
Delegate Report – Area Committee, November 10, 2018

Panel 68, Area 29



Maryland General Service, Inc.

Thank you for your commitment to Alcoholics Anonymous! Today we will be covering a lot of ground in preparation for our final Area Assembly of 2018. We will decide whether the Area 29 Assembly on December 15 should consider important issues of policy and finance pertaining to bylaws, technology, budget, and potential agenda items for the General Service Conference. Your participation not only benefits our members and groups in Maryland, but is vital to the survival and growth of A.A. as a whole. Here are a few big-picture updates to take back home:

General Service Board News

Online Contributions: Show your gratitude for the gift of sobriety with a one-time or recurring contribution to the General Service Board. Many members make annual birthday contributions on their sobriety date. Go to: aa.org and select *Make a Contribution*. The entire process takes less than 5 minutes.

General Service Conference

The 69th General Service Conference, “*Our Big Book - 80 Years, 71 Languages*,” will be in New York City from May 19-25, 2019. Deadline for submitting Agenda Item proposals is 12/15/18.

A.A. World Service, Inc. News

Meeting Guide License: A.A.W.S. has licensed the Meeting Guide technology, through which intergroups and districts can post their local A.A. meetings to a centralized database for one-stop, mobile-friendly online access. Information about 86,000 meetings is currently available to over 100,000 users. The collated meeting information will be available in 2019 at aa.org, and will also be a component of the proposed A.A.W.S. app. The current listing of local intergroups in “A.A. Near You” on aa.org will not be impacted. Participation is completely voluntary. A.A. entities maintain full control of their local meeting information. Intergroups and districts which have not already done so are invited to have their meetings displayed through the Meeting Guide by following the step by step instructions found at: <https://meetingguide.aa.org>.

Corrections: Deadline for submitting shared experience on A.A. materials utilized at juvenile facilities is 12/19/18. Please email your sharing to corrections@aa.org or call 212-870-3085.

The Corrections Committee page on aa.org includes pamphlets, videos, the *Corrections Kit*, *Corrections Workbook*, the inmate newsletter *Sharing from Behind the Walls*, Prerelease forms, and the CCS form for A.A. inmates. Go to: https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/corrections-committees.

Finance: Contributions through August were \$98,391 (1.90%) over budget. Gross sales were \$13,301 (0.14%) ahead of budget. Operating expenses were \$224,336 (2.01%) more than budget. Net gain was \$51,891 below budget. Professional fees were \$97,820 above budget.

Literature: Today (11/10/18) is the deadline at GSO for submitting personal stories of members’ experiences for the development of a new pamphlet on the Three Legacies. Manuscripts should be 500-800 words, double-spaced, in 12-point font. Email to: literature@aa.org.

The new pamphlet *The ‘God’ Word* will cost 40 cents per copy and be available soon from GSO.

Publishing: July gross sales were \$1,193,752, which is \$37,881 (3.28%) above budget. July web sales were \$789,293, which involved 1,458 online orders (67.34% of total orders). July bulk orders of \$565,302 were mostly to intergroups; there were also \$223,991 in sales to individual customers. Total e-book gross sales through July were \$129,381, with 33,070 units sold.



A.A. Grapevine, Inc. News

Carry the Message Project: You can sponsor a GV/LV subscription for an alcoholic in need, either anonymously or for a specific individual who is behind bars, in a treatment center, halfway house, nursing home or who is homebound, or for a doctor’s office or library. Your gift can be facilitated by the Area Chair, the Area Grapevine Committee, or the Grapevine office in New York City. For more info, go to: aagrapevine.org.

Grapevine Photo Contest: Submit your best photos by 12/1/18 for the next Grapevine Wall Calendar. Digital files must be high resolution – 300 dpi minimum. Submit your digital files at: www.aagrapevine.org/photocontest. Include your contact information. Photos also may be considered for magazine illustrations.

Give the gift of Grapevine: Buy a one year Grapevine gift subscription for \$28.97, and a second gift subscription costs only \$13.00! Why not give subscriptions to the next two members who celebrate their anniversaries in your home group? We have had 213 new Grapevine and 47 new La Viña subscribers from Area 29 in the first nine months of 2018. Don't delay – the 2018 Subscription Challenge ends on 12/28/18.

Regional & National News

NERAASA ~ Area 29 will host more than 1,000 service-oriented A.A. members during the 28th annual Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly at the Delta Hotels by Marriott in Hunt Valley, MD, on February 22-24, 2019. The next Host Committee meeting is from 2-4 pm on Sunday 11/18/18 at the Serenity Center in Columbia, MD. Register for NERAASA at: neraasa2019.org.

SERF 2018 ~ Free on-site registration is available for next weekend's Southeast Regional Forum from November 16-18 at the Dulles Marriott in Sterling, VA. Attendees will include *Grapevine* Board member Josh E., *La Viña* Editor Irene D., and other trusted servants from our GSB and GSO. For lodging, call 703-471-9500.

Hurricane Relief ~ Area 1 (Alabama/Northwest Florida) Delegate Linda W. reports that on 11/5, District 15 (Panama City, FL) held its first district meeting since Hurricane Michael, and thanks to the prayers and generous contributions of money and literature from A.A. members across the country, all of their needs have been met. Linda will attend SERF and would love to thank donors in person if any will be attending that event.

NAAAW 2019 ~ The 23rd National AA Archives Workshop, "Our Footprints to Hope & Recovery," will be held from September 5-8, 2019, at the historic St. Regis Hotel in Detroit, Michigan. For registration & contact info, go to: <http://aanationalarchivesworkshop.com/2019/index.htm>.

Around Area 29

2018 contributions of \$66,562.86 to GSO through September 30 indicate that 36.67% (370 out of 1,009) of listed groups in Area 29 (only 846 of them Active) have contributed to GSO this year, compared to 37.76% in 2017. 63.64% of the groups in District 41 have participated, followed by Districts 42 (58.07%), 20 (56.52%), 19 (48.65%), and 37 (47.06%). Top dollar amounts have come from Districts 9 (\$7,594.18), 22 (\$4,698.39), and 19 (\$4,408.88). District 3 has more than doubled the amount contributed by its groups over the past year. District 9 has increased its contributions by over 77%. Districts 25, 28, and 42 have increased their group participation by over 9% and D19 and D20 by over 8%. Our world services would cease to exist without your continued individual and group contributions. Thank you for your generosity!

Area 29 contributions statistics will improve substantially if DCMs work with our Registrar to remove listings of Unknown groups from GSO's Fellowship New Vision database. If those 163 Unknown groups no longer exist, and are removed from FNV, the percentage of Area 29 groups contributing to GSO would rise to 43.7%.

Yours in love and service,

Don B., Panel 68, Area 29 Delegate
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Delegate Travels...

- 11/10 – Area Committee, Westminster
- 11/10 – SMIA event, Prince Frederick
- 11/12 – Area 13 Committee, Silver Spring
- 11/16 – SERF, Sterling, VA (thru 11/18)
- 11/18 – Baltimore IG event, Parkville
- 11/19 – NERAASA Inventory Committee
- 11/24 – District 7 event, Ellicott City
- 11/26 – IGLC conference call
- 11/26 – NERT/NERDs conference call
- 12/01 – District 32 workshop, Ocean City