

# 67<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference

## Quick Reference

### • AAWS / GSO Reports

- **Membership** levels remain flat at approx. 1.3 M (US/CAN)
- **Contributions** were \$7,934,869, a 10.91% increase over 2015, but still a \$1.9+ million shortfall in covering expenses.
- **Groups participating** was 41.5% (43.3% NFAC)
- **Literature sales** show slight increase
- **Grapevine subscriptions** continue to decline but GV ended the year 2015 positive at \$164,540 (book sales) with the LaVina shortfall at -\$152,082.
- **2017 Budget GSB projects an expected profit of \$397,793** if nothing changes. As of 12/31/15
- the Reserve Fund is at 10.3 months. The two following years are predicted to be losses if nothing changes.
- *It now takes \$7.27 (currently \$1.45 shortfall) **per member** in the basket and \$149.34 **per group** (currently \$29.72 shortfall).*
- **In 2016 GSO:**
  - With **73 FT employees**, welcomed **2,520 visitors**
  - Listed **1,020 new groups** in US and Canada
  - **Over 13 million visits to aa.org** (4% increase)
  - **Big Books sold: 954,000**—up from 792,768 in 2015
  - **eBook Gross Sales: \$227,611. (58,277 units sold)**
  - **Publishing Sales \$13 million** (\$204,579 below estimate)

### • AGENDA

- **68<sup>th</sup> GSC Theme** will be “A.A. – A Solution for All Generations”.
- **Presentation / Discussion Topics:**
  - *Today’s Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion*
  - *Participation in All of A.A. – Is My Triangle Balanced?*
  - *A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions*
  - *Attraction Not Promotion: A.A.’s Relation to the World*
  - *Group Conscience: The Guiding Force*

### • FLOOR ACTIONS

- GSO strive to provide background material in English by February 15 and Spanish and French by the first week of March, beginning with the 68<sup>th</sup> GSC.
- Pamphlet **Too Young?** be revised to reflect more current collective experiences of young alcoholics and their welcome to A.A.

- A.A. Grapevine create a Google for Non-Profits account, limiting use to YouTube Non-Profit Program, and comments not be shown on A.A. Grapevine YouTube pages.

### • COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

- The pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W. be retired.
- **Problems Other Than Alcohol have a footnote added:** *This pamphlet is derived from an article written by A.A. co-founder Bill W. in 1958. Therefore, some of the language may be dated, but the issues addressed are prevalent today.*
- Pamphlet **Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace?** title be changed to **Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace?**
- The Trustees Committee on CPC review **Members of the Clergy Ask about Alcoholics Anonymous; A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional; and If You Are a Professional** and develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans.

### • CORRECTIONS

- NONE

### • FINANCE

- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be increased from \$1,600 to 1,800.
- Review the suggested Area Contribution for delegates’ expenses to the Conference every other year.
- Review the Conference-approved level for bequests to the General Service Board every other year.
- Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual member every other year.

### • GRAPEVINE

- NONE

## • LITERATURE

- **Questions and Answers on Sponsorship** pamphlet be revised to remove two bullet points regarding maintaining a file of members' information.
- The revised plan for annual review of recovery literature be implemented.
- Pamphlet **Young People and A.A.** have text added: Young people's conferences are held in the United States and Canada and around the world. For information, consult your local A.A. area, intergroup office, or search online for YPAA. (*Publishing will determine best address*)
- **The A.A. Group** pamphlet, Group Inventory, Question 10, be revised to read "Are we doing all we can to provide a safe, attractive and accessible meeting place?" (*added word "safe"*)
- **The A.A. Group** pamphlet, Principles Before Personalities section, be revised to add text from the "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" service piece.
- The Trustees' Literature Committee develop language regarding safety to incorporate in recovery literature, and a plan for implementation.

## • POLICY/ ADMISSIONS

- The 2018 GSC move ahead with **electronic voting** for all voting, except for regional trustees and trustees-at-large, which are conducted by ballot.
- The trustees' Committee on the GSC develop a plan for equitable distribution of workload.
- Starting with the 67<sup>th</sup> GSC, an anonymity-protected, digital *Final Conference Report* be published in addition to the current print version.
- The **70th GSC** be held April 19-25, 2020.
- Future proposed date of GSC be considered as an additional Committee Consideration rather than requiring an Advisory Action.
- GSO Management submit a report on the site selection process for review by the 2018 General Service Conference.

67th GSC Advisory Actions, Committee Considerations, and Recommendations and floor actions that did not result in Conference Advisory Actions posted on area website.

## • PUBLIC INFORMATION

- A new **video public service announcement** be developed for a cost not to exceed \$40,000.
- Pamphlet **Understanding Anonymity** be rewritten to include material from GSO Tradition eleven literature.
- A.A.W.S., Inc. create a Google for Nonprofits account, limited to use of YouTube Nonprofit program, and no comments to be show on the page.

## • REPORT AND CHARTER

- Text be added to Chapter Four of **The A.A. Service Manual** regarding the use of websites by Areas.
- The by-laws of A.A. World Services and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. be included in **The A.A. Service Manual** as appendices.
- A new section on the General Service Boards' "Mission-Vision-Action Statement" be added to Chapter 9 of **The A.A. Service Manual**.
- The G.S.O Department reports which are shared at Conference be included in the *Final Conference Report*.
- Brief bios for nontrustee directors, similar to those for trustees, be included in the *Final Conference Reports*.

## • TREATMENT/SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES

- The pamphlet **A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs** be retitled **Accessibility for All Alcoholics** and suggested editorial changes approved.

## • ARCHIVES

- A draft or progress report on **Unity in Action: Bill W.s General Service Talks, 1951 – 1970** (working title) be brought back to the 2018 GSC Committee on Archives for review.