

GREATER TORONTO AREA INTERGROUP

GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2010

The meeting convened at 8 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Trevor O. (Mississauga) read the Twelve Traditions. **THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Amazing Grace, Anniversary, Back to Basics (Richmond Hill), Bayview, Beaches, Bellamy, Bloordale, Credit Valley, Deer Park, East York, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Glenholme, Happy Valley, High Park, Hill, K.F., Keep It Simple (Scarborough), Keys to Serenity, King City, Lakeshore, Markland Wood, Melrose, Mount Dennis, New Anchor, One Day at a Time, Open Hands, Pathfinders, Primary Purpose, Prince Edward, Royal York, Shepherd, Streetsville, Streetsville St. Andrews, Stepping Stones Discussion, Sunday Northwestern, Sunnyside, Thornhill, Tuesday Night Discussion, Twelve Steps, Welcome, Westmoreland, Weston Sunday Open, Willowdale, and Yorkville. **District Liaisons:** Districts 02, 06, 12, and 18. **Subcommittee Chairs:** Access Ability, Archives, Info AA Day, Twelfth Step, Website/Better Times, and Finance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – May 2010: MOTION to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Colin (Markland Wood) and seconded by Russell J. (New Anchor). MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS - John C. (Half Century), Executive Committee Chair: John shared that the GTAI subcommittees need support /attendance from both District Chairs and new volunteers.

There was a **collection of the 7th Tradition**, which totaled **\$108.54**.

FINANCE REPORT – Don M. (Hill), Finance Chair: *the following report was handed out to Floor members:*

GTA Intergroup Alcoholics Anonymous **Finance Report for the month of May 2010**

ALL FINANCE REPORTS ARE PRELIMINARY PENDING YEAR END ADJUSTMENTS FOR BOTH 2008 AND 2009**Summary:**

	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET INCOME
MAY	\$16,724	\$12,992	\$3,732
COMPARISION TO BUDGET	5,179	-7,546	12,725
MAY YEAR-TO-DATE	\$186,536	\$176,404	\$10,132
COMPARISION TO BUDGET	118,672	84,549	34,173

Year-to-date group donations are 17% below budget and 24% below last year. Individual Gratitude donations are in line with budget and similar to last year. Sales were on budget for the month, 6% below budget year-to-date and 4% less than last year. May Income before Operating Expenses is over budget solely because of Unrealized Gain on Investments. Committee and Operating expenses are under budget due to deferred expenditures. **Prudent Reserve as of May 31, 2010 – Book value + accrued interest: \$234,273.**

Thank you to all the groups that have donated this year. Group donations in June increased significantly. Donations went from 24% below last year at the end of May to only 14% below as of the end of June.

As of July 1st, HST at 13% will be applied to pamphlets, medallions, engraving, aluminum and plastic chips, literature display racks, pins, posters, cards, bookmarks, medallion pouches, cassette, CDs, and DVDs that are

not audio/video versions of books. HST applies to all items we sell, other than books and audio/video versions of books. Books, cassettes, DVDs, and CDs that are audio/video versions of books will continue to have only GST applied.

Some reminders: To committee chairs, please give a copy of your report to Alexx for the Minutes. New reps, or reps that have never filled out a green new rep form, please do so. It is important that the Intergroup office has group contact information in case of meeting site closings and other issues. Also, we request that group reps pick up their group's donation receipts from the case at the reception table each month.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCESS ABILITY – Cathy Z., Chairperson: *Cathy read the following report (Hard copy on file):* We were at People in Motion on June 4th and 5th, which is a large, event held at exhibition place catering to people with mobility issues. Attendance this year seemed much higher than last year. We were able to talk to a lot of people about AA who wouldn't normally have that opportunity.

Our committee members have been tasked with reviewing wheel chair access at the meetings in their district. It is important to ensure that the room the meeting is held in is accessible and that there are washrooms available. We cannot designate a meeting as accessible without washrooms. We would also like groups that do have wheel chair access to post instructions on how to get into the meeting in the notes section for their meeting online. Items like which door to arrive at and where the ramp is are important to know ahead of time. **Our next meeting** will be Sunday, July 18, 2010 at 11am. *Yours in loving service, Cathy*

ARCHIVES – Roy R. (Trial & Error), past Archives Chairperson: Roy was pleased to announce that the new GTAI Archives Chair is Gord H. (Bloordale), who was a past Area 83 Archives Chair. 'Bobby D. Day' will be held on Oct.3 (Location TBA). The annual Archives breakfast will be held on Sun. Nov. 7; tickets for the event will be available next month. A member from Michigan recently contacted that committee regarding some materials this member had from past Trustee Tommy H. (Unionville). **Next meeting:** Sun. July 11 at 10 a.m. at 234.

CORRECTIONS – Phil M. (Bloordale), Executive Committee Liaison: *Phil read the following report from Corrections Chair, Phil G., Mississauga Grp. (Hard Copy on file):* This month's meeting was attended by Gale R. (Dist.22 Corrections Chair) and her alternate, Joe A. Also present were Peter N., CF Chair for Area 83, Sarah M., IG Liaison, and myself, Dist.06's CF Chair, who currently serves as GTAI Corrections Chair. A report was received electronically from Dist.18.

Dist. 22 reports that things are working well at the East Detention Center and they are busily preparing for their District's Service Day in September (more to follow). Dist.18 shared that meetings at the Don are mostly going well, with the exception of poorly-attended PC meetings, but hope that they will right themselves in the near future. Probation and Parole Office meetings are going well after a few 'wrinkles' were ironed out regarding suiting up and showing up. Dist.06 is happy to report that at Mimico both the meetings for fulltime inmates and the meetings for weekenders are doing well, and that Grapevines and pocketsize Big Books are being well-received. Area 83 informed us that GSO is seeking stories from inside the jails to be included in the Newsletter "Sharing from Behind the Walls". Submissions are to be sent to GSO.

On a final note as GTA Chair, I with the help of Jim M. of the Corrections desk at GSO am commencing communication with Bob S. of Dist.60 in Pennsylvania to learn about their correspondence program. It is one that is geared more towards short-term inmates, such as we have in the GTA, whereas the system in place is more suitable for long-term prisoners such as those housed in Federal penitentiaries (for example: GSO won't start with

someone, unless they have more than six months to serve). *Yours in Love and Service, Phil* **Next meeting:** Mon. July 5 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

CPC – Phil M. (Bloordale), **Executive Committee Liaison:** This committee will not meet in the summer months, but will continue to communicate via e-mail.

INFO AA DAY 2010 - Phil M. (Bloordale), **2010 Event Chair:** the event went well; although attendance was lower than in previous years. Final figures from the event treasurer will be forthcoming. **Next meeting:** Mon. July 26 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

ORC 2012 – no report given. Meetings of this subcommittee will resume in September.

PUBLIC INFORMATION - Phil M. (Bloordale), **Executive Committee Liaison:** The committee continues its initiative to supply Big Books in high schools and libraries. Also there is an idea to provide schools with the Beginner Pamphlet and GTAI business cards. The vetting process for P.I. with regards to carrying the message in schools is still in ongoing. It was reported that the new P.I. posters geared towards young people are being well-received. This committee will not meet in the summer months, but will continue to communicate via e-mail.

RECEPTION – Glenn G. (East York), **Executive Committee Liaison:** Glenn reported that 4 districts, 5 subcommittee chairs, 59 reps, and guests were present this evening. *It was announced that Glenn would be receiving a 5-year medallion at the East York Group on July 6.*

TREATMENT FACILITIES – Trevor O. (Mississauga), **Executive Committee Liaison:** 4 members were present at June's meeting; all TF reports from the Districts were received. The committee still pursues the 'Bridging the Gap' initiative. The table expressed positive feedback regarding the idea of a toll-free number. **Next meeting:** Thurs. July 15 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

TWELFTH STEP – Tom S. (Saturday Morning Discussion), **incoming Chairperson:** Tom thanked all for the opportunity to serve as Chair. He explained that the phones are one of the first points of contact with AA. Tom reported that there was a Motion to look into an auto-dial option on the phones regarding 12 Step work; also, the committee is looking at the possibility of a 24-hour service. *The committee is looking for volunteers for the phones and for Greeter Captains.* To do the phones, members must have one year of continuous sobriety plus have done a phone training session. To be a Greeter Captain, anyone can do the work of this task; you don't need to be on the Twelfth Step committee to be a volunteer. Greeter Captains monitor the flow of the monthly schedule, and make sure all shifts are manned properly. This is a month-long commitment. **Next phone training session:** Sun. July 18 at 1:30 p.m. at 234. **Next committee meeting:** Fri. July 30 at 7 p.m. at 234.

WEBSITE/BETTER TIMES – Aaron K. (Yorkville), **Chairperson:** The Better Times always welcomes your submissions and announcements. Please have them in by the 10th of the month for BT publication, and anytime for the website. There are many copies of the Newsletter at the back; if you have not picked up your copies, there are available for free! We meet on the second Saturday of the month at 1 p.m. at 234 if you would like to drop by for a visit. **Next meeting:** July 10.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS from Previous Meetings

As per instructions from the Floor, the Executive Committee contacted our long-distance supplier (Allstream) regarding the **1-800 number initiative**. We can get 1000-2000 minutes each month for \$50/month. This will provide us with a toll-free number from anywhere in Ontario, and there is no set-up charge. The number will be available (guaranteed) by July 15. We will confirm the number by the July General Meeting. We will also be investigating the cost of putting this number in the white pages for the GTA and York Region.

NEW BUSINESS

Marvyn W. (Mississauga) brought up the issue of a meeting in the Central listings called The Good Neighbours Club Drop-In Meeting (an Open Service meeting open to all alcoholics) held on Fridays at 4 p.m. This is a facility for homeless men over the age of 50. According to Marvyn, the director of the Centre (Kelly) reported that attendance has been poor. Marvyn has made the commitment to take care of chairing/providing speakers for June 18, June 25, and July 2. Who handles this meeting? Megan (Yorkville) confirmed that attendance has been poor, and also asked who was responsible for this meeting. Dee T. (Streetsville) shared that, as a service meeting, it is autonomous usually and handled by various members (a steering committee of AA members). Joy (Welcome) stated that she will bring this item to her group and will also contact Kelly at the Centre.

Tracy (Anniversary) mentioned the daily rate idea for the ORC that was discussed at the May General Meeting. Her group suggested that an alternative registration fee for Saturdays be available for \$20, in addition to the usual \$30 weekend rate. John promised he would bring this up for discussion with the ORC 2011 Chair (Roger L.) and report back to the Floor.

CLOSING REMARKS: John thanked all for attending the meeting, and applauded everyone's commitment to service, as "service first serves the server".

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, July 27 at 8 p.m. at Glebe Rd. United Church.