

ECO NEWS

\$1.00

April 2021

Edmonton Central Office Society
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From the Editor

Julia J. replaces former ECO Newsletter editor, Jan D. Julia has been sober since 1993. She grew up in Alberta, lived in Vancouver for 15 years, in Regina for 9 years where she sobered up, in Ontario for 20 years, and has now moved to Edmonton. Julia has a long history of AA service including Northern Ontario Intergroup literature person for many years (purchasing, storing and selling literature and medallions), and secretary of Northern Ontario Intergroup for two terms. She has attended AA meetings in many parts of the world including Poland, Spain, USA, China, Thailand, Portugal and Australia. Julia's advice to the newcomer: "Meetings, meetings, meetings".

This current edition of the ECO Newsletter is the product of efforts by Julia J. (the new editor) with the help of Jan D. (the former editor), Pam L. (Edmonton Central Office Manager) and volunteers in Central Office, Mike L., Christie N., and Daniel E.

In service and with gratitude,
Julia J., Editor of the ECO newsletter

TRADITION FOUR

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole."

"With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount."

(Reprinted from ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, P. 189, a publication of A. A.)



We would like to hear from you about your AA related experience, strength, and hope, keeping in mind copyright and credit concerns.

For example, write a short article about your home group, give your interpretation of a slogan, explain one of the steps or traditions, send a joke or cartoon keeping in mind the sensitivities of our readership. Any contributions will be appreciated.

Submissions should be between 250 and 300 words. Submit with your full name, group, and phone number where you can be reached (of course we will protect your anonymity).

Material must be submitted no later than the 20th of the preceding month for it to print in the next month's issue.

Submit articles to AA Central Office, #205, 10544-114 St NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 3J7 Fax: (587) 523-4334
Email: centraloffice@edmontonaa.org
Subject Line: Attention ECO News

GRAPEVINE Daily Quote

April 10, 2020

“Practicing the Twelve Traditions to the best of my ability has become just as vital a part of my personal recovery program as practicing the Twelve Steps. The Steps teach me how to think and act. The Traditions keep my personal program of recovery simple, well-balanced, and healthy.”

Fanwood, New Jersey, January 1991, “Service: A Framework for the Future,”
The Best of the Grapevine, Volume 3



STEP FOUR

“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”

... So these desires—for the sex relation, for material and emotional security, and for companionship —are perfectly necessary and right, and surely God-given.

Yet these instincts, so necessary for our existence, often far exceed their proper functions. Powerfully, blindly, many times subtly, they drive us, dominate us, and insist upon ruling our lives.

(Reprinted from 12 STEPS and 12 TRADITIONS, P. 42, a publication of A. A.)

PROMISE FOUR

“We will know Peace”



CONCEPT FOUR

At all responsibility levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation for each member in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that he/she must discharge.

(Paraphrased from the A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service)

AA Joke

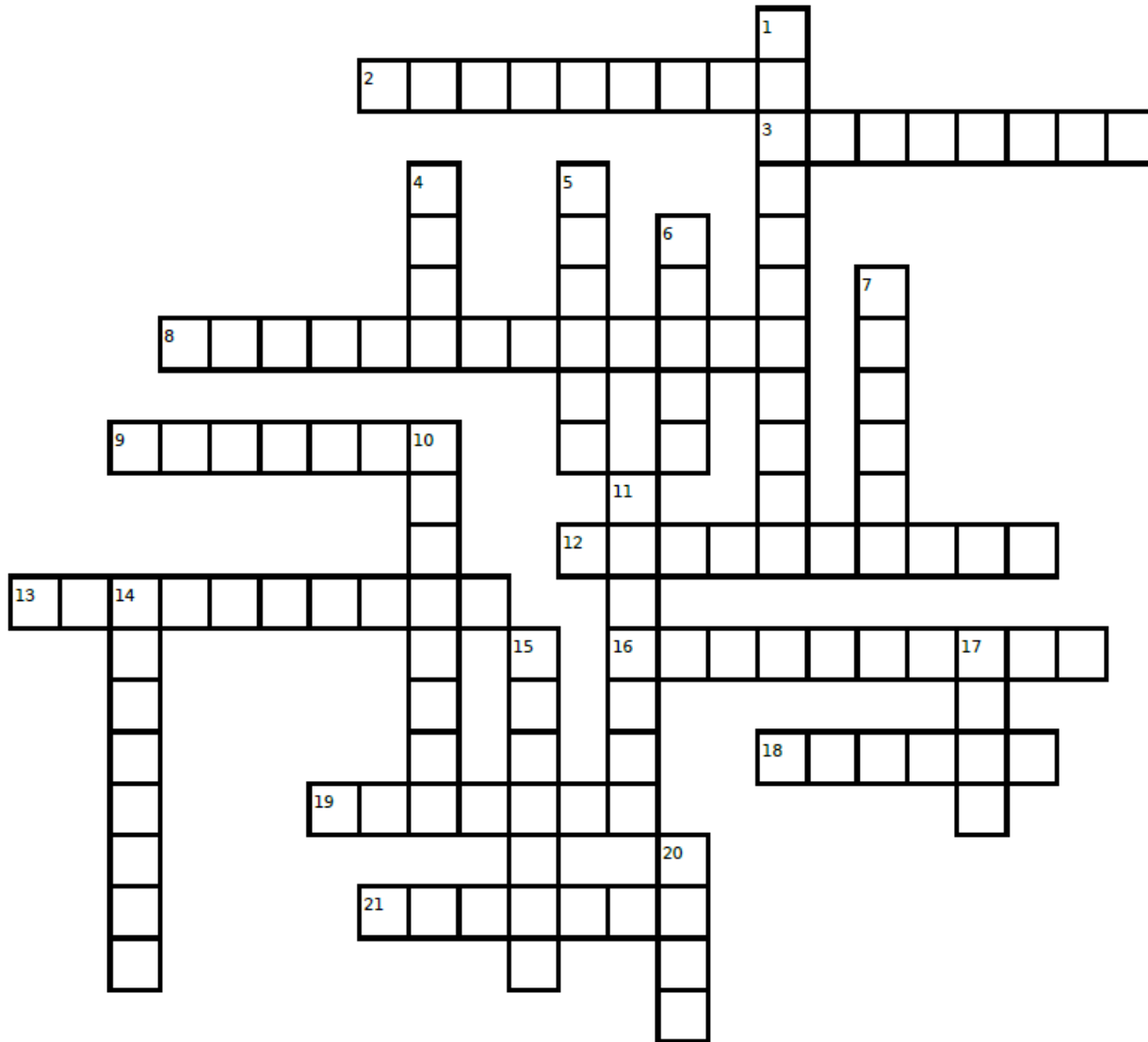
A son asked his dad, "Dad, what's an alcoholic?"

The dad replied, "Well, son, you see those four trees? An alcoholic would see eight."

The son replied, "But Dad, I only see two."

**KEEP
CALM
AND
STAY
SOBER**

Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. I am _____, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help...
4. Keep an _____ mind.
5. The only requirement is a _____ to stay sober.
6. Think, Think, _____.
7. I pray that you now remove from me every single _____ of character
10. Be part of the _____, not the problem.
11. Our common _____ should come first, ...
14. One drink is too many, and a _____ is not enough.
15. My _____ I am now willing that you should have all of me.
17. Don't get too hungry, angry, lonely, tired.
20. Sobriety Lost Its Priority.

Across:

2. Practice an attitude of _____.
3. Grant me _____ as I go out from here to do your bidding.
8. Principles before _____.
9. Stick with the _____.
12. Progress, not _____.
13. Each group should be _____ except in matters ...
16. Alcoholics Anonymous is a _____ of men and women...
18. _____ asked him to remove our shortcomings.
19. Free me from the _____ of self, that I may better do thy will.
21. We admitted we were powerless over _____, ...



Group Birthdays for April 2021

60 Minutes to Sobriety

Last Sunday
Apr 10 Des T. 11 yrs

Back to Basics

Last Saturday
Apr 9 Bert 12 yrs
18 Nicki W. 12 yrs

Gratitude group

Last Monday
Apr 6 Josh F. 5 yrs
11 Trina S. 5 yrs
25 Sara 2 yrs

Last Call Group

Last Wednesday
Apr 18 Michelle L. 3 yrs

Mustard Seed Group

Last Sunday
Apr 7 Dave L. 41 yrs

Only those groups who have updated their members lists in Central Office as of 2020/2021 have been included.

South Side Group

Third Friday
Apr 9 David R. 2 yrs
11 Dennis F. 25 yrs

Step Sisters

Last Wednesday
Apr 13 Maureen A. 11 yrs
28 Joan J. 5 yrs

12 Steps to Serenity

Apr 13 Kelly K. 6 yrs
23 Brad F. 22 yrs

Sunday Night

Last Sunday
Apr 1 Arlene B. 5 yrs
27 Shirley S. 29 yrs
28 Grant L. 1 yrs

Groups: please send Birthdays in May to the editor by email or update your members list at Central Office.

St. Albert Breakfast

Apr 1 Garry G. 13 yrs
3 Michelle B. 2 yrs
10 Jocelyn M. 2 yrs
30 Mac F. 1 yr

West End 12 Step

First Tuesday
Apr 19 Toby M. 36 yrs

Westminster

Last Saturday
Apr 7 Ronald R. 35 yrs
14 Gerry H. 11 yrs
21 Christine W. 27 yrs
22 Linda T. 27 yrs
25 Terry F.A. 46 yrs
27 JoAnn 2 yrs

WEMG Group

Last Wednesday
Apr 7 Dave J. 4 yrs
12 Lucas H. 5 yrs
17 Jason H. 4 yrs
29 Seann H. 8 yrs



AA HISTORY FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

April 1

1939 – “Alcoholics Anonymous”, AA’s Big Book was published.

1940 – Larry J. of Houston, wrote The Texas Preamble used to open AA meetings in Texas.

1966 – Sister Ignatia died at the age of 77. She worked with Dr. Bob in treating many early AA members at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron.

1984 – 12 Coconuts Group, Kapiolani Park, Waikiki, Hawaii, was founded.

April 3

1941 – First Florida AA meeting was held.

April 4

1960 – The Chicago Daily News reported that Fr. Ed D., a Jesuit priest who helped start the first AA group in St. Louis, had died at age 62.

April 7

1941 – Ruth Hock, Bill W.’s secretary, reported there were 1,500 letters asking for help, as a result of the Saturday Evening Post Article by Jack Alexander.

April 10

1939 – The first ten copies of the Big Book arrived at the office Bill shared with Hank P. in Newark, New Jersey.

April 11

1938 – Alcoholic Foundation held its first meeting.

1939 – Marty M. attended her first meeting at the home of Bill and Lois W. in Brooklyn.

1941 – Bill and Lois W. moved into their new home, Stepping Stones.

April 12

1942 – The Windsor Daily Star in Ontario, Canada, reported that over 400 AA’s attended a testimonial dinner for Dr. Bob.

April 16

1940 – A sober Rollie H. caught the only opening day no-hitter in baseball history since 1909.

1973 – Dr. Jack Norris, non-alcoholic Chairman of the AA General Service Board, presented President Richard Nixon with the one-millionth copy of the Big Book at the White House.

April 17

1941 – 2nd group in Los Angeles, the “Hole in the Ground Group” was formed.

April 19

1940 – First AA group in Little Rock, Arkansas, was formed.

April 22

1940 Bill W. transferred his Works Publishing Stock to the Alcoholic Foundation. The date on which Hank P. transferred his stock is uncertain.

April 23

1940 – Dr. Bob wrote the Trustees to refuse Big Book royalties, but Bill W. insisted on them for Dr. Bob and Anne.

April 24

1989 – Dr. Leonard Strong died. He was Bill’s brother-in-law and a non-alcoholic AA Trustee.

April 25

1951 – AA’s first General Service Conference was held.

April 26

1939 – Bill & Lois W. moved in with Hank P. after the bank foreclosed on 182 Clinton St. This was the first of over 50 moves before they acquired Stepping Stones.

April 30

1989 – The film “My Name is Bill W.,” a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation, was broadcast at 9 p.m. on ABC TV.

Other April events for which we have no specific dates (Reprinted from Oregon Area 58):

1940 – The “Texas Preamble” used to open meetings in Texas, was written by Larry J. of Houston.

1940 – The first AA pamphlet was published, entitled simply “AA.”

1958 – The word “honest” was dropped from “an honest desire to stop drinking,” in the AA Preamble.

1960 – Bill W. refused to be on the cover of Time Magazine.

1988 – Cybil C., the first woman member in Los Angeles and archivist, died.

God Leaves the Door Open for Everyone

No Need to Overthink This Issue

The Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) program is open to anyone that has a desire to stop drinking. It makes no difference if you are an atheist, agnostic, Buddhists or a member of one of the vast number of religions in the world. All of us have the same opportunity to get well through the steps. They were fashioned that way to ensure that no alcoholic is left out. We embrace everyone that walks through that door. If step two had been written to say, "Came to believe that God", rather than, "a Power greater than ourselves." could restore me to sanity, I wonder if A.A. would have succeeded in the way that it has, especially when we consider the problems that the Oxford group had with this issue. I have seen people talking of religion, and others that were irritated with any talk of God, yet we still hold hands at the end of the meeting and say a prayer and everyone leaves the meeting feeling a little better. I personally know priests and ministers in the program, and they seem to adjust to the diversity of the landscape. I wish that it could be simpler for each person, but there are no two people that are identical in this matter. Speaking for myself, if I wanted to be freed from the deadly obsession of alcoholism, I had to trust the guidance of the two books that are suggested, and the leadership of the more experienced members of the group, to come to terms with a concept of a power greater than myself. I was the one in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (12&12) that "tried religion and had found it wanting". I also read that, "even the militant atheist got through the hoop with room to spare". I did not believe in the God of the religionist, in the same way, that I thought, they did, but I did not think I was an atheist either. The Power Greater than myself option, was a good start for me. Something happened to me within minutes after arriving at my first introduction to three people, sitting on a bench in the front yard of a little house in Los Angeles, where they held their meetings, and I the obsession to drink was gone, and I have not had, nor wanted, a drink since then. You might call that a miracle, and you might be right, depending on your definition of a miracle, but it came to me as a profound Change of Perception brought about by the Love, Understanding and Compassion I sensed as they welcomed me. These experiences were a great way for me to start, but NOW, WHAT ABOUT PRAYER? Who or what do I pray to? I heard about doorknobs and icons, the ocean, and other such things but that way of thinking did not set well with me. I did not want to be too glib about such an important matter. Then I noticed that, in step two, it did not say that I had to believe in anything, only that I had to believe that a power greater than myself, could restore me to sanity. The collective wisdom of the A.A. program and the people in it have been the framework for my faith in a higher power. The experience that I had in that front yard, fifty-one years ago, was all I needed to know to get on with the rest of the program. I pray to God every day to show me what to do and to give me the strength to do it and I still do not know for sure, who or what God is. I use the word God, only to describe the spiritual influence that A.A. has had on this drunk. I pray to God as I understand God, and he expresses himself in my consciousness, the only thing left for me to do is to separate the wheat from the chaff.

... Rick R., Unconditional AA, Poway, CA

2021 Calendar of Events

Area78

April 10 Archives Workshop – Creating a District Archives -9am-12pm
Must register with Archivist to obtain zoon id: archivist@area78.org

Apr 14 & 27 DCM Fellowship Connection Training Session-7:00-8:30pm
zoon id: 7366511306 -Contact Jeff B. grouprecords.70@area78.org

Edmonton, AB

April 10 District 40 Spring Unity Event
11am-1:00pm - zoon id: 8427435949

Regina, SK (Central Office: 306-545-9300)
April 10- Vibank 30th Annual AA/ AL-ANON
Virtual Roundup -11:30am -9:15pm CST

CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDMONTON CENTRAL OFFICE

In keeping with the AA Seventh Tradition of self-support, Edmonton Central Office can accept contributions only from AA members and AA Groups.

Contributions can be made to Edmonton Central Office by any of the following methods (AA members or groups only please):

- **E-transfer to centraloffice@edmontonaa.org** you will need to provide the answer to the security question via a separate email to this address.

- Visa or MasterCard either over the phone (780-424-5900) or in person (by appointment)

- Cheque made payable to "Edmonton Central Office" and brought to the office (by appointment) or mailed to the office at:

Edmonton Central Office

Suite 205

10544 114 St NW

Edmonton, AB T5H 3J7

- Cash brought to the office (by appointment).

- Arranging on-going monthly contributions by calling or emailing Central Office

The Edmonton Central Office Society is a registered charity. A tax receipt will be issued early in 2022 to individuals whose contribution is greater than \$20.00. For a receipt to be issued, the full name and address of the individual is needed. The receipt will indicate a contribution to the Edmonton Central Office Society.

Note: You can phone Central Office weekdays from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. If you need to visit Central Office, please arrange an appointment by phone or email.

MISSING GRAPEVINE MAGAZINES

The following Grapevine magazines are missing from our Archives.

July 1944 – December 1949 –

1949 All except May

1950 All

1951 All except Jan., Feb. & Oct.

1952 All

1953 All except July

1954 All except March, August & Nov.

1955 Only January & February

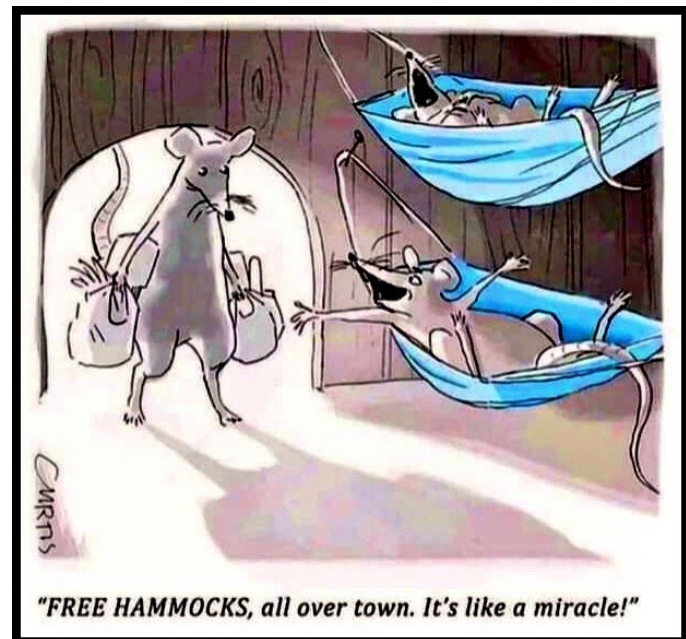
1956 Only Jan., February, April & Nov.

1957 Only February, June & July

1958 Only January

1959 Only August

2015 Only February



"FREE HAMMOCKS, all over town. It's like a miracle!"

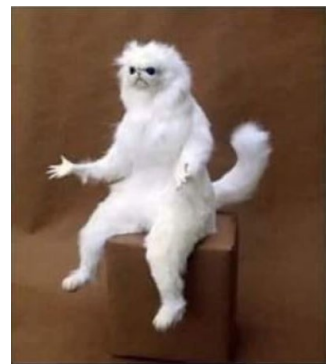
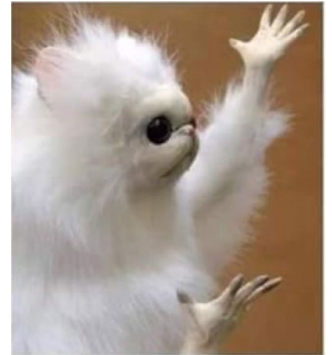
Cartoon by Kate Curtis. Permission to reprint granted under the Creative Commons license.



"Nowadays every bottle seems to say 'drink me'."

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When you've worked the twelve steps and you're still less than ideal.



"We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol, that our lives had become unmanageable."

BIRTHDAY CLUB

"What is the Birthday Club"

- A show of gratitude by AA members, who contribute \$1.00 or more for each year of continuous sobriety.
- These funds are used to HELP SUPPORT Central Office staff and volunteers to carry the Twelfth Step message during the office hours.
- You will receive personal Birthday Card on your sobriety date.
- Please contact Central Office, if you want to join our **BIRTHDAY CLUB!** #205, 10544 – 114 St., Edmonton, AB T5H 3J7 780-424—5900
Email: centraloffice@edmontonaa.org

BIRTHDAY CLUB

Julia J.



THERE ARE NO FAITHFUL FIVERS MEMBERS THIS MONTH

E.G.S.C. Report for April 2021

E.G.S.C (Edmonton General Service Committee) meets once a month on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30-7:30pm currently on zoom. We have different committee members who report on their committees. The committees are

Treatment

Corrections

PI/CPC – Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community

Grapevine

E.G.S.C currently has two positions available: Alternate Chair and Alternate Secretary

We are currently looking for DCM'S for District 46 and 55.

We also have GSR'S and DCM'S who attend the E.G.S.C meeting. If you are a GSR or a DCM, please come and join us.

There is a need for sponsors for the young offender's program.

PI.CPC will be having a virtual luncheon. This event is being held for those in the professional community who are interested in learning how Alcoholics Anonymous can help individuals within the scope of your professional practice to gain and maintain sobriety.

When June 23, 2021 11:45am to 1:15pm. The complete poster is on the AA website. For more information or to RSVP contact the CI/PIC chair. Egsc.picpcchair@edmonton.org

The Grapevine committee is looking for all Grapevine reps to contact the Grapevine chair. The Grapevine chair would like to get a list of what groups have a Grapevine Rep. You can email the Grapevine chair at lynne1252@shaw.ca

DISCLAIMER:

ECO News is published monthly on behalf of Edmonton Intergroup. All printed and mailed copies are to be paid for either by subscription or walk in. Email copies are free. There is no use of funds donated via 7th Tradition process. Minimal editing may be done. This newsletter presents the experiences and opinions of AA members and relays information received at Central Office concerning Roundups, Conferences, birthdays, and other events that may be of interest to subscribers. Any opinions expressed should not be attributed to AA. Publication of any article does not imply endorsement.

Edmonton Central Office Society			
INCOME STATEMENT 2021			
	February		
	Actuals	Budget	variance
General Receipts:			
Group Contributions	\$ 5,904.40	\$6,232.00	\$327.60
Individual/Bequeath	\$ 5,445.00	\$0.00	-\$5,445.00
Birthday Club/Faithful Fivers	\$ 193.00	\$5.11	-\$187.89
Office Supplies / Postage	\$ 118.00	\$173.05	\$55.05
Newsletter	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rental Income-EGSC, etc	\$ -	\$115.61	\$115.61
Tradition Seven-meetings	\$ 264.46	\$372.25	\$107.79
Fundraising	\$ -	\$416.67	\$416.67
Other Inc (Interest, etc)	\$ 2.31	\$2.21	-\$0.10
Total General Receipts	\$ 11,927.17	\$7,316.90	-\$4,610.27
Literature & Medallion			
Literature	\$ 13,580.20	\$15,339.26	\$1,759.06
Medallion	\$ 1,366.00	\$3,317.06	\$1,951.06
Total Literature and Med.	\$ 14,946.20	\$18,656.32	\$3,710.12
Total Revenue	\$ 26,873.37	\$25,973.22	-\$900.15
Expenses: (COS)			
AAWS & Grapevine Literature	\$ 8,728.98	\$8,834.76	\$105.78
Meeting list & Greeting Cards	\$ 183.14	\$903.30	\$720.16
Medallion Purch /engraving	\$ 762.39	\$1,925.05	\$1,162.66
Freight / Brokerage	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$ 9,674.51	\$11,663.11	\$1,988.60
Intergroup Expenses			
12 Step Answering	\$ 404.87	\$408.34	\$3.47
Literature expense	\$ 4.20	\$13.76	\$9.56
Communications & Tech	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other (Archive, 12 Step,Cred,Grp Serv)	\$ -	\$100.00	\$100.00
	\$ 409.07	\$522.10	\$113.03
Administrative Expenses			
Accounting & Legal	\$ 179.38	\$242.53	\$63.15
Bank Chgs & Cr Card chgs	\$ 118.05	\$98.11	-\$19.94
Computer & IT Maintenance	\$ 473.13	\$0.00	-\$473.13
Equipment Lease	\$ 359.77	\$695.91	\$336.14
Fundraising expense	\$ -	\$416.67	\$416.67
Insurance	\$ 267.36	\$368.02	\$100.66
Newsletter Expenses	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$ 276.69	\$341.84	\$65.15
Postage	\$ 194.06	\$145.27	-\$48.79
Rent	\$ 3,634.65	\$3,676.42	\$41.77
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salaries, Source, WCB	\$ 5,100.61	\$5,000.05	-\$100.56
Staff Training / Seminar	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
Telephone / Internet	\$ 133.09	\$222.21	\$89.12
	\$ 10,736.79	\$11,207.03	\$470.24
Total Expenses	\$ 20,820.37	\$23,392.24	\$2,571.87
Income / (Loss)	\$ 6,053.00	\$0.00	-\$6,053.00

