



Delegate Report

Area 29 Panel 70

Jan/Feb 2021

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 from your Delegate

The 71st General Service Conference process has officially begun. This past month I have had the privilege of meeting on two different occasions with the other 8 members of the Trustees Conference Committee. Four of us served on this committee last year and welcomed five new Panel 71 Delegates to this year's committee. They hail from Canada, New York, Ohio, Texas, Puerto Rico, California and more. I'm thrilled to serve with all of them.

I have received the final conference agenda list for this year's GSC and your Area 29 Past Delegates, Alt. Delegate Kurt and I are in the process of creating the modified agenda for our Area 29 CARCs to begin their work. Thank you once again this year to Morgan J. for his help with this part of the process, he rocks! The Delegates to the 71st GSC have been told that the background material for these agenda items will be made available to us on February 15th. We have been given a heads up that the background material will be in excess of 1400 pages.

Please stay tuned for more information about the release of more details about the upcoming conference and where to access information about the agenda.

We have had several inquiries about Area 29 Handbooks and the decision has been made to make them available at no cost to trusted servants who need them. We are also making our AA Service Manuals available while the supply lasts. I will be sending them out to those who request them. Please let me know if you would like a copy of either one. Also, I still have a couple of cases of the 70th GSC Final Report. Please help get the word out to fellowship that I will be happy to supply any member with copies of the report. Send any of those requests to delegate@marylandaa.org.

General Service Board, GSO and Fellowship Updates

Some interesting 2020 estimates of AA Groups and Members have been released:

The General Service Office does not keep membership records. The information shown here is based on reports given by groups listed with G.S.O. and does not represent an actual count of those who consider themselves A.A. members.

	Groups	Members
United States	69,812	1,438,253
Canada	5,137	86,790
Sub-Total:	74,949	1,525,043
Correctional Facilities	1,559	39,170
Loners, Internationalist	1	199
U.S. & Canada Total:	76,509	1,564,412
Outside U.S. & Canada	69,812	588,703
Worldwide Total:	146,321	2,153,115

We are aware of A.A. activity in approximately 180 countries, including 64 autonomous general service offices in other lands. Annually we attempt to contact those G.S.O.s and groups that request to be listed in our records. Where current data is lacking we use an earlier year's figures.

I have attached a letter from Beau B., Chair of AA World Services, Inc. If you do not receive these emails on your own, just click on "Update Preferences" in your online profile to ensure that you are enrolled for these timely messages from our GSO. They can also be found on the "What's New" tab on our website www.aa.org

The Eastern US/Canada Virtual Forum was a great success. There were over 2000 members registered. The morning sessions had up to 1010 participants and the afternoon workshops saw totals up to 935. I hope that many of you were able to attend this very informative event. Thanks to our team at GSO for another great virtual effort!

From our group services desk: Our new Group Services coordinator is continuing to work with the Fellowship Connection team gathering post-launch feedback from Area Registrars on how to improve the database. One topic that is prevalent on this assignment is the listing of Online Groups - specifically what information should be captured and their participation in the General Service Conference structure. The assignment continues seeking shared local experience, including feedback from the OIAA (Online Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous) and awaits guidance from the General Service Conference. The Area 29 CARCs will be looking at some of the items pertaining to this very important subject.



Financial Update

This information was provided recently by our NERT:

2020 contributions revenue reached an all-time high of \$10,304,185, which is \$417,930 greater than the reforecast. Of this amount, approximately 21% (or \$2.16 million) were received online. We are grateful to the fellowship for contributing \$1,442,421 in December to propel us past the \$10 million mark for the year. As near as anyone knows, the December 2020 total of \$1.44 million is the highest single month of 7th Tradition voluntary contributions ever!

Gross literature sales revenue is \$9,098,578 compared to a reforecast amount of \$9,856,109, for an unfavorable difference of \$757,531. Although gross sales did not reach the reforecast amount, our cost of goods sold was only 28% of gross sales as compared to a reforecast 35%. Therefore, gross literature profit has exceeded reforecast by \$113,607.

The revenue split between gross profit on literature sales and contributions in 2020 is about 37% literature & 63% contributions (compared to the historical split of 58% literature & 42% contributions). The significance of this split/shift highlights, in a favorable way, the full extent of the “Fellowship Rally” (i.e., unprecedented increase in 7th Tradition voluntary contributions to cover the services provided by our GSO, see attached).

Total expenses are \$16,667,870, which is \$45,195 less than the reforecast amount of \$16,713,065.

Grapevine

Due to the extended medical leave of our GV publisher Albin Z., Chris C. has been selected as our Acting Publisher. As Acting Publisher, Chris will have the same management and signatory authority as the Publisher (however, he will not serve as a member of the AAGV Board or a member of the General Service conference). Chris has been in the publications business for his entire career including working as our Publications Director at GSO from 2002-2009. Chris has also worked on several freelance projects for AAWS and AAGV over the years.

The “Carry the Message” project (or program) has experienced growing acceptance among the Fellowship. Specifically, 621 subscription requests and certificates were either fulfilled, or not yet redeemed, to AA members behind the walls and others. In addition, total gift subscriptions of the Grapevine and La Viña for 2020 reached 4,295. Beyond subscriptions, gift certificates can be used to purchase meeting supplies, such as the Slogans, wall shades and pocket calendars, etc.

Northeast Region Update & NERD Happening

The Virtual 2021 NERAASA is scheduled for February 25-28. This is a wonderful opportunity for those new to service or who have not been able to travel to NERAASA in previous years to attend this enthusiastic gathering of trusted servants from all over the NE Region.

Here is the link to pre-register.

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

Areas 29, 17 (Delaware) & 28 (Maine) continue co-hosting a “Journey through the Service Manual” workshop series on Thursdays through February 11, 2021 There has been a great line-up of presenters I hope that you have had the opportunity to join us and the up to 375 members of AA who made the weekly commitment to attend and take a deeper dive into the “AA Service Manual.” The link for this coming week can be found on the flyer posted on our website marylandaa.org.

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

Area 29 Conference Agenda Review Committees

The 71st GSC Area 29 CARC meetings have all been scheduled. Please refer to the marylandaa.org website for details on the schedule for your location. Please help spread the word that this is the best venue for the voice of AA in our area to reach the conference and ALL AA members are urged to participate in this process.

Thank you to all who participated in the CARC process in 2020 and I look forward to working with all of you again this year as you assist the Area 29 Delegate (that would be me) prepare for the 71st General Service Conference.

Delegate Virtual Travels

January 7,14,21,28 & Feb.4 – Area 12, 28 & 29 Service Manual Study
January 9 – DCM/ Delegate monthly call
January 17 – Initial Trustee Conference Committee member meet
January 17 – CARC planning meeting
January 17 - Panel 69 & 70 NERD Monthly Meeting
January 18 – Trustee/Nominating Committee meeting
January 19 – District 9 monthly meeting
January 20 – District 28 monthly meeting
January 23 – District 19 monthly meeting
February 2 – District 15 monthly meeting
February 3 – District 18 monthly meeting

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.

Stay safe....c....

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

