

WINTER ASSEMBLY JANUARY TREASURER REPORT

Don H, Treasurer

ENGLISH

Thank you is in order as I and our team are grateful.

- To each member, group and district for their support with contributions, as well as all of our trusted servants, the Finance Committee (Drew, Ada, Simon, Jenn) and our Officers.
- To all of our servants who have provided support, inspiration, and suggestions to do things better or differently – have learned a lot.
- Reminds me, what I suggest and how I do it makes a difference, so I try to follow HP's lead & spirit. I'm still learning and growing.

The 7th Tradition at the November ACM was \$159 (\$139 cash and \$20 online) and December \$124 (\$106 cash and \$18 online). Remember, there are many ways to contribute: 1) check to the CNIA address; 2) Zelle to treasurer@cnia.org; 3) online at CNIA website; and 4) cash or checks to me at events!

Please keep in mind our best practices spelled out and distributed since last March, in the handout, 'A7 Treas Role and Sugg Reimb Pract 24-03 DCMs GSRs BiL.' It clarifies:

- Who has the responsibility for reimbursing costs (i.e., me, the group, the district or the area);
- Who to ask for help (i.e., sponsor, other AA members, treasurer and experienced trusted servants);
- How to share, reasonably, expenses like rooms, transportation and such with others; and
- Defines reasonable costs.

The Expense/Revenue summary reports:

- November showed balances are: checking (\$20,979.60), prudent reserve (\$15,001.99) and prepaid reserve for the Forum (sinking, \$1,098.05); total \$37,079.64.
- December showed balances are: checking (\$17,646), prudent reserve (\$15,002.02) and prepaid reserve for the Forum (sinking, \$1,098.08); total \$33,746. This includes revenue and expenses for Winter Assembly 2025 to date end of 2024 – always some overlap and \$5,507.32 spent in 2024 for PRAASA 2025.

Overall, we had a very good group conscience on the Spending Plan for 2025 – starting July ACM, through the October Mini-PRAASA and this is ongoing. Thank you for participating, input and suggestions in the Area 07 Inventory.

- Overall, we found a reasonable way, to support the Archives relocation and maintain Hispanic Conference funding and mileage reimbursement at \$0.67/mile.
- We reduced cost of Accents, attendance at the Regional Forum, and the delegate contribution to the General Service Conference. We maintained a foundation for rent, insurance, translation (including some for ASL) and technology.

We will see how things go. The spending plan is a black/white snapshot but service activities and life are not:

- Forgot to omit cost of national archives meeting in 2025 – there is none.
- We did not reduce funding to PRAASA and then there are higher than expected PRAASA costs (flights and a stay of 3 nights for some) reasonably \$1,200 probably not \$800; not all will go.
- Projecting revenue (not a typical practice): 1) due to variation in assembly costs in 2024 so we earned a little revenue – but raised registration to cover translation cost – depends if we go above 175 attendees, probably; 2) group, district contributions 'ask' of \$64,000 not \$60,000 so we don't cut back on services, overall.

- Overlap year-to-year in plans: Winter assembly, PRAASA and even preconference and postconference assemblies.

As we're settling into a more regular state post-pandemic, and post-surplus service spending, too, our work is ongoing and we need to use existing and new best practices:

- Communicate, communicate and communicate.
- Reflect on the 'value' of service activities – governed by principles – with short summaries of the tangibles and intangibles: PRAASA officer and chair query
- Starting in June instead of July with the spending plan and largely avoid changes over the final month of spending plan process.
- Directly communicating with GSRs – with simplified information for groups – in addition to the DCMs
- Provide brief summaries to GSRs and DCMs with treasury/finance (e.g., 5-10 lines; 1-pagers) after the ACMs and assemblies to 'take home'.
- Can we facilitate a higher % of contributing groups: 30%-40% of groups and districts contribute to the Area and GSO/B and the Canadians are around 50%? We will get better data on this.
- If a group has \$ and has not considered splits (group, district, area and general service board/office), we suggest they look at this. We are not saying that area service is more important than others' service. Information on this is in the 7th Tradition Fact Sheet part of the handout distributed since last April, called, '7th Tradition D53 & D55 24-04-14 BiL'.
- The Finance Committee may create an 'Ad Hoc Group on the 7th Tradition' to provide information, get input and offer suggestions
- We can look at going more electronic to save postage and transportation – like the hybrid meetings.
- Other ideas?

Lastly, how have alcoholics defined 'value' or what is 'best' in/of our service over the years? And what is important, useful, meaningful, beneficial and effective spiritually? A search of the Grapevine suggests:

- Peace of mind or serenity? From 'Of Greater Value' by G.J. | Berkeley, California, 1950
- Being in a space to find riches? From 'The Value of Life' Jeff P. | Blythe, California, 2005
- Relationships, learning and growing? From 'To Value You More' by S.J. | The Woodlands, Texas, 2021
- Our spiritual path? 'Value in Repeating Old Discoveries' by E.A.T. | Flint, Michigan, 1948
- That which feeds us? From 'A Question of Values' by New Hampshire Wayside, 1953
- Whatever our Higher Power suggests is best for us [me]? From 'For the Best' by K. F. | Clifton, New Jersey, 1984
- Willingness to do many things against our [my] better judgment? From 'The Best Decision' by Hugh B. | Paho, Hawaii, 2000
- Something better or the best we can do? From 'Journey to the Best' by W. P. | Arlington Heights, Illinois, 1978
- Carrying the message to the alcoholic, group, district, area, national and/or world? From 'What Is the Third Legacy? World Service Its Heart' by Bill W. (2002, but excerpted from the AA Grapevine, July 1955)
- Being wherever our heart is – the group, our service or where? From 'The Best Group' by W. B. | Lexington, Kentucky, 1970

Let's keep the group conscience going, please – as in recovery, if we stop practicing the principles, we are doomed! And thank you for helping us be of service!