

# Area 29, Panel 72

Aug 2022

## Delegate Report



*Welcome to our August Area Assembly. I especially want to welcome any new DCM's and GSR's, and anyone else new to Area Service. We need you! Area 29 is blessed to have a wonderful collection of Trusted Servants. I enjoy serving with all. Thank you all for your service! As we get through the heat of summer, I pray we all remember that the need for service never takes a vacation. However, we as humans do occasionally need a short break to recharge. DCMs rely on your Alternates. Committee Chairs rely on Co-Chairs. GSR's, I hope you have Alternates. We are all here to help each other.*

### New & Exciting

With the 72<sup>nd</sup> General Service Conference complete our General Service Board (GSB) and General Service Office (GSO) are now working to implement all the work that was sent their way by the Conference. Some of the items approved at Conference will require significant changes in how they operate, particularly regarding translation. Background material for future conferences will now be released simultaneously in French, Spanish and English. While the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for release of background material in English is no longer in effect, upcoming changes to speed up release include increased staffing to allow for a swift, proactive approach to translations as items are identified. Spanish Translator, French Translator, and Document Translations Manager positions have been posted and the recruiting process has already begun. Hopefully this will allow for timely distribution of background material.



I provided a full report regarding the General Service Conference at our May Assembly. Since then, I've been visiting Intergroups and Districts providing abbreviated reports. I also provided an abbreviated report at our State Convention. I don't currently have any more such reports on my calendar as we begin ramping up to next year. The Conference Report publication has unfortunately been delayed. A digital, anonymity protected copy should now be available by mid to late September and will be forwarded to our Technology Committee for posting to our website. It will also be emailed to our Area mailing list. I ordered 400 copies of printed reports, which will be distributed around the Area. Printed copies are now projected to not be available until Dec 2022/Jan 2023.

The 2025 International Convention will be held July 3-6, 2025, in Vancouver Canada. GSO has posted a recently updated Frequently Asked Questions document on AA.org, to help those with questions regarding travel and border crossing, as well as other questions on

other topics. General registration and housing information will be available on the International Convention webpage in early 2024. Actual registration site links, forms, and hotel booking links will be communicated to the Fellowship in August/September 2024.

The first dispatch of the 2025 International Convention Membership Survey has been sent out, with distribution including, but not limited to, Conference members, Intergroup/Central Offices and International GSOs. In addition to placing the survey link on our various platforms and the [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org) websites, QR codes have been developed for easy access at AA events. They were sent out with the survey link.

Originally, it was understood that the question regarding closing the “Big Meeting” with the Lord’s Prayer would be added to the 2025 International Convention Membership Engagement Survey. However, there will now be a separate survey dedicated to this specific question.

## General Service Board & GSO

Our General Service Board met the last weekend of July. This meeting was focused on strategic planning, including reviewing financial data for the first six months of the year, reviewing direction provided by the General Service Conference, and determining any need to reforecast the budget. One significant change in policy was enacted:

*“For all Conference-approved pamphlets, implementation will take place as soon as possible after conclusion of the Conference at which the changes are approved. In most cases, current inventory (in English, French and Spanish) will be written off or destroyed and replaced with the new, revised materials. For Conference-approved books, the inventory is often greater, and the investment is more costly than pamphlets, so implementation of revisions will take place in consultation with the General Manager (GM), the Chief Financial Officer, and with the AAWS board, as deemed necessary by the GM. All efforts will be made to post revised digital versions on aa.org as final approved PDFs are completed.”*

### AA In the News

The Hindu published a nice [article](#) about a celebration local members had for 8 years of AA in Melur, India. 300 members from Melur and surrounding areas came together to celebrate AA and recovery.

There is an upcoming vacancy for a Class B (Alcoholic) Regional Trustee for the Northeast Region, beginning after the 2023 General Service Conference. An announcement was sent out on May 31<sup>st</sup>. We are planning an election during the Oct. 2022 Assembly to elect a candidate for Area 29 to put forth at next year’s General Service Conference. If you are considering standing, I’d like to know by the end of September if possible, so we can organize a smooth election.

### Calls for Stories:

1. Fifth edition of our Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Deadline for submission is October 31, 2022. For more information please see the [announcement](#) on AA.org.
2. Fourth edition of the Spanish language version of our Big Book, *Alcohólicos Anónimos*. The submission deadline is December 15, 2022. Details can be found [here](#).

3. Upcoming revision to “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic”. Deadline for submission is October 31, 2022 and details can be found [here](#).

**Request for Shared Experience:** The AAWS Subcommittee on Self-Support is looking for additional shared experience regarding the use virtual baskets. Their earlier request resulted in 66 responses, but they’d like to hear from more Group Treasurers, District Treasurers, Intergroup Treasurers and Area Treasurers. Experiences should be sent to:

Eileen A. at [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org)

Virtual groups continue to grow –we now have 718 virtual groups listed with GSO and participating in the U.S./Canada Service Structure. Of those 718 groups, there are 558 GSRs and 143 Alternate GSRs. There are 371 meetings in “Area 95” (i.e., miscellaneous file). Group Services is communicating with these meetings to see if they would like to be listed as Groups and if they would like to participate in the U.S./Canada General Service Structure.

From January to June 2022, our G.S.O. responded to approximately 15,650 unique email inquiries. During this time, they received about 4,400 phone calls and performed 3,343 Area/District/Group updates. The Mail and Shipping team (of two) managed 22,283 pieces of incoming mail and 10,957 pieces of outgoing mail from January to June 2022

## Financial Update

This information (unaudited) is as of June 30, 2022:

- Contributions: \$5.0+ million (50%+ of budget)
- Literature Sales: \$5.8 million (52% of budget)
- Cost of Goods Sold: \$2.8 million (64% of budget)
- Payroll & Benefits: \$4.7 million (47% of budget)
- Overall Expenses: \$8.2 million (47% of budget)
- Deficit YTD: \$114,000
- Prudent Reserve: Approx. 7.65 months

**Note:** All 93 Areas have submitted their Conference Fees for a total of \$167,400. Several Areas have contributed extra for an additional \$127,000.



The mailing address for sending 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Contributions to GSO:

Post Office Box 2407  
James A. Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116-2407

Online contributions can be made [here](#).

## Publishing & Grapevine

Due to a Publishing error in recently printed copies of the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, the text of the Long Form of Tradition Eight was repeated in the Long Form of Tradition Nine (page 177). The accurate full text of Tradition Nine (Long Form) appears on page 178. Softcover copies affected have an error message printed on the inside front cover. Other formats have an ERRATUM SHEET included with the book.

### AA Grapevine Upcoming Magazine Topics:

- September: Young and Sober
- October: Relapse (prevention), and
- November: Gratitude and Fun in Sobriety

Grapevine is looking for stories of experience with each Step and Tradition. Pick your favorite and write about your experience. They are also looking for jokes (as am I 😊).

### Upcoming Grapevine Books, Planned for 2023 (or later):

1. *Best of Dear Grapevine.*
2. *Book for Newcomers*

### AA La Viña Upcoming Magazine Topics:

1. Sep – Oct: No Matter What
2. Nov – Dec: La Viña Short Stories

### Upcoming La Viña Books, Planned for 2022:

1. *Emotional Sobriety* (Fall release)

### Upcoming La Viña Books, Planned for 2023 (or later)

1. *Best of La Viña*
2. *Prayer and Meditation*

### New and Updated Materials Now Available:

1. P-9 Behind the Walls: A Message of Hope
2. P-42 A Brief Guide to A.A.
3. P-25 Faith Leaders Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous
4. B-14 Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (Large Print)
5. P-43 Twelve Traditions Illustrated
6. DV-07 Your A.A. G.S.O., the Grapevine, and the General Service Structure

An elderly man is stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and is asked where he is going at this time of night.

The man replies, "I am on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer then asks, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man replies, "That would be my wife."

**Mixed-Title Volume Discount Test Pilot** – A six-month test pilot is currently running through September 15, 2022. Orders will receive a quantity discount based on the quantity ordered for all titles combined, as opposed to purchasing a quantity of one specific title.

**Supply Chain Disruptions** – Supply chain disruptions continue to be a challenge. An updated AA communication is in the editorial process and, ideally, will be sent to the Fellowship via email blast by August 15 and posted on "What's New" on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).

### Back in stock (as of 8/8/2022):

- *Big Book* hardcover, English (B-1); *Big Book*, French hardcover (FB-1)
- *Big Book*, Spanish softcover (SB-30)
- *Big Book*, large print, abridged English (B-24)
- *Big Book* large print, English (B-16)
- *Big Book*, large print, Spanish (SB-16)
- *Big Book*, large print, abridged French (FB-24)
- *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, large print French (FB-14)
- *A.A. in Prison: A Message of Hope* (B-13) [Retitled edition]
- *As Bill Sees It*, Spanish (SB-18)





## Area 29 Conference Agenda Review Committees (CARC's)

The 2022 CARC process is now winding down, although as a year-round process it never ends. I would like to thank all of those who participated in the pre-conference meetings. At the General Service Conference, I felt very well prepared, in large part due to the thorough reviews of background material presented in the CARC meetings. Our Alternate Delegate, Terry P., did a fabulous job coordinating this incredibly important process. Mentors and CARC Leaders all did a great job!

### Travels & Activities

June 6 – Intergroup Liaison Committee  
June 14 – District 42 Report Back  
June 15 – District 28 Report Back  
June 16 – West Central IG Report Back  
June 24-26 – Maryland State Convention  
June 29 – CARC 4 Reconvene  
June 30 – CARC 3 Reconvene  
July 2 – District 10 Report Back  
July 9 - DCM's & Alternates Mtg  
July 7 – District 35 Report Back  
July 13 – District 22 Report Back  
July 16 – Area Committee  
July 17 - Delegates Meeting w/Trustee

July 17 – International Corrections Mtg.  
July 19 – District 9 Report Back  
July 24 – Hagerstown Intergroup  
July 26 – CARC 2 Reconvene  
July 27 – District 6 Report Back  
Aug 3 – Conf. Corrections Comm. Mtg  
Aug 6 - DCM's & Alternates Mtg  
Aug 10 – Midshore IG  
Aug 13 - Area Assembly  
Aug 20 – Morgan J. Celebration  
Aug 21 – Delegates Meeting w/Trustee  
**Sep 3 – DCM's & Alternates Mtg ?**  
Sep 6 – Ocean City IG

**If you would like a visit to your Group, District or Intergroup please contact me at: [delegate@marylandaa.org](mailto:delegate@marylandaa.org).**

“To be vital, faith must be accompanied by self-sacrifice and unselfish, constructive action.”  
– *Alcoholics Anonymous, pg. 93*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kurt W.  
Delegate  
Area 29 Panel 72  
Corrections Conference Committee  
[delegate@marylandaa.org](mailto:delegate@marylandaa.org)

