



Delegate Report – Area Assembly, December 9, 2017

Panel 66, Area 29

Maryland General Service, Inc.

Correspondence

Agenda Items to Conference Coordinator: Any CARC Motions passed by the Assembly today will be submitted by the Delegate, along with supporting background material to the Conference Coordinator, Rick W., prior to the December 15th deadline for possible inclusion on the 2018 General Service Conference Agenda.

Letters from Chairman of the Board and General Manager: Letters regarding the pending manuscript litigation received from Michele Grinberg, Class A Chair of the Board and Greg T., General Manager at G.S.O., were recently forwarded to Fellowship. AAWS filed a Motion on November 27th to dismiss the manuscript lawsuit. Please see me if you need a copy of either of these two letters to the Fellowship.

From the Bottom of the Service Triangle A.A. World Services

Financials through September 2017(unaudited): Total Revenue for the first nine months of 2017 was \$13,150,183 and Total Expenses were \$11,847,697, resulting in Net Profit of \$1,302,486 (compared with a budgeted profit of \$85,993). Seventh Tradition Contributions for this period were a record \$5,881,983, which is \$593,175 (11.2%) greater than budgeted and \$414,100 (7.6%) greater than last year. The Board thanked the Fellowship for this continued level of support. Please pass along to the Groups.

Administration: An organization-wide communication audit is currently underway in order to identify ways to more effectively communicate with the Fellowship. This was required by the General Service Board in the Strategic Plan. An outside communications agency, Impact Collaborative, is conducting the inventory.

General Service Office

Archives: Approximately 42,000 pages of paper records have been digitized and are now available to the Fellowship. There is a new digital exhibit on Sam Shoemaker which was recently added to the “Archives and History” portal of aa.org. (Also available under the “What’s New?” tab)

Conference: Work continues in preparation for the 68th General Service Conference which will be held April 22-28th in New York City. As of the December 4th Delegate dashboard update, 40 proposed agenda items had been received by the Conference Coordinator, Rick W. The Theme for the 2018 Conference is “A.A. ~ A Solution for All Generations”.

Literature Gift Set: A.A. History Shelf 4 Volume Gift Set is available for \$30.00 (\$44 value) and includes the “AA Big Book” commemorative edition, “Pass It On”, “Dr. Bob & the Good Old Timers”, “AA Comes of Age”, and “A Brief History of the Big Book” (available from 10/1-1/31/18).

Corrections: Area 28~Maine won the bid to host the 2nd National Corrections Conference in 2018.

Public Information: The PI Desk coordinator continues to be GSO’s point person for communications regarding the 1939 Printer’s Copy manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Publishing: Web sales (AAWS Online bookstores) accounts for about 71% of total sales for the company. A full redesign of the AAWS Catalog is underway and on track to print and mail by the end of the year.

Treatment/Accessibilities: An in-house ASL video version of a questionnaire to request shared experience on the possible need for a pamphlet on AA members who are Deaf was recently created and distributed.

~ Summary of Contributions to GSO from groups ~

The Quarterly Contribution Report for Area 29 which lists group contributions to GSO through September 30, 2017 were recently sent to all DCMs. These reports should be provided to GSRs to share with their group. This will give them an opportunity to be sure their group contributions are properly recorded and discuss the spiritual and financial importance of the 7th Tradition.

Area 29 Group contributions to the General Service Office as of September 30, 2017 were \$71,422 from 38.6% of 995 groups currently listed with Fellowship New Vision (FNV). This is only slightly higher than the same period last year. REMINDER: Group and Individual contributions to GSO may be made online at aa.org.

A.A. Grapevine



FREE SHIPPING through December 31st on all Grapevine orders. Order online today at aagrapevine.org.

“4 Seasons of Service” Challenge: Go to aagrapevine.org and submit a short, 300-word story by December 31st on the topic of “Using Grapevine Digital Tools”. Have you researched and/or used a Grapevine story online in preparing for a workshop? Then you have used the Grapevine digital tools. Please share your experience in this challenge. Our Northeast Region is running neck and neck with the Pacific Region. We could be the winning Region with only a few more story submissions!!

Grapevine Financial Overview: For the period ended September, 2017, A.A. Grapevine was operating ahead of projections. Gross profit through September, 2017 was \$1,476,474; Total Expenses were \$1,356,838; for a Net Profit of \$119,636 for this period (\$93,812 budgeted loss). Combined average circulation (Print, Online and the new App) for the first nine months of 2017 was slightly down from 2016, however up 1,500 when compared with budgeted subscriptions for 2017.

Where are “WE” in the Year Round Conference Process?

Three of the four CARCs reconvened following the May Delegate Report back from Conference and generated potential Agenda items. They were vetted at the Area Committee, will be discussed and voted on today. Any Motions passed today by the Assembly will be submitted with supporting background material to the Conference Coordinator by December 15th for possible inclusion on the 2018 General Service Conference Agenda.

We continue the year round Area 29 Conference Process as the outgoing Alt. Delegate, David R. and incoming Alt. Delegate, Cynthia T., meet with the DCMs and Alts, CARC Leaders and Recorders to begin the planning for 2018 Conference Agenda Review Committees.



Delegate’s Reflections and Thank Yous:

1) **Gratitude Month:** Thank you to all who participated in the November Gratitude Month Challenge - - whether you contributed or passed along Birthday Plan Envelopes, it made a big difference. Self-Support is much more than merely contributing money. It also includes all the “boots on the ground” participation required to maintain that “Fellowship in Motion” carrying the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic.

2) **Delegate Visits:** Thank you to all the Districts, Groups, and Intergroups in Area 29 who so warmly welcomed my Delegate visits these past two years as I endeavored to provide the 2-way communication “link” between the Conference and the Fellowship locally. What a special and unique privilege that has been for me.

3) **Looking Forward:** As I prepare to rotate on, I stand ready to support Panel 68 and participate in any way possible towards the goal of ongoing communication to attract and keep AA members active in the Legacy of Service. Let’s all work together to keep up the momentum in Area 29 and give everyone a chance to hear the message of hope. As Bill said, “To Serve is to Live!”

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Panel 66 Delegate. My life and perspective are forever changed.

In Love and Service,

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

~ Mark Your Calendars ~ Upcoming Events ~

NERAASA 2018: February 23 - 25, 2018; Radisson Hotel in Cromwell, CT ~ Area 11 (neraasa2018.org)

MD State Convention: June 29 - July 1, 2018; Frederick Clarion Inn (marylandaa.org)

Al-Anon International Convention: July 6 - 8, 2018; Baltimore Convention Center (al-anon.org/al-anon-international-conventions)

60th ICYPAA: August 30 - September 2, 2018; The Hilton Baltimore (icypaa.org)

2020 International Convention: July 2- 5, 2020 in Detroit (aa.org)