

JUNE 2025 CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
June 3, 2025

WELCOME AND OPEN: Meeting opened by Paul B at 7 pm with the Serenity Prayer

TWELVE TRADITIONS: The Twelve Traditions were read by Sharon N

ROLL CALL: 29 in attendance. 26 voting members, 3 observers (V= voting, NV non-voting).

7TH TRADITION

- Please email Central Service meeting 7th tradition contribution and group contributions to: treasurer.aahalifax@gmail.com
- Please put a note along with your transfer as to what the donation is for and which group you represent.
- Contributions can also be mailed to: Central Service, RPO Gladstone, PO Box 31338, Halifax, NS B3K 5Z1

ATTENDANCE

-
- Alec M, Webmaster, Voting
- Andie F, Public Information, Voting
- Bernie, DCM District 2, Voting
- Billy P, Fresh Start, Voting
- Chris A, Serenity Sisters, Voting
- Chris, Phones, Voting
- Claire T, CPC, Voting
- Emily S, Newsletter, Voting
- Garth, Sunrise, Voting
- Heather L, Co-Chair and Temporary Treatment Chair, Voting
- Isaac, Rainbow of Recovery, Voting
- Jarrad S, Secretary, Voting
- Joel B, Hospital and Visitation, Voting
- Joey, Downtown Dartmouth Alternate CSR, Voting
- Julia, West End Step Group, Voting
- Louis, Back to Basics, Voting
- Mary, Circle of Sisters, Voting
- Melissa E, Literature, Voting
- Natalie C, Entertainment, Voting
- Nathaniel, Acceptance, Voting
- Paul B, Chair, Non-voting
- Reign M, Lion's Den, Voting
- Sharon, Help Email, Voting
- Shawn, Cole Harbour, Voting
- Steve H, Acceptance Alternate CSR, Non-voting
- Trudy D, Treasurer, Voting
- Velma, Four Seasons, Voting

CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

- Return to in-person meetings.
- Emily S: request to withdraw talent show agenda item.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by made by Joel. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion to approve the May 2025 minutes. No errors or omissions brought forward. Motion to approve made by Heather, seconded by Shawn. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

CHAIR: Paul B

Good evening members of District 1 and 2,

Here are some of the highlights of Central Service Chair

- 1- I have received a message from a member on how they are very happy of the way the newsletter has transformed
Great job newsletter committee
- 2- Met with heather to discuss the agenda.
- 3- I sent an email to Nathaniel regarding the CS inventory
- 4- I am reaching out for the next meeting to get a member of the Area to attend our CS meeting stay tune
- 5- Heather will be taken over as chair for the May Meeting to gain experience, Thank you Heather

Respectfully submitted,
Paul B
Chair of CS

CO-CHAIR: Heather L

Hi all:

Most of my time in the last month has been in Treatment. But as co-chair I did meet with the executive on Sunday June 1 to discuss the agenda for this evening. As well I will be starting to organize the annual Service Fair that will be held in September.

All subcommittee chairs, co-chairs and all executive members are expected to attend. The purpose of the fair is to invite AA members in to see what Central Service does through all 12 subcommittees and to entice those members to get involved. Typically each subcommittee sets up a table with a display and pamphlets, etc that help explain what the subcommittee does for AA. Please reach out to the former chair of your committee for their experience at last year's fair. They may even have a display you can use again this year.

This is all about trying to break down barriers between service work and AA members in the fellowship.

From our guidelines:

Service work is an opportunity for members to apply their talents, learn the nature of service work and the time involved, learn more about the A.A. Way using the Traditions and Concepts, and discover the fun and fulfillment of participation in Committee work and the many ways A.A. can carry the message to the suffering alcoholic.

I will find a location and a date in Sept very soon. I'll post announcements in the July-Sept newsletters and on the web site and I'll encourage you all to announce at all meetings you attend.

Yours in service,
Heather

TREASURER: Trudy D

See attached Treasurers Reports

The screenshot shows the CUA online banking interface. The user is logged in as Trudy Alfors. The page displays account balances for various categories:

Category	Account Name	Account ID	Current balance	Available balance
Chequing	Operating Account	72171106	\$13,873.33	\$13,873.33
	Literature Committee	72171116	\$2,451.35	\$2,451.35
Savings	Insurance Reserve	72171206	\$4,002.11	\$4,002.11
	Prudent Reserve	72171246	\$3,094.48	\$3,094.48

SECRETARY: Jarrad S

Good evening,

There is little to report on the secretarial front this month. The contact list is up-to-date. I will be soon going to Credit Union to get signing authority for the bank account.

I just wanted to thank the executive members for helping me settle into the role and find efficiencies in developing meeting materials and sending out communications.

Thanks,
Jarrad

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NEWSLETTER: Emily S

Hello all,

The Bluenose Bulletin continues to be an enjoyable labour of love. This month Lindsay took the bulk of the work, especially on the birthday calendar, as I was out of town for the last ten days of May, and she did a terrific job. We got a few last minute birthday changes after June 1st, and our webmaster kindly reposted the new version today - please make note of this if your group printed off a newsletter before today. There are some brand new meetings and also a number of exciting events coming up in the next few months, so please refer to our events page and flyers for details, and we'll see you there. For upcoming announcements and birthdays in July, please send them to us by June 25 and we will get them into the newsletter for you.

thanks again,

Emily S

CORRECTIONS: Melanie M

NO REPORT

CPC: Claire T

CPC COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 2, 2025

Attending:

Claire Mary
Adam Henry

Opened meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Business:

- 1) Henry has now finished the CPC Contact List. Wonderful job Henry, thank you.
The list was created from the previous CPC committee binder.
It will now be sent out to the committee to begin contact.
Some discussion took place on how to make contact.

2) July meeting will have to be rescheduled. Next meeting will be Monday August 11 at 6:00pm.

Meeting closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

ENTERTAINMENT: Natalie C

Good evening friends,

I am excited to be your new Entertainment Chair and the past month has been busy indeed.

Firstly, a meeting with Emily and Julia on May 15th was very productive.

Regarding the AA Talent Show scheduled for November 22nd, there will be an admission charge, 50/50 draw as well as a 7th tradition. There will be full accountability for any funds supplied by Entertainment in the December Central Service report.

On June 22nd our first event is Rainbow Bingo scheduled at the St Andrew's Community Centre on Bayers Rd. The flyer is in this month's Bluenose Bulletin. The planned prizes will be AA Literature and I want to thank both Melissa and Val from the Literature Committee for their help providing information to me.

On July 5th there is a Pencil Charades at Club 24. The flyer is in this month's Bluenose Bulletin as well. This will be a fun filled evening and we encourage groups to send teams to compete for the 1st Annual Pencil Charades Award.

Camping is booked for August 8 & 9th at Dollar Lake Provincial Park.

Halloween dance booked for October 25th at St George's Round Church.

New Years Eve celebration is booked at Woodlawn United Church for December 31st. Looking into a BBQ in September.

Looking into a BBQ in September.

I look forward to working with both Districts to increase the number of events held and hope for support from the fellowship as a whole.

Yours in service
Natalie C

HELP EMAIL: Sharon N

Hello Everyone:

Twenty emails arrived in May. Of the 20 arrivals 10 were asking for information on meetings (times/places) here in HRM as well as in other districts; 2 asked for help in getting started in AA; two were asking for help for family members; one was a scam followed up with an email from the real Paul B; 2 were from Google stating a new sign-in with my new Windows 11, 2 from the Secretary and Treasurer. Spam requests come monthly and as they arrive they are deleted.

I appreciate the opportunity to give back.

In love and service,
Sharon N

HOSPITAL VISITS: Joel B

Visited with Richard S in Dartmouth General.

INSURANCE LIAISON: Patsy W

This month I gave a hard copy of the insurance policy to the Archives Chair. I sent a virtual copy to another group. This coming month I will be working on our updated Central Service contact list.

Thank you,
Patsy W.

LITERATURE: Melissa E

(See Appendix 1 – Literature Report)

May was a slow month at the bookstore. We took in **\$411.00 in book sales (\$161.00 in Cash; \$96.00 with Square; \$154.00 from a transfer from the Treatment account)**. I still do not have access to the Literature Bank account yet. I plan to go to the bank on Monday, June 9th to get myself put onto the account and deposit the cash from April and May sales.

The **opening balance in the account \$2220.80**. After all sales and expenses, the **closing balance in the account is \$2629.15**.

As an additional note, a few weeks ago, we had someone asking for a French Language Big Book and 12 & 12. We got some in our last order and have 9 copies left of each for sale (at the same price as the English copies).

Yours in Service – Melissa E.

Question from Claire : Central Service decided against Grapevine books and can the decision not to stock those be reviewed?

Melissa: Several years ago there was an order placed for those books. A lot of books were ordered and they sat on the shelves for some time. Happy to order them if Central Service approved the order.

MID WINTER ROUNDUP: Bernie S

For the midwinter roundup committee. there are only 3 positions left to be filled. Secretary, Co-Treasurer and Co-Chair of the Hospitality subcommittee. Chris V from Downtown Dartmouth Group was nominated and elected as Treasurer. The chair has assumed secretarial duties until we acquire a secretary. Also, Jane P, from St Margarets Bay AFG is now the Halifax Al-anon representative.

A date was selected and voted on as February 27, February 28, and March 1. Theme of the roundup is yet to be determined. That is all for the Midwinter Roundup report.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: Andie F

NO REPORT

TELEPHONES: Chris for Paul M

- My contact name in the binders has been updated.
- The list for 12 step volunteers has been updated. We now have several names on that list. Thank you to Riegn for the updates and improving the list.
- I Am now answering the overnight phone. I have a phone that has to be activated and will get together with Chair Paul B. to have that done.
- Webmaster Alec has put my name on the phone chair email.
- Bridging the gap information has been inserted in all binders. Thank you Heather.
- We had a problem with a caller from Quebec. He was calling daily and being disruptive. Foster had the number blocked. Thanks.
- Still need more people to answer the phones. Please announce at your groups for volunteers.

Thanks,
Paul M.
Phone Chair

TREATMENT: Heather L

The meeting binders in all 4 facilities have been reviewed and updated. I have kept a copy of all 4 “meeting scripts” in a master binder plus notes about each facility. This master binder will be passed along to the new treatment chair when elected. I have also delivered pamphlets to and have admin contact information for all 4 facilities.

The binders at Detox, PSR and Marguerite Centre now have a section near the end of the meeting script that directs attendees’ attention to the available pamphlets and to the Bridging the Gap program. I have made up a temporary flyer that says to call the AA phone number or send an email to Treatment to be connected with a BTG temporary contact. I’m waiting for GSO to ship me the official BTG flyer which is currently on backorder.

The phone committee helped me get a page into the phone binders that covers what to do if a call is received regarding BTG. I have let the AA help email chair know about BTG just in case someone reaches out that way.

The last piece of this puzzle is to recruit AA members to be temporary contacts for BTG. So here is my request to all CSRs tonight. Please consider volunteering yourself this evening. Let me know in the chat your phone# and I can call

you to explain the very simple commitment you'd be making. Please take this appeal back to your groups and encourage your group members to volunteer. They can contact me at the Treatment email or call or text me at 902-476-7690.

Bridging the Gap won't work without AA members to help!

I would also like to ask CSRs to review at your group's next business meeting if your group is on 1 or more of the 3 treatment facility rotations: Detox (each Sunday 7:30pm), PSR (every 2nd Wednesday 6pm) and Forensics (every second Friday 7:30). If your group can help in any or all of these meetings, please email the Treatment chair.

Finally, we still need a Treatment chair. So again, bring this back to your groups.

Yours in service,
Heather
Temporary Treatment Chair

WEBMASTER: Alec M

There is no major Webmaster news for May 2025.

- Added posts and fliers for upcoming events
- Added minutes from service meetings
- Supported transfer of service email addresses

As always, thanks to all for their valuable time and contributions to the website this month!

Yours in Service,
Alec

Steve: when looking at service positions, there wasn't much detail on the website. Can there be a section on the CSR position?

Alec: Central Service guidelines encompass the best description of the roles of CSRs. Alec shared the link in the meeting chat.

District 1 DCM: Samaira G

General Update:

District 1 remains active and committed to service. Most groups are reporting steady attendance, with several newcomers regularly attending meetings. A mix of in-person and hybrid formats continues, with no major disruptions reported.

District Meeting:

Our monthly District meeting was held on May 28th with good group representation. Ongoing discussions include group participation, upcoming events, and service opportunities. Attendance and engagement remain strong.

Events:

attended the first Nova Scotia Service weekend in Truro after years being on zoom. We had 69 in attendance. Wonderful to have fellowship after years.

Financials:

Group contributions are steady, and the District remains financially stable. A motion to update our prudent reserve policy will be discussed at the next meeting.

Concerns:

Several groups have expressed concern over declining numbers at business meetings and are looking for ways to increase service engagement among members.

Closing:

District 1 continues to function well, with strong support from GSRs and active committees. We remain grateful for the support of Central Service and our fellow districts.

In service,

Samaira G.

District Committee Member (DCM)

District 1 – Halifax

District 2 DCM: Bernie S

For the District 2 Report, there was an Active Committee on May 26. The meeting was not well-attended but the NS Archivist gave a good report on how she is hoping to compile taped interviews of longtimers in Nova Scotia to learn how AA was back when they entered the program and so forth. This would be members with 25 plus years of sobriety. District 3 also gave a report of billboards they have set up at various locations with their local AA Helpline phone number.

The NS Service weekend was last weekend May 30, and May 31. I was not able to attend, however the Alternate DCM did attend. She hasn't given me a report yet, she will present that at the district meeting in June.

There was a Midwinter Roundup Committee meeting on June 1. The details of that are in the midwinter roundup report.

We are all set to host the Provincial Roundup at St James Hall on Portland Street June 6 and June 7.

District 2 will host a workshop on June 8 on Tradition Three, using questions from the Traditions Checklist.

Sunrise Group in district 2 will have sobriety birthdays of over 200 years total this month.

Currently, District 2 is without a Treasurer. We're still working on that.

In service
Bernie S
DCM District 2 Area 82

Newsletter says Sunday the 9th, the correct date is Sunday, June 8 at 2 pm.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion to approve by Joel. Seconded by Reign. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Talent show dropped from agenda

Vacant Positions

- Insurance Co-chair: No nominations.
- Treatment Chair: No nominations.

PLEASE GO BACK TO YOUR GROUPS TO LET MEMBERS KNOW WE ARE SEEKING INDIVIDUALS TO FILL POSITIONS

Central Service Group Inventory Process - Nathaniel B

- Nathaniel sent out an email with 25 questions in it and asked people to review it before we got going here.
- Send out tally of survey questions to contact list.
- Paul asked Nathaniel how he wants to proceed.
- Nathaniel said they are going to form an ad hoc committee to sit down and discuss which questions should be included. The group is going to discuss whether 15 questions is too many or if they want to shorten the list. Plan to meet before the next Central Service meeting.
- Committee is currently 5 people and going to meet at Club 24 on a Sunday afternoon in a few weeks' time. Contact Nathaniel at 403-618-5566 to participate.
- Nathaniel motion to have an ad hoc committee to address the survey questions and design. Seconded by multiple members. Vote 19 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.
- Heather feels the ad hoc committee should discuss the number of questions and which should be included.
- Alec also comfortable with the number of questions to be determined by the ad hoc committee.
- Claire feels the questions themselves don't matter as much as the process of questioning.
- Report at the next Central Service meeting from the ad hoc committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Returning to in-person meetings

- Downtown Dartmouth group wants to move the Central Service meetings back to in-person once every quarter.
- Natalie noted the convenience of Zoom meetings, but wants to meet at a place where guests could attend. Some members are shy and don't want to ask questions in front of people they don't know. Service is suffering because of the impersonal nature of online meetings.

- Alec wanted to clarify we are moving the Central Service meeting to in-person. No particular concerns about the effectiveness of the online meetings. Would support the quarterly in-person meetings.
- Jarrad noted the group may want to consider a hybrid meeting place so folks who can't travel or participate in-person won't be excluded.
- Sharon mentioned that it is difficult for her and some members to get to the meeting given challenges in transportation and health issues.
- Claire noted that hybrid meetings are held across AA and members can be brought in.
- Velma is against in-person meetings too often due to driving and driving at night. Prefers Zoom.
- Louis favors going into in-person meetings all the time and volunteered to pick members up who need a ride.
- Trudy cannot drive later and would not be able to attend in-person meetings. Reminded everyone that Zoom is paid for until January 1, 2026.
- Isaac noted the challenges with setting up hybrid meetings.
- Mary likely would not attend in-person meetings as she does not drive and her partner does not drive at night.
- Bernie values the group conscience and is comfortable with both meeting formats.
- Jarrad noted the group should have a solid tech setup if going to in-person to ensure equal participation for members attending virtually.
- Garth mentioned "if it's not broke, don't fix it". Doesn't want to move to in-person.
- Reign motioned to bring the matter of in-person or hybrid meetings back to groups. Seconded by Joey. No objections.

Next meeting

- Motion to hold next Central Service meeting July 8 by Emily S. Seconded by Joel. 22 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Christmas Social

- Starting early to see which group wants to do the Christmas Social this year.
- Christmas Social is held on the 24th and is a 4-hour commitment. Usually from 12-4. There is a budget of \$700, so the group does not pay to host it. If the hosting group is a small group and can't get the church, another location can be sought.

Separate Committee for Events

- Back to Basics is wondering whether a separate committee will be formed to address non-traditional events and whether those events will be funded.
- Natalie is happy to take suggestions on whether events should be part of the entertainment budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Julia: June 26th, WESG has two birthdays. Joel B celebrating 2 years, Donnie B celebrating 13 years, Dave T celebrating 16 years.
- Sharon: Highland Park the last Friday of June at 7:30 pm, Jim M will celebrate 41 years, Bud will celebrate 2 years, Warren (2 years) and Sharon (15 years) celebrating July 1 at the noon Tuesday meeting.
- Claire: Celebrating 4 years this month at Downtown Dartmouth along with Amy A with 5 and Janet B celebrating 4. June 30th.
- Emily S: July 5th at Club 24 there will be Pencil Charades, starts at 7 pm.
- Heather: NS Provincial Roundup this Friday at 530 pm, Saturday doors open at 8 am.
- Garth: Sunrise group celebrating birthdays on the 24th.
- Nathaniel: this Saturday Jeremy J celebrating 12 years at Acceptance at 10 am.
- Chris A: Serenity Sisters celebrating Peggy P and Joe K on the 24th.

Next Central Service meeting will take place July 8, 2025 at 7 pm on Zoom

Meeting ended with Responsibility Pledge.

Motion to adjourn by Reign, seconded by Shawn.

Appendix 1 - Literature Report

Literature Committee Report		
Revenue		
	Amount	Notes
Cash	\$ 161.00	Book Sales
Square (Debit or Credit)	\$ 96.00	Book Sales
E-Transfer	\$ 154.00	Book Sales x from Treatment
Total	\$ 411.00	
Expenses		

	Amount	Note
Bank/Square Charge	\$ 2.65	\$1.50 (Bank); \$1.15 (Square)
Club 24 (Rent)	n/a	Paid until July 2025
Inventory Cost	n/a	New order received and reported on in April 2025
Total	\$ 2.65	

	Main Literature	Support Literature	Additional Titles	Pamphlets	Additional Materials	Total Units
Inventory Sold	13	0	1	305	0	319
Current Inventory Count	466	126	55	4527	2647	7821
Retail Sales of Units Sold	\$ 230.00	\$ -	\$ 18.00	\$ 163.00	\$ -	\$ 411.00
Opening Bank Balance	\$ 2,220.80					
Closing Bank Balance	\$ 2,629.15					

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Yours in Service – Melissa E.

