

**MINUTES**  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
10<sup>TH</sup> GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE, NIAGRA FALLS, CANADA  
OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup> & , 31<sup>ST</sup> 1975

ROLL CALL: Bill B., Chairman of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m

DESIGNATION: (T) Trustee (A) Alternate Trustee (AT) Alternate Trustee Acting as Trustee

Jim B. (T); Howie C. (T); Marge C. (AT); Hank K. (A); Bill W. (T); J. E. Steve S. (AT); Leroy N. (AT); Bob S. (T); Bill G. (T); Eddie L. (T); Pat P. (T); Charles D. (AT); Chris C. (T); Irv K. (A); Wm. K. B. (T); Jack F. (T); Joe S. (T); Donald B. (T); Al C. (T); Bob F. (AT).

OLD BUSINESS:

Item #1. Conference Committee Report By:

Hank K. on the Toronto Conclave in Niagara Falls. George also made a report on the Breckman, New York Conclave. These two reports have not as yet been coordinated by the National Service Office. The National Service Office is to write every coordinating office that supervised a conference and request that they send a kit regarding the conference to Norman W., in New Jersey.

Item #2. First International Conference 1977 Report:

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees appoints coordinators outside of Chicago, from all parts of the fellowship.

Toronto	- Hank K.	Pittsburgh	-
Montreal	- Bill W.	Philadelphia	- Chris C.
New Jersey	- Norman W.	Atlanta	- Steve S.
New York	- Bob F.	California (No.)	- Jim B.
Las Vegas	- Howie C.	California (So.)	- Margie C.

Letter from the First International Conference of G.A. – July 21, 22, 23 & 24, 1977, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.:

October, 1975

To the Board of Trustees and All G.A. Members  
10<sup>th</sup> Midwest Conclave  
Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada  
Dear Members:

This is your fifth bi-annual report concerning the forthcoming 1977 International G.A. Conference. Through this report we hope to keep you and the membership advised as to what steps have been taken, those steps which are presently being taken and those steps we anticipate taking during the next six months.

In the past six months our Conference Committee has met monthly to discuss such items as finances, International correspondence, flyers, publicity and development of other ideas to further the progress.

Regarding the pre-mentioned items, we have attached a complete financial report based on monies received and monies spent. If you have any questions after having read the report, we will be more than happy to answer them. We have sent flyers to all groups in addition to publicizing this Conference in the N.S.O. Bulletin and the E.R.I.C. newsletter. We have, as well, maintained correspondence with our International brothers and answered all mail regarding the 1977 Conference.

We are now in the process of attempting to put together committees to develop a program for the Conference. We feel this should be a total G.A. effort and have asked for area volunteers to assist. As of this date, we have had only five volunteers to serve on any committee. Anyone with suggestions, who would like to share their ideas, please forward these suggestions to the Chicago Conference Committee at the Post Office Box in Chicago. At the next Eastern Conclave we will be able to sit down with the Board of Trustees to discuss the program for the four day Conference, taking into consideration any and all suggestions.

The other item which presently concerns us is the actual receiving of deposits from the membership. This is very important as the Hotel will be in a better position to make any adjustments necessary towards pleasing our membership. We would hopefully like to presume that the Hotel will be filled at an early date and that our membership will make this possible by getting in their deposits.

Here is a breakdown on reservations by State:

California	- 7	Michigan	- 1
Canada	- 2	Nevada	- 1
Florida (*)	- 3	New Jersey	- 5
Georgia	- 3	New York	- 3
Illinois	- 6	Ohio	- 3
Maryland	- 1	West Virginia	- 3

(\*) One Plan A Paid in Full

Once again, we from Chicagoland, wish to thank the membership for the opportunity to host this Conference. And may we once again ask that each and every member make an effort this year to place their deposit with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam G.  
Chairman  
1977 Conference

Marv. R.  
Delegate  
Board of Trustees

Le N.  
Alternate Delegate  
Board of Trustees

Financial report attached.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF G.A.

Financial Report

October 15, 1975

INCOME:

28 Deposits for Plan A	55 Adults		
	5 Children	\$890.00	
1 Deposit for Plan C	2 Adults	50.00	
7 Deposits (No Plan Indicated)	12 Adults	<u>145.00</u>	
	69 Adults		
	5 Children		\$1,085.00

FROM CONCLAVES:

1974 Eastern (Miami)	\$254.00	
1974 West Coast (Las Vegas)	159.00	
1974 Midwest (Cincinnati)	238.00	
1975 Eastern (New York)	610.00	
1975 West Coast	<u>232.00</u>	
	Total	\$1,493.00

FUND RAISING: \$89.93

INTEREST EARNED: \$59.84

TOTAL INCOME: \$2,727.77

Miscellaneous \$	10.57
Postage	242.19
Telephone	58.32
Office supplies	69.18
Public Relations	156.50
Equipment	<u>35.00</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 571.56

BALANCE: \$2,156.21

Savings account Balance \$2,140.77

Checking Account Balance 15.44

Total \$2,156.21

Outstanding Obligations: None

Le N. Financial Officer  
October 15, 1975

Item #3.

To the New Gamblers Anonymous Members:

2<sup>nd</sup> approval. For 19 – 0 – 0 Mailing out a copy of new literature.

Motion for the N.S.O. to send a letter and at least (2) copies or more of the new literature to be sent to each group. For 17 – 0 – 2

Welcome to your first Gamblers Anonymous meeting. Your Gamblers Anonymous Trusted Servants, Sponsor and Advisers will counsel and guide you back to a normal life.

Look around you at the many faces, listen to the therapy and you can see that this program does work. All that is required on your part is a sincere effort to stop gambling.

1. For Legal Difficulties – bad checks, fraudulent loans, etc., many members have been in this position and have through the Gamblers Anonymous Program straightened them out.
2. For Financial Difficulties – rent in arrears, past due bank or finance company loans, personal obligations, etc., Gamblers Anonymous is essentially a self-help program; consequently, experience has shown that direct financial aid does not work to your benefit. There are Trusted Servants and Sponsors who are good financial budget counselors and pressure group committee members. They will show you how it is possible to pay your obligations in a way that will permit you to live without having unbearable pressure.
3. For Employment Difficulties – out of work, about to be fired or present job unbearable, etc. – there are ways in which other members can counsel you based upon experience in helping yourself in this direction.
4. For Family Difficulties – for the married or single member, here is an area in which Gamblers Anonymous members and their spouses (in Gam-Anon) can help you tremendously. They will be happy to explain the wonderful success of our program to your family. This almost works, although it sometimes takes time, so be patient. The best factor, as the weeks go by, is your own sincerity in working things out. Ask about these family meetings.

Here are some suggestions which we have found helpful:

1. Attend at least one meeting per week and as many other meetings as possible.

2. Telephone other members as often as possible between meetings. Use the telephone list.
3. Don't tempt or test yourself. Don't associate with acquaintances who gamble. Don't go in or near gambling establishments. Don't gamble for anything, this includes buying raffle or lottery tickets, flipping a coin, or entering the office sports pool.
4. Live the Gamblers Anonymous Program one day at a time; don't try to tackle your whole life's problems at once.
5. Read the Recovery and Unity steps often and continually review the Twenty Questions. Follow the steps in your daily affairs. If you have any questions, ask them of your Trusted Servants and Sponsors. These steps are the basis for the entire Gamblers Anonymous Program and practicing them is the key to your growth.
6. Be Patient! The days and weeks will pass soon enough and as you continue to attend meetings and abstain from gambling, your recovery will really accelerate.

God Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
courage to change the thing I can, and the wisdom to know the  
difference.

Item #4. 90-Day Plateau 2<sup>nd</sup> approval For 18 – 0 – 1

#### Congratulations

You have now completed 3 months in the Gamblers Anonymous Program and have received some of the benefits of Gamblers Anonymous and the Gamblers Anonymous way of life. Now you can give of yourself to Gamblers Anonymous.

An important part of our program is sharing with others that which we have received. Gamblers Anonymous' primary purpose is to carry our message to the compulsive gambler who still suffers.

You have shown through your three months of abstinence from gambling and regular attendance at meetings that you have a desire to stop gambling. This is most important. After three months you have an idea of how our program works. Now is the time to turn the knowledge you have acquired into action.

#### Gamblers Anonymous Needs Your Participation

The steps in making a successful group are many and we in Gamblers Anonymous need involvement from all the members.

The following is a list of ways in which you may involve yourself in Gamblers Anonymous' responsibilities, thereby helping yourself, your group and other compulsive gamblers.

### Meeting Chairman

You are now eligible or will soon be able to chair a Gamblers Anonymous meeting. This is accepted as an honor and privilege. If you wish to chair a meeting and have not yet been called to do so, mention this to your group secretary.

### 12<sup>th</sup> Step Calls

This is one of the most rewarding experiences in Gamblers Anonymous. Talking or meeting with the compulsive gambler and spouse after contact is made with Gamblers Anonymous and giving them the understanding that only you can give and encouraging them to try and get them to attend the next physical Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon meeting.

### Sponsorship and Retention

This part of the program is just a continuation of what you have been doing or should have been doing; taking the initiative and calling the new member. You may be asked to sponsor an individual, this will be your responsibility. Some of the responsibilities of sponsorship are: telephoning between meetings, attending additional meetings, together, answering the many questions about the program, sitting in on the pressure group meeting, and generally giving them encouragement and hope. If you would like to sponsor a member, contact the Sponsorship Chairman or your Group Secretary, and find out when you are eligible to participate in any of the various committees that are involved in this area.

### Pressure Group Meetings

When the compulsive gambler enters Gamblers Anonymous with financial, marital, legal, or employment problems, a pressure group meeting is most helpful.

Concerned and active members in Gamblers Anonymous to suggest solutions to the Pressure Group Committee. Contact the Pressure Group Chairman or your group secretary and they will explain in detail how you can assist.

### Expediter Work

The duty of the Expediter Chairman is to make our members aware of the need for funds for the National Service Office. We have a responsibility to support this office and one of the ways we can support our office is by regular contributions by our many members. The Expediter Chairman has expediter cards and envelopes and the information on hand for members when they wish to accept their responsibilities.

### Public Relations

This type of work is unbelievably vast.

1. Our Public Relations Chairman needs Gamblers Anonymous members for radio, T.V., with newspapers, magazines, or speaking engagements for various clubs and organizations who want to know more about our fellowship.
2. Gamblers Anonymous has no paid public relations people. Therefore, these people must come from the membership of Gamblers Anonymous. The Unity program is used as a guide in doing Public Relations Work, especially at the level of press, radio, films and television. If you desire and are capable of participating in the above mentioned areas, contact your public relations chairman or your group secretary.
3. Now is the time for you to get involved even if it is only to assist a member of the Public Relations Committee.

### Summary

You will find your help needed in all levels in our fellowship. There are millions of compulsive gamblers that need our help. Congratulations on reaching the 90-Day Plateau in Gamblers Anonymous. Many more plateaus await you. The richness of growth through involvement and participating in Gamblers Anonymous will benefit you, your family and other compulsive gamblers.

Item #5. Page 17, Combo Book (paragraph 1)

Attend at least one meeting per week and as many other meetings as possible.  
For 16 – 1 – 2 2<sup>nd</sup> approval

(paragraph 2) To remain as is .

(paragraph 3) Don't tempt or test yourself. Don't associate with acquaintances who gamble. Don't go in or near gambling establishments.

Don't gamble for anything, this includes buying lottery tickets, flipping a coin, or entering the office sports pool. For 19 – 0 – 0 2<sup>nd</sup> approval

(paragraph 4) Live the Gamblers Anonymous Program, one day at a time. Don't try to tackle your whole life's problems at once. For 17 – 0 – 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> approval.

(paragraph 5) Read the Recovery and Unity steps often and continuously review the Twenty Questions. Follow the steps in your daily affairs. If you have any questions, ask them of your Trusted Servants and Sponsors. These steps are the basis for the entire Gamblers Anonymous Program and practicing them is the key to your growth. For 19 – 0 – 2 2<sup>nd</sup> approval.

(paragraph 7) Be Patient! The days and weeks will pass soon enough and as you continue to attend meetings and abstain from gambling, your recovery will really accelerate. For 18 – 0 – 1 2<sup>nd</sup> approval.

Item #6. Combo Book – page 9 last paragraph.

“Is knowing why we gambled important?”

Insofar as stopping gambling perhaps, however, many Gamblers Anonymous members have abstained from gambling without the benefit of the knowledge of why they gambled. For 17 – 1 – 1 2<sup>nd</sup> approval.

Item #8. Page 12 – Combo Book. (He finds he has been rejected by his friends and his relatives). First approval. For 10-7-2 Not 2/3 take up tomorrow.

Item #8 Black list. Page 12, Combo.  
(And his relatives have rejected him. For 11 – 6 – 2. 1<sup>st</sup> approval.

Big Book Report. Letter from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to inform our attorney how he is to act in our behalf in this matter of the fly leaflet.

### Big Book

Points of Interest of the Board of Trustees on the G.A. Big Book, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

#1. What page number is Alcoholics Anonymous referring to.

#2. Wording our wherever it is used, so it will be understood and agreed that our 12 steps of recovery and unity program are not being questioned by Alcoholics Anonymous and that the rest of our literature is not being attacked quote unquote. Hard cover third edition of big books to obtain a letter of



agreement of Alcoholics Anonymous world service as to the fly leaf, for Gamblers Anonymous Book.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item #1. French Gamblers Anonymous Combo book. Copy submitted from Montreal groups and changes to be made at the next printing to bring it up to date.

Top of #17 and changes. Page 4, top. Page 6, 12 traditions (change).

3 memo pages in book removed. Meeting place of Montreal cover. (changed) Have French book of Montreal conform with the most recent combo book that G.A. has published. They should not have memo pages in the back nor should they have the expression they have on page 6 and inserted the saying in the G.A. combo book.

Page 4, Recovery Program, date of printing – printed 500 combos. Contained #1, printed two years ago. Montreal to make the changes and update this combo book. The National Service Office will print this combo book to conform the update without the expenses to Montreal. It was suggested to ask a French professor or someone in a similar profession to up-date this combo book to make it conform with what the Board of Trustees want in Gamblers Anonymous which is to have no reference whatsoever to the terms used in Alcoholics Anonymous, the 12 tradition and 12 steps also on page 17 the changes that have been authorized today.

Motion – Hank K. 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve S. For 19-0-0

Item #2. Addition to combo page 18. “12 ways to slip” – eliminate # steps, change title, give away literature, positive work, in wording.

Item #3. Insurance for national and local functions. 50 cent per member or 2,500.00 per year. Coverage \$100,000.00 No funding No insurance

Item #4. Advisability of adding small explanation of 12 steps in combo books. Show of hands, not advisable to add explanation to combo book.

Item #5. Advisability of including telephone add with 2, 3 or 4 blank pages, or meeting places in combo book for individual use. Show of hands for expression of Board of Trustees. Motion – should be blank page at end of book. For 14-4-0, defeated. Move for address of National Service office and E.R.I.C. under seal on first page. For: 19-0-0-. First approval. Motion – for E.R.I.C. under N.S.O. address. For: 6 – 12 Defeated. First approval

- Item #6. Clarification about accepting money from other than members - \$520.00 per year or one could leave the fellowship \$520.00 per year or a lump sum of \$1,500.00. Step 7 – Unity to remain as is, unanimous.
- Item #7 There will be two physical Trustee Meetings in Chicago, one in April and one in July. Motion – Bill G., and July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1977. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Pat P. For 10 – 8 – 1.
- Item #8 Cost for reproducing copies of new literature in order to send Trustees. Motion – by Lee N. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Hank K.
- The Chairman of the Board of Trustees to be allowed up to \$50.00 per month for expenses. And that a financial report be submitted at the next physical meeting. Amendment to motion – Bill B. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hank K.
- The changes that the trustees propose to be in the hand of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees 50 days in advance prior to the next physical meeting on the amendment. For 17-0-2. Motion, plus amendment, For 17 -1 -1.
- Item #9 Whether or not “mini” Conclaves or other types of large gatherings should be held immediately proceeding or after regularly scheduled conclaves, and whether or not these gatherings should be approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Two items proposed at this conclave had 30 cancelled reservations within the last two weeks. One reason was given that we had a dinner dance scheduled for Saturday night, November 1, 1975. Motion – that there should not be large gatherings 30 days prior or 30 days after a conclave if the token charge is to be over \$40.00. Motion, Lee N. – 2<sup>nd</sup>, J.E.S. – Motion rejected. Suggested by the Board of Trustees that no gatherings of this nature should be scheduled on the weekend that the conference is to be held on. Motion – Bill B. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Howie C., For – 9 Against – 10. Defeated. Motion: Article XI – Section 12, Motioned by Lee N., 2<sup>nd</sup> to charge any literature by the Board of Trustees.
- Item #10. Amendment to the Guidance Code. Amendment – add to page 9 of the Guidance Code. It shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than fourteen (14) members of the Board of Trustees at two consecutive physical meetings. For 13 – 3 – 2.
- Item #11 Board of Regents Meeting – 3M Electrical Copier. We can spend \$300.00 for a copying machine. (An electric static copier for assurance of a permanent copy since it does not fade). Motion – Hank K. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Board of Trustees recommended to the Board of Regents that they purchase a better copy machine, perhaps a used one ... Electric Static Copier up to \$500.00. For 15 – 0 – 3.

It was proposed to change the conference dates, however, we shall leave as is.

Sponsorship and retention: one by Hank K., one by Al V.

Appointed committee to put both pieces or retention and sponsorship together:  
Jack F., New York; Norman W., New Jersey; Bill B., New Rochelle, N.Y.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Hank K. from Toronto – Funding of your National Service Office, “How You Can Help”.

Norman W. – Principles Before Personality.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees should not succeed himself.

Letter from Atlanta, P.O. Box 76452 was read, question asked, no answers.

Requested that any Gamblers Anonymous members who work for the Post Office are to let the Chairman of the Board of Trustee know. We are trying to get some national publicity and perhaps we could manage to get some information on the post office bulleting boards.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Z.  
National Executive Secretary