Why We Were Chosen

God in His wisdom selected this group of men and women to be purveyors of His goodness. In selecting them through whom to bring about this phenomenon He went not to the proud, the mighty, the famous or the brilliant. He went instead to the humble, to the sick, to the unfortunate. He went right to the drunkard, the so-called weakling of the world. Well might He have said the following words to us:

"Unto your weak and feeble hands I have entrusted a power beyond estimate. To you has been given that which has been denied the most learned of your fellows. Not to scientists or statesmen, not to wives or mothers, not even to my priests or ministers have I given this gift of healing other alcoholics which I entrust to you."

"It must be used unselfishly; it carries with it grave responsibility. No day can be too long; no demands upon your time can be too urgent; no case can be too pitiful; no task too hard; no effort too great. It must be used with tolerance for I have restricted its application to no race, no creed, and no denomination. Personal criticism you must expect; lack of appreciation will be common; ridicule will be your lot; your motives will be misjudged. You must be prepared for adversity, for what men call adversity is the ladder you must use to ascend the rungs toward spiritual perfection, and remember, in the exercise of this power I shall not exact from you beyond your capabilities."

"You are not selected because of exceptional talents, and be careful always, if success attends your efforts not to ascribe to personal superiority that to which you can lay claim only by virtue of my gift. If I had wanted learned men to accomplish this mission, this power would have been entrusted to the physician and scientist.

If I had wanted eloquent men, there would have been many anxious for the assignment, for talk is the easiest used of all talents with which I have endowed mankind. If I had wanted scholarly men, the world is filled with better qualified men than you who would be available.

You were selected because you have been the outcasts of the world and your long experience as drunkards has made or should make you humbly alert to the cries of distress that come from the lonely hearts of alcoholics everywhere."

"Keep ever in mind the admission you made on the day of your profession in AA -- namely that you are powerless and that it was only with your willingness to turn your life and will unto my keeping that relief came to you."

-- Anonymous
## THE EMOTIONAL SLUMP

### SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS YOU MAY BE IN AN EMOTIONAL / SPIRITUAL SLUMP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign/Symptom</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhaustion</td>
<td>Allowing oneself to become overly tired; usually associated with work addiction as an excuse for not facing personal frustrations.</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dishonesty</td>
<td>Begins with a pattern of little lies; escalated to self-delusion and making excuses for not doing what's called for.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Impatience</td>
<td>- I want it now. Others aren't doing what I think they should or living the way I know is right.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>All unreasonable, unaccountable despair should be exposed and discussed, not repressed: what is the &quot;exact nature&quot; of those feelings?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Becoming angry or argumentative</td>
<td>No point is small not to be debated to the point of anger. Flying the handle for no particular reason resulting in foul behavior.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-pity</td>
<td>Feeling victimized, put-upon, used unappreciated: convinced we are being singled out for bad luck. The belief you have suffered more than is fair or reasonable.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Faith</td>
<td>Questioning if there is no Higher Power or that God has abandoned you or is not answering your prayers. No longer seeing the value or significance of our daily program, meetings or talking with a sponsor.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complacency</td>
<td>- No longer sees value of daily program, meetings, contact with other alcoholics (even your sponsor), feels healthy, on top of the world, things are going well.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Forgetting gratitude</td>
<td>Losing sight of the abundant blessings in our everyday lives. Forgetting the last drink and what it was like.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;It can't happen to me.&quot;</td>
<td>Feeling immune; forgetting what we know about the disease of alcoholism and its progressive nature.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resentment</td>
<td>Becoming resentful over insignificant events or occurrences causing injury or insult.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taking control</td>
<td>Letting the ego take over your thoughts, words and deeds so only you will manage your life.</td>
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</tbody>
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### SUGGESTIONS TO ARIEVE AN EMOTIONAL / SPIRITUAL SLUMP

(hint, it's in the Big Book)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggestion</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The A.A. plan is describe by the members themselves as 'self-insurance'.</td>
<td>This self-insurance has resulted in the restoration of physical, mental and spiritual health and self-respect to hundreds of men and women who would be hopelessly down and out without its unique but effective therapy.</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to watch for selfishness, dishonesty, resentment, and fear.</td>
<td>When these crop up, we ask God at once to remove them.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We had to find a power by which we could live, and it had to be a Power greater than ourselves. Obviously. But where and how were we to find this Power? Well, that's exactly what this book is about.</td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is easy to let up on the spiritual program of action and rest on our laurels. We are headed for trouble if we do, for alcohol is a subtle foe. We are not cured of alcoholism. What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition.</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace.</td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We learned that we had to fully concede to our innermost selves that we were alcoholics. This is the first step in recovery. The delusion that we are like other people, or presently may be, has to be smashed.</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resentment is the &quot;number one&quot; offender. It destroys more alcoholics than anything else. From it stem all forms of spiritual disease, for we have been not only mentally and physically ill, we have been spiritually sick.</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Reprinted from "Background Notes": District 0490's Newsletter of Central New York, Area 47; Dec. 2013

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### ATTENTION !!!

Our monthly
**Central Committee** meeting HAS MOVED to:
St. Michael’s Parish
651 Washington Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

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**Buffalo Central Office**

Needs Support

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2
NOTE: Thank you to all who have supported the archives mission to preserve our rich history and keep our history from losing accuracy. Thanks to you, I attended my second National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop, this one in Concord California, making a plane trip for the second time in my life. What a VIEW – but this message is about the workshop, and what I wish I could share with you.

First of all, I realized how richly blessed I’ve been to have been taught so much by Tom B., our alt-archivist and one of my favorite humans. Because of him, I knew about encapsulation and some bits about the care-taking of our items, but the workshop had one classroom setting where hours were devoted to preservation techniques. It was like he’d been setting up my interest in these processes for the whole 5 years of my sobriety. The rust due to Grapevines long use of staples was just one facet of methods we are continuously faced with – a task that seems never-ending. Help!

The other things I’d share with you if I had time was the book I got of an AREA HISTORY detailing the history of every meeting in their area. Our Area 50 covers 8 counties of WNY so I cannot help but know it would be about the same size as that hardcover book – but we’ve SO FEW groups whose history is on file! Our old-timers who know how and why a group started, and the locations groups have occupied are dying and with them goes that history. If you don’t know if you’re one of the few with a group history, hit me a message at ARCHIVES@AREA50WNY.ORG and I’ll email it to you gladly along with a form that has some helpful questions to write a useful history, which is not hard if you know an old-timer with that info! Or are an old-timer who wants to KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT!!!!

Lastly, if I could share with you just 2 other things of the dozens of notable topics: the Rockefeller book and the play. The book that came out last year sometime after last years’ archives workshop written by last years’ banquet speaker whose research into the actual input by Mr. Rockefeller toward our fledging fellowship was brought up by a number of people at this year’s workshop. Quite a hot topic regarding how much help we actually got from him! Great difference from what most think!

And the play that a young woman in California had written about AA history was so witty and funny that it reminded me that many don’t know about our Traditions play on the aa.org website that I’ve seen acted out a few times at different meetings out of this Buffalo/Niagara Falls. Check it out – it’s funny and explains Traditions well. That’s my report for now – hope to see you at a display at your homegroup anniversary soon!

Lila M. Area 50 Archives Committee Chair

12th STEP:
“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope
Please submit your announcements by the 12th for next month’s issue
Articles can be submitted at any time

e-mail address: buffaloaa@hotmail.com

or mail to:
Buffalo Central Office
681 Seneca St (lower)
Buffalo, New York 14210

The Central Office of Western New York publishes the New Frontiers monthly. We are supported by your subscriptions and Central Office donations. The New Frontiers presents the experience and opinions of members of Alcoholics Anonymous on the disease of alcoholism. The staff reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and length. Articles will not be returned. Opinions expressed here are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply the endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: quotations from “Alcoholics Anonymous”, “Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions” and other A.A. books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. Articles reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are subject to Grapevine copyright.)
DECEMBER ANNIVERSIES

Acceptance Welcome
Jessica W. 2y
Brian M. 4y
Jill S. 5y
Kat P. 7y
Collen 11y
Patty R. 27y

Alexander
Rob A. 3y
Denny B. 29y
All is Well
Diana T. 8y

Any Lengths
Dean S. 1y
Cory E. 4y
Mike Z. 24y

Big Book Lockport
Kmike L. 3y
Kandy W. 15y

Boulevard Women’s
Louise L. 1y

Cold Springs
Gigi P. 46y

Courage Group
Joy M. 14y
Debbie M. 17y
Julie H. 17y

Eyeopener
Tim K. 4y
Tina 4y
Dave H. 4y
Jimmy O. 4y
Jesse S. 5y
Lisa Z. 5y
Brian H. 5y
Mike E. 6y
Mary G. 6y
Heather K. 6y
Dan C. 7y
Jeff F. 8y
Vilma 9y
Christine J. 11y
Dee Dee 17y
Miles 20y
Ned 22y
Larry 25y
Butch 28y
Tim C. 27y
Earl G. 33y

Eyeopener South
Mary G. 6m
Maureen S. 6m
Karen M. 22y

Fireside
Lisa A. 2y
Jim M. 9y
Katie S. 21y
Pam 29y
Bill G. 37y

First Step (NF)
Barry L. 32y
Gene O. 56y

Harmony
Brittany M. 5y
Joe R. 8y
Carl M. 9y
Odel H. 11y
Judy T. 25y

Helping Hand
Diane T. 8y

Holland
Keith J. 3y
Chris P. 28y
Mike S. 32y

How It Works
Agustin G. 1y
Shawn H. 1y
Brian N. 1y
Andrew P. 2y
Patrick 7y
Johanna C. 3y
Dennis D. 36y

Ironhorse
John R. 4y
Dave G. 6y
Sally W. 10y
Tony P. 37y

Just For Today
Art S. 1y

Kensington
Louis M. 6y
Mary B. 11y
Mel L. 44y

Lockport
Ed H. 3y
Nick B. 3y
Rodney C. 10y
Tony C. 13y
Randy W. 16y

Lockview
Katia J. 4y
Randy C. 7y
Tony C. 13y

Main & High
Tom C. 19y

North Buffalo
Justin D. 2y
Maggie W 2y
Dan L. 3y
Jacob H. 3y
John S. 3y
Kevin H. 3y
Brian M. 4y
Chris L. 5y
Ashley S. 5y
Eliza N. 5y
Dave McN 5y
Mara M. 8y
Harold S. 8y
Paul B. 9y
Mike T. 29y
Bill K. 29y
Judy S. 29y

Orchard Park Step
Michelle F. 5y
Lauren L. 10y

Renaissance
Nikki R. 6m
Mike K. 1y
Kim R. 5y
Ann J. 9y
Raj G. 29y

Remember When
Pam A. 4y
Gary A. 8y
Yolanda B. 10y

Rise & Shine
Kevin O. 3m
Gary Z. 6m
Garrett A. 6m
Ann M. 6m
Ray C. 2y
Dore J. 9y
Liz B. 14y

Sheridan
Jodie H. 18y
Debbie F. 30y

Sunday Morning Breakfast
Joy P. 23y
Dave K. 28y

The Grove
Michael M. 1y
Dan L. 1y
Tyrone 1y
Loren H. 1y
Guy R. 1y
Cory W. 1y
Mike F. 1y
Chris E. 17y

The Journey
Chris S. 3y
Sara E. 3y
Dave P. 4y
Jeff M. 4y
Brenda Z. 4y
Dale M. 5y
Tim 9y
Megan Z. 9y
Randall L. 13y

Thruway
Richard O. 2y
Joe M. 10y
Cy D. 30y

Williamsville
Michael P. 2y
Brandy 2y
Jeremy C. 2y
Michael A. 2y
Frank P. 8y
Brian C. 23y

Abbott Men’s: 34y
Achievement: 44y
Cayuga Wake Up Call: 13y
Coldspring: 56y
Georgetown: 23y
Intoxicated on Life: 42y
Sally: 26y
Saturday Night Sober: 16y
Sober Winners: 23y
Sobriety on Saturday: 22y
Sunday’s @ 8: 16y
Tri-Step: 25y
Wilson: 39y

Please remember to have the announcements submitted by the 12th of the month previous
MEETING CHANGES

- Dec. 23, Thankful Group, Friday’s, 2PM in East Aurora will not meet. Also when schools are closed…they are closed.
- If He Were Sought Group has moved to Emergency Pizza, 1868 Seneca St. South Buffalo, 14210.
- Sunday Morning Breakfast has returned to the Cheektowaga Recreation Center @ 2600 Harlem Road, Cheektowaga, 11 am Sunday’s.
- Lakeshore Group in Hamburg has moved to The Wesleyan Southtown Campus, 2063 South Creek Rd (GPS: 2063 Shadagee Rd., Eden,) North Evans,14057 @ Rt 20. Same time; 8 PM Monday Evenings.
- The Absolutes Group has added a 12 Noon meeting, Daily.
- Mustard Seed II Group, No Longer Meets.
- What's Going On Group is now Monday's, 11:00 AM, Evergreen Common's, 262 Georgia St., Buffalo 14201. Open Discussion

Support AA through the Envelope System:
This is another way to help carry the AA message by making a personal donation.
Please call Central Office for more details; 853-0388

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: COMMITTEE MEETINGS

~ Dec. 2 Envelope System Meeting; FRIDAY, 4:00 PM, Tim Horton's 1750 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Tonawanda

~ Dec. 4; Committees that meet prior to Central Committee 5:30 PM
St. Michael's Parish, 651 Washington St., Buffalo 14203
Steering Committee (4:30 PM)
Public Information Committee meeting
Treatment Facilities Committee
Nightwatch Committee
Followed By Central Committee Meeting @7:00 PM
St. Michael's Parish, 651 Washington St., Buffalo 14203
(Hosted by Derby Group
St. Michael's Parish, 651 Washington St., Buffalo 14203

~ Dec. 4, Corrections Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM, Buffalo Central Office. 681 Seneca St., Buffalo
~ Dec. 10 Archives Committee Meeting; 2nd SATURDAY, 10 AM, Buffalo Central Office, Work night’s; 2nd & 4th Monday’s.
COMING EVENTS

~ Dec 13,~ Dec. 13, **Main & High Annual Christmas Vigil**, 5-9 PM. Dinner/ Fellowship & Speakers; Please bring a dish to share. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main St., Buffalo, 14209.

~Dec 31, **Tri-County Group Annual New Years Eve Party**. St. Joseph’s RC Church, 67 East Main St., Gowanda. doors open at 7:30, Speaker at 8:30 food and fellowship & music, 9:30-

12th STEP: “Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”

12th TRADITION: “Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principals before personalities.”

12th CONCEPT: The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit... Terry B., Executive Secretary

NIGHTWATCH
Will your group help?
Sign up for One Month!
Everyone had a first contact.
You can be someone’s

Envelope System
“personally helping to ensure AA for the future”

240 Sober Members of Alcoholics Anonymous stood and were counted at the **75th Buffalo Fall Convention**. The total was 3,696 years and 59 days! Members with 1 and 2 years of sobriety were the only groups in double digits with 24 and 27 respectively. A good time was had by all! Thanks to the committee for all their hard work.
The meeting was opened at 7pm with a recitation of the Responsibility statement followed by a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer.

Guy R read the Preamble, Sue M read the 12 Traditions, and Jesse S read the Purpose of Central Committee. Joan D gave a spectacular speech regarding the 11th Tradition, it was as well presented as it was received. Next month Mike M will be discussing the 12th Tradition, and the only place to catch it live will be at the November meeting of the Central Committee, so come on out!

There were 23 groups represented, broken out as follows: Zone 1: Main and High. Zone 2: Acceptance, Grove. Zone 3: By the Wayside, Iron Horse, Matt Talbot, New Life, Thurway. Zone 4: Orchard Park. Zone 5: Lockport. Zone 6: Twin Cities. Zone 7: None. Zone 8: Amherst, Snyder, Highview, Step It Up

Pat Motioned to accept the minutes which was seconded by Guy R, and not surprising because the minutes were spot on if I do say so myself.

Committee Reports

Envelope System – No report

PI/PCC – November PI/PCC Report

-We have created a PI Flyer accessible to anyone to hang up around your community. There are some on the table tonight free for the taking. They have the phone number to AA Central Office and our website that people can rip off and take with them

-We are going to bring the idea to the PI/CPC as we see a lot of people coming into AA Central Office that we need home groups to sign up to take literature to and make sure there is a big book in stock. If your group home is interested in becoming a part of this important 12th step work please talk with me.

-We are looking into the “adopt-a-doctor” program. The idea is to speak with your primary care doctor and become a point of contact between them and AA to get more information about AA to them and potential patients that AA could be of service to.

-we sent 25 or more letters offering our services to high schools in the area including our new pamphlet and asking them how we could be of help to them and their students

-The buffalo probation office expressed an interest in having us give a presentation to their staff, we are waiting to hear back from our contact person on that.

-We will be attending a day of sharing on November 19th at the Lakeshore Group where we will have a representative and a literature table.

If you or anyone you know is interested in being of service please consider our committee, if you have any questions on what we are or what we do please speak with me or come join us on the first Sunday of the month, right here, at 5:30pm

Yours in service, Kristen H.

Treatment - The treatment committee is currently responsible for bringing the hand of Alcoholics Anonymous into 4 facilities. With the help of 30 groups, there are collectively 8 “tfc meetings” a week going on at these facilities.

We met 11/16/16 and had 11 members representing 7 groups. We discussed the new meeting we will be brining into Reflections, and new requirements for going into ECMC.

Over the next year or two we would like to approach each group, currently holding a commitment through us, with an informational presentation at their business meetings. Also from now on all groups interested taking a commitment with us will be given this presentation. The presentation can be downloaded a head of time from the Central Committee web page in the forms section.

Outside of joining our committee, there are a few areas where AA members, and groups, can be of service through treatment.

1. Individuals may take a speaking commitment at Horizon Village Terrace House on a Thursday at 6pm.

2. All groups who currently have commitments through the Treatment Committee can, and should, send a representative to our monthly committee meeting to inform us of any groups they would like to see at an inpatient facility. As representatives of this AA Central Committee, we are not in a position to say a facility will or will not be open to receiving AA if they are not on our list of facilities.

3. Treatment Committee is looking into taking to a new commitment at a facility that does not currently have an AA presence yet. If you have a suggestion please email us. We are currently looking into Turning Point and Reflections.

4. Area Treatment is forming a Bridging the Gap program for all of Area 50. At this moment any member willing to help clients leaving Treatment Facilities “bridge the gap” between treatment and AA can sign up on the new “Bridging the Gap Volunteer Form” found on the Area 50 web page. www.wnyarea50aa.org

Thank you to all groups and individuals who are involved in this vital 12th step work. To get involved, or if there are any issues you need to contact us about, please email us at buffalotcf@gmail.com or come to our monthly meeting the 1st Sunday of the month on 12/4/16 at St. Michaels Church 5:30pm.

Yours in service, Jesse S. Treatment Committee Chair

Corrections – No Report

Central Office - Central Office Report; November 2016

TOTAL CALL’S INCLUDING AFTER-HOURS: AA Call’s: 406, 12-STEP: 15, ALANON: 7,

VISITORS: 90, VOLUNTEERS: 5, Email’s: 445, Website Hits: 105,543 of them 8,153 Unique Visitors, Total number of visits: 16,661: Number of forms received to add to our 12th Step List: 3. We sent out the Newsletter via online sign-up to 54 person; of them only 29 were open.:

GROUPS WE ARE IN NEED OF CONTACTS FROM ARE: A VISION FOR YOU-6, Our Meeting @ the VA-8, The Grove-2, Quitting Time-6, Victory-3, VIP-2; Reminder, If a group goes a year without a contact person, they will be removed from the reminder.

Please; with the nominations/elections today, please write down your contact information (name, address, phone number & email) and give to Chip for me.

Yours in fellowship of the Spirit... Terry B.

Night Watch – We met today before the central committee meeting. We reviewed our plans for the upcoming months. We have groups covering the night watch lines until February 2017. We will attend 2 business meetings this month to give our presentations. We devised a plan to update the 12th step list and are hoping to gather new names of alcoholics willing to do 12th step work. As representatives of your homegroup it would be greatly appreciated if you asked your fellow homegroup members to sign up for the 12th step list. Also, if any homegroups are interested in taking a month on the nightwatch lines OR if you or someone you know needs a service position, please come join us! We meet the first Sunday of the month, right before the usual central committee meeting at St. Michael's church.

Convention - 2016 Fall Convention – November 2016

It's over!!! The convention committee has not reconvened as of yet. To date, we have not heard about any problems just compliments, which was all because of the wonderful people who were on the committee. I’m very pleased with the outcome.

I tentatively plan the first or second week in December with the committee. Our treasurer, Deb C, is confident that we made a profit of about $3,000. Our only suggestion we, Deb C and I, can make is that the bank account balance be increased from $2,000 to $3,000. We were lucking so many people loved the discount pricing that we had sufficient funds to refund expenses and purchase merchandise early.

My other suggestion is that the chair should not work a full time job because this becomes a full time job. If it wasn’t for my co-chair, David G, who did a tremendous amount of work it would have not run so smoothly. Another is to clearly mark phone numbers with the corresponding job for example registration and general questions should be different numbers.
In closing, I would like to thank the Central Committee for allowing me this opportunity. My hope was that we all have fun and learn about ourselves. I learned much about myself, my program, and became more trusting in my Higher Power. I hope that everyone who attended enjoyed the Buffalo Fall Convention as much as I did.

Yours in service,
Your 2016 Convention Chair, Sue B.

GSA Liaison – There still is no GSA Liaison

Archives – November 6, 2016 regarding November Report to the Buffalo Central Committee

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you this past month. We reported to just 1 of the 4 intergroups in Area 50 due to conflicts in scheduling, but did attend the Cataract City Convention planning meeting. Save the date of May 6th, 2017 for the next Archives Breakfast where the speaker I cannot believe we were able to get will be sharing his experience, strength and hope regarding his life and efforts around the globe for Alcoholics Anonymous.

In October, we were at the BFC with the full display filling the regular room. We will be displaying at the Beginners Group Anniversary in Niagara Falls Nov 17th and Jan 21st is Williamson Group Anniv! We’ll be at the Derby Day of Sharing of course! We had October donations from Iron Horse. We are a financially autonomous committee with our only resources being group contributions and special donations. We receive NO funding from any part of AA for ANYTHING, so we rely upon your group and/or individual support to fund our archival work, pay rent for the repository, and participate in archival activities. Note that no funds are used to get members to events and each member pays their own way into events except out of area issues – donations are used ONLY for rent and archival efforts as approved by the entire committee and are protected by the multi-signature checking account. Please send any contributions to Area 50 Archives at 681 Seneca Street in Buffalo NY 14210. We thank you for your continuing support and please consider volunteering a couple hours with us at one of our work nights per month which happen on the second and fourth Mondays of each month - just email ARCHIVES@AREA50NY.ORG for more information. Many tasks are quite simple, like inventorying donations or reviewing paperwork to the more complex like helping with the preservation of Grapevine magazines (staple removal). If you know someone interested in service work that likes the idea of under two hours per month, this just might be the effort for them!

To Grapevine readers – if you see an article that’s local to us in these 8 counties of WNY, please forward a message regarding which article (with what month and year it is in the Grapevine) to me via email or text.

Thank you to every member of AA in WNY for caring for your archives committee. I got to travel to a workshop more scared than I can ever remember being – going on an airplane for the 2nd time in my life to an experience I’ve never had before – the workshop was designed to help us learn and yet REALLY think, sometimes quite uncomfortably. The speakers were incredible, the topics were varied – like electronic data management, cataloging and organizing – and workshops on book restoration and other preservation techniques were really fascinating.

Writing Group Histories was a topic I loved, but the one about writing a History for the whole AREA blew me away because they had a book one archives area had done that had histories for every group in their area! More about that will be coming up in the next edition of the “New Frontiers” newsletter published by Buffalo Central Committee.

In keep in mind that getting group histories OF YOUR GROUP is a priority to even the Conference level, so if you don’t know what history has been ‘archived’ for your group, that information is just an email away, and we are thrilled to help. Group histories are kept by the archives in New York City (General Service Office) but we have copies of what they have and of course will give that to you quickly. And if you are one of the few we don’t have, we’d be honored to get it for you! Please note though that the majority of ‘group history’ files I’ve seen these past 3 years have been related to a request regarding who has the most contact listed for the group, with no other information like the founders of the group, where it is located (no address of the meeting place) so updating that is usually an easy thing we are glad to assist your group with doing. We can send you a form and will forward it correctly for you at no cost whatsoever.

We’d love to display the archives at your group anniversary or special event - remember we appreciate a 30days in advance notice so transportation can be set up! Your PRIMARY PURPOSE efforts may be assisted by this sharing the history of AA at YOUR MEETING more than you can know. And the usual reminder to all AA members of these 8 counties of Western New York – throw NOTHING group-related away without considering your unborn alcoholics to come, which is the purpose we work hard at keeping our area documented and the reason for the existence of this ARCHIVES Committee.

Yours in service, Lila M., your grateful Area 50 Archives Committee Chair

Accessibility – I’d like to thank the Buffalo Fall Convention Committee to allow me to setup a display. We also had a call from a person in a nursing home, who needed help. I was able to find someone in the Buffalo area to meet with him.- Pat M

Recap

Treatment – There was a question about which meetings still were available to fill. - Horizon Village Terrace House on Thursdays at 6pm. Corrections – no questions. Convention – no questions. Archives – No questions

Central Office – Why are meetings taken out of the meeting schedule if not contacted in over a year? – Central Office needs a return address for mailing purposes and also AA does not want to be sending new comers/potential alcoholics to meetings that don’t exist any longer. PIC/PFC – Received compliments for their increasing growth and production over the past several years.

Old Business

The Meeting “AA On Broadway” 384 Broadway 14204 open. To be voted into the meeting schedule. The was passed Unanimously

New Business

Position Nominations –
Co-Chair – Tina D un-opposed, accepted
Recording Secretary – Ryan P un-opposed, accepted
Zone 1 – unfilled
Zone 3 – Unfilled
Zone 4 – Unfilled
Zone 5 – Bob G, un-opposed, accepted
Zone 6 – Felix P un-opposed, accepted
Zone 7 – unfilled
Zone 8 – Dennis K
GSA Liaison – Nick B un-opposed, accepted
Nightwatch – Reanne F Un-opposed, accepted
Corrections – Shannon G Un-opposed, accepted

Motion Proposed By Tina F and 2nd by Nick B

Motion States – Central Committee is to Host the Area Assembly on March 4th and also Contribute 275 dollars.

Motion passed with 17 votes for and 0 opposed… don’t know how those numbers add up with all the groups represented but that’s all who participated

Seventh tradition was $108.25.

A motion to close was brought at 8:15 and seconded, and promptly closed with a moment of silence followed by the Lord’s Prayer.
Intergroup wants to express our appreciation for those groups and individuals who have made generous financial contributions, and give a special thank you to all the members who have volunteered their time this year to help the sick and suffering alcoholic.

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### Cash Flow Statement

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**Bill W. wrote of Intergroup Office, “Though not costly, these agencies are absolutely essential to our continued expansion—to our survival as a Fellowship. Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amounts to a recognition on our part that A.A. must everywhere function in full strength—and that, under our Tradition of self-support, we are all going to foot the bill.”**

“Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” pamphlet

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### Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody’s job.

Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn’t do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Concept XL: The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

- Do we understand how the roles of nontrustee directors and nontrustee appointed committee members help serve and strengthen the committee system?
- How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional “Right of Participation”?
- Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?
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Tradition Twelve: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

- Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared?
- When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
- In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?
- Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to my standards, not its own?
- Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?
- Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition—or belie it?
- Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior—especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made me so smart?
- Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?
- Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?
- Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?
- What is the real importance of me among more than a million AAs?
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