



Delegate Report – December 18, 2010

The Trustees' Committees continue to work on the results of the 60th General Service Conference as the time approaches to complete the Preliminary Agenda for the 61st General Service Conference. I have now received the full set of minutes from the General Service Board meeting of October 29-31. Following is information from those minutes that was not reported in November.

General Service Board of Trustees

- A subcommittee has been set up to complete the work already begun to develop "procedures for the submission of Concept V minority appeals to the GSC" in response to a 60th GSC Floor Action.
- An Ad Hoc Committee of the GSB was established that will identify areas of efficiencies for A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine.
- The Trustees' committee on Public Information **agreed to forward** to the 2011 Conference Committee on Public Information the recommendation that the 2011 A.A. Membership Survey be conducted.

AAWS, Inc.

Services

- The 21st World Service Meeting was held in Mexico City, Mexico in October and was attended by 53 delegates representing 32 countries.
- The Pacific Regional Forum in August attracted 823 members.
- The Eastern Canada Regional Forum in September attracted 788 attendees of whom 525 were attending their first Forum.
- In August over 200 attended a Local Forum for Area 08's Hispanic Districts
- The 25th Intergroup/Central Office/ A.A.W.S./ A.A. Grapevine Seminar was held in St.

Louis, Missouri in September. There were 130 attendees from approx 110 local offices.

- During the first nine months of 2010, the GSO was pleased to welcome 1,291 visitors.

Publishing

- The A.A.W.S. Board took action to approve the pricing of items received from the A.A. W.S. Publishing Committee as follows:
 - a. Amharic Abridged Big Book - \$7.60
 - b. Croatian "Living Sober" - \$4.25
 - c. Saami Abridged Big Book - \$7.60
 - d. Sinhalese "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" - \$7.00
 - e. Spanish Parchment Serenity Prayer - \$3.40

A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

AAGV Controller's Report

The controller for the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. reported that prepaid subscriptions as of September 30, 2010 were \$1,877,321. The investment in the Reserve Fund of \$1,778,500 is approximately 95% of the prepaid subscriptions. Prepaid subscriptions had a decline of \$72,971 since June 30, 2010. The cash balance at 9/30 was \$136,548. The accounts payable balance as of 9/30 was \$181,523. Jan 1, 2010 through October 27, 2010, AAGV, Inc. has taken a total of \$488,000 from the Reserve Fund. The AAGV, Inc. 2010 budget deficit of \$245,743 was approved by the Trustees' Finance Committee, and it was understood at the time that draw downs from the Reserve Fund of about the same amount would be needed to finance this deficit. Through October AAGV has taken \$300,000 from the Reserve Fund due to 2010 activity.

AAGV Board Actions

- Approved moving forward with a Digital Edition of Grapevine and La Viña
- Approved moving forward with E-books editions of Grapevine and La Viña books in downloadable PDF formats at the same

price as the book, fulfilled through a third party vendor.

- Approved the proposal to publish a “Step by Step” (working title) book in September 2011
- Approved new pricing of 50-packs at \$55 to 30-packs at \$54 effective January 1, 2011

Trustees’ Finance and Budgetary Committee

- Net literature sales for the first 9 months of 2010 were \$9,326,100; approximately 11.6% less than budgeted and 14% less than the first nine months of 2009.
- Gross profit from literature sales was \$6,054,400 compared to \$6,620,300 last year. Gross profit was \$278,400 less than budgeted.
- Contributions of \$4,511,400 were \$103,000 or 2.3% greater than budget and \$140,200 or 3.2% greater than last year.
- Resultant total revenue, (gross profit from literature, contributions and interest earned on cash flow), was \$10,566,500, 1.6% less than budgeted and 3.9% less than the same period last year.
- Total operating expenses for the period of \$9,649,200 were approximately \$591,000 less than budget and 3.2% less than the first nine months of the prior year. Total personnel costs were approximately \$251,700 less than budgeted but \$3,000 more than last year.
- Selling expense is currently under budget by approx \$55,000. The primary reason is not printing a literature catalogue in 2010 as there was a large enough supply to last the year.
- The Reserve Fund investment report noted that as of 9/30 the Reserve Fund had a balance of \$12,065,500 for the purpose of computing the number of months of operating expenses. After deducting accrued pension costs the Reserve Fund balance stands at \$5,803,115. The Fund is currently earning approximately 2%, and represents approximately 9-1/2 months of combined operating expenses.
- Discussion concerning an example of suggested changes to the pie charts section of the pamphlet, “Self-Support” Where Money and Spirituality Mix” was deferred to the January meeting.

Trustees’ Archives Committee

The committee had a thorough discussion of a proposal to establish a standing Conference Archives Committee and agreed to take no action. The committee noted that it may be helpful if more time was allotted to the Conference Committee on Archives to conduct its business during the week of the GSC.

Trustees’ Committee on the General Service Conference

The committee reviewed the schedule for Conference week and noted that some changes have been implemented to improve the flow of the Conference and allow sufficient time for committee reports and Conference business.

The committee **agreed to forward** to the 2011 Conference Committee on Agenda a request to consider reducing the number of presentations/discussion topics planned for the 2012 General Service Conference.

The committee **agreed to forward** to the 2011 Conference Committee on Policy /Admissions a request from a district to change the deadline for the submission of Conference agenda items to “adequately allow for distribution and discussion by groups and districts.”

Trustees’ Committee on Corrections

The committee **agreed to forward** to the 2011 Conference Committee on Corrections, suggestions from the Publications Dept for adding references to the Big Book in the pamphlet, “A.A. in Correctional Facilities,” including a proposed section describing „Big Book Studies” as a possible meeting format.

Trustees’ Literature Committee

Big Book Index – The committee discussed a request to add an Index at the end of the Big Book and took no action.

“The A.A. Group” pamphlet – The committee discussed a request to change the word “Traditionally” on page 13 of the pamphlet and agreed to take no action.

A.A.G.V. Corp Board Request – The committee considered a request from the AAGV Board to add mention of Grapevine at the bottom of page 576 of

the Big Book and asked the Publications Dept to provide options for including GV information to the page for review at their next meeting. The committee also discussed the request to place mention of GV on the Big Book cover jacket and noted that the cover jacket describes the history of the development of the Fourth Edition Big Book and that mention of GV would not be within that context.

Request to cease efforts to develop literature on spirituality – The committee considered a request from an A.A. group to cease efforts in fulfilling the 2010 Conference Advisory Action to develop literature which focuses on spirituality and took no action. The committee expressed appreciation for the group’s participation in the process, but noted that the committee has begun the process of implementing the 2010 Conference recommendation that “the trustees” Committee on Literature develop literature which focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are successfully sober in [A.A.] and bring a draft or progress report to the 2011 Conference Committee on Literature.” The committee noted that all communications related to the subject will be shared with the Subcommittee on the Development of Literature Which Focuses on Spirituality.

A last minute appeal to cease activities on the development of the project from a second group was also considered at the time. The committee felt that the appeal was outside of their purview.

Trustees’ Committee on Nominating

A subcommittee was appointed to review:

- Guidelines for hiring GSO General Manager
- The GSB Chairperson selection process
- Guidelines for Hiring GV Executive Editor
- The Diversity Statement found in some Nominating Procedures
- A suggestion to create a position of Alternate Trustee

Trustees’ Committee on PI

The committee reviewed a request from an area that Public Service Announcements for radio be developed to “address alcoholics with additional challenges: blind/visually impaired; lack of mobility...” and decided to take no action. The committee noted that there has not been an expressed need throughout the Fellowship for this

type of PSA and also could not determine what the end product would be.

The committee reviewed a request from an area that video PSAs include sub-titles for the deaf or hearing impaired and decided to take no action because AA video PSAs already include sub-titles for the deaf or hearing impaired.



News from AA Grapevine, Inc.

New Subscription Rates

Grapevine is excited to announce new one-year subscription rates:

- Audio Grapevine: \$19.97
- AA Grapevine in print: \$26.97
- AA Grapevine digital magazine coming soon: \$19.97
- For combination discounts – subscribing to more than one version of AA Grapevine, visit www.aagrapevine.org

Audio Grapevine and Digital Archive

subscribers: To serve you better, needed changes have been made to the GV system. Please look for the recent “Need to Change Your Password” e-mail for instructions or call 1-800-631-6025 for assistance.

Story Solicitation from the Trustees’ Committee on Literature

The Trustees’ Literature Committee is seeking stories from A.A. members that focus on spirituality for literature under development. The stories will reflect the wide range of spiritual experiences of A.A. members with any belief or non-belief and how they have found a solution to their spirituality and sobriety in A.A.

Stories are also being sought from A.A. members in response to the 2010 GSC recommendation that “the trustees” Committee on Literature update the pamphlet „A.A. and the Armed Services” to include recent experiences from members on active duty and a section which focuses on veterans of the armed services”.

Manuscripts for both topics should be 500-800 words, double spaced. On a separate sheet of paper, include your name, address, telephone

number, and email address, as well as the project for which you are submitting your story.

Please send your sharing by February 15, 2011 to Literature Coordinator, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163 or email to literature@aa.org

Area 29



Wanderings

Since the November Committee I have been able to attend:

- District 7 Gratitude Breakfast
- Lunch with Susan K., Administrative Asst. from Baltimore IG, and the Area 29 IG Liaison Chair, Cynthia T.
- Corrections Workshop in Baltimore
- District 9 Holiday in the Country dinner dance
- Ocean City IG with Area 29 IG Liaison chair

Mark Your Calendars for 2011!

The Maryland General Service Calendar for 2011 is available for you to pick up. Please mark your calendars for each Area Committee and Area Assembly. Don't miss the Area 29 Mini Conference in April, Maryland State Convention in June, Fall Conference in October and all of the other workshops and events put on by districts throughout the Area. There will also be North East Region events; see information in the next column.

2011 Area Committees and Assemblies

Feb 19	Committee	Receive GSC Final Agenda
Mar 26	Assembly	
Apr 16	Mini Conf	Prepare Delegate for GSC
June 4	Assembly	Delegate Report from GSC
July 9	Committee	
Aug 13	Assembly	
Sept 24	Committee	
Oct 22	Assembly	Election of Panel 62 Officers
Nov 12	Committee	
Dec 10	Assembly	Area Turnover to new officers

We encourage all members, especially DCMs and Committee Chairs to check the calendar on the Maryland General Service website at www.marylandaa.org when scheduling events or workshops.

If I can assist you, your district, group, Intergroup or committee, please contact me at delegate@marylandaa.org.

Yours in Service,

**Nancy B.
Panel 60 Delegate - Area 29**



North East Region Events

NERAASA 2011
(North East Regional AA Service Assembly)
February 25-27, 2011
Flyers are available TODAY!!
Area 49 – SENY
Westchester Marriott
Tarrytown, NY

NERD 2011
(North East Regional Delegates Reunion)
March 11-13, 2011
The Flanders Hotel
Ocean City, New Jersey

NERF 2011
(North East Regional Forum)
May 20-22, 2011
Sturbridge Hotel and Conference Center
Sturbridge, Mass.

This event takes place every two years in the North East Region. All AA members are encouraged to attend. GSO staff and Trustees from the General Service Board will attend to answer any questions you may have. There will also be presentations from Delegates, GSO Staff and others plus workshops and discussions on timely topics of interest to the Fellowship.