

Delegate Report December 4, 2021 Area Committee Meeting

Good morning members and friends of Area 86. I am an Alcoholic; a member of the Fellowship Group in District 19 and I have the privilege of serving as your Pandemic Panel 70 Delegate and my name is Sandi W.

I'd like to begin with welcoming any new members that are attending their first Area Committee Meeting (ACM). We are so excited you are here.

Since the Fall Assembly there are a few exciting items to report on.

First, I would like to thank Jan again for attending our Fall Assembly. As Jan promised she sent her report out from the October/November Board Weekend and I forwarded it on to the Area on Saturday the 13th. I hope you have shared it and have taken the time to read it as it is full of important information. I get asked questions all the time as to where our members can find the information. These reports are a great place to start so please help get the information to the members.

The Delegates and Alternate Delegates of the Eastern Canadian Region met with Jan the Saturday Night of our Assembly weekend. We had the opportunity to ask questions and it was a great session.

I attended virtually the East Central Forum. It was held the weekend after the Assembly and again one of the great things we can do that costs us nothing. I heard great discussions and presentations. We have an in-person Eastern Canada Region Forum scheduled May 13-15, 2022 in P.E.I. Details will be posted on aa.org under Regional Forums as soon as they become available.

During our Assembly we heard about and saw some of the new Service Manual as it had just become available digitally. I am so excited to let you know it is now also available in print. Please check with your Intergroups, Central Offices, Interdistricts or Literature Committees to see if they have ordered it and if not be sure to ask them to. We all need a new version!

As we get ready to begin Panel 72 why not grab a few members and either meet up in person or virtually to read the Service Manual together. The consensus is that it is a much easier and more enjoyable read. You can find it digitally at aa.org under the "What's New" button.

I am so happy that our DCM's and Alternate DCMs agreed to start meeting bimonthly during this Panel and I am thrilled to hear that this will continue into Panel 72. What a great way to get to know one another as you share thoughts, ideas and solutions. This can only help to strengthen the Unity that is found in our fabulous Area which in turn will help the still suffering alcoholic. Thank you for your time and dedication, you are all powers of example.

At the Fall Assembly Jeff and I both spoke about a "Video" that I had access to on the Dashboard. I was given permission to show it at the Intergroup Workshop and after Jeff and I spoke about it, we felt it was a wonderful piece to offer to the whole Area.

The first showing was on Saturday morning, Nov 27. I believe we had less than 10 people there. Those members shared that they were glad they had attended and thought it was very informative. I sent out a reminder email for the second showing on December 1 and the first

group helped to spread the word. We had 22 people in attendance at the second showing and these members again felt it was very worthwhile and they were all glad they attended. Thank you to all those that took the time to join us and a special shout out to my home group, The Fellowship Group in Oakville, that showed up to support the event.

If you did not attend either showing then I am sorry you missed it. Did you encourage others to attend by sharing the email or talking about it in your reports? We must find ways to help the membership receive the information from Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, the General Service Office and the Grape Vine Board. As Beau shared, we must engage, inform and educate the Fellowship.

In his presentation he spoke about the "Lock Box" and I have also been reporting on it. We just received notice of the new address. I will forward the piece I received through my personal email. If you have made a contribution to the General Service Board or have taken part in the Birthday Plan then you also would have received the letter. It can be found on aa.org, guess where? Under the "What's New" button.

The letter explains it very clearly and it should answer all your questions.

Effective immediately, please send contribution cheques to:

Post Office Box 2407

James A Farley Station

New York, NY 10116-2407

This week I received a Preliminary list of Agenda items for the 72nd General Service Conference. This list would normally be included in the Conference member Communication Kit in January 2022 that is posted on the dashboard but because of the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) process which is in a 3-year trial period we are receiving this earlier. I sent it to Jeff right away and I will forward the list out to the Area.

Before starting this report, I read the first report I wrote for the January 2020 ACM. Since that first report much has changed and some members found that they could no longer serve in the capacity of the position they held. I want to thank all those members for being a part of this unprecedented Panel and I hope you are all doing well and that our paths will cross again in person one day very soon.

To the members that stepped up to fill these positions, thank you. Some of you had no idea what it was you were getting into but you did it anyways. The message continued to be carried and the information was getting shared.

To the members that started January 1st, 2020 and are still here, I can never thank you enough. You continued serving even though you weren't sure how or what you were doing at times, while you and or your loved ones became ill, loss of a loved one, job loss, moves and overall, a very stressful time in your lives you managed to finish this Panel. I do not have the words... I am so grateful to each and everyone of you. I will never forget the calls I made to our Sub Committee Chairs in early 2020 asking them to conduct their workshops on zoom. Some of you were pretty nervous but you all agreed to do whatever it took and you did a fantastic job.

To our Trustee Jan L. thank you for all your time and hard work that you have devoted serving as a Trustee. You made Area 86 proud and I will always be so grateful for your support and friendship.

To all of our Past Delegates that came out and supported us in a positive manner a very big thank you. The words of encouragement I received were so much appreciated and definitely at times needed. Whenever we reached out with questions or needed help there was someone to answer the call and jump in.

The Area worked hard and many people came together helping one another. Area 86 you ROCK!

Our job isn't over though, we have been to Assemblies and know the excitement and joy, the opportunities to learn and of course the Fellowship. We must continue to share this with the members and let them know how important it is to get together and carryout the work of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I can't say enough about Janice and Jeff. Janice I am sorry you will not be carrying on as an Officer but I know you will still be busy serving and we will see you often. You are such a positive person and we, Area 86, have been blessed to have you lead us through this Pandemic Panel.

Area 86 if you don't know it by now, we are in great hands going forward with Jeff as the Panel 72 Delegate. Thank you Jeff for your support, friendship, strength, compassion and loyalty. If we had discussed serving as Delegates back when we started coming to Assemblies, we would not have believed it. Jeff you are going to have a blast and I know you will be a fabulous Delegate, thank you for stepping into the role with such grace and of course humour.

To Tammy and Dan as I said before, though you joined us mid Panel you jumped in with both feet. You both have always been supportive and willing to do what was needed. Thank you for your dedication to Alcoholics Anonymous and I wish you both well as you continue on your Service Journey.

Congratulations to both Kim and Kimberley on their election as Panel 72 Officers. Thank you for raising your hands and I hope you enjoy this wonderful privilege.

To my service sponsor that encouraged me over the years to keep raising my hand, who has always taken the time to answer my calls and has never once said I told you so. He helped me to understand the journey when I didn't even know I was asking. I will always be grateful, thank you.

To you Area 86 thank you for allowing me to serve you, for your trust and faith. The words will never be enough as you have changed my life in so many ways. I will never forget the journey that you Area 86 allowed me to travel and I will be forever grateful.

To those that will allow their name to stand today, thank you and I wish you all the best. Please keep raising those hands, we need you. You are our future.

Thank you to our Zoom techs that are here helping us this weekend. Kimberley and Amy from Area 83, and our own David, Dale and Percy.

Finally, I want to thank my family. They aren't here to hear this but I want to recognise them. They have all been so supportive of this journey even though they don't understand it all. I could not have done it without their love and support. When you get home from this meeting today, please take the time to thank your loved ones from me. They make it possible for us all to serve Alcoholics Anonymous and to be here for those that have not found us yet.

As always if I can be of any help please email or call me anytime.

Area86delegatep70@gmail.com.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy holiday season.

Yours always in love and service,

Sandi W.

Panel 70 Delegate

Area 86 Western Ontario

Conference Trustees' Committee