



AREA 50 WNY ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

c/o Buffalo Central Office - 681 Seneca Street Buffalo, N.Y. 14210 - archives@area50wny.org

November 2, 2016 regarding October Report to the Genessee-Wyoming Intergroup

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you this past month. We reported to just 1 of the 4 intergroups in Area 50 due to conflicts in scheduling, but did attend the October Dunkirk General Service meeting and the Cataract City Convention meeting.

Save the date of May 6th, 2017 for the next Archives Breakfast where the speaker I cannot believe we were able to get will be sharing his experience, strength and hope regarding his life and efforts around the globe for Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Archives Committee displayed in October at the **Buffalo Fall Convention** display!

We had October donations from Iron Horse. We are a financially autonomous committee with our only resources being group contributions and special events. We receive NO funding from any part of AA for ANYTHING, so we rely upon your group and/or individual support to fund our archival work, pay rent for the repository, and participate in archival activities. Note that no funds are used to get members to events and each member pays their own way into events except out of area issues – donations are used ONLY for rent and archival efforts as approved by the entire committee and are protected by the multi-signature checking account. Please send any contributions to the address which will be provided by your secretary. We thank you for your continuing support.

To Grapevine readers – if you see an article that's local to us in these 8 counties of WNY, please forward a message regarding which article (with what month and year it is in the Grapevine) to me via email or text.

Thank you to every member of AA in WNY for caring for your archives committee. I got to travel to a workshop more scared than I can ever remember being – going on an airplane for the 2nd time in my life to an experience I've never had before – going to a place where I knew no one – and living to talk about it. The speakers were incredible, the topics were varied – like electronic data management, cataloging and organizing – and workshops on book restoration and other preservation techniques. Writing of Group Histories was a topic I loved, but the one about writing a History for the whole AREA blew me away because they had a book one archives area had done that had histories for every group in their area!

Keep in mind that getting group histories OF **YOUR** GROUP is a priority to even the Conference level, so if you don't know what history has been 'archived' for your group, that information is just an email away, and we are thrilled to help. Group histories are kept by the archives in New York City (General Service Office) but we have copies of what they have and of course will give that to you quickly. And if you are one of the few we don't have, we'd be honored to get it for you! Please note though that the majority of 'group history' files I've seen these past 3 years have just a note regarding who was the first contact listed for the group, with no other information like the founders of the group, where it is located (no address of the meeting place) so updating that is usually an easy thing we are glad to assist your group with doing. We can send you a form and will forward it correctly for you at no cost whatsoever.

We'd love to display the archives at your group anniversary or special event - remember we appreciate a 30days in advance notice so transportation can be set up! Your PRIMARY PURPOSE efforts may be assisted by this sharing the history of AA at YOUR MEETING more than you can know. And the usual reminder to all AA members of these 8 counties of Western New York – **throw NOTHING group-related away without considering your unborn alcoholics to come, which is the purpose we work hard at keeping our area documented and the reason for the existence of this ARCHIVES Committee.** Yours in service, Lila M., your grateful Area 50 Archives Committee Chair