

Delegate Report



August 2020

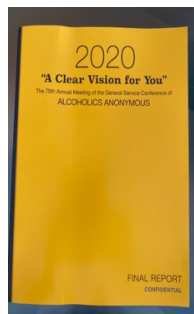
Random Musings of your Delegate

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

I am happy to share that the Trustees' Committee on International Convention/Regional Forums has agreed to extend the 2020 International Convention Virtual site until August 31. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the site it is not too late. Join the fun by clicking here 2020convention.aa.org. Don't forget to check out the "Old Timers Panel" and hear ESH from our beloved Harold G.

The second DCM/ Alt DCM/ Delegate meeting was held on August 8 with 22 attendees including our guests from Area 50. Thank you to all who joined us for another inspirational meeting. You will hear more details of the morning from Jenna F. later today. Thanks to Jenna also for taking our notes and getting them out to the group. Our next meeting will be September 12 at 9:00 am. Join us as we will welcome guests from another Area of our NE Region as they share their ESH.

I received the Final 70th General Service Conference Reports this week. I will be mailing copies to all members of the assembly who have registered with Ray T. and have provided a current mailing address. These mailings will be going out starting next week. Please let me know if you would like an additional copy and get the word out to fellowship that I will be happy to supply any member with a copy of the report. Send those requests to delegate@marylandaa.org. Digital copies are available on the Delegate page at Marylandaa.org.



General Service Board Updates

The GSB Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee has reached out to identify possible dates and times in order to organize a working session (s) involving all 135 Conference members. The purpose is to allow an opportunity for the General Service Conference members to provide input, thoughts and ideas on the GSB Strategic Plan (e.g., what are the successes, where are the holes, what activities should continue, where should we change course, etc). We are planning for a 2-hour interactive working session (exclusive of breaks).

The Strategic plan consists of the following 7 Goals:

- ◇ Goal 1: The GSB will model inclusivity and acceptance by assisting the Fellowship in carrying the message and encouraging the spirit of the Third Tradition throughout A.A.
- ◇ Goal 2: The GSB will foster improved relations with professionals.
- ◇ Goal 3: The GSB will seek to improve the effectiveness of its communication to remain relevant and connected to those it serves
- ◇ Goal 4: Identify new places and audiences to bring the A.A. message of hope.
- ◇ Goal 5: Internal communication among the GSB, AAWS Board and AAGV Board will be optimized.
- ◇ Goal 6: The GSB will act as a role model in promoting the critical importance of our Traditions, including anonymity as discussed in the Eleventh and Twelfth Traditions.
- ◇ Goal 7: Sustain the financial viability of the GSB and the operating corporations

Copy of the plan was distributed and is available if you wish to receive a copy.

Planning is under way for a Virtual 71st GSC. After a review of the report supplied by our epidemiologist consultant from Duke, the GSB has determined that the GSC and all Regional Forums and other large GSO sponsored events will be suspended through at least June of 2021 due to the risk factors associated with COVID 19 gatherings of more than 100.

The minutes of the May 23, 2020 General Service Board meetings and special meetings of the GSB that took place in March and April 2020 were distributed this week. Please note that the minutes of the 2nd quarterly meeting of the GSB were approved at the August Board Weekend. The minutes of the Annual meetings of the Members of the three corporations are pending approval at the April 2021 Annual Members meetings. The *unapproved* minutes are administrative documents that contain full names. We therefore ask that the documents not be modified, distributed or posted.

Please reach out if you would like a copy of these documents once they are released for distribution.



Financial Update

Due to many issues with the transition to the new ERP system, the audit on the financial results for 2019 was just completed in late July. The audit was presented and approved at the August GSB meeting. The presentation of our financial information will be given to a reconvening of the members of the 70th GSC on August 15 at 7:00 pm.

A final audited version of the financials was not included in the Final Conference Report that was distributed to the Delegates this week. It will be distributed electronically later this month and a hard copy document will be published. The 2020 revised forecasted 2020 budget will also be presented on August 15, 2020. Since almost all of our benchmarks and assumptions regarding 2020 have been upended, all of our remaining budgets will shift. Many of our expenses have declined. However, several other costs, such as overtime and technology costs, have increased slightly.

We received word from Francis G., NERT, that the 8th floor renovation work is complete and appears to be on budget after some cost saving modifications were made to the overall project.

Our literature sales have dropped significantly and as a result, even though contributions from the fellowship are at record breaking levels and cost saving measures are being implemented, GSO is not covering expenses.

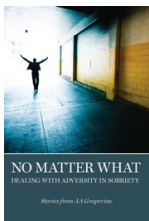
We need to acknowledge and send a message of gratitude to all of you because the outreach to the membership for 7th Tradition support in April 2020 contributions that were approximately \$840,000 in May, \$900,000 + in June, and \$1.1 million in July.

The September Issue of Grapevine Is Here!

This month's Special Section is "Young & Sober!" featuring stories of experience, strength and hope by AA members who came into AA and got sober at an early age. It also featuring stories of hope by members during the current COVID-19 crisis.

Grapevine is always looking for stories on special topics as well as for departments such as Emotional Sobriety, Sponsorship, Newcomers, Youth Enjoying Sobriety, Old-Timers and Home Group, and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. The number of articles has rebounded to prior levels while website hits are skyrocketing! From April through July, book sales were understandably down. However, web sales for GV books are up for June and July.

Consider sharing a copy of “*No Matter What Dealing with Adversity in Sobriety*”. This collection of stories shows how AA members have worked the Twelve Steps and embraced the Fellowship to deal with tough issues.



For yourself, or someone going through a rough situation, this book will inspire its reader with real accounts of AA members dealing with adversity. Order your book for only \$11.50.

Northeast Region Update & NERD Happenings

Delegates and Alternate Delegates have been gathering virtually both pre and post conference. We are scheduled to meet monthly to share happenings in our Areas and discuss challenges and successes as we navigate the COVID 19 environment that we are experiencing. On August 9 the Panel 69 &70 NERDs met and a motion was approved to move the 2021 NERAASA to a virtual platform. A Regional committee was formed to begin the planning for this event. I will forward more information as the planning unfolds.

Take the time to visit the websites of our neighboring Areas for links to their virtual events. The North East Region (home of the NERDs) is comprised of 18 Areas in the US from New England to Washington DC. They are Area 11/ Connecticut, Area 12 /Delaware, Area13/ Washington DC, Area 28/ Maine, Area 29/ Maryland, Area 30/ E. Massachusetts, Area 31/ W. Massachusetts, Area 43/ New Hampshire, Area 44/ N. New Jersey, Area 45/ S. New Jersey, Area 47/ Central New York, Area 48/ Hudson/Mohawk/Berkshire NY, Area 49/ SE New York, Area 50/ W. New York, Area 59/ E. Pennsylvania, Area 60/ W. Pennsylvania, Area 61/ Rhode Island, Area 70/ Vermont.

Conference Agenda Review Committees (CARC)

The Area 29 CARC process for the 71st GSC began this month with three CARC reconvene meetings held virtually. The details of the conference actions specific to the agenda items were presented and discussed by three of of Area 29's four CARCs. Our Alt. Delegate, Kurt W., and the CARC leaders led discussions around topics for potential agenda recommendations for the 71st GSC. Please refer to the MGS website for dates, times and virtual links for future CARC meetings.

Delegate Virtual Travels

July 19 - CARC IV Reconvene
July 19 – Panel 69 &70 NERD Monthly Meeting
July 20 - Area 29 Finance Committee
July 26 - HAIG/ District 20 Delegate Report back
July 30 - West Central Intergroup meeting
August 1 - CARC II Reconvene

August 3 – IGLC Conference Call
August 6 - District 35 Delegate Report back
August 8 – DCM/Alt DCM/Delegate meeting
August 9 - CARC III Reconvene
August 9 – NERD NERAASA Meeting
August 11 - District 36 Delegate Report back

Upcoming Delegate Virtual Travels

August 15 – Special Virtual Finance Presentation 70th GSC
August 16 - Panel 69 &70 NERD Monthly Meeting
August 17 - District 40 Delegate Report back
August 25 - NEMDAA Delegate Report back
August 27 - WCI Delegate Report back
September 12 - DCM/Alt DCM/Delegate meeting
September 19 - District 41 Picnic (Special appearance by BEN)
September 20 - Panel 69 &70 NERD Monthly Meeting
September 21 – Area 29 Finance Committee Meeting

If you are interested in hosting a Delegate Report back for your District or Intergroup, please reach out and we can get it on the calendar.

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

Cynthia T.
Delegate
Area 29 Panel 70
Trustees Conference Committee
delegate@marylandaa.org
“Thank you for your life”

