

Greater Toronto Area Intergroup

GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009

The meeting convened at 8 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Glenn G. (East York) read the Twelve Traditions. **THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:** A Place to Share, Agincourt Acorn, Bayview, Beaches, Birds of a Feather, Bloordale, Chartwell, Credit Valley, Fellowship, Hill, Keys to Serenity, King City, Kipling, Lakeshore, Lansing, Last Chance, Leslie, Markham Village, Mississauga, Mount Dennis, Mount Royal-York, Newmarket, Recovery (Thornhill), Richmond Hill, Royal York, Silverbirch, Sunday Northwestern, Thornhill, Twelfth Tradition, Twelve Steps, Unionville, and Weston Sunday Open. **District Liaisons:** Districts 02, 06, 14, and 18. **Subcommittee Chairs:** Archives, Public Information, Treatment Facilities, and Twelfth Step.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – November 2009: MOTION to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Jim O. (Markland Wood) and seconded by Margaret T. (Bayview). MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRPERSON’S OPENING REMARKS – Florence B. (Noon Rap), Operating Committee Chairperson: After welcoming all the new group reps that were present, Florence thanked the office staff for all their hard work this year. She also commented that it was a “terrific year for Gratitude”. Florence also announced that *all service resumes for the ORC 2012 Chair position should be in to the office by Dec.31.*

Collection of the 7th Tradition: \$101.31.

FINANCE REPORT – Bruce L. (Back to Basics), Finance Chairperson: *the following report was handed out to members present:* **Finance Report for the month of November 2009**

Summary:

	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET INCOME
NOVEMBER	\$30,372	\$14,185	\$16,187
COMPARISON TO BUDGET	11,788	-3,101	14,889
NOVEMBER YEAR TO DATE	\$244,429	\$156,015	\$88,414
COMPARISON TO BUDGET	54,470	- 39,390	93,860

November and year-to-date income are over budget. The budget was conservative, reflecting economic conditions in the last quarter of 2008. Donations, sales and the success of ORC and Archives breakfast have exceeded expectations. Expenses were under budget in most categories. Year-to-date expenses are lower than expected due salary costs, delayed audit billing, 2007 property tax rebate and 2008 refund and committee expenses.

In detail: In the month of November, donations were \$20,942, above budget by \$10,442. Year-to-date donations were \$140,671, which was \$29,005 over budget. November Income before Operating Expenses was \$30,372, over budget by \$11,278. Sales were \$12,776, over budget by \$2,409 but offset by an increase in Cost of Goods Sold. YTD Income before Operating Expenses was \$244,429, over budget by \$54,470 mainly due to the ORC contribution and higher than expected individual gratitude and group donations. Total expenses for November were \$14,185, under budget by \$3,101 due to a slight under run in most operating expense categories. Year-to-date total expenses were \$156,015, which is \$39,390 under budget. In addition to deferred legal / audit expenditures, there has been a general under run in payroll, operating and committee expense. The new phone system cost less than forecast and 2007 property tax rebate and 2008 refund were not budgeted. Net income for November was \$16,187, over budget by \$14,889. Year-to-date net income was \$88,414, over budget by \$93,860 the combined impact of gratitude donations and group donations, the ORC contribution, deferred legal/audit expenses and lower than expected operating expenses. **Prudent Reserve as of November 30, 2009 –** Book value + accrued interest: \$124,981.

Bruce then referred to the **2010 Operating Budget** (*Below*) and made some points to group reps about this item. Income donations are based on a 3-year average, which is lower than 2009 donations. Literature prices will decrease, because of lower US dollar exchange rates. The volume of sales is expected to increase slightly. The contingency fund for committee expenses (i.e. purchase of literature for institutions, etc.) has been increased to \$5,000. This brings our budget to over \$200,000 for the year. This budget anticipates a surplus of under \$24,000.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS TORONTO INTERGROUP

2010 BUDGET

**January through
December**

	<u>total</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Intergroup 7th	1,860
INCOME	
DONATIONS	
Donation and	
Commitments	79,000
Individual	
Gratitude	
Donations	<u>70,000</u>
Total INCOME	
DONATIONS	149,000
OTHER INCOME	
Winter Season	
Open House	950
Newsletter	1,344
Interest Income	1,820
Archive's Income	
(from cmte)	7,050
Ontario Regional	
Conference	0
Miscellaneous	
Revenue	<u>0</u>
Total OTHER	
INCOME	11,164
sales	
* Literature - Sales	98,000
Alumin. Chip -	
* Sales	11,000
Medallion - Sales	17,000
Plast Chip -	
* Sales	4,300
* VHS - Sales	50
Cassettes, DVD,	
* CD - Sales	700
Lapel Pins -	
* Sales	100
Archive Sales	100
Engraving	
Medallions -	
Revenue	9,700
Other Sales	
Income	1,600

Delivery & Freight	5,050
Inventory Y/E adjustments	<u>500</u>
Total SALES	<u>148,100</u>
Total Income	310,124
Cost of Goods Sold	
Inventory Write Off	225
Literature - COS	66,000
Alumin. Chip - COS	4,200
Medallion - COS	4,600
Plast Chip - COS	1,120
VHS - COS	32
Cassettes, DVD, CD - COS	495
Archives - COS	50
Other - COS	705
Cost of Goods Sold (do not use)	0
Discount & Handling Chrgs	<u>1,200</u>
Total COGS	<u>78,627</u>
Gross Profit	231,497
Expense	
Exchange Gain/Loss	200
Total Payroll	
Expenses	66,834
Operating Expenses	
Web Hosting (current rate)	396
Sundry Expense (Taxis, etc.)	600
Bad Debts (YTD = \$140)	400
Leased Equipment	6,000
Consulting Fees	
Service Contracts	4,200
Insurance	2,500
Literature Dept. Expense	5,927
Legal & Audit	1,000
Gratitude Letter	6,040
Bank Charges	2,756
Postage & Delivery	6,250
Rent	28,350

Hydro	1,728
Property Taxes	7,438
Office Supplies	4,275
Telephone	
Business Line	6,300
Directory Advertising Business	2,640
Internet	<u>840</u>
Total Telephone	9,780
Office Equipment & Furniture	6,000
Computer Software & Misc	<u>22,000</u>
Total Operating Expenses	115,640
Committee Expenses	
Archives (from cmte)	5,900
Access Ability (from cmte)	1,000
CPC (from cmte)	800
Correction Facilities (from cmte)	500
Operating Committee (from cmte)	2,650
Public Information Treatment Facilities	300
Twelfth Step Committee	3,600
Winter Season Open House	1,750
Newsletter Committee	7,120
Info AA Day Contingency Committee	1,000
Expense	5,000
Total Committee Expenses	24,920
Uncategorized Expenses	<u>0</u>
Total Expense	<u>207,594</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>23,903</u>
Net Income	<u><u>23,903</u></u>

Bruce fielded various questions from the Floor. Jim O. (Markland Wood) inquired about the markup on books from GSO. Bruce replied that we apply a rate of exchange to GSO prices and then apply a markup to compensate for

literature department expenses. Diane (District 14 Liaison) inquired as to whether we could donate excess funds to GSO; Bruce mentioned that this could be an option in the future, depending on the level of our Prudent Reserve. Margaret T. (Bayview) made the comment that, if we didn't have a one-year Prudent Reserve, why would we donate? Bruce replied that this is a good policy for the future.

MOTION to accept 2010 Budget as presented moved by Brian T. (Twelve Traditions) and seconded by Amanda (Fellowship). **MOTION CARRIED.**

Bruce announced that the Finance Committee has acquired one more new member (Harold Y., Port Credit), in addition to two new members (Don and Tim). Roy H. (Bloorale) will stay on the committee for another term. Bruce mentioned that he is rotating out as Chairperson, and thanked all present for the opportunity to serve. The 2010 Finance Chairperson has not been announced. *There is still one vacancy on the Finance Committee. 5 years of continuous sobriety and some business/accounting experience helpful.* The term for serving on the Finance Committee is two years. *Please send service resumes to the Operating Committee c/o 234.*

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCESS ABILITY – Phil M. (Bloorale), **Operating Liaison:** There is nothing major to report at this time. Phil reports that there has been a slight increase in groups listing the 'ASL Interpreters welcome' indicator on their closed meeting listings. He shared that American Sign Language Interpreters [for the deaf] follow a very strict code of ethics; therefore, there is no need for groups to be concerned that anonymity would be broken in any way. **Next meeting:** Sun. Jan. 17 at 11 a.m. at 234.

ARCHIVES – Glenn G. (East York), **Operating Liaison:** There was no meeting in December. **Next meeting:** Sun. Jan.10 at 10a.m. at 234.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES – no report. **Next meeting:** Mon. Jan.4 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

COOPERATION with the PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC) – Ed R. (Rouge Valley Centenary), **Operating Liaison:** 5 members were present at the last meeting. Items discussed: review of the recent APA Convention, review of committee budget, ordering of DVDs from GSO, purchase of 420 Beginner Pamphlets for distribution, and distribution of letters to professionals. **Next meeting:** Mon. Jan.11 at 7 p.m. at 234.

INFORMATION AA DAY 2010 – no report. **Next meeting:** Mon. Jan.25 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2010 – Jim A. (Leslie), **Committee member:** The event, themed 'Celebrating Sobriety' will be held March 19, 20, and 21 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Event placards/registration flyers were made available to reps at this meeting. For inquiries, please call 416-487-2677 or e-mail at orc@aatoronto.org. Want to get a Hospitality Suite? Please call 1-800-441-1414 for availability. *Pre-registration is available and encouraged.* There are early bird draws for those who register early (monthly draws for CDs and 2 prizes of one free room night at the Hotel). Tim R. (Chartwell), ORC 2010 committee P.I. and Hospitality contact, mentioned that the ORC needs about 200 greeter volunteers for the event. Please use Greeter sign-up sheets and submit by Jan.26.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – no meeting held in December. **Next meeting:** Mon. Jan.18 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

RECEPTION – Glenn G. (East York), **Operating Liaison:** 28 groups were represented this evening.

TREATMENT FACILITIES – Elaine H. (Streetsville), **Chairperson:** Good evening friends – I am a grateful alcoholic, a member of the Streetsville Group, and have the honour and privilege of serving as the chair of the GTA Treatment Facilities Committee and my name is Elaine. Treatment Facilities is active with current TF Chairs in all districts. The last meeting was held on Nov.19 with Districts 04,06,10, and 12 in attendance, and reports submitted by Districts 02, 10, 18, and 22. TF is active in all Districts in supporting meetings in hospitals, detox, treatment centres and shelters, and providing literature as required with support from districts. New meetings are being established at Peel Region Shelter in Dist.06, CAMH in the withdrawal management unit (Dist.10), re-established at Branson Hospital (Dist.04 and 14) and at Scarborough Hospital psychiatric division. 2 districts report initiatives for new meetings in 2010. Bridging the Gap requests for temporary contacts is currently quiet. The TF committee will focus in early 2010 on re-establishing contacts with and providing information to treatment centres on this program. Due to conflicts with home group events and expected low attendance, the December meeting of the committee at 234 is cancelled. Their **next meeting** is Thurs.Jan.21 at 7:30 p.m. at 234. *Yours in Love and Service, Elaine H.*

TWELFTH STEP – Jim O. (Markland Wood), **Chairperson:** This committee will be holding a **Training Session for conducting Twelfth Step Calls on Wed. Jan.13 at 234.** *The flyer for the event states the following:*

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED!!!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

The 12 Step Committee is inviting those who have years of sobriety and experience in helping the still-suffering alcoholic to assist in training. They are also inviting those who have not had the opportunity to connect the still-suffering alcoholic with a sober alcoholic – also known as a 12-Step Call.

WHERE: 234, or dial to Conference Call@234@416-487-5591 and ask to be directed to the Conference Telephone in the Boardroom (1st come, 1st serve)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Telephone Greeters (those who answer the phones at 234) with or without experience in connecting a still-suffering alcoholic with a sober alcoholic

AGENDA: 1) Review guidelines that were developed at the October 13 meeting by potential 12-Step volunteers, Telephone Greeters, and 12 Step Committee members; 2) Share stories/experiences on how a still-suffering alcoholic was connected with a sober alcoholic through the phone lines at 234. *RSVP to list on Bulletin Board at 234.*

Jim also announced that the committee *needs volunteers for their committee and also for Greeter Captains (those who take care of the monthly phone volunteers and schedule).* Please announce this at your home groups. **Next phone Training Session:** Sun. Jan.17 at 1:30 p.m. at 234. **Next meeting:** Fri.Jan.29 at 7 p.m. at 234.

WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER – Aaron K. (Yorkville), **Chairperson:** Thank you to all committee members and Intergroup Reps for a great year of service and sobriety! The Website/Better Times committee would like to wish everybody a serene and happy New Year. We always look forward to hearing your ideas and sharing your stories. Please have submissions in by the 10th of every month. If you would like to visit our committee and get active, we meet on *the second Saturday of the month.* **Next meeting:** Sat.Jan.9 at 1 p.m. at 234.

WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2009 – Marv W. (Mississauga), **event Treasurer:** the committee is busy getting ready for the event, to be held starting at 9:30 a.m. on Dec.25 at Emmanuel-Howard Park Church on Roncesvalles and Wright Ave. The day will feature meetings, music, fellowship, and a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. There will be limited parking as there is construction on Roncesvalles. ***More volunteers needed.***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tues. Jan.26 at 8 p.m. at Lansing United Church.