And maybe more GSR's would be apt to go if they knew they would get a huge amount out of the Sunday without having to stay the Saturday. I think we need as many GSR's attending as we can get to represent the minority voice. I would expect to see more than I do.
58. Seem to meet the needs of those assembled.
59. Well done
60. good
61. Good
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. seem fine to me
65. To my knowledge the format is good
66. Assembly structure precludes any questions which have not made it to the agenda weeks before hand. They are essentially closed meetings and I question the value of attending if the drive were long and expense higher
67. Blank.
68. Fine
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.

72. Yes.
73. good format, like all the classes and opportunities to attend the workshops.
74. I like having more time for talking about problems or concerns from the Districts and GSR's.
75. Fine. I like the addition of the open space to talk about items not on the agenda, necessarily. A bit of open space at the meetings can help creativity. I would like to see some more clarity on how Districts, DCMs, can bring business to these meetings, suggestions for workshops and how this is handled at Area Committee meetings.

XIII. Currently Area 86 Assemblies are held in the Spring and Fall. The Area Committee meetings are held in January, May, August (even years) and December (odd years only). What are your thoughts on: Agendas for Meetings and Assemblies.

1. clear; OK
2. No problem with the Assembly agendas.
3. Good
4. Great
5. Good.
6. good.
7. Can they be found online?
8. Okay
9. meetings go on too long with motions and voting but I appreciate the democracy. It's a Catch 22!
10. Not answered.
11. Fine
12. They are fine.
13. Fine
14. Not answered.
15. I like the agendas, it's almost like we had a plan and knew what we were doing ;)
16. Excellent.
17. No thoughts on this matter
18. Adequate
19. Not answered.
20. Not answered.
21. Agendas have been tampered with in the past and need to be the sole responsibility of the Area Chair without undue influence from others on the Area 86 committee. Past Delegates included.
22. produced well in advance
23. good
24. can't speak to that
25. I think the agendas were comprehensive and appropriate.
26. Good
27. Good
28. Good
29. Again more interactive participation.
30. Easy to follow.
31. District
32. Wouldn't change anything here either.
33. The agendas are well thought out.
34. all good--no change necessary
35. Keep up the good work.
36. ?
37. OK

38. Good.
39. What ever needs to be done to be done.
40. The agendas are put together very well
41. SAME
42. no comment
43. Good
44. no comment
45. fine
46. it good
47. well presented. Though I would like to be able to see one before the Assembly.
Understand that they cannot be online due names.. but couldn't a 'generic' one be posted with out names, just the thines of what is happening where on this web site?
48. Poor
49. they have been out in lots of time to inform the membership
50. Yes
51. good
52. Yes.
53. blank
54. Fine see above comment.
55. See above.
56. BTG and Website are always at the same time. There is a need to have these at different times to help each other communicate to each other!
57. see b
58. Accurate and followed closely.
59. Well done
60. good
61. Good
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. seem fine to me
65. I couldn't really say for the meetings, but the assemblies seem to be full and well thought out
66. not involved at that level
67. Blank.
68. Good
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. good.
74. fine.
75. Like getting them well in advance.

XIV. Area 86 Assemblies are currently held at the Hilton Hotel in London Ontario. What are your thoughts on: The Hilton Hotel.

1. They need to update their washrooms; Their escalator is not working; not the best in London; The Sheraton on Wellington RD is newer and not far from the 401
2. Clean Hotel and little worn and dated but able to give good rates. I believe the last Assembly I attended the escalator wasn't working that time either.
3. Too pricey for me to stay otherwise ok
4. Ok

5. Getting tired given the age. Room were clean however we were surprised to find numerous lady bugs in our room. Found staff to be very courteous and accommodating.
6. It is very convenient for me.
7. Excellent. The banquet was the best I had ever been too, for food. It would have been more comfortable with 8 at a table instead of 10, but once people got eating it didn't matter. I almost didn't come because I thought I could not afford the parking at the hotel and it turned out to be free. So advertising the options for parking, including the cost would have been helpful.
8. Parking is expensive and chairs are uncomfortable but probably would be anywhere. Otherwise it's a nice place.
9. Love the Hilton. Good location. Fix the escalator!
10. Not answered.
11. Nice
12. It is fine.
13. Perfect
14. I like it in general
15. It's a fine hotel.
16. Very good - no complaints in terms of accommodation, service or staff. They charge far too much for coffee!! Would it be cheaper if they didn't provide cups and saucers and used paper cups instead?
17. It's a good venue
18. Excellent except that coffee service finishes too early on Sunday
19. Not answered.
20. Let's move the Assemblies somewhere else for a change - London isn't exactly a nice location and either is the hotel. There are beautiful locations in Area 86 with hotels large enough to accommodate so let's move.
21. accommodations are good. however there are very few restaurants to chose from in that area.
22. all good except the exorbitant cost of coffee.
23. Fine
24. OK
25. I have never been there.
26. Very central for everyone.
27. Good, coffee too expensive
28. Excellent
29. Good location.
30. Hotel is great. Booking rooms can be a challenge
31. Local
32. Love the Hilton. Only thing is the room deposit, that some GSR's can't afford. I have seen where paying it even when sharing a room has left them short on food money. Uses up what little cash their group has given them.
33. Nice hotel..but too far to drive. Move back to Kitchener.
34. nice place to stay--not at all happy with the coffee cost. need to charge \$1.50 a coffee/tea!!!
35. The Hilton is nice..just too far away for some.
36. ?
37. OK, but could move around, having other locales host
38. Hotel is good, any reason why it isn't in a more central location geographically to the rest of the area?
39. Great location and seems cost effective for our use

40. Well.. coming from District 7, it is a long ways to go. The Hilton seems to be a good hotel.. now the banquet food something to be desired :(It would seem it is a different cook than from their restaurant. Other than supporting the Area, I do not feel the banquet \$\$ represent what we get. just good desserts does not justify the cost.
41. I thought the Hilton was amazing
42. no comment
43. Well looked after
44. don't know
45. It is getting a little run down. New management definitely not as friendly, but the restaurant staff are always kind.
46. n/a
47. probably \$\$\$\$\$\$ but easy to access the Assembly and the meeting rooms.
48. Average
49. nice facility
50. To expensive
51. wish they had more parking for those who are staying in the hotel
52. Yes.
53. Banquet good, but pricy
54. Great facility
55. Seems fine.
56. Seems to be a problem with the Wogs code, staff seem unaware of formality when booking or checking in. Repeatedly told that I will pay a premium for one night..but that always gets corrected.
57. Nice but is there anything cheaper so more can go?
58. I don't stay there as I have a sister in London but it seems conveniently located with parking adequate and handy. I think it serves our purposes well. I know nothing of what it costs compared to other venues. It seems classy for a group of drunks - LOL!
59. Blank.
60. I like this hotel, good service, good food and affordable. The staff is are really nice
61. Nice Venue
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. other than cost of coffee great
65. It's a bit tired. I think the prices they offer us are pretty good, except for the price of coffee which is atrocious
66. Geographically a good choice for the Area. Facilities are adequate
67. Blank.
68. Fine
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. It's a hotel, when it comes to making money, that's what they are about. However, they do their best to accommodate large groups.
74. too expensive and too far.
75. I like it.

XV. Area 86 Assemblies are currently held at the Hilton Hotel in London Ontario. What are your thoughts on: Comfort and set up of the main assembly room and workshop/break rooms?

1. OK

2. Very good. The chairs do get a little uncomfortable after sitting for awhile.
3. Adequate
4. Ok
5. Good
6. Not enough space in the break rooms.
7. Main assembly fine. Workshop rooms - I was expecting them to have tables if we were expected to learn and write something. And for those encouraging participation, circle or semi circle, weather with tables or without. It would have been nicer to have more area to sit in the hospitality room.
8. chairs are uncomfortable Main Ballroom was uncomfortably warm.
9. I heard several people remark that the chairs are too close together in the rows. I agree. Minor problem but easy fix. Also not enough seating in the hospitality room. Suggestion: have chairs set up in hallway?
10. Not answered.
11. nice but the hospitality suites could be bigger. very crowded last spring.
12. It is fine.
13. Perfect
14. Not answered.
15. No complaints, though I've had to stand once or twice. Some of the rooms are a little tight.
16. All good.
17. They should put a little space between the seats so we aren't jammed up so tight shoulder to shoulder. Other than that it's great.
18. Sufficient
19. better than the smoke filled bars i lived in for years, more productive too.
20. The workshop rooms and main assembly rooms are like caves. In Kitchener we had windows and natural light. This is missing in London.
21. Satisfactory
22. really nice
23. good
24. OK
25. In the past, I have found the rooms to be comfortable. I think sitting in a circle would encourage more participation at the workshops.
26. Great
27. chairs too close together
28. Good
29. Good
30. Great
31. How it works
32. Perfect, wouldn't change a thing here either.
33. Not answered.
34. Great
35. Different than Kitchener but still good
36. ?
37. OK
38. good.
39. Perfect.
40. Cold Chairs are way too close together and not that comfortable considering the amount of time we sit in them. Perhaps a bigger centre area so that all the voting persons can sit in it. I think it would make it easier for counting etc.
41. GREAT

42. no comment
43. Good
44. no comment
45. Pretty good
46. Good
47. Good
48. Very poor speaker system and delegates do not know how to use a microphone
49. for the most part they have been good
50. Big
51. yes
52. Yes.
53. no problems.
54. Great especially now that the sound system has been fixed.
55. fine.
56. V-Good
57. Great, albeit chairs could be further spaced in the main assembly room. We Spend most time there and we are arm to arm.
58. All good.
59. Vey good .
60. Blank.
61. Good
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Great
65. I find the chairs almost unbearable and the lighting, at least at the podiums, to be poor
66. Would suggest a corridor across the meeting hall, at the microphone level, 1. to facilitate participation at the question / District update sessions plus 2. it would be beneficial to split the room for vote counting and ballot collection
67. Blank.
68. Fine
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. good.
74. can be confusing.
75. Sometimes the break out rooms seem small. Sound, accessibility to mikes in the big room is sometimes difficult.

XVI. Area 86 Assemblies are currently held at the Hilton Hotel in London Ontario. What are your thoughts on: Is the Sub Committee display area conveniently located?

1. Yes
2. Yes I believe it is.
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. Yes
6. yes.
7. Yes. That needed to be advertised before hand.
8. Yes
9. Really nice job. Bravo.
10. Not answered.

11. Yes
12. Yes.
13. Yes
14. Not answered.
15. I think I know what you mean if it's that little table to the left of the stage with the area map? If not then I don't think I know what you're on about I'm afraid.
16. Yes.
17. Yes
18. Ok
19. Yes
20. Yes
21. good displays and location
22. yes
23. yes
24. Yes
25. When I was attending, yes it was.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. No, it must be explained where this is & what the purpose is.
30. Also great
31. Easy does it
32. Yes, easily viewed, nice flow around the room.
33. Not answered.
34. Yes
35. Yes
36. ?
37. Yes
38. Yes
39. Yes.
40. Yes
41. ALL GOOD
42. no comment
43. Yes
44. no comment
45. yes, but registration area needs more space
46. good
47. yes
48. ?
49. yes
50. Yes
51. yes, it is close to everything and it is out of the way of the actual business
52. Yes.
53. Can't think of a better place
54. Yes
55. Yes
56. Move the Coffee
57. yes
58. Yes it is - can't miss it.
59. Blank.
60. yes

61. The only suggestion and it could be a logistic nightmare but only for reasons of inclusiveness would be too have the displays in the ballroom
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Yes
65. Yes, I think so
66. Yes
67. Blank.
68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. yes.
74. yes.
75. I don't know what other options there are, but a few of the displays always seem cramped.

XVII. Area 86 Assemblies are currently held at the Hilton Hotel in London Ontario. Does the Hilton hotel provide adequate services for members with special needs?

1. don't know; If there was a fire, it could be a problem as the escalator is not working and you can't use the elevators in a fire situation; a one floor facility would be best.
2. As far as I know it does.
3. Don't know
4. Don't Know
5. Nit able to answer
6. does not apply but there seemed to be wheelchair access.
7. Yes
8. don't know
9. I didn't pay close attention but the elevators and ramps were available and adequate space in the main meeting room.
10. Yes, I have disability issues with my feet and legs. Check in time was for 4 p.m. but they let me into my room at 12.
11. I think so
12. I am not knowledgeable of the existing needs and the existing services.
13. Not answered.
14. i am not special needs so don't know
15. N/A
16. N/A, I can only assume so but have no personal experience to give an adequate answer.
17. I don't know
18. Yes
19. last time i was there ,they where great and assist and when asled
20. Not answered.
21. Yes
22. Yes
23. don't know.
24. I think so
25. Do not know as I have not been there.
26. Yes. I'm a special need individual and I find the services very adequate
27. Yes
28. difficult for hearing impaired in large room with so many speaking.

29. I haven't heard complaints.
30. Don't know
31. Let go let God
32. Not sure as I do not have special needs nor have I attended with anyone who has.
33. Not answered.
34. as far as I could tell
35. Haven't heard any complaints..and I have asked!
36. ?
37. don't have special needs so not aware
38. I don't know. They always try to put me on the highest floor when I ask for it.
39. Yes as seen wheel chairs at fall assembly.
40. I hope so
41. Not answered.
42. no comment
43. Not sure.
44. no comment
45. no opinion
46. n/a
47. I would think so
48. ?
49. I believe they are good
50. No
51. yes
52. Yes.
53. unknown to me.
54. To my knowledge yes.
55. Don't know.
56. This should be asked at every assembly within the special needs workshop and results recorded and brought forward to the Chairperson.
57. don't know--trust the members would pick an appropriate location for that purpose to service all members with special needs.
58. I'm not 100% sure but I think it does.
59. Blank.
60. yes
61. It appears too I've never heard otherwise.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Na
65. I couldn't say, not requiring such services myself
66. Na
67. Blank.
68. have to ask those with special needs
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. yes.
74. yes.
75. I have food allergies and I find they very helpful and this is not a bother to them. I am very comfortable that their staff treat it seriously and don't have to fear becoming ill.

XVIII. Are the Area Assembly and Area Committee meetings agendas informative and easy to understand? Would you to see anything done differently?

1. don't know.
2. Just that the first day of the Assembly is jammed full.
3. They suit the purpose
4. Yes & NO
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. N/A
8. Okay
9. Yes. Good work.
10. Not answered.
11. As a new gsr, I'd like to know a bit of history or background to the committees. Lots of people talk like they know it but for new people we don't
12. Yes. No I can't think of anything I would like to see changed.
13. they are fine
14. yes
15. All good here.
16. I think they are very well outlined.
17. I have no thoughts on this matter
18. Assembly agendas are fine though some of our members don't like the presence of last names (and others really like it).
19. Not answered.
20. Yes
21. A new GSR attending the Assembly is overwhelmed. A good idea would be to have an introductory meeting (1 hour)for new GSRs, Alt GSRs and interested members... preferably at the beginning of the assembly on Saturday morning. The basics of the assembly weekend could be given and they would be able to ask questions. The GSR workshop does not really fill this need.
22. yes - good as is
23. ok
24. no comment
25. When I first attended I was confused and disoriented by all of the new information and set up. However with the friendly reception I received from many people, I gradually was able to get an understanding of how things were organized. It took 3 Assemblies before I felt comfortable at the Assembly re: the format of the reports, workshops, etc. I have to pace myself due to health problems.which is a big part of why it took me extra time.
26. Every thing is fine
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. Yes, along with dat to day issues being presented & GSR participation.
30. Yes
31. vision for you
32. No I think both are well put together and easy to understand.
33. The Committee seems to keep a good handle on whether or not changes are wanted or needed.
34. i don't have a problem with them
35. Have never heard any complaints other than needing to explain to newcomers what's happening and where and why. I do recall being in that boat once..in awe of the whole process.
36. ?

37. they are fine the way they are
38. They're good.
39. Yes I find they are and are helping me learn on how all services and concepts ie, work.
40. Yes
41. I understood most of it so it must be easy to understand
42. no comment
43. Yes. The only thing I would like to see changed is the location. Namely each district every two years.
44. don't know
45. fine, no
46. yes
47. Not attended Committee meetings. Assembly agendas I have seen were informative and easy to understand
48. Chairman better prepared
49. they are good and I like the way it is being done
50. Yes and no
51. I would like to see more DCMs involved and less of the past delegates
52. Yes.
53. no complaints.
54. Yes
55. I think they are. A procedural workshop would be nice to have before Sunday. Opportunity to learn how things go before trial by fire.
56. V-Good
57. Motions could be explained better so people don't feel so rushed or confused. Perhaps a greater emphasis on clarification or specific background information that's relevant to help inform the body of voters.
58. I think they are.
59. Yes They are easy to understand
60. it is easy to understand and informative
61. I think the workshops could be better explained and access to the various rooms could be better explained at the beginning of the sessions.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. no complaints
65. Yes. I don't think change is necessary
66. At Area Assembly would like to see "Ask-it'Baskets" in each workshop and the Questions answered at the end of the day, before the banquet, so ALL can hear.
67. Blank.
68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. good.
74. Sometimes it is easier to understand the motions if you have some history on how the motions came about.
75. Off hand I can't think of anything.

XIX. Does Area 86 provide workshops and learning opportunities that are beneficial to the members it serves?

1. YES

2. Yes it does.
3. Yes
4. YES
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. I think so. I will not check this website to ensure I am receiving everything.
8. Definitely
9. I attended PIC, Treatment and Video workshops at Assembly - very good discussion. Lots of beneficial literature was handed out. Service days are good but not well attended unfortunately.
10. Yes
11. Yes
12. Yes.
13. could use improvement
14. yes usually
15. Yup.
16. Absolutely!! Sometimes it feels like an over-load. I just remind myself that if I keep coming back, more and more will sink in. :)
17. Yes
18. Yes and no. Some of our members would like to see a bigger variety of topics and perhaps a more clear cut "job description" for the various service positions (prior to someone actually accepting a position).
19. it does just sad more district reps and GRS do not drag people there.
20. Yes
21. as above.. the workshops are beneficial on the whole.
22. Absolutely
23. Yes
24. Yes
25. Yes, it did for me. However, as a new attendee, I found it difficult to know where to start. I didn't know where the rooms were, for example. A map of the hotel rooms would have helped me with this.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. Once again GSRs need to participate.
30. They have been improving lately
31. You are not alone
32. Yes and they are always interesting and informative.
33. Most definitely.
34. Yes
35. Most certainly..and we are always asked [just like now] if we want more or different.
36. ?
37. Yes
38. Yes.
39. Yes it does
40. I think so.. workshops have been added when asked for and that shows me that the committee are listening.
41. The workshops were great and helped me out
42. no comment
43. Yes
44. I believe so

45. Yes
46. Yes
47. Yes
48. Yes
49. I believe they do
50. Yes
51. yes, I believe the workshops are great opportunities
52. Yes.
53. My experience has led me to believe that the workshops with sharing from members with pertinent issues seemed the most beneficial. Answers to "How do we do this?" is what I need.
54. Yes
55. Yes.
56. Yes I am glad we have this essential service to help me navigate with how I may be of service and help others. Does a good job at remaining Neutral, perhaps too much so. Perhaps a brief workshop Friday night for new GSR's to explain what is going to happen, how the upside down triangle works, seating protocols for voting, involvement with preconference questions and encouragement to participate.
57. yes just not in the greatest time slot for all members
58. Yes - I have found them quite helpful.
59. I am pleased with the workshops
60. Yes but I think there should be a workshop for TAS
61. Yes
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. for me yes
65. Yes
66. Yes. Would like to have a workshop on Sponsorship. Focus article on "The True Spirit and Benefits of Rotation".
67. Blank.
68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. yes.
74. They try to but sometimes the workshops of interest to me occur at the same time which is frustrating.
75. I wonder could we have an evaluation sheet at the end of each Assembly and ask the membership itself directly this question. We do not seem to offer the opportunity to the attendees directly to give feedback on this.

XX. As an Area do we have any practices that may be perceived as exclusive rather than inclusive?

1. don't know
2. Can't think of any.
3. Not from my perspective
4. No
5. Not that I am aware of
6. no.
7. N/A

8. don't know
9. I would like to see more women being mentored to area and delegate service positions. It seems old school to always see women in "secretary" roles. We need to be more cognizant of this if we are going to attract younger people.
10. Not answered.
11. The cliques are harmful
12. Sitting and gathering in groups that we are familiar with, or with groups that we usually sit or gather with. Perhaps we need to ask new people to join the group, participate with the group, or introduce them to the group.
13. Not answered.
14. no sometimes find it in individuals
15. Short of having a running blog of what you cats are up to I don't know how to answer that one. You guys seem to joke and have a good repore with each other when I see you at the assembly, so you seem like the cool kids in charge and I feel a little left out, but I think that's more my crap then something you need to do about it.
16. I don't think so. Nothing comes to mind at present.
17. I don't know
18. Not answered.
19. no finances while service are covered.
20. Yes, not having vegetarian options at the banquet excludes people. Also many groups cannot afford to send their GSRs therefore we are not really practicing unity and being inclusive if those groups are not helped with funding. Lack of group money should not be a factor for a GSR to attend.
21. Yes it can be perceived as exclusive by way of the demeanour of some Area Committee members. The Area Committee must make a extra effort to convey what AA guarantees that we are inclusive.
22. not that I know of
23. no
24. don't know
25. From my own personal experience as well as observing the general AA membership, I have noticed that the Assemblies are set up for healthy, mobile people who do not have disabilities such as hearing, visual impairments. I also perceive that there were virtually no non-caucasian people involved. I also have picked up on "cliques" in my own District, which is discouraging to those who might want to get involved. I tried to become involved several months ago and I was ridiculed when I put forward my experience with the position I had served in. I was asked to share my experience. I felt humiliated and very uncomfortable. Needless to say, I did not let my name stand for nomination. My sponsor was there to witness it, and it shocked her as well. I do notice that certain individuals are put on pedestals because they are good at public speaking, have a nice car, house and job. Similarly, some people without cars, jobs and houses are not supported equally. Sometimes they are actually excluded. I have heard people say."I don't give rides, that's what buses are for!" during severe inclement weather. I feel that this is discriminatory.
26. Not that I'm am aware of
27. No
28. probably,
29. None that I can think of.
30. Pass
31. Big Book
32. Not that I am aware of. I have always had the feeling of being a part of all events held by Area. and that my help and input was welcome.
33. not that I'm aware of.

34. No
35. I have never understood the need for the "head table" to meet a day ahead of the assemblies. I would think that good communication between people and getting up early [like everyone else] would eliminate the extra costs incurred by this practice!!!
36. ?
37. No
38. You folks might want to give a quick personal history of yourselves at the area assemblies. Not all us GSR's have met you before. It's already a long weekend, two minutes a piece wouldn't hurt.
39. Not to my knowledge.
40. Not that I can think of
41. Not answered.
42. i think it is fairly inclusive
43. No
44. no comment
45. from the perspective of a first-timer, it is overwhelming. Would some form of orientation be useful?
46. No
47. not that I'm aware of
48. ?
49. not really although some might think so
50. Yes
51. Blank.
52. Yes.
53. Refer to the answer to Q3. This survey tends to EXclude those without computer access. In order to print this survey out and mail it, you still need access to a computer. Has the onus now been downloaded to the GSR's and districts to provide copies?
54. Not that I can see.
55. Not a lot of experience here to speak from. Perhaps having a spot or two on the committee for a first time GSR or two would be interesting from a familiarity and learning point of view.
56. The meal. Don't have any suggestions on getting around it either.
57. when Area Committee members are not as visible within the group structure I think it sets up an us and them dynamic which is not what it is in reality. That's perhaps why the suggestions above to allow members in all parts of the triangle to put more faces to names.
58. In my home group, it was not encouraged that anyone can attend these assemblies, not just the GSR. that is not the fault of the Area but the carrying of the invitation from them to the group.
59. None that I ma aware
60. not that I know of..
61. Yes
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. ask it baskets, gsr school teachers etc only done by past delegates seems exclusive to me
65. I don't think so
66. The term 'panel' may be important to the inside 'clique' but means little to newer members and attendees at Assemblies. Minutes of Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings are scarce. Why not publish them on the web site like Area 83??? Very informative for a newer person in service. Lots of good explanations of procedures, etc.

67. Blank.
68. Not known
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. Maybe.
74. there are always people we would prefer to spend time with and do which can end up with us not saying hello to the newcomers. I would like to see people at the door shaking hands saying welcome to all.
75. It seems to be that we have fewer women than we should have as sub com chairs, officers and on ad hoc committees.

XXI. Traditionally, A.A. members have always taken care to preserve their anonymity at the public level: press, radio, television and films; today this extends to the Internet and digital technologies. Copyright (c) A.A. World Services, Inc. reprinted with permission. Is the Spiritual principle of Anonymity practiced at the Area Assemblies and Committee meetings?

1. as far as I know – yes
2. I feel it is.
3. Yes
4. YES
5. Yes
6. I don't worry about that anymore.
7. N/A
8. as far as I know
9. Yes. I don't use my last name on name tags. I don't think we should include last full names on the distributed agenda. It would discourage me from involvement. It only takes one person to post that info on the internet as we have seen.
10. Not answered.
11. I think so
12. Yes. Sometimes too much so within the assemblies and committees.
13. Yes
14. yes it is fairly well preserved
15. Pretty much. Short of renting out the whole hotel and blindfolding the employees, I'd say its good.
16. I believe so.
17. Yes
18. Some of our mmembers don't like seeing last names on agendas and minutes.
19. from what i recall yes.
20. I don't know why we use last names.
21. The ability to place principles before personalities seems to be more difficult for some than for others. This is where the health of the Area Committee needs to be improved.
22. by most
23. yes
24. I believe it is.
25. No one takes pictures, films and I do not believe any of it is put online. People do use their full names. At the group level, sometimes people reveal the person's full name, especially if they are in service work at the District or Area levels.
26. Yes
27. Yes

28. Yes
29. Yes
30. the best we can I think
31. 12 and 12
32. Not sure what you are looking for here. By the time you get to DCM, Sub-Committee Chair or Head Table weather at District or Area your anonymity is pretty much no longer a secret.
33. So far as I know..keeping in mind that the spiritual principle of anonymity is doing for others with no thought of self. We do need to know who we are though!!
34. I believe so. We are to be anonymous not non-existent!
35. The Spiritual principle [doing for others with no thought of self] is always present. we do need to keep in mind though that we can not help anyone if we can't get in touch with each other. Too many people confuse the word anonymity with secrecy. This is not a secret society!!!
36. ?
37. Yes
38. As far as I know.
39. To my knowledge yes
40. Yes
41. For me even at the service level I will protect everyones anonymity unless told by that person that I can break it
42. no comment
43. ?
44. don't know
45. Yes
46. Yes the spiritual principle of anonymity of the Area is well established and well maintained.
47. I believe so
48. Yes but people do not understand and misinterpret the spirit and purpose.
49. I believe it has been
50. Yes unless your name is ***** from Oakville
51. I believe so
52. Yes.
53. Since we make this announcement to the press, what else can we do. With respect to social media, could this be addressed in a workshop?
54. yes
55. As long as 'What is seen and said here, stays here' is practiced. Never seen an intentional break of another's anonymity.
56. It was a good Idea that the Agendas be removed at night and at non Assembly times. Using a reminder from the podium several times was also a helpful reminder to myself.
57. Yes, but why do we say last names at Assemblies?
58. I believe so. Yes I do.
59. Yes
60. I think it is..
61. To my knowledge
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Yes
65. Yes
66. Yes, well done at Assemblies.
67. Blank.

68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. yes.
74. I think we try to respect everyone's anonymity.
75. Good question but difficult to discern. Rotation should help.

XXII. Do you feel all members are given the opportunity to ask questions at Assemblies? Is improvement needed? Why or Why not?

1. YES
2. Yes there is a lot of opportunity.
3. I've never felt I've lacked the opportunity to participate or learn.
4. YES if they don't ask it is their own fault.
5. Yes.
6. Yes and no. Some people were not given adequate time. Some are too shy to approach the mike.
7. I was told if I did not hold a position that I could not speak. I am not sure if that was true or not, but that is what the belief was.
8. yes. This is one of my favorite aspects.
9. Absolutely they are given the opportunity..and if they are shy, there's the Ask It Basket.
10. Yes
11. yes. it's just hard to ask questions in front of everyone when you are even unsure of the right question to ask! sometimes things are not clear.
12. Yes, however, the balance between soliciting input and keeping the meeting moving along is critical.
13. they are
14. yes
15. Essentially its all good. I think if there is an issue, a lot of the GSR's are new and would rather stay quiet than ask a question and look like an "idiot." You guys really come across like you know what you're doing so I can see how that could look daunting to some, but I'm pretty sure you are vocal about asking people to put that aside and ask anyway. Plus you got the ask it basket and one day I'll stick around to here a couple.
16. I feel that all members are given more than adequate opportunity to ask questions at Assemblies. I never understood why there was a discussion about not having Past Delegates attend Assemblies or, if they did, to not be able to approach the microphone. They are members of our fellowship and preventing them from attending or speaking at Assemblies would have made them exclusive rather than inclusive. That said, the group that initiated that discussion were at least heard, proving that they were given opportunity to voice their opinion.
17. I think you are doing a fantastic job of making sure that all questions are answered and are satisfied
18. Yes
19. some of the stronger voices and personalities do intimidate some from speaking, but the set up at the mic is a good one. some people need to be reminded to keep it short.
20. I believe new GSRs should be encouraged to approach the mike more, perhaps we could create a spot for that other than ask it basket so new GSRs are given practice in speaking.

21. No they are not given ample opportunity to ask questions. The impatient member that calls the question too soon is cutting off what could be a healthier more informed group conscience. Explanation by the Area Chair this may help.
22. Yes
23. No
24. don't know.
25. I witnessed people getting up to ask their questions. They seemed comfortable and confident. I think it is hard for new service members to even know what to ask. Also, walking up to the microphone can be intimidating for someone new in service. Perhaps, having some questions put forward in writing would encourage new and quieter members to ask their questions.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. Again, role playing issues & GSR participation in this.
30. Yes
31. **** ******
32. Absolutely! I feel it is encouraged. It must be difficult when several members get to the Mic to say exactly what was said by someone earlier. Area shows a lot of patience I think. But I see no voice denied, which eliminates any fear a new GSR or DCM may have of asking questions. Very important.
33. That has been my personal experience.
34. yes everyone is given a fair chance
35. I have found at times that some people[usually new] don't understand that as a GSR they not only have the right to go to the mike..but at times have an obligation to express their group's opinion or concern with certain issues. Some are just not well enough versed in the concepts to realize what the "right of decision" is.
36. ?
37. yes, no improvement
38. The ask it basket seems like a great idea but I've never seen one because I'm so tired by the time it happens. That might be the thing moved to the end of the assembly if business was done on the first day? just an idea.
39. Yes we are. And again to my knowledge no
40. Yes
41. YES
42. no comment
43. Yes
44. don't know
45. Yes
46. I love the open concept for anyone to ask questions
47. Well, no, I don't think that members are made aware of the Assembly question process. I think DCM's/GSR's need to be 'reminded? educated?' of their educational role in AA service. They could take questions to be presented (past or present) to business meetings to inform group members of what is on other districts minds....
48. Yes the chairman dont answer questions but give opinions .
49. yes
50. Yes
51. more now that it was before. with the question period during the assembly not just the ask it basket, some people cannot stay all day at the assembly and then sit for the basket, it is good to have both
52. Yes.

53. Holy crow, sometimes I don't think the lineup will ever end. All kidding aside, the mic is open, so opportunities are not a problem.
54. Improvement needed. The Ask It Basket thou a great thing goes late and a lot of people have had it by then. There needs to be a time when concerns and questions can be asked freely. I think in the past some peoplke felt they were not being heard. Our current Chairman is doing a great job but I think we need to add something in the Agenda.
55. Given a procedural workshop before Assemblies would allow people to realise they can and should ask any questions they have. To know that any and all questions would be heard prior to actually being at the Assembly might give newcomers and generally shy people more time to formulate their concerns and give them a bit of confidence.
56. Seemed to flow well and not repeatedly.
57. When members ask for clarification around motions I have sometimes gotten the sense 'they are holding up time' albeit it's hugely important to vote as an informed group conscience. People seem frustrated others don't understand, a sense of humility and patience must prevail.
58. Blank.
59. I believe so
60. Yes, we have plenty of opportunity, I think though, that some members ask questions over and over. Then it becomes a discussion between just a few members.
61. Yes. It's always needed but we do a pretty good job overall
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Maybe doing an ask it basket type thing during assembly meeting for more shy gsr
good idea
65. While I think some folks are intimidated to get up and speak, I think the opportunities are there
66. No. Explanation of the 'Ask-it-Basket' at the start of the session plus location of the basket to the 'focus' table would encourage members to contribute questions without interruption of the meeting. Q & A at the end of each day.
67. Blank.
68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. most people are afraid when new.
74. Getting up to the microphone is intimidating. Wording questions for the ask it basket can be difficult. Could we set someone up to assist those seeking help with the wording?.
75. I do think improvement is needed. I am optimistic abut the new spot for more open discussion that has opened up at the business meeting. I think the Ask it basket is helpful venue for questions but because of the time it is held a limited number of members attend. I wonder if thought has been given to holding it at anther time. It also does not related necessarily directly to current Assembly business.

XXIII. Are you aware of the Area 86 Newsletter called Focus? Tell us about its value to you.

1. yes I am aware; I read it and find it interesting
2. Yes I am aware and find it very informative.
3. Yes, adds to my AA knowledge.
4. Yes and it is excellent
5. No
6. No

7. Not aware of it at all.
8. Yes. I enjoy the articles.
9. I was made aware of it today at Assembly. I have not read it yet.
10. Yes
11. my dcm handed it out. it is good.
12. I should, but I don't recognize the name. I try to pass all material on to my group.
13. Unknown
14. aware of, not too involved with
15. To be honest I breeze through that thing looking for anything that "I need to do or tell my group about" I'm already busy in my life and I do the best I can to maintain balance in my life.
16. I think it's highly valuable and look forward to each issue.
17. I am aware and have read a couple issues that I found very informative
18. yes but don't read it much. Honestly, way to many words. Many of us now-a-days want shorter takes on subjects. Perhaps more summaries and more illustrations would make it more attractive (sorry - we do realize how much effort goes into this).
19. love it always have.
20. Yes, it's fantastic and more members should be encouraged to write for it, not just Area committee members.
21. yes. It provides good info. I value everything that is written in it.
22. I read it regularly
23. yes very good
24. I enjoy reading it.
25. I have not heard of it since I was at an assembly 3 years ago.
26. Yes
27. Yes. Great articles, I think it helps bind the Area.
28. yes, excellent way to learn about service and the value of service
29. No I'm not totally aware.
30. Yes great hearing from members in our own area.
31. Al anon
32. Yes I am! I enjoy it and have submitted a couple of things myself!
33. I find it great to bring other people up to speed on the Area duties and concerns.
34. Yes I am. I find it very informative and enlightening. I encourage others to read it.
35. The "Focus" is a great way to show people what current concerns and needs are in the Area..too bad more people didn't use it as such!!
36. ?
37. no, not aware
38. Yes. I myself haven't found much in it that I need to know. I know you folks put a lot of work in to it but on the level of my group, who are content with the way things are and are content to let the few keeners run the group, there isn't much that would inspire interest.
39. Yes am aware and when I get it I read it and pass it on too the group
40. Yes
41. Just picked up my first copy today. have not looked at it yet
42. I found it very informative
43. Yes. I enjoy reading it. Especially since I can put a face to the people who contribute.
44. Yes
45. yes, it is valuable in its ability to introduce the thoughts, perspectives and experiences of the of people in our Area people on our Area Committee and in our Area regarding the Steps and Traditions of AA
46. No

47. yes. Informative
48. Yes
49. yes I read it all the time
50. Yes
51. yes it has value as long as we use it. more members need to submit to it so that it is wild variety of members whose ideas are given
52. Yes.
53. Yes and maybe someday I'll read it.
54. Yes it is an expense that we could probably do without. Why not post it on the website and then the DCM's can print it for anyone at the District tables that can't access it. I do read it but many do not.
55. I am aware. It is another mode of communicating within our area that we use.
56. can be long winded, may have read it at wrong time(s) emotionally.
57. I wish more people would read it when I announce I have it. I see it's value. I really liked the latest when Jim W. gave his service experience. Maybe it needs to be formatted for greater distribution and perusal, the Focus I mean--via chicklet on website or something.
58. I am aware of it. It is very dense and a challenge for myself to read when it comes. It then gets put of the "deal with later" table. i post it at our group but I'm not sure anyone ever looks at it. one of the old-timers in our group pointed out something from that newsletter and shared it with our group as part of his sharing. I found what he said interesting and did make me think, I should become a bit more faithful at reading it. so far I have not made good use of it.
59. I like to hear from committee members
60. I receive it at home, I like to read it, it does contain good information
61. Yes.It's informative
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. Yes
65. I've never read it.
66. Yes. Good articles, once you know it exists. Not much promotion at District or Group level. Suggest that 'top 3' questions
67. Blank.
68. No
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. yes, informative, nice to read about the area.
74. Not well advertised by the Area.
75. Yes. I like to read what other members are saying about the Traditions and read their service sharing. I would love to see a bit of history of the Area or their Districts in Focus. I think we are doing a poor job of preserving our Area's history.

XXIV. Do I understand the value of my service in the growth of AA?

1. YES
2. I certainly do.
3. Yes, but due to economics I can't always participate as much as I'd like.
4. YES
5. Yes
6. yes.
7. Yes.

8. yes. I am concerned by the stagnation (in service) of members in my district and I try to increase awareness.
9. Yes. I want the hand of AA to always be there for the still suffering alcoholic. Not just on a local level but a global level. All alcoholics everywhere should know there is a better way.
10. Yes
11. yes. All jobs are required to carry the message of hope and recovery.
12. Yes.
13. Yes
14. I know service is one third of the unity, recovery, service legacies. I try to contribute to all three areas regularly.
15. My indirect value in that I help maintain and provide a space for meetings to be held and kept open so that the next suffering alcoholic who needs a helping hand can grab ours? Like that?
16. Absolutely. It has enhanced the quality of my sobriety exponentially. Service: WOO HOO! (Thanks, *****!)
17. Yes
18. Absolutely and that is why we also believe we need to pass along the need to have more people take an interest.
19. sure do ,time toget back at it now i am settled and hopefull not moving again soon
20. Absolutely.
21. yes.
22. Yes – definitely
23. Absolutely
24. Yes
25. My understanding is that I provided a service to my AA District which was a contribution to keeping AA alive and functional at the District and Area levels. It also educated me in a major way. I have now been able to pass on my experience with this to others who are interested. I felt much more connected to AA as a whole when I was involved in service. I also found that I was relating well to most people I met through service.
26. Yes
27. Yes
28. Yes
29. Definitely
30. Yes its up to all of us to keep this going.
31. Inventory
32. Absolutely! Without Service AA might die which would be a tragedy as many would die without it. AA works and it does save lives, restores sanity, provides hope for those who have lost it. It is a miracle that must be preserved.
33. I have always been aware that if nobody does anything nothing will happen. I want A A to keep happening, especially for the newcomer.
34. Absolutely! I do what I can, to learn about service and be active. I am a secretary and a District Treasurer because I want to make sure that AA is around when my kids decide that its time to surrender! I want AA here for my grand-babies if they need it....
35. Yes..if nobody does the work nothing gets done. this thing doesn't just happen I have a responsibility to show others by example that this will keep working if we keep working together!!!
36. ?
37. Yes
38. I am a humble guardian of the ideals and principles of AA. I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that I am responsible.

39. Yes I do. Love service work helps me so much.
40. Yes
41. Starting too
42. yes it is very important
43. Yes
44. Yes
45. Oh Yes!
46. Somewhat,
47. I think I do
48. Yes
49. yes and I believe I should do more
50. Yes
51. yes
52. Yes.
53. I'm not sure about AA's growth, but service has done wonders for mine.
54. Yes
55. On many levels. SERVICE,UNITY,RECOVERY.
56. Yes, but I question occasionally if I/we (service oriented individuals) inflate the need.
57. I wish I could see it more often to pull me more quickly out my dark mental places.
58. I do.
59. I donot know so much about the value of my service to AA . I do know I have grown through service work
60. yes
61. Yes
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. yes, whole heartedly
65. Yes
66. still learning, but progress is important
67. Blank.
68. Yes
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. absolutely.
74. yes.
75. Some what but I am unsure that we really, as an Area, have a vision for A.A.s growth. We seem stuck on the status Quo.

XXV. The past Delegates are non-moving, non-voting members of the Area Assembly. Is past Delegate participation important to you and Area 86? Why or Why not?

1. You can't beat experience; some is valuable and should be utilized if available; Personally, I think everyone who attends the Assembly should be allowed to vote.
2. Certainly to hear their viewpoint and experience but I agree with the fact that they are non-moving and non-voting.
3. For some delegates yes , others no. There is a marked difference in the knowledge and abilities of past delegates and their ability to "convey the service message". Sometimes ego seems to get in the way.
4. yes Because of experience

5. Yes. Although they are non-voting they provide a level of wisdom that I feel is imperative for new service reps to have the ability to draw on.
6. Yes.
7. I do believe that they are an important part of leading workshop, participating in committee meeting to add their valuable experience. I do not see a separate line for their direct expenses so if they are doing so as a volunteer and/or are only getting reimbursed that that is fine. If their cost is part of the Delegate expenses then I have a concern about the fact that Past Delegates will keep increasing and thereby the expenses would keep increasing unless an older one drops off after a period of time
8. Absolutely! Their experience and knowledge is very important to me and to the area.
9. Not necessarily. Some of their experience might be valuable. If I knew more of what it is they do, I could answer this question.
10. Absolutely, we need to learn from all mistakes made. Surely future endeavors will be made and result similarly to past ones. We don't have time to make all the mistakes again.
11. I think it is important to get the voices from everybody. The delegates should let the area make their own mistakes sometime too. They have value in their opinion but also like to be popular.
12. Yes. We need to hear from the past practices and results. often the Past Delegates direct a good outcome, however, the good is the enemy of the best. The Past Delegates need to allow for discussion from newcomers and the minority voice.
13. they are, so we don't repeat the past
14. yes, experience can help
15. Yes, their participation is important. If they can make it out I'd wish they'd come. I've been to two assemblies an I swear that at least once in both, a big issue was being batted around, a past delegate stood up and gave information that put the whole issue into a context that made the issue much easier to handle. A tribe needs its elders.
16. As mentioned in #15, I did not understand why members wanted to restrict participation of Past Delegates. For me, they have been a HUGE wealth of knowledge for me and have also inspired me. I truly appreciate their attendance and willingness to continue to be of Service. I was taught in early sobriety to listen and that is what I have done with current and past Delegates. The longer I listen, the less I need to ask about things.
17. Yes. I find it helps smooth the transition from one panel to the next and I assume that it would have a positive impact on the new panel by having the voice of experience there to help
18. Absolutely. Their opinion has value though in the past, some rendered their opinions with far more humility.
19. yes it is important providing they respect there roll. I have learned a lot over the years from past delegates participation.
20. YES!!!! We need experience strength and hope.
21. The participation of the Past Delegates is very important. They have much needed knowledge and experience to offer in the discussion of a motion that would give the voting members the information and therefore a full discussion and a healthier outcome. There is one past delegate that continually tries to control and sway the voting members by using the microphone to shame anyone who dare speak in opposition. Its usually a long diatribe of ego centric behavior. The 2 minute rule and bell should be used at the microphone. What is the procedure for using past delegates for the collection and passing out ballots and gathering ballots ? Does the Chair oversee this and if so is it done to be fair to all past delegates ? How is the attendance of past delegates decided? They are all needed.
22. Absolutely

23. yes because of experience.
24. can't speak to that
25. I don't know anything about this. It would make sense to me that someone who has had experience serving AA would have some awareness and insights that would be valuable to Area 86.
26. Yes. I believe their personal experience 'as a past delegates is absolutely indispensable.
27. Not answered.
28. yes, they have experience and a perspective that help us be more informed to make our own judgement.
29. Only the history of an issue in this respect it is very important participation
30. Yes we need them to keep us informed, at the same time letting us make our own mistakes without recourse. Only lessons
31. Road of happy destiny
32. YES! They have experience, strength and hope. When I arrived in AA it was those with more experience than I who taught me how to live and stay sober. Past Delegates can also teach us about service, the principles of AA and what being a trusted servant really means. They provide a valuable service and should not be silenced.
33. I believe we would be wasting a great investment if we were to not take advantage of our past delegates experience. {one reason I chose a past delegate as a service sponsor}
34. It is important to me because they bring a wealth of knowledge and experiences into the Assembly.
35. We absolutely need to take advantage of the vast experience and knowledge of these trusted servants. I can recall asking somebody how these guys got so smart. The answer was "they've done the work and made sure it will continue to be done".
36. ?
37. Yes
38. Very important. They are a wealth of knowledge and experience is invaluable. Plus they are funny, generous, care, and make me feel better knowing they care enough to continue to contribute.
39. Yes they are full of knowledge to help all of us.
40. Sorry ...last part of ? is missing after the work Are I think it import we hear from our past Delegate as they are a source of great experience and knowledge for us. I do agree that they do not have a vote and hope they do not try to use their personal opinions.. only knowledge for the good of AA
41. I feel they are important. The Delegates are very busy at the assembly and I got some good info from a few past Delegates
42. no comment
43. Experience will always be needed in AA. Least we forget or neglect these trusted and deicated servants.
44. everyone is needed
45. Yes, they are in valuable for their experience and hope. They are accessible
46. Somewhat,
47. yes, to give support, share their experience with new members to the Committee
48. No
49. yes because they bring their experience to the table
50. Very much
51. Yes I believe the past delegates are a wealth of information. the past delegates should be limited to what they have to do at the assemblies- there should be only one of them speaking at the mike- not all of them. This can be intimidating to the current sitting committee and new people who are already scared of the mike without the long time delegates hogging the mike

52. Yes.
53. We almost had to learn this one the hard way. Their wealth of knowledge and experience definitely contributes to the good and welfare.
54. Extremely important. I hate to see the bickering that goes on between them. If they think it isn't apparent they are mistaken! They have so much knowledge and experience to share. The ones that don't come and voice their experience I think hurts the Area. I understand that they might not be able to attend all Assemblies and ACM's and that some of them are getting on in age and have health issues. This is not the case with them all. Just because one Past Delegate says something it doesn't mean it is correct we should be able to ask others and get their input.
55. I think more effect could be gained balancing past delegates with newcomers. See#13
56. Yes their participation (when asked) is important, we should refer to them for their experience in matters frequently if not routinely.
57. Experience needs to be communicated regularly and often. I wish I had been given greater direction and had been under someone's wing more than I have been so I can feel more confident I am serving well so I can be of better service. Often my insecurities about doing well impede my ability to serve well. If those formerly present, such as the past Delegate, are there to facilitate future service members than their experience, strength and foresight are an integral part of the primary purpose of the fellowship as a whole.
58. It is important. I believe it adds a continuity of message from the past to help the present committee make informed decisions. Their presence at these assemblies is much appreciated, at least by myself.
59. Yes as they are aware of the history of the issues within AA assemblies
60. Absolutely, we need their experiences and guidance
61. Yes. Experience cannot be overvalued.
62. Yes.
63. Yes.
64. yes, i believe their experience and knowledge is priceless
65. Yes because their experience is very much needed
66. Yes, very much so. Should have identifiable name tag + lanyards. Their knowledge of what is important and what works in Area 86 goes beyond the adherence to the SOPs
67. Blank.
68. cannot read the question
69. Yes, but I wonder if the new members attending their first area really do. It should be explained at the beginning of every assembly or at district by DCM.
70. Yes.
71. Yes.
72. Yes.
73. Absolutely! We all need to learn from the past, and experience is the best teacher~!.
74. only when asked or when correcting an error in the current meeting they are attending. They have a wealth of information but we need to make our own mistakes. To be belittled or criticized has a huge impact when it comes from a past Delegate.
75. Because we need new voices and leadership and encourage rotation, I would like to see less participation of past Delegates at Assembly business meetings but value their background knowledge and experience. I have wondered if alt. Delegates would benefit from giving traditions or Concepts workshops and DCMs doing the GSR workshops, In the last few terms we don't get much opportunity to see DCMs give presentations, although, I have seen that a number of years ago.