



# Delegate Report – Area Assembly, October 15, 2016

Panel 66, Area 29 Maryland General Service, Inc.

## ~ A Fellowship in Motion ~ AA's Legacy of Service

### Looking Toward & Supporting Our Future

I have been actively distributing the **2016 Final Report of the 66<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous** to Districts and Intergroups across Area 29. I received a pallet of 1,500 reports and only have about 100 remaining!! The report is presented to us this year in a rose color with white and grey lettering. I developed an "Index" to assist in navigating to an item of particular interest in six different categories.

In addition to the Floor Actions, Advisory Actions, Additional Committee Considerations, and Recommendations which did not result in Advisory Actions; there are presentations which were given on timely topics, reports from the General Service Board, Grapevine Corporate Board and AAWS, Inc. Board; lists of the amounts of all literature distributed in 2015; delegate highlights; Conference members; Financial Reports and much, much more. Please let me know of any Spanish speaking members or groups which I may visit to personally distribute the Final Conference Report in Spanish.

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### From the Bottom of the Service Triangle

#### Quarterly Meeting of General Service Board of AA-- A Few Highlights from the Minutes - August 1, 2016:

**Report from the Subcommittee on Feasibility Study** was presented with recommendations to the General Service Board (GSB) for exploring in greater detail the following: (1) feasibility of a media and communications audit; and how to better utilize FNV data base for distribution of information and resources to the Fellowship; (2) explore new sources of GV/LV sale and revenue streams; (3) expenses for the GSC; and (4) structurally explore the potential cost savings of combining back office functions, such as finance and Information Technology. The name was changed to Subcommittee on our Future Sustainability.

#### A.A. Welcomes Two New Class A (Nonalcoholic) Trustees:

Of the 21 members of AAs General Service Board, seven are designated as Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees. Newly elected Class A Trustees to the Board are Christine Carpenter of Columbia, MO and Nancy McCarthy from St. Louis, MO. Read the full article on these new Class As in the *About AA* newsletter for professionals which is available at aa.org.

### A.A. World Service, Inc. News:

(Note: Minutes of 9/16/16 A.A.W.S. meeting not available for this Delegate Report)

**International:** 63 Delegates from 40 countries will participate in the 24<sup>th</sup> World Service Meeting in Rye, NY Oct 23-27, 2016. AA has a presence in more than 180 countries (est. 117,000 groups and more than two million members). There are 61 general service offices worldwide, including the N.Y. office.

**Public Information:** The Annual Anonymity Letter was distributed to over 29,000 media professionals.

**A.A.W.S. Online Store:** Total web sales for June 2016 were \$644,936, which accounts for about 63% of total sales for the company.

**Financials through June:** Net literature sales were 5.4% greater than budget; contributions were 8% greater than budget; and total operating expenses were 7% less than budget. It is noteworthy that sales were reported as declining in July, while contributions have continued on a positive track.

**International Licensing and Translations:** There is a continued surge in international-language reviews and licenses. January –June, 2016 saw an 81% increase, which represents a 45% increase in reviews compared to the same period in 2015.

### General Service Office:

**Staff Opening:** Applications being sought for a new GSO Staff member. Anyone interested should submit a Resume by November 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact your Delegate or [staffcoord@aa.org](mailto:staffcoord@aa.org) for an Application.

**N.E. Region Contact:** Clement C. is our new northeast region contact at Our General Service Office. The updated GSO Staff Assignments spreadsheet is available today.

**Literature Gift Set:** New gift set available for \$30.00 (\$43 value) which includes the commemorative edition of the "AA Big Book", "Pass It On", "Dr. Bob & the Good Old Timers", and "AA Comes of Age". (available from 10/1-1/31/17)



**Reminder**.... Click on the "basket" in the upper right hand corner at [aa.org](http://aa.org) to make Recurring Contributions to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

**Financial Summary of Contributions for Area 29:**

The Quarterly Contribution Report listing contributions to GSO from Area 29 through June 30, 2016 were sent to DCMs. These should be provided to GSRs to share with their group, giving them an opportunity to be sure their group contributions are recorded and discuss the spiritual and financial importance of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition. Area 29 Group contributions as of June 30, 2016 were \$45,352. Only 30% of groups contributed to GSO thus far in 2016, as compared to 31.3% for the same period in 2015. Of the 840 active groups listed, only 302 groups contributed to AA as a whole between Jan and June, 2016.

**67<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference:**

The 67<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference will be held April 22-29, 2017 in Rye Brook, NY. The Conference Theme is: "Supporting Our Future".

**"Young People and AA" pamphlet:** Reminder to keep passing the word along that the trustees' literature committee is soliciting stories from young people in A.A. for inclusion in the revised "YP in AA" pamphlet. The deadline is 12/30/16.

**Regional Forums:**

December 2-4, 2016  
June 2-4, 2017

Southeast (Orlando, FL)  
Northeast (Mars, PA)

**AA Grapevine, Inc. News:**

**New GV Literature:** "The Twelve Traditions" is now available for \$10.99. It is a collection of stories from AAGV members regarding the core principles of the Twelve Traditions.

**Support our Grapevine:** Another way to support the GV is the "Grow Your Grapevine" initiative. Go to [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org) for more information.

**GV Financial Report:** June YTD Sales are ahead of projections. Print and digital subscriptions projected to decline yet remain in budget range for now. Grapevine realized net income of \$245,204 in comparison to a budgeted net loss of \$14,615 (\$259,819 ahead of budget).

**Northeast Region News:**

**Area 59/Eastern PA:** 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Conv & Assembly, November 4-6<sup>th</sup> in Gettysburg, PA ([area59aa.org](http://area59aa.org)). I was invited to present a workshop at the Convention.

**NERAASA 2017:** Feb.24-26<sup>th</sup> in Framingham, Mass. NERAASA is an opportunity to learn how to perform service and committee work at all levels in A.A. and connect with other trusted servants in the Northeast Region. ([neraasa2017.org](http://neraasa2017.org))

**Northeast Regional Forum (NERF):** June 2- 4, 2017, in Mars, PA ~ A Forum is an opportunity for AA members to meet and talk with Trustee, Directors, GSO, and Grapevine staffs.

**WAGSA/Area 13 (Washington,D.C):** Gratitude Breakfast, November 20<sup>th</sup> in Hyattsville, MD.

**In Memoriam:** Area 29 extends our sympathy to the family and friends of Camella C. who passed away on 9/2/16. She served as a Panel 63, Area 13 Delegate (Washington D.C.)

**Around Area 29:****Where are "WE" in the Year Round Conference Process?**

Three of the four CARCs reconvened with potential Agenda items generated to bring forward to the Area Committee (November) and the Area Assembly (December) for discussion and approval. If any of the Motions pass at the Area level, the Delegate will submit them with supporting background information to the Conference Coordinator by December 15 for possible inclusion on the 2017 General Service Conference Agenda.

**MGS Fall Convention: Register today** and attend the Fall Convention to be held October 21-23, 2016 at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Hunt Valley.

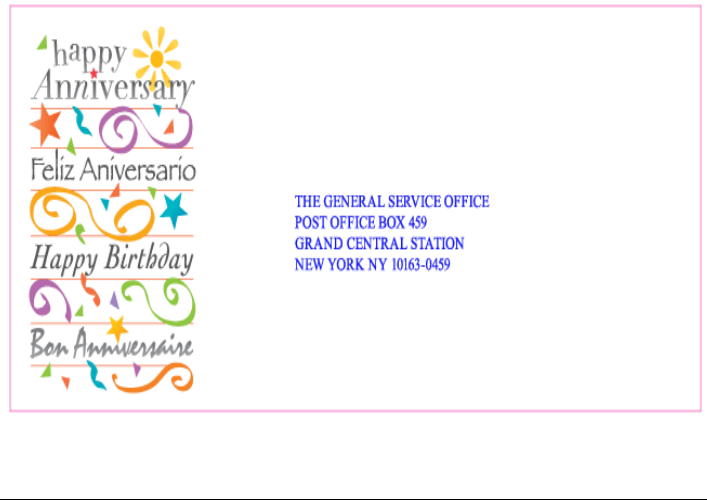
**ICYPAA Bid Committee:** A letter was submitted from Area 29 to provide our support for their efforts to bring the ICYPAA Convention to Maryland.

~ **Gratitude Month Challenge** ~

I personally challenge each member in Area 29 to participate in the Gratitude Month initiative. Pick up “Birthday Plan Envelopes” on the back table and get them out to all the groups in Area 29!! Please take as many as you need and pass them along so everyone has an opportunity to participate in supporting the Fellowship that saved our lives. Perhaps this is one of the ways we could be part of the solution to help “catch up” on the current shortfall between costs of services and contributions to facilitate 12<sup>th</sup> step work.

Some ideas on using the Birthday Plan envelopes are:

- (1) a penny for every day sober; (2) a dollar for every year sober; (3) \$\$ in the envelope rather than a planned gift to a Sponsor or Sponsee; (4) pass an envelope at your Home Group, and the list goes on. You can use the envelope to make a contribution or contribute on line at [aa.org](http://aa.org)



**Delegate Comments:**

Thank you to the Finance and Website committees for their amazing teamwork setting up the Online Contributions for our Area 29 Website. Check it out at [marylandaa.org](http://marylandaa.org) !!!

I continue travelling across Area 29 to update folks on what is going on in A.A. as a whole, and how to stay involved in this ongoing, year round Conference process.

Thank you to all the Districts and Intergroups who have so warmly welcomed my Delegate visits to provide the two-way communication “ link” between the Conference and the Fellowship in Area 29. It is such an honor and privilege for me.

Feel free to contact me at any time.

**In Love and Service,**

**Linda J., Delegate**  
**Panel 66 Area 29**  
**[delegate@marylandaa.org](mailto:delegate@marylandaa.org)**

***Delegate Travel Log...***

10/21-10/23	Fall Convention	Hunt Valley	weekend
11/4-11/6	Area 59 Convention	Gettysburg	weekend
11/8	NEIG	Aberdeen	7:00pm
11/9	District 41/Election	New Market	TBD
11/10	District 4	Towson	7:00pm
11/12	District 9/Workshop	Westminster	10:00am
11/14	Group Anniversary Speaker	Columbia	8:00pm
11/18	WMIG	Oakland	7:00pm
11/19	Area Committee	Smithsburg	all day
11/20	WAIA Gratitude Breakfast	Washington	morning
12/3	Area Assembly	Severna Park	all day
12/3	S.E.R.F.	Orlando	Sat pm/Sun
12/10	SMIA	Prince Frederick	10 am
1/21/17	Area 29 Planning Session	Severna Park	TBD
1/27-1/30/17	General Service Board Mtg Finance Committee	New York	weekend

