

## AA GLOSSARY OF DISTRICT 8 GUIDELINES

**Area 11 AA Convention** - A gathering of AA members where there are meetings, dances, information about AA, speakers and other events related to AA. In Area 11, this event typically takes place in September.

**Ad-hoc** – An informal organized group of AA members usually appointed to carry out a specific charge. This charge may involve a proposal to change or revise AA related activities at the local level. For example, an **ad hoc** committee may be appointed by the chairperson of a group in order to research and propose a change in the location of a meeting. The **ad hoc** committee does NOT make the decision but merely provides information to the AA group where it is voted on according to the AA Traditions.

**Agenda** - An outline or list of things to be considered and addressed during a business meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

**Alki-Line Newsletter** - This newsletter is by and for alcoholics. It is published in Area 11 every other month.

**Alternate** – An AA service worker who assists and supports the chairperson of a committee, the GSR of a group or the DCM of a district. This person represents the voting member he/she is assisting and will vote in his/her absence.

**Amend** - To alter or modify; to make changes in a document or procedure.

**Archives** - Accumulated past AA documents and memorabilia stored and preserved in the Area 11 Office.

**Area 11** – The country is divided into Areas. Each Area works to carry out AA's primary purpose and to facilitate information about local general service. Area 11 is a geographical division made up of ten districts including all Connecticut towns (except Enfield).

**Assembly** - Usually in March, a **Pre-Conference Assembly** is held to which all members of the A.A. Fellowship are invited to participate. This Pre-Conference Assembly's primary purpose is to discuss the agenda items of the current General Service Conference (which is usually held in April in New York City) and inform the delegate of the Area's group conscience, thoughts and experience on the Agenda items that will be before the Conference Delegates at that year's conference.

The Area holds a **Spring Assembly** in May, which is a report back to the Fellowship on the General Service Conference. Again, this Assembly is open to all A.A. members.

The Area holds a **Fall Assembly** in November. In even years, this is a "voting" assembly where the entire slate of Area Officers is elected. In those even years where a North East Regional Trustee position is becoming available, if any past Area Delegates make themselves available for this position, the Area can elect a candidate for the position of Northeast Regional Trustee (which position is voted on at the next General Service Conference following that Assembly).

In "odd" years the format of the Fall Assembly is decided by the Area Chairperson. Old Business (New Business items pending from the previous Assembly) would also be voted on at a Spring or Fall Assembly. No Business items are ever voted on at a Pre-Conference Assembly.

**Attendee** - A person who is present on a given occasion at specific place or event.

**Audit** - An unbiased examination and evaluation of the financial statements of a group, district or area in AA.

**Class "A" trustee** - A non-alcoholic on the AA General Service Board

**Class "B" trustee** - An alcoholic on the AA General Service Board

**Conference Approved** - Literature and films favorably approved by the appropriate conference committees and meeting the criteria of complying with the 12 Traditions

**Confidential** – knowledge and information that is to be kept secret

**Continuous sobriety** - Time marked by unbroken sobriety.

**CPC** – (Cooperation with Professional Community) A.A.'s local committees for Cooperation with the Professional Community provide information about Alcoholics Anonymous to members of the community whose profession may bring them in regular contact with anyone who may suffer from the disease of alcoholism. They offer information through a variety of methods, and seek to establish simple and effective ways to work with professionals with a policy of "cooperation, but not affiliation."

**CSCYPAA** – (Connecticut State Conference of Young People in AA) The purpose of CSCYPAA is to carry the AA message of recovery, unity, and service to a vast number of members, and to encourage young people in AA to become actively involved in service.

**DCM** - "The district committee member (D.C.M.) is an essential link between the group G.S.R. and the area delegate to the General Service Conference. As leader of the district committee, made up of all G.S.R.s in the district, the D.C.M. is exposed to the group conscience of that district. As a member of the area committee, he or she is able to pass on the district's thinking to the delegate and the committee." – *The A.A. Service Manual*, p. S31

**Delegate** - An elected member to represent an Area at the annual meeting of the AA Conference in New York. Other duties are listed in the AA Service Manual on page The Area 11 Delegate is elected in the fall of an even numbered year.

**District 8** – A geographical division within an area of the state of Connecticut consisting of

**Fall Assembly** - GSR's and committee members meet to discuss Area affairs and to biannually elect a Delegate and Committee Officers

**Finance Committee** - Appointed group of people managing large amounts of AA money

**Financial support to District 8** - collective money from AA meetings of District 8

**Fiscal year** - A year (January 1 to December 31 of any given year) which is taken into account for taxing or accounting purposes.

**General Fund** – A general fund in AA is an amount of money that is allocated for various purposes.

**Group Conscience** - A group conscience is basically whatever means a group uses to make decisions. Typically in AA each group decides how it will reach a "group conscience." Usually a vote is taken and the decision that most agree with becomes the group conscience.

**GSO** – AA's General Service Office is located on 475 Riverside Drive in New York City where both A.A. World Services and Grapevine personnel are housed on two floors. For the present membership of over two million, A.A. and non-A.A. employees handle finances; type letters and bulletins; note group records, literature orders and contributions; ship material your way; and file incoming letters to add to the rich storehouse of A.A. experience at your G.S.O.

**GSR** - AA group representative voted in by the AA group as the eyes, ears and voice at district level. G.S.R. stands for *Group Service Representative*. A G.S.R. is a trusted servant for their group, who carries their group's conscience (desires and concerns) to the district level. A G.S.R. gives an accounting to their group of district events and concerns.

**GSR Orientation** – An introduction for new GSRs in order to familiarize them with GSR Service Work for AA . In District 8, a DCM will conduct the orientation on the first night the new GSR attends the District meeting.

**Guidelines** - A guide or outline of policy to be followed. The districts and Area 11 all have guidelines to promote efficiency in carrying out business. The guidelines are developed using the principles of AA and the Twelve Traditions.

**Majority** - The greater number of a group. Often in AA business the majority is the number by which votes are more than those for all others combined.

**Make a motion** - To start or trigger a process or series of events.

**Minority** - The lesser number of a group disagreeing with the majority.

**Minutes** –Summarized notes taken of the proceedings at a meeting.

**NERAASA (North East Regional Service Assembly)** The purpose of NERAASA is for General Service Representatives (GSR's), District Committee Members (DCM's), Area Officers, Area Committee Members, District Committee Members, and Intergroup/Central Office Representatives of the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting A.A. as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the areas of the Northeast Region.

**Parliamentarian** - One who is well versed in a procedure (such as the business procedures for District 8) to handle a certain situation or achieve a certain outcome.

**Proposal** - A written or verbal suggestion for consideration or discussion by others.

**Revisions** – To make changes to a document.

**Round-up** – A one day event in Area 11 that consists of speakers, workshops and panel discussions regarding service work in AA.

**Service Appreciation Day** – A one day event in District 8 where those who have served in AA at any level (coffeemaker, GSR, greeter at a meeting) and those who are interested in service enjoy fellowship and events related to service.

**Sober Fest** - Soberfest is a three day family event that is held at a campground. There are plenty of campsites and RV hookups for people to camp out or bring an RV or camper. There are also cabins available. The event is a fun filled weekend with Alanon participation. We provide marathon meetings, keynote speaker meetings and plenty of outdoor activities for everyone. There are T-shirts, hats and literature for purchase at the event. Two dances are provided after the main meetings on Friday and Saturday nights. A committee is formed and is responsible for organizing the event. This event is sponsored by Area 11.

**Solicits** - To ask for or obtain info from an educated source.

**Special Needs, Languages, Remote Communities Committee** - It is the purpose of this committee to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers, including many members who have special needs. We define AA's with special needs as persons who are blind or visually challenged deaf or hearing at low levels, chronically ill or

homebound. We assist with Translation Services, specifically in Area 11, and throughout the US and the Canadian General Service Conference Areas. We address those who belong to Remote Communities, where it is difficult to carry the AA message because of language, culture, geography or life condition.

**Sub-district** - A geographical division of a district. In District 8, we have three sub-districts consisting of Sub-District One: Berlin, Bristol, E. Berlin, Forestville, Kensington, New Britain, Plainville; Sub-District Two: Cheshire, Meriden, Southington, Wallingford, Yalesville and Sub-District Three: Cromwell, Durham, East Hampton, Higganum, Middle Haddam, Middletown, Portland

**Treatments Committee** - The A.A. Treatment Center committee cooperates with many institutions throughout the state of Connecticut by arranging meetings and the resources to conduct meetings at detoxification units and hospitals. Meetings are chaired and run by individual A.A.'s and A.A. Groups. The committee also purchases and distributes A.A. literature for the patients at these institutions.

**Trusted servant** – One who serves in AA to help the fellowship in any way and is always mindful of our primary purpose.