



OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS REGION 5
REGION 5 TREASURER
POST OFFICE BOX 1087
LOMBARD, ILLINOIS 60148

March 2018

Dear Region 5 Fellowship,

I have learned so much and enjoy the many interactions with the Fellowship. I love all your kind notes and card. They are greatly appreciated. I never expected this to be fun. Let me share some personal experiences I never anticipated. My five year old and my two year old grandsons come with me to the post office every week. The five year old loves the "stickers" (stamps) on the envelopes and we have started a stamp collection using the stamps on your contribution envelopes. We love the variety. One day, I went to the post office with just the two year old. He was so excited to be able to open the box himself because his older brother has that job. When he opened the box, there was a postal worker sitting on the other side putting mail in the boxes. She put her face up to the box and talked with him. He now believes these workers live inside the boxes!

Ok, now down to business. I am one third of the way through the second year of my term. By now, I have been through a full year of Assemblies, budget preparation, a Convention, and tax filings. The new chart of accounts established with the Finance Committee have made reporting much simpler and faster while still providing the data required. The One Drive setup continues to be reorganized to make data retrieval quicker and more intuitive. As Board members, we are available for speaking engagements. I have two coming up in April. Let us know how we can help.

Let's take a look at the reports. The reports take us through the entire year for 2017. The actual net income from the 2017 Convention is \$13,049.40. It appears to be less because the line for Convention expenses (Line 8) is comprised of residual expenses from 2016 paid in 2017, 2017 actual expenses, and preliminary 2018 expenses paid in 2017. For all of 2017, we were over budget on expenses by \$4,872.86. Most of this variance is due to the unbudgeted Web Service expenses (Line 27) required when our website was hacked. Overall, we were under budget by \$1,209.97 for the year.

Group Contributions did not meet expectations. We received \$1,917.96 less than anticipated (Line 4). Not only did we not meet our goal of \$25,000, we received less in contributions for 2017 than in 2016. In our approved 2018 budget, we already had adjusted our expectations downward. With the new suggested meeting contribution of \$3.00, I am still hopeful we will meet our 2018 budgeted amount of \$24,500.

As you might expect, I sometime get checks that appear to be incorrect, not ours, or unknown group numbers. There is not a way to quickly contact the sender to resolve the issue. Frequently, I need to write a letter, return the check, and wait for a resolution. To alleviate this, a new contribution form was created. The form asks for a phone number or email address. This form is available in Packet B and on the Region 5 Website under the Forms tab. If your cancelled check is not sufficient for a receipt, receipts will be provided by email or in your self-addressed, stamped envelope.

As always, if you have any questions, I would be delighted to work with you to get them answered. Thank you all for your service. Together we get better.

Gerri M
Region 5 Treasurer
Treasurer@Region5oa.org