



# AREA 11 DELEGATE'S REPORT

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2023

## Area 11 General Service Committee

### Links to information:

### [Quarterly Report from GSO- November 2022 Edition](#)

Update on activities of the GSB, A.A.W.S and AA Grapevine, including:

- Financial results from GSO, Grapevine, La Viña and the GSB
- Trustees Conference committees
- GSO Services summary
- A.A.W.S. Board committees
- Strategic Planning
- AA Grapevine Board committees

### 2021-2023 A.A. Service Manual

View as a PDF [here](#), or scan the QR Code



## 73<sup>rd</sup> G.S.C. Activity

**List of Final Agenda Items:** The General Service Board held its quarterly board weekend from January 27-30, 2023. During the course of the weekend, final disposition of proposed agenda items was decided. The list of agenda items that will be discussed at the 2023 General Service Conference will be made available on or before February 10, 2023. Background material for the final

As I prepare for my first Pre-Conference Assembly as Delegate, I was reflecting on my first Pre-Conference Assembly ever. I was brand new to service, attending as a member of the CSCYPAA committee to outreach our event. I remember walking in and joining a table without having any idea of what to expect or what was going to happen there that day. There was a lot of excitement and passion in the room. It had the feeling of a momentous occasion.

I recall feeling lost and out of my element. There were a lot of acronyms, abbreviations and lingo used with which I was unfamiliar. I am reminded of that feeling frequently now when I am in a service meeting or at an event and I hear someone ask “What is CPC?”<sup>1</sup> or “What is PI?”<sup>2</sup> or “What is an agenda item?”<sup>3</sup>. Too often we forget what it was like when we were new. It is a good reminder for me to make sure that we are including everyone in the conversation, including newcomers to service. I am always excited when someone asks a question like one of those above. It means that there is someone new to service in the room. It is an opportunity to make sure that everyone present is fully informed. One of the keys to effective communication up and down the triangle is that we are all “speaking the same language”. The pause to make sure that there is full understanding might mean the difference in whether the group conscience is truly an informed one.

I began to truly comprehend that day how much bigger AA was than just my home group and my local Fellowship. I heard people discussing issues that effected AA as a whole and it made me realize the importance of group participation in the Conference process, even though I didn't really understand it all. I began to see the Concepts in action without even yet knowing that they existed.

I am grateful for the people that were there that day to help me begin to understand the upside-down triangle; the ones who took the time to

explain what was happening and why it was all so important. I am grateful to those that have been ever present since that day to continue to answer the questions. I am grateful to the ones that continue to ask the questions.

### Important update from the General Service Board

“Last weekend, the General Service Board (GSB) met during its quarterly board weekend. We wanted to let you know as quickly as possible that, at the board's request, Linda Chezem has resigned as a Class A Trustee and Chair of the Board. First and foremost, the GSB wants to assure you that we continue to affirm our commitment to the board's single mission—serving the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

We also want to emphasize that the departure of our chairperson is receiving the highest level of attention. As First Vice Chair of the General Service Board (per the slate of officers elected at the 2022 General Service Conference), and with the approval of the Board in a special session held last Monday, I have now assumed the role of Interim Chairperson until the close of the GSC in April 2023. My service as Southwest Regional Trustee will also end at that time.”- *excerpt from communication received from Jimmy D., Interim Chair of the GSB* (click [here](#) to view the full letter)

<sup>1</sup> **CPC** - Cooperation with the Professional Community. CPC committees at the district, Area, Trustee and Conference level help carry the message to professionals who work with problem drinkers

<sup>2</sup> **PI** - Public Information. Committees at the district, Area, Trustee and Conference level help carry the message by working with the media

<sup>3</sup> **Agenda Item** - The final agenda for any Conference consists of items suggested by individual A.A. members, groups, delegates, trustees, area assemblies, area committee members, and directors/staff members of A.A.W.S. and the Grapevine. Whatever its origin, any agenda item follows the same path to the Conference agenda: the A.A. staff studies it in the light of previous Conference actions, then passes it on to the trustees' Conference Committee or the appropriate Conference committee to determine when, where and whether it will appear on the Conference agenda

agenda items will be available mid-February. Be on the lookout for email communication containing important updates. The entire list of proposed agenda items with preliminary dispositions is available. To view this list, click [here](#). For more information on the path of an agenda item, please see this presentation [here](#).

## G.S.B., A.A.W.S./G.S.O., & G.V./LV Updates

### Regional/International Events

#### Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA)

February 23-26, 2023

Albany, NY

\*\*\*Virtual attendance option available\*\*\*

[www.neraasa.org](http://www.neraasa.org)

#### Northeast Regional Forum (NERF)

June 2-4, 2023

Burlington, MA

Information on regional forums can be found here:

[https://aa.org/pages/en\\_US/regional-and-local-forums](https://aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums)

#### 2025 International Convention!

July 3-6, 2025

Vancouver, BC Canada

Find up-to-date information [here](#).

### SCHEDULED EVENTS IN AREA 11:

#### Pre-Conference Assembly: Save the date!!!!

Saturday, April 1, 2023

Details coming soon!!

“The area assembly is the mainspring of the Conference structure.” -Reprinted from page S36 from the 2018-2020 A.A. Service Manual with permission from A.A. World Services, Inc.

### General Service Board Updates

#### Centennial Commemoration Ad Hoc Committee:

It is anticipated that there will be worldwide acknowledgement of AA's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout the year 2035. The GSB has formed an ad hoc committee to consider the options to commemorate our Centennial anniversary (these activities would be separate from the International Convention). Click [here](#) to read the full announcement.

#### Finance and Budget: Unaudited

performance stats for 2022 year-end are as follows:

- Contributions: \$10,556,295 (96% of budget of \$11,000,000 and 2% less than last year)
- Literature: \$11,999,441 (108% of budget of \$11,000,000 and 2.5% more than last year)
- Expense: not yet available
- Prudent reserve: Reserve Fund on December 31, 2022 was at 7.48 months (\$12,749,059)

### A.A.W.S./G.S.O. Updates

#### Updates from GSO General Manager Bob W.

- [Updates and changes at GSO](#)
- [Update on International Licensing Services](#)

**Public Information:** For some AA members, their journey of sobriety began at “open” AA meetings, which can be attended by any member of the community, alcoholic or nonalcoholic. Open meetings have long been a vital source of information for anyone who wants to learn more firsthand about the AA Fellowship. Click [here](#) for press release regarding open meetings.

**Corrections:** The Corrections desk has successfully completed the revisions to the Corrections Workbook. The desk is also working to meet the needs of the alcoholic in custody across US and Canada. Access

and volunteerism were greatly affected by the pandemic and they are working with both the Corrections Service of Canada and the American Correctional Association to discuss ways to support AA involvement in their facilities.

**Finance:** Recommendations have been made by the AAWs Finance Committee to increase literature prices. Of note, the last price increases were in 2009 (33.3%) and 2014 (18.75%)

**Publishing:** Five new plain-language draft chapters have been delivered to the TABB (Tools to Access the Big Book) Committee for review. Arrangements are being made for a “reading room” at the General Service Conference, which would allow Conference members to preview the draft chapters.

### A.A. Grapevine/La Viña Updates

**Update on shipping delays:** There continue to be delays in order fulfillment as changes are made to improve customer experience. For urgent needs, you can call Grapevine and La Viña customer service at 212-870-3417.

#### Upcoming Grapevine materials:

##### Grapevine Magazine topics:

- March: *Getting Involved in AA Service*
- April: *AA and Families*
- May: *Why I Love My Home Group*
- June: *Celebrating our “Twelve & Twelve”- 70 Wonderful Years*

##### Books:

- *30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Home Group* book

##### La Viña Magazine topics:

- March/April: *Newcomers* issue
- May/June: *Relapse Prevention*
- July/August: *Prison* issue

Mike R.

Area 11 Alternate Delegate, Panel 73  
[alt-delegate@ct-aa.org](mailto:alt-delegate@ct-aa.org)

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

Mary E-K.

Area 11 Delegate, Panel 73  
[delegate@ct-aa.org](mailto:delegate@ct-aa.org)