

Western Ontario General Service

Delegate Report

Remarks to the Area Committee – January 13th, 2024 A.D

In the Immortal words of Semi-Sonic

“Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.”

It was six weeks ago to the day that we concluded Panel 72 by electing our Sub -Committee Chairs in Cambridge and now we find ourselves in St. Thomas as we kick off Panel 74 here in District 6

Welcome to St. Thomas and a special thanks to District 6 for hosting today's meeting!

I wish you all a Happy New Year and I trust you all had an enjoyable and restorative holiday.

After 3 + years of Post Pandemic, I can sense there is renewed energy and optimism throughout Alcoholics Anonymous. AA is back, standing tall, looking to the future with courage, confidence, and hope.

I am powerless over alcohol, and I am an active member of the Triangle Action Group in Hamilton, and my name is Dan. Triangle Action is in District 21 on Hamilton Mountain, and we meet at the Mount Hamilton Baptist Church at the corner of Fennell and Upper Wentworth.

Our meeting takes place at 8pm on Wednesday, and we would be happy to see you there!

We have also started up a closed discussion meeting on Sunday morning at a funeral home around the corner and the irony is not lost on me.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve with and for Area 86 as your Delegate here in Panel 74

Since we last met in Cambridge, I have received my committee assignment from New York (Drum Roll Please) and I am the only sitting Canadian member of the CPC committee (Co-operation with the Professional Community), a position I held at the Area level as a sub-committee chair back in 2008-2009

In addition, I have my “buddy” assignment which is Thomas G from Hawaii, and he is also a member of the CPC Committee.

I will take all the help I can get.

The CPC Committee has 7 members, 4 from Panel 73 and 3 from Panel 74 and our composition is from coast to coast of the contiguous USA and Hawaii.

To give you an idea of how well the committee (and by illustration) New York is organized I will outline the Composition, Scope, and Procedure of our Committee:

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new Panel members will be selected by lot geographically mid-December (at the time of the A.A.W.S. Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

The new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting during the Conference sessions from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference.

Scope

The committee has the responsibility of suggesting to the Conference such policies and recommending such activities as may help:

1. Further A.A.'s primary purpose of carrying the message to the sick alcoholic through sharing information about the A.A. program with those professional groups and individuals who have contact with alcoholics.
2. Further mutual understanding and cooperation between Fellowship and others concerned about the problem of alcoholism and help for alcoholics.
3. increased awareness of members and outside groups and organizations on ways of cooperating with everyone while affiliating with no one, within A.A. Traditions.

Procedure

1. To meet as a committee during the annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment Facilities during the annual Conference meeting.

3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Saying all that, to date we have the following items on the committee's agenda:

- Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.
- Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals.
- Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.
- Discuss effectiveness and relevance of CPC videos currently on aa.org.

Plus, there is one potential EDW (Equitable Distribution of the Workload) item on the horizon for the committee. To illustrate the need for EDW, to date the Literature Committee has @15 items and the PI (Public Information) (my last area subcommittee position) has @20 items to deal with.

And while we are on the topic of Equitable Distribution of Workload, I am giving all the sub-committee chairs and DCM's a heads up as I will be sending relevant conference agenda items out to the sub-committee chairs and volunteers as it relates to their discipline and I will be asking you to gather a group conscience from and then report it back to me so I can better carry the conscience and voice of Area 86 in April.

The accelerated arrival of our Assembly has provided us an opportunity to achieve two goals this assembly, to provide education to the area on your relevant discipline at hand at the assembly and provide an area conscience on the above agenda items through a series of Zoom Calls that are scheduled to be set up in the 2-3 week of March.

Stay tuned as more will be revealed.

I also cannot stress enough the importance of anonymity with this material (and any names associated with it).

The material should not be shared or posted outside regular AA Channels. This material has not gone through the conference process and is considered confidential. The goal here is to minimize the risk of disinformation and any related harm that this may cause.

The 74th General Service Conference is scheduled for April 14th -20th in Brooklyn New York with the theme of Connecting with Love, Unity, and Service

On January 6th the Area Officers, Sub Committee Chairs and Past Delegates gathered in Barrie for the Panel 74 orientation. We outlined some of the operating procedures and emphasized others and we all discussed ways of improving all areas of Service in Area 86

I would like to thank all who made the journey and participated in our discussions and special thanks to our Chair Jay and his volunteers in District 8 for their hospitality. The Salami and Turkey Bacon Club sandwiches would do any Hamiltonian proud.

Meanwhile on the CERAASA front, the Steering Committee will meet on Monday January 22 at 7pm on Zoom in our ongoing preparations for the 2025 CERAASA assembly which will be held in Dartmouth Nova Scotia

I will be bringing 3 motions to the March assembly on behalf of the Area for translation services for ongoing business (I.E. Steering Committee Meetings, the ECDO (Eastern Canadian Delegates Orientation) taking place March 17 (On Zoom) and the CERAASA Conference itself in February 2025 in Dartmouth Nova Scotia

Stay tuned, as more will be revealed.

I am honored and indeed privileged to have been invited to some of the round ups, Service Days and miscellaneous events in Area 86. In keeping with established protocol if you would like me to attend any area event to deliver the area message, please run it by me first and then if there is a scheduling conflict, I am sure our Alternate Delegate Tammy or one of the fellow Area Officers would be happy to attend.

If you wish one of the Sub-Committee chairs to attend, please run it by the Chair, Jay R.

I would humbly ask, if possible, if you get your requests in ASAP as the calendar fills up quickly, sooner is indeed better than later.

I would like to thank all of you who sent me your district minutes and related correspondence, it helps keep me apprised of the district.

As we open the page on Panel 74, I would like to leave you with a few thoughts that have sustained me in times of doubt and uncertainty.

I have learned (the hard way) that there is nothing more important than the idea of gratitude, (Aka, the language of GOD) a sense that our sobriety is based on provenance and a belief that our sobriety lies in how we attempt to live up to these ideals, and how we can be of service to others.

Moving forward, we have a purpose that very few have and or can carry out.

Whence before, no one would trust us and now we have been entrusted to carry GOD's message of hope to the suffering alcoholic (through the aegis of the service structure)

To quote one of my spondee's, it's not that I have to do it, but I get to do it

And yet, for all our achievements, our greatest tasks remain before us.

In closing, I would like to thank all my fellow officers for their commitment to service in Area 86 and to all the Area Committee who carried and are carrying the message during these challenging times.

Our work here will not be forgotten.

If I can be of any service, please drop me a line at [REDACTED] and or area86delegatep74@gmail.com and or delegate@area86aa.org and or at [REDACTED]

Look forward to hearing from you!

Thanking you for your Sobriety and my Life

I Remain:

Dan D [REDACTED]

Delegate

CPC Committee

Panel 74 Area 86

