



Delegate Report

Area 29 Panel 70

December 2020

It's 2020 and "Everything" is different, but the message of AA is timeless....and AA is responding so that our message is available to all of those reaching out for help in this unprecedented time.

Random Musings of your Delegate

Area 29 lost a beloved Trusted Servant this month. Ron M., Panel 64 Delegate passed away on Dec.1. Ron was an active member of Area 29 but he was also an active member of our fellowship as a whole and was always a phone call away for any drunk who reached out for help. When I got involved in Area 29 service as the IGLC Chair, Ron would reach out and offer to help with any of my needs in connecting with the Eastern Shore. He was instrumental in the success my committee had in bringing the voices of the Mid-shore IGLC to the table. Ron served as Delegate with Don, Kurt and Bill the panel that I served as your Area Chair. I am grateful for his service; I am grateful for his love of our Maryland history and his knowledge of our basic text. Ron helped me acquire one of my most cherished belongings – a 1st edition 12th printing of Alcoholics Anonymous and it will always remind me of his kindness, his love for the alcoholics who crossed his path and his fabulous sense of humor. I will miss you "Rule 62-@live..com"....

The Final 70th General Service Conference Reports are **still** available. Please let me know if you would like a copy and get the word out to fellowship that I will be happy to supply any member with copies of the report. Send those requests to delegate@marylandaa.org.

General Service Board and GSO Updates

GSO hosted the Eastern US/Canada Forum last weekend. Registration for the forum topped over 2,000 registrations and over 900 of those were first time registrants. The day was a full one with speakers, panels, workshops AND the NERD Players presentation of "Best Kept Secret: Service". The day ended with powerful presentations from 4 of our past GSB Trustees. I hope that you had the opportunity to join this virtual event. Please take the time to fill out and return the evaluation that was sent out Friday to all attendees.

As a result of the recent announcement that our General Manager, Greg T., will be leaving as of February 1, 2021, the Ad Hoc Search Committee of the General Service Board announced that, in the interest of attracting the broadest pool of candidates, they have extended the deadline for résumé submissions for General Manager position until December 31, 2020. If you are interested in the qualifications, I've provided a link to the vacancy announcement below.

Vacancy Announcement

The trustees' Committee on Public Information of the General Service Board also has an opening for one or two nontrustee appointed committee member(s). They are searching for a suitable individual or individuals to fill this position and would appreciate any recommendations. Some of the qualities most desirable for this nontrustee opening are: 1. Professional expertise in evaluation and interpretation of online metrics to assess the effectiveness of public information efforts in digital media. There is also a need for A.C.M. expertise in social media/networks and communications to assist with the P.I. Comprehensive Media Plan and to serve as a resource on the committee with understanding of this medium and how it intersects with current and future P.I. projects.

The trainings for Area registrars on the new ERP system/My Portal is commencing this month. We have connected our new Area 29 registrar, Jeanine W., to GSO and hopeful they will be introducing a system that will make the management of all of our trusted servant data more manageable. Please be patient with the staff as they get their footing in their new roles.



Financial Update

This information was provided recently by our NERT:

“Throughout 2020 (year-to-date), the revenue split between gross profit on publications and contributions is approximately 40% publications / 60% contributions this year, whereas, back in 2018 the revenue split was closer to was 60% publications / 40% contributions. This is an almost a complete reversal. Just another example of the topsy-turvy world of AA.

The Fellowship's Contributions continue to rally. However per AAWS, the contributions for the first nine months of 2020 of \$7,156,475 were \$3,928,753 lower than 2019”

Grapevine

Take advantage of the free shipping from Grapevine as you are considering holiday gifts for your sober network. Gift Subscriptions are also a great idea.

At the end of “Gratitude Month*” there are some pressing financial realities facing the Fellowship:

- AAGV subscriptions are fairly steady; however, AALV subscriptions are still down by approximately 20% from January through October 2020,
- AAGV book sales continue to lag by an estimated 30%. To this end, AAGV will be offering discounts at US/Canada Forums combined with free shipping,
- “Carry the Message” project has produced over 3,000 subscriptions through September 30th (generating approximately \$90,000 of gross sales). That’s over 3,000 people receiving a monthly 12th Step call

Northeast Region Update & NERD Happening

A Virtual 2021 NERAASA has been scheduled for February 26-28 and the committee is hard at work planning for this first NE Regional Virtual service event. Here is the link to pre-register.

<https://www.neraasa.org/register/>

Areas 29, 17 (Delaware) & 28 (Maine) will be co-hosting a “Journey through the Service Manual” workshop series beginning on Thursday, January 7, 2021 and continuing on Thursdays for six weeks. There is a great line-up of presenters who have service experience with each of the topics we will be covering. I hope that you will consider making a commitment to attend and take a deeper dive into the “AA Service Manual”. The flyer can be found on our website marylandaa.org.

Delegates and Alternate Delegates are continuing to meet virtually with our NE Regional Trustee Francis G. monthly and have the opportunity to ask questions, share happenings in our Areas and discuss concerns and share solutions to issues that we are all experiencing. This past month we had a visit from Cathy B. our AAWS Board Chair. This coming month we will be visited by SE Regional trustee Jimmy D (who BTW did a fabulous talk on the AA Traditions at the Eldersburg Into Action Group anniversary last month) and our GSB Treasurer Leslie B. We will have the opportunity to ask some of those lingering finance questions that we have been patiently waiting answers to.

Take the time to visit the websites of our neighboring Areas for links to their virtual events. Our Area 29 Chair, Lori M, has begun sending information on some of these events in her new Calendar update weekly email.

Area 29 Conference Agenda Review Committees

The Area 29 CARCs have reconvened and we will have several items presented at the December Area Assembly meeting. Thank you to all who have participated in the CARC process in 2020. We will be reviewing and considering approval of the potential agenda items for the 71st GSC today that were forwarded from last month’s Area Committee meeting. The deadline for submission to the conference coordinator is December 15.

The beginning of the year we will begin our 2021 CARC process. We should receive the Agenda for the 71st GSC mid-February and the work begins to help the Area 29 Delegate (that would be me) prepare for the 71st General Service Conference.

Delegate Virtual Travels

November 15 - Panel 69 &70 NERD Monthly Meeting
November 16 - Area 29 Finance Committee Meeting
November 28 – Recording of the NERD Players Forum play
November 30 – Eldersburg “Into Action” Anniversary meeting
December 5 – Area 29 DCM/Delegate monthly meeting
December 5 – Eastern US/Canada Forum

Delegate Upcoming Virtual Travels 2021

Get a visit to your group, District or Intergroup on the calendar for 2021 soon! Email me: delegate@marylandaa.org.

Thank you each one for all that you do for this amazing fellowship that brought us from darkness to light and for ensuring that AA is here for all of those who will reach out for help in relieving their alcoholism for generations to come.

Have a sober, safe and happy holiday season.... See you in 2021!.....c....

Cynthia T.
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Trustees Conference Committee
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"Thank you for your life"

