



AREA 11 DELEGATE'S REPORT

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2024

Area 11 General Service Committee

Links to information:

[Quarterly Report from GSO- 4th Quarter 2023](#)

Activities of the General Service Board including A.A. World Service, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.

[Highlights from AAWS- December 2023](#)

Including:

- Business of the Board from AAWS
- What's Happening at GSO

2021-2023 A.A. Service Manual

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



74th G.S.C. Activity

Report and Charter: We met as a Committee prior to Board weekend for a meet and greet to welcome the Panel 74 members into the fold and to review the work ahead of us! It was reported at Board weekend that work on the Chapter rewrites and the Amendments section of the Service Manual have been completed and will be sent to our committee as a draft along with the editorial updates for review in the next couple of weeks. We are very excited to receive the draft and get into it!

When I share my story of recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous, it is not surprising that I talk a lot about service and what it has done for me, my recovery and my life. Being of service to AA has certainly gotten me through some of the worst times I have had to go through in my life and one of the things I am most grateful to this program for are the people that it has brought into my life.

As the Delegate Chair of the Conference Committee on Report and Charter, I was invited to attend and participate in the January Board weekend. During the Saturday night AA meeting that weekend, one of the speakers was Hon. Kerry Meyer, a Class A (Non-Alcoholic) Trustee from our General Service Board. Kerry is a district court judge from Minneapolis who has presided over DWI, Mental Health and Veterans Treatment Courts. Through her work in the courts, she got to know AA members and recognized the power our program had to change lives. She got to know more about it and set out to learn as much as she could for herself, going through the steps herself and eventually getting a service sponsor. Her love for and willingness to serve this program that she does not qualify for herself is very powerful. Some who attended the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta may remember her as one of the invited non-alcoholic speakers even before she was elected a Trustee. She carries the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to her colleagues and other professionals in a way members cannot.

It was her share from that Saturday that resonated in my head shortly after Board weekend as I sat in the emergency room with my 23-year-old, who had been hit nearly head-on by a drunk driver. The man had been driving the wrong way on the highway when they collided. Miraculously, he was uninjured and arrested at the scene. My kid was alive and discharged the next day to continue healing at home. The outcome could have been

much different and often is in stories such as these. Knowing so many people in the rooms of AA who have stories of recovery that start with an incident like this, I hope that maybe that man will cross paths with a judge like Kerry.

Final Conference Agenda Items

The list of Conference Agenda Items was finalized during the January Board weekend and is now available for distribution. You can access it by clicking [here](#). Please feel free to share it with any member who may be interested. Background material for these agenda items will be available in the coming weeks and will be sent out through the DCMs. The will be a **BIG EMAIL** that will contain a lot of information about these items, including items of particular interest, tips for reviewing these items, and the complete contents of the background material. This will all help to prepare members of the Area for the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 6!

Information regarding a special sharing session on the Founders' Writings that will be held at the Assembly has already been sent out to DCMs. If you would like more information, please talk to your DCM or alternate DCM.

Request from Conference Committee on Grapevine

The Conference Committee on the Grapevine and La Viña has requested feedback from the Fellowship on the following question:

“Can you please share the impact (positive or negative) that the La Viña magazine (both print and/or digital version) has had on your recovery and in your community?”

They would like to have this feedback before the Conference, so please send responses to me at delegate@ct-aa.org by **Friday, March 29**. I will compile the information and get it over to the chair of their committee by the requested deadline.

Conference Activities: The last Board Weekend before the GSC took place January 25-29. This Board weekend was attended by the Delegate Chairs of the Conference Committees and final decisions were made about the remaining Conference Agenda items. Background material is expected to be out between February 16-23 following translation. An All-Delegates meeting will take place on February 15, followed by a virtual meeting of the GSC on February 27.

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

Regional/International Events

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

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Pitkin Community Center

30 Greenfield Street

Wethersfield CT 06109

Pre-Conference Assembly

Saturday, April 6

Be on the lookout for registration information!!!

Unity Church of Greater Hartford

919 Ellington Road

South Windsor CT 06074

General Service Board Updates

Updated Financial Reports: An [updated letter about A.A.'s financial challenges](#) was sent out by GSO's General Manager, Bob W. in mid-January. In that letter, he thanked the Fellowship for the impressive response that has been seen in the form of heartfelt messages and generous contributions. He also provided an updated picture of A.A.'s current financial status. Despite a record amount of member contributions during December and above-budget contributions for the year, it was not enough to solve the cash-on-hand deficiency that has been ongoing since 2022.

During the January Board weekend meeting of the Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, the following recommendation was made:

The Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee **recommended** that the General Service Board Authorize the withdrawal of \$1,064,652 from the Reserve Fund, to be allocated as follows:

- \$500,000 to the General Service Board to ensure sufficient cash on hand to meet liquidity requirements in the second quarter of 2024, which includes \$1.1 million of Conference expenses. This is in response to the cash on hand deficiency carried over since the end of 2022 that was not fully mitigated by positive cash flow results in 2023 that resulted from the generous commitment to self-support from the Fellowship that exceeded both the previous annual record and 2023 reforecast budget for contributions, close management of expenses, and collections of receivables. This draw plus expected positive cash flow in the first quarter of 2024 will fully fund the

expenses expected to be paid in the second quarter of 2024.

- \$564,652 to Grapevine to fund year three of the Grapevine 5-year plan covering the period January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2026. This five-year plan, reviewed by the Trustees Finance and Committee at its January 2023 meeting, called for capital investment and operating support of approximately \$1.1 million in year 2 (2023) and operating support of approximately \$565k in year 3 (2024), with the expectation that Grapevine operations would be cash flow positive and not require operating support starting in year 4 (2025).

To answer any questions you may have, Kevin Prior, Class A Trustee and GSB Treasurer, has provided interim information before the entire report is ready. I have also included some additional documents with a summary from the Southeast Regional Trustee and a copy of the Grapevine 5-year Forecast Plan. You can access that by clicking [here](#).

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

Publishing: An update on printing delays and backorders due to supply chain disruptions can be found [here](#).

A.A. Grapevine/La Viña Updates

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

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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