

Delegate Fall Report November 7th, 2020

Hello Area 86 I am an Alcoholic, a member of the Fellowship Group in District 19 and I currently have the honour and privilege of serving as your Panel 70 Delegate and my name is Sandi W.

It is wonderful to be here today and see so many faces. It is hard to believe that it has been a year since we met in person at our 2019 Fall Assembly. I hope you are all well and handling the challenges in these trying times. We are taught to live One Day at a Time and this has certainly proven to be vital in 2020.

With not being able to hold the in-person Spring Assembly we had to come up with a plan to get the information out to you and get your feedback. This is usually done at the Pre-Conference Assembly so I have information to carry with me to the General Service Conference. Well I am so happy to say with the help of my fellow Officers at the time and all the Area Sub Committee Chairs we quickly put together Workshops that ran over a 3-week period.

I would like to thank each and every one of these people for their dedication and support. This was new territory and they were all willing to help and do the work that needed to be done.

We had Sub Chairs helping one another get prepared, the DCM's that were assigned all jumped on board, the members that quickly were learning to be Zoom Ops and you the members that took the time to attend. Thank you! It looks like we may have to do something similar again this year so please help and come out to share your thoughts. The more information that is gathered and shared with me to take to the Conference the better.

The Conference was held from May 16-19th. There were quite a few Zoom meetings leading up to the Conference to help get us prepared.

We usually do the Delegates Report back at the May ACM and of course this was not the case. We scheduled 2 Zoom Report Back Sessions dividing the Districts so there would be time for questions. Thank you to all the members that took the time to attend one of these report backs.

The Delegate has traditionally done their Report back again at the Fall Assembly but with the time constraints I will not do a whole report. The Electronic Final Report was sent out to the Area and all DCM's now have the hard copies. I want to thank all the DCM's and members that helped get these out to the Districts, the AA Train in action! GSR's please reach out to your DCM's to make arrangements to receive it.

The financials presented at the GSC were unaudited but we were promised there would be a meeting later in the summer with the sole purpose of presenting the audited financials. This took place on August 15th. I will cover some of the highlights shortly.

September 17th I attended the GSB Strategic Plan. This was a 2 hour meeting and we broke into small groups to discuss 3 different Goals. This is a living and evolving document that is helping to organize the Board's efforts and develop a coherent working vision for the future.

On September the 26th I took the opportunity to attend the National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop (NAAAW) Online which usually travels throughout North America. I thoroughly enjoyed it and I look forward to learning more about Archives down the road.

Some of the other Areas reached out asking for help with their Panel 71 Elections. I was thrilled to be of service with some other members, helping Area 82, Nova Scotia. We had quite a few

training sessions and mock Elections so this gave me a chance to get to know some of our neighbors a little better.

Area 86 has put a Zoom tech team together to also help Area 83, November 28th at their ACM. Rob M. the Area 83 Panel 69 Delegate is here this weekend helping us. Area 83 has been very helpful and supportive to us this past year so it will be a pleasure giving our friends in Area 83 a hand.

The Subcommittee Chairs again stepped up and put their usual Fall Assembly Workshops on with their assigned DCM using Zoom. I attended almost all of these and was really impressed with their presentations and the discussion that followed. Thank you to those that participated.

The DCM school was held October 29th and my apologies if anyone tried to join us and found no meeting. We had a Zoom issue so we had to close the meeting and send out a new invite. It was a rough start but we got started by 7:15 and had a great meeting. We discussed the role of the DCM and importance of communication, the Assembly and what was expected and procedures. We have decided to meet bimonthly with the Alternate DCM's to discuss the issues that we all seem to be facing and our experiences. It was so nice to see the dedication that these members have and desire to find solutions to difficult situations. Thank you for all you guys are doing and the first meeting will be held on November 26th!

I received an invitation along with all other 2021 Conference Committee chairs and Regional Trustees to attend a special meeting held by the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference (TCGSC) on Thursday October 15, 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to consider background information on the best path forward for the 71st GSC regarding venue and format. The Board reviewed this past week at Board Weekend and discussed the recommendation that the trustees' General Service Conference committee put forth. It was accepted unanimously so the 71st GSC will be held on a virtual platform April 18-24, 2021.

As you know the Eastern Regional Forum had to be cancelled. We were told that a 1 Day Virtual Forum was in the works.

There will be a "Class Act" panel/presentation/workshop (not sure just what right now) – a chance to meet and get to know some of our Class A trustees. There will be an Intergroup/Central Office panel in the main room explaining their involvement and what's been happening during this time of COVID. Sister Judith Karam, our Class A Trustee, along with Michelle Mirza, our Archivist, both non-alcoholics will be giving a presentation on Archives. Judith was a novice working with Sister Ignatia and has some wonderful stories to relate. There will be a "Screening Room" that will be showing the GSO/Regional Forum video. Hospitality Rooms will also be offered. Our At Large Trustees will also be doing an "AA Around the World" presentation. Always popular. So please register by going to aa.org, clicking on Regional Forums and follow the links. There will be registration the day of, but the office is advising to do pre-registration. Remember, there is no fee. Pass this message along. Let's create some enthusiasm for this Virtual Forum with our friends both Eastern Canada and in the eastern U.S.

Please remember that we will need help in the Spring to put on Workshops and/or Round Table discussions to get input from you, the members of Area 86 on the agenda items for the 71st Conference. Look at the Conference Report contact me with questions or concerns. It is your voice that needs to be shared and I can not do that if you don't participate or speak up.

So after I finished my report I received a 12 page report from our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee, Jan L. last night. I will forward the report to you instead of trying to cover everything here. We also have a scheduled Zoom meeting with Jan, our Canada Trustee at Large, Trish L. and with all the Eastern Canada Delegates and Alternate Delegates on November 12th. Please let me know if you have any questions and I will ask Jan on Thursday.

A couple of highlights though:

Linda Chezem was selected as the next Chair of the General Service Board, to commence after the General Service Conference in April 2021. Linda served as a Class A Trustee on the General Service Board from 1997 – 2002.

My Portal there is an update with 1st wave of training hoping to begin for the Area Registrars December 15th.

The committee reviewed G.S.O. financial results for the first nine months of 2020. Gross Sales for the first nine months of 2020 of \$7,156,475 were \$3,928,753 lower than 2019. Gross Profit from literature was \$5,326,244 and represented a 76.00% Gross Profit Percentage.

Contributions for 2020 of \$7,169,609 were \$972,313 greater than 2019. The committee expressed its gratitude to the Fellowship for the continuing Seventh Tradition support.

Total Revenue (gross profit from literature plus contributions) was \$12,677,330 and \$811,954 less than 2019. Total expenses for the nine months of 2020 were \$11,882,137. This is \$2,232,874 less than 2019. The decrease in expenses compared to 2019 was in large part due to a reduction in travel caused by the cancellation of events because of COVID-19.

I am now going to switch over to a Power Point presentation. I am not covering all the business that happened at the Conference as it is out now in the Final Report. I will touch on a couple of things and show some financial Highlights.

Powerpoint Notes:

Please see additional report.

Both the Final Conference Report and the Final Finance Report from the 70th General Service Conference are included in with the minutes for your reference.

I would like to thank the members that will allow their names to stand today. It takes courage to raise your hand, so thank you for being willing to serve.

To the members that are eligible to stand please remember that we will be filling Sub Committee positions at the January Area Committee Meeting. Service may be a bit different at the moment but it is still very much needed.

In the DR on October 3 there is a quote from our Co founder Bill W that was written in February 1961.

“Let us remember that great legion who still suffer from alcoholism and who are still without hope. Let us, at any cost or sacrifice, so improve our communication with all these that they may find what we have found—a new life of freedom under God.”

A huge thank you to Rob M, Delegate from Area 83, Dale S and Percy that will be conducting the Elections tomorrow, Dave C and all the Zoom techs. We have had many meetings planning this weekend. We could not have done it without each and every one of you.

Finally, to all of the Area Committee and especially my fellow Officers thank you for all your help and support thus far. Thank you, Area 86, for allowing me to serve it truly is an honour.

As always please continue to send your Districts minutes. They are probably more important now than ever.

If I can be of any help please email or call me anytime. Area86delegatep70@gmail.com or 905-466-8408.

Gratefully yours in love and service,

Sandi W.

Panel 70 Delegate

Area 86 Western Ontario

Conference Trustees' Committee