



Chair Report to the Western Washington Area 72 Newsletter—October 18, 2017

Hello, Western Washington Area!

Dawna H., here again, privileged to be serving as Chair of your Greater Seattle Intergroup!

Established in the mid-1940's, Greater Seattle Intergroup exists in order to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Each month we report to you about ongoing work by each of our committees (Accessibility, Archives, Corrections, CPC & PI and Hospital & Treatment) as well as the work of our two paid staff and our many daytime and nighttime office and phone volunteers. All this great work being done, and the building and equipment that is used for doing this work, is paid for in two ways--member donations and literature sales. Due to the availability of literature on line, sales are down nationwide, and GSIG is not alone in its experience of a decrease in bookstore income, down 26% over the past four years.

In October, we have to cash in a CD that will leave us operating below our prudent reserve, by \$6,000. We have not faced a financial situation like this since late 2012, and, when alerted, the groups responded.

We are grateful to the groups, clubs, and individuals who have made special efforts to have fundraisers and other special events to raise additional funds: Picnic, Car Show, Birthday Club etc.

We are submitting a prudent budget to the groups at our October board meeting and have cut expenses every place that we are able without profoundly changing the services we provide. In our research, we have learned that all intergroups and central offices are experiencing similar obstacles. We are continuing to look for ways to communicate to the groups the value of the work done by your office. We have a special committee looking for creative solutions. But we are asking the groups to participate on our committees and to consider increasing their contributions. If every group served by GSIG contributed \$242 dollars per year we would have a balanced budget, not relying at all on literature sales, but at the moment our numbers are similar to those of GSO, with only one-third of our groups contributing.

We encourage you to come to our committee meetings to see first-hand what we are doing. Dates and times can be found at SEATTLEAA.ORG

It is truly a pleasure to serve you!

Love and service,
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carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers.**