



Panel 66 – Area 29

Maryland General Service, Inc.

Delegate Report – August 12, 2017 – Area Assembly

Rotation Time Is Nearly Upon Us!

Rotation is a healthy practice and a treasured A.A. principle which ensures that service positions, like nearly everything else in A.A., are passed around for all to share in the opportunities for spiritual growth. It keeps us fresh and hold our egos in check.

Most Area 29 Districts hold elections in the last half of the odd years. *The A.A. Service Manual* points out that this helps rotating DCMs rotate more easily into Area service. It is also good to elect new GSRs on the same schedule as their District. The actual rotation best starts on Jan 1st, not upon election. This gives the newly elected DCM and GSR time to learn their new service jobs from those currently serving and “rotating on”.

Many outgoing position holders find it rewarding to take time to share their experience with the incoming person. (*A.A. Service Manual*, p. S-24). It is never too early to be proactive. We never plan our next service jobs, but we always need to be working to cultivate our future replacements! Serve with intentionality and vision. Make plans, document, and leave a legacy behind for the next trusted servant in your service position.

2018 General Service Conference Theme is: **“A.A. ~ A Solution for All Generations”**

Presentation/Discussion and Workshop topics will include:

- Today’s Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion
- Participation in All of A.A.: Is My Triangle Balanced?
- A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions
- Attraction Not Promotion: A.A.’s Relation to the World
- Group Conscience: The Guiding Force

News From the Bottom of the Service Triangle

General Service Board & AAWS News

The quarterly General Service Board meeting was July 28-31st and I have not received the minutes and reports from that weekend. A few unofficial items reported by our Northeast Regional Trustee, Rich P., are as follows:

- Contributions remain strong at 13% above budget. In two years since Feasibility Study where contributions were 60% of services, we are now at 83% of services bringing us closer to being self-supporting through our own contributions.

- Literature prices have been frozen and no increases projected for the foreseeable future.
- Technology Communication Services (TCS) committee recommended an anonymity-protected version of the 24th World Service Meeting Final Report be posted on the aa.org website.
- The first every anonymity-protected electronic version of the Final Conference Report for the 67th GSC was sent to the Fellowship. If you would like an electronic copy, please contact the Delegate. I received my pallet of 1,800 copies yesterday. They are here for all to take back to their groups.

General Service Office

- Archives Department closed for construction Aug 18-28, 2017.
- Construction also includes expansion of the server room.
- G.S.O.’s Website Redesign committee has initiated the redesign process of aa.org.
- Research on developing a new A.A.W.S. app is underway.
- An inmate wrote to G.S.O. on behalf of a blind inmate and the Corrections Desk was allowed to send books on CD.
- P.I. has completed A.A.’s annual mailing to the media.
- A.A.W.S. will donate 5,000 unsold copies of the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous* to A.A. Grapevine.
- An ad hoc Committee on Self-Support was created.
- A.A.W.S. will purchase Grapevine gift cards totaling \$6,000 to be used by G.S.O. for 12th step work, without restriction on print versus digital medium or GV or LV subscriptions.
- CPC Desk soliciting members who may have experience to share relating to professionals in contact with veterans and/or active-duty members of the Armed Services.
- Yellow “Safety Card for A.A. Groups” (F-211) was posted to aa.org on July 11th. You can also make a copy at aa.org under “What’s New?” web button. I have a limited number of cards for each DCM today.
- The updated *A.A. Group Treasurer* pamphlet (F-96) was recently posted on aa.org under the Self-Support tab. This was a result of the Conference Finance Committee Additional Consideration provided to the Publishing Department at our General Service Office.



AA Grapevine, Inc. News

Financial: A.A. Grapevine, Inc. (GV) is ahead of budget for the first six months of 2017

Carry the Message with GV: Pass on to your groups how easy it is to give the GV magazine to an alcoholic in need. Purchase a subscription Gift Certificate at aagrapevine.org and send it to your Area Delegate. She will then forward to a local service committee. I still have one gift certificate available which was donated recently.

“4 Seasons of Service”: GV campaign to solicit stories regarding members using the GV in carrying the message. The Northeast Region is in second place with 10 stories submitted. The current topic is: “Working With Others Using the GV or LV”.

Upcoming Events in and around Area 29

- **Hispanic Convention:** Sept. 1-3rd at the Baltimore Hilton; <http://www.xlvconvencionhispanadeaousaycanada.com>
- **Central Office/Intergroup Seminar:** Oct 5-8th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Herndon, VA (will be in Montreal in 2018)
- **NERAASA 2018:** Feb 23-25th in Area 11, Cromwell, CT
- **National Corrections Conference:** Nov 10-12th in St. Louis
- **Gratitude Month Challenge:** Again this year, lets challenge every member in Area 29 to participate in the Gratitude Month initiative. November is often thought of as Gratitude Month, so we have a little time to communicate the challenge to all group members across the Area AND provide Birthday Plan envelopes. Take as many as you like today and pass them around to every group!! Be sure to Thank your Groups again this month for their continued contributions to Alcoholics Anonymous.

You can mail the envelope or keep it simple and contribute on line at aa.org.

Timely Topics Around Area 29

- CARCs 3 and 4 reconvened to review the results from the 67th GSC. They also had discussions on potential Agenda items for the 2018 GSC, and possible projects for Area 29. CARC 2 will meet August 15th. Thank you all for your commitment to the year round Conference process that prepares your Delegate for the General Service Conference.
- The North East Regional Forum report was sent to all members recently. Contact the Delegate if you did not receive a copy.
- ***DID YOU KNOW...***only 40% of all AA groups are currently contributing to cover 100% of the services we are requesting?

- ***DID YOU KNOW...***greater than 90% of groups still send in contributions via snail mail.
- ***DID YOU KNOW...*** you can make group and individual contributions online for Area 29 at marylandaa.org AND also to G.S.O. at aa.org. It's a very easy process on both websites.

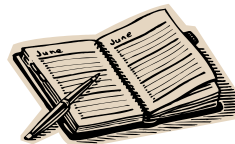
Area Delegate's "Action Plan"

- Stay busy attending District and Intergroup meetings to update on what's new in Alcoholics Anonymous. Since the May Report Back Assembly, I have given a brief report back from Conference during 17 District and 4 Intergroup meetings, as well as the Maryland State Convention. In addition, I have participated in several Workshops and had the honor of giving a financial presentation at the North East Regional Forum.
- Schedule a DCM training in conjunction with the Workshop Committee following elections to assist new trusted servants with tools for working in their Districts.

And finally, if I can assist your District, group, Committee or Intergroup, please e-mail me at: delegate@marylandaa.org.

In Love and Service,

**Linda J., Delegate
Panel 66, Area 29**



Delegate's Calendar ...

8/12	Area Assembly	Severna Park
8/13	District 39	Dundalk
8/15	CARC 2	Owensville
8/18 (?)	WMIG & District 17	Oakland
8/19	District 40	Frederick
9/1-9/3	Hispanic Convention	Baltimore
9/5	District 32	Ocean City
9/5	Ocean City Intergroup	Ocean City
9/14	Lower Shore Intergroup	Salisbury
9/19	District 9	Westminster
9/23	Area Committee	St. Mary's
9/24	Hagerstown Intergroup	Hagerstown
9/27	West Central Intergroup	Frederick
10/3	District 31	Severna Park
10/4	District 11	North East
10/5-8	Central Off/IG Nat'l Seminar	Herndon, VA
10/14	District 33 Workshop	Cockeysville
10/15	Conduct Area 59 Inventory	Reading, PA
10/19	District 37	Easton
10/21	Area Election Assembly	Severna Park
11/1	Conduct D 22 Elections	Annapolis
11/2	District 35	Waldorf