



# AREA 11 DELEGATE'S REPORT

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2020

## Area 11 General Service Committee

### Links to information:

#### GSB 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition update:

[https://aa.org/assets/en\\_US/en\\_GMGSOlettertoConfMembers.pdf](https://aa.org/assets/en_US/en_GMGSOlettertoConfMembers.pdf)

<https://vimeopro.com/user112910871/love-and-service>

#### Big Book Summer offer:

[https://aa.org/pages/en\\_US/w/hats-new-on-aaorg](https://aa.org/pages/en_US/w/hats-new-on-aaorg)

#### MyPortal Update Announcement:

[https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/en\\_MyPortal\\_announcement.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_MyPortal_announcement.pdf)

#### NEW AA.org website update:

[https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/en\\_Website\\_onHold\\_letter\\_2020.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_Website_onHold_letter_2020.pdf)

Go to [ct-aa.org](http://ct-aa.org) for updated meeting information including virtual video conferencing meetings and temporary meeting closures

### Change

As the summer comes to a close, kids are back in school and the weather is looking more like fall, the winds of change are upon us. Ripples from the effects of COVID-19 are being to affect the fellowship in many more permanent ways.

A new update video regarding 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions has been posted to the aa.org website. The link to it, along with a letter of gratitude from the General Manager and many other new updates are to the left or you can check out the "What's New" page on aa.org.

Another announcement from GSO is that all work on the aa.org website has been halted for the remainder of 2020 to save on costs.

As reported back in the spring, employment changes at the General Service Office have begun at the end of August and I want to recognize the love and service of the members below that have sacrificed everything to work at GSO in New York and have now made the ultimate and final sacrifice of accepting early retirement to benefit all of AA. These efforts will help to prolong the financial affects of the pandemic and help the remaining staff focus on service imperative to carrying the message to the sick and suffering alcoholic.

Retiring on August 31, 2020 are:

Susan Donnor	35 years
Julio Espaillat	19 years
Karen Hale	15 years
Ayleen Martinez	19 years
Jeff Monasch	28 years
Bob Slotterback	28 years

### Finance Report:

Leslie B., Class A Treasurer of AAWS did report to us on Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup>. The Around the Picnic Table presentation has been updated.

I want to invite all DCMs, District officers, Area Officers and Area Committee and Event chairs to a special virtual meeting where I will present the Around the Picnic Table presentation. I will also review the final report for those who want to stay on. This will help you discuss the report to your GSRs. This special meeting will take place on Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.

### Information Technology Services:

Remediation of the core NetSuite ERP system has been ongoing. Special focused efforts are underway in the areas of Finance (contributions), Services (My Portal) and Publishing (webstore) with strong input and support from vendors, consultants and select workgroups. Technology Services is also participating in the Return to Work Taskforce as there will be a need to supplement GSO's current equipment and/or transition equipment back into GSO from the currently remote workforce.

### TRUSTEES:

There will be a number of vacancies on the General Service Board come 2021 – two regional trustees, trustee-at-large/U.S., three Class A trustees, and the chair of the Board. Mailings were sent to trusted servants in the areas involved regarding the regional and trustee-at-large vacancies. All past trustees received notice that there was an opening for the GSB chair position. The pool of Class A candidates was notified of the openings for next year and 16 have responded so far.

## Panel 69 Committee Highlights

### ARCHIVES:

Archives staff is archiving both internal and external material related to A.A. in the pandemic – news articles in print, video and audio, as well as material related to events and online meetings, public health and sharing from groups.

## AAWS Highlights

### Regional/International Events

#### NERAASA 2021:

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!**

The NERAASA 2021 Technology Platform Committee is looking for help with interpretation services and website updates. If you are interested in helping please contact the delegate

[delegate@ct-aa.org](mailto:delegate@ct-aa.org)

This is the first virtual video NERAASA!!

#### UPCOMING AREA 11 EVENTS:

##### **AREA 11 VIRTUAL BUS TOUR**

**4-6**

**Friday, September 25, 2020**

Contact your Area 11 Alternate Delegate for more information.

[Alt-delegate@ct-aa.org](mailto:Alt-delegate@ct-aa.org)

##### **AREA 11 CONVENTION:**

**Postponed to September 2021.**

##### **AREA 11 ROUND-UP**

Sunday November 11, 2020

9-3- Virtual video platform

Registration is Free!

##### **FALL ASSEMBLY**

In Person Assembly has NOT been cancelled. Virtual Video Fall Assembly?

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

##### **CSCYPAA**

**Moved to virtual video convention.**

**Watch for updates here!**

#### Finance:

Gross Sales for the first six months of 2020 of \$4,918,121 were \$2,623,651 lower than 2019. Gross Profit from literature was \$3,017,890 and represented a 75.00% Gross Profit Percentage. Contributions for 2020 of \$4,358,338 were \$355,954 greater than 2019.

Total Revenue (gross profit from literature plus contributions) was \$7,376,228 and \$1,559,485 less than 2019. Total expenses for the six months of 2020 were \$7,645,180. This is \$1,908,167 less than 2019. The decrease in expenses compared to 2019 was mainly due to events being cancelled because of COVID-19. This includes the General Service Conference and Board meetings being held virtually. The Travel, Meals and Accommodations line is \$638,430 lower than this time last year. Professional fees are \$232,110 for the period ending June 30, 2020 compared to \$360,414 in 2019, a variance of \$128,304. Contracted Services were \$961,098 for the period ending June 30, 2020 which is \$208,623 less than this time last year. The combination of the above revenues and expenses resulted in GSO reporting a loss of \$268,952 for the first six months of 2020. This loss compares to a loss of \$617,635 in 2019, a variance of \$348,682. 2020

Budget Reforecast 2.0: For the year 2020, the budget has been reforecast due to COVID-19. The revised budget includes actual results from the first two quarters of the year, new sales revenue estimates, decreases in many expense categories as well as estimated severance payments due to the VRIP offer. There are still many unknowns, though sales have been increasing slightly month by month and a high-water mark for

contributions of \$1.1 million for the month of July provide positive signs. There have been some decreases in expenses due to the office operating on a remote basis and cost-cutting efforts will be implemented in the budget categories of Other Program Printing, Contracted Services, Professional Fees and website development. One impact of this will be that a number of the newsletters and publications regularly published by GSO, such as Box 4-5-9, About A.A., the GSB Quarterly Report and the LIM bulletin will be available digitally only through the fourth quarter, saving printing and mailing costs.

#### Group Services:

The desk is working with staff to develop standard responses to the many inquiries received regarding listing online groups. As a result of the pandemic, an update to Meeting Guide has been approved that supports the display of online meetings for temporary closures and hybrid meetings (meetings still taking place online as well as in-person).

#### Public Information:

A vendor has been selected for the development of two new PSAs. Diversity will be a key factor in the casting process. From March to May three press releases were distributed on aa.org's press/media page, two of which were in response to a high demand of inquiries from journalists regarding A.A. in the age of Covid-19.

#### Accessibilities/LIM:

The assignment is updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic" and is working with the Communication Services department on creating a Remote Communities Service Committee page on the A.A. website.

Please feel free to copy this report and circulate it as needed within A.A. Groups and A.A. Service Committees.

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