

Area 28 Area Fall Assembly Minutes
Elks Lodge
397 Civic Center Dr, Augusta, ME 04330
The 2024 Fall Assembly will be in person and zoom

SATURDAY October 19, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by the Area Chair.

Opening

Declaration of Unity read by Melissa, District 12

Preamble read by Rick, District 12

Twelve Steps read by Megan, District 12

Twelve Traditions (Short Form) read by Shannon, District 12 ^{just}

Twelve Concepts (Short Form) read by Christopher, District 12

Daily Reflection read by Jan, District 12

Area 28 Preamble read by Tucker S.

Housekeeping announcements made by Chris J., District 12

The basket was passed for Tradition Seven.

9:30 AM

Quorum

A quorum was established as per the Area 28 Service Workbook (2020, p.2): "A Quorum shall be the voting members of an Assembly present at the time of the vote."

Old Business:

Motion to approve the Secretary's 2024 Spring Assembly Minutes

Moved by: Robin G, District 15

Seconded by: Beth D

Discussion: Lynn inquired about the register report

Secretary confirmed the register report was not added to the report

Voting Results: Motion PASS

10:00 AM

Jean from District 12 read "Why do we need a conference?"

New Business

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Ron S.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report:

Moved by: Greg C, District 1

Second by: Michele M, District 17

Voting Results: Motion PASS

Finance Committee Report

2025 Budget Proposal presented

Motion to accept 2025 Budget:

Moved by: Sean M, District 9

Second by: Allen, District 21

Voting Results: Motion PASS

FRIDAY, October 18, 2024
 Registration (GSRs/DCMs & Alts) not yet
 registered w/ Area 28 & GSO (NY) and
 D12 Principals WORKSHOP

Welcome, especially
 new GSRs/DCMs &
 Alts and those her "
 cause."

Introduce Peter B., Past Delegate and current
 Parliamentarian and role of helping us use "A.A.'s
 Adapted Robert's Rules."

Gene W.,
 throughout
 document

During the budget discussion, several points were raised by members. There was a consensus that all members should have a voice in the process. Concerns were expressed about the feasibility of increased group contributions, and it was suggested that Roundup Business and other events should not be expected to generate profit. Questions were posed regarding gas reimbursement and the differences in budget allocations for committee chairs. The budget guidelines were also queried. A strong assertion was made that events should not be viewed as profit-generating ventures. In response to these concerns and inquiries, clarifications were provided regarding budget allocations and guidelines.

10:40 PM

Third Legacy Procedure for Alternate Treasurer

Is there anyone willing to make themselves available for A28 P74 Alternate Treasurer position

Allen Motion to table

Willy Seconds the Motion

Majority rules

The Third Legacy Procedure for Alternate Treasurer will be tabled

BOTH:

Providing related service experience and an opportunity for questions regarding this from the Assembly Body

Third Legacy Procedure for Trustee At Large

Bobbi reads Area 28 Service Workbook, 2020 p.56

Jean D12 stands and qualifies.

Perer B D stands and qualifies.

Third legacy vote taken

Jean D12 wins the vote

Big THANK YOU to Past Delegates and others who helped w/ counting, etc. with both of these!

12:00 PM Break

1:00 PM

Assembly reconvenes with the Serenity Prayer and proceed with New Business

New Business (continued)

Motion 1

Motion: A two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) affirmative vote by an Assembly quorum is necessary to adopt a change in the Area 28 Service Workbook. The assembly quorum shall be established immediately before this vote.

- Seconded by: Todd, District 6
- Voting Results: MOTION 1 PASS **PASSED**
- After the motion passed, a minority opinion was expressed regarding confusion about the motion's relation to the Big Book, which was clarified. A question was raised about when the change would take effect, and it was confirmed that it would be immediate. Following this, there was an inquiry about whether anyone from the majority wished to change their vote, but no changes were made. Additionally, a concern was raised about the chair's conduct, suggesting that the chair had editorialized and potentially influenced the vote by adding statements based on opinion outside of the motion's background. It was emphasized that the chair's role should be that of an unbiased moderator who facilitates the meeting and keeps it moving forward.

Motion 2

Motion: To change Area 28 Service Workbook Section 10 Guidelines for Hosting an Assembly item 10 to add the sentence, "Host Districts should request from the Area Treasurer needed funds a minimum of one week in advance of the need."

- Bob C requested to withdraw the motion. Peter noted that the motion now belongs to the body and suggested that they could either table the motion or send it for recommitment.
- Bruce seconded the motion.
- During the discussion, a caution was raised against instructing the body on how to vote on the motion, and concerns were expressed about the need for further clarification on the definition of "funds" in the proposed amendment.
- Josh T made a motion to call the question, which was seconded by Willy.
- Vote to call the question:
- Voting Results: MOTION to call the question PASS
- Vote on Motion 2 NOT PASSED
- Voting Results: MOTION 2 DOES NOT PASS

Motion 3

Motion: To make all Area 28 business Hybrid

- Discussion and Amendments:
- The motion was amended
- Motion to call the question on the amendment
- Moved by: Bruce K
- Seconded by: Allen
- Vote to call the question on the amendment:
- Voting Results: Motion to call the question PASS
- Vote on the amended motion: site motion as ammended here
- Moved by: Allen
- Seconded by: Shannon
- Voting Results: MOTION PASS
- Dale D14 Motion to call the question to vote on motion 3
- Josh T Second Motion to call the question vote on motion 3
- Voting Result MOTION to call the Question PASS PASSED

Motion 4

Motion 4 The Finance Committee is moving to increase the prudent reserve from \$7,000 to \$10,000.

- Nikki Table motion
- Josh T Second the motion
- Voting Results: MOTION To Table PASS TABLED

3:40 PM

New Business (continued)

2025 Budget Proposal

- Todd D6 made a motion to vote to approve the 2025 Budget Proposal
- Patrick D20 second the motion to approve the 2025 Budget Proposal

- Voting Result: MOTION PASSED to accept the 2025 Budget Proposal

PASSED

Tabled Business | *und* ↻

J' Third Legacy Procedure for Alternate Treasurer

Alt Treasure position

Charles, Trudy, and Jason qualify

Jason was elected as A28 P74 Alt Treasurer

providing related service experience
and opportunity for questions about
this from Assembly Body

↻ **Motion 4**

Motion: The Finance Committee is moving to increase the prudent reserve from \$7,000 to \$10,000.

- Voting Result: MOTION NOT PASS
- Kate D3 wants to change vote.
- Miranda M D20 wants to change vote.
- Bruce, I make a motion to reconsider.
- Greg Second the motion to reconsider
- MOTION to reconsider vote NOT PASSED.

NOT PASSED

During the discussion, several concerns were raised about the nature of the debate and the handling of Area finances. Some members felt that statements about potentially giving money to other entities were inappropriate and could be seen as bullying tactics. There were reminders that the body acts as custodians of Area funds and that these are considered "God's money." Concerns were expressed about the prudent reserve, with some arguing that putting money into it might not directly benefit the Area. Questions were raised about the current bank balance, with reference to the October 15, 2024 Treasurer Report. Some members cautioned against making decisions based on fear, emphasizing that the amounts being discussed were relatively small. Overall, the discussion highlighted the importance of responsible financial stewardship and transparent decision-making processes.

- Jake makes a motion to call the question
- Allen seconds to call the question.
- Voting Result: MOTION to call the question PASSED.
- Voting Results: MOTION 4 NOT PASSED

NOT PASSED

5:30 PM Dinner

Reminder Ttake time to check out our
AMAZING Area 28 Archives' Displays &
smokers please use smoke stack or pocket
butts-TX!

The meeting resumed at 6:30 PM with the Serenity Prayer.

Motion 5

Motion: The Area 28 Treasurer, informed by participation in the finance committee, is responsible to use a fair, reasonable and expedient reimbursement process for Area 28 expenses.

- Discussion: Ron provided background.
- Motion to call the question:
- Moved by: Kelsey
- Seconded by: Stan
- Vote to call the question:

- Motion to call the question PASSED
- Vote on Motion 5:
- Motion initially FAILED
- Motion to reconsider was made.
- Vote to reconsider result: Motion to reconsider PASS

PASSED

Motion 6:

Motion: proposed that area 28 contributes the sum of \$1510.50 in November of 2024 to the Grapevine, Carry the message project, in order to purchase gift cards for 50 gifts descriptions to the Grape or La Vina magazine with those subscriptions to be then directed by the AA Grapevine incorporated to fulfill the subscription request currently on file from inmates, hospitals, doctor's office, treatment centers, and home bound AA.

- Moved by: Cathy
- Seconded by: Allen
- Vote Results: MOTION PASS

PASSED

- Motion to adjourn made by Tucker
- Second by Nichole

The meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer.

Sunday October 20, 2024

7:30am - 8:30 AM Breakfast

Thank you- fabulous meeting!

8:00am - 9:00 AM Spiritual A.A. Meeting

9:00am - 9:15 AM Assembly convenes with the Serenity Prayer, Area 28 Preamble, Daily Reflections, Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions; Short Form, and The Twelve Concepts; Short Form

Unfinished Business

- Call for new Districts
- No new districts
- Bid for Spring Assembly 2025 – Starts with North 1st, East 2nd, West 3rd, South 4th
- During the Area 28 Fall Assembly, Nichole, the DCM from District 5, represented her district in the bid for the 2025 Spring Assembly. District 5 expressed great enthusiasm about hosting the event, highlighting their excitement and readiness to take on this responsibility. District 5 will be hosting the assembly in the spring of 2025.

9:15 AM - 11:45 AM

Reports

- Area Standing Committee/ Liaison Reports
- Round up Committee Report
- Spring Assembly Chair Report Jason District 24
- DCM Reports
- Panel Reports

Thank you, D5 for also providing info re venues, kitchen/cooking plans, accessibility, parking and start up core of volunteers
Area Standing Committees met prior to reports

Closing

A.A. Announcements

MOTION to Adjourn Assembly

Close with the Declaration of Unity

A28 P74 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A28 P74 Accessibility/Remote Communities Committee

cptflashgordon@gmail.com or accessibility@maineaa.org

Attendees:

Margaret district 1

Patrick district 20

Sandy district 3

Megan district 5

Greg District 1

Accessibility, where is it an issue?

NH and facilities where people have physical limitations that prevent attending meetings. (Are there meetings that can be taken to NH?)

People who don't have transportation

People who are hard of hearing or deaf. Identifying meetings that have ASL interpreters.

How to get the message out:

Have a new flyer, but apparently there is no Phone # on it?

People can call AA hotline. #211 Is also an option

Could provide the flyer to:

Nursing home (NH) and Assisted living facilities (ALF) so that information can be available for residents as needed.

Southern Maine Agency on Aging

Eastern Area on aging

Organize and offer to host a meeting at a facility via activities department.

aaroundup.me allows access to past roundup speaker

Actions:

Sandy will go the VA to try to set up a meeting at the VA

Patrick reported that district 20 had a list of drivers willing to drive people. He will check with his district Check with SMaine agency on aging.

Greg and Margaret- contact information for the accessibility chairs of each district.

Meghan will bring need for accessibility chair

Margaret -reach out to Robin for a copy of the flyer.

sandyaadistrict3@yahoo.com

m.daniels.8417@gmail.com

PFreeman40@gmail.com

gcurry111@aol.com

Minutes respectfully submitted by Margaret F District 1 DCM

A28 P74 Archivist, Mike archivist@maineaa.org

Area 28 Archives Committee Report – 2024 Fall Assembly – 10/18/2024.

The Archives Committee meets virtually on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. We have an active committee, including Patricia D14, Jacob D3, Teresa D12, and Robin, past delegate, as well as assistance from others who help from time to time. Robin and Patricia have facilitated Long-Timer Recording sessions in D10, D12, and D7. Recording sessions in D14, and D5 are being planned. Workdays at the repository and CSO Displays continues. Jacob is continuing his work of digitizing recordings and started numbering and inventorying the media. The Mobile Archives Display is here for you to enjoy. The display has appeared at the Mattawamkeag Old-Timers Meeting in D10, CSO Founders Day Event in Saco, D12 Workshops in June and August, A28

Round-up, D7 Mini-Roundup in Grand Isle and the Norway Group's 70th anniversary celebration. The committee was fortunate enough to be loaned to us from Jane Good, the daughter of Max Good who was from The County, a picture of Max Good and the Speakers at the 1950 Spring Conference. Several members including Patricia of the D14 Archives Committee have been very helpful getting the mobile display out to you. If you have an event coming up and would like to see the displays there, please give us plenty of notice and we will try and make it happen. We are preparing a slide show for the NERD Conference in March. We are looking for male deceased members, along with a photo and something they would always say at meetings to add to the female slide show we did for the IWC in February. If you have anything to add, see Robin. The Archives Committee has requested an increase of \$500 in the 2024 area budget and \$500 in the 2025 area budget. Please support the Area when your group or district is considering financial contributions. The Area budget supports your Archives Displays at the Central Service Office, the Repository at the Sahara Club, and the Mobile Display.

A28 P74 Boomerang Editor, Sean

askewcrayfish@gmail.com or boomerang@maineaa.org

A28 P74 Bridging the Gap, Ted D btg@maineaa.org

Four people in attendance. Discussed first contacts, how to enhance volunteers, database. Possible new BTG Chair in D12. How to interface with sober houses and I will be speaking with coordinator of the Somerset County Jail ASAP. Ted Dunn, Bridging the Gap Chair.

Bridging the Gap Fall Assembly October 18, 2024

Good morning. I am a grateful recovering alcoholic, and my name is Ted Dunn. I currently serve as your Bridging the Gap Chair for Area.

28/panel 74. I would love to stand here and paint a rosy picture, however The truth is that things are moving painfully slowly. So far, I've only been Able to visit four Districts, 12-14-6, and 3.

In my District, I've visited multiple meetings to encourage volunteers/and Find a BTG chair for my district that worked.

On the bright side, the database I'm in the process of developing now has Fifty-nine volunteers, 30 women and 29 men counting myself; it's a start. We need our GSR/DCMC to elect BTG Chairs in their Districts.

Easier said than done, I know.

On September 17, I attended the "Recovery Fair." at Wyndham Correctional.

Center spoke with several other groups and handed out a ton of literature.

I found the inmates/residents especially receptive to our message.

The female population took most of the pamphlets/flyers.

The male inmates were not as numerous, but we did make a few tentative contacts with the men who did attend.

On a side note, we did make a successful contact with a former Wyndham inmate who was released on the 6th of October. Hopefully, she is doing well.

At present, we do have a clearing house through CSO, and I know that's not

Popular with some of you, but like I've said previously, there's only one of me

And way too many of you. And that would be an understatement.

Bridging the Gap Maine

47 Portland St

Portland Me 04101

Last, our Bridging the Gap Committee Meeting was held the 2nd Tuesday of

Every month

Meeting Id: 895-4628-2815

Password: 635461

Regarding Bridging the Gap, referrals I can be reached at 207-877-1568

As always, Yours in Love and Service

Ted Dunn

Bridging the Gap Chair

A28 P74 Corrections, Andy G. corrections@maineaa.org

Good morning

At the committee meeting we had 6 members attend

Unfortunately, there were no district corrections chairs in attendance.

We discussed whether the grapevines area 28 purchased for all corrections facilities were being delivered. All said they would get back to their corrections chairs to investigate. We also talked about the national corrections conference in Charlotte NC. In November.

The corrections zoom mtg is held the second Thursday of the month at 7pm.

Code 832 3254 0560

Pw 232702

Thank you. Andy G, Corrections chair's

A28 P74 Finance alt.treasurer@maineaa.org

A28 P74 Grapevine Cathy M. grapevine@maineaa.org **or** cmccarron@jagermccarron.com

Grapevine Committee Report Fall Assembly – October 18-20, 2024

To the Area,

Grateful to have a Grapevine Table here at the Fall Assembly. Literature is on display for sale and education including pamphlets, postcards on the various Grapevine digital products, ebooks, audio books, and the Grapevine App. Literature is sold at cost, as obtained from Grapevine in New York. Subscriptions to the Grapevine and the App, either or both, make wonderful holiday gifts!

I welcome the opportunity to visit your groups and Districts and display the books and promote Grapevine's newest offerings: the App, ebooks, audiobooks, new literature titles, the Twelve Traditions checklist for Group Inventory purposes, and all materials for La Vina, the Spanish-language edition of all things Grapevine.

I've been sending out a bi-monthly Grapevine Information bulletin to the Area as a reminder of what the Grapevine has to offer, and encouraging groups and districts to promote the service position of Grapevine representative. So far I've had a number of inquiries as to the positions, and groups have responded requesting promotional materials and literature, which is very encouraging.

A Grapevine event is planned for Saturday December 7, 10 – 11:30 AM, hosted by Area 28 Love & Service and Grapevine Committees, where all opportunities for submitting stories, audio recordings, photographs, and other contributions will be explored and encouraged. Julia Dillon, Digital Engagement Editor for the AA Grapevine will be doing a virtual presentation on the website, the App, Grapevine resources, and writing and other submission tips. I ask that all groups and districts publicize and encourage participation.

Grapevine Committee is absolutely committed to facilitating literature and online and virtual resources so that literature may continue to carry the message.

Yours in love and service,
Cathy M. Grapevine Chair Panel 74

A28 P74 Guidelines, Willy K. alternatedelegate@maineaa.org

This is a copy of our most recent Area 28 Guidelines. It is a work in progress and we need your help in improving it, if you ARE interested!

Guidelines committee meets online Zoom on the 3rd Wednesday. If you want to participate, please contact me! You can also check the Schedule page [here](#).

[Documents - Maine AA Area 28](#)

Schedule of Committee Meetings Who Votes at Committee Meetings? Area 28
Service Workbook Area 28 Expense Form Area 28 White Book (White
Pages) Listen as though you have no opinion Preamble of Alcoholics
Anonymous The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous The Six
Warranties in Concept Twelve The Twelve Concepts for World Service*
*Linked with the permission of

maineaa.org

Also feel free to contact me for a copy of the Area 28 White Book!

Fall Assembly 2024

Guidelines Committee Report

Hello All,

I'm Willy K. your Guidelines Chair and Alt. Delegate.

We have an updated White Book, a record of all the Area Motions since 1955.

We have the latest edition of the Area 28 Guidelines (limited printing) with an updated format. The layout reformatting revealed many areas for improvement. As such, we need a representative from each district willing to participate in a monthly Zoom meeting (3rd Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.) and work with the committee to develop updates to the Area 28 Guidelines.

Yours in Love and Service, Willy K, Guidelines Chair Area 28, Panel 74

A28 P74 Literature Carol G. literature@maineaa.org

A28 P74 Love & Service, Harriett W. loveandservice@maineaa.org

Love and Service Chair Report

Love & Service Committee met on Zoom on 10/3 at 6:00 PM

We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 6 pm. All are welcome! Next online meeting is Thursday, November 7 at 6pm. Our Zoom Meeting Link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84500016323?pwd=bj8LmlBbi33UZNYIFx9bWUd57EOLw.1>

The link is unique to the November 7 meeting.

Meeting ID: 845 0001 6323

Passcode: 072149

Love and Service Committee has been highly active and busy. We have attendance ranging from 4-8 people at our monthly meetings. We are successfully linking up resources and making connections across districts.

Since the Spring Assembly

District 6 and Area Love and Service cohosted a Traditions workshop on October 5 in Bath. The discussion was thought-provoking and focused on using the traditions in our lives and in our relationships in and outside of AA. Kudos to Kate B. and her committee.

District 20 and Area 28 Love and Service cohosted an event on September 21 in Saco on the 36 Spiritual Principals. Even people with many years of service learned a lot. We had a wonderful time getting to know new people. Thank you to Beth M and her committee did an amazing job decorating and providing a feast for attendees.

District 3 and Area 28 Love and Service cohosted an event on August 24 in Brewer with a panel discussion, food, fun, and fellowship. The discussion was very interactive and focused on the importance of traditions in service work. Many thanks to Sandy and all of District 3.

A28 Love and Service produced the entertainment at the Round Up on Saturday night in a fun and informative play spoofing the Wizard of Oz: Dorothy Goes to the Convention.

District 15 and A28 Love and Service cohosted an event in Thomaston on 4/27 in the form of a panel discussion including PI/CPC, Corrections, and Bridging the Gap.

Upcoming

Area 28 Grapevine Committee and Area 28 Love and Service Committee are cohosting a virtual Grapevine Fun Shop on December 7. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details.

A28 Love and Service is looking for a District to cohost a camping event in the spring. Let me know if you are interested in any way in this event

A28 P74 PI/CPC Jay M.

3marshjay@gmail.com or picpc@maineaa.org

We had a meeting of five individuals who are active with public information and/or cooperation with professional community. Districts 5, 12, 16, and 17 all have active PICPC committees. We discussed what was going on and share helpful suggestions amongst ourselves. District 12 has purchased its own Big Books and going to their local libraries. If any district finds it has a library without a Big Book, this committee has a stock of books for that very purpose. Just let me know which library and I will get you or the library a book. Drew got me an old sponsor your doctor packet and I'm going to update the contents and order the pamphlets to make updated packets. Hopefully by January committee meeting.

Yours in service Jay M. PICPC. Chair

A28 P74 Treatment, Adreth

treatment@maineaa.org

A28 P74 Web Chair, Marissa May

webchair@maineaa.org

I attended the National AA Tech Workshop with 2 members of the Hybrid Committee. Learned so much about current trends in tech in AA including improving accessibility with a "mobile first" design, ways to improve security and accessibility on Zoom, and how other areas/districts are maintaining web presence. Web Committee also worked with Boomerang Committee to keep the Boomerang available on our website.

Some statistics since last month: The highest traffic has been on the Events and Boomerang pages. We saw a 60% increase in "direct entry" to the website - by typing the address in - and a 48% increase in "search engine" coming to the website. 49% increase in people entering our site through other websites, the typical ones like CSO and other district websites, but one of note this month was someone found us through NAMI Maine (NAMI is National Alliance on Mental Illness). Thank you to the PI/CPC committees for their work in getting our website link out there to other entities. Thank you for letting me be of service and please keep those events and website edits coming - especially when your DCM or district information changes!

Minutes:

Met with Lynn Registrar, Mike Dist 5 treasurer, Jamie Dist 14, Jamie Dist 25 Alt DCM

Discussed

- different districts having websites and how they do it depending on the functionality of their websites
- PayPal, digital contributions being linked on websites
- How web committee/webmaster supports districts hosting assemblies
- Offering/creating DCM emails for DCMs who want them and what other services the area could offer to districts in terms of tech support
- Reported out website traffic update

Marissa May C.

Area 28 Web Committee Chair

A28 P74 NON-VOTING COMMITTEE CHAIR & LIAISON REPORTS

A28 P74 AI-Anon Trudy S. trudystanley1208@gmail.com

A28 P74 CSO/DEIG Intergroup

CSO on Portland Street is open M-F, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. They sell literature and manage the AA hotline. Downeast Intergroup 4th Monday.

A28 P74 Hybrid Chair, Moxie hybridchair@maineaa.org

I am Moxie, I am an alcoholic and the chairperson of the Hybrid Committee.

In the span of two hours after asking for help, the three biggest issues the committee has been facing are already in process toward solutions:

Other Areas have posted their hybrid guidelines and we have people working to put the wording to fit our Area, so we do not have to start from scratch on such a big task.

ICYPAA posted a workshop on how to do 3rd legacy voting online and we are reading over that.

And we have gotten several contacts of people interested in participating on the hybrid committee.

What our Area is trying to do is huge, it is trying to get many pieces to run smoothly together. It is possible and we can do it, but it takes a team to accomplish. I appreciate the support that members of the Area reached back with when I reached out for help.

This year I was able to visit multiple incredible events which happened to be hybrid, where I gathered knowledge and experience from the people hosting, keeping NERAASA 2026 in mind.

ICYPAA (International Convention for Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) gave a lot of examples for how to run a large scale event as a hybrid experience, the main speaker being shared to the online participants, having certain panel rooms be online also, having sections of the room off camera view, and using the technology available to provide translation opportunities for both Spanish and ASL.

NAATW (National Alcoholics Anonymous Technology Workshop) gave great ideas including a separate zoom link for a community gathering room between talks so that people joining online could be able to visit and share in some of that community-building connection-making that in-person participants are able to experience. Another thing that really stood out to me from the entire weekend was that two of the presenters each separately said, “you don’t have to be tech-savvy to be able to do this stuff, you just have to be willing to help and willing to learn.”

I asked questions about what equipment they were using for the event, what software was needed to switch between multiple cameras, and also got in contact with someone for more information about how to host a large scale hybrid event.

One of the amazing ideas that is being used in another area is in their Literature committee, in a local sober clubhouse, they have a bookshelf set up with the literature and a safe. Each book has an envelope with a QR code on it that links to an online shop where the person can pay for the book. The safe is there for anyone who wants to pay with cash instead, they can put the envelope into the slot in the safe to pay for the book. The Literature committee has a storage room with more books, they check on it throughout the month and when the website notifies them of low inventory. This is a solution to them needing the literature accessible but not having the financial ability to keep someone staffed at the location to watch the books. Their Literature committee then also started taking a literature table to groups around their area to show them the books available and used the QR website pay option to give them an easy way to purchase on the spot.

Another thing that was very reassuring during a tech event full of technically inclined people was that the stream experienced technical difficulties. Everyone was calm, troubleshooted the issues, explained what was going on, and laughed about it. It helped me feel less pressure when things don’t go as expected during our events. We are still figuring these things out and even people who have been doing this longer still run into issues.

For our Area events, our first priorities have been connectivity and audio.

To help with connectivity, the committee has a hotspot and the idea was that if we were able to supply our own connection to the internet, it would not matter where we chose as a venue. In practice though, we are dependent on the cell tower coverage in that location, meaning that some of the locations we have been to this year have had spotty wifi at the venue and also very spotty cell signal for our hotspot, leading to crashes. We have found that if the different tech team zoom operators are hooked to different wifi connection, that when one goes down the whole stream is not lost, but as the audio is hooked into the PA system, the people on zoom are not able to

hear what is going on if the main computer loses connection. This means that in the short term we are going to discuss our hotspot options for if there is a better plan available that has better connection, but in the long term as an Area it may be beneficial to discuss if we want to begin selecting our venues with adequate wifi connectivity as a requirement.

For Audio, we are incredibly blessed as an Area to have multiple people active in Area service who also have audio experience. They have been wonderful in teaching what all the knobs and dials do, how to connect the cables, and how it all interacts. Each time we meet for an ACM, the audio gets a little better, the team working on setting it all up gets more familiar with everything and knows a little more of what to tinker on if things are not quite working. Every time gets smoother and audio is no longer our biggest issue, PROGRESS!

At this time, the next biggest concern that we are working on a solution to is connecting the zoom breakout rooms with the committee groups. The idea is to have a tablet for each committee where someone on the tech support hybrid team can connect each one into the breakout room of each committee and then give each committee table in the room the tablet that is set up. Then the people joining online are able to be at the table and part of the discussion. The idea has been tried at a few ACMs getting a person at each table to join on their phone but the communicating the process portion has been the biggest obstacle and to try to do it for each table has been overwhelming, which has left out many people who were hoping and expecting to be able to join the committee discussions.

Having a tablet set up to be able to hand out ready to go has been the simplest version of the idea and we are going to be finding the prices of the needed equipment. Some people have offered to donate tablets, so we might not need to buy all of them, and we would like to find out the solid numbers before moving forward on the purchase. It does also bring up the connectivity question again and it would be better to test the idea with a few donated tablets and see how well the internet holds up with that amount before scaling all the way up. That way we are going from 2 devices connected, to maybe 8 instead of suddenly 16.

The Hybrid committee also schedules the monthly zoom meetings for the area standing committees and currently the full schedule and zoom ID's and passcodes are available on the area website. For the security of our meetings, we have been discussing putting the meeting information behind a password section of the website (similar to how the Delegate's Corner was done) or for the information to be available if someone contacted the hybrid committee chair, standing committee chair, or secretary. With either option, we would be able to provide the information out to the area while also keeping it off the open web. When we make that change, new codes will be sent out for each of those committees. (You can still find the current information for standing committees on the area website! This is just a forewarning that those codes will change once we put in a more secure way of accessing the information, when that happens the change will be sent out to the chairs and contact list)

The schedule would still be able to be found on the website, just not the room codes.

It is exciting to have more people putting ideas into this, as their experiences bring in new thoughts and solutions, and having more people involved means that these big tasks can become lighter loads for us all.

I would like to give a thank you to the dedicated people who have been working alongside on this whole thing, both on zoom helping support the meetings, and in the rooms setting up the equipment.

We meet the 3rd Sunday of the month at 7pm unless Area business happens that same day, it is usually postponed to the following week. We would love to have you join and we invite anyone in your district who attends or hosts zoom meetings to come by and share their experience and knowledge!

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service!

- Moxie (they/them)

Area 28 Hybrid Committee Chair, District 21 HybridChair@MaineAA.org

A28 P74 Webmaster Mike M. webchair@maineaa.org

See web chair Report

A28 P74 DISTRICT REPORTS

A28 District 01, Jake K. jkulaw62@gmail.com

D1 Report Fall Assembly 2024

Our district 1 meeting is held on the second Sunday of the month from 9:30-11:00 AM at the Irish Heritage Center in Portland. Along with myself the DCM's (Margaret and Ben) met and agreed to reach out to groups in D1 that have a GSR but are not attending our monthly meetings. We are currently struggling with having adequate representation at our district meetings. We agreed to identify 15 groups that are not attending our meeting and reached out to them so we can have more representation at our D1 meetings. Portland has 90 plus meetings however fewer than 10 regularly attend the meeting. We are hoping to get more groups involved so that groups will have information regarding what decisions are being made in Area 28 and at the yearly General Service Conference.

We invited Allen, our Area 28 delegate to our October D1 meeting to explain the process of group and district inventories. He answered questions and addressed any concerns. Thank you, Allen, for a highly informative explanation of this process! He reiterated that we are not the only district having issues with low participation of GSR's and district committees. At our October meeting we had zero committees present at our meeting and those chairing these committees are not reporting information to us which puts us at a disadvantage in knowing what is happening with these committees. We need this information as it is vital to the healthy functioning of our district. We will discuss and take a vote on asking for committee chairs to submit a written report at least 48 hours in advance of our meeting if they are unable to attend in person or via Zoom at our November meeting. D1 is hosting Thanksgiving, Christmas day and New Years Eve Alcathons at the Sahara Club on Ashmont Street. We will draw names from a hat to decide which groups will fill the time slots at our November D1 meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Jake K, DCMC D1

A28 District 02, Joe K. yesnik@myfairpoint.net

My name is Joe and I'm an alcoholic. I am currently serving as the District Chair for District 2. We hold our business meetings the first Thursday of each month starting at 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Franklin Memorial Hospital in the Crosby Room in Farmington, ME. We recently hosted a love and service workshop a couple of weeks ago. Was a pretty decent turn out. One speaker was MIA but we trudged through. Meetings in District 2 are doing with plenty of meetings, very few participating members. There is hope as we have seen a rise in people attending the Friday and Sunday night meeting and a few others to speak of. District 2 is still hosting AA meetings for inmates at the Franklin County Detention Center. We will be hosting an Alcathon with food and fellowship a meeting every other hour on the hour Thanksgiving Day. Thank you all for the opportunity to be of service. Andy G. Will be celebrating Nov. 3rd, 39 years at New Beginnings at 7 p.m., Franklin Memorial Hospital, Farmington, ME.

A28 District 03, Sandy H. sandyaadistrict3@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 3 REPORT 10-19-2024

Hi everyone, my name I is Sandy H. grateful recovered Winnet.

We have been very busy this year with GSRs workshop, Mother's Day / women's with 20 or more years speaker Jam, Father's Day / men's with 20 years or more speaker jam, Traditions / Love & Service workshop, District Inventory, and of course the district monthly meetings. I do not think I forgot something.

As most of you know I am stepping down as District 3 Chair effective November 1st. I feel at 75 I need to take care of my sobriety, both mental and physical health. Planning to spend some time with family and friends that I have not had time to do since taking this position. Yes of course, I will be attending meetings which I need to keep my sobriety. I will be of help when I can.

I want to thank all that have given me this chance and have help me along the way.

Yours in Service,

Sandy H

A28 District 04/07 Dick M, Alt DCM, marstonrichard@gmail.com

District 7 AA is alive and well with good attendance at meetings and adequate funding. We have recently elected Ken G. As district chair and he attended the assembly where he was duly registered.

We're pleased to report the two of our major events were successful. The valentine party in Caribou was well attended as was our "day in the Sunlight of the Spirit" event at MIZPAH in Grand Isle in August. We were very pleased that the Archives Committee was able to bring their display to that event. The recording of Longtimers in Madawaska on October fifth by Robin G. Was of great interest to our group members.

Yours in service,

Dick M.

Alternate Chair D7

A28 District 05, Nicole L, nicolebarker2108@gmail.com

Everything is still running smoothly in District 5 from my last report a month ago, we still are not a glum lot and still eating snacks at our district meetings.

Love and service has an event on November 1 at the Holy Cross church in Lewiston that will be a "Grateful We are not dead" dance with meetings, fellowship, a costume contest and lots of dancing.

Our annual November gratitude potluck was voted on and Auburn Serenity will be hosting the event at St Philips Church November 20th food and fellowship from 6-7:30 meeting at 8.

District attendance is still strong and all our chair positions have been filled and active. We have about 6-10 GSRs in our district and 6 of our GSRs attended this conference which is amazing. I have reached out to multiple people in the district and we are more than excited to host the 2025 Spring Assembly.

Grateful to be District Chair of District 5. Thank you for your opportunity of service.

In love and service, Nicole L. 🌻

A28 District 06, Todd S, district6chair28@gmail.com

Good morning, All,

I'm Todd Stilphen, I'm the District 6 Chair. We meet the 2nd Friday at 6 p.m. at BUMC. Things in District 6 are well. We have a new 12 & 12 meeting on Thursday's & a new Woman's meeting going on Sunday afternoons. They both are in their infancy, but attendance is growing.

Thanks Alan for your visit. It was well received.

Our Love & Service committee hosted a Traditions Workshop on Oct 5th. It was well attended with about 35 folks and the message was solid. Our Love & Service Chair, Kate B, is on fire about the Traditions and it reflected nicely in her efforts.

Upcoming for the Bermuda Triangle of Alcoholism called Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's, our District will be hosting events for all 3 holidays. We'll do a dinner and meeting for Thanksgiving afternoon, a

24-hour long Alcahthon beginning Dec 24th at 4 p.m. with a potluck, than meetings beginning at 5:30 and finishing at 4 p.m. Christmas Day, then we'll host a New Year's Eve gala, that will include Sober Karaoke, to welcome in the new year, sober. Flyers will be out over the next few weeks with all the info. Keep an eye out for them.

Respectfully in Love & Service, Todd Stilphen District 6 DCMC

A28 District 08, Bruce *boscon57@msn.com*

District 8 meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6 pm in Ellsworth at Your Place Inc. This is located at 8 Old Mill Rd. We have consistently had 8 -10 in attendance and this last month there were 6 groups represented, and reports given. This is the best representation we have seen in many years. The jail commitment is up and running for both the female and male inmates. There is also an ongoing Service Manual Workshop that meets each month on the Tuesday before the Monthly district meeting. This has received a positive attendance of between 8 - 12 on a consistent basis. We are still working on trying to establish our committees though the foundational positions are filled: Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and we were able to vote on an alternate secretary this month and we are very grateful for this. In love and service,

Bruce B. District 8 DCM

A28 District 09, Kelsey K, *kelsey.kirkpatrick49@gmail.com*

District 9 Report to Area Fall Assembly 10/20/24

District 9 meets at 6:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Newcastle. We were recently visited by our Delegate, Allan, and we are incredibly grateful that he made the trip down to join our District Business Meeting! Because Allan's visit being advertised around the district ahead of time, our attendance at the October meeting was higher than we've had all year with about a dozen people. I also remain grateful for the continued and dedicated service of a small handful of GSRs and committee chairs.

Our district has been encountering some serious issues, mainly surrounding surrounding lack of communication from the district to the groups and lack of participation by both GSRs and committee chairs. In my view these problems go hand in hand. I have felt great frustration around this issue as a DCM and feel at a loss as to how to increase participation and therefore communication. We have 21 groups/27 meetings, yet only average 2-3 GSRs at any given business meeting. Similarly, we have 9 committees, of which 4 are filled/5 are open, and we only average 2-3 of those chairs present at best.

I have sought guidance from some folks with more experience than myself, and I was given 2 suggestions:

- 1: Form an Ad Hoc committee to create guidelines; and
- 2: Visit all meetings in our district to encourage groups to send a GSR who can represent them and bring communications back.

Ultimately more will be revealed. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service. Even when it's really difficult for me.

Yours in love and service to the more beautiful world already on its way,

Kelsey B.-K. (they/them)

A38 District 10, Susan L. *lifer00@msn.com*

Lincoln, Howland, Millinocket. Our DCM resigned and our alternate DCM, Susan L., was elected DCM in July 2024. We currently have no alternate DCM. Our District Secretary is Lynn M. and Treasurer Maureen M. Our Love and Service Committee chair is Joyce B., and our PI Chair is Chris L. GSR regularly attending is Maureen M., GSR of the Lincoln Primary Purpose Group. We appreciate the contribution of the

Millinocket Noontime Group when they are able to attend. We have encouraged the Chester AA Group in Lincoln, the Friday night Original Group in Millinocket, the Saturday Night Candlelight Group in Millinocket, the Monday and Thursday Millinocket Group in Millinocket and the Sunday Night East Millinocket Group to participate in District. Despite our level of group participation, we have voted to return to voting by GSRs, District Officers, alternates, and Committee Chairs. As our meeting location was under renovation, the District 10 Meeting was temporarily moved to the Lincoln Congregational Church, 19 School St., Lincoln. As the Lincoln Friday Night Big Book Meeting was also moved there, it was decided that the District 10 Business Meeting would remain at the Congregational Church, where it is held monthly on the first Friday of a month. We have a pot-luck supper at 5 p.m., followed by the Business Meeting at 5:30, lasting about 1 hour. We are sponsoring a Fall Love and Service Event at the Pir2Peer building in Medway on November 2, 2024. For further information, see our flyer or speak with me. It will begin at 1 p.m. with a Pot Luck! Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Susan L., Chair, District 10.

A28 District 12, Bob C., district12.onedayatatime@gmail.com

Report to the 2024 Fall Area Assembly

From District 12 Area 28

Participation at our District meeting remains stable. 10-15 attend each month, the meeting is hybrid and we typically have 6-10 GSRs present.

- We have seen a member step up to be Treatment Chair and we have established regular meetings at Maine General Hospital for the first time in a number of years. The Hospital has limited the number of volunteers they will allow to be cleared but our Chair has been able to expand that number and we hope that reliable efforts on our part will further improve this relationship.
 - Our Literature Chair has been able to help several groups feature a good selection of AA literature.
 - We have completed the first 3 of a series of workshops on Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.
 - In case any other Districts are considering a bid for a future assembly - we had a core of 4 who did the bulk of the planning and as you all can see we had many volunteers help out this weekend. Hosting has given a big boost of positive energy throughout our District - and it's been a lot of fun too!
 - We have started a push to place Big Books in each Public Library and when that is well underway will focus on getting Big Books into Kennebec County Jail as an entree to establish a relationship with that institution.
 - We're very happy to have been able to host this Assembly and hope you all have had a great weekend - it certainly has been productive.
- Yours in service, Bob Cleaveland D12 chair

A28 District 13 Jason W - d13.me.aa@gmail.com

A28 District 14, Jamie T, jamiewood92@outlook.com

October 2024 District 14 Report for Area Fall Assembly October 18th-October 20th 2024

My name is Jamie T. and I am the District Chair for District 14. Here is my report for the Fall Assembly.

Our District meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 5pm at the Pleasant St. United Methodist Church in Waterville. We offer the District meeting as a zoom/hybrid meeting. We are averaging 18-25 people attending the District meeting in person and/or on zoom. We are happy to announce that the day, time, and location change have continued to make a big difference in our attendance. We have had several new GSR's attend our monthly District Meetings over the last quarter and have had more AA members/visitors attend the District meeting. We have made some improvements in the logistics of our zoom/hybrid meeting and have held two District meetings in a row with no issues on zoom! "Sometimes quickly, Sometimes slowly" as we aim to achieve "Progress Toward Perfection". Our District is financially solvent. We continue to receive 7th tradition contributions on a regular basis from 8-9 groups in our District. There are currently 40 AA meetings that are operating in person and/or on zoom each week in District 14. We have several open positions at the District Level including a webmaster. Dennis K has graciously offered to assist the new webmaster with this position as he turns it over in the spirit of rotation.

Currently we are serving the Somerset County Jail and bringing in a regular men's on Mondays and Women's meetings on Tuesdays. Thank you to John D. for his persistence to have Volunteer Orientations which several have been held over the past few months, which resulted in more AA members being able to carry the message into the Somerset County Jail. We have come to a standstill over the past month with applications going directly to the Programs Contact and have not been able to have any new members complete the Orientation process. Stay tuned and more will be revealed.

Debbie the Treatment Liaison, from District 12 and Kerri M from District 14 are part of a small group of volunteers that have begun to bring in AA Meetings to participants into the Behavioral Health Unit at Maine General. The volunteer orientation and onboarding process is lengthy, as volunteers go through the same process as actual employees. The meetings have been going well and the goal is to be able to bring in weekly meetings. The participants have been very grateful and have picked up literature after the meetings. A bonus for volunteers is that you receive a meal at the hospital cafeteria after your service work has been completed!

Our District 14 History and Archives committee led by Patricia M. continues to work with local groups and longtimers. Additional AA recording meetings are scheduled in the future. This is a great way for Longtimer's to share their AA message of strength and hope and to be able to "Carry the Message" for future generations to come.

Our recently elected DCM, Cindy C announced at our last District meeting that the Right Track Group is able and willing to host a Thanksgiving Alcathon this year. We are truly grateful and blessed that this group has stepped up to organize and plan this Special Event. We are hopeful that another Home Group will be able to host a Christmas Alcathon.

Our Love and Service workshop chair is looking to hold a Workshop on the importance of the Home Group in our District in late January 2025. Several members from District 14 attended the Love and Service Workshop hosted by District

Yours in Service,
Jamie T.

A28 District 15 Mark V, district.chair@midcoastaad15.org

A28 District 16, Debby M, dhoyou55@gmail.com

Hello friends,

All is well in District 16. Most of our home groups are doing well. Our PI/CPC folks have been busy delivering materials to various professionals in Waldo county. Our co-chairs for Corrections, BTG and etc. have been keeping a great schedule of volunteers to attend Knox County jail and the PARC unit. If your home group has not volunteered, please request assistance at your next business meeting.

Fresh start ladies' meeting is holding a Love & Service workshop on 10-26-24.(details available on a flier) Many of us will be attending the Area 28 Fall Assembly on 10-18 thru 10-20. I have encouraged all GSRs to attend if possible.

On 10-23 (Wednesday at 7:30pm) the Off the Wall group will be having an anniversary celebration for our Area 28 chair, Drew S with 32 years of continuous sobriety!

I am hoping to attend our newest meeting on Wednesday at 5:30pm in the near future. Also, I hope to get out to Liberty and Brooks meetings before the snow flies.

With gratitude, Debby M

A28 District 17, DCM 1 Michelle M, fenwaysdogwalking@gmail.com

I am Michelle a grateful alcoholic. I am DCM1 for district 17.

Our district has been very well attended with approximately 20 gsr's present. We have a few committee positions open. But the committees are really active and getting things done. Our love and service committee is organizing a alcothon. Our treasury is in good shape. We have set a prude t reserve and have a budget that we are doing great with. Our district is doing very well. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

In love and service Michelle Marland DCM1 District 17

A28 District 18 Remus R, remusrovo@gmail.com**A28 District 20 Bob M, miles.bobby27@gmail.com**

We meet 2nd Monday of the month at the RJ Martin center in Biddeford at 6:30pm

We are glad we were able to host this past Area 28 concepts workshop, was great time.

District 20 is very active in-service work and is getting ready for our alcathon season. All committee positions are filled except two. We have a strong GSR presence at our District meetings.

In service, District 20 Chair, Bob M.

A28 District 21 Joe, lectricjpa@aol.com

District 21 includes the towns of Bucksport, Castine, Blue Hill, Deer Isle, Stoneington and towns in between. We are comprised of 16 meetings and 10 groups. We meet at the Penobscot Methodist church hall every second Monday at 5:30. We are also hybrid and the numbers can be found on the DEIG web site.

Our last meeting was on October 14 and was fairly well attended. On going work on revamping our district guidelines was discussed, a call for volunteers to sign up for jail meetings at Hancock county jail which are finally happening again, and Bill L show up with new batch of district meeting lists, Thanks Bill.

Groups are reporting lower attendance as summer has past, but for the most part the groups are

keeping the lights and the coffee on. While not all groups participate at district most are generous with donations keeping our treasury healthy.

Thats our report, thank you for your attention, With Love and Service, Joe A

A26 District 23, Robin B, rockingrobinre@gmail.com

Hi Bobbi,

This is District 23 Fall 2024 Assembly report (I will be there in person on Saturday)

Our district, although small (11 meetings), is mighty! Meetings have been robust with great attendance and varying lengths of sobriety represented. Our reserves are stable allowing us to contribute to Area and AAWS regularly.

We continue to struggle to get folks interested in service beyond the group level.

We are planning an "AA 101 WORKSHOP" for March of 2025. The format will consist of presentations on the importance of a Home Group and Service at all levels within AA All about Sponsorship. What is Emotional Sobriety? And a presentation on our new Website along with other useful AA apps.

We are discussing asking a few committees to come as well. TBD.

End Of Report.

Robin B, District 23 DCM

A28 District 24, Jason M, michaud0317@gmail.com

Hello, my name is Jason and I'm an alcoholic.

As the year is coming to an end district 24 has had a productive year.

We as a District came together and hosted this year's spring assembly. This was a great opportunity for us for in unity.

We continuously meet on the first Sunday of the month on Zoom. We have currently 6 GSR'S that are active within the district. Our next events we are working on are co-hosting this year's alcohons with district 1.

With the end of the year there sometimes are some changes and challenges. This year we have several GSR'S who are rotating out. The district secretary position is currently vacant as well as the District chair position soon. With the spirit of rotation we are hopeful to fulfill these opportunities.

We at district 24 look forward the new year of 2025.

Yours in Service, Jason M DCM #24

A25 District 25 Craig C. craigpcarroll@gmail.com

District 25 Report, October 19, 2024

Our district continues to do well. We will have a Christmas Day Alco-thon, 10:00am. to 9:00pm., with food and fellowship between meetings. Each meeting will be hosted by a different group. We have a district website, which is staying current with a meeting list, resources, and Area links. The Washington County jail in Machias had its first Men's AA meeting in 4 years. Four grateful inmates attended. We will continue this, Mondays at 5:30pm. We hope to get a Women's meeting brought in, also.

Thank you for letting be of service,

Jaimie C. Alt DCM

Craig C. DCM

P74 A28 Round Up Chair Report

A28 P74 Round-Up Chair; Josh T., roundupchair@maineaa.org

P74 A28 OFFICER REPORTS

A28 P74 Delegate; Allen S. delegate@maineaa.org

Good morning, I'm Allen A28 P74 Delegate. I would like to thank D12, the counters and kitchen staff.

I'm grateful to the unseated Delegates for their support and encouragement.

I've been back on the road attending D6, D16, D9 and D1 meetings. I also have been attending online meetings with other Delegates.

I'm grateful the fellowship is comfortable expressing concerns with me. The fellowship communicating is essential to an informed group conscience.

I'm thankful for the trust A28 has placed in me. The fellowship helps me be a better Delegate. I cannot do this without your support. IL&S Allen A28 P74 Delegate

A28 P74 Alternate Delegate; Willy K. alternatedelegate@maineaa.org

Fall Assembly 2024

Alternate Delegate Report

Hello All,

I'm Willy K. your Area 28, Alternate Delegate.

My Alt. Delegate work has been quiet since we last met. I am aware of issues our Delegate is working on and we talk when necessary.

I was privileged to work with District 3 on some district issues which were resolved in a satisfactory and responsible way. There is a lot of good work going on throughout the district. Good work to all involved in District 3!

Yours in Love and Service, Willy K., Alt. Delegate, A28, P24

A28 P74 Chair, Drew S. areachair@maineaa.org

Area 28 2025 Panel 74 Chair's Fall Assembly Report

Thank you District 12 for your amazing hosting of our 2025 Fall Assembly. Great place, delicious food, superb organization, and a fabulous service opportunity for volunteers! Also thanks to all here for their first Assembly: District Chairs, DCMs and GSR's and their Alternates, and especially those here without one of these service positions, who came JUST BECAUSE! This is how individuals, groups and districts make the changes in A.A. with unity, service and recovery.

Since our September Area Committee Meeting, I've continued attending the monthly virtually held Chairs' meetings. These provide an exchange of ideas that have worked for us and others, or not, and also support and guidance from Area Chairs throughout the United States and Canada.

I just returned Thursday from a family trip abroad and got to attend meetings in Europe. This was an incredible experience, sometimes speaking in English, Spanish, Italian, etc., but always the language of the heart.

By meeting each month virtually, our Area Committee Chairs and Liaisons have been able to expand Area 28's efforts to extend the hand of A.A. I've enjoyed participating in these and hope to continue over the holidays. I also love a road trip with a car full so let's keep posting events, group anniversaries, etc. on our user friendly Area 28 Website.

I very much appreciate all of you for participation in the "business of A.A." Big thanks to the Panel and especially Peter B., our Panel 74 Parliamentarian, for guiding the process of A.A. with informal overlap from Robert's Rules. It has been a respectful, positive, focused weekend and I've had a lot of fun. We accomplished our agenda, including approving the 2025 Budget Proposal, and conducting our Third Legacy Procedures for our Alternate Treasurer and US Trustee at Large. We've also demonstrated the power of A.A.'s Minority Opinion Voice and shown that this really is how A.A. uses voting members here to make thoroughly considered decisions, including and welcoming input from those not voting. If you've had a positive experience here, please share that with your groups and districts and bring a car full or two next time!

This has been a spiritual reboot for me...I am so grateful for all of you.

Yours in love and service,

Drew S., Area 28 Chair, Panel 74

A28 P74 Alternate Chair; Jamie R. alternatechair@maineaa.org

I'm Jamie and alcoholic,

I want to thank the Elk's club for hosting the Assembly and doing a great job at providing coffee. That's supposed to be my job. I want to thank everyone who helped set up the equipment. The new sound system is working great. The area will need to purchase a few more 50ft cords to keep the microphones and speakers properly placed, with comfort and safety in mind. The registration box will need some replenishments after this assembly, so I will order more items to support the next district in hosting an assembly. I will do better when it comes to preparation for the registration packets stuffing process that I was not aware of and now that I know it is the areas job to do them, that will be the practice. I've also had a refresher on the process this area has on voting. I needed that, so thank you Drew for doing it And making it look like a great time, like my service to this area has been. I have learned a lot.

Thank you, Jamie R.

A28 P74 Secretary; Bobbi S. secretary@maineaa.org**A28 P74 Alternate Secretary; Gigi G-T.** alternatesecretary@maineaa.org

Alternate Secretary's Report. I'm an alcoholic, my name is Gigi. I am so happy to serve as your Alternate Secretary! I was voted into this position at the Spring Assembly, and since that time I have attended the Area Inventory, the Roundup, the August and September Area Committee Meetings, and this Assembly. I have had the privilege of serving as Area 28's Area Secretary many Panels ago, and Area 28's Area Chair, many Panels ago. It's nice to be back in this capacity as your Alternate Secretary. One thing I'd like to point out is that when discussing Motions on the floor - we do not have to Call the Question to move to voting. It's not a requirement. Remember that if you Call the Question, you may in fact be cutting someone off who has something important to add. The job of the Chair is to either let the discussion die down naturally or end the discussion as the Chair sees fit. When someone Calls the Question, and you can do it if you want, BUT we then must stop and then vote on whether or not we want to go ahead and vote on the motion on the floor or continue to discuss. What I noticed at this Assembly is that many times, it took longer to vote on whether to go ahead and vote on the motion on the floor than it did to just let the discussion die down naturally. For example, if you don't see anyone going to the mic, and you go to the mic to Call the Question, then you've just wasted time. Just something to keep in mind for the future. I'm just wanting to make sure that our meetings run smoothly, and all voices are heard. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Yours in Love and Service, Gigi.

A28 P74 Treasurer; Ron S. treasurer@maineaa.org**A28 P74 Alternate Treasurer; Ken S.** alt.treasurer@maineaa.org**A28 P74 Registrar, Lynn M.** registrar@maineaa.org

Fall Assembly 2024 October 19

Registrar's Report

GSRs: Thank you for being the voice for your group! Twenty-five new GSRs registered in the past two months. This weekend 12 new GSRs and 5 new Alternate GSRs registered.

Welcome and thank you for stepping up to serve!

DCMs: Did you know you can view Fellowship Connection to see the status of groups in your district? Please contact me for assistance with this. Fellowship Connection is the online database of Member Services at General Service Office in New York. It lists all groups, GSRs and DCMs. This weekend we registered 3 new DCMs and 1 new DCMC! Please check the Maine AA website to see if the person listed as your district DCM and/or DCMC are the same as the person you think is your DCM. Contact Marrison Mae, our webchair if your District listing needs to be changed.

Groups: Fellowship Connection at our General Service Office in New York currently has registered:

- 507 Active (Indicates that there is a primary mail or GSR contact on record. Yet, Area 28 has only 473 GRSs registered.)
- 371 Inactive (Indicates that the Member Services department has received information that a group has disbanded or is not currently meeting.)
- 4 Incomplete (Indicates that a new group was added to the database without all the information necessary to change the status to Pending Active. Usually missing is a GSR or primary contact.)
- 3 Pending: Our newest groups are the Willing to Try Group in Belfast, the Sisters in Harmony Group in Vassalboro, and Peaks Island Don't Miss the Boat. Welcome!
- 127 Unknown (Indicates that a group is still active, but its group record does not have a GSR or Primary mail contact attached to it. This means there is no one available to receive the group's mail from the GSO. Anyone in the group can volunteer to receive the group's mail; it does not need to be a GSR.)

Please note: These groups may or may not be the same as the ones listed on the Meeting Guide app. Why? The Meeting Guide app draws from our intergroups: Central Service Office and Downeast Intergroup. Our intergroups are not part of the service structure and do not register groups, DCMs, or GSRs with General Service Office in New York.