



AREA 11 DELEGATE'S REPORT

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 11

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Area 11 General Service Committee

Links to information:

[Box 4-5-9 Fall 2023 Edition](#)

In this issue:

- Meet 4 new Class B General Service Board Trustees, including our new Northeast Regional Trustee
- Learn about The Reserve Fund
- And much more!

[AAWS Highlights October 2023](#)

Including:

- Business of the Board
- What's Happening at GSO?

2021-2023 A.A. Service Manual

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



73rd G.S.C. Activity

Report and Charter: The Conference Committee on Report and Charter will be meeting one more time before the end of the year to touch base before our Panel 72 Delegates rotate! As the chairperson of the committee, I have received my invitation to the January Board Weekend in New York, as well as the preliminary agenda. I look forward to attending and participating!

Over the past few years, **communication** has been a common theme throughout my journey in Alcoholics Anonymous. It has come up in my step work, in group inventories, and was a very prominent topic of discussion at the General Service Conference last spring. In my experience, clear and effective communication must be the basis for every relationship, whether it be personal, business, or service-related. It lays a foundation of trust, understanding, and cooperation. It helps to define clear goals and the path to achieve them. It serves to provide checks and balances.

Communication can take on many forms and appearances. It can be delivered in a multitude of ways. The methods of delivery continue to evolve and information swirls around us at speeds that were unimaginable years ago. But still, we struggle to keep this communication clear and effective.

At the level of the General Service Conference, it is a topic that is discussed frequently. How do we keep the Fellowship well-informed? What is the method for collecting information from the Fellowship? Is the Conference structure still effective? How do we utilize new technology while also making sure we meet the needs of those who lack accessibility? These are just a few of the many questions and topics about communication within the Fellowship that come up regularly. Very important discussions that must continue for the health and growth of the Fellowship.

Over the course of the past year, there has been much discussion about how to restore faith and trust at the very bottom of the upside-down triangle. Many of the responses have included words like “communication” and “transparency”. Also, requests for additional or simplified reporting, particularly around finance have been heavily suggested. There were many Advisory Actions and Committee Considerations from the 73rd GSC that were the result of these discussions and the desire of the Fellowship to “right the ship”.

One Committee Consideration that came out of the Conference Committee on Public Information was to design a pilot study to utilize our existing technology platforms (Meeting Guide App and A.A. Website) to perform membership surveys through “convenience” sampling. This pilot study was recently performed and hopefully, many of you got the opportunity to participate. While the study saw good engagement, the process was not without its flaws, most of which came back to poor communication. The Delegates were able to provide feedback about the frustration with this process at our November Sharing Session, which was good timing and will hopefully be helpful for projects such as this in the future.

Another Committee Consideration from the 73rd GSC came from the Conference Committee on Finance. It was a request that the Trustees’ Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.’s founders. Recently, the Delegates received a communication from the Trustees’ Literature Committee with a plan to gather shared experience from the Fellowship on this topic. This information is to be gathered through sharing and discussion at the local level and brought with the Delegates to the 74th GSC for a sharing session on this topic to take place during Conference week. I will be putting together some information to guide these discussions at the group and district levels so that it can be a part of the pre-conference process. I look to the membership of Area 11 to provide me with the informed group conscience so that I may actively participate as the voice of the Area at that sharing session.

On page 2 of this report, you will find some updated financial reports under the “General Service Board Updates” section. These are provided to provide increased transparency to the financial affairs of AAWS and the General Service Board. There have been Proposed Agenda Items submitted for the 74th GSC for additional financial reporting, which will be discussed and decided on next April.

Conference Activities: The General Service Conference met for an online sharing session on November 15. This was our second sharing session of this type as the result of an Advisory Action at the 73rd GSC. The agenda for this session was much less structured and resembled the “What’s on Your Mind?” portion of the Conference and many of our other events.

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

Regional/International Events

New England Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (NECYPAA)

January 5-7, 2024

Danvers, MA

Click [here](#) for more information and to register!

Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly (NERAASA)

February 22-25, 2024

Hershey, PA

For registration flyer, click [here](#)

Information on NERAASA can be found here:

<https://www.neraasa.org/>

2025 International Convention!

July 3-6, 2025

Vancouver, BC Canada

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

SCHEDULED EVENTS IN AREA 11:

Round Up 2024

Save the date!!

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Details to come!

Pre-Conference Assembly

Save the date!!!

Saturday, April 6

Details to come!

General Service Board Updates

Updated Financial Reports: Many of you may have seen the recent communication sent out by Bob W., the General Manager of GSO, about the current financial challenges that are being faced. While contributions remain at above-average levels, profits from literature sales have not yet rebounded from the pandemic and are continuing to impact the overall financial health of Alcoholics Anonymous. If you have not yet read the memo from Bob W., you can click [here](#) to read it.

For more detailed information on the finances of the 3 Boards, you can view the unaudited Quarter 3 AAWS/GSB and Grapevine Board Financial Statements [here](#). You can also find a report from the AAWS Finance Committee in the [October Issue of AAWS Highlights](#).

As I have shared, one of the areas of focus at the General Service Conference last spring was more transparency and timeliness in financial reporting. Please click [here](#) for a summary of financial reporting that was put together. It is a handy guide to the reports that are made available throughout the year, including how often and how they are distributed.

“A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic” Story Solicitation: The trustees’ Literature Committee is seeking stories of recovery from all Indigenous communities in the A.A. structure in the United States and Canada. Please click [here](#) for more information and instructions on how to submit your story. The deadline for submissions is **December 31, 2023**.

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

Public Information: Although a formal announcement has not yet been, the results of the 2022 Membership Survey are now available on AA.org! You can access them by clicking [here](#). The results are available on

the website in English, French and Spanish. The formal announcement is expected on December 18 when the pamphlet should be available for order from the online bookstore, as well.

Publishing: There is currently a “Trio of Holiday Special Offers” with discounts off all Big Books, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and a special discount on the Alcoholics Anonymous Facsimile First Printing of the First Edition! Please click [here](#) or go to onlineliterature.aa.org for more details. These discounts are being offered through January 15, 2024.

GSO Staff Updates: Long-time GSO staff member Racy J. has transitioned into the Staff Coordinator assignment. Two new staff members have also been hired this fall, Kelley C. and Rainer L.

A.A. Grapevine/La Viña Updates

Grapevine and La Viña app update:

Fun fact: The Grapevine app is in the top 40 in the Apple store! Are you interested in the Grapevine or La Viña app? Want more information? Grapevine and La Viña staff have created an FAQ to help answer many of the questions that have arisen. You can access that by clicking [here](#).

Grapevine News: For the latest updates, click [here](#).

Grapevine Editorial Calendar: Have you ever considered submitting a story to the Grapevine? Now is the time! Click [here](#) for the 2024 Grapevine Editorial Calendar with the monthly topic and submission due date listings.

To access this and other Delegate’s reports, scan here:



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

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