

Hello everyone, I am an Alcoholic, a member of the Paradise Group on Hamilton Mountain, I have the honour and privilege to be your Panel 64 Area 86 Western Ontario Delegate and my name is Jim W.

This will be my final report to you the Area Committee. I would like to thank Districts 12 & 13 for hosting me over the last month today is the fourth time attending your area and I am finally getting to know my way around here and that could be dangerous. Both District Service days were well organized and well attended. Last Saturday Panel 56 Delegate Tom V. and myself both expressed concerns over the breakdown of communications at this level. This problem has been identified by the General Service Board as well that the communication link between General Service Board and the Groups of Alcoholics Anonymous is in trouble.

I would like to thank the 12 Districts that were consistent in sending me their minutes month after month. Thank you for taking the time to keep your Delegate informed on the problems, activities and general well-being of the groups in your Districts. I would like to thank you for your integrity, your dedication and commitment not only to the groups but to the Area Service Structure in keeping the information flowing in both directions.

To the other 11 District DCM's some of you attempted to send on the minutes for that I thank you for the ones that I received. There were those too that could not be bothered and severed the link, and fell short in fulfilling the duties of a DCM. I talked to a GSR after our 6 hour August ACM and asked what the DCM had to report and his reply was nothing to report. Some of you skipped DCM School but gladly submitted for your Assembly expenses to your Districts. Some of you lead a campaign to discourage groups in your Districts to not support or vote the Alternate DCM to become the new DCM. Some of you censored my communications to the groups which was never your job, there were those too who's leadership skills were questioned by votes of non-confidence. Unity in Alcoholics Anonymous at the District level or any level is vital to our future. When problems arise can you ask yourself; did I do everything to solve the problem or did I poke the angry bear with a big stick, escalating the problem, putting our Unity at risk, jeopardizing our future.

When you all were elected as DCM's you became part of the Area Committee, some of you did not know that. The DCM is the vital link between the groups GSR's and the area service structure, including the area's delegate to the General Service Conference. By maintaining active contact, both with the groups in the district and with the area delegate, the DCM is a key link in ensuring that all the A.A. groups are aware of the importance of their total participation in local, district, area and world services. I have always hoped that communication is the number one priority of the Area. I have asked and pleaded with you for the last two years on my behalf and on behalf of all the Past Delegates for District minutes. I have always wondered if I was the problem in all of this; but thought I was elected to do a job and hoped that I did it well. A couple of GSR's did email me with their concerns, but then asked me to resign over my request for discussions on safety at the group level.

My sincere wish for the next Panel, Panel 66, is that since you have elected Fredy M. as your Area 86 Delegate you keep the communication links open, that you support him and send him

your District Minutes. Please make sure that your District Secretaries are updated with his information or make it a personal commitment of yours to forward any minutes.

For those of you that have chosen to let your name stand for the elections today I wish you the best, but remember the high standard of communication, integrity and commitment the Panel 64 Sub Committees have set. The dedication of time is a big one; make sure you have the time to do it. It's not just one District that you have to be of service to its 23 Districts with over 800 groups.

Lastly I wish to thank you all for supporting our Assemblies, attending our workshops, attending the banquet and for your contributions for allowing great work at the Area level to continue now and I hope in the future.

It was told to me a long time ago "To hold on to the seat of your pants because you're in for the ride of your life." So I thank you for the ticket; this ride is one that I will never forget.

Yours in Love & Service

Jim W. Delegate, Area 86, Panel 64