FAA Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting Minutes
Sunday January 12, 2025 –7:30 PM ET
ZOOM Virtual Meeting ID: 973 5019 9561
Password: 459076

Link: https://zoom.us/j/97350199561?pwd=r2iX9bBfoVVLJ86wSWwb8XR03U2GLC.1

OPENING: **Serenity Prayer**

ROLL CALL:

Quorum- Cindy K., Linda A., , Chuck S., Charlotte S., Darlene D., Kelley N.

Visitors- Heather S., Tmima K., Bonnie-Jean F., Cynthia M., Phyllis E., Ellen L., Ann W., Nanci B., Trisha H., Simone F., Linda S., Deborah G., Paula E., Krisen K.

Reading Tradition Five (long version) – Read by Charlotte S.

Review/Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2024 - Motioned by Chuck S. to approve minutes, Seconded by Cindy K., all approved to accept minutes

REPORTS:

Co-Moderator- None at this time due to lack of Co-Moderator

Treasurer- See attached report, presented by Charolette S. review of Convention earnings approximated around $10,000. Statement about the need for increased donations

Secretary- Reminded all participants of the need to receive motions and committee reports at least 10 days prior to upcoming Board meetings as the agenda needs to be sent at least 7 days prior to the meeting. Clarification about meeting minute structure was reviewed as the format changed to receiving written Committee reports rather than verbal reports.

Executive Assistant- Wheels are in motion for the VIG to join the Zoom account. One line at a time is being tested as the process continues. Committee email address instructions will be sent shortly to Board members to access. Last part of EA's renovation will be completed this week due to the water damage, therefore EA will continue working from home. EA will be out of the office from 2/23/25-3/1/25. Information will be posted to the website and to meetings regarding the absence. Welcome newcomer books need to be ordered shortly. More digital literature has been purchased compared to hardcopy. EA working on the flash drives from convention to be eligible for sale once completed.

Office Committee- **Next meeting scheduled for 1/16/25 at 8pm.** Difficulty with Committees accessing Zoom has disrupted multiple meetings. EA will be scheduling a support call with Zoom to address issues.

By-laws Committee- **Next meeting scheduled for 2/12/25 at 7pm.** Meetings are always scheduled at the 2nd Wednesday each month. Due to the temporary absence of the By-laws Chair, the meetings will continue with remaining participants who are motivated to continue working on the outstanding items.

Literature Committee- **No meeting scheduled for the main Literature Committee, Concepts Sub-committee meeting scheduled for 2/4/25 1pm.** Literature Committee does not currently have a Chair. Sub-committee submitted a motion to be discussed at tonight's meeting. The newsletter is on pause as there are no participants currently working on it at this time.

Public Information- **Next meeting scheduled 1/19/25 at 3pm.** See attached report

Convention Committee- **Next meeting scheduled 2/16/25 at 7pm.** See attached report regarding information gathered about potential locations. Buffalo, NY locations may be the best bet for the upcoming Convention.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update Status of Action Items July 14th Meeting:

a. **Action Item - EA/Webmaster** post a statement indicating due to unforeseen circumstances minutes are not available for July 2023/Annual Report 2023. **Statement is now posted on site. This will be removed from future agendas.**

Update Status of Action Items September 8th Meeting:

a. **Motion:** create a disclaimer on the website regarding what constitutes an FAA meeting. Primarily those meetings and events registered with the office and posted as such on the website as open to all. Motion passed with all in favor. **Action Item:** Create disclaimer and submit to BOT members via email for approval prior to posting. Possibly consider consulting our attorney if needed. *(Draft previously provided via email on September 10th)* submit to legal for review prior to posting) **- Attorney was not communicating through the holidays. EA will reach out again before seeking a new attorney.**

Update Status of Action Items November 17th Meeting:

a. Convention feedback review to be discussed as time did not permit during last meeting. **Some information was provided via email initiated by Laurie N. and will be revisited to location that email thread.**

b. Discussion of each committee's hope and focus area for the upcoming 2025 year. **This item was amended for clarification by the BOT Chair to request that each Board member will send an email to all Board members about 1-2 items that they want to focus on for the year by January 31, 2025 to be shared at the next scheduled meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS:

a. **Motion:** During the CIG group conscience meeting, it was voted to donate $20 per month to Free Conference Call.com in accordance with the 7th Tradition, which has provided 2 free phone lines for many years.
Reason: Since the CIG doesn't have access to donations made by phone meeting members, the CIG does not have a way to make this donation independently.
Action Item: The CIG requests that the WSO use donations from the phone meeting members to make the $20 monthly donation on behalf of the CIG to Free Conference Call.com
Questions and thoughts were presented by Board members and visitors. Board voted with 2 in approval, 2 in opposition and 1 abstention. As per Robert's Rules, the tied vote is denied with the suggestion for individual CIG members to submit their donations to FreeConferenceCall.com independently.

b. **Motion:** I propose that a Town Hall be held in February for the purpose of engaging in a dialog with our general membership regarding instituting a "voice of the fellowship" service process and structure for member participation through elected delegates in decisions currently taken solely by our self-appointed Trustees.
Reason: Since our founding, FAA has been guided and supported by a Board of Trustee volunteers. The number of members with the wisdom of our early years is dwindling in number, and we are now at a similar point that the founders of AA found themselves - needing a way to create a process and organizational structure to surpass their own mortality in order to preserve the message and legacy of hope of AA. FAA now similarly needs to create a way to transition to a fellowship-based decision making process through elected delegates constituting the "voice of the fellowship," spiritually guided by the Higher Power of our understanding through a group conscience. I propose a Town Hall Meeting to introduce the concept of creating a fellowship-based process for decision making, and to determine receptivity to this change.
Discussion occurred regarding the benefits of including the fellowship in more ongoing discussions. The timing was reviewed and suggested to be pushed back to allow the fellowship enough time for notification. Further discussion occurred regarding placing more emphasis on service work as a first step toward moving towards changing the operating structure of the

organization. Motioned by Cindy to transfer this item to the following agenda, seconded by Charlotte.

c. **Motion:** I move that each Board Committee identify their pertinent by-laws content which defines WHAT the specific duties and functions of the committee are, and identify all text which describes HOW their duties are to be performed which will be removed from the by-laws and transferred to a Policy and Procedures (P&P) Manual (currently under development).

RECOMMENDED COMPLETION DATE: MAY 1, 2025 reports to the By-Laws Committee

TARGET COMPLETION DATE FOR P&P MANUAL FIRST DRAFT: JULY 13, 2025 (Linda A for action)

Reason: By-Laws changes are very cumbersome and time-consuming, and appropriately so. By retaining the duties and responsibilities of the Board in the by-laws and shifting the details of how to execute these duties into a P&P Manual, any changes that may need to be fine-tuned can be updated/modified in a simple, timely, as-needed basis, per the guidelines to be set forth in the P&P Manual.

NOTE: Any changes to the remaining by-laws content discovered during this process may be recommended to the entire by-laws committee per the usual committee process.**Due to time constraints, this item will be addressed at the next Board meeting.**

d. **Motion: I move that the board adopt a Standing Rule, per Roberts Rules of Order, that the board meeting minutes, once drafted and reviewed for accuracy, be approved by email vote to the secretary for tally and posting on the FAA website.**

Reason: Robert's Rules of Order, Chapter 2, paragraph 2.23 Standing Rules provides for the creation of a standing rule, relating to the details of a societies administration (not parliamentary procedure). "A Standing Rule can be adopted by a majority vote without previous notice. It remains in effect until resend or amended."

At present, it takes a minimum of two months for the minutes to be posted on the website, due to the Board's meeting frequency of bi monthly. This delays availability of the Board's activities for informing the membership. By voting to approve the minutes by email, this information will be available in a more responsive manner to our fellowship, improve communication and provide our membership better opportunity to respond to the Board actions in a more timely manner. **Due to time constraints, this item will be addressed at the next Board meeting.**

Visitor Comments: Visitors provided comments throughout the meeting as approved by the Chair during discussion items.

NEXT MEETING: March 16, 2025 at 7:30pm

CLOSING: Serenity Prayer

In Service,

Cindy K. Secretary

EA Report

The wheels are now in motion for adding the VIG to our ZOOM account at the discounted pricing we get as a 501C3. I have added the accounts and Heather and myself are making sure that one of the VIG accounts transfers smoothly before doing the second account. I will be in touch with NY/NJ this week. We were only charged for the remaining months (renewal is in August) for the new accounts.

All is well in the Office. Nothing really to report. Will be placing an order for Welcome Newcomer Books this week sometime.

EA will be working from home the week of January 20th as work is being finished in her home and someone needs to be there. Business will proceed as normal. EA will also be out of the office from February 23rd until March 1st. I will be available by email and phone, however, orders will be delayed being shipped until I return. I am only in the office on T-W-Th, anyway (even though I work other days just to get orders out). A notice will be posted on the website at least a week beforehand and I will send a notice to the phone meetings and VIG to notify the membership.

We will also be working on creating a flash drive for the 2024 Convention to put for sale on the Website. I have not had time to listen to all of the recordings. I know one of speeches is hard to understand, but I will see how it transfers.

We are having an Office Committee Meeting on Thursday, Jan 9th, prior to the Board Meeting, so we might have additional info after that time.

Treasurer Report will be ready for the Board Meeting.

Public Information Committee – January 2025

1. Meeting held – December 15 th at 3:00pm – Three attendees (Chair, BOT Co-Chair, Guest)
Actions to Date:
1. Realigned 12-step Volunteers - Reviewed other 12-step communities PI Handbooks. Determined the 12-step volunteer efforts within FAA more appropriately fall under the PI Committee vice Office Committee. Obtained contact info for volunteers and advised of the realignment and invited the members to attend the next PI meeting. (Sent email to 15-members; two undeliverable; one stepped down for one year; several agreed to attend). Office Committee has repeatedly requested a volunteer to coordinate this effort this realignment addressed the issue.

Anticipated Project for 2025 – Communication with professionals about FAA Utilizing the pamphlet, Understanding Food Addiction and Why Abstinence is Necessary, plans underway to circulate this pamphlet within the medical communities (doctors, nutritionists, health fairs). Goal is to educate them about what distinguishes our program from other food programs. In FAA we recognize food as an addiction. When nutritionist advise our members, we want them to understand our members are food addicts. Although some foods do have nutritional value, they trigger the addiction in a food addict. This smaller pamphlet is much cheaper than the welcome newcomer booklet. And the fewer pages with diagrams may prompt for easier reading. Many members in the fellowship cite this pamphlet as the document they helped them understand and surrender the disease.
Have shared the idea with several long-term members who are willing to support the initiative. Have spoken to Donna about availability of the pamphlet. We have a number on hand. Will announce this initiative at the meeting next week. Plan to circulate and announce throughout the fellowship. Members may request five copies for distribution. Expanded project includes posting flyers in circulated areas about available meetings — (phone, virtual, face to face) potential for more face-to-face meetings.
Question for consideration – The website – open to the public — does this function more appropriately align under the PI committee?
Next meeting – January 19th at 3pm

In service,
Darlene, PI Chair

FAA Literature Committee Report
January 12, 2025

The Winter 2025 Newsletter was completed and sent to Donna in December and should be posted on the website this month.

The Concepts of Service and Service Structure Sub-Committee are preparing a proposal to the Board at the January 12, 2025 meeting, to host a second Town Hall meeting, in late February, to address the concept of creating a service structure to establish a "voice of the fellowship" through a group conscience process for guiding decisions on conducting the business of FAA as a whole.

All other Literature sub-committees are presently dormant for lack of people to do service on those projects. This notably includes the Literature Committee Chair which is currently vacant.

Respectfully submitted -
Linda Arms
Prior Chair

STATE	VENUE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CONTACTED	AIRPORT	
	FAA person: ?????					
AZ	Spirit in the Desert	408.488.5218	7414 E Elbow Bend Road, Carefree, AZ 85377		Phoenix-38 minutes	
					Scottsdale-25 minutes	
OH	Loyola Retreat House	330.896.2315	700 Killinger Road, Clinton, OH 44216		Akron/Canton-15 minutes	
					Cleveland- 1 hour	
OH	Jesuit Retreat Center	440.884.9300	5629 State Road, Parma, OH 44134		Cleveland- 15 minutes	
NV	Alexis Park All Suite Resort	800.582.2228	375 E Harmon Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89169	Helen Cook	Las Vegas- 2 miles	Airport shuttle
	FAA person: Anna, Upstate NY					
NY	Richardson Hotel	716.493.2610	444 Forest Ave, Buffalo, NY 14213	Mariliz Maravilla	9.4 miles	
NY	Hyatt Place	716.839.4040	5020 Main Street Buffalo, NY	Debbie Heller		
NY	Hyatt Regency	716.856.1234	Two Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY		9.8 miles	
	FAA person:Helen fm CA					
NV	Alexis Park All Suite Resort	800.582.2228	375 E Harmon Ave, LasVegas, NV 89169		Airport Shuttle	

On-Site Amenities

- Restaurant
- Room Service
- Fitness Center/Equipment
- Public Area WiFi
- Business Services
- Concierge
- Pool
- Heated Pool
- Hot Tub
- Laundry Services
- Wheelchair Accessible

Parking/Transportation

- Airport Shuttle
- Free Parking
- Truck Parking

Rate/Policy Information

- Check-in Check-out 4:00 PM, 11:00 AM
- Non-Smoking Property
- Resort Fee $33
- Must Be 21 to Check-in

Pets

- Pets Allowed
- Pet Deposit $100
- Pet Weight Limit50
- Restrictions No Cats

Room Amenities/Info

- Coffee Maker
- Hair Dryer
- In-Room WiFi
- Refrigerator
- Iron
- Cable/Satellite TV
- In-Room Movies

Hello!

I would love to attend the convention in 2025. However, with this being in the colder months, a convention in a colder climate may keep our more sensitive FAA members away. I am proposing Alexis Park All Suite, in Las Vegas, NV – off the strip for consideration.

Alexis Park All Suite Resort – Non-Gaming Hotel

Alexis Park All Suite Resort | Las Vegas, NV

375 E Harmon Ave Las Vegas, NV 89169

Toll Free: (800) 582-2228

2 miles from Harry Reid International Airport (LAS)

It has an airport shuttle.

Outdoor Pools, Free Parking, Pet-Friendly Rooms and More

Our family-oriented property and resort-style amenities create the ultimate getaway off the Las Vegas Strip. From lush grounds to poolside dining, we've thought of everything to make your visit simply unforgettable.

Start your day with a workout in our modern fitness center, and then reward yourself with a hot breakfast in our pool-view restaurant. Enjoy Nevada's year-round sunshine by meandering through the resort's courtyards, or keep cool in one of our three sparkling pools.

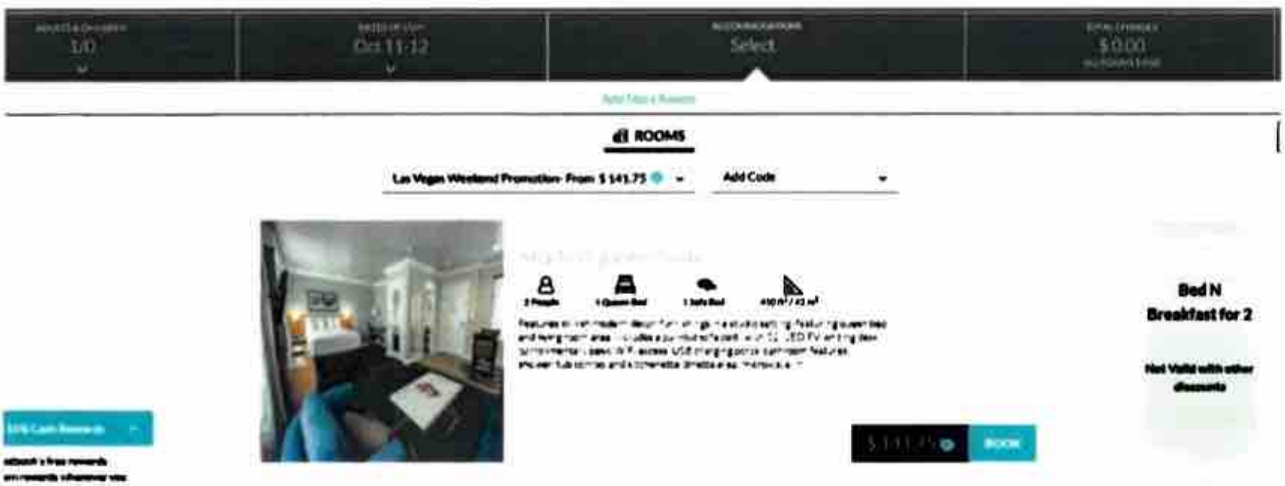
Zeus C

Dimensions 1086 sqm. Capacity 100

More details ›

$425.00
Total per day
Exclusive of taxes and fees

SELECT THIS VENUE



Kelley Naro

From: Kelly Naro <wellywoo12@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 2, 2025 6:44 PM
To: Kelley Naro
Subject: Fwd: Convention Site for Consideration
Attachments: Convention Proposal.docx

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Helen Cook <serenityawaitsme@gmail.com>
> **Date:** December 15, 2024 at 7:12:16 PM CST
> **To:** wellywoo12@icloud.com
> **Subject: Convention Site for Consideration**
>
> Hello, Kelly!
>
> I was just in attendance at the 2025 Convention Committee Meeting.
>
> I have attached some information that I have located for consideration.
>
> Thank you.
>
> Helen from CA
> 951-337-6252

HYATT REGENCY BUFFALO
Two Fountain Plaza
Buffalo, NY 14202, USA
T: +1 716 856 1234
F: +1 716 855 4958
buffalo.regency.hyatt.com

CAPACITY CHART

Room Name	Room Dimensions L x W x H	Room Size Sq. Ft.	Banquet	Reception	Theater	Classroom	Boardroom	U-Shape	Hollow Square	Exhibit
Mezzanine Level										
GRAND BALLROOM	**135' x 75' x 16'**	**10,125**	**910**	**2,000**	**1,480**	**890**	–	–	–	**67**
Section A	75' x 37' x 16'	2,775	210	420	320	170	60	60	78	13
Section B	**50' x 46' x 16'**	**2,300**	**160**	**300**	**250**	**140**	**38**	**50**	**62**	**16**
Section C	46' x 25' x 16'	1,150	80	80	100	60	30	42	48	7
Section D	**75' x 13' x 16'**	**975**	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Section E, F, G (each)	37' x 25' x 16'	925	60	120	80	54	30	33	39	6
REGENCY BALLROOM	**93' x 33' x 9'**	**3,060**	**210**	**325**	**300**	**180**	**60**	**50**	**55**	**13**
Section A, B, C (each)	33' x 31' x 9'	1,020	50	100	100	54	26	33	42	4
NIAGARA	**29' x 20' x 9'**	**580**	**40**	**50**	**50**	**24**	**20**	**18**	**24**	–
SUN GARDEN	–	–	60	125	–	–	–	–	–	–
Second Floor										
FRANKLIN	**25' x 15' x 9'**	**375**	**30**	**50**	**35**	18	**20**	15	**18**	–
ELLICOTT	30' x 24' x 9'	720	50	70	70	36	26	24	30	–
DELAWARE SUITES	**52' x 33' x 9'**	**1,700**	**90**	**120**	**130**	**72**	**32**	**36**	**42**	–
Section A	33' x 14' x 9'	460	20	30	30	18	16	–	–	–
Section B	**33' x 27' x 9'**	**725**	**30**	**40**	**40**	**22**	**18**	–	–	–
Section C	33' x 14' x 9'	460	20	30	30	18	16	–	–	–
EXECUTIVE	**23' x 17' x 9'**	**390**	–	–	–	–	**12**	–	–	–
BOARD ROOM	30' x 18' x 9'	540	–		–		26		–	
Lobby Level										
GENESEE ROOM	**43' x 30' x 12'**	**1,350**	**80**	**120**	**120**	**70**	**40**	**30**	**36**	–

*Note: Additional 110,000 square feet of meeting space available at the adjacent Buffalo Convention Center.

Hyatt Place Buffalo/Amherst Contact: Debbie Heller and Kelsey	5020 Main Street	716-839-4040	Group **Rates** single/Double occupancy Friday Sept 26 Saturday Sept 27 Sunday Sept 28 Standard King $169.00 10 10 Standard Queen (2 beds) $169.00 15 15 Total rooms 25 25 CHECK OUT ***$10 per person for triple occupancy ****$20 per person for quad occupancy Rate based per night (rates are exclusive of taxes currently 13.75%) PROPERTY: • We have 137 oversized guestrooms featuring desk, couch, floor to ceiling windows, and refrigerator.	**NOTE:** Anna, thanks for the information. I increased the room block based on your notes. Your group would be exclusive as our meeting space Will be nicely able to accommodate your group alone. We are a very cost-effective brand, and I understand your notes about the food. Our ownership has another hotel, we share a parking lot, and they do have a chef who can work with you on some special dinners that meet your group's needs. We can also work with our menus to custom and ensure they are within the range that is preferred. We can follow up in the new year once you have all the information and the committees have a chance to see how they want to proceed. Keep me posted and lets touch base in January. **Debbie Heller** Corporate Sales Manager **HYATT PLACE BUFFALO AMHERST** debbie.heller@hyatt.com hyattplace.com	The Hyatt Place Buffalo Amherst is pleased to have the opportunity to be considered for your group for either Sept or Oct 2025. Below is information on our hotel and rates for your consideration. PROPERTY: • We have 137 oversized guestrooms featuring desk, couch, floor to ceiling windows, and refrigerator. • Indoor heated pool, hot tub, and 24/7 fitness center • Complimentary Wi-Fi • Complimentary parking • Complimentary Daily Full Breakfast • 24-hour market menu with coffees and premium bar open nightly until midnight • Group arrival key packets for the group leader LOCATION: • We are situated directly off the interstate I-290, 7A exit in Amherst. Our location gives us an extremely direct route to the New York State Thruway • 9.0 Miles to Downtown Buffalo • 20.0 Miles to Niagara Falls
Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel/Conference Ctr.	2 Fountain Plaza	716-856-1234	TBD	9.8 Miles from Airport	STILL NEED TO FOLLOW UP Adobe Acrobat Document

FAA HOTEL INFORMATION FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION 2025 (from Anna Upstate NY)

If planning to visit Canada, while in Buffalo, NY, you will need a passport, passport card or enhanced driver's license, which is required between the US and Canada.

Hotel & Contact Person	Address	Phone Number	Room Rates	Distance from Airport	Miscellaneous Information
Richardson Hotel Contact: Mariliz (Liz) Maravilla	444 Forest Avenue	716-493-2610	TBD	9.4 miles from Airport	Free parking on site. Easy access to local attractions. It was a pleasure connecting with you this morning. We're happy to accommodate your group. I know you mentioned the attendance can range from 35-100 people but, I will go ahead and let you know the rental fees for our Glessner meeting room that seems like the best fit for your event. Glessner - Capacity 50 Rental fee- $500 Food & Beverage minimum- $2500 Plus a 23% administrative fee and NYS sales tax unless you are exempt. I have attached a photo of our Glessner room for you to review. Please feel free to pass on more information about the food requests so that I can show our Food & Beverage Director. I will be sure to pass along that NO sugar, flour, and wheat is required. Let me know the dates you had in mind so I can ensure availability as well. Please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have! Thank you Mariliz Maravilla Director of Sales *The Richardson Hotel Buffalo* 444 Forest Ave Buffalo, NY 14213 D: 716.493.2610 ext. 7021 www.TheRichardsonHotelBuffalo.com

Kelley Naro

From: Kelly Naro <wellywoo12@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 2, 2025 6:43 PM
To: Kelley Naro
Subject: Fwd: Research for hotel for FAA 2025 Conference
Attachments: FAA Hotel info for Convention 2025.docx

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Anna M. Robertson" <almrobertson@gmail.com>
> **Date:** December 20, 2024 at 8:51:01 PM CST
> **To:** wellywoo12@icloud.com
> **Subject: Research for hotel for FAA 2025 Conference**
>
> Hi Kelley,
> I have done a little research for hotels but need to do more, but I have attached some information for you. However, I wanted to send what I have so far (not much!) but thought you could at least review it and let me know if there is more or other information I should be gathering. Everyone seems to be really busy at all sites during this holiday season, so I think after the New Year, It will be easier to gather information. I will keep contacting the sites, add information and get back to you.
> Please feel free to call me with any questions you may have at 617-599-9096. Thank you and have a wonderful Holiday Season!!
>
> Best regards,
> Anna, Upstate NY FAA
> P.S. I had to add all the text to the information sheet, as I'm having trouble with my computer. It won't allow me to submit emails or data info via an icon.