
Delegate Report – Area Assembly, August 18, 2018

Panel 68, Area 29



Maryland General Service, Inc.

Thank you for attending today's Area Assembly. You are a critical link in the chain of A.A. service communications. We ask that you sit today with your local Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) to help develop the Agenda for the 2019 General Service Conference. Please take today's information back to your group and return to the next Area service event with feedback from your group conscience. Two-way communication is vital to our General Service Conference process!

General Service Board News

The third-party recommendations from the Communications Audit of our GSB should be released by the end of this month.

Our next Northeast Regional Trustee will be elected at the 69th General Service Conference. During our October 20 Area Assembly, we will select an Area 29 candidate to stand for NERT. AAWS and AAGV trustee director vacancies in 2019 will be announced soon.

General Service Conference

The 68th General Service Conference *Final Report* will be distributed to DCMs at the Area Committee meeting on September 22. The 69th General Service Conference, "*Our Big Book - 80 Years, 71 Languages,*" is scheduled for May 19-25, 2019 in New York City. This unusually late date gives us an extra month for preparation but leaves only 11 months to implement the Advisory Actions from the 2019 Conference.

Site selection visits for the A.A. International Convention in 2030 are underway in Indianapolis, IN, and St. Louis, MO. The 2020 International will be in Detroit, MI, and the 2025 Convention in Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

A.A. World Service, Inc. News

Staff Rotation: The biennial GSO staff rotation will be completed by the end of September. Training is underway now. Two paid staff vacancies are opening at GSO; the deadline for applications is October 19, 2018.

Communications Services: The AAWS YouTube Channel has over 1,300 subscribers with new subscriptions added daily. A free GSO App with Meeting Guide, Big Book, *Daily Reflections*, and alert/messaging capabilities is scheduled for launch by the end of 2018, along with a newly-designed website then or shortly thereafter.

CPC: The next issue of *About A.A.* will explore how we are cooperating with professionals to address the rise of alcohol abuse among seniors.

Corrections: Over 645 requests have been filled in 2018 for Corrections Correspondence Service volunteers, but 76 incarcerated male members remain on a waiting list. If you would like to help, please contact corrections@aa.org.

International: 69 Delegates from 43 countries are expected to attend the 25th World Service Meeting from October 7-11, 2018 in Durban, South Africa.

Digital Anonymity Poster:

This poster highlighting the importance of online and social media anonymity is in manufacturing and will be available during the Fall. 8.5"x11" placard is \$8.50. 11"x17" version is \$11.00.



Public Information: The video PSA "*Changes*" will include French and Spanish versions. The new young people's video will be added to aa.org

Publishing: June gross sales of \$961,621 were 0.11% below budget. Online sales account for 76% of all sales, with \$436,810 in bulk sales (mostly to intergroups) and \$283,247 in sales to individual customers. E-book sales through June stood at \$109,536, with 27,998 units distributed. The book *Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1970* is scheduled for an early 2019 release. In response to requests from intergroups, bar codes are being added to the back covers of items as they come up for reprinting; so far, bar codes have been added to 27 pamphlets.

Translations: Big Book translations are progressing in Kazakh, Bulgarian (retranslation), and Quechua. A.A. literature is now available in 102 languages. Current literature translation projects are underway in Brazil, Bali, Czech Republic, Denmark, Morocco, Poland & Ukraine.

Financial Summary: Sales through June 2018 were behind budget, but contributions were \$3,816,472, which was 3.77% ahead of budget and 1.19% higher than the first six months of 2017. Online contributions were \$369,067, or 9.80% of total contributions. Operating expenses were 2.66% higher than budgeted across nearly all categories (salaries, editorial services, professional fees, audiovisual fees, travel, meetings, etc.).

Area 29 Contributions to GSO: The June 2018 Quarterly Contribution Reports provided by AAWS were emailed to all DCMs on July 19 to share with GSRs. Area 29 Group contributions to GSO in the first half of 2018 totaled \$44,343.54, with 29.28% (294 of 1,004) groups contributing, down very slightly from the first six months of 2016 & 2017. District 37 has had contributions from 52.94% of its groups in 2018.

Any member of A.A. can demonstrate their gratitude with a one-time or recurring contribution to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. It can, but doesn't need to be, associated with the member's sobriety date. Just go to aa.org and choose *Make a Contribution*. It takes less than 5 minutes!



A.A. Grapevine, Inc. News

June YTD sales of \$1,518,067 are \$112,000 ahead of budget. The Grapevine just received approval to be used as a platform for Board Vacancy announcements. A book of stories by atheist and agnostic A.A. members is due out by the end of September. GV is available in print, online, and audio versions, and offers a very inexpensive app. Between April 2017 and April 2018, the number of Maryland GV subscriptions increased by 51. Give the gift of GV during the next anniversary celebration at your home group. Buy a gift subscription for your local doctor, library or treatment center. **Help Area 29 win the 2018 Subscription Challenge!** For more information, go to aagrapevine.org.

Northeast Region News

NERAASA 2019 ~ Area 29 will host NERAASA in Hunt Valley, MD from February 22-24, 2019. The NERAASA 2019 Host Committee meets monthly on the third Sunday. Ask anyone here today how you can join the team!

ICYPAA ~ The 60th International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous will be held at the Baltimore Hilton from August 30-September 2, 2018. Young is defined as "willing to grow." Registration is only \$35 and includes free parking! For info, go to 60th.icypaa.org.

Around Area 29

In the less than nine days since District 4 elected Lee J. as their new DCM, over a dozen of the groups in the district have been visited. Several of those groups have elected GSRs, some for the first time ever, and several others have designated Information Contacts to receive general service communications until the group can hold an election. We have more attendees here today from that district than ever before. It doesn't take much to generate interest in general service – only a little enthusiasm and determination. If your district – or perhaps one nearby you – is struggling, you too can make a concerted effort to do what is being done in District 4. And if you want any help, please let me know!

Yours in love and service,

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

- 8/14 - Area Assembly, Severna Park
- 8/24-25 - Incredible Tapestry, Raynham, MA
- 8/30-9/02 - 60th ICYPAA, Baltimore
- 9/04-09 - Sessions By the Sea, Ocean City
- 9/22 - Area Committee, Location TBD
- 9/26 - District 6, Davidsonville
- 9/29 - District 41 Picnic, New Market