

The 49th Massachusetts State Convention was held the weekend of March 20- 22 in Hyannis at the Emerald Resort Convention Center and Irish Village Hotel.

Our theme was “Growing Our Recovery” and it certainly was a growth opportunity!

There are so many things to be proud of, so much fellowship and kindness from so many people. We had a special focus on service. We also have a long list of lessons learned. Most lessons were learned with grace and kindness, a few through fire. A lot of lessons were between individuals and their personal HP.

A couple quick notes

Finances- The mark ups on meals, literature and meals are insignificant- only small amounts to make making change easy. I had concerns about the cost structure being unfamiliar and created additional sources of income. Maximize raffle baskets, putting coffee at the end of that area to drive traffic and canvas bags.

Publicity-Publicity team along with Area Budget Chair, Lisa R., created a beautiful “evergreen” banner that can be reused year after year—eliminating the need for the non-recyclable and financial waste of vinyl banners.

Overall, I would say that the convention was a great success.

Financially, we paid our bills and after setting aside \$5,000 in seed money for 2027 we are grateful to turn over/ donate (?) \$14,991.12 to the area.

Our accounting of registrants got a little fuzzy at the end with a rush of walk-ins, but we had about 600 attendees with 130 virtual.

2 minutes is not enough time to thank all the hands that made the convention so successful, so I will just say thank you to those many, many hands.

The biggest takeaway for me is the need to encourage service. We need more people to participate in service.

- If you are a GR or DR, do you share what service means to you?
- How about asking someone to be your alternate, a low key way to dip their toe into service at the area level.
- If you are on Zoom, try coming to an assembly! There is so much juicy recovery in the afternoon sessions and opportunities to meet members from other areas.
- If you sponsor someone, do you ask your spons-ee to do service?

I encourage everyone that reads this far into my report to lead a meeting on my favorite piece of literature, “When I got Busy I got Better” Because that is true for me, AI-Anon and the service opportunities have meant more to me than anything else. It is where I found my second family, my best friends and most importantly, myself.

In Service,

Skye

- Program- Lots of love and consideration went into the topics and speakers. We are especially proud of the inclusivity and diversity of our speakers and panel members.
- Our Hospitality Suite provided a welcoming respite from the hustle and bustle.
- Our Raffle was a success-and helped us meet the unique financial obligations of our hotel contract through maximizing raffle basket contributions.
- Our Publicity team along with Area Budget Chair, Lisa R., created a beautiful “evergreen” banner that can be reused year after year—eliminating the need for the non-recyclable and financial waste of vinyl banners.
- Our Literature team coordinated with the Program Committee to include CAL references and took care to note what ran out when, for better planning next year.
- Our Treasury Team The Treasury was a smooth and steady ship!
- Unfortunately, Alateen did not have much to do, but we always want to keep a light on for them and space for when they do come.
- Our AA liaisons were outstanding, showing exceptional hospitality and care for their speakers throughout the weekend.
- Our Secretary was a constant source of warmth and support.
- The 2026 Registration team took on a herculean effort of putting into service Square in more areas than before; Literature, Raffle and of course registration. This meant less cash handling which was safer for everybody.
- Our live stream was a success, Fleetwood is a great partner and has grown with us and evolving needs of our fellowships.