



**Delegate’s Report – July 18, 2009**

**AA World Service, Inc. News**

**Literature Activity Update**

From Eva S., Literature Coordinator at our General Service Office (June 8, 2009):

- The A.A. Conference-Approved Literature and Other Service Material Catalog has been distributed. The new catalog reflects the price increases on books and booklets, effective July 1, 2009.
- The 2010-2011 Western U.S., Eastern U.S. and Canada A.A. Directories will not be published this year. The 2008-2009 will continue to be distributed. The list of Central Office/Intergroup/Answering Services (F-25) will continue to be distributed.
- A digital subscription of *Box 459* is now available at no charge. We can visit G.S.O.’s web site at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) to subscribe. To commemorate the Big Book’s 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the fall issue of *Box 459* will feature an article on the Big Book.
- In July Eva will be rotating and Julio E. will be the incoming Literature Coordinator!

**A.W.W.S. Highlights**

G.S.O. General Manager Phyllis H. attended the Sub-Saharan African A.A. Service Meeting in South Africa, along with Jo-Ann L., Trustee-at-Large, and Julio E., staff and participated in sharing about basic 12<sup>th</sup> Step work, carrying the A.A. message within countries where A.A. is taking root.

As noted above, the 2010 – 2011 Western U.S., Eastern U.S. and Canada Directories will not be published which will save expenses of \$35,000.

*Markings*, the Archives newsletter, will soon begin its first electronic-only version, joining *Box 459* and *Sharing Behind the Walls* in digital format. Moving the publication online will reduce expenses \$4,000 per issue.

In August 2009, A.A. members will be able to make contributions to G.S.O. online by credit card via an Internet web site. The link will be sent to Area delegates, trustees and directors prior to going live for use by the fellowship.

The 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Final Report will be available in August.

Regional Forums for the next 12 months are posted on the G.S.O. web site.

**A.A.W.S. Finance Summary:**

	<u>2009 actual</u>	<u>2009 budgeted</u>
	<u>(first 3 months)</u>	
Net sales:	\$3,271,100	
Contributions:	\$1,444,200	
Total revenue (gross profit from literature plus contributions):	\$3,312,500	
Net income:	\$290,700	\$359,400
Net income was \$5,000 less than from the same period in 2008.		

**Book Distribution:**

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
	<u>(through April) (same period)</u>	
Total distribution of all books:	734,875	“down slightly”
Big Book sales (all formats):	385,239	386,669
Gross sales:	\$1,111,918	\$1,087,972
Total A.A. purchases:	83%	
Total non-A.A. purchases:	17%	

**G.S.O. Staff Assignments**

Effective July, 2009, our General Service Office staff are rotating their assignments. Copies of the new Staff Assignment list are available today.

**AA Grapevine, Inc. News**

The July issues of the Grapevine and La Vina have special sections of stories by A.A.’s serving time. As written by Robin B., Executive Editor the stories are among the staff’s favorites at the Grapevine office, because they have been told how critical the stories can be to alcoholics in correctional facilities who have few, or no meetings to support them. Secondly, because the stories – written by A.A.’s who manage to stay sober in the most trying circumstances – are so inspiring.

The A.A. Grapevine welcomes articles on every aspect of recovery and service. In the coming months, the Grapevine is seeking stories about overcoming challenges in our home group, A.A. around the world, Steps and Traditions, and, for December’s special section: “What Gives You Hope?” The deadline for submissions for the December issue is July 20.

Visit [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org) for writer's guidelines, and then submit your story online or to [gveditorial@aagrapevine.org](mailto:gveditorial@aagrapevine.org).

## **General Service Board News**

Class A trustee and Chairman of the General Service Board, Ward Ewing D.D. reports that Jeanne S. Woolford has resigned as Class A trustee due to professional and family obligations. The trustees held a special meeting by conference call on June 5, 2009 and held a lengthy discussion which included the following concerns: The urgent need to fill the vacancy, the needs of the Fellowship, the needs of the General Service Board, rotation, and delegate input regarding the process to fill the vacancy. After discussion the General Service Board decided to leave the position vacant at this time, and requested that the trustee's Nominating Committee begin the process of filling the vacancy to replace Jeanne S. Woolford and present the nominee's name to the 2010 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any. The General Service Board (2009 – 2010) will operate short one Class A trustee in addition to operating short one Class B regional trustee and one Class B General Service trustee.

## **District Meetings and Intergroup Meetings**

Since our last Area Assembly meeting in May, I have attended the district meetings in Districts 28/29 in Abingdon, District 32 in Ocean City, District 35 in Waldorf, and District 42 in Crofton. If I have not attended your district's meeting, please let me know where and when you meet. I will be happy to come out and visit if you wish.

Since May, I have attended Intergroup meetings at the Northeast Maryland Intergroup, Southern Maryland Intergroup, Ocean City Intergroup, Midshore Intergroup, and Baltimore Intergroup. I am scheduled to attend the Annapolis Area Intergroup, the Hagerstown Intergroup, the West Central Intergroup, and the Western Maryland Intergroup in the next month. The purpose of my Intergroup visits is to give a brief report on the 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference.

## **Regional Panel Meetings**

I attended the Regional Panel 3 meeting held on June 20 at 12:30 pm during the Maryland State Convention. I look forward to attending other Regional Panel meetings which have been scheduled, and as they are planned through 2009.

## **There are places I remember...**

### **District 42 Workshop**

On Saturday, June 6 I attended a workshop titled, "How to Work and Play with Others," as hosted by District 42 in Crofton. Our Area 29 Workshop Committee led the discussion and several scenarios of home group issues were distributed to groups in attendance, to discuss and identify to which Traditions

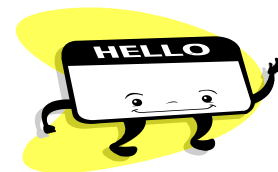
the issues can be addressed. Thanks to Dawn H. and our friends in District 42 for a highly interactive and most revealing day. Coffee and yummys were provided.

### **District 1 Workshop**

On Saturday, June 13 following a report at the Southern Maryland Intergroup meeting in Prince Frederick, I attended a workshop on "House Cleaning Steps 5 – 9," hosted by District 1 in North Beach. Again, Ron M. and our Area Workshop Committee led a lively and informative discussion on the history and application of our Steps. A tantalizing array of savory sandwiches and Buffalo wings (available in both mild and spicy) was served up for lunch. Thanks to D.C.M. J.J., who could not be in attendance however, and the G.S.R.'s in District 1 for a well planned and well attended workshop.

### **39<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Convention**

On Thursday, June 18 to Sunday, June 21 I attended the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Convention in Hagerstown. Back at the Clarion Hotel and newly named and renovated Hager Hall Conference Center, we enjoyed a strong attendance, good speakers, good food and good fellowship. I was asked to present highlights from the 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference, preceding the Saturday night speaker. Thanks to John B., Chuck T. and the 2009 Maryland State Convention Committee for a great convention.



### **2009 Northeast Regional Forum**

On Friday, June 26 to Sunday, June 28 I attended the 2009 Northeast Regional Forum, or NERF in Somerset, New Jersey, Area 45. With a good showing of our fellowship from Area 29, there were 555 in attendance during the weekend. Given a loving invitation to participate from our beloved Northeast regional trustee John K., I gave a presentation on Saturday morning on the topic, "The G.S.R. – Staying in Touch with A.A. as a Whole." Presenters selected their own topics, chosen from a list of suggested topics compiled from the evaluation form from the 2007 NERF in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. I joined several Northeast Regional delegates (NERDs) in participating throughout the weekend, either presenting on topics or facilitating workshops.

We heard presentations from G.S.O. and A.A. Grapevine staff members, Class A and Class B trustees, and had ample opportunity for questions and sharing from the microphones. Thanks to all who came and participated! The next NERF will be held on May 20 – 22, 2011 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center on Cedar Lake, in Sturbridge Massachusetts. (As noted later in this report.)

## District 21 Workshop

On Saturday, July 11 I attended a "7<sup>th</sup> Tradition" workshop hosted by District 21 in Salisbury. Our Area 29 Finance Committee Chair Bob C. gave an informative presentation on the history of the general service structure, and the services each level of our structure provides. Morgan J. discussed the A.A. Preamble and the Seventh Tradition, and Morgan and I discussed suggestions on how to give a G.S.R. report to our home groups. Thanks to D.C.M. Kathy S., District 21 Workshop Chair Jake W. and the District for hosting the workshop, and for the several varieties of hot delicious pizza which I did not hold back on.



## More Will Be Revealed Dept.

### 2009 Eastern Canada Regional Forum

I have a copy of the registration form today for the 2009 Eastern Canada Regional Forum, to be held August 14 – 19, 2009 at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Registration for regional forums is also available online on the G.S.O. web site at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).

### NERAASA 2010

Registration forms are available today (in quantity) for the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly, or NERAASA 2010. The NERAASA will be held February 26 – 28, 2010 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Niagara Falls, New York, and hosted by our friends in Area 50 Western New York. Please take copies back to your districts and groups. ALL A.A. members are welcome and encouraged to attend the NERAASSA.

### Save the Date! Northeast Regional Delegate's Reunion 2010

I have a Save the Date flyer for the Northeast Regional Delegate's Reunion 2010, or NERD to be held March 12 – 14, 2010 at the Holiday Inn in Albany, New York. The NERD 1010 will be hosted by Area 48 HMB. I have emailed a copy of the flyer to our Area 29 past NERDs, which position I shall assume on January 1. Registration flyers will be distributed as I receive them.

### Save the Date! 2011 Northeast Regional Forum

I have a Save the Date flyer for the next Northeast Regional Forum, or NERF to be held on May 20 – 22, 2011 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center on Cedar Lake, in Sturbridge Massachusetts. The 2011 NERF will be hosted by Areas 30 and 31, Eastern and Western Massachusetts. Registration

flyers will be distributed by your Panel 60 delegate as they become available.

## Don't drink, go to meetings...

Please help fill up my calendar! I am available and willing to attend and support regional and area events, your district meetings and events, committee activities, group functions, and Intergroup meetings. You can contact me at [delegate@marylandaa.org](mailto:delegate@marylandaa.org).

*And a parting thought(s)*

"Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our coOmmmon welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward."

Long Form of Tradition One

**Yours in Service,**

**Tom R.  
Panel 58 Area 29 Delegate**



### Delegate's Wanderings

- Tuesday, July 21 – Annapolis Area Intergroup Council meeting, Annapolis
- Saturday, July 25 – Regional Panel 6 meeting, Elkridge
- Saturday, July 25 – District 41 Picnic, Mt. Airy
- Sunday, July 26 – Hagerstown Intergroup meeting, Hagerstown
- Wednesday, July 29 – West Central Intergroup meeting, Frederick
- Saturday, August 1 – Regional Panel 4 meeting, Frederick
- Friday, August 21 – Western Maryland Intergroup meeting, Frostburg
- Saturday, August 22 – Area Assembly meeting, Hagerstown (District 20)
- Saturday, August 29 – District 9 Picnic, Taneytown
- Saturday, September 5 – Area 29 Intergroup Liaison Committee "Soberfest 2009" Day of Sharing, Crownsville
- Saturday, September 19 – Area Committee meeting, Crofton (District 42)
- Saturday, September 26 – District 36 Workshop, TBD
- Sunday, September 27 – Annapolis Buffet Breakfast, Annapolis