

To: Central New York Area 47

From: Peter Gardiner, Area 47 Secretary

Re: NERASSA MEETING FEB. 20 – 22, 2015

I wanted to attend the 2015 NERASSA Meeting, and Area 47 approved my trip to New Jersey. I wanted to maximize cost savings, and found two others who wanted to attend also. We split the cost of the Room, and Travel Expenses. We left early on Friday so we could get to GSO for the AA Meeting, and Tour of Headquarters. We met a number of people and I was impressed with the many people helping others on the phones, and in person. We completed our visit at GSO, and traveled to NERRASA, in Somerset, NJ.

We were greeted by a throng of AA Members. I was, and still am in awe, of the silent, yet strong inner circle of love, and respect for all AA Members at this gathering. We conducted the Business of NERRASA in all day Meetings, and late night Roundtables. I met with the all the other Area Secretaries to discuss how we perform our duties as Secretaries. There were many differences in how we complete Area Minutes, many of the other Areas have their Minutes Printed by a Printer, some have their Minutes electronically sent by the Printer after their assembly, one Area has all Reports sent to the Secretary with a 200 word max, and then they are emailed to all members. Area 47 and two others assemble and print our reports, then email and use the US Post Office for ground.

The most important thing many of us learned and will follow is; “Area Minutes capture what is done, not what is said verbatim.” “The minutes capture the moment of what is meant, and are not “verbatim transcripts” which encourage pontification, intimidation, and peer pressure.” I will follow this approved form of reporting the Area Minutes, capture what happens, and use verbatim for important issues. My job is not publish verbatim transcripts.

I thank Area 47 for helping me to be a better Secretary for Area 47. Respectfully, Peter G.

Note: *Parliamentary Journal, Vol. LI, No.3 July2010, Doris Abbate; Amer. Ins. of Parliamentarians Bylaw & Rules Committee. Updated 3/22/15. PMG*