November 2020

The Happy, Joyous and Free Area 48 Newsletter

Principles of the Month

Step 11:

"Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood him*, praying for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out."

Tradition 11: (long form)

"Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us."

Concept XI:

"While the trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.'s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs and consultants. Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern ."

11th Tradition Checklist

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

Alcoholics Anonymous®
www.aa.org

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

October 2, 2020

Dear friends and trusted servants,

I am writing to inform you that the General Service Board has authorized a drawdown of $1.5 million from the Reserve Fund by A.A. World Services, Inc. to cover cash flow requirements in the 4th quarter of 2020.

Note: This will put the Reserve Fund balance at approximately $13.1 million, which reflects a level of approximately 7.8 months of office operating expenses. (The Reserve Fund calculation is based on recent actual operating expenses.)

Evaluating the finances and cash flow, even with the continued increase in Seventh Tradition contributions, we still expect a decrease in income from last year of more than $2 million, which creates this immediate cash flow pressure.

Previously, in May, A.A.W.S. drew down $3 million to address the sudden emergency situation related to the severe drop in revenue we saw in March and April. Also, over the summer we refunded nearly $4 million for 2020 International Convention registrations.

Note: We received $972,000 as an advance against our International Convention insurance claim to recover lost income, and we expect the balance of the claim to be paid out very soon.

Since May—through September—the groups have responded with breathtaking generosity in their Seventh Tradition contributions, which have ensured continuation of services to the Fellowship. For six months (March through August), our publishing revenue was well below budgeted levels, but September saw a positive uptick in literature sales. Not a trend yet, but very encouraging. We have cut expenses in as many key areas as possible, without affecting quality of literature production or delivery of services.

The office presented a reforecast 2020 budget to the Board in August, and we are constantly updating and reporting financial results to the trusted servants with fiduciary responsibility for the operating corporation. We have begun work on the 2021 operating budget, with three quarters of 2020 actual results now available.

And, at the direction of the Board, we wanted to share this latest information with you.

Sincerely yours, in service to A.A.,

G. Gregory Tobin
General Manager

HMB Area 48 Virtual Inventory Day

Sunday, November 15, 2020

9:30 am–2:30 pm (eastern)

Hosted by Adirondack Cluster

AGENDA

9:30 am – 10:00 am: Meet & Greet

10:00am – 10:15am: General Announcements, presentation and approval of Secretary & Treasurer Reports

10:15am – 11:15am: Meet our facilitator: Ken T, Alt Delegate Area 45 Southern NJ will share his story with us.

11:15am – 11:45am: Lunch Break

11:45am – 12:45pm: Break out rooms to discuss inventory questions

12:45pm – 1:45pm: Report backs from Inventories

1:45pm – 2:30pm: General Feedback and Discussion

Virtual Platform: ZOOM

Meeting ID: 821 2119 4548

Passcode: Inventory

Please DO NOT POST information publicly

Login using an appropriate and recognizable Area/District/Group name and service position

AREA 48 INVENTORY QUESTIONS 2020

Purpose: To examine how well the Area fulfills its Primary Purpose. This is an Inventory, no actions will be taken at this time. After this exercise is complete, the Area shall decide what actions to take if any.

Definition of the Area, and it's function:

The Area holds an important Middle Position in the Conference structure. Through the election of a Delegate, it participates in AA Worldwide, while through DCM's and GSR's it communicates with AA Groups. The Area holds regularly scheduled Assemblies to discuss and vote on finances, committee activity, and bi-annually electing the Area Delegate. It also holds service workshops, sharing sessions, and it also discusses General Service Conference business.

Inventory questions:

1. Considering Concept I, "the final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship", (the A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority ...), do the groups in Area 48 have everything they need to carry out this responsibility, do they have an informed group conscience? If not, how could Area 48 support and provide what they need?

2. Does the current agenda, format and scheduling of the Area 48 Assembly effectively address communication and the business to be conducted? If not, how can Area 48 more effectively communicate and conduct our spiritual business?

3. How are the steps, traditions and concepts guiding our decisions and actions when we conduct business at assemblies?

4. Is Area 48 attracting Trusted Servants from different backgrounds? Are we seeing a good cross-section of our community, including Young People, Minorities, LGBTQ members, and others?

5. How is Area 48 using voluntary contributions to provide services to the groups in our Area, is it meeting thinned for our Primary Purpose? Do our members understand where their contributions are being used and why? How can we better inform them?

6. If you could change one thing in Area 48, what would it be? Same question for all of A.A.

U.S. Eastern/Canada Regional Forum

Sat., December 5th— 11 am to 8 pm EST

(Virtually, of course.)

Registration for the US/Canada Forum on December 5, 2020 is open!

It can be can be accessed at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eastern-uscanada-virtual-forum-registration-123522094911

The one-day event will feature participation from the Northeast, Southeast, East Central and Eastern Canada Regions. As with traditional Regional Forums, the day will include workshops, presentations, Q&A's, General Sharing, and much, much more! The maximum attendance is currently **3,000**. So, by registering early, our GSO can readily determine whether additional "band-with" may be needed to accommodate all attendees.

Here are a few tidbits from our Northeast Regional Trustee:

- There will be a segment, in some fashion, targeting Intergroups and Central Offices.
- AAWS and AAGV have plans to provide some sort of literature, book, subscription **e-table** .
- As with all Forums, if you register or pre-register, there will be an anonymized **Final e-Report** after the Forum

Also: Similar to a traditional Regional Forum, wherein the Regional Trustee "hosts" the Forum, the four Regional Trustees will host the day long program. There are plans to provide each Region with its own "**hospitality room**." The hospitality rooms will be open during breaks."

"2020: Experience, Strength & Hope"

"What it was like, what happened, and what it is like now."

This one-day event will feature participation from the Northeast, Southeast, East Central and Eastern Canada Regions. As with traditional Regional Forums, the day will include workshops, presentations, Q&A's, General Sharing, and much, much more!

Regional Forums originated in 1975 at the suggestion of Dr. Jack Norris, then Chair of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. They were to be weekend sharing and informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, and the General Service Office Staff stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants and newcomers to service throughout the A.A.

service structure.

Area 48 2021 Schedule of Events*

*Subject to Change—Contact: althmbchair@aahmbny.org

Date	Event	Host
January 17, 2021	Area 48 Orientation Day	Eastern Cluster (D18)
February 26-28, 2021	NERAASA	Area 60 Pittsburgh, Pa
March 13 or 14, 2021	Area 48 Fellowship Day	Western Cluster (D12)
April 10 or 11, 2021	Area 48 Delegates Day of Sharing	Hudson Valley Cluster (D7)
April 2021	General Service Conference (For Delegates only)	Virtual Conference
May 15 or 16, 2021	Area 48 Area Assembly	Adirondack Cluster (D19)
June 12 or 13, 2021	Area 48 Joy of Service Day	Central Cluster (D8)
July 29-31, 2021	NYS Informational Workshop	Area 48
September 11 or 12, 2021	Election Assembly?	Eastern Cluster (D1)
October 16 or 17, 2021	Area 48 Area Assembly	Western Cluster (D9)
November 5-7, 2021	Area 48 Convention	Adirondack Cluster
November 20 or 21, 2021	Area 48 Fellowship Day	Hudson Valley Cluster (D3)

NERD is a closed event for Delegates and Past Delegates only. We keep it on the schedule as a place holder to explain why the March event is either held on the 1st or 3rd weekend rather than the traditional 2nd weekend.

Area 48 Clusters	
Adirondack Cluster	Districts 5, 10, 13, & 19
Central Cluster	Districts 4, 8, & 14
Eastern Cluster	Districts 1, 2, & 18
Hudson Valley Cluster	Districts 3, 7, 11, 15, 16, 17
Western Cluster	Districts 9 & 12

Area 48 Chair Report

I continue to be amazed at the enthusiasm from our Service Chairs as they work to carry the message in new and creative ways. Their tireless work is needed now more than ever. I believe this has changed AA forever in many ways, some we already see and some changes that will unfold in the future I'm sure. An excellent question posed last night at an informal chat session with other Area Chairs: *"What has happened to The Fellowship of AA and where do we go from here?"* Pre-COVID we had the meeting before the meeting, the meeting after the meeting, the meeting in the car on the way to an event, the meeting in the car on the way home from the event, the meeting at the coffee shop after the after meeting, and the eating meeting – just to name a few. We had that welcoming handshake we extended to both the newcomer and the old-timer as they approached the meeting door. What have we done to replace all that? Virtual meetings have been a life-saver for many but do they really add the personal touch? Do we join the meeting early to chat? Do we stay after to network? Are we picking up that 1000 lb. phone and having one-on-one conversations? What are we doing to build and strengthen that personal bond so many of us crave? This was never so clear to me as it was this past Saturday when I met a fellow member to drop off some material. We met in the parking lot of a fast-food chain. We stood about 10 feet apart, in the beautiful, warm November sun (yea, I know, an oxymoron there) and we talked about our personal lives, about world affairs, and about where this all might be taking AA. I was never so glad and so grateful to have another just like me right there, in person, in front of me. And yet, I couldn't help but feel some longing and some disappointment in my heart. I wanted nothing more than to hug this man, to feel that warm AA embrace we've all come to know and love. And yet I couldn't. Safety takes precedence. I don't have any answers to this, but perhaps it's something for us all to think about as we continue to trudge this road of uncertainty for who knows how much longer.

We've had some great events recently and what a fabulous job the committee did with our first ever Virtual Convention. Don't forget to fill out the **Event Survey** – responses help in the planning of future events. So now 2020 nears the end, with only one more Area 48 event, our bi-annual **Inventory Day**, set to be led by Ken T, Alternate Delegate from Area 45, Southern New Jersey. The **agenda** for the day is now available on the website and as soon as he sends me the questions he has formulated, I will pass that information along as well. The date has been selected for our **January Orientation Day** and preliminary planning has begun. Is there anything you would like to see? Any questions you would like addressed? Your suggestions are welcome, please send them my way and stay tuned as more will be revealed.

I have one district left to visit (District 3, scheduled for Tuesday, Nov 10) and then my rounds will be completed – just in time to start all over again in 2021. I have enjoyed all the visits and love hearing how service continues to be carried out. The common concern seems to center around raising awareness of the importance of service and finding ways to increase participation. If you are not involved in service outside your home group, please prayerfully consider contributing your time and efforts. Currently, the Area 48 **Literature** Service team chair is vacant, as well as several alternate chair positions. There is also ample opportunity to serve at district.

(continued)

Area Chair Report—Page 2

Several **Ad Hoc Committees** continue to work in the background. If I am remembered for nothing else during my 2-year term as your Area Chair, I think I will be remembered as the "Ad Hoc Committee Chair". I just love the information and recommendations that come out of dedicated service members working together for the greater good of Area 48.

- The **Annual Audit** is tentatively scheduled for this month (finally).
- The **HMB Name Change** will be looking into the logistics and expense surrounding this endeavor and will perhaps have a recommendation at our May Assembly. Thank you, Thea, for offering your experience and expertise with the non-profit and tax implications.
- The **Hybrid Meeting** Committee presented a wonderful document for suggestions as groups and districts begin to migrate towards this new platform. They are continuing to research the viability of the Area moving in that direction as well once we're back to in person meetings. I look forward to their findings and recommendations for this in the coming months.
- The proposal for a **Virtual District** did not pass at the Fall Assembly, but the idea is certainly not dead in the water. There is much interest in pursuing this. Gretchen is heading up this ad hoc committee.
- **Online Contributions** is still being researched, Adam and Kate have been working relentlessly on this. Kate is now heading up a small ad hoc committee that will address the Alpha & Beta testing of this. More will be revealed.

Weekly virtual chat sessions with Area Chairs from the US & Canada, bi-weekly meetings with the NE Regional Alternate Delegates and monthly meetings with both the NERDS and the Alternate Delegates across the US & Canada keep me busy and connected. I find all of them to be of great interest and a plethora of information.

I continue to update the file, **Across the Nation & Around the World** that lists workshops and meetings of interest worldwide. I find it sometimes difficult to keep up with all the flyers and announcements that I come across but I do my best to get what I think are the most interesting listed. If you hear of an event that might be of interest to others, please forward it on to me and I will post it. In addition, I am still working on the **Service Tool Kit** app (previously referred to as the GSR Tool Kit). It is my hope that I can migrate the workshops and meetings of interest into that app so that members will be able to have everything accessible in one place, at their fingertips. At last count, there were 200 users already and I'm still inputting data!

Our informal **Area Check-In Conference** is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. These are unofficial rap sessions where we find out what's happening in all corners of the area and share experiences of what is working and what isn't.

Meeting ID: 349 408 103 **Password: A48CheckIn**

Please join us.

In love & service,

Tammie E, Area 48, Panel 70, Area Chair/Alternate Delegate

Alternate Chair Report

Happy fall all—hope this Newsletter finds you well.

First I would again like thank the Convention Committee for another first for our Area, it was a great virtual event. I also would like thank all who attended.

Looking forward to our Inventory Day this month on the 15th.

If you're not aware, the 2021 Area Events Schedule is now available to view on the website and in this Newsletter. Happy holidays all!

Guy K. Area 48 Alternate Chair althmbchair@aahmbny.org

Bridging the Gap Report (BTG)

All of a sudden Bridging the Gap is becoming an integral part of useful service throughout the Area. There is something like an efficient network of service members in the Districts as well as volunteers answering requests everywhere. In addition institutions such as New Choices Recovery Center and Adirondack Correctional Facility have contacted us about information regarding BTG. The treatment desk has also let everyone know that a workbook is being compiled by the General Service Office. Somebody is carrying the message since inquiries are coming in from all over the place by newcomers in confinement, as well as staff while it is probably because of (GSR's) General Service Representatives. Currently, the shutdown does not seem to be restricting things so much anymore. Somehow prospects are being introduced to the program where they can eventually begin to help others themselves. In other words things are growing in treatment and corrections centers because of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is important to keep making residents or populations along with any workers aware of the effectiveness from Bridging the Gap.

Matt VB—Area 48 BTG Chair BTG@aahmbny.org

Treasurer's October 2020 Report

Due to time constraints, the Treasurer's Reports for October are not available in the Newsletter this month, but will be available on our website soon: aahmbny.org

Alternate Treasurer/Finance Committee Report

Greetings all! Wow, there was a lot of finance business on the table at the October Assembly! I will give a brief update here for those who were not able to attend.
2021 Budget Approved – Thank you, members, for hanging in there at the October Assembly while this lengthy document was presented and questions from the floor were addressed. The budget was approved as proposed, with a correction for a small formula error (sorry about that!) and minor changes to provide more explanation for a few line items. Subsequent to the approval of the budget, the Assembly also approved Proposal #6 to cancel the printing of the 2021 Meeting Schedules, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. So, the final budget, which appears in this Newsletter, now excludes those 2021 printing expenses.

2021 Meeting Schedules Cancelled and New Pamphlet –Proposal #6 was approved at the October Assembly, so we are not printing the 2021 Meeting Schedules this year. Instead, the Area will be printing and distributing 10,000 one-page tri-fold pamphlets to help us continue to carry the message around the Area. This proposal appeared in the October 2020 newsletter, so you can read more about it there. A big shout out and thank you to the ad-hoc committee – those members who volunteered their precious time to quickly develop the proposal and design the pamphlet! The presses are rolling… the website is being updated… and more announcements will be coming soon!

Moving forward - Certainly, the pandemic has changed the face of Alcoholics Anonymous! We are all working hard to continue carrying the message – sometimes in new and creative ways! The Finance Committee stands ready to assist Area 48 committees with carrying out the critical work of reaching the still suffering alcoholic – wherever they are!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you need additional or special funding – we are here to help.

Love and Service,
Kate O, Alternate Treasurer, alttreasurer@aahmbny.org
Finance Committee -Kate O., Chair, and Louise R., Adam S., Howard W., Bill W.

Area 48 2021 Final Budget

Amounts allocated are the maximum allowable expenditures for each category. Actual expenditures must be reported in writing and documented with receipts. Reports are due by April 15th, July 15th, October 15th and December 15th. The Finance Committee must review all reports past due before any payments are made. Allocated monies are disbursed when requested, and only when an accounting of the previous allocation has been made. Eligible expenses include mileage at $0.35 per mile, tolls, postage, supplies, telephone, printing, copies and other. Receipts and mileage details are required.

The funded amount for various events is based on hotel costs, registration costs, and mileage to the year's event and estimated costs to the 2021 event. It is hoped that this method will help bring the budget closer to the actual expenses and give all those who want to serve the HMB Area an equal opportunity. Allocations are for the specific event only and cannot be utilized for another event. There will be no reimbursement for hotel costs if the participant lives within a 25 mile radius of the event. This will not apply if special accommodations are required. **As always, those funded are asked to share expenses whenever possible.**

(A) Expenses:	Position Total	Expense Allocation	NERAA 8A-Pittsburgh PA (See Note d)	NERF-Framingham MA (See Note d)	NY 8W-HMB	HMB CONV 2021 Oneonta
Area Officer Allocations:						
Area Delegate	$ 5,000	$ 5,000	Event costs are included in allocation			
Area Chairperson	$ 4,000	$ 4,000	Event costs are included in allocation			
Alternate Area Chairperson	$ 1,400	$ 600	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Secretary	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Treasurer	$ 2,100	$ 1,300	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Registrar/Alt. Secretary	$ 1,500	$ 700	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Alternate Treasurer	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Alternate Registrar	$ 600	$ 300	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ -
Committee Chair Allocations:						
Accessibilities (ACC) Committee Chair	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Archivist	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Bridging-the-Gap (BTG) Committee Chair	$ 1,300	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Cooperation w/Professional Comm. (CPC) Committee Chair	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Corrections Committee Chair	$ 1,300	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Grapevine Chair	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Literature Chair	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Newsletter Editor	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Public Information (PI) Committee Chair	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Technology Committee Chair	$ 1,200	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Treatment Committee Chair	$ 1,300	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ 500
Other Position Allocations:						
Finance Committee Past DCM	$ 400	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Finance Committee Past Delegate	$ 400	$ 400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
HMB Convention Chair (mileage for attendance at area mtgs)	$ 300	$ 300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Travel expenses to Area Events (see Note c)	$ 750	$ 750	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sub-Totals (A)	**$ 32,360**	**$ 18,250**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 6,100**	**$ 8,000**

(B) Other Expenses:		
GSO Conference Contribution	$ 3,000	Contribution is $1800 plus extra contribution of $1200
Area Events:		
Area Inventory Day (even years)	$ -	Allocations to clusters for Area functions will be $750. Amount allocated should be sufficient to cover event costs– if clusters need assistance staying within budget, they should contact the Alternate Area Chair and/or seek guidance from experienced members. The reimbursement of expenses exceeding the allocated amount will be considered by the Finance Committee if requested. Any 7th Tradition contributions collected in excess of the expenses shall be returned to the Area. There are two Area Assemblies in even-numbered years (May and October). There are three Area Assemblies in odd-number years including the Area Election Assembly held in September.
Day of Sharing/Delegates Day	$ 750	
Area Assemblies (2, 3 on odd years)	$ 2,250	
Fellowship Days (2)	$ 1,500	
Joy of Service Day	$ 750	
Orientation Day	$ 750	
Newsletter Postage	$ 1,600	
Newsletter Printing	$ 2,100	
Archive Storage Fees	$ 1,100	
Literature:		
Service Literature for Area Officers	$ 1,000	
Literature for Prison Libraries	$ 3,500	Additional funding for Corrections Committee to carry the message during Covid-19 shutdown
HMB Service Manual Updates	$ 600	
HMB Meeting Schedules for (6) Committee Chairs (250 ea)	$ -	Printing of 2021 schedules cancelled due to COVID, per proposal #6 approved at October 2020 Assembly. Committees normally receiving HMB Meeting Schedules are PI, CPC, TF, BTG, CFC and ACC.
Bridging the Gap Workbooks	$ 225	Estimated for 10 workbooks per year
Seed Money:		
HMB Convention 2021(Seed Money)	$ 2,000	2021 HMB Convention Host Committee
NYS Information Workshop (Seed Money)	$ 2,000	

Area 48 2021 Final Budget

1800 Additional HMB Meeting Schedule Books(Seed Money)	$	-	Printing of 2021 schedules cancelled due to COVID, per proposal approved at October 2020 Assembly. Normally, $900.00 is allocated as seed money for additional HMB meeting schedules to fulfill orders received after approved deadline; schedules are to be distributed as needed by the Alternate Area Treasurer. HMB Area will pay cost of shipping and recover the cost of the schedules if all books are sold.
Other Event Allocations:			
5th Tradition Workshops (2)	$	500	For two workshops
Area funded Service Workshops	$	2,500	
NAATW Conference for Web/Technology Chair	$	1,200	
Administrative Expenses:			
Mail Box Service	$	500	
Insurance Costs	$	650	
Computer Maintenance	$	400	
Computer Purchase	$	1,500	Budgeted amount is contingency for replacement of 1 PC. Area computers maintained for Registrar/Alt Registrar, Treasurer/Alt Treasurer, Secretary.
Airtable Software	$	1,440	Database used by Area and District Registrars for managing group updates.
JotForm Software	$	200	Data collection software (Convention registration, expense submission, group/meeting updates)
Winhost	$	130	Communications between AirTable and Wordpress
Siteground (Website hosting, Wordpress)	$	-	Budget is $0 for 2021 (2 years was paid in Jan 2020, next payment due Jan 2022)
Malware detection & Domain ID Protection	$	100	
Tax Preparation	$	1,000	
Prior Year Expenses	$	500	
Sub-Total (B)	**$**	**33,745**	

Total Expenses (A+B):	**$**	**88,095**

Income:

HMB 2020 Convention (Seed Money Returned)	$	2,000	
Extra HMB Meeting Books (Seed Money Returned)	$	-	Printing of 2021 schedules cancelled due to COVID, per proposal #6 approved at October 2020 Assembly.
NYS Informational Workshop (Seed Money Returned)	$	1,000	
Projected Group Contributions	$	38,095	
Estimated Checkbook Carryover on 1/1/21	$	25,000	
Total Income Needed:	**$**	**88,095**	

Misc Information:

Prudent Reserve	$	7,000
Mileage Rate	$	0.35

Notes:

a. Additional items may be funded at the discretion of the HMB Finance Committee.

b. 50% Contribution to GSO of any Surplus Funds over $20,000 upon year end numbers (Approved Oct 2019 Assembly)

c. Reimbursement for travel expenses to Area Events for AA members asked by the Area Chair or Delegate to take on a role at an Area event, but who are not eligible for reimbursement through other AA means. (Approved at May 2020 Assembly).

d. NERABSA and NERF will be hosted on-line in 2021 due to Covid-19.

Cooperation with the Professional Community—(CPC) Report

Hi All, I hope this report find you all well.

The end of Sept 2020 led the CPC committee virtually to Eastern Pennsylvania, East Bay California, Wisconsin and Texas. The last event had members of the Clergy also in attendance. The one constant in all of these presentations is how important it is to get the right information to all of the professionals. Whether presenting to professionals or having them at our meetings, 'Pass the Message not the mess' is used a lot. Paying attention to the 5th Tradition and our primary purpose that an Open meeting is not to just be a free for all but that anyone can enter for a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous to hear the message, in a general way. We don't always know when a professional is attending our meetings. I find it interesting how innocent the questions were from those that don't know us, these questions came from an event including some non-A.A.er's, 'What is a sponsor?' and 'Do you graduate from a sponsor?' 'How do you force someone into recovery?' 'Do you have to go to Treatment or can you go directly to A.A.?'

Right now the CPC committee is working on sending information out to large blocks of professionals. Revamping guide letters to the professionals from the workbook.

Area Treatment and CPC have been working together to create and send out invitations to Treatment Centers for virtual meetings. This has been an ongoing project that has come to fruition.

We do enjoy our monthly conference call and would hope more committee members could attend. **Anyone can join us on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30pm on the virtual platform ID: 995 4523 7744 Password: 080625 or phone-in:1-(929)205-6099**

In Service,

Sally K., Area 48 CPC Committee Chair cpc@aahmbny.org

Public Information Report

- The Public Information (PI) Committee reached out to join the ' (Cooperation with the Professional Community) CPC North America Google Group', in an attempt to be more involved in the efforts to carry A.A.'s message on a national level. It's a very active group, and offers access to PI and CPC workshops all over the continent;
- After attending our 70th Annual Area 48 Convention over the Oct 30 - 31 weekend, particularly the panel on Updating the Black and African-American pamphlet, we're committed to encouraging and supporting District PI and CPC/PI Chairs to focus on keeping A.A. relevant in under-represented communities and on reaching out to the "still sick and suffering alcoholics in under-represented communities" -- people of color; immigrants; etc. -- and "making the doors of A.A., wider". We are, seriously, missing the mark when it comes to attracting diversity to our Fellowship; and, we challenge other Area Committee Chairs to join us:
- Let's continue the conversation begun at our Convention!
- C'mon YPAA -- we really need your energy and enthusiasm!

Why not join us at our next CPC/PI Monthly Conference Call? Because both Thanksgiving night and Christmas Eve are 4th Thursdays, **our next call (and last of 2020) will be Thursday, December 3rd, at 7:30pm.** Please mark your calendars; we hope to see you there. All are welcome!

Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020 at 7:30pm

Zoom ID: 995 4523 7744 Password: 080625

Phone in # 1-929-205-6099

And, finally, we'll leave you with this: There is so much we can do to carry A.A.'s message, so much committee work that can be accomplished -- even during these difficult COVID-19 days. "We challenge you to step out of your comfort zone; very little grows there."

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia N. - The PI Committee may be reached at pi@aahmbny.org

Grapevine Report

Lots of good stuff going on in the world of the Grapevine/LaVina.

I hope you were able to attend the monthly Virtual Grapevine Story Hour on Tuesday Nov 10th. Tracy R, the District 7 Grapevine Chair was our guest storyteller. A great video demonstrating the various techniques used by group Grapevine Reps, ranging from not so great to a rep who is committed to Grapevine and to service to the group was shown. I wonder where your group rep fell on the continuum. The next Story Hour will be Dec. 8th at 7PM. Which of you will be our guest storyteller? Let me know if you are willing.

FREE SHIPPING is available on many Grapevine products. This is a real opportunity for you to pick up some holiday gifts for your groups, for your sponsees, for your sponsors….and yes- even for yourselves. Check out the list on aagrapevine.org. This is a limited time offer- now thru Dec 31. Don't procrastinate!

There is a Grapevine LIVE component on the HMB website. It changes every month and is designed to keep you up-to-date on what is in the monthly issue of Grapevine. This month focuses on the Traditions and Gratitude. Please look at what's happening each month. There is usually a cool Grapevine YouTube video included on the post. Have you ever looked at the Grapevine YouTube channel? Try it out this month and let me and your fellow AAs what you thought.

There are a number of interesting Grapevine workshops from all over the US being offered virtually this month. I will be attending as many as I can. I would encourage all District Grapevine Chairs to attend with me. Contact me if you would like the sign in info.

Have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving.

In service,

Dolores K–Area 48 Grapevine Chair grapevine@aahmbny.org

GRAPEVINE

Editorial Calendar 2021

	[redacted]
JUNE	Dating & Relationships **(stories due Dec. 15, 2020)** Share your experiences learning to date in sobriety. How did it go? What were your challenges? Any tips? Share what you've learned about having sober relationships. How have you changed?
JULY	Prison Issue **(stories due Jan. 15, 2021)** Stories by members about how AA brings hope into prisons and jails. Stories by prisoners and by those who bring AA meetings to them. Involved in correspondence service or prison sponsorship? We would love to hear your stories.
AUGUST	Sober Seniors **(stories due Feb 15, 2021)** What are some challenges you have getting older in AA? Are you in assisted living? How do you get to AA meetings? How do you stay connected to the Fellowship? Did you get sober later in life? Do you do service reaching out to senior members? Share your experiences.
SEPTEMBER	Young & Sober **(stories due March 15, 2021)** Did you come into AA at an early age? What was that like? We're looking for stories by people who got sober in their teens, 20s and 30s. Do you go to Young People's AA meetings and Conferences? How have they helped you? Share your experience!
OCTOBER	Cooperation With Professionals (CPC) **(stories due April 15, 2021)** Have you participated in CPC service (providing doctors, therapists, clergy, lawyers, parole officers and other professionals information about AA)? Share your experiences. Did a professional help you find your way to AA because of CPC service work?
NOVEMBER	Classic Grapevine Our favorite stories from the AA Grapevine Story Archive.
DECEMBER	Remote Communities Experiences (& Staying Sober through the Holidays!) **(stories due June 15, 2021)** Do you live far from AA meetings? Are you a loner? Stationed far away? Do you have a language or cultural barrier? Are you homebound? Is it difficult to find AA meetings where you live? Tell us how you stay sober. Are you involved in Remote Community service? Share your experiences. Also, December is a great time of year to reach out to alcoholics and help others. What are the ways you stay sane and grateful during the holidays and New Year's? How do you navigate holiday parties and family gatherings? Share your best sober holiday stories!

Treatment Report

News & Notes:

We meet on the 1st Tuesdays at 6:00 PM on Zoom. All are invited to attend. The Zoom Meeting ID is: 790 9853 2636 Password: A48TFC
If you are interested in carrying the A.A. message into facilities, on Zoom, please join us.

October Report:

At our most recent meeting we had representation from District 7, 11, 5, 11 and 16. Anyone who wishes to join us is invited.
We discussed carrying the message into facilities, remotely, and face to face. District 5 folks have participated in a remote Speaker's Jam at Conifer Park. Although not an A.A. event, A.A. members have participated. They are interested in Bridging the Gap. In District 16 there is a weekly Remote Treatment meeting, which the Area will take over on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays. District 1 will take the first commitment on October 21st.
Literature is an important tool while we are not able to carry the message face to face and remotely online. There are some fantastic books and literature packets available from AAWS, and the Grapevine. If you want to donate them to some facilities, please let me know if you would like some help finding out how to follow through with that.

Upcoming Events:

I will be attending the October Assembly. I also intend to attend our Area Assembly. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Kevin H-B - Area 48 Treatment Chair—treatment@aahmbny.org

Archives Report

There have been no presentations to share about though I am willing and able once restrictions are lifted and we are safer.

I did hear from a member of Area 70 who is researching their origins. They have asked for our help. I am working with Jennifer D. to find a time we can get together to look through our records to shed some light on their formation.

Don S., Area 48 archivist archives@aahmbny.org

box 459

News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.®

www.aa.org

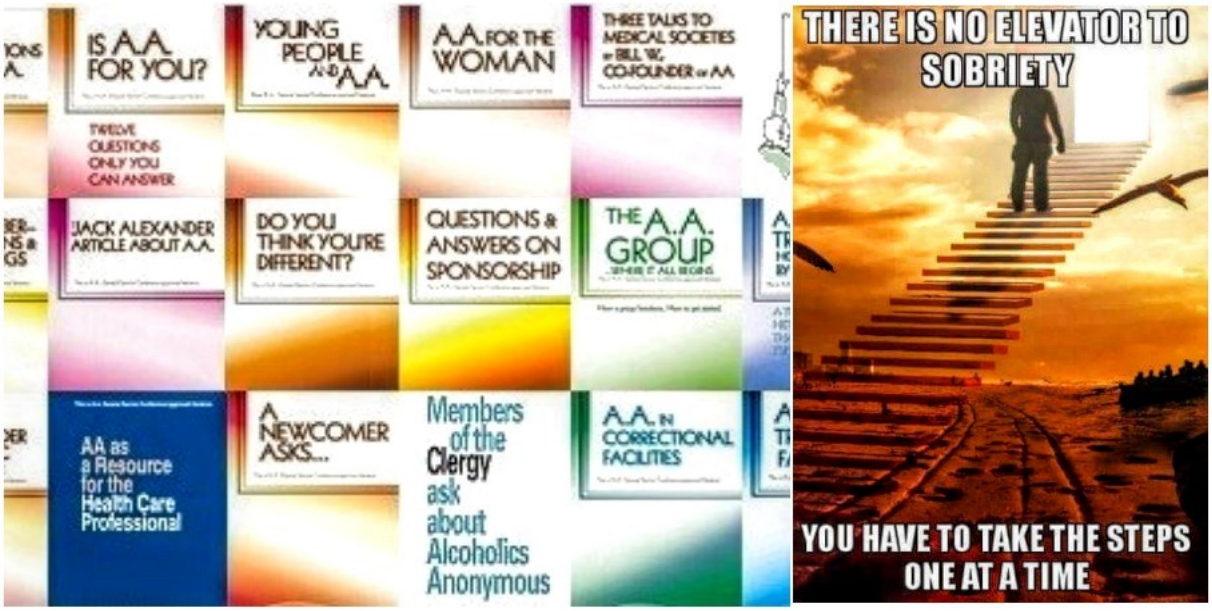
ONLINE SUPPLEMENT

October 2020

To read the latest in box 459—click the link below:

https://www.aa.org/newsletters/en_US/en_box459_supplementissue20.pdf

"Early Sobriety" Group



NEW ONLINE ZOOM GROUP

Saturdays @ 9:30am EST

Please join us and help the Newcomer

Zoom Meeting ID: 823 5985 8994

Password: New2AA

How can we properly "Carry the Message"

unless we know what the AA message is?

The focus of this group each and every week will be to study and understand Pamphlets & other Conference-Approved Literature.

This is an "Open Meeting" for those just entering into recovery, fresh out of treatment or those returning to the rooms of AA. This meeting will also benefit those doing CPC/PI service work or those new to Sponsorship.

Family members wanting to learn about recovery are welcome.

AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

VIRTUAL MONTHLY GRAPEVINE READING & DISCUSSION

Tuesdays

(second Tues. of each month)

7:00-8:00pm

(eastern)

Get in your PJs, your fluffy slippers, and cozy blanket, have your popcorn ready, and enjoy a bedtime story!

ZOOM ID: 834 1851 2300

PASSCODE: Grapevine

Please do not post to general public

Contact: grapevine@aahmbny.org

NHAA Area 43 ROUNDUP

Saturday, November 14, 2020

With Participation from Al-Anon

TUNE UP YOUR TOOLKIT!

Sober Strategies for the Holidays

SCHEDULE

Virtual Event on ZOOM 8:45 AM—4:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting #1 ID: 379 390 0727	ZOOM Meeting #2 ID: 810 6938 7529
Passcode: recovery	Passcode: recovery
Dial-In #: 1-929-205-6099	Dial-In # 1-646-558-8656
Dial-In Passcode: 73851293	Dial-In Passcode: 79958965

8:45 AM	Virtual Doors Open	
9:00 AM	Avoiding Resentments	Finding Your Inner Adult
10:00 AM	Overcoming Isolation	My First Sober Holiday
11:00 AM	Family Dynamics (Al-Anon)	Family Dynamics (AA)
12—12:30 PM	Special Entertainment	Special Entertainment
12:30 PM	The Virtual Hand of AA	Relationships in Sobriety
1:30 PM	A Program of Action	Tune Up Your Spiritual Toolkit
2:30 PM	Special Guest Al-Anon Speaker	Special Guest AA Speaker Holly D., Jacksonville, FL
3:30—4 PM	Zoom room Closed (Please join Zoom #2 —>)	7th Tradition, Sobriety Countdown and Raffle

ENTER TO WIN A RAFFLE BASKET full of recovery items valued at **$100** including two tickets to the Annual Convention in North Conway, NH, April 9-11, 2021! *TO ENTER, send an email with your name and phone number to functions@nhaa.net!* You must be in the Zoom Room to WIN the raffle.

AREA 49 Grapevine/La Vina Committee Presents

The GRAPEVINE & AA'S THREE LEGACIES OF RECOVERY, UNITY, & SERVICE

A three panel discussion: Just how our AA GRAPEVINE fits into our Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, & Service. The Panels will be followed by an interactive discussion.

When: Sunday December 6th 2020
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM NEW YORK TIME!
On ZOOM:
ID: 467-421-2768
Pass: 304861

GET EXCITED FOR SERVICE!

Please join us for a day of learning, fellowship, & sharing at the Area 48

2021 ORIENTATION DAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17| 9:30AM EST

If you are:

- new to service *(welcome!)*
- interested in learning more about service
- a service veteran with experience to share

you are welcome & encouraged to attend!

Zoom ID: 821 5776 6703 | Password: A48Orient

Visit www.aahmbny.org for more info!

NERAASA 2021

February 26, 27 & 28, 2021

Join the many who will make history at the first virtual

North East Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

♦Round Tables♦Panels♦

♦Northeast Regional Trustee Presentation♦Delegates Highlights ♦

♦Fun & Fellowship♦

NERAASA 2021 will offer participation in English, Spanish, A.S.L. & C.C.

$21.00

2021 NERAASA weekend!

February 26, 27 & 28, 2021

SAVE THE DATES!

All A.A. members are both welcome and encouraged to attend!

neraasa21outreach@gmail.com

New Publication Coming!!

The 2020 International Convention souvenir book.

A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous: An Archival Journey,

is scheduled for publication early next year. (Feb. 2021)