

MEETING MINUTES FOR DISTRICT 66 SERVICE MEETING (AREA 83) (February 24th, 2010)

2. SECRETARY REPORT

First I would like to say that I will be away for the next 3 weeks, therefore I will not be able to send out the meeting minutes from tonight until March 20th or later. I will commit to having them out by March 24th. I've noticed the Agenda is no longer posted on our website and hope to see that reinstated. I will communicate this to Greg our Webmaster. There are copies here for all of you from the Fall Assembly meeting (minutes) so if you didn't get a copy last month please pick up your copy tonight. Since Anonymity has been an ongoing topic at this table I've made copies for everyone of an article from Box 459 (#rd quarter issue) on the topic of "Anonymity on network sites". There are also guidelines for the "internet" available online from AA.ORG. I recently attended the Iroquois roundup and the speaker used a Big Book Suggested Readings guideline. I've made copies if you would like one. Lastly, please check your email for copies of the Agendas and the memo to the GSR's for the upcoming Service Assembly in Kingston March 26-28th. I have some copies here tonight as well. Yours in service, Twyla S.

3. REGISTRAR

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

4. ALTERNATE DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER

I hope everyone is enjoying 2010 with lots of serenity and good health. I am getting very excited about our upcoming Assembly in Kingston at the end of March. Thanks to everybody in service, I am enjoying my position to the fullest. Yours in love and service, Gary C.

5. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER

Hello everyone, I am grateful to be here among friends. I do hope that 2010 is going well for each of your groups. The Spring Assembly is fast approaching and I urge all of you GSR's to promote this within your groups. Saturday the 27th of March is the workshop day and it is a great way to introduce members to the service portion of our fellowship. Remember don't just ask them to attend but rather bring them with you to the Assembly. All for now and I hope to see all of you in Kingston. Yours in love and service, Pat C., DCM

GROUPS & MEETINGS REPORTS:

Almonte Group – Almonte

NOT PRESENT

Athens 3RD Tradition Group

Remember Paul J. from Godfrey who passed last weekend from Cancer. Rest in peace Paul. Athens group meetings well attended. 2 birthdays in February – Heather with 5 years sober, Rocky with 2 years sober. 2 birthdays in March – Elaine A.K.A Lannie with 11 years, Dave F with 29 years. Remember the Roundup committee meeting in Athens at 7pm on March 23. St Denis Church, George Street, Athens, regular meeting to follow: maybe some eats?. Yours in service, Doug M, "keep it simple"

Autonomy Group – Brockville

We have 1 birthday to announce for the month of March. Cindy Lou V. will be celebrating 2 years on Sunday, March 21st at 7pm. As for the request from Archives for group histories, I have been able to compile and submit a small bit information for the record, and I will continue to "dig deeper" into our group's history. I am reminded while pursuing this information that nothing happens fast in A.A. and that patience is golden! Yours in service, Wendy M.

Back to Basics Group – Brockville

We have 3 birthdays in March, Lee E is celebrating his 20th year on the 5th of March, Scott V is celebrating his 6th and Ken D his 8th on March 19th. Yours in service, Ken D.

Brockville Lunch Bunch Meetings – Brockville

NOT PRESENT BUT REPORT SUBMITTED

Group is doing well. Attendance is back up. Lots of new sobriety and those coming back. The group is helpful for those struggling. Have even begun our monetary contribution to District this month. Yours in service, Denise M.

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GROUPS & MEETINGS REPORTS: (con't)

Glad Awakenings Women's Group– Brockville

Glad Awakenings Women's Group continues to have steady attendance at 20-25 women each Monday evening. The group attracts women from the community as well as residents from Tennant House. One of our members is looking into the history of the group in order to provide material for the archives. At the end of March we will have a wonderful speaker from Ottawa coming to share at Penney P's 32nd AA anniversary. Yours in service, Penney P.

Grapevine 12&12 Group – Smiths Falls

Both meetings are doing good. We have three members celebrating in March, Tim E. will celebrate 4 years on March 23th, Debbie M will celebrate 15 years on March 10th, and Angela G will celebrate 1year on March 17th. Yours in Service, Debbie M

Heritage Valley Group– Carleton Place

February has been a good month at the Heritage Valley Group. Attendance has been steady at regular and business meetings with some new faces coming in. On March 1, 2010 Mike D will celebrate 1 yr of sobriety and on March 15 our group will celebrate 21 yrs of existence with a pot luck dinner at 6:00 and speaker meeting at 8:00. Yours in service, Paul F

Land of Lakes – Sharbot Lake

NOT PRESENT

Living Sober Group – Brockville

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Merrickville Sunday Night

NOT PRESENT

Mississippi Group – Carleton Place

NOT PRESENT

New Beginnings – Smiths Falls

NOT PRESENT

New Hope Group – Smiths Falls

Hello Friends, I am serving as the alternate G.S.R. for the Smiths Falls Monday night New Hope Group. Bud our G.S.R. is on holidays down south soaking up the sun but he sends his love and regards. At our regular business meeting this month after a long discussion we adopted the short form of Robert's Rules of Order to run our business meeting by in the cases of disagreement. We then decided to cancel our subscription the Grapevine magazine and to change our policy of giving away a copy of the Grapevine at our monthly birthday meeting and start giving away a copy of A.A.'s Living Sober or We Came to Believe. There was then some discussion of our group's policy of funding our G.S.R. and his alternate's trip to Kingston for the Area 83 Fall Assembly. The motion to continue the funding in the amount of a maximum of 200.00 dollars with receipts was carried. We then had some discussion regarding the frequency of our business meeting (monthly or bi-monthly). It was decided that we would revisit this idea at a later time but for now we would continue our present monthly business meeting schedule. A motion was put forth to update our members phone list and make it available to our group members. –carried. The idea of what / how we keep our archive information was then discussed. One of the ideas was for the District to keep our archive information and the other was to have our alternate G.S.R.'s job description amended to have him/her keep our group's archive information. In the end we decided to have our alternate G.S.R. keep our own modern day records as well as letting the district archives keep the group's long time records. This month's (February) birthdays are Walter with 18 yrs. and Morgan with 3 yrs. there are no birthdays for the month of March. Yours in Service, Terry K.

Perth Sunday Morning

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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GROUPS & MEETINGS REPORTS: (con't)

Perth Tay Group

We are having good turnouts for this time of year. March celebrations, Dave C 14 years on the 11th, Charlie 22 years, Lorne T 10 years, Pat C 10 years all on the 18th of March. Yours in service, Tom M.

Phoenix Group – Brockville

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Saturday Morning 12 Step Group – Brockville

NOT PRESENT BUT REPORT SUBMITTED

The Saturday 12&12 is going well. We are enjoying the learning and sharing. Attendance is up to about 9 on average. Yours in service, Clifford H

Saturday Night - Smiths Falls

NOT PRESENT

Seaway Group – Brockville

Our Secretary has to resign due to personal commitments. When the position was put out on the floor, no one accepted. It was brought to our next business meeting that there was someone interesting in the position that is just shy of the 1 year mark. The group voted in Christine O as the new Secretary. Our business meetings continue to be well attended but it is challenging to get NEW people to set up the meeting, be greeters, and as of late I sense a lack of common ground among our group. Also brought up at our latest business meeting was the ongoing concern of the decline in our 7th tradition compared to this time in the last few years. We are in a recession and our meeting is highly attended by those in long term treatment in Brockville. We hope no one is helping themselves from the 7th and we will keep a better eye on the baskets when they are going around. Bob T will celebrate 36 years on March 24th, Yours in service, Gerald B.

Steps to Freedom – Carleton Place

NOT PRESENT

Sunday Morning Group – Brockville

Attendance at the Brockville Sunday Morning Group is steady with attendees from Brock Cottage, Tennant House and within the community. Average attendance has been around 20 - 25 people. To date, very few active members and low attendance at Business Meetings. We, as a group, are currently working on promoting both. Birthday celebration of two years was announced for Sarah M. on Sunday, March 14, 2010, 9:30 a.m. at the Brockville Sunday Morning Group. Yours in service, Dianna T.

Sunshine Group – Brockville

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

12&12 Serenity Group – Perth

NOT PRESENT

Westport Group

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Young Peoples Group – Brockville

NOT PRESENT

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SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

Archives

Slowly but surely the group histories are trickling in. I currently have histories from the following groups: Beginnings of AA in District 66, Smiths Falls Tues Grapevine/Wed 12 & 12, Westport Big Book Study Group, Smiths Falls Saturday Night, Carleton Place Heritage Valley, Perth Big Book Study Group (now part of Monday Night 12 and 12 to Serenity), Brockville Sunshine Group, Brockville Seaway Group and a partial history from the Brockville Autonomy Group. If your group is not listed here, perhaps you could set aside 15 minutes at your next business meeting to work on it - I look forward to receiving more from you. If I missed your group in my list, please let me know so I can check my papers at home. The binder with the group histories will be available at the District 66 Roundup for your viewing pleasure. Yours in service, Colleen L.

Correction Facilities

NOT PRESENT BUT REPORT SUBMITTED

We can now have new volunteers certified in 10 days. The meetings and commitments are being fulfilled thanks to the volunteers. As always we are looking for new participants. This is very rewarding service and we do make a difference. Yours in service, Clifford H.

**See Treatment Facilities report for more information

District Spring Round-up

NOT PRESENT

Literature/ Grapevine

NOT PRESENT

Public information & Cooperation with the Professional Community

I have ordered and received a new supply of pamphlets for PI distribution. I have a bill to submit to the District table for approval in the amount of \$45. Our PI committee had a meeting prior to this meeting tonight. Pamphlets were distributed as required by members of the committee. AA big books were distributed to committee members also. Our Smiths Falls committee member has been in contact with TRICAS in regards to performing public info services through their facility (e.g.) Bridging from Rehab centres to AA meetings. Yours in service, Rodger C.

Self- Support

I have been in touch with Winney S who is the Area Self Support Chair and she is helping me very much. I am going to receive some information from here about some of the things she is doing around the Area. I have attended some meetings I have never been to before to get a feeling of what goes on beyond my little circle. Some things of interest have come up, dealing with some institutions in the USA. They really need help. Remember self support is not always about money. Yours in love and service, Gary C.

Treatment Facilities

I am glad to be here tonight. I attended the area CFTF meeting in Ottawa last night and there was a lot of discussion about the budget. Money isn't going as far as it did for anyone, and it is getting more difficult to keep up with the demand for literature, meeting lists, etc. Every rep. is requesting a bit more from their District to try to make up for the shortfall. This is a very important part of the service that CFTF volunteers try to provide. Unfortunately, the demand is not going down. I would like to request a donation from this District in the amount of \$350.00. I can assure that you it will be well spent as we ourselves attempt to stay sober and help other still suffering alcoholics to achieve sobriety. I have notified Alwood and Newgate 180 for men who the volunteers are that will be in each week to put on the service meeting. They are very appreciative and have not reported any volunteers missing commitments. Good work people. Apparently there have been issues at the Ottawa Withdrawal Management Center (formerly know as the detox) that some volunteers have held their spot on the schedule for as much as seven years. This is not giving the new members who are trying to do service an opportunity to get active. There was a bit of brain storming, but not really a solution to this issue. The members need to be aware of the spirit of rotation. None of us like any kind of change and may need to let go and give someone else a chance to enhance their own sobriety through service.

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SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS: (con't)

Treatment Facilities (con't)

Ottawa Correctional Detention Center is in need of donations for their library that has been shut down. Be aware hardcover literature is not allowed in this facility for security reasons. The GSR's may want to ask their groups if there are any members with any suitable material they would like to donate.

Janet C. who is the volunteer coordinator for OCDC and Williams Hay Center has requested that the GSR's from each district speak to their groups to see if there is any interest from volunteers to become involved in putting on a meeting for the youth in the non-secure site that is known as Sherwood. The site is located across from Mooney's Bay. The meetings are every second Wed. at 7:30pm. The volunteers need to go to the police station and request a police check that they are required to pay for themselves. The amount is \$20.00. The sobriety requirements are 1 year of sobriety, male or female, and the clearance is for both the William Hay Centre and the Sherwood site. If you are interested I can pass Janet's email address.

The coordinator for the ROH is questioning management about the freedom of the clients to refuse to attend one of the AA service meetings that have been held there. One of the meetings is on hold right now, due to information that he has received that the clients are suffering punitive measures if they don't attend. The problem is that if they are not mandated to attend this meeting often no clients show up. This meeting had been held in the secure unit and has been put on hiatus until things are worked out. There is still an information session held twice a week on another unit. Apparently it is running smoothly.

The volunteer coordinator is reporting minimal interest in the cross border service meetings that are held in the Ogdensburg jail. There is some interest from some members of District 48. The requirements are male only and I am not sure of the length of sobriety but can find out if anyone is interested in this commitment. I have an application form available. This also requires the volunteer to have a valid passport and probably a clearance. This information was passed on second hand so it is sketchy.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience for listening to this lengthy report. I would like to ask if it is necessary for all of this information to be read at the district meeting each month or if the majority of the information could be included in the meeting minutes and read by the GSR's in their own time.

I would appreciate receiving any old copies of the grapevine to take into the treatment facilities. Yours in service, Carolyn M.

12-Step Phone Coordinator

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Website Chair (www.lanarkleedsaa.org)

All updates have been completed and the site is running at 100% uptime. The traffic remains the same at about 170 unique visitors per month. The most popular page is still the meeting page as are the search terms for meetings in our area. Yours in Service, Greg L.

**MEETING MINUTES FOR DISTRICT 66 SERVICE MEETING (AREA 83)
(February 24th, 2010)**

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Area CFTF Donation request – Carolyn
Request for \$350 and we just don't have it right now.
2. Hall Rental for District meeting – Neil
We have not paid anything since December 2008 and Neil will bring the amount we owe to bring us current (16 months worth) to the next meeting. It was voted that we pay them in full.

7TH TRADITION collected = UNKNOWN

NEXT DISTRICT MEETING IS APRIL 28TH, 2010 @ 7:30 PM

MEETING CLOSED AT 8:25 PM WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY PLEDGE AND LORD'S PRAYER