



MAICO NEWSLETTER

July – September 2023

www.aamadisonwi.org

The mission of MAICO (Madison Area Intergroup Central Office) is to help A.A. groups within its service area (South Central Wisconsin) carry the A.A. message. MAICO helps coordinate and facilitate communication and cooperation among individual A.A. groups, area 12-step and other committees, and components of the A.A. service structure. MAICO provides needed services that are beyond the scope and ability of any individual A.A. group, and is at all times responsible to the groups it serves.

MAICO, in all of its activities, shall abide by the intent and spirit of the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts and where possible the suggested procedures and limitations suggested by the AA Service Manual and other conference approved literature.



PERMANENT OFFICE HOURS

Mon. Closed
Tues – Thurs. 11:00 – 6:00
Fri. & Sat. 11:00 – 2:00

2000 Engel Street Suite 104
Madison, WI 53713

24 Hour AA Hot Line
Phone: 608-222-8989
www.aamadisonwi.org
info@aamadisonwi.org

- **NEW BUSINESS CARDS**
Soon will be available at the Office!
Please take some and pass them on!
- **NEW OFFICE SET UP:**
Work station, counters, file cabinets,
and computer/laptop updates!
- **Website:** Check it out! AA Groups
can update info., send in an
announcement and post event flyers.
- **MAICO Newsletter:** New every 3
months, 4 x yearly, Check online and
download. Submit your ideas to office.

TOLERANCE in RECOVERY

**Reprinted from AA Cleveland Central Bulletin Vol. 1 #12
SEPTEMBER 1943** | An Editorial series: Tolerance,
Self-Control and Cooperation | aacl.org/twelve-spiritual-principles/
Many of us have learned, through our moral inventories, to guard against resentment. *We discover that the sense of personal injury that makes us resentful often is imagined.* Where it is not, it is almost always the result of our own misconduct. There, self-pity and anti-resentment, the worst forms of self-love, go hand in hand. **As long as we yield to resentment, we are in trouble.**
But how many of us, while trying to **control resentment, still allow ourselves to suffer torment because of our lack of tolerance?**

TOLERANCE in recovery begins with our being liberal minded when the acts and words of others do not square with our own firm convictions. *Tolerant people recognize they can be wrong, even with strong convictions.* And they recognize that it is wrong to try to keep others from trying to express themselves.

We have to look beyond this, however. Too many of us, as alcoholics, insist on having our own way. That’s how many of us became alcoholics.

And many of us, while dry, still insist on having our own way in everything. We want to do it by high-handed methods: By shutting up those who disagree with us or by removing those who stand in our way. Too many of us become resentful when we fail to get our own way.

Intolerance becomes vicious when it results from jealousy. Then, it turns into **RESENTMENT**.

Some people **show intolerance** because they **resent leadership** in others. Some are **jealous of the attention** that others receive. Some **can’t stand a new idea.** *Some are intolerant of anything a certain person does because they had a difference with that person in the past.*

An intolerant attitude is a serious thing for an alcoholic who is trying to find a new way of life. It harms the intolerant person. Sometimes, it harms others. **We have, on occasion seen it be a hindrance to AA.**

Most intolerance is petty. And while such intolerance may not be socially important, it **keeps one from enjoying life and from having friends.**

Tradition #7 July – September 2023

Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

- 1 Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
- 2 Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
- 3 If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
- 4 Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
- 5 Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
- 6 How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

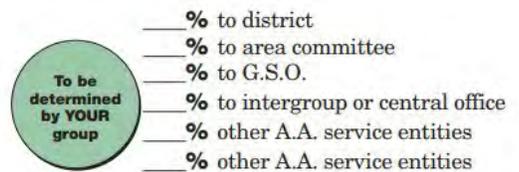
AA WORLD SERVICE DONATION GUIDELINES

General Service Office | www.aa.org

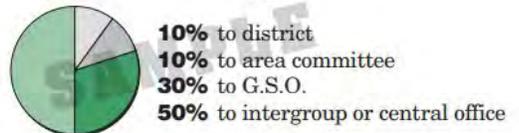
How can groups participate? To help support A.A.'s essential services, the General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation. Once the basic group expenses have been taken care of (for example, rent, refreshments, A.A. literature, Grapevine literature, local meeting lists, G.S.R. travel expenses to attend service functions) and a "prudent reserve" has been set aside to cover any emergency contingencies that might arise, the group may decide to further carry the message by sending money to the following A.A. service entities:

- **The local district**, which communicates directly with the groups, providing the district group conscience for the area assemblies, and serving as a link between the area delegates and the G.S.R.s.
- **The area committee**, which coordinates vital A.A. activities over a broad geographic area; sends a delegate to the annual General Service Conference; holds area assemblies to determine the needs of the Fellowship; and provides information at all levels of service.
- **The local intergroup or central office**, which may provide phone service for Twelfth Step calls and other inquiries; coordinates group activities; and facilitates A.A. literature sales, institutions work, public information, and cooperation with the professional community activities.
- **A.A.'s General Service Office**, which functions as a storehouse of A.A. information, communicating with members and groups around the world; publishes A.A.'s literature; and supplies information and experience to professionals and others interested in A.A. Please note that not all areas, districts, intergroups and central offices follow these divisions of service for institutions work, cooperation with the professional community, public information, etc. Therefore, prior to making contributions in your area, please find out which entity is providing these services and allocate your contributions accordingly.

- District:** 10%
- Area Committee:** 10%
- GSO (General Service Office):** 30%
- Central Office – MAICO:** 50%

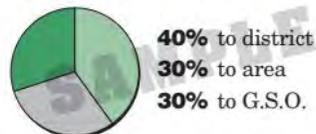


OR



OR

If you have no intergroup/central office:



GSO Contributions Address Changed:

■ Post Office Box 2407 | James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

Pamphlet: **Where Money & Spirituality Mix** | Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. | Updated July 2021.

Member Learns “I’m Not an expert – Just an Alcoholic

AMATEURS IN AA | SENIORS IN AA BY: W.H. | GRAPEVINE | NEW YORK, N.Y.

What dismays me about my early days in Alcoholics Anonymous is the *extent of intellectual arrogance and grandiosity that I brought with me.*—defects that were quickly enlisted in what was to become an ongoing tournament: me **I’ve learned enough since my entry into AA, in 1960**, to stay out of those arenas, but there is still another that can take me by surprise. True, *I no longer play doctor or therapist where medications or relationships are concerned, and I don’t give legal advice*, but I can still catch myself wondering whether the latest newcomer in my home group is really an alcoholic. On what basis would I question anyone’s qualification? What else, except my expertise on AA and on alcoholism itself. Old habits die hard! **vs. the Eighth Tradition.**

The word “**nonprofessional**,” in AA parlance, means that *I ought to act in a way that neither affirms nor implies that I am something other than a recovering alkie in a Fellowship of recovering alkies.* It means that if professional help is what I need, I should go where such help is available—outside AA. Seems clear enough. *Yet before I was 90 days sober, I had become legal advisor to a fellow newcomer who was then in the divorce court; I advised another AA to stop taking the medication that a qualified doctor had prescribed; and I counseled two AAs in a lover’s quarrel.*

I’ve learned enough since my entry into AA, in 1960, to stay out of those arenas, but there is still another that can take me by surprise. **True, I no longer play doctor or therapist where medications or relationships are concerned, and I don’t give legal advice, but I can still catch myself wondering whether the latest newcomer in my home group is really an alcoholic.** On what basis would I question anyone’s qualification? What else, except my expertise on AA and on alcoholism itself. Old habits die hard!

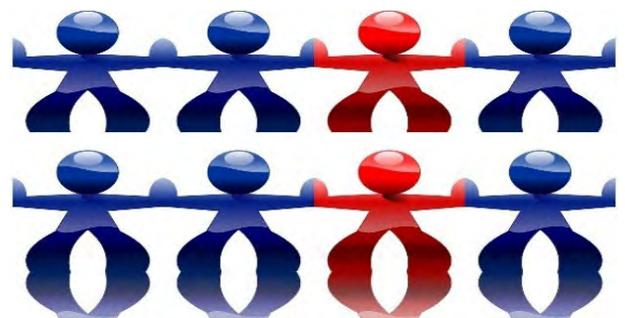


TRADITION EIGHT

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

I try to be particularly careful when introducing newcomers to the Twelve Steps. It seems to me that one of the reasons the Steps were suggested in the first place was to avoid professionalizing them. In my zeal to encourage newcomers to get involved with the Steps I sometimes talk about them as if they are the be-all and end-all. Looking back at my own beginnings, I think that if anyone had told me, even by inference, that I had to get on with the Steps, I wouldn’t have stopped long enough to remark, “**What an order! I can’t go through with it.**” *I simply would’ve run like hell.*

Sometimes I complain about the way officers conduct the business of my home group and set myself up as an expert on the AA group. Heaven help me, but there were times when I was so sure I knew everything there was to know about AA history that I would actually hook my thumbs in my vest like a 19th century politician when speaking from the podium. **Continued on Page 4**



Member Learns “I’m Not an expert – Just an Alcoholic

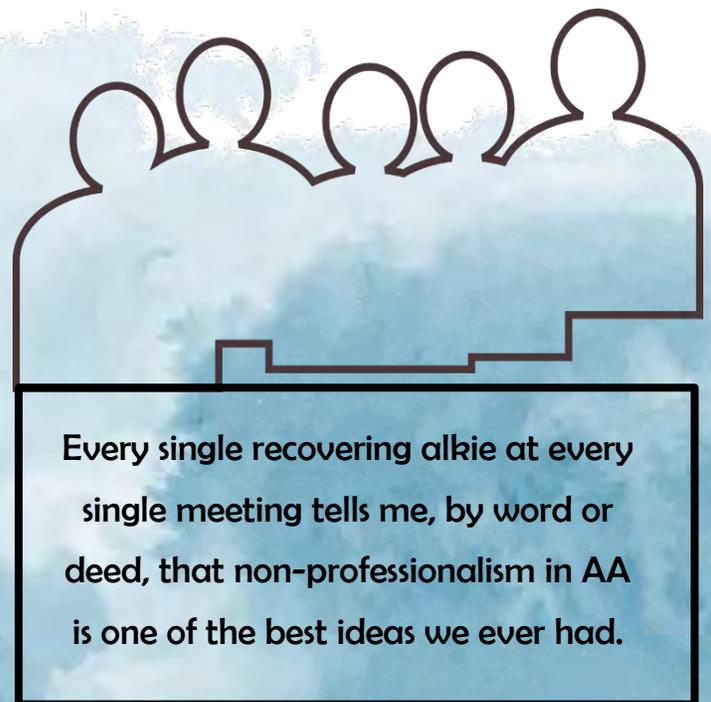
Continued From Page 3

Another area where I am made particularly aware of the Eighth Tradition is in speaking to non-AA groups. I have found myself on panels with experts in the field of alcoholism and have been introduced as an expert myself. I make it a point to remember something I was told by a member of our local intergroup public information committee: We need to maintain our amateur standing. There is a practical side to this as well. ***Being non-professional means I don’t have to worry about giving a letter-perfect presentation every time.***

Tradition Eight also suggests that our service centers may employ special workers. *Some of the experience that helped formulate this Tradition was played out in the days of the 41st Street Clubhouse when members had a hard time distinguishing between Twelfth Step work and office employment. This was in the early 1940s.* The controversy was still all very new, but I can just imagine the air turning blue with resentment as they tried to understand that the secretary, for instance, was not being paid to stay sober or to do Twelfth Step work, but to answer the phone, write letters, keep records of business transactions and so forth.

Newcomers still ask, as I did, why we have paid AA workers (professionals). **As it was pointed out to me, the staff at our local intergroup office, for example, is not paid to do Twelfth Step work.** By opening up and helping to keep open the doors to institutions and correctional facilities, by collecting data on local groups and publishing updated meeting directories, along with many other fundamental activities, the intergroup staff is paving the way for Twelfth Step work. It makes my Twelfth Step work that much easier. And carrying the message of hope and recovery is the real “business” of AA. But why a paid staff? Why not volunteers? To attempt to conduct such an enterprise on a solely volunteer basis would be highly impractical. As for hiring AAs, who better to hire than people who know AA best!

Just for today, it is a good idea for me to stick close to simple basic AA as I encounter it in my home group and at others. Every single recovering alkie at every single meeting tells me, by word or deed, that non-professionalism in AA is one of the best ideas we ever had. **(Incidentally, my friends are quick to remind me of it whenever I get too big for my AA britches!).**



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GRAPEVINE QUOTES

"We don't just get somewhere, we go there one day at a time."

NOVEMBER 2003 |

QUOTE OF THE MONTH | GRAPEVINE



"You can't think your way into right action, but you can act your way into right thinking."

BILL WILSON, ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:

The story of how many thousands of men and women have recovered from alcoholism: the Australian experience, commemorating 50 years of Alcoholics Anonymous in Australia



"The feeling of having shared in a common peril is one element in the powerful cement which binds us."

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS | ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

"If we still cling to something we will not let go, we ask God to help us be willing."

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS | ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



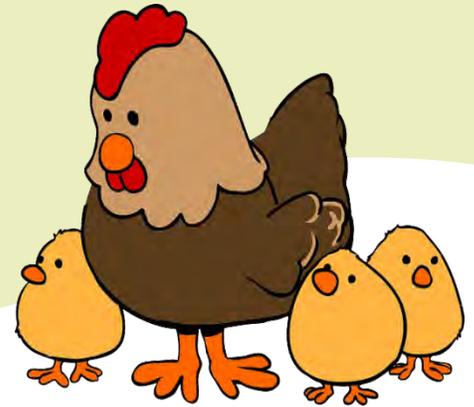
AT WITS END

GOING UNDER

A drunk named Murphy worked at the local brewery. One day while stirring a vat of beer, he lost his balance and fell in. Mrs. Murphy was called to the brewery and was given the awful news of his drowning. After regaining her composure, she expressed *gratitude that at least his death had been merciful and quick.*

The foreman, shaking his head, said, *"I don't know about that, Mrs. Murphy. **He got out twice to go to the bathroom.**"*

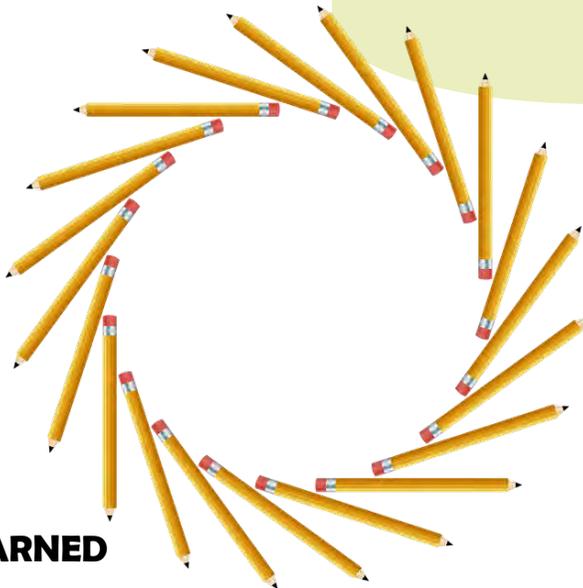
GRAPEVINE | AT WITS END | ANONYMOUS | WASHINGTON, D.C.



PECKING ORDER

A **chicken and an egg** walk into a bar. The bartender looks up and says, ***"OK, who's first?"***

GRAPEVINE SEPTEMBER 2022 | YOUNG & SOBER | AT WITS END DUSTY B. | MAINE



LESSON LEARNED

Fool me once, shame on me.
Fool me twice, I'll have to call my sponsor.

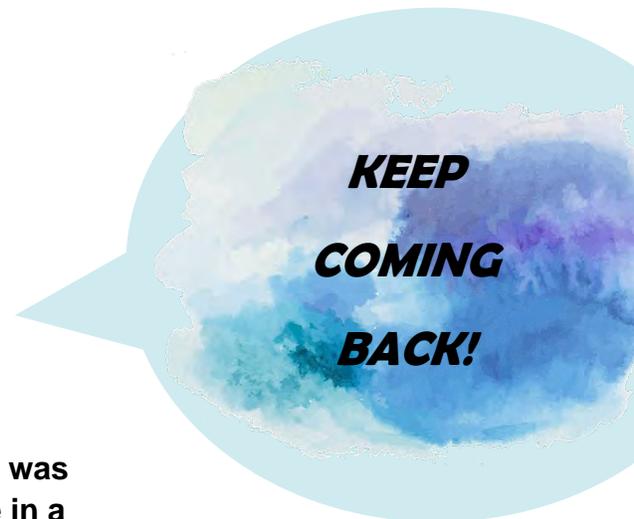
GRAPEVINE | AT WITS END | JOSE G. PORT ORCHARD, WASH.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

Yesterday I participated in an online AA meeting and the **topic was spirituality**. A member shared about their **struggle to believe in a Higher Power**, but for now **they held a stronger faith in reincarnation**.

In our meeting, members are allowed to comment in the chat section after shares. *I typed the only response that seemed appropriate: **Keep coming back!!***

GRAPEVINE SEPTEMBER 2022 | YOUNG & SOBER | AT WITS END | MARTY Z. | PALM BAY, FLA





**Madison Area Intergroup
Office www.aamadisonwi.org**

**2000 Engel Street, Suite 104
Madison, WI 53713**



**24 HOUR AA HOTLINE
Phone: 608-222-8989**

Email: info@aamadisonwi.org



**AA Groups can now
update your
Meeting information and post
announcements and flyers for
upcoming events
on our MAICO WEBSITE!**



**See EVENT FLYERS on
The MAICO website
www.aamadisonwi.org**



**Reminder!
ANONYMITY
with names, flyers and
information on the internet!**

CONTACT INFO & WEBSITES

UPCOMING EVENTS JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023

EVENT	DATE	TIME	DETAILS
*Download event flyers online www.aamadisonwi.org			
MAICO Annual Summer Picnic	July 29 th 2023	11:00 am -1:00 pm Food & Fellowship 1:00pm-2:00pm AA & Alanon Speakers	Riverfront Park (South Shelter) 629 S. Wisconsin Dr Jefferson, WI 53549
Foxhall Picnic "You'll be Amazed before Your Halfway Through"	July 30th	11:00 am-2:00 pm	Token Creek Park Shelter #1 6200 Williamsburg Way, DeForest WI
Into Action's Summer Picnic	August 12th 2022 Saturday	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm Cookout & Games Panel 1:30 pm	Lake Edge Park 511 Park CT, Madison, WI 53716
WICYPAA Madison & Waukesha Bids Picnic in the Park	August 12th 2022 Saturday	11:30 am-3:20 pm Volleyball & Games Food/Fellowship/Panel	Lake Area Club N6OW35878 Lake Dr Oconomowoc, WI
43rd Green Lake Round-Up	August 18-19 2023	AA & Alanon *See flyer for times and more information	Conference Center W2511 State Road Wisconsin
National AA Technology Workshop	September 8-10, 2023	SEE FLYER ON MAICO WEBSITE	Winchester, VA
District #20 "Service is the Secret!" 2023 Mini Conference	Saturday September 23, 2023	9:00 am – Noon Speakers-MAICO	Trinity Lutheran Church 1904 Winnebago St. Madison, WI
Area 75 2023 Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous	Oct. 20 th Friday thru Oct. 22th Sunday	SEE FLYER ON MAICO WEBSITE	Chula Vista Resort Wisconsin Dells
27th Annual MAICO Young Timers Old Timers Chili Cookoff	November 4, 2023	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Trinity Lutheran Church 1904 Winnebago St. Madison, WI

DONATIONS

GROUP DONATIONS

7:30am Sunrisers Group
10:10 Serenity Seekers Group
Acceptance is the Answer
Beloit There Is a Solution Grp
Beloit Mon Nite Thumpers Big Book Grp
Belmont Thursday Group
Berlin Sunday Night Group
Berlin Friday Night Grp
Blackhawk Good Fellowship Group
Capitol Steps Group
DeForest Mon & Wed Groups
DeForest Progress Group
District 9 -In Memory of Sherman D.
Early Risers Group
Easy Does It But Do It Group
Feet to the Fire Group
Family Afterward Group
Fel-O-Ship Group
Firing Line Group
Foxhall Recovery Group
Grace Lunch Group
Green Lake One Day at a Time Group
In the Middle Group
It's A God Thing Group
Janesville Steps To Success Group
Keys of the Kingdom Group
Lake Mills Our Wednesday Group
Mineral Point Trinity Grapevine Group
Milton Thurs Night Young At Heart Grp

GRATITUDE MONTH

Watertown Sun AM Big Book Grp

MAICO CORRECTIONS/ TREATMENT FUND

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Amy B.
Anonymous
Ben B.
Brian V
Christopher M.
Christopher W.

GROUP DONATIONS

Mt. Horeb Saturday Morning Group
Orfordville Promises Group
Oregon Come And Get It Group
Oregon Easy Does It But Do It Group
Prairie Dock Group
Professionals Group
Richland Center Group
Room to Grow Group
Sauk Prairie AA Group
Sauk/Prairie Early Risers Group
Spring Green Read & Lead Group
St. Andy's Group
St. Dunstan's Beginners Group
Stoughton Alano Grips
Sunlight of the Spirit Group
Sun Prairie Phoenix Group
Sun Prairie Rule 62 Group
Sunrise Serenity Group
Thurber Serendipity Women's Group
Tuesday Night Workshop
Tues Night Brodhead Sister Blandine Group
Trinity Grapevine Group
Thursday Off the Shelf Group
Watertown Thurs Morning Group
Watertown Sunday Am Big Book Study Group
Watertown Monday Eye Opener Group
Windsor Group
Working Steps Group
Young At Heart Group

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Greg F.
James T.
Jeri M
Laurie M.
Lucas B.
Mary C.
Mary S.
Randy M. In Memory of Jacob M.
Rob M.
Susan M.

INCOME STATEMENT Profit & Loss

	January – June 2023	January – June 2023
INCOME		
Donations - Groups	27,493.30	22,739.29
Donation - Events	0.00	682.50
Donations - Individual	1,873.26	8,791.29
Donations - Answering Service	125.00	125.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	1,075.75	282.25
Conference Literature	11,961.19	13,091.94
Non-Conference Literature	3,007.42	4,003.46
Non-Conference Merchandise	6,823.88	4,691.54
Grapevine Literature	935.60	1,111.26
Faithful Fivers	0.00	75.00
Directories	0.00	-27.45
Savings Account Income	1.68	1.09
Other Income	76.30	117.76
Sales Tax Discount	60.00	60.00
TOTAL INCOME	53,433.38	55,744.93
COST OF GOODS SOLD		
Inventory Expenses – Conference Literature	7,276.60	6,522.21
Inventory Expenses – Non-Conference Literature	2,139.00	2,515.59
Inventory Expenses – Non-Conference Merchandise	2,265.04	3,600.06
Inventory Expenses Grapevine Literature	855.75	1,104.85
Physical Inventory Adjusted	0.00	1,861.54
TOTAL COST OF GOODS SOLD	12,536.39	15,604.25
GROSS PROFIT	40,896.99	40,140.68
EXPENSE		
Payroll Services	180.00	0.00
Wages Expense	17,168.69	21,735.00
Employee Medical Reimbursement	480.00	960.00
Payroll Tax Expenses	1,971.73	1,662.73
Credit Card Processing Fees	815.24	560.86
License and Fees Expense	76.26	166.31
Office Expense/Supplies	1,674.07	1,259.48
Computer Maintenance	3,150.00	2,100.00
Computer-Software/Hardware	2,336.09	1,213.11
Bank Charges	11.58	0.00
Telephone/Internet Expense	661.12	1,211.75
Answering Service Expense	3,254.59	3,052.61
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-1.33	-0.24
Postage and Shipping Expense	24.57	17.33
Occupancy Expense	5,448.00	5,292.00
Insurance Expense	1,016.00	1,001.00
Printing Expense	29.01	0.00
Travel Expense	0.00	452.03
Conference Expense	0.00	383.36
MAICO Representatives Events Expense	431.99	175.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	38,727.61	41,242.36
NET INCOME	2,169.38	-1,101.68

GSB CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION ANNOUNCEMENT

100th AA Celebration

[Included in this MAICO Newsletter issue July-Sept. 2023 as was omitted April-June 2023 Issue]

Alcoholics
Anonymous
February 8, 2023
www.aa.org

General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all
communications to:
Grand Central Station,
P.O. Box 459,
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

ANNOUNCEMENT

Greetings from the U.S. and Canada General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous to our international friends.

Over the last 88 years Alcoholics Anonymous has, through the Twelve Steps of recovery, created and sustained new hope for those who suffer from alcoholism and those whose lives are touched by alcoholism. In twelve short years, we will be commemorating the Centennial anniversary of AA.

We are including you in this communication as part of the global service community of Alcoholics Anonymous. The work that has been done around the world in carrying the lifesaving message of AA inspires us all every day.

We are planning to engage in commemorative activities throughout the 2035 year. It is anticipated that there will be worldwide acknowledgement of AA's 100th anniversary, and in keeping with our AA history we wish to be "friendly with our friends" and cooperate with the unique opportunities this may present.

The General Service Board of the U.S. and Canada has formed an ad hoc committee to consider the options to commemorate our Centennial anniversary. We are in the earliest stages but wanted to ensure you were aware that these discussions are underway. We will be seeking your input, ideas and participation along the way, so stay tuned. One hundred years, a day at a time, is an occasion that deserves our best efforts to celebrate our lifesaving program of recovery.

Please note that these efforts are separate from the 2035 U.S. and Canada International Convention. The U.S. and Canada service structure hosts an International Convention every five years, and the 2035 International Convention is sure to be an amazing weekend of celebration. The ad hoc committee is exploring additional and distinct commemorative efforts to occur throughout the 2035 centennial year.

We will keep you informed as our plans develop. Again, thank you so much for all that you do for AA.

General Service Board Centennial Commemoration Ad Hoc Committee

100years@aa.org

Alcoholics
Anonymous® | www.aa.org