General Service Assembly of Western New York
Area 50 Handbook

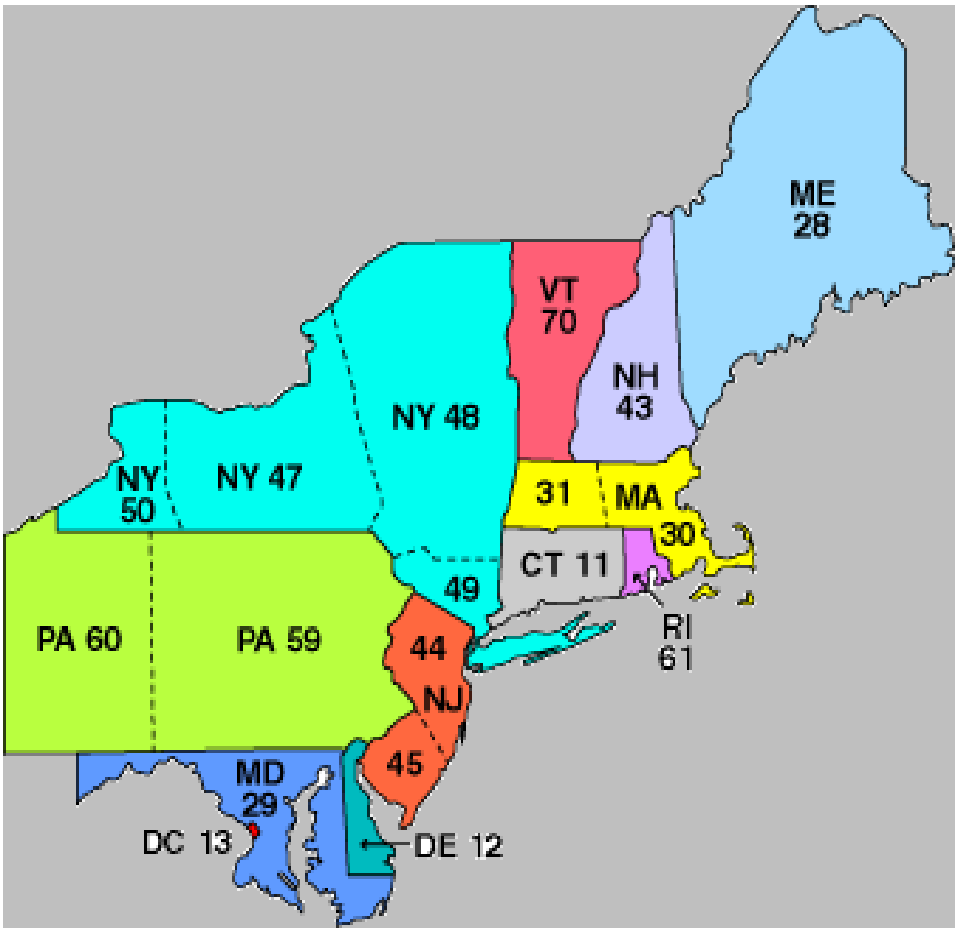
Area 50

RECOVERY, UNITY, SERVICE

I am responsible - when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help,
I want the hand of AA always to be there.
For that I am responsible.

Revised by the Area Assembly November 7, 2020

NORTHEAST REGION



Northeast Region Delegate Areas

11 - Connecticut	45 - Southern NJ
12 - Delaware	47 - Central NY
13 - Washington DC	48 - Hudson/Mohawk/Berkshire NY
28 - Maine	49 - Southeast NY
29 - Maryland	50 - Western NY
30 - Eastern Mass	59 - Eastern PA
31 - Western Mass	60 - Western PA
43 - New Hampshire	61 - Rhode Island
44 - Northern NJ	70 - Vermont

Area 50 Handbook

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Welcome to the Area 50 General Service Assembly

The General Service Assembly (GSA) of Western New York (Area 50) adheres to the principles of the Traditions and Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous. Generally, we follow the suggestions for an Area as outlined in the AA Service Manual. This Handbook, then, is for use as a guide - a reference and a resource – based on what has worked in the past. It is subject to change by our collective group conscience, and we hope it will be amended as better ways are found to carry out our primary purpose; to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

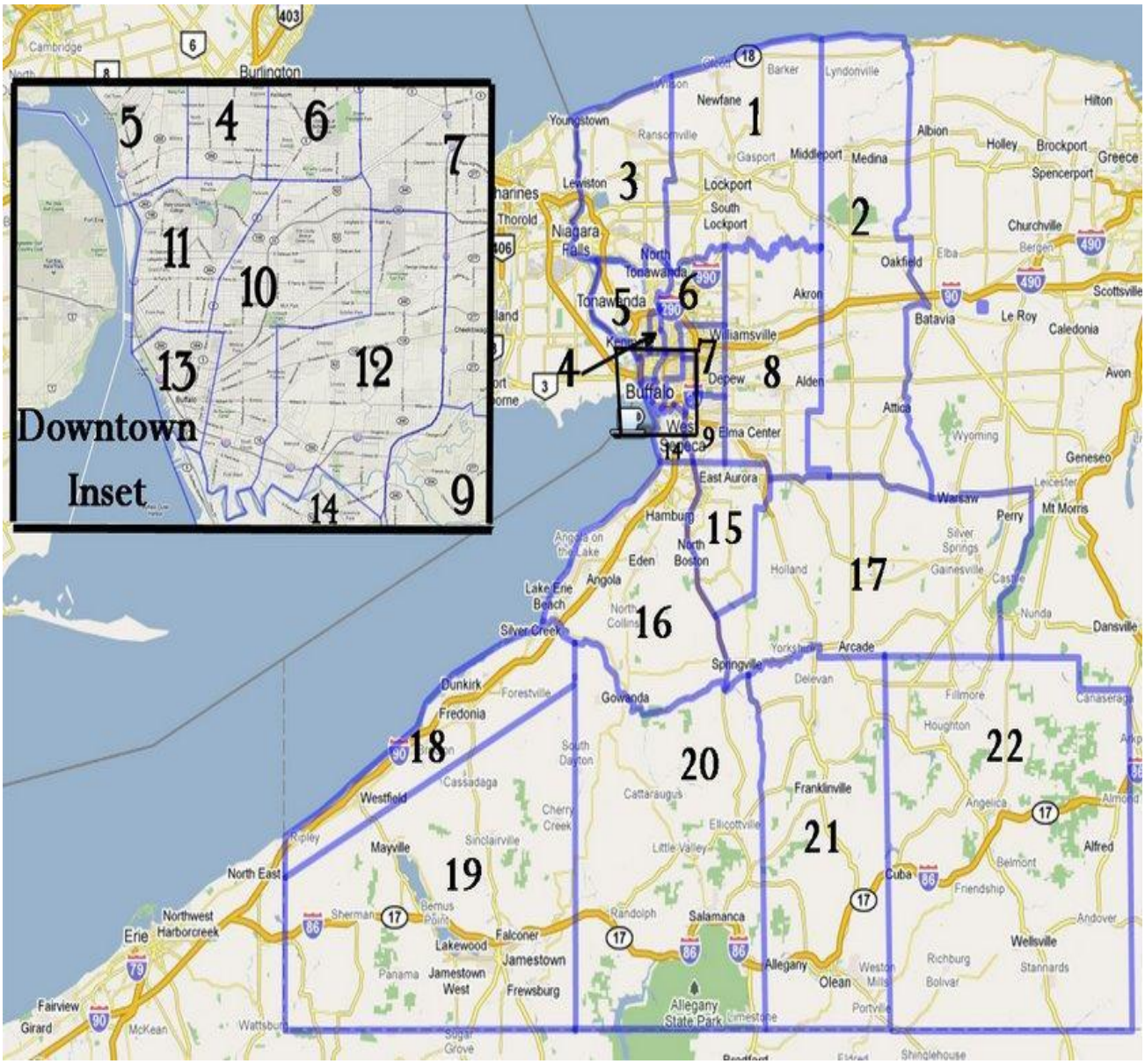
To all the GSRs, DCMs, Committee Chairpersons, Area Officers and Past Delegates who led the way, making this handbook possible, we express our appreciation and gratitude.

The Area 50 Ad Hoc Guidelines Committee

The 2019 Area 50 Area Committee group conscience determined a need to develop new guidelines for the Area 50 GSA and its operation (supplemental to the A.A. Service Manual). The July 17, 2019 Area Assembly delegated the responsibility of updating and implementing all changes approved by the General Service Committee of Western New York (Area 50) Assembly. An ad hoc committee was appointed. This document was assembled for presentation, review and acceptance by the groups represented at the assembly. Over various periods of time, (approx. 1989 through 2010) different sets of guidelines were written for various Area 50 GSA functions. The written guidelines were not contained in one central document and were scattered at best. The 2007-2010 Area 50 GSA guidelines ad hoc committee amended the guidelines from the following years: 1989, 1990, 1992 & 1997. The 2019 GSA Ad Hoc Guidelines Committee amended the 2010 Guidelines and amendments in 2014 and 2016 and renamed the Guidelines to Area 50 Handbook. A Handbook Committee will be formed to review the guidelines biennially beginning in 2022.

I. Map and Districts of Western New York (Area 50)

District Committees are the vital link between the AA groups and AA as a whole. A district usually is a geographical region within an area containing a number of groups. The districts in Area 50 were created over the years. There are currently twenty-two districts in Area 50. Each District elects a District Committee Member (DCM). The GSRs and the DCMs have regularly scheduled meetings to share with each other their experience, strength, and hope related to the twelfth step work that occurs within its district. District Committees (GSRs and DCMs) also familiarize themselves with the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts and the related service work that occurs at the Area and Worldwide levels. At the time of printing, the current district geographical structure is under review to insure better group representation throughout Area 50.



A. List of Districts in Area 50

District #1 - Eastern Niagara County, not Niagara Falls
District #2 - Western parts of Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming (North of Rte 20A) Counties
District #3 - Niagara Falls Area - Eastern Niagara County
District #4 - Kenmore, North Buffalo
District #5 - Riverside, Tonawanda near River, North Tonawanda, Grand Island
District #6 - UB South Campus Area, Tonawanda, Amherst North of Sheridan, East Amherst
District #7 - Snyder, Williamsville, Cheektowaga north of William
District #8 - Clarence, Akron, Depew, Alden, Elma
District #9 - W.Seneca & Cheektowaga, E of I-90,W of Transit Rd, S of Losson & North of Milestrip
District #10 - Buffalo, East Side & Kensington Area
District #11 - Buffalo, West Side between North/Porter & Amherst St
District #12 - Cheektowaga, Sloan, Lovejoy, Babcock & the Valley
District #13 - Buffalo, West Side, Allentown, Downtown
District #14 - South Buffalo, Lackawanna, Blasdell
District #15 - East Aurora, Orchard Park, North Boston
District #16 - Southern Erie County, W of Rte 219, Hamburg, Angola, Eden, Gowanda
District #17 - SW Erie & S Wyoming Counties, Holland, Springville, Arcade, Perry
District #18 - Chautauqua County along Lake Erie shore, Ripley to Silver Creek, Brocton, Dunkirk/Fredonia, Forrestville, Westfield
District #19 - Remainder of Chautauqua County, Mayville, Jamestown, Lakewood, Chautaugqua, Fluvanna, Mayville, Sherman
District #20 - Western Cattaraugus County, Salamanca, Ellicottville, Little Valley
District #21 - Eastern Cattaraugus County, Olean, Franklinville
District #22 - All of Allegany County

II. Role of the GSR (General Service Representative) in AA's Service Structure

The GSR has the job of linking the home group with AA as a whole. The GSR has experience within the home group and represents the voice of the home group conscience. The GSR attends district meetings and reports the home group's wishes to the District Committee Member. The GSR also attends the Area Assembly as part of the larger group conscience. Here a GSR may share the home group’s concerns and ideas with the Area 50 Assembly and/or the Delegate.

A GSR needs a good ear for listening. Whatever "authority" there is in AA resides in the group conscience. Through an informed group conscience and active participation, a GSR can share what the home group needs and what it thinks about a situation.

This sharing and participation is a two-way street, allowing the GSR to bring back to the home group the problems and remedies that affect AA unity, health, and growth. By keeping the group informed, and expressing the group conscience, the GSR serves the home group and helps to ensure that the General Service Conference is acting for AA as a whole.

As part of a GSR's activities within the home group, the GSR works with the treasurer to develop practical plans for the group's support of various service committees. The GSR encourages the group to support the area, district committees, the local central offices or intergroups, and GSO. A GSR is familiar with the pamphlet F-3: "Self-Support" and encourages a "*regular contribution plan*," as determined by the group. Remember that it is important that your home group is registered with GSO, Area and Intergroup.

The GSR also knows Pamphlet P-16: "*The AA Group*" through and through and helps new group secretaries and chairpersons to use it. When a new group is forming nearby, they can be of great help in advising its members about GSO services.

One thing to remember as a GSR is that a sense of humor is most important to a service commitment and sobriety. We take our program of recovery and our sobriety seriously; we do not take our personal hurts or the rejection of our opinions too seriously. As Dr. Bob said: "Let us also remember to guard that erring member, the tongue, and if we must use it, let's use it with kindness and consideration and tolerance."

A. An Informed AA Home Group Conscience

The Home Group Conscience is the collective conscience of the group's membership. It is usually determined by substantial unanimity (2/3^{rds}) on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members sharing full information and individual points of view, practicing AA's principles in all its affairs and listening to minority opinions with an open mind.

The group works slowly - discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. In its discussion, the Home Group places principles before personalities. Its voice is heard when a well-informed group arrives at a decision. The term "*informed* group conscience" implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes.

The difference between a group conscience and a majority vote, or group opinion, is that one or more of the elements of a group conscience described above is missing.

B. How to Sign up as a New GSR (General Service Representative).

The GSR registers with the District's DCM to receive all mailings and notices from the District, Area, AAWS and AAGrapevine LaVina. The DCM passes the necessary information along to the Area 50 Registrar and the General Service Office. The DCM also collects and passes on updated information on groups and GSRs to the Area 50 Registrar. The Registrar then sends along the updates to the General Service Office for AA Directories and mailings to groups.

The GSR should provide an email and mailing address prior to or at the Assembly; so the Area Secretary can then email an electronic version or mail a hard copy of the minutes of that Assembly.

The **"Change of Information"** and **"New Group Registration"** forms may be obtained

from the DCM or the Area Registrar. The group's service number may be found by asking the Area Registrar, the Area Treasurer, or the DCM.

It is extremely important to sign up, because GSO will mail each GSR a kit which will provide additional information.

III. Role of the DCM (District Committee Member) in AA's Service Structure

The heart of A.A. is the group, which elects a general service representative (GSR). The GSR attends district meetings that are made up of the groups in that district. The GSRs elect a district committee member (DCM). Thus, the DCM is the vital link between the group's GSR, and the area service structure, including the area's delegate to the General Service Conference.

GSRs in each district usually elect the DCM. The qualifications for a good district committee member are not complicated: background in A.A. service work that goes with the GSR job, and perhaps some central office/intergroup service; enough sobriety (generally five years) to be eligible for election to area office; and the time and energy to serve the groups and district well.

DCMs are usually elected before the area assembly meeting at which the delegate is elected for a two-year period.

The DCM carries the collective group conscience of the A.A. groups in the district to the area committee. Among the two-way communication responsibilities of the DCM are:

1. Holding regular meetings of all GSRs in the district.

2. Assisting the delegate in obtaining group information in time to meet the deadline for appropriate A.A. directories.

3. Keeping GSRs informed about Conference activities.

4. Acquainting GSRs with The A.A. Service Manual, Box 4-5-9, and other A.A. literature.

5. Informing GSRs about carrying the message of the Seventh Tradition to A.A. groups.

6. Holding sharing sessions on just about any service subject.

7. Making a regular practice of talking to groups (new and old) on the responsibilities of general service work and assist groups with questions and/or concerns that they raise.

Continuing growth of the Fellowship brings new opportunities for service to the DCM. As the numbers of groups in an area increase, the maintenance of a vital active link between the groups and the Fellowship as a whole becomes a challenge to the DCMs. By maintaining active contact, both with the groups in the district and with the Area, the DCM is a key link in ensuring

that all the A.A. groups are aware of the importance of their total participation in local, district, area and world services.

A. District Committee Member Chairperson (DCMC)

The DCC's experience in AA Service work enables that person to be a useful resource to others in the Area. The role of the DCC is to help coordinate activities at the District Level and to provide a continuity of experience within the District Service Structure as well as Chair the Area 50 DCC meetings. The DCMC has a vote at Assemblies and/or Area Committee Meetings.

Duties and Responsibilities of the DCMC

1. Serves a two-year term.
2. Communicates between Area 50 and DCMs.
3. The DCMC is available to assist the DCMs in resolving concerns that might arise.
4. Chairs all DCM Meetings.

IV. Area Assembly and Area Committee

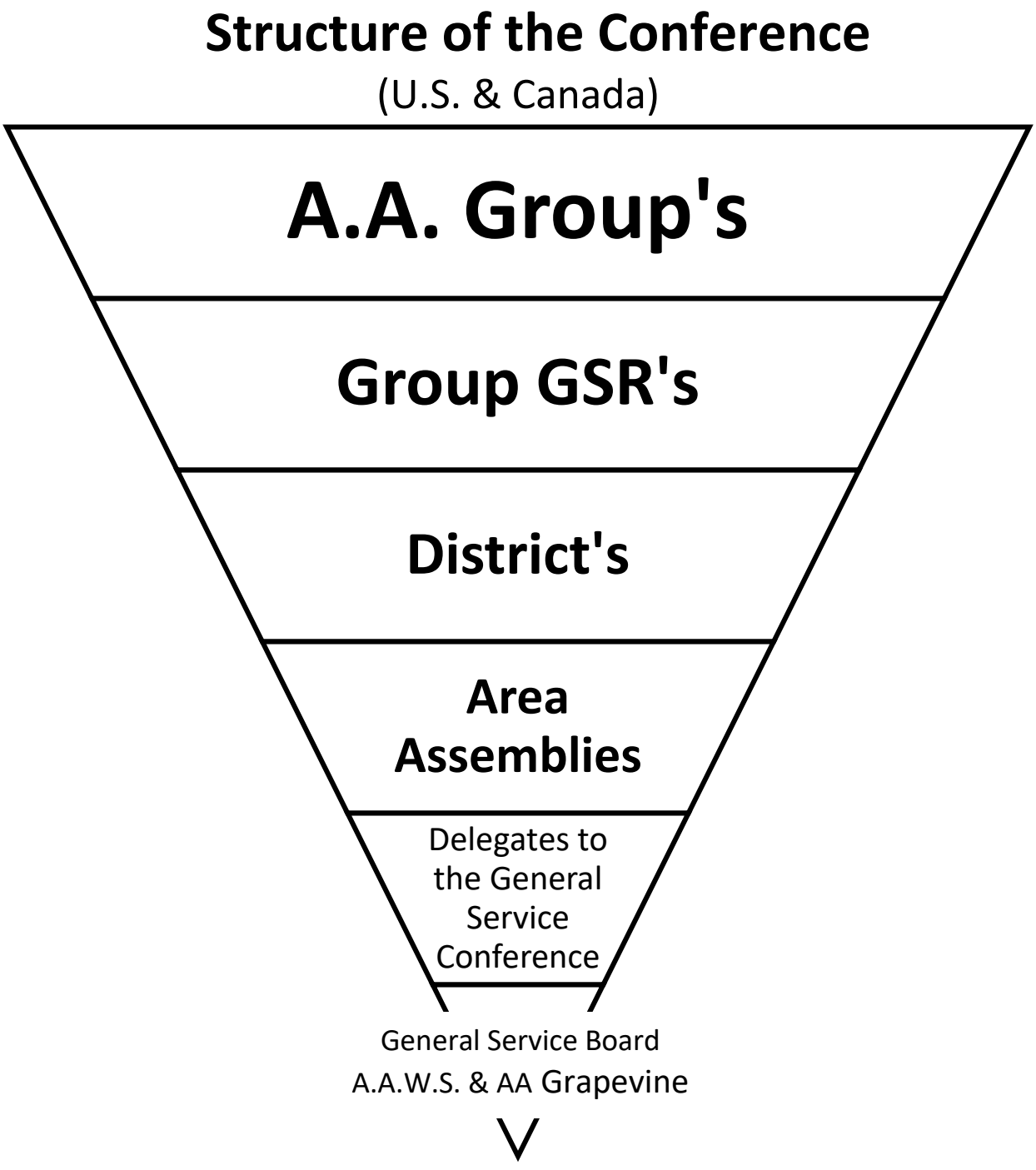
The purpose of the Area Assembly is to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic. The Area Assembly connects AA in WNY with AAWS and AAGrapevine/La Vina in NY. One of its main duties is the election of a delegate to serve as the representative of Alcoholics Anonymous to the General Service Conference. The Area Delegate attends the annual meeting of the Conference as a representative of AA and serves with 92 other Area delegates to ensure that AA continues to function as a whole.

Delegates bring to the Conference the viewpoints of their own areas. The Area Assembly is the forum where the DCMs and the individual groups (through GSRs) share their experience with each other as well as with the elected Area Officers, Committee chairs, the Alternate-Delegate and the Delegate.

The Assembly promotes a well-informed Delegate, who represents the Area. It also informs groups and AA members regarding local and world AA issues that might affect AA as a whole. Information flows in a continuous motion throughout the service structure.

The Area Committee conducts Area 50 business in between Area Assemblies. It is responsible for the health of the Conference Structure and for growth and harmony in our Fellowship. The Area Committee is in a middle position between the local Districts and (through the Delegate) the AA General Service Conference. The Area Committee is made up of Officers, Committee Chairs, DCMs, Area Liaison to the Intergroups and the Area Liaisons from the Intergroups.

A. AA's Service Structure



AA General Service Office:

<**http://www.aa.org**>

AA Grapevine:

<**http://www.aagrapevine.org**>

B. Purpose of the Assembly

1. Stimulate AA group involvement and participation in and education about General Service.

2. Allow for free, open, unrestricted and orderly dialogue among AA groups within the area's service structure.

3. Safeguard against "railroading" and "log rolling" of one individual's or group's specific agenda or course of action.

4. Ensure the right of the minority to be heard.

5. Provide a forum for the AA groups to inform the Delegate of what items are of concern to the AA groups.

6. Support cooperation between the Area and the Intergroups.

7. Stimulate, coordinate and assist Groups and Districts to "carry the AA message."

8. Introduce the Twelve Concepts of World Service.

9. Foster the spirit of The Three Legacies: **Recovery, Unity, and Service.**

C. Composition of the Area Assembly

The Area Assembly is made up of the following trusted servants, who each have one vote:

1. **General Service Representatives** (GSR) are elected by each group in the 22 Districts that comprise Area 50. GSRs serve a two-year term. GSRs vote at the District Committee Meetings and General Service Assemblies. They do not have a vote at the Area Committee meetings. It is suggested that GSRs have at least 2 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

2. **District Committee Members** (DCMs) from the 22 Districts – elected by GSRs for a two-year term at each District's election meeting. DCMs have a vote at District meetings, Area Committee Meetings and General Service Assemblies. It is suggested that DCMs have at least 3 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience. The DCMC is elected by the DCMs and has a voting position.

3. **Eight Area Service Committee Chairs** – elected for a two-year term at the biennial election assembly. The Area Service Committee Chairs have a vote at all Area Committee Meetings and General Service Assemblies. It is suggested that Area Service Committee Chairs have at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

a. **Accessibilities** – Works with District and Intergroup Accessibilities committees to carry the message to individuals who cannot attend or fully participate in meetings without some assistance.
b. **Archives** – Works with the Area 50 Archivist and District Archivists to collect and preserve historical data from our area and helps to put together displays and take them to events in the area upon request. The Archives Committee selects the Area Archivist. The Archivist serves at the behest of the Archives Committee. There is no specific time limit because of the nature of the work done by the Archivist. The Archivist is a nonvoting member of the Assembly. The Archivist is accessible at the request of the Assembly for information and displays at Assembly events.

c. **Cooperation with Professional Community** (CPC) – Works with District and Intergroup CPC committees to assist in carrying the message to the professional community.

d. **Correctional Facilities** (CFC) – Works with District and Intergroup CFC committees to assist in carrying the message to those who are incarcerated.

e. **Finance** – prepares and presents the Area Budget and oversees Area spending with authority to make non-budgeted expenditures when to do so is in the best interest of AA in the Area and/or AA as a whole. The actions of the Finance Committee are reported and reviewed at every Area Assembly.

f. **Literature/AAGrapevine/La Viña** – Encourages Districts and groups to have a GVR/LV representative. Displays literature from AAWS/AAGrapevine/La Viña at Area, District, Group and Intergroup events and Conventions if invited.

g. **Public Information** (PIC) – Works with District and Intergroup PIC committees to assist in carrying the message to schools, the media and other groups interested in the Program.

h. **Treatment Facilities** (TFC) – Works with District and Intergroup TFC committees to carry the message to Hospitals, Detox Centers, Rehabilitation facilities, Out-Patient facilities and Half-Way houses.

4. Area 50 Committee Officers – elected at Area Election Assembly in Odd Years for one two-year term. The Officers have a vote at all Area Committee Meetings and General Service Assemblies. It is suggested that Area Officers have at least 5 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

a. **Delegate to General Service Conference** – the Delegate is the link between the Area and the General Service Conference. The Delegate informs the Area about events and issues in AA and serves as a part of the AA

Conscience overseeing the activities of the Trustees, AAWS and Grapevine/La Viña officers. See Service Manual p. S50.

b. **Alternate Delegate to General Service Conference** – the Alternate Delegate assists the Delegate in preparing for the Conference and educating the Area about events and issues in AA. The Alternate Delegate attends the Conference if the Delegate is unable to attend.

c. **Chairperson** – the Chairperson sets the Agenda and chairs all Assemblies and Area Committee meetings. The Chair can appoint a Committee Chairperson if no one is elected at the biennial elections or a vacancy occurs during the term. Further information about the responsibilities of the Chairperson are described in the Service Manual and set out below.

d. **Alternate Chairperson** – the Alternate Chairperson assists the Chair in the performance of the Chair's duties. In addition, the Alternate Chair serves as a voting member of the Finance Committee and Chair of the Ad Hoc Handbook Committee. The Alternate shall maintain the master copy of the handbook.

e. **Secretary** – the Secretary is responsible for recording and distributing minutes of Area Committee Meetings and General Service Assemblies. The Secretary also distributes communication from the Officers and Committee to all voting members of the Assembly as well past delegates. The Secretary maintains the Motion Book for substantive motions made at the Area Assembly and the Area Committee.

f. **Treasurer** – the Treasurer is responsible for collecting, depositing and accounting for all funds received by the Area. The Treasurer serves as a member of the Area Finance Committee and assists in the preparation of the biennial budget.

5. Other voting members of the Assembly and Area Committee:

a. **GSA Education Chair** – is a voting member of the Assembly and Area Committee and is responsible for developing exciting, entertaining, educational programs for Area Assemblies. Elected for one two-year term. It is suggested that the GSA Education Chair have at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

b. **GSR Orientation Chair** – is a voting member of the Assembly and Area Committee and is responsible for developing and presenting a program at Area Assemblies that provides new GSRs with the basic information to help them understand their role in the Area Structure. The GSR Orientation Chair also makes similar presentations to the Districts upon request. Elected for one two-year term. It is suggested that the GSR Orientation

Chair have at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

c. **Registrar** – is a voting member of the Assembly and Area Committee and is responsible for updating group registration information and sending that information to GSO in New York. The Registrar is elected for one two-year term. It is suggested that the Registrar have at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

d. **Webchair** - is responsible for updating the Area Website with pertinent Area, Assembly and District information. The Webchair is elected for a two-year term and can be re-elected for one additional two-year term. It is suggested that Webchair have at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

e. Area 50 Intergroup Liaison – is responsible for coordinating Area activities with each of the Intergroups in Area 50. The Area 50 Intergroup Liaison is a voting member of the Assembly and the Area Committee. It is suggested that Area 50 Intergroup Liaison has at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

f. **Buffalo, Genesee/Wyoming, Niagara and NY/Penn Intergroup Liaisons** are elected by the Intergroups. Liaisons are voting members of the Assembly and Area Committee. It is suggested that an Intergroup Liaison have at least 4 years of continuous sobriety and previous service experience.

6. **Other interested members** of the fellowship may attend and state their opinion but they cannot make a motion, second or vote on any issues that arise.

7. **Past Delegates** are non-voting members who attend and assist at assemblies, e.g., serve as a parliamentarian, a timer and conduct elections. Past Delegates cannot hold an elected, voting position after completion of their term as Delegate.

D. Resources and Responsibilities

The AA Service Manual provides additional information on these service positions and committees. While our trusted servants at all levels should be endowed with "The Right of Decision" within the framework of their duties, Area Service Committee Chairs, and all other elected or appointed trusted servants should minimally:

1. Refer to respective workbooks provided by GSO, the yellow guidelines sheets and the pertinent sections of the Service Manual.

2. Attend, or arrange to have an alternate attend, and participate fully in all Area General Service Assemblies, Area Committee Meetings and Area Business Meetings.

3. Hold regular committee meetings and provide a written report for all Area General Service Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings and when appropriate orally present the report, or have an alternate present the report, as well.

4. Attend and participate fully in all other service events for which the Area Assembly has budgeted to have that trusted servant attend (for example; NERAASA, NYSIW).

In Area 50, there are five Assemblies each year. Working with the Area Assembly, Districts, Groups and Inter-Groups host Area Assemblies at local facilities; therefore, the locations of assemblies are rotated around the area. Assemblies are held on Saturdays. In each year, there are two General Assemblies, a Pre-Conference Assembly and a Post-Conference Assembly. An Election Assembly is held in the odd years and a Schedule and Budget Assembly is held to set the schedule and adopt a budget for the following two years is held in the even years.

V. How We Conduct Business in Area 50

Rules of Order (or procedural guidelines) are essential guides along our path toward an informed group conscience. Agreed-upon procedural guidelines ensure the practice of "principles before personalities" while business is being conducted. A free-form discussion may appear to be the most open and easy way to conduct business, but it has the tendency to degenerate into argument and personality conflict. Rules of Order help to keep the discussion focused and allow business to proceed in a successful and spiritual manner.

A. The Role of the Chair

The Chair ensures that all persons have an equal opportunity to be heard, and that all speakers are listened to politely and respectfully. The Chair acts primarily as a moderator, calling on speakers in order, and occasionally re-stating the motion or a pertinent piece of information. The Chair should only state the apparent sense of the assembly or parts of the assembly if it may help the discussion. The Chair may inform the assembly of the effect that a vote on a particular issue may have but this should only be done after discussion has ended. The Chair tries to discourage outbursts from members during or after other member's remarks and tries to discourage inflammatory remarks from the floor.

The chair should not speak in favor or against any motion and should not express personal opinions regarding the discussion. In those rare instances where the chair "steps down as Chair" to address (add to a discussion either pro or con) a main motion, the assembly should be clearly informed that the chair is speaking as a member and not as Chair. The Chair cannot make or second any motions.

B. The Role of the Body

In the interest of "placing principles before personalities" while effectively addressing the business of the Area, it is suggested that discussion from the floor be directed to the merits of the pending question. Speakers should address their remarks to the Chair, maintain a courteous tone, and - especially if there is a divergence of opinion - avoid interjecting personal notes into the discussion. Personal criticism, inflammatory remarks, and outbursts during or after a statement should be avoided.

1. General

Everyone is entitled to, and should, express his or her group's concerns. However, if a point has already been made, it is not necessary to repeat or paraphrase that point a second time. Also, remember that saving "minority opinions" for after the vote, when there is no rebuttal, can force the assembly body to reconsider a question that might well have been decided during its initial discussion. A thorough discussion that includes all pros and cons often leads to a fully informed group conscience.

2. Making A Motion

Address only one motion at a time. Fully discuss motions before voting. Avoid premature actions (e.g., amending motions early in the discussion or hastily calling the question) as they divert attention from the subject at hand, thus confusing and/or delaying assembly business.

All motions should be submitted in writing and whenever possible motions should be submitted to the Secretary prior to the business meeting in which the motion will be presented.

Items of business to be voted on by the Area Assembly are brought to the floor in the form of a motion of a voting member. A motion is made in the form of: "I move that…" or "I make a motion that..." The motion may be of a substantive nature, or it may consist in expressing a certain view, or it may direct that a specific issue be investigated and reported on at a future date. When a motion is made, a second is required. Seconding a motion is done in the form of: "I second that motion."

If properly seconded, the Chair (or the Secretary) states the main motion and general discussion begins.

3. General Rules of Discussion

Immediately after the Chair (or the Secretary) has stated the main motion, the maker of the motion is given the opportunity to speak first.

a. Then, the Chair recognizes those who wish to speak on the motion. For example, they may line up at a microphone and speak in order, alternating speakers between two microphones, if available. If there is no microphone available, then the Chair will either direct those wishing to speak to form a line or make a reasonable effort to recognize speakers in the order in which they raise their hand, if they are seated.

b. In cases where the Chair knows that people wishing to speak have opposing opinions, the Chair may let the floor alternate, as much as possible, between those favoring and those opposing a measure.
c. It is suggested that each person speaking is limited to a maximum of two (2) minutes per motion, unless otherwise determined by the Chair.
d. No one may speak for a second time on a topic until all who wish to speak have spoken for the first time.
e. It is appropriate for the Chair to end the discussion and put the question to a vote after every member has had the opportunity to speak twice.
f. Voting is by a show of hands or ballot.

4. Calling the Question

When a member who has properly obtained the floor believes that the discussion has been exhausted and that no new or substantive points are being made, they may call the question. Calling the question brings discussion to a halt while members decide whether to proceed directly to a vote (the question) or go on with the discussion. A motion to call the question:

a. Must be made in order at the microphone, although it is suggested that all who wish to speak, be given the opportunity to do so, before a question is called
b. Requires a second
c. Is not debatable
d. Requires a 2/3^{rds} vote to pass
e. The speaker can only call the question without making any other comments on the main motion
f. Does not include a minority voice after the vote

If calling the question is passed, discussion ceases and the members proceed immediately to vote on the main motion before them. If calling the question is not passed, then discussion on the main motion resumes.

5. Motion to Table

Tabling a motion delays a discussion to a later time. A motion to table should only be used to lay the pending question aside when something else of immediate urgency has arisen. It is not proper to use this motion simply to end discussion on a motion. A motion to table:

a. Requires a motion and a second
b. Is not debatable
c. Needs only a simple majority to pass
d. Does not include a minority voice after the vote

If the motion to table passes, the main motion would then be discussed later during the meeting.

6. To Take from the Table

A motion to remove a tabled motion from the table is made at the same meeting. It is neither debatable nor amendable; it can have no subsidiary motion applied, and it takes precedence over any main motion. It requires a simple majority to pass. If passed, the motion is discussed as described above.

7. Postpone to a Definite Time

If a member who has properly obtained the floor believes that a matter being discussed requires more consideration or discussion before a decision can be made, the member may move to "postpone to a definite time" the matter being discussed. This motion requires a second and is debatable. The chair calls for a vote after debate upon the merits of postponing a decision. A simple majority is needed to carry this motion. This motion is frequently confused with a motion to "lay on the table".

8. Eligibility to Vote at an Area Assembly

All GSRs or their alternates (one vote per group); DCMs or their alternates; Area Officers and their Alternates; Area Service Committee Chairs or their alternates; GSA Education, GSR Orientation, Registrar and Web Chair or their alternates, Area 50 Intergroup Liaison and Intergroup Liaisons or their alternates who are in attendance, are eligible to vote.

9. Eligibility to Vote at the Area Committee Meeting

All DCMs or their alternates; Area Officers and their Alternates; Area Service Committee Chairs or their alternates, GSA Education Chair, GSR Orientation Chair, Registrar, Webchair, Area 50 Intergroup Liaison and Inter-Group Liaisons or their alternates who are in attendance, are eligible to vote.

10. Substantial Unanimity

All actions require a motion, second and in most cases substantial unanimity, that is, a 2/3^{rds} vote in favor of the action for adoption.

Because the number of members present in the hall during an assembly varies from time to time, the phrase "2/3^{rds} vote" is taken to mean two-thirds vote of the voting members in the hall at the time the vote is called.

After the establishment or rejection of any matter of policy by a 2/3^{rds} vote, the minority will always be given the opportunity to speak. Then, after a reasonable length of time for discussion, the chairperson will ask if anyone who had voted with the majority wishes to change their vote.

11. Reconsideration

A request to reconsider after the vote must be made by someone who voted in the majority and after hearing minority opinions, wishes to change his or her vote. A motion to reconsider:

a. Requires a second
b. Is not debatable (i.e., no discussion)
c. Only a simple majority is required to pass
d. No action may be reconsidered twice
e. If the motion to reconsider does not pass then the vote on the main motion carries and we move on to the next item of business
f. If the majority votes to reconsider, full discussion, pro and con, is resumed (Discussion is limited to the consideration of the main motion)
g. Does not include a minority voice after the vote

C. Subsidiary Motions

1. Amend

A motion to amend is used to modify, within certain limits, the wording of a main motion. It is not used to substantially change the intent of a motion. It is made by any member of the assembly who has properly obtained the floor. It requires a second and is debatable. After debate on the amendment, the chair will call for a vote on the amendment, after which debate resumes on the main motion. A majority vote is required to amend. A motion to amend must be submitted in writing at the time it is made or prior to being made.

2. Point of Information

A speaker should not be interrupted while speaking, except in certain special situations. Any member attending the assembly can raise a "point of information." This is made when a member desires clarification of details. The member may interrupt the speaker and need not obtain the floor.

3. Point of Order

A "point of order" may be called by any member of the assembly when a breach of rules of the assembly is noticed, such as discussion beginning on a motion that has not received a second, when one is needed. A point of order may also be called if a speaker begins to discuss an issue not before the assembly or begins to make personal comments or attacks upon another member. After a point of order has been raised, the chair calls upon the person to explain the point. The chair then rules if the point "is well taken" or "is not well taken," and will instruct the original speaker to redirect their remarks, or simply allow the speaker to continue.

The parliamentarian or the chair, if the parliamentarian is not present, should call a point of order if it appears that the discussion is moving away from the topic. The chair politely informs the speaker and requests that the speaker's remarks be confined to the question at hand.

D. Summary of Area 50 Procedure

Generally, the Area General Service Assembly and the Area Committee follow Robert's Rules of Order and proceed on an informal basis consistent with the rights of all concerned. The purpose of the Rules of Order is to make it easier for the Assembly to conduct its business and to

carry out the will of the Fellowship in the Area by reaching an informed group conscience, in the spirit of AA Tradition.

1. **When making a motion**

    a. Motions and all discussion should be made at the microphone.
    b. Submit motion in writing to the Area Secretary with any relevant background information prior to the Assembly or ACM in time to be included with the distribution of the Agenda.
    c. If the motion is made at the assembly, submit in writing or by email or chat to the Area Secretary prior to speaking at the microphone.

Motion Made by:	**Notes:**	**Requires a "Second"**	**Is there Discussion?**	**Vote required for Approval**	**Is Minority Voice Heard**
Motion by an Individual	Submitted in writing.	Yes	Yes	2/3	Yes
Motion by a Committee	Automatically Seconded.	No	Yes	2/3	Yes
Amending a Motion	Submitted in writing.	Yes	Yes	2/3	Yes
Tabling a Motion	For discussion later in same Assembly. Made without Comment.	Yes	No	Simple Majority	No
Postponing a Motion	For discussion to a future assembly/committee meeting, either a definite time, or indefinite. Made without Comment.	Yes	No	Simple Majority	No
Recommit to a Committee	Return to committee for additional work. Made without Comment.	Yes	Yes	2/3	No
Calling the Question (time to vote on the motion)	Made without comment.	Yes	No	2/3	No
Reconsider a Vote	May be made ONLY by a member who voted with the prevailing side. No action may be reconsidered twice.	Yes (may be seconded by either side)	No	Simple Majority	No

E. Third Legacy Procedure

Suggested ***Third Legacy Procedure*** format for General Service Area 50 Assembly Elections:

1. Election for the position of Area 50 Delegate is held first, followed in order by Alternate Delegate; Area Chairperson; Alternate Chair; Area Treasurer; Area Secretary, Area Service Committee Chairs, GSA Education Chair, GSR Orientation Chair, Registrar, Webchair and Area 50 Intergroup Liaison.

2. A past delegate serves as chair of the elections. At the outset, the Election Chair reads aloud to the Assembly body a brief description of duties and responsibilities of each position.

3. Using the current Area 50 roster, the Chairperson calls out the names of those who are eligible to stand for election to an Area 50 position. The list includes all Area Officers, Area Service Committee Chairs and their Alternates, DCMs, GSA Education Chair, GSR Orientation Chair, Registrar, Webchair, Area 50 Intergroup Liaison and their Alternates and GSRs. All past Area 50 Area Committee Members are also eligible to stand.

4. Each eligible individual who is present, states each position that he or she intends to stand for election.

5. An individual cannot stand for election to a position in which he or she has previously served a full two-year term.

6. The Delegate cannot stand for election to any Area voting positions after rotation out as Delegate.

7. Names on the roster that are not called out by the Chair of the Assembly include liaisons and contacts from other service entities (GSO, Central Office/Intergroups; etc.).

8. All past members of the Area 50 Area Committee are eligible to stand for elected positions at the Assembly (noting the exceptions in 5 & 6 above).

9. If no current or former member of the Area 50 Area Committee stands for a position, the chair may then ask if there are any other eligible individuals present who wish to stand for the position.

10. The names of those willing to stand are listed on the projection screen or blackboard.

11. Candidates are requested to give a brief verbal summary of their experience in AA service work (sometimes called a service resume) to the body.

12. Voting members of our Area 50 Assembly (refer to the previous section titled Eligibility to Vote) then write their choice of candidate on paper ballots (with varying colors for each ballot) and non-voting assistants collect the ballot.

13. The past delegates count the votes and the result is announced.

14. When seeking candidates for elected positions beyond the boundaries of Area 50 such as Northeast Regional Trustee or other Trustee or Director positions the Chair announces an opening and asks if *anyone* is willing to stand for that position. Note these positions can be announced at any Assembly or ACM and are not part of the Area 50 Third Legacy Procedure.

AA's Third Legacy Procedure is a special type of electoral procedure. It is considered unique to AA and, at first glance, appears to introduce a strong element of chance into a matter that should depend solely on the judgement of the majority. In practice, however, it has been highly successful in eliminating the influence of factions or parties that seem to thrive on most political scenes. The "railroading" of a candidate for election is made difficult, if not impossible, because voters have a wide selection of candidates to choose from. More importantly, a second-place candidate who may be extremely well-qualified but without popular support is encouraged to stay in the balloting rather than withdraw.

Third Legacy Procedure is as follows:

1. The names of eligible candidates are posted on a board. All voting members of the board area cast written ballots, one choice to a ballot. The tally for each candidate is posted on the board.
2. The first candidate to receive two-thirds of the total vote is elected.
3. Withdrawals start after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than one-fifth of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn except that the top two candidates must remain. (In case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
4. After the third ballot, candidates with less than one-third of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
5. After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the smallest total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. At this point, the chairperson asks for a motion, second, and a simple majority of hands on conducting a fifth and final ballot. If this motion is defeated, the choice is made by lot - "going to the hat" - immediately. If the motion carries, a fifth and final ballot is conducted.
6. If after the fifth ballot no election occurs, the chairperson announces that the choice will be made by lot (from the hat). At this point, balloting usually involves only the top two or three candidates.
7. Lots are then drawn and the first one "out of the hat" is elected.

F. The Evolution of a Conference Advisory Action

Any AA member, group, committee, district or area can send a suggestion, idea or concern to the Conference Coordinator at the General Service Office (G.S.O.).

1. The idea is reviewed and forwarded to the appropriate Trustees' committee.
2. The idea may then be forwarded to the appropriate Conference Committee.
3. Conference committees are made up of Area delegates who serve on the same committee for their two-year term.
4. They work closely with the corresponding committee of the General Service Board. For more information about Conference Committees see the AA Service Manual.
5. The Conference Committees meet during the General Service Conference and they make recommendations to the Conference as a whole.
6. If the recommendation is approved after a full floor discussion at the Conference it becomes a Conference Advisory Action.
7. The Conference Advisory Action becomes binding when approved by the General Service Board.

VI. Finance

In the spirit of the 7th Tradition, the General Service Assembly of Western New York Area 50 is funded solely through the contributions of the AA Groups within its boundaries. The Finance Committee acts in an advisory capacity, whose voting members are the Finance Committee Chair, the Area Treasurer, the Area Co-Chair, and three members at large. Each of the elected officers appoints one member at large in January of the odd years. Minutes are kept of meetings and are available to anyone upon request.

Each even year the Finance Committee prepares a biennial budget proposal for presentation at the Scheduling/Budget Assembly in September. A formal presentation by the Finance Committee Chairperson is made at the pre-conference Assembly normally held in April of the even year. It is then brought back to the Districts and groups for discussion and review. The proposed budget is again presented to the Area Committee at the Area Committee meeting following the pre-conference. It is again brought back to the Districts and groups for discussion and review. By vote of the Assembly at the biennial schedule and budget meeting in September, the Budget is approved, rejected, or modified. The Budget then becomes the active operating plan for Area 50 for the next two years.

Each committee is asked to present what they think they will need to spend in the upcoming two years. These normal everyday expenses make up the General operating budget. Occasionally, there may be an item which must be purchased, which may have value beyond the current budget term, or for a workshop, event or other special item requested by a committee or officer. These expenses are considered one-time requests, and after approval from the Finance committee can be expended. For items less than $750.00, the approval of the Finance Committee is sufficient, those actions do not require Assembly approval. However, they must be presented at the next Assembly

together with the reasons why the Finance Committee approved the proposal. For matters greater than $750.00, the request will also need to be approved by the Area assembly. In the instance where a Committee or Officer expects to exceed their approved budget in any given year, a supplemental budget request must be made and approved by the Finance Committee and the Area Committee.

VII. Guiding Principles

1. All officers and committees are endowed with the traditional "right of decision" as well as the responsibility to manage funds in a prudent manner - with reports being made and kept.
2. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority with the scope of such authority well defined. Final authority rests with an informed group conscience.
3. Service is its own reward.
4. The ability to perform service should not be limited by personal funds.
5. Expenses incurred while conducting business at the request of the Area should be fully reimbursed.
6. The choice to be reimbursed should be left to the individual.
7. The intent of the Area is to encourage anyone, who is willing and able to perform service, to do so by removing personal finances as a limiting factor.
8. The Area budget should be set at adequate and reasonable levels to cover expected expenses.
9. The Prudent Reserve is established by the Area Assembly.

VIII. Service Sponsor

A. **Why**: Just as we all needed guidance as we began our journey of recovery, AAs new to *service to AA beyond the home group* also need someone who has "been there," to walk with them as they take this next step into the "magnificent reality" of Alcoholics Anonymous.

B. **Who**: If your "recovery" sponsor has experience in general service 12th Step Work, then he/she may readily fill this additional sponsorship role. However, often that is not the case. Just as with Recovery, AA's First Legacy, first-hand knowledge and experience in AA's Third Legacy, Service, to guide you along this new and unfamiliar path peppered with its own terminology and literature, such as "*The AA Service Manual*," AA Guidelines, as well as the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Many new General Service Representatives (GSRs) will look to an experienced District Committee Member (DCM) or an Area Officer for service sponsorship. A group or district representative to a Conference Committee such as Corrections, Grapevine, etc. may seek out a seasoned committee member. Past Area Delegates often fill this role not only for those beginning service as GSRs, DCMs, etc., but also for current Area Delegates and Area Officers as well.

C: **<u>How Does it Work</u>**: As with recovery, about as well as you want it to! A service sponsor can only be of value if used. For example, new GSRs, overwhelmed with information, frequently step down after a month or two because they did not have someone to turn to (service sponsor) who could ease them through those first questions: Where to begin? How to give a report to the group? How to blend these new responsibilities into an already full life? Frequency of contact with a service sponsor varies greatly not only with individuals but with different service positions. Some may stay in touch 2 to 3 times a month. Others are OK with less. There are no hard and fast rules.

As time goes on and you are attracted into yet another aspect of general service, you may decide to ask someone else to guide you. It is not uncommon, to ask someone else to guide you, particularly if the person sponsoring you does not have that experience. Recovery or Service Sponsors in AA are resources to get and receive information. **Enjoy the journey!**

IX. Sample Assembly Schedule

<u>Odd Year</u>	**<u>Even Year</u>**
January – Kick-Off Assembly and Conference Committees	January – Kick-Off Assembly and Conference Committees
April – Pre-Conference	April – Pre-Conference
June – Post Conference	June – Post Conference
September – Delegate / Officer Elections	September – two-year Budget and Schedule
November – Assembly	November – Assembly

X. Typical Calendar of Events

<u>Odd Year</u>	**<u>Even Year</u>**
February – NERAASA	February – NERAASA
March - NERD*	March - NERD*
April – General Service Conference**	April – General Service Conference**
June – Northeast Regional Forum	July – NYSIW – host Area 48, 50
July – NYSIW – host Area 47, 49	

*Delegate, Alternate Delegate attend
**Delegate attends

XI. Glossary of Terms

12 Steps: A group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole.
"*The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous*,"

12 Traditions: AA's Twelve Traditions apply to the life of the Fellowship itself. They outline the way that AA maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows.

AA: Alcoholics Anonymous.

AAWS: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. one of the two operating corporations of the General Service Board; oversees the operations of the General Service Office for the U.S. and Canada and serves as the publishing company for Conference-approved and service literature.

Ad-hoc Committee: A limited-duration committee serving the General Service Committee of Western New York (Area 50), formed for a specific purpose.

Alternate: A service worker who, at group, district, or area level, assists, supports and participates in service responsibilities, and who is able to assume the position for which they serve as alternate, if the need arises.

Archives: A Committee that preserves the history and documents of Area 50 AA.

Area Assembly: A General Service Area 50 meeting at which all Area Officers, Committee Chairs, District Committee Members (DCMs), and General Service Representatives (GSRs) are expected to participate, and to which any interested individual AA is invited.

Area Committee: The Area Committee conducts Area 50 business in between Area Assemblies. It is responsible for the health of the Conference Structure and for growth and harmony in our Fellowship. The Area Committee is in a middle position between the local Districts and (through the Delegate) the AA General Service Conference. The Area Committee is made up of Officers, Committee Chairs, DCMs, Area Liaison to the Intergroups and the Area Liaisons from the Intergroups.

Area: A geographical division within a state (US) or province (Canada). A Conference Delegate comes from an area. Normally there is one area to a state or province except in heavily populated places, where there may be two, three, or more areas in the state or province. New York State has four Areas: 47, 48, 49 and 50.

At-Large: No geographic confines.

Conference-approved Literature, Videos, and Films:

Pamphlets, books, videos and films produced under the auspices of various Conference and trustees' committees which the appropriate Conference committees have reviewed and recommended to the Conference for its approval, and which have been approved by the Conference.

CF: Correctional Facilities - The message is carried to incarcerated alcoholics.

CPC: Cooperation with the Professional Community. The message is carried to the professional community.

DCMC: District Committee Member Chairperson. The role of the DCMC is to help coordinate activities at the District Level.

DCM: District Committee Member. An experienced GSR, elected by other GSRs, to represent the groups of their district in area committee meetings and to coordinate service activities in the district.

Delegate: The person elected (by the Area Assembly) every other year to represent the area at the annual General Service Conference in New York and to bring back to the area the results of that meeting.

Director (non-trustee):

Members of the corporate board of either AAWS or the Grapevine; directors are selected for business or professional experience that relates to the activities of the corporation. (The directorate of both corporate boards also includes trustees and AA staff.)

District: A division, within an area, represented by committee member(s).

District Committee: Consists of a General Service Representative (GSR) from each Group within a District, the District Committee Members (DCMs), and such other officers as the Districts may elect or appoint.

First Legacy: Recovery, as embodied in the 12 steps.

Forum: A meeting held in a region every two years. It is a presentation by the staff of GSO. The Northeast Regional forum is held every odd year.

General Service Board:

The General Service Board (the Trustees) is the chief service arm of the Conference and is essentially custodial in its character. Excepting for decisions upon matters of policy, finance, or AA Traditions liable to seriously affect AA as a whole, the General Service Board has entire freedom of action in the routine conduct of the policy and business affairs of the AA service corporations.

General Service Conference:

The General Service Conference is the annual meeting of 93 Area Delegates, 21 Trustees, and directors of AA World Service, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc., and members from the GSO and the Grapevine staff.

General Services: Movement-wide services, performed by anyone in the General Service structure (GSR, DCM, delegate, etc.).

Grapevine: The AA Grapevine, the international monthly journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. The AA Grapevine, Inc. is one of the two operating corporations of the General Service Board and is responsible for Grapevine operations and finance.

GSO: The General Service Office, which provides services to groups in the US and Canada and publishes AA literature.

GSR: General Service Representative. The group´s contact with the General Service Office; a voting member of the area assembly.

GvC: Grapevine Committee's purpose is to heighten the awareness at the Area, District, Group, and Individual Member level of the spiritual value of the Grapevine and its specialty items as sobriety tools.

GvR: Grapevine representative: the group or district contact with the Grapevine office.

Handbook Committee:

Selected by the Alternate Chair at the beginning of each new panel to review and update the handbook as necessary.

ICYPAA: International Conference of Young People in AA.

Intergroup/Central Service:

An AA service office that involves partnership among groups in a community - just as AA Groups themselves are partnerships of individuals. It is established to carry out certain functions common to all the groups - functions that are best handled by a local centralized office - and it is usually maintained, supervised, and supported by these groups in their general interest. It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

La Viña: Bimonthly Spanish-language magazine published by the A.A. Grapevine.

Literature: Conference-approved literature and other literature carrying the AA message.

NERAASA: Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. Held each year the last full weekend in February at rotating locations and hosted by the different areas in the Northeast Region.

NERD: Northeast Regional Delegates meeting.

NERF: Northeast Regional Forum where GSO transmits information about its operations to the Region.

NYSIW: New York State Informational Workshop. Hosted by the four Areas of New York State on a rotating basis. Generally held at the end of July each year.

Past Delegate: A Past Delegate serves as Parliamentarian and Timer for assemblies and Area Committee meetings. One past delegate serves as chair of the biennial elections and the others assist in the election by distributing, collecting and counting ballots and reporting the results to the Chair of the Elections.

Panel: Each General Service Conference is identified as a Panel beginning with Panel 1 in 1951. The Area 50 Delegate is elected in September of the odd year and the two-year term runs concurrent with the even numbered Panel.

PIC: The Public Information Committee coordinates PI committees at the district, area, trustee, and Conference level - helps carry the message by working with the media, local businesses, schools, libraries and other organizations.

Prudent Reserve: An amount sufficient to meet Area financial obligations for a period of time determined by the Area Assembly.

Region: A grouping of several areas from which a regional trustee comes to the

board of trustees. There are six regions in the United States and two in Canada.

Second Legacy: Unity, as embodied in the 12 Traditions.

Service Sponsor: Service guide and advisor.

Service Manual: First written in 1951 by Bill W to outline basic service principles and procedures. Contains Bill's essays on the 12 Concepts of World Service.

Sharing Session: A group, district, area, or Conference committee meeting in which everyone is invited to contribute ideas and comments on AA matters, and during which no actions are taken.

Sponsor: Recovery guide and advisor.

Standing Committee: A continuing committee serving Western New York General Service Area 50, other than a Conference Committee. The Standing Committees are (a) Finance, (b) GSA Education and (c) GSR Education and Orientation.

Third Legacy: AAs Third Legacy is Service, the total of all AA services, from a Twelfth Step call to coast-to-coast and worldwide service activities. The first two Legacies are Recovery and Unity.

Third Legacy Procedure:

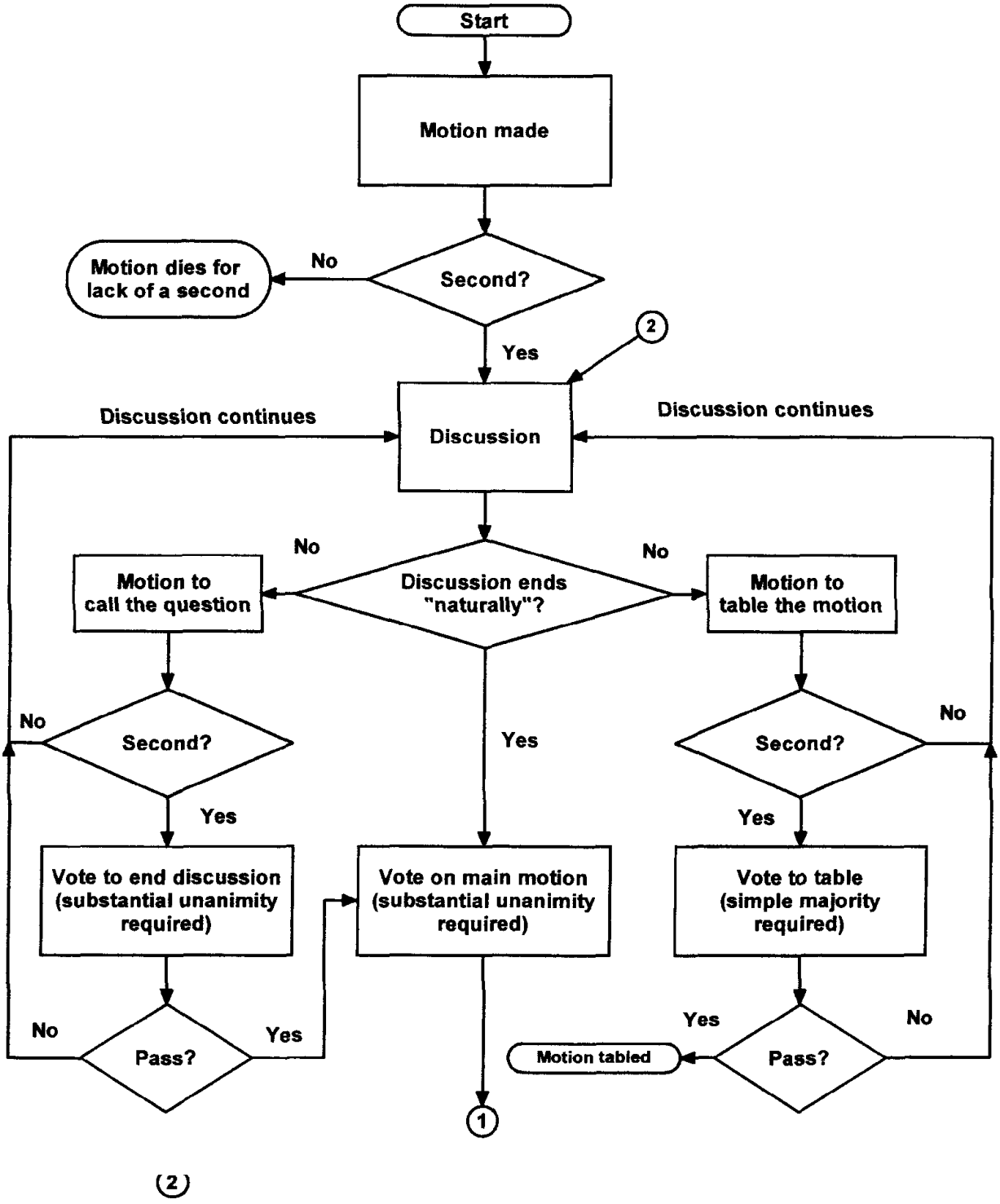
AA's Third Legacy Procedure is a special type of electoral procedure, used by Area 50 to elect the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Officers and Committee Chairs.

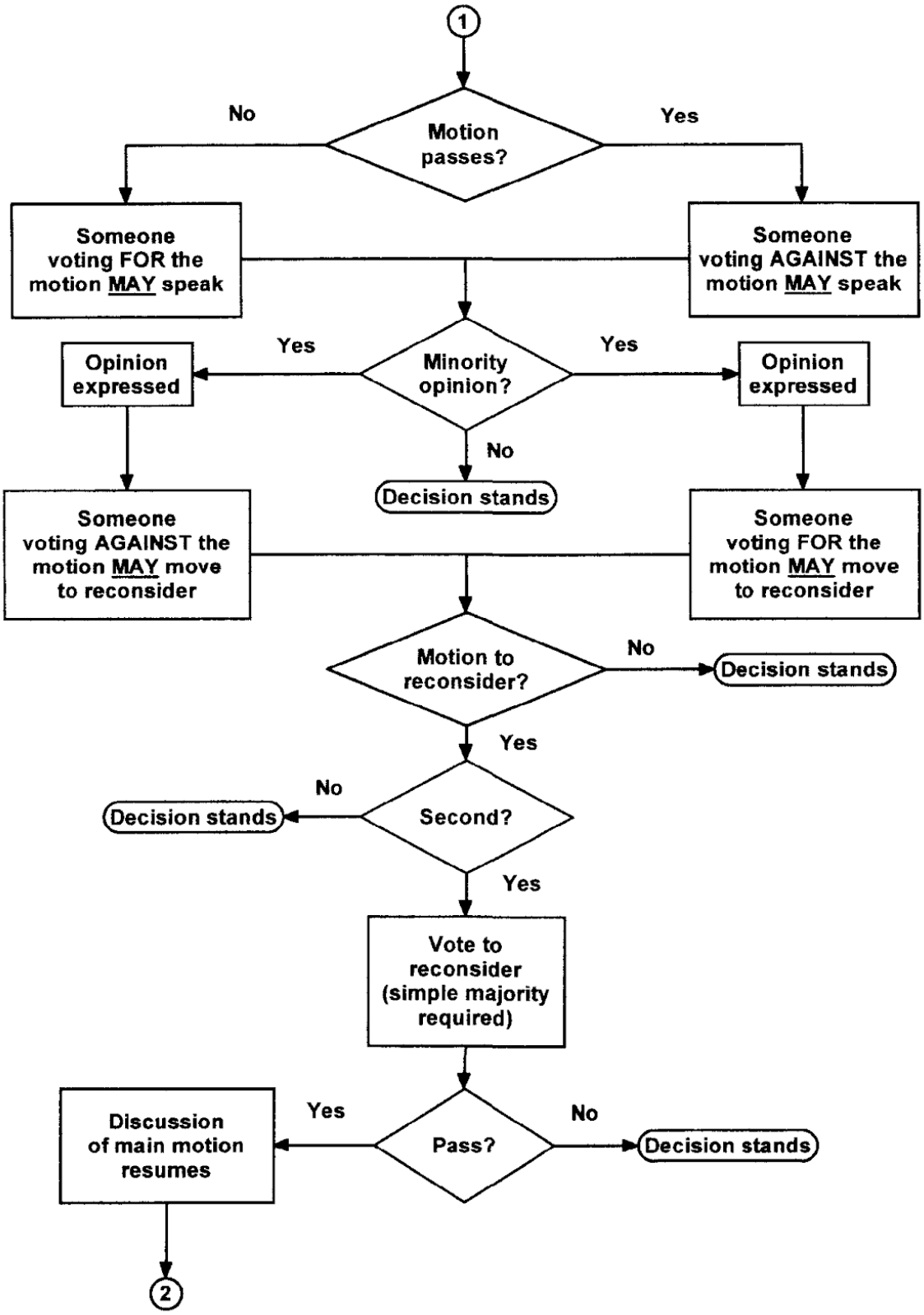
TF: Treatment Facilities carries the message to alcoholics in Treatment facilities.

Trustee: Members of the General Service Board - 21 in total. 7 Class A, Nonalcoholic Trustees; 14 Class B, Alcoholic Trustees. Of the 14 Alcoholic Trustees, 8 are Regional, 4 are General Service, and 2 are Trustees At-Large (US and Canada).

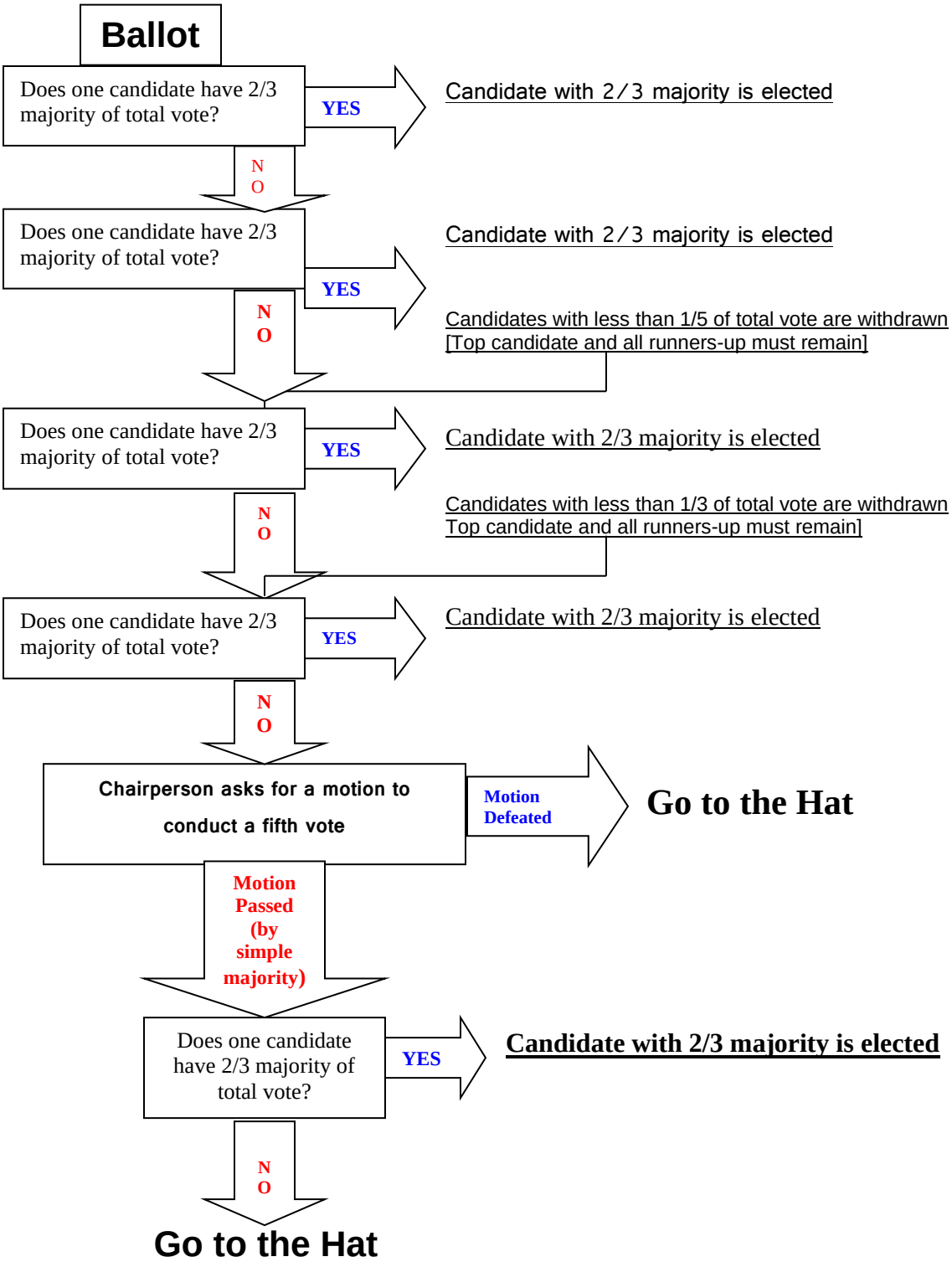
Twelve Concepts: The Twelve Concepts for World Service reveal the evolution by which it has arrived at its present form and they detail the experience and reasoning on which our operation stands today.

Appendix – Flow chart of a motion.


Start
Motion made
Second?
No
Motion dies for lack of a second
Yes
2
Discussion continues
Discussion
Discussion continues
Discussion ends "naturally"?
No
Motion to call the question
No
Motion to table the motion
Second?
No
Yes
Second?
No
Yes
Yes
Vote to end discussion (substantial unanimity required)
Vote on main motion (substantial unanimity required)
Vote to table (simple majority required)
Pass?
No
Yes
Yes
Pass?
No
Motion tabled
1
2

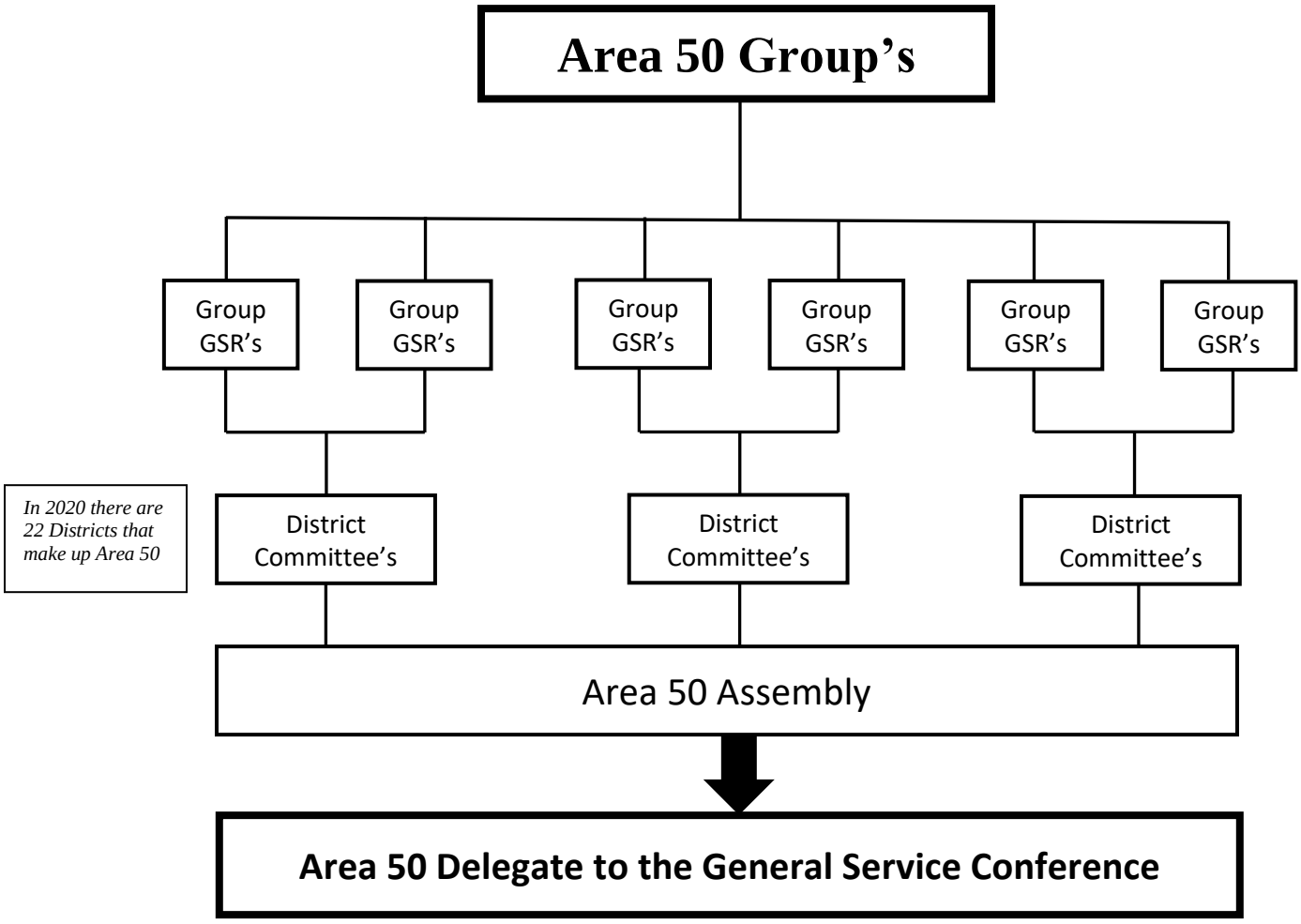

1
Motion passes?
No
Yes
Someone voting FOR the motion MAY speak
Someone voting AGAINST the motion MAY speak
Minority opinion?
Yes
Yes
Opinion expressed
Opinion expressed
No
Decision stands
Someone voting AGAINST the motion MAY move to reconsider
Someone voting FOR the motion MAY move to reconsider
Motion to reconsider?
No
Decision stands
Yes
Second?
No
Decision stands
Yes
Vote to reconsider (simple majority required)
Pass?
Yes
No
Decision stands
Discussion of main motion resumes
2

B. A diagram of the Third Legacy Procedure



C. The AA Group

How the A.A. group fits into the structure of the fellowship.



D. List of Past Area 50 Delegates

Name	Panel	Years
Cecil B.	01	1951 - 52
Joseph C.	02	1952 – 53
Arthur B.	04	1954 – 55
James M.	06	1956 – 57
David K.	08	1958 – 59
Harry McG.	10	1960 – 61
Maynard A.	12	1962 – 63
George S.	14	1964 – 65
Johnny H.	16	1966 – 67
Bud S.	18	1968 – 69
James C.	20	1970 – 71
Ralph Z.	22	1972 - 73
James McC	24	1974 – 75
James McCul	26	1976 – 77
Al W.	28	1978 – 79
Joanne McC.	30	1980 – 81
George L.	32	1982 – 83
Elizabeth G.	34	1984 – 85
William H.	36	1986 – 87
Leo G.	38	1988 – 89
Elvester McR.	40	1990 – 91
Terry W.	42	1992 – 93
Shawn D'L.	44	1994 – 95
Jack B.	46	1996 – 97
Marcia W.	48	1998 – 99
Mike B.	50	2000 – 01
Janet N. K.	52	2002 – 03
Walt C.	54	2004 – 05
Bruce A.	56	2006 – 07
Cheryl A.	58	2008 – 09
John C.	60	2010 – 10
Mike D.	60	2011 – 11
Mike D.	62	2012 – 13
Frank M.	64	2014 – 15
Wally E.	66	2016 – 17
Chuck B	68	2018 - 19

Therefore, we believe that we see in our fellowship a spiritualized society characterized by enough enlightenment, responsibility and love of God and humanity, to ensure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions if we have the courage "to carry the message" and the wisdom to hear.

Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; To keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, And the lives of those to come.

Responsibility Statement

When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there and for that I am responsible.