

April 12, 2026
Area 31 Spring Assembly Business Meeting Minutes
Called to order at 1:00 PM

District 3 DCM	Michael K.	Y	Y	Y	Y									
District 3 Co - DCM	Kate A.	N	Y	N	N									
District 4 DCM	James C.	Y	Y	Y	Y									
District 4 Co - DCM	Patrick O.	Y	Y	N	Y									
District 5 DCM	Jim K.	Y	Y	Y	Y									
District 5 Co- DCM	Sean C.	Y	N	Y	Y									
District 6 DCM	Pat L.	Y	Y	Y	Y									
District 6 Co- DCM	Brendan M	Y	Y	Y	N									
QUORUM = 18	voting	26	26	27	27									
*Area Chair only votes to create or break a tie														

Secretary's Report

Old Business: 1. Lena, Institutions Chair, made a motion that the Area stop getting printing done at the Sheriff's Dept. and INSTEAD go with a "Market Price" vendor. **Motion did not pass.**

2. Ray M. made a motion that the Area Chair appoint a Tech Host every year. After discussion, Ray withdrew his motion to get a better handle on the particulars of the situation.

3. Joe I., Grapevine Chair, made a motion that we purchase a sign to find the entrance to the Assembly or workshop. **Motion did not pass.**

New Business: None

Treasurer's Report

This report captures 6 months activity from Fall Assembly 2025 to Spring Assembly 2026.

Opening balance for October 2025 was \$4608.76. Contributions for the past six months totaled \$17,335.34. Area expenses totaled \$20,862.87. The March 2026 closing balance was \$1408.19 plus Prudent Reserve: \$8,501.00. This leaves the Total funds available at \$9909.19.

Contributions by Districts: District 1 \$ 100
District 2 \$ 2118.61
District 3 \$ 1753.63
District 4 \$ 971.36
District 5 \$ 2312.10
District 6 \$ 806.06

Please continue to announce that our treasury is not what it should be and encourage people to ask their groups to contribute more regularly. All reimbursements for NERASSA have been completed and are included in this month's report. When writing checks to the Area, please write your group's name rather than ID number on the check. Thank you for supporting AREA 31 Western Mass General Services.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate V., Area 31 Treasurer

Registrar's Report

The job of the Registrar is to maintain the group and district records for Area 31. This includes records of DCMs and Co-DCMs, GSRs and Alternate GSRs, mail contacts, plus various bits of information about groups (including anniversary dates, estimated number of members, and changes in name or status). These records are contained in a database called Fellowship Connection, managed by the Member Services team at the General Service Office in New York. Area 31 currently has 301 registered active groups. 12 of these are virtual, meaning they meet online only. The other 289 groups meet in person or

are hybrid. Area 31 has 6 districts, with an average of 50 groups in each district. The high number is 69 in District 4; the low number is 29 in District 1. We need to keep group records as current as possible. This means collecting contact info (name, address, phone, email) for GSRs and Alt GSRs for groups that have them. We're also happy to have group Mail Contacts, for groups that want to establish a non-rotating connection with AA as a whole—either in addition to a GSR and an Alt GSR—or in between GSRs. We collect this info via forms available at area and district meetings, and printable from the area website. You can also send an email to registrar@area31aa.org. A new and much simpler way to register as GSR or Alt GSR is to complete the web form on the home page, under Registrar. Click on GSR Information Change, fill it out, and click submit. **THANK YOU** for the opportunity to serve.
Sally S., Registrar

Archivist's Report

I continue to catalogue the archives. I am about 3/4ths completed handwriting the index. Then, my goal is to create a spreadsheet. I haven't spent as much time working during the winter as the room is not insulated well and it's been a cold winter this year. I have responded to inquiries about group histories, origins as well as other inquiries for District 4, Intergroup, and NERAASA. I have shown our Archives a couple times to interested members and can arrange that for anyone who has interest. We received a donation of some framed steps with image that had belonged to our Past Delegate Collette R. I found another hand written letter from Nell Wing (nonalcoholic, AA's first Archivist) to Margaret C. from 1976, regarding a research request from someone in Harvard University, with notes also in margins of the supporting document as request for Margaret's review. I am working with GSO Archives to get this material donated to their archives, as we did with other materials last year. Copies have been made to retain in our Area 31 Archives as before. Finally, I encourage all Committee Chairs and DCMs to provide hard copy for minutes and events, as well as posting these minutes to the website (which has become a defacto electronic archives). Please include FULL dates on documents. The one constant that has been and still is relevant is paper copy. It is only if we preserve these minutes that they will be available to future generations for research, that we may continue to carry the message of our efforts of today. Sadly, looking at the website and past minutes this is an area for much improvement. Much of our past efforts are lost to time. We may do wonderful things now, but if they are not retained then the work ends at the year's end.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl G., Area 31 Archivist

Webmaster

Our website's traffic is up almost 700% since last fall, but it appears to be from foreign bot traffic that spiked in February. Outside of those events, the site shows steady usage, with equal visits between mobile and desktop. Announced first at last year's spring assembly, we are welcoming photo submissions for the site's landing page, which you can do through a link on the site's homepage. We received a few submissions up front, but they trailed off throughout the year. Our area's conscience was to include either landscape photography of Western MA, or a picture of your meeting place. Please continue to share this with your groups. After thorough research, our domain (area31aa.org) has been fully transferred to the area's ownership. The domain was previously registered alongside Western MA Intergroup's, including a period of intertwined hosting. The process of separating the two sites without causing disruption to either site is now complete. Three years of domain renewal was \$55. At last month's area meeting, the area voted that we pursue hosting options made available to non-profits. Our current hosting plan expires in July, and the full price for 3 years of renewal is just north of \$700. My intent is to pursue Dream Host's non-profit hosting plan, which offers comparable functionality to what we have now but does not cost us anything. I am currently tracking down our 501 (c) (3) determination letter to confirm our status for the product. After the migration is complete, which should be early July, we will plan the implementation of Google Workspace and provide more details as that draws closer. As a standing announcement, please continue to ask in your committee meetings how the website can better serve your committee. I am happy

to be put to work. A big thank you to our Asst Webmaster Eric N., for all of his assistance with the site, and my thanks to you for letting me serve.
Tom H., Webmaster

Accessibility

Committee had 4 members to start the year and has 17 members now. Groups, please update your accessibility information. Email Mark for the checklist/inventory. Will create a Google calendar to add commitments to the Area website when available.

Mark D., Accessibility Chair

Archives

We attended the state convention and along with area 30 displayed area 31 Archive boards in the dedicated archive room. Displayed the boards at the area fall assembly, as well as gave a presentation on the duties of the archive committee. Participated in the year end budget process.

In January welcomed new co-chair Judy H., Archie A. as secretary and new committee members. Carl G., the archivist, welcomed everyone and gave all a rundown on his duties. All were presented with an archive representative kit. The monthly secretary's report contains the links to these materials.

Early committee actions included coming up with signage that prohibits the taking of pictures of the archive boards to protect anonymity of some display items. Co-chair Judy H. was reassigned to another committee, we thank her for her service. The committee is concentrating on increasing the number of group histories, as well as getting more board placements at area group anniversaries. The committee is currently working on a flyer to let groups know they are available. Board displays in the last month include The Wilbraham Mid-Morning Group, Scrambled Eggs Group, Northampton Wednesday Night Group, and here at the Spring Assembly. We will have the boards at the Holyoke Discussion Group's 80th anniversary on 4/26/26, and we will have a presence at the Round Up. Thank you for letting me serve.
Rick W., Archives Chair

CPC

CPC meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm, both virtually and in person, at 30 Carew St., South Hadley. We average 10-12 who attend and are part of the committee. The later portion of 2025 was used to update much outdated material, such as the CPC page on the Area Website, that was no longer effective for committee use. We had few to no commitments at the time, mostly due to our contacts not having the funding to pay their employees to attend a CPC presentation. The committee appointed a CPC Liaison who is responsible for keeping a database of contacts and commitments. The Liaison also has access to the CPC Area Webmail, since the Liaison is the first contact from the professionals looking for a presentation. CPC had a rough start to 2026, the first two committee meetings had to be chaired by our former Chair. In January we welcomed a new Chair person, who resigned before the February meeting. He had the material and work our previous Chair had done. It is now in CPC's possession. February brought two commitments, one at Springfield College, April 9th, and one at Bay Path's Physician's Assistant Program in September. In March, the Area Chair assigned a new Chair and Co-Chair, Judy H. and Erin respectively. We've been meeting additionally on Wednesday nights to get those participating in the April commitment informed and prepared; up until now we lacked the updated guides to perform an effective and efficient presentation. We continue to reach out for new contacts and commitments. CPC is trying to broaden our scope of potential contacts by initiating cooperation with Area 30's CPC, it appears lawyers have state conventions also. Our Liaison contacted a GSO Staffer who works the CPC desk. These contacts are a result of CPC members being active and present at many of the AA conventions, service conferences and forums. The Liaison also created an Invitation Letter to Professionals to invite them to a free CPC presentation at the Round Up in May. There has been no response from professionals yet. Lastly, we have requested a Group Inventory, the date has not yet been scheduled. Thank You.

Judy H., CPC Chair

Grapevine/LaViña

Joe wrapped up the last of his obligations as the Grapevine Chair by bringing the “new” boards to the Mass State Convention in November. At the convention, Joe conducted a Creators’ Retreat. As an interesting aside, while talking to someone at the convention, Joe noticed a penny on the ground. He picked it up and noted that it was a wheat penny which was minted in 1944, which was the first year the Grapevine was printed. Joe put the penny on the board because of this unusual coincidence.

I took over Chair of the Grapevine in January and we talked about the upcoming NERASA.

In February I took the GV/LV boards to the Thorndike anniversary meeting on 2/3. Also in February, I attended NERAASA. They had a Grapevine Writers’ Workshop and 2 other Grapevine rep meetings which I found to be very informative. I learned that poetry is not accepted for contributions to the Grapevine because poetry is considered art. In March there was a discussion of the upcoming Spring Assembly and the Round Up. We will have a time slot of 5:15-6:00 Saturday May30 at the Round Up. Topic The AA GRAPEVINE APP/CARRY THE MESSAGE PROGRAM. In April we discussed dates for a workshop in June, possibly the last Saturday, but we did not nail down a date yet.

Carl H., Grapevine Chair

PI

As we move into the Spring season, our focus is on broadening our reach and ensuring that the message of AA is accessible across our local community. 1.Drafted letter and dispatched with the help of Tanya, CPC Liaison, out to local media outlets, inviting guests to attend Round Up workshop on May 29. We’ll meet them at the door and escort to their seats. 2.Radio presence (no radio in Berkshires): Attempting to seek 15 to 20 second spots from GSO. We will be starting with local college radio stations to broadcast these spots. 3.High school outreach: We are trying to expand from last year to increase number of schools and our goal is to secure firm commitments for information sessions and literature placement in school libraries a clear path to recovery resources. 4.Event resources: We have asked our committee members to identify and vet upcoming community events. This proactive approach ensures that we have booth presence at local fairs, health events and town gatherings throughout the summer and fall. We need manpower to do this. We encourage GSRs to go back to their groups to ask people to help (don’t have to be group rep). Resources: reprinting business cards and creative sources to carry the word and plant the seed of AA. The hand of AA is always there. Thank you for letting me serve.

Bruce V., Public Information Chair

Round-Up

This year, we started with about \$3,000 and made a very humble, spiritually grounded decision to host it at a church. Not because we’re struggling but because we figured if anything goes wrong... And just to be clear — we are fully self-supporting. We make this event happen through people attending and registering, even helping fund scholarships for those who can’t. Round-Up works when people show up. It doesn’t need more money. It needs more people actually doing things. Our theme this year is “Humility in Action.” Which basically means: If you notice it, you just volunteered. We’re kicking things off Friday night with: A Home Group Celebration, Home Help Cook-Off, Service Countdown And an Ask-It-Basket meeting. If you’ve never been to a Home Group Celebration, Make signs. Dress ridiculous. Bring your crew and explain why your home group is the best one in Western Mass. We are not looking for quiet dignity, we are looking for enthusiasm with questionable judgment. We’re offering a BOGO registration with the purchase of a menu item for the cook-off Friday night. You can eat, show off, and save money. Registration includes a catered lunch and dinner. Pre-registration is \$30 until May 8, \$35 at the door. We’ve put real thought into the workshops. We are involving CPC & PI, sending invitations into the community, bringing in professionals to learn what AA is and what it isn’t. They’ll see: What we do, What we don’t do, how to help someone who’s struggling. They’re also welcome to stay all weekend and see AA in action. Another workshop we’re offering is Robert’s Rules of Order. I’ve been told if my mouth doesn’t say it, my face does. I’ll be attending that one. If you’re an Area Officer, Committee Chair, DCM, or past Delegate, you all have a meeting. My co-chair Joe and I have visited all districts and most committee meetings. If you’re thinking... “I didn’t know...” we probably came and told you. Having AI-Anon there matters. While we were out there creating chaos, they were learning how to survive it. That presence is important, and we’re making space for it. I want to talk about the Bystander Effect. It’s that thought: “Wow they really need help...” “...someone else will take care of that.” And then nobody does. That’s the opposite of humility in action. Humility in action says: “Oh no I’m the someone.” We need help

in all areas: Coffee- about 12 large cans, Paper goods- plates, napkins, cups, Utensils, Creamer, sugar, hospitality items, Water and snacks, Raffle items — recovery, wellness, Al-Anon, handmade, \$10 and under. People for setup, hospitality and cleanup. District 4 this is in your district. If you're thinking, "I could help..." That's not a suggestion. "If you're waiting for someone else to do it... you're someone else."
Jill F., Round-Up Chair

Berkshire Intergroup

We have had between 8-12 reps who attend the business meeting. The bookie exchange has been low attendance. Financially we are doing ok, and the office is well stocked. We had our 2nd annual chili cookoff, which was a success. A few officers from Intergroup attended the Fall Assembly. We had elections in November: Web servant, Chair and Co-chair. I stood for another year due to not having a Co-chair and was willing to serve. We elected a wonderful Co-chair who was willing to serve as Co-chair and roll in when I roll out at the end of 2026. We elected a Web servant who is awesome and another alcoholic who was willing to serve for the rest of the term as a secretary. Intergroup will need an office manager and Co-chair position will be open, and office manager will stay on for 6 months to help the new one. A motion was made to incorporate 501(c)3, and it was passed. Intergroup Chair attended Mass State Convention, participated with the meet and greet team, attended NERF and NERAASA. It was a wonderful experience getting connected with members from GSO and meeting a Class A Trustee. Our secretary resigned at a period of a year term. Within a month, another alcoholic was willing to serve and was voted unanimously, but a few weeks later also resigned. We need a secretary and there is a lack of staying committed to positions. We formed an Ad hoc event committee and decided to have 4 events this year: AA Trivia, B.I.G. meditation meeting, speaker jam for GSRs, and the Alkathon. Our next Ad hoc meeting is on Zoom on April 12 at 7pm. I've been on this team for about 3 years and have been a part of the Area. Berkshire Intergroup needs help. Thank you to all the Area committee members who showed up to B.I.G. business meetings to let reps know what you all do. Much appreciation to all members of the committees who put your hard work and time in to carry the message. Thank you for letting me serve.
Dwayne, Berkshire Intergroup Chair

Institutions

114 open commitments – list on Institutions web page, easier access. Good meeting attendance. Couple of new institutions will be opening. November 2025 through April 2026: Distributed 922 books. Purchased 1,277 books for \$11,781.84.

30+ groups contribute to L.I.P. Literature in Prisons Program.

Erick M., Institutions Co-Chair

Western Mass Intergroup

In November, Intergroup hosted the Thanksgiving Alkathon, and in December hosted the Christmas Alkathon. In January, the new committee rolled in to positions and settled into their roles. In February, the steering committee started talk on updating new rep packets, getting more feedback and group involvement from groups and individuals at events. In March, we started to talk about payment options at the intergroup store which is currently cash or check. In April, we continued to work on previous items. WM Intergroup maintains phone coverage for individuals who may call looking for help. Groups sign up for week time slots to be responsible for calling back anyone who may call. New intergroup office hours are Mon & Tues 9-3. Wed, Thur, Fri 9-1. location 300 Appleton St Holyoke. WMIG picnic will be Sunday, August 16th at Moose Lodge, 244 Fuller Rd, Chicopee. We meet in person on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 30 Carew st, south Hadley, with bookie meeting from 630-7, and intergroup committee meeting from 7- 8. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Matt F., Western Mass. Intergroup Chair

Western Mass Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (WMPAA)

WMYPAA business meeting is the first Sunday of the month at 5pm in the Monkey Wrench Building at the Serenity Club in Springfield and online. Traditions meeting with a chicken dinner at 4pm before the business meeting.

Matt F., WMYPAA

District 1

Sadly, two losses in the district: a lady who attended the Friday mid-morning meeting, and George S. Workshop on Saturday, July 11 at Church of the Acres: film Bill W. Story.

Karen K., District 1 DCM

District 2

District 2 hosted the Fall Assembly and facilitated a workshop on the Plain Language Big Book. We welcomed a strong number of veteran GSRs, along with several new GSRs at the beginning of the year. The district has been fostering an open space for GSRs to bring topics to the group. One example includes discussions on increasing contributions. Some groups have shared their experience using PayPal and Venmo, which has led a couple of groups to begin using these platforms.

The DCM and Co-DCM attended NERAASA, NERF, and the Massachusetts State Convention.

We are currently planning two Round-Up meetings focused on Robert's Rules, along with a larger, comprehensive workshop scheduled for September. There has also been ongoing discussion about increasing GSR representation and obtaining a mailing contact for groups. Additionally, there is consideration of potentially electing an LCM. District 2 meets at 7:30 PM on the second Monday of each month. Meetings are currently hybrid. Location: 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA

Thank you!

Tamara R., District 2 DCM

District 3

Our district meeting regularly includes 12-15 GSRs, invited committees, Area reps, we've been working to build participation and engagement during the past 6 months. We changed the day and time of our meeting: our new DCM, alt DCM and secretary at the beginning of this year, worked with GSRs on building participation, including possible meeting time and day changes. They were interested in a time and date change, so we're going to meet the 4th Thursday of the month at the same Lee Courthouse 7.30pm. We had a plain language big book event last November 22 which drew 60-70 people. It was good and strong; there was a lot of interest and sharing. We had a presentation from Vera F., who was on the Trustees literature committee during the development of the PLBB, and 2 panels with 8 speakers on their experience of the PLBB, then open sharing and discussion. In 2026 our district welcomed me as the new DCM, Kate K as co-DCM and Madison L as secretary; grateful to Chris D for his service and leadership! Survey of GSRs for the groups' interests, needs, and desires. The meeting date change was one of them: Thursday evenings seemed to allow more participation than Fridays. Groups were interested in basic information about area level service, how to be a GSR, how to participate in the area. We're putting together an "Area-level Service 101" event for September, prior to the fall assembly. We'll set up a committee and develop curriculum and speakers. I was grateful to be able to go to NERAASA as a new DCM, and as my service sponsor recommended, I learned a lot from meeting folks from other areas and seeing folks from this area in a broader context. The DCM cohort on Friday night was like 142 people and on Saturday night was still 62 people. I had the opportunity to learn a lot of things, grateful to have been able to go with the support of the Area. We'll be building in some of the folks I met into the "Area-level Service 101" event. It was really cool to see the GSRs in our area working on the items for the general service conference: we were grateful to get materials in the easy-to-use format, and we appreciated Ray coming and talking about them and being available for questions and comments. Our secretary Madison worked up a clear and well-organized email out to the GSRs, it was exciting to see the GSRs use both email and WhatsApp groups to communicate with groups. The GSRs posted up Google drive links, documents, PDFs, links to the safety videos. There was a robust kind of digital pre-prep for a lot of the groups, and it seemed to facilitate good discussions. There were other GSRs that had frustrations: "people won't read this stuff," "I brought them a stack of papers and they didn't read them." I would make a pitch for the idea of WhatsApp groups and being in touch with people on their phones, giving them nudges. The business meetings for the groups that did that kind of digital prep seemed to be deeper and richer and stronger in discussion of the items. It's been helpful to have resources from committees like

accessibilities and ask questions of Ray and Justin and others. I'm grateful to be the DCM and to establish this relationship with everybody.

Mike K., District 3 DCM

District 4

District 4 meets on Zoom on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Total of 82 GSRs and Alternate GSRs on contact list, with anywhere from 6-12 groups represented at the monthly District 4 meeting. Since the Fall Assembly in October 2025, District 4 has gained 5 new GSRs. One GSR or Alternate GSR presents on one of the 12 Traditions monthly. The role of District 4 Secretary has been assumed by Richard W. James is now DCM. Patrick is now Co-DCM. The District 4 groups are meeting in a variety of formats – mostly in person, but there are several hybrid, and virtual meetings. In the past 6 months, groups have faced fluctuations in numbers and attendance; however, attendance at meetings has been good all around. District 4 is excited to be hosting the Area Round Up on May 29-30 at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Hadley. GSRs have been announcing that help is needed for hospitality and set up. District 4 is in the beginning stages of discussing an upcoming workshop. For the second consecutive year, District 4 will be bringing two AA meetings to The Northfield Mount Hermon School during their Alumni weekend on June 5-6 at 5:30pm. District 4 is working together to attend meetings that do not currently have GSRs. The hope is to spark awareness and interest in Area 31 service.

James C., District 4 DCM

District 5

District 5 meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 7pm at 30 Carew Street in South Hadley MA and online. Since the Fall Assembly, the district meeting has been well attended, with an average attendance between 11-15, that's including online also. A few GSRs were able to attend NERAASA and had a lot of positive feedback on what they had taken from it. The district still invites committee members to share what they do and to encourage GSRs to get group involvement and representation. We are discussing possibly having an LCM to try and get more GSRs to come to the district meetings, and if a group doesn't have a GSR, talk with them about the importance of having one. Even though we average 11-15 GSRs, there are 56 registered groups.

We've also been trying to get more group histories from GSRs.

For the upcoming year, we are going to perform another play for our workshop. We are having it on July 18th. We are still deciding which play (we have 3 to choose from) and we are currently looking for locations to have it at.

Most groups have reported healthy attendance, but a few are struggling. The Hitchcock Academy changed their start time to 7pm, hoping to bring in more attendance, but their GSR reported that attendance has improved but lacking group members.

Jim K., District 5 DCM

District 6

District 6 met hybrid on Monday, March 16th, 2026 at the Daily Grind, 568 College Highway, Southwick and on ZOOM at 7PM. Eight groups were represented with General Service Representatives as well as Co-DCM Brendan, Area 31 Chair Justin, PI Chair Bruce, and Roundup Chair Jill. We opened the meeting with a moment of silence, in memory of our Secretary Bonnie who sadly passed away. Bruce from PI and Jill from Roundup provided reports from their respective committees for the group. Justin provided a summary of the previous weekend in NERAASA in Portland, ME and upcoming events. We then went around room and ZOOM for group reports. Brendan closed by reporting on any additional information from the Area 31 Business Meeting notes from March 11th, 2026. We had good discussion of group decisions and group autonomy. I continue to be impressed and grateful for engagement and participation of this group of GSR's. We did ask that they return to their respective groups and entertain if anyone seeking service would have interest in becoming our District 6 Secretary.

Our next meeting is scheduled for the third Monday of April 20th, 2026. It will begin at 7PM at the Daily Grind, 568 College Highway, Southwick and on ZOOM.

Grateful to be of Service,
Pat L., District 6 DCM

Ad hoc committee – redistricting

In 2015, an ad hoc committee for redistricting Area 31 was closed with the recommendation that while redistricting may be a good idea, the impetus should come from the districts/groups. Well, here we are again. Some districts and groups have expressed a desire to explore the idea. Short history: Spring 1977 – 4 districts full: 5-75 groups.

1991 – District 2 split to create District 6. There were 151 groups in Area 31. Now we have twice as many groups with the same number of districts. The ad hoc committee will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Our first meeting will be April 22 at 6:30pm at 30 Carew St., South Hadley MA. It will be hybrid. We will begin with a DCM/Co-DCM from each district, the Registrar, and myself. No visitors at the first meeting. Phase 1: organization. Phase 2: outreach. Phase 3: recommendations. Phase 4: approval. Phase 5: implement. We will discuss our path forward and explore the issues involved. It will take two assemblies to make the change.

Jack A.

Delegate's Remarks

Since this past Fall Assembly, when this body chose to elect me and trust me with the duty of representing Area 31 on the Panel 76 General Service conference in NYC, I've been busy at work preparing for the 2026 conference. Since last Fall, I've continued to visit districts and committees and have pause to say thank you for all of your time and dedication to the position you are performing for area 31 and for AA as a whole. The things we do today have an impact on keeping this beautiful spiritual enterprise open and available for the next sick and suffering drunk seeking recovery. I also completed my role as Program chair for the Mass Convention last November, Went to the Northeast Region Forum in RI. I also had the honor of being a panelist at NECYPAA in New Hampshire. Attended Northeast Region AA Service Assembly in Maine & most recently went to Delaware to attend Northeast Region Delegates Reunion. In my "SPARE" (joke) time, I've been getting the agenda items out to our local members, as well as sending out the background to those that asked. With this full heart, I say thank you to everyone that has put the time and effort in to digest and share the agenda items that I will be attending to at conference. Thank You. Yesterday we had our Mini Conference went very well. We had some great discussion and feedback that will definitely be brought with me on April 25th, 2026 (two short weeks from now) as Area 31's voice will present at the conference. I have been using all my resources to be as prepared as one can be attending their first GSC. Thank you to all that helped make yesterday happen. Notably Bob for the agenda and setting the day up, Justin for getting us the location, Lara for taking notes, District 6 for hosting, and Eric for the Hybrid. Please keep checking the Delegates corner for any new or updated GSO related information. Before I finish, I need to say subscribe to the Grapevine. Service Gladly Rendered,

Ray M., Area 31 Panel 76 GV/LV committee to the general service Conference

Alternate Delegate's Remarks

In October 2025 I was elected Alternate Delegate. I've found the first 4 months of the year are the most crucial in AA. As of January I've attended NAAD (North American Alternate Delegate) meeting on the 1st of every month on Zoom, NERT around the 12th of every month, NERF, NERAASA, and NERD – all acronyms I need to become familiar with! We are currently working on the NERAASA bid for 2029, it will be ready next Friday. Over the past 4 years, I've been the Intergroup Chair, and Area Chair, organizing assemblies, picnics, Alcathons, etc. Now as Alternate Delegate, my main responsibility is to keep Ray healthy, as well as be prepared to fill in if I have to at the GSC. My brain is mush after reading all the

background information on the agenda items. I've made some new Alternate Delegate acquaintances in the Northeast Region; there are 18 of us, we're probably going to be together in our service journey for some time to come. I hope I'm ready to serve if the need arises. I will be doing a lot of praying both for Ray and myself. Thank you for having the faith in me to represent Area 31 at the GSC if the need arises. I'm serving as the Co-Program Chair for the Mass State Convention. Lastly, the Intergroup golf tournament will be on June 20 at Agawam Country Club, \$100 per person, flyer on the website.
Bob M., Area 31 Alternate Delegate

Area Chair's Remarks

I attended the NAAAC meeting (National Association of AA Chairs). The Area has 3 commitments coming up all in the same week: Monday 4/27: Agawam Wildcats at 7pm, Tuesday 4/28: Tuesday Night Westfield Speaker at 7pm, and Friday 5/1: Ludlow Eye Opener at 7pm. There have been 7 or 8 group inventories in the past 3 months.

Justin C., Area 31 Chair

Old Business – None

New Business

- 1) Carl, District 5 GSR, brought up the question of who is eligible to vote at Area Assemblies. He noted that roll call changes by the end of the meeting, and it should be taken again prior to any voting. He further noted that, in keeping with Robert's Rules, a motion is not needed to accept every report.
- 2) Joe I., Round Up Co-Chair, gave a reminder that pre-registration is open for the Round Up: \$30 for the weekend, mail in.

Motion to close at 3:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lara A., Area 31 Secretary, Western Mass. General Service