

Central Michigan Intra-Area 32 Assembly Minutes

June 5, 2016-District 26-East Tawas

Remaining 2016 Schedule

August 7, 2016-District 28-Hillman

October 2, 2016-District 22-Bay County

December 4, 2016-District 24-Vassar

CHAIR: Kate L: chair@cmia32.org:

Called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. The group recited The Serenity Prayer, Kate L. read The AA Preamble and the group recited The Responsibility Pledge.

Thank you District 26 members for hosting us today!

SECRETARY: Lori C.: secretary@cmia32.org:

Roll Call: In attendance: 84 total; 48 GSRs; - Alt. GSRs; 36 Guests, 1 GSR at 1st visit to Assembly; 1 returning for the 2nd time.

Chairman called for corrections to minutes from April 3, 2016 minutes. The following correction provided: None

Tradition 5 was discussed by: Lori C.

Tradition 6 was discussed by: Dennis S.

Concept 5 was discussed by: Mike K.

Concept 6 was discussed by: Sandy E.

For the next meeting volunteers:

Tradition 7– Lyle T.

Tradition 8-Terry W.

Concept 7–Adelia H.

Concept 8-Liesel C.

TREASURER: Tracey G.: treasurer@cmia32.org: Report Approved (Report attached).

FINANCE: Randy K.: finance@cmia32.org: Report Approved (Report Attached)

REGISTRAR: Daryl P.: Not present. No written report.

Five past delegates were recognized and we had a Past Trustee attending the meeting.

DELEGATE, Kirk F.: delegate@cmia32.org: Please see attached report

ALT. DELEGATE, Ted Straubel: 317 Agate Drive, Roscommon, MI 48653 (989) 429-8100; District 26: altdelegate@cmia32.org: Please see attached report.

LITERATURE, Don M.: literature@cmia32.org: Report approved. (Report Attached)

ARCHIVIST, Jim D.: Not present. No written report.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE, Phil L.: At the 3, April 2016 Hillsdale assembly, we reviewed our present methods of archiving. The four members are in one accord to pursue projects individually and share accomplishments realized for our Intra-Area Fellowship. Digitizing decades of hard copy records can be cumbersome. But, we are committed to serve, rooted in the spiritual values of our history to spread the recovery message now and into the future. Thank you for this privilege of AA service.

CORRECTIONS, Lyle T.: corrections@cmia32.org Nine people were in attendance. There is \$518.00 in the treasury. There were no pre-releases. The district members gave reports. We had \$800.00 in literature to split among the members or \$88.88 per district.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC), John B.: cpc@cmia32.org Continued discussion of “Cooperation with the Courts”. There was a strong interest in the committee’s reports. Please note: There were two documents available to be picked up. Chair is concerned that GSR’s may have picked up only the “newsletter” reports. These will be available at the next two assemblies or by emailing the CPC Committee.

FORUM, Debbie G.: Forum@cmia32.org

Not present. No written report.

GRAPEVINE, Gary M.: grapevine@cmia32.org: Eleven people were in attendance. We discussed “Grow Your Grapevine” and Arbor Cards. We also discussed inviting all districts to participate in local, district and area committee’s Grapevine Representative information. Discussed upcoming election. Mark B. nominated for the next term as Grapevine

Chairperson. This was voted on and accepted.

PUBLIC INFORMATION, Peter S.; pi@cmia32.org: District 4's P.I. Committee is arranging presentations of its program "What AA is and What it is Not". It is anticipated that these will be held at the University of Michigan School of Social Work in the Autumn of 2016 and a manufacturing company's HR department in Autumn of 2016. We continue to look for ways to carry the AA message to the "outside world" in a spirit of attraction and not promotion.

SPECIAL NEEDS, Don W.; specialneeds@cmia.org No activity

LIAISON, Zak P.; Not present. No written report

TREATMENT FACILITIES, Randy K.; treatment@cmia32.org: Discussed with members continuing to take meetings into treatment facilities.

WEBSITE, Chris K.; website@cmia32.org: Not present. No written report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next assembly August 7, 2016 in District 28-Hillman, MI. Also a Sober Saturday picnic in Alpena planned for August 6, 2016: For agenda and location see attached flyer or visit www.CMIA32.org

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTIONS

-A motion was made to donate \$800.00 to the Corrections Committee and was passed.

-A motion was made to form a CMIA committee called YPPA to include any YPAA-MYCPAA-ICYPA bid committees and anyone having an interest as outreach to AA as a whole. This motion was passed.

Assembly closed at 2:37pm with the Lord's Prayer.

CONFIDENTIAL
for A.A. EYES ONLY
FULL NAMES MUST BE
REMOVED BEFORE BEING
ELECTRONICALLY
TRANSMITTED

Central Michigan Intra Area
Delegate Area 32
Delegate Report
66th General Service Conference
April 17th thru April 22nd
Crown Plaza Times Square
1605 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

"Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts"

**We recovered alcoholics are not so much brothers in virtue as we are brothers in our defects, and
in our common strivings to overcome them.**

AS BILL SEES IT, p. 167

Good afternoon, fellow travelers:

The 66th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous began "officially" on Sunday morning April 17th with registration at 9:00 a.m. and concluded at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, April 22, 2016. During the six days of the Conference, agenda items of importance to the Fellowship went before the assembled committees. They were debated, decided, and reported to the floor as committee recommendations actions or no action. On our last day, Friday, the printed agenda had the Conference ending at 3:30 p.m. Instead, the Conference dealt with eleven floor actions submitted throughout the week. The Conference adjourned at 8:30 p.m. following the "good-byes" from the panel 65 conferees.

Each year the Conference officially opens on Sunday morning with registration followed by the General Service Conference roll-call and with those present responding with "here" or "present." There are many periods during the Conference week where both the trustees and the delegates present prepared statements on the many facets of the Fellowship. A few of the topics this year were "Always Inclusive—Never Exclusive," "Singleness of Purpose—Staying Relevant in a Changing World," "Be Involved, Be Inspired, Be of Service." If your group or district is looking for workshop topics, the annual Conference report is a good source for ideas.

The financial presentation for the Conference has come to be known as "Finance Around the Picnic Table" and was presented by class A trustee David Morris, who serves the Fellowship as board treasurer and chairperson of the trustees' Finance & Budgetary Committee. Initially, the time allotted for the finance presentation was but forty-five minutes. That time (which was already constrained) was then reduced to nearly half due to a motion ruled by the chair as being in-order, the motion received a second and a lengthy debate followed. As a result, the financial slide show was pared down further and what we saw to looked more like a movie than a slide show. Unfortunate. A copy of Finance Around The Picnic Table is on the Conference display table for your review.

Just some of the financial revelations of our Fellowship:

- 2015 7th Tradition support totaled \$7,154,146 or 74.3% of the cost of services provided, each year a shortfall. The cost of services is calculated to be \$7.14 per member for 2015. The cost per group \$146.48.
- The cost of services per member not fully covered by self-support was \$1.90 per member.
- General Fund expenses totaled \$9,629,499 -- G.S.O. General Fund Loss \$2,475,310.

- Reserve Fund Coverage Ratio was 10.2 months on December 31, 2015.
- There has been little growth in 7th Tradition self-support over the past several years.
- 40.3% of the groups contributed to G.S.O. in 2015, or, 1.1% less than contributed in 2014. For our delegate area 32 the percentage of group contributing to G.S.O. in 2015 was but 35.69%

Combined Operations: An operating loss of \$325,600 is projected for 2016. A further loss of \$861,800 for 2017 and a loss of \$1,477,800 is projected in 2018. Our Reserve Fund makes up the difference. If nothing changes and the losses occur, the Reserve Fund coverage will drop from 10.2 months today to 7 months by the end of 2018.

TODAY'S MEMBERS NEED TO ROUTINELY PUT MORE THAN ONE DOLLAR IN THE BASKET, BOTH FOR THE NEEDS OF THEIR LOCAL GROUPS AS WELL AS FOR THE NEEDS OF G.S.O.

- A.A. World Services 2015 gross publishing sales were down 25.7% from 2014.
- Actual sales were even less than the conservative amount budgeted for 2015.
- The last person receiving royalty payments (from the sale of the Big Book) died in 2015 at the age of 102.
- The Big Book sales represent 53.4% of all publishing units sold by A.A.W.S., 780,000 sold in 2015.

THE BIG BOOK SOLD IN 1939 FOR \$3.50 WOULD TODAY COST \$60.37 ACCOUNTING FOR INFLATION; HOWEVER, WE CAN BUY OUR BIG BOOK TODAY FOR \$9.50.

WHILE PUBLISHING PROFITS ARE PROJECTED TO BE SLIGHTLY IMPROVED OVER 2015 DUE TO HIGHER UNIT SALES. THE 2016 PUBLISHING PROFIT VERSUS COST OF SERVICES IS FORECASTED TO BE A LOSS OF \$26,700 DOLLARS. IF NO CHANGES OCCUR IN BUSINESS PRACTICES OR 7TH TRADITION INCOME, THE 2016 OVERALL LOSS IS PROJECTED TO BE MORE THAN ONE-HALF MILLION DOLLARS AND A NET LOSS OF NEAR ONE-MILLION DOLLARS IN 2018 DUE TO INFLATION.

— Grapevine —

- A staff of 9 people (plus occasional freelance writers) produce Grapevine magazine, LaViña magazine and all other Grapevine publishing activities.
- Since 1989 there has been a downward trend in all print magazine subscriptions, which is a 4% decline per year.
- 2015 Grapevine subscriptions declined by 2% from 2014 to less than 72,000 subscriptions.
- In 2015 Grapevine magazine did better than budgeted forecast but still saw a decrease in income of 3.9%.
- Grapevine Corporation publishing garnered a 3.7% increase in income over budgeted projections.
- The positive results over the last three years have allowed Grapevine to contribute to the Reserve Fund an aggregate of \$760,000 dollars and \$260,000 in 2015 alone.

★ The Reserve Fund was created in 1978. Since 1978 Grapevine has contributed to the fund \$1,333,200 against withdrawals of \$1,447,300 (\$114,100).

- Due to the continuing annual decline in subscriptions and annual increases in costs and expenses, Grapevine is projected to lose \$146,262 in 2016, more in 2017, and a loss of \$275,500 in 2018.

— LaViña —

- LaViña had approximately 10,500 subscribers in 2015. This year, 2016, is LaViña's 20th anniversary.
- LaViña was created as a "service piece," not as a profit center.
- The LaViña subscription levels have been consistent over the past three years. The revenue shortfall is made up by making transfers from the General Service Boards General Fund.
- Since LaViña's inception in 1996 the cumulative shortfall totals nearly \$1.95 million dollars. The shortfall was made-up for the magazines first 5 years by the Reserve Fund. Since then the General Fund has made up the difference.
- As with most print publishing activities, the deficiency between costs and income is forecasted to grow to \$175,300 annually in 2018.

★ **Grapevine subscription costs 0.08¢ a day. LaViña costs 0.03¢ a day.**

Worth mentioning is the fact that the Defined Benefit Plan for employees' liability has decreased to \$33.8 million in 2016 from \$36.1 million in 2015. The decrease is attributable to an increase in the interest rate. Plan assets were \$27.8 million in both 2014 and 2015. The Defined Benefit Plan was originally established in 1965. A.A. transitioned from a Defined Benefit Plan to a Defined Contribution Plan for all A.A. World Services and Grapevine employees hired on or after January 1, 2013.

— Feasibility Study - or - *The writing on the wall* —

The trustees of the General Service Board approved a comprehensive study of the current business model, corporate structure, and long-term sustainability of the General Service Board and both operating Corporations (i.e., Alcoholics Anonymous World Services and A.A. Grapevine), keeping in mind the spiritual basis of the Fellowship. The study is known as The Feasibility Study. The General Service Board approved the Feasibility Study at its November 2014 Finance Committee meeting. The mechanics of how the board designed the study can be found, in part, in the 2016 Conference manual displayed for your review.

The Fellowship has, for years and years now, experienced reduced income and rising expenses. Our 7th Tradition of self-support is not self-supporting to the degree necessary to pay for all the services that Alcoholics Anonymous provides domestically and abroad. We have our General Service Office, the General Service Board, and the two operating corporations: A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine. The office, the boards, and the corporations are there to serve those of us in recovery and provide the necessary tools for us to reach out to those who, as yet, don't know there is a way out.

Over the years A.A. has become reliant on print income to make up the difference between deficient 7th Tradition contributions and the costs of service provided to the membership. Print income is, and has been, on the wane and no longer serves as reliable funding into our future. Our 7th Tradition basket contributions come from but 40% of the registered groups-- which means that 40% of the groups are "carrying" the other 60%. That is not a prescription for a sustainable future.

At this year's Conference a class B trustee spoke. He, in his heart of hearts, believes the Fellowship will "come through" once the mounting need becomes known. We can all hope this trusted servant is correct. Hoping may be in accordance with spiritual precepts but is hardly a plan. We can presume that the ill-fated passengers of the R.M.S. Titanic were also hopeful in their time of need.

At the risk of raising the ire of members way more spiritual than I, I suggest that A.A. may have to explore new ways of achieving sustainability. Can we at least explore the feasibility of such things, foreign to us, such as endowments and other untried tools? Books, pamphlets, and basket money are telling us all a story. Are we reading the writing on the wall?

The 2016 budget shows a \$325,600 dollar loss rising to an annualized loss of \$1,447,800 for the year 2018.

The General Service Board is addressing the issue costs versus income. Their goal is to ensure a viable future for this life-saving movement. Like other troubles that have beset our Fellowship, this too shall be overcome, with a steady hand at the wheel and a fully informed membership.

It has often been said that making *instant* coffee in A.A could take two or more years.

The 66th General Service Conference heard a Feasibility Study presentation by David Morris, class A board treasurer on Monday afternoon. Wednesday morning there were several "brainstorming" sessions from 09:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. moderated by delegates and attended by delegates, trustees, and G.S.O. staff. In all, 134 people participated.

The workshop sessions were segmented as follows: Internal and External Communications, Reducing Expenses, Structure, and Increasing Revenues.

I believe the brainstorming sessions were meant to serve two purposes. First, the brainstorming sessions were designed to function as an opportunity for delegates and staff to put in "their two cents worth." Secondly, after all were heard that wished to be heard, the General Service Board will now go about doing what they wanted to do in the first place, which is to hire professionals who will advise them on how to go about reversing the spiraling downward trend.

LANGUAGE OF THE HEART - Pg 166 Bill Wilson

In his AA group, every good member feels deeply about this. He knows once the miracle of sobriety has been received, that Providence all of us to work and to grow — to do our part in maintaining our blessings in full force. A perpetual miracle — with no effort or responsibility on our part — simply isn't in the cards. We all understand that the price of both personal and group survival is willingness and sacrifice, vigilance and work."

"We have met the enemy and he is us"

POGO the possum - by Walt Kelly cartoonist - Earth Day 1971

The Conference rejected the notion of raising the limit on bequests or yearly maximum donations. Correctly I believe, our sustainability issues will not be fixed by a few wealthy members or by raising the yearly cap on maximum donations. The fix will only come when all of us--every member and every group--"chips-in" more to sustain the Fellowship than we customarily have chipped-in in the past. As members, we must speak up and dispel the notion that "A.A. has enough money," or "A.A. is rich". " Our districts need to reach out to both registered and their unregistered groups, every year, not just every so many years. We need to get us all connected to A.A. as a whole. Anyone who still has doubts about our real need should simply read and digest the financial statements provided to the members every year. Many times, those among us with the loudest voices are the ones sorely ignorant of the facts.

Mark Twain is reported to have said:


"It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you don't know for sure that just ain't so."

We are a Fellowship. As a Fellowship we need all hands on deck pulling on the oars in the same direction. Our mission is to carry the message to the still sick and suffering alcoholic. Our capacity to do that is hampered by any number of reasons. Two huge reasons are (1) our "this is the way we've always done it" mindset of just one dollar in the basket, and (2) the notion that "A.A. has enough money, and it does not *need* ours." We all need to think hard about what level of caring we demonstrate.

If we persist on doing what we have been doing, we'll most certainly keep on getting what we are getting. All of us having recovered from a hopeless state of mind and body, in doing so we learned that willingness is the key. Are we willing to forego the latte in favor of putting two or more dollars in the basket at each and every meeting we go to? Willingness to support this Fellowship. Willingness to change.

Two things we A.A.'s don't like: 1. The way things are. and 2. Change.

In Love and Service,



Kirk Faupel, Delegate
Central Michigan Intra Area
Delegate Area 32 / Panel 65
Grapevine

—The Conference in a Nutshell—

93 delegates (69.4%) 25 trustees, A.A.W.S. & Grapevine directors (18.7%) 16 G.S.O. & GV staff (11.9%)
134 voters in all

Saturday, April 16th *Not officially a day of the Conference

Bus trip to Stepping Stones/Wit's End

Reception meet 'n greet

1728 Meeting (12 Steps X 12 Traditions = 144 X 12 Concepts = 1728)

Remote Communities meeting

Delegates only meeting

Sunday, April 17th

Registration followed by Roll-Call by Greg Tobin General Manager of the General Service Office

Opening remarks by Terry Bedient, Class A trustee and Chairman of the General Service Board

Greetings from Barb Colley, panel 65 delegate from West Virginia

Keynote address by Andrew Ware trustee from West Central Region

Review Conference Mechanics and Procedures: Greg Tobin

Finance: David Morris Class A trustee, chair of the trustees' Finance & Budgetary Committee

Delegate lunch by region

Presentations

Joint Conference Committee & trustee or GV Committee members meeting

Opening dinner (significant others & guests welcome)

Speakers (delegates, trustees, directors and staff)

Monday, April 18th

Serenity group 07:00 a.m.

Conference committee meetings

Lunch

General Service Board report by Terry Bedient G.S.B. chairman and Class A trustee

A.A. World Services report by Chet Parker, Class B trustee Chairman

A.A. Grapevine report by Albin Zezula, Class B trustee chairman

Feasibility Study presentation by David Morris

Area Service Highlights by panel 66 delegates

General sharing session

Dinner

Presentations

Area Service Highlights by panel 66 delegates Closing

Tuesday, April 19th

Serenity group 07:00 a.m.

Conference committee meetings

Lunch

Opening

Area Service Highlights by panel 66 delegates

Trip to the General Service Office

Delegates dinner-delegates only

Tuesday several conferees became ill with an upset stomach and all that goes with that. Hand purifiers were soon stationed in the Conference assembly area. A slight re-adjustment of the agenda was made necessary.

Wednesday, April 20th

Serenity group 07:00 a.m.

Feasibility study-"brainstorming" workshops

Opening

Area Service Highlights by panel 66 delegates

Delegate lunch by region

Elections: West Central Regional Trustee/Western Canada Regional Trustee

★ The first Conference committee reports-reported/discussed and voted upon

Dinner

Committee reports and discussion

General sharing

Closing

Thursday, April 21st

Serenity group 06:00 a.m.

Opening 08:00 a.m.

Presentations/discussion

Committee reports and discussion

Lunch

Committee reports and discussion

Dinner

Presentations/discussion

Committee reports and discussion

closing

Friday, April 22nd

Serenity group 07:00 a.m.

Opening

Committee reports and discussion

Lunch

Committee reports and discussion

Floor actions

Farewells by the panel 65 delegates

Closing remarks by Terry Bedient, Chairman of the General Service Board and Class A trustee

The meeting, the Conference was adjourned well after 8:30 p.m.

Closing Serenity Prayer in English, French and Spanish

Saturday, April 23rd *Not officially a day of the Conference

Brunch 08:00 a.m.

Farewell talks by rotating trustees

—Items of Interest—

Eleven "floor actions" were submitted for consideration throughout the course of the week. Of the 11 submitted: #5 "failed", #2 were "withdrawn", #1 was "declined", #3 "passed". The Conference allows floor actions to be presented while the Conference is in session conducting the business of A.A. The floor actions that passed:

1. "The General Service Conference delegates be provided a copy of the final approved General Service Board and A.A. Grapevine budgets with pre-Conference material for all future Conferences" was amended and passed with substantial unanimity
2. "That the General Service Board develop a new policy and a plan that enhances the General Service Conference agenda Review and Selection process, providing the Area delegate members of the Conference a role in vetting and selection of proposed agenda items through the Conference process to be brought to the 2017 Service Conference." passed with substantial unanimity
3. The trustees' committee on the General Service Conference create a plan to translate Conference background material, considering all possible methods, with a progress report to be forwarded to the 2017 Conference committee on Policy and Admissions that describes the process and costs" defeated, minority opinion, reconsidered, amended, passed with substantial unanimity

Consideration of the eleven floor actions took place between approximately 3:15 p.m. until after 8:00 p.m.

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- A new corrections PSA was authorized to replace "It sure beats sitting in a cell" called "A new freedom"
 - Conference Guidelines to be revised: look see at "friendly amendments" and other procedures.
 - The Grapevine Conference committee chair will be allowed full participation at the January board meeting as are all other delegate chairs.
 - Two new book titles were placed in the Grapevine printing queue "Steps Four and Five"(working title) and "Stories by Atheist and Agnostic A.A. members" (working title).
 - The 69th General Service Conference be held April 28-May 4, 2019.
 - The Public Service Announcement video "I thought" was voted to be discontinued.
 - There will be information included on young people's conferences in the pamphlet "Young people and A.A."
 - "No action" was taken on the request for a plain English version of the Big Book.
 - The term "Special Needs" was removed from name of the Conference committee on Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities. The new name Treatment/Accessibilities.
 - No change in the \$3,000 dollar maximum annual limit for giving from A.A. members. It was thought the needed increase in funding needs to come from the groups not a few wealthy members. If any one member wishes to leave more than \$3,000 dollars in a year they can do so right now in the basket.
 - A new section will be added to the pamphlet "If You are a Professional" . . . A.A. members and medications A.A. does not provide medical advice; all medical advice and treatment should come from qualified health care professionals. "The A.A. member—Medications & Other Drugs" may help A.A. members minimize the risk of relapse.
 - Changes to the pamphlet "How A.A. members cooperate with professionals."
 - Major removal of language found on page 58 of the A.A. Service Manual in the text on Concept Eleven of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*. "Women workers present still another problem. . .
 - Electronic voting was used once again on Friday. It was accepted as accurate and a time saver.
 - New procedure for filling a vacancy of a Regional Trustee if that occurs prior to September 1 of the trustees first year. The adopted change will require an modification of the bylaws which will be reviewed by the Conference in 2017.

Central Michigan Intra Area

Delegate Area 32

Area 32 Groups Contributing to our General Service Office in 2015

35.69%

OUR GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE LISTS #720 REGISTERED GROUPS IN THE FOURTEEN DISTRICTS THAT DEFINE CENTRAL MICHIGAN INTRA AREA. OF THOSE #720 GROUPS #257 GROUPS CHOSE TO SUPPORT THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE WITH THEIR 7TH TRADITION FUNDS. THE REMAINING #463 GROUPS MADE OTHER CHOICES.

AS WITH INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS, SOME GROUPS STRUGGLE TO SIMPLY MEET THEIR GROUP OBLIGATIONS (RENT, COFFEE, LITERATURE ETC., ETC.). YET OTHER GROUPS WHO DO HAVE MONEY AVAILABLE BEYOND THEIR IMMEDIATE GROUP NEEDS HAVE DETERMINED "A.A. HAS ALL THE MONEY IT NEEDS." THOSE GROUPS CHOOSE NOT TO SUPPORT THIS LIFE SAVING FELLOWSHIP BEYOND THEIR OWN GROUP, CHOOSING INSTEAD TO FUND ONLY "GROUP ACTIVITIES." 35.69% OF THE REGISTERED GROUPS IN CMIA SUPPORT THE FELLOWSHIP AND THE REMAINING 64.31% OF THE REGISTERED GROUPS DO NOT.

AS MEMBERS IN GENERAL SERVICE, HAVE A MESSAGE TO SHARE WITH GROUPS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

A.A. NEEDS MONETARY SUPPORT FROM EVERY GROUP AND EVERY MEMBER TO MEET THE CHALLENGES AHEAD. EVERY SINGLE SERVICE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IS DESIGNED TO MAKE MORE AND BETTER TWELFTH STEP WORK POSSIBLE. THOSE SERVICES HAVE COSTS THAT ARE A *COLLECTIVE OBLIGATION* WHICH RESTS SQUARELY UPON US ALL.

OUR SUPPORT OF THE VITAL SERVICES THIS FELLOWSHIP PROVIDES AMOUNTS TO A CLEAR RECOGNITION ON OUR PART THAT ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MUST FUNCTION AT FULL STRENGTH EVERYWHERE.

BILL WILSON 1967—"UNDER OUR TRADITION OF SELF SUPPORT; WE ARE ALL GOING TO FOOT THE BILL"

EACH DISTRICT PLEASE ANNUALLY VISIT YOUR GROUPS AND HELP THEM TO CONNECT OR TO STAY CONNECTED TO A.A. AS A WHOLE.