

Our Primary Purpose

www.ottawaaa.org

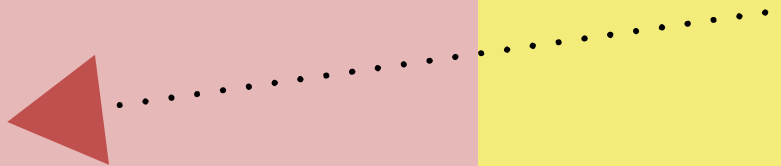
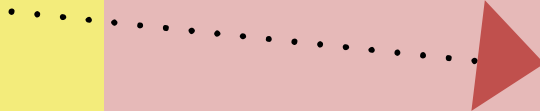


Stories, news and information from our fellowship
in the National Capital Region

Step 7

**“Humbly asked Him to
remove our shortcomings.”**

Am I now willing to ask?



Tradition 7

**“Every A.A. group ought to be
fully self-supporting, declining
outside contributions.”**

Are we paying our own way?

Step 7

To get completely away from our aversion to the idea of being humble, to gain a vision of humility as the avenue to true freedom of the human spirit, to be willing to work for humility as something to be desired for itself, takes most of us a long, long time. A whole lifetime geared to self-centeredness cannot be set in reverse all at once. Rebellion dogs our every step at first.

Taken from A.A. 12 & 12 p. 73

Tradition 7

Self-supporting alcoholics? Who ever heard of such a things? Yet we find that's what we have to be. This principle is telling evidence of the profound change that A.A. has wrought in all of us...people who had money thought it was high time we now—sober— paid our own way. So our Fellowship stayed poor because it had to...As A.A. emerged from its infancy into adolescence, we swung from the idea that we needed vast sums of money to the notion that A.A. shouldn't have any. "You can't mix A.A and money. We shall have to separate the spiritual from the material." A.A. had to function. Meeting places cost something. Offices had to be set up, telephones installed and full-time secretaries hired.

Taken from A.A. 12 & 12 p. 160-161

Seventh Step Prayer: "My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen."

Taken from B.B. p.76

***In 1954, the name of the Alcoholic Foundation, Inc., was changed to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc., and the Foundation office is now the General Service Office.**

Taken from A.A. 12 & 12 p. 162

≡ Volunteering Opportunities at Les Maisons!

CORRECTIONS
AND FACILITIES
TREATMENT
(CFT)

committee
meets the
Fourth
Tuesday of
the month
on-line
6:30pm

Zoom info:

Meeting ID:
81551834935

Passcode:
521429

**Great
opportunities
for service!**

Gilles Chagnon (for women only) & Billy Buffet (for men only) are residential stabilization homes run by Montfort Renaissance.

They have asked if members of Alcoholics Anonymous can visit both homes and provide 2 service meetings a month.

These meetings started in June 2023 and will be held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 10am and the 4th Monday at 7pm.

Required sobriety to Chair the meeting would be a minimum of 2 years and a minimum of 1 year to Co-Chair.

If this service commitment interests you, please email cft@ottawaaa.org subject line: "Les Maisons" or leave a message at the Ottawa Intergroup office 613-237-6000 and we will contact you.

Thank you,

Districts 54 and 62—Corrections and Treatment Facilities (CFT) committee

Calling
GSR's!

Alcoholics Anonymous

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Recovery. Unity. Service.

Area 83 Offers Online Sessions for GSRs

General Service Representatives are invited to join the online GSR Sharing Sessions on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8 pm. In these sessions, a topic relevant to general service is presented and discussed by all in attendance. Presentations have included topics such as *Responsibilities of a GSR*, *Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing*, *the Assembly Weekend (what to expect)*, *Tips for Chairing Business Meetings*, and *Group Inventories*. *The co-hosts encourage attendees to submit topics for future meetings. We are only confirming the meeting Agendas the month prior; this leaves it flexible to present any timely topics. Audio recordings and minutes of the sessions are available on the Area 83 glide app:*

<https://area83communications.glideapp.io/>

The goal of these sessions is to share experiences and resources that others have found helpful as well as build unity among our newest cohort of trusted servants. If you are a GSR or alternate GSR in Area 83, we would love to have you join us! The next session will be July 18 to hear and discuss Concepts I-III. Meeting ID: 857 4385 9032 PC: 838383

Alcoholics Anonymous
Area 83 Eastern Ontario International





Intergroup is looking for a Vice-Chair!

Vice-chairperson: This is a position of responsibility as this person takes on the duties of the chairperson in his/her absence. The vice-chairperson will also perform such duties as may be delegated to him/her by the chairperson.

Qualifications: A vice-chairperson should generally have at least 4 or 5 years of continuous sobriety. A vice-chairperson should generally have served as an Intergroup Representative on behalf of a home group.

Duties:

As determined by the group conscience of the Intergroup body, the vice-chairperson shall:

- Act as a signing officer for Intergroup.
- Attend monthly meeting of Intergroup and Intergroup Board meetings.
- Act as a liaison officer between Intergroup and its subcommittees as the chairperson may designate.
- Report subcommittee activities to the Intergroup Board.
- Fill vacancy of chair on such Intergroup subcommittees in a non-voting, interim capacity.
- Encourage members to respect the principles expressed in the Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts and the Intergroup Operating Policies and Procedures and Guidelines.
- Familiarize themselves with the Intergroup staff and their duties.
- Encourage unity and participation of the groups in the Intergroup service area.

Send inquiries to info@ottawaaa.org

Area 83 is discussing hybrid technology options. Right now this discussion is around a motion to continue to offer online participation for the Area Committee meetings that meet in Belleville. These conversations will be taking place at the Assembly in the Fall. It will be a hybrid format, so if anyone has a reason for hybrid meetings to continue, speak with your General Service representative to carry your wishes at the Assembly.

At Area 83, an ad hoc committee on IT technology has made recommendations around an IT committee for the Area. Groups should discuss this with their General Service Representative or District committee member.

From the AA Archives: Serenity at Sunrise group

Group History, Serenity at Sunrise, Saturday mornings, 9:00 am. In the fall of 2015, Joanne B. and Annette W. were both living in Stittsville and were looking for an early morning weekend meeting that was close to home. They wanted it to be a strong Big Book study meeting so that people could get deep into the solution at the beginning of the weekend and hopefully take that message with them throughout their weekend.

They found a location - the Fringewood Community Centre, located at 14 Fringewood Drive in Stittsville, and the first meeting was held on Saturday, October 2, 2015.

A group conscience was taken to find a name - Kathleen L suggested Serenity at Sunrise. It was decided a few weeks later to open one week a month for a speaker meeting so that people who were celebrating could invite family and friends. The group averages approx. 20ish members on a weekly basis with a great mix of ages, genders, and lengths of sobriety. New members are joining regularly, and we are quickly outgrowing the venue. Just before shutting down because of the pandemic, the group was starting to discuss moving to a more prominent location.

Due to Covid, the group decided to open an online meeting. (Thank God) I found the Serenity at Sunrise a couple of months after they turned to go online. The group still had a solid member base and even attracted a few out-of-towners (meaning not Ottawa) that would take up regularly each week. We even had an American member. The group stayed solid, averaging 12 to 15 each week. As the Pandemic rolled on, life continued,

and meetings slowly started to reopen; the discussion of Serenity at Sunrise going back to in-person was long. It lasted at least five business meetings.

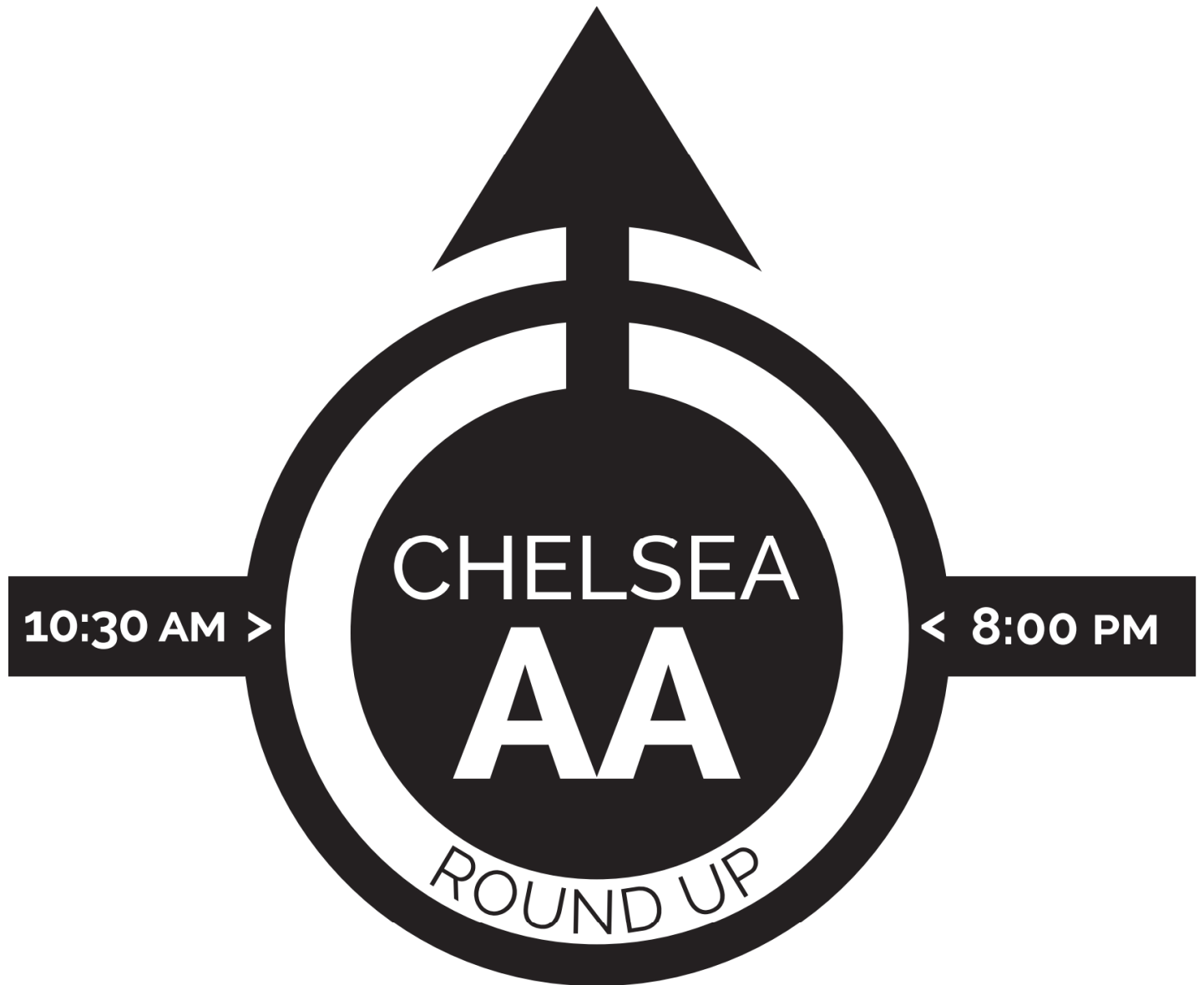
The votes went back and forth as fear was always so high when the thought or talk of Covid came into the discussion. It was hard for a group majority to take place because we had so many out-of-towners that showed up each week, and they were a huge part of our discussion group. However, the reason for reopening was that the doors needed to be there for a newcomer or anyone struggling.

I spent many weeks searching for a new location as Serenity at Sunrise almost outgrew its last location. Finding any church or rental hall to take on any new renters during a pandemic was challenging. Luckily, Fringewood was still available, and we have been there ever since. Since returning to in-person, we have grown unbelievably. We now average 30 plus each meeting and now have to discuss, once more, another venue. Hopefully, when this happens, there will be a place that can help us at this time.... and of course, no more Pandemic.

Shawn N.



JULY 8, 2023



AA + ALANON SPEAKERS + DINNER

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH

537 ROUTE 105, CHELSEA, QC

EASTERN ONTARIO CONFERENCE

October 20-21, 2023

Hellenic Banquet Centre
1315 Prince of Wales Drive
Ottawa, Ontario



Paula P
Champaign, IL

Marty C
Hamilton, ON

Jay H
Brockville, ON

+ Comedian
Bobby K

For more info:

 eoc.ottawaaa.org

 eoc@ottawaaa.org



It works—
it really does.

An Alcoholics Anonymous Event with Al-Anon Participation

Update on printing delays and backorders due to supply chain disruptions

June 15, 2023

Dear A.A. Friends,

As we have been updating everyone throughout these unprecedented times, supply chain disruptions throughout the worldwide paper, printing and trucking industries continue to unfavorably impact the manufacture and distribution of A.A.W.S. literature and other items. Since 2020 we have implemented many measures in efforts to reduce potential backorders — for example, ordering paper and scheduling reprints with our printers of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, and other items more than six months in advance of projected need. Most recently we have introduced jacketless hardcovers and new cover finishes in efforts to expedite delivery and help eliminate backorders.

Taking action

We are in communication daily with our printers, and reach out to their leadership again and again to emphasize how important our items of literature are in carrying A.A.'s message to our Fellowship.

What we are doing to actively address current and potential intermittent backorders

Our teams across many departments in the office have been working to address these challenges, placing orders for paper and binding supplies nine months in advance, and scheduling press time well in advance for reprints to help reduce backorders caused by these disruptions.

Projected continued out-of-stock periods

It is likely, however, that we will be experiencing intermittent disruptions for the foreseeable future, as all publishers will, based on industry-wide reporting. We will keep everyone informed.

Webstore and Member Services

Our Member Services and A.A.W.S. webstore teams have implemented measures to insure the following:

- 1) Those seeking to purchase items will receive all discounts earned on items that they select — including those items on backorder.
- 2) Individuals ordering can “add to cart” and place orders for these items as they normally would. The items will ship when they are back in stock.
- 3) Purchasers will receive emails informing them of any backorders.
- 4) The product detail pages of the webstore will state when an item is “out of stock,” provide an estimated “back in stock” date and display related items available for purchase now (the same content in different formats, for example).
- 5) A notice on the detail pages for out-of-stock items will reiterate that purchasers seeking to order our literature may check with their local Intergroups and Central Offices, which may have the items in stock.

As always, we encourage ordering the Big Book and all of our items of literature from local groups, districts, areas, Intergroups and Central Offices, as they play a vital role in local Twelfth Step activities.

Working together, we are committed to A.A.'s time-honored tradition of collaboration and resilience within the Fellowship as we carry the message via our literature.

With all best A.A. wishes,

David R.

Publishing Director

A.A. World Services, Inc.

Malini Singh

Director of Operations

A.A. World Services, Inc.

Ottawa Intergroup Office

211 Bronson Avenue, Suite 108
 Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 6H5
 Office temporarily closed.
 Curbside pickup Saturday 2-4pm
 Telephone: (613) 237-6000
 Email: info@ottawaaa.org

Newsletter Coordinator
newsletter@ottawaaa.org
 Article submission deadline is
 the 20th day of the month
 preceding publication date

Ottawa Area Intergroup

Chair – John D.
 Vice-Chair – vacant
 Secretary – Dick G.
 Treasurer – Stephan P.
 Website – Paul D.
 Telephone Answering – Eric S.
 Literature – Walter H.
 12-Step Coordinator – Steve R.
 Spring Conference – vacant
 Eastern Ontario Conference – Kerri D.
 Newsletter – Dawn-Marie M.

chair@ottawaaa.org
vice@ottawaaa.org
secretary@ottawaaa.org
treasurer@ottawaaa.org
webmaster@ottawaaa.org
tas@ottawaaa.org
literature@ottawaaa.org
12step@ottawaaa.org
spring@ottawaaa.org
eoc@ottawaaa.org
newsletter@ottawaaa.org

Ottawa General Service Districts and Committees

District 54 – Ottawa East – Kevin O. district54@ottawaaa.org
 District 62 – Ottawa West – Jamie B. district62@ottawaaa.org
 Cooperation with Professionals - Chris M. cpc@ottawaaa.org
 Public Information/Media Contact - Chris M. pi@ottawaaa.org
 Corrections Facilities & Treatment - Elaine H. cft@ottawaaa.org
 Archives – Andrew F. archives@ottawaaa.org

Service Calendar

Online meeting logistics are shown for committees that have provided it.

No matter how much sobriety you have, you can help and be part of the greater whole. All AA members are welcome to attend any of the following committees:

OTTAWA INTERGROUP MONTHLY MEETING..... Second Wednesday (7:00 pm)
([ZOOM Meeting ID 824 3878 6359](#))

DISTRICT 54 MEETING..... First Thursday (6:30 pm)
([ZOOM Meeting ID 834 9953 9650 Passcode 141892](#))

DISTRICT 58 MEETING..... First Monday (7:00 pm)
(Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue-Room 213-in-person meetings suspended)

DISTRICT 62 MEETING..... Second Monday (7:30 pm)
([ZOOM Meeting ID 638 562 068 Passcode 016224](#))

CORRECTIONS FACILITIES AND TREATMENT..... Fourth Tuesday (6:30 pm)
[ZOOM Meeting ID: 81551834935 Passcode: 521429](#)

PUBLIC INFORMATION/ COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONALS Third Thursday (7pm)
([ZOOM Meeting ID 815 4385 6025 Passcode PICPC](#))

OTTAWA ARCHIVES..... Third Wednesday (6:30pm)
Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue-Room 108 in-person meeting

Is your AA Group's meeting information correct on ottawaaa.org? Please send all updates as well as temporary closures to Ottawa Intergroup at info@ottawaaa.org.

Do you have a question for the Intergroup board? Please email us with your question and you can also request an invitation to meet with us at our monthly board meeting. Send your email to chair@ottawaaa.org.

If your group needs insurance, please contact Ottawa Intergroup at info@ottawaaa.org to discuss. "Our Primary Purpose" publishes articles reflecting the full diversity of experience and opinion found within the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. In determining content, the editor relies on the principles of the Twelve Traditions. "Our Primary Purpose" values the shared experience of individual AA members working the AA program and applying the principles of the Twelve Steps. Seeking neither to gloss over difficult issues, nor to present such issues in a harmful or contentious manner, "Our Primary Purpose" tries to embody the widest possible view of the AA Fellowship.

The editor of "Our Primary Purpose" reserves the right to accept or reject material for publication, based on the AA traditions. Note: this policy is consistent with that of the AA Grapevine. Articles are not intended to be statements of AA policy, nor does publication of any article constitute endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or Ottawa Area Intergroup. Submissions are always welcome.