## 67<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference of A.A.

April 23-29, 2017 – Rye Brook, NY

**Supporting Our Future** 

Soutenir Notre Avenir

Respaloar Nuestro Futuro

Report to Area, May 20, 2017
Joe S, Delegate, Panel 67, Area 47, CNY

#### BEST EXPERINCE EVER AS A TRUSTED SERVANT

GRATITUDE

THE FINEST GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT I EVER HAD THE HONOR TO SERVE WITH

WORKING IN UNITY AND WITH LOVE FOR A.A.

**CONFERENCE INFORMATION** 

REPORTS: GSB, AAWS, GRAPEVINE, AA WORLD

**MEETING** 

SPITITUAL EXPERINCES

**AGENDA ITEMS** 

**PICTURES** 

REPORT AND CHARTER, INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS

PEOPLE I SAT NEXT TO

HEARD AT THE CONFERENCE

**QUESTIONS** 

**NEXT STEPS/CLOSING REMARKS** 

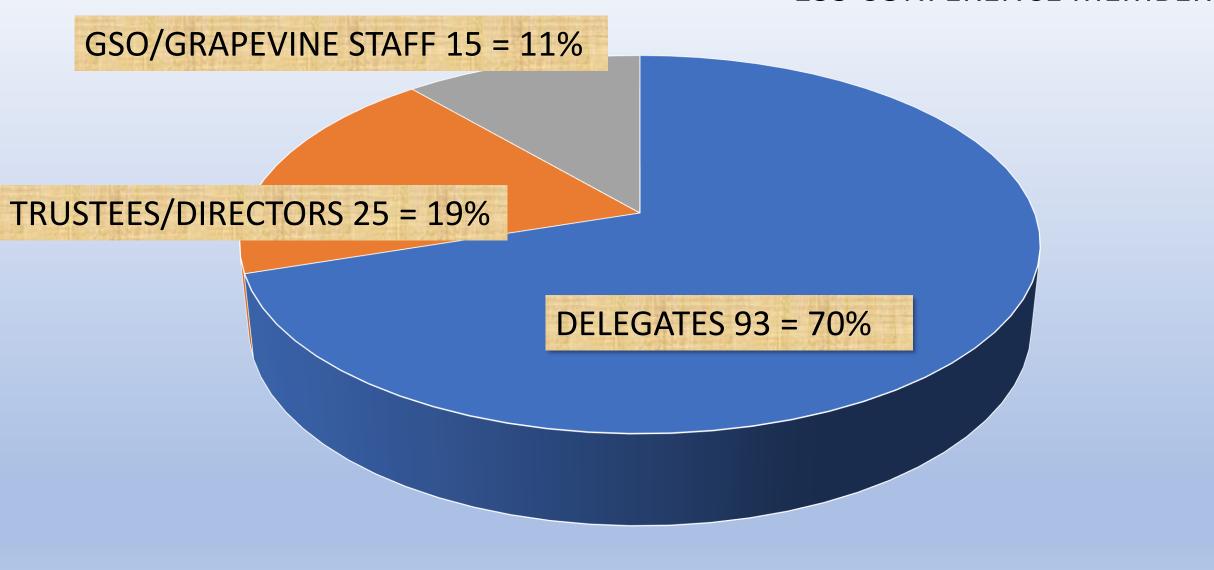
Program



## 67<sup>TH</sup> Conference Character

- In a word: UNITY
- Trust between Delegates and Trustees
- Delegates ensure Trustees are accountable to the fellowship
- And Delegates ensure Trustees have the ability to do their jobs per Concept 6 and Concept 10
- "Spiritual Handshake"

#### 133 CONFERENCE MEMBERS



### Statistics on Delegates

#### Age

Average Age – 59

Oldest – 75

Youngest – 37

#### **Service**

Average Length of Service – 19

Longest Service - 50

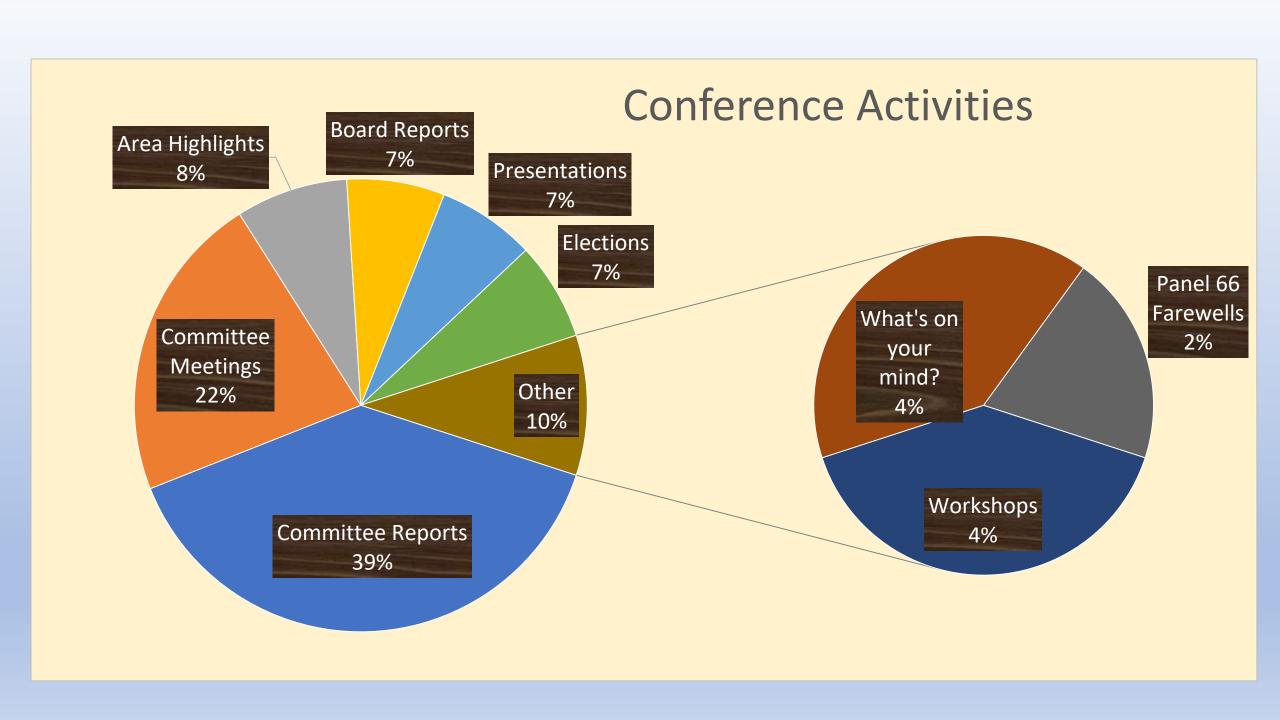
Shortest Service – 8

#### <u>Sobriety</u>

Average Length Sobriety – 23

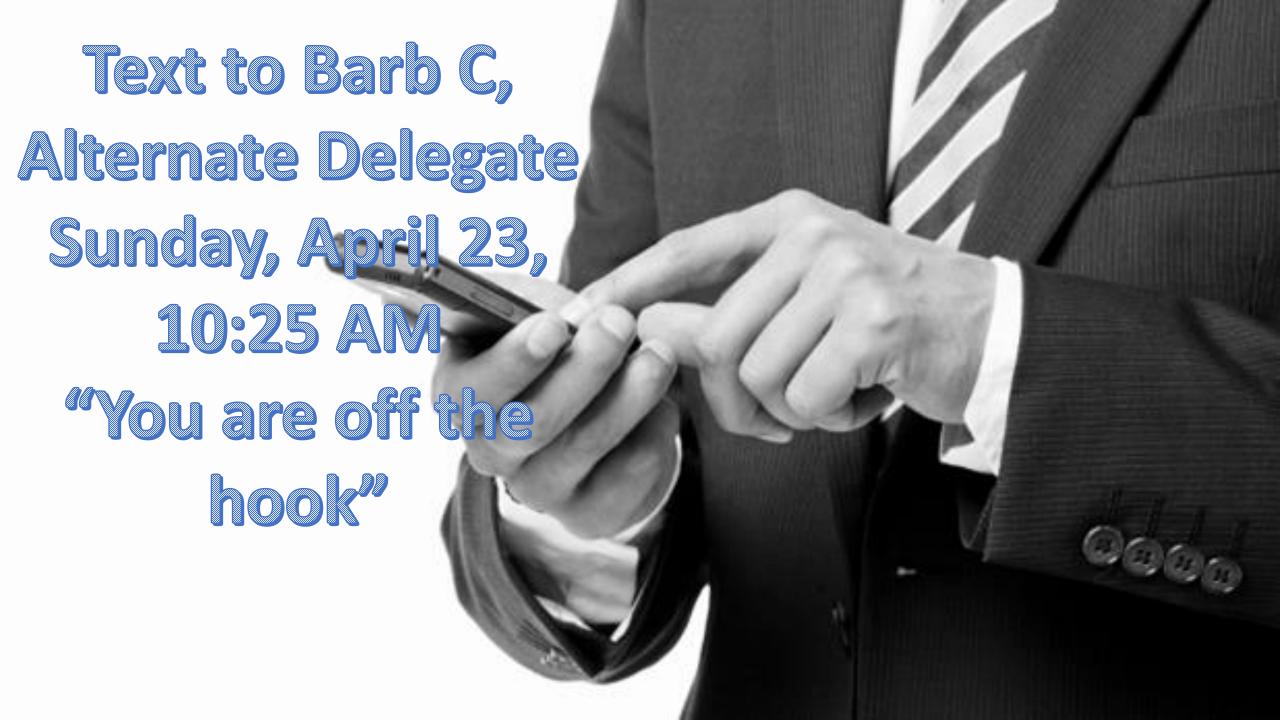
Longest Sobriety – 51

Shortest Sobriety – 10



## Spiritual Experiences

- My service sponsor is my guest at the Sunday night dinner
- Roll Call I am grateful to be your Delegate...and I am PRESENT!
- The most powerful moment? I will share it with you in a bit



# General Service Board Report Highlights

#### Terry B, Chairperson

- Conference purpose
- Trustees
- Staff
- Regional Forums
- World Services
- International Conventions
- Corrections
- Seventh Tradition/Finance
- GSB Strategic Plan
- Listing of Intergroups in database
- Thank you for the opportunity to serve

#### Page 1 General Service Board Highlights

#### Opening remarks

- "The Conference plan was established 67 years ago as a guarantee that our movement-wide services would continue to function under all conditions, providing a practical successor to our beloved cofounders."
- 2016 was a very active year

#### **Trustees**

- Two new Class A Trustees Christine C, Nancy M
- Three new Class B Trustees Carole B General Service Trustee; Tom A West Central Regional Trustee and Cate W Western Canada Regional Trustee
- Presenting Michele G, Class A, to succeed Terry B, as Chairperson of the General Service Board. Michele served as a GSB trustee from 2010-2014
- Noted the passing of Joe D, General Service Trustee and recent chair of AAWS. Richard B, Eastern Canada Regional Trustee will serve on the board an additional year to fill the vacancy left by Joe's death

#### Personal

• Some longtime staff retired and there were also a number of promotions, reorganizations and new hires

#### Page 2 General Service Board Highlights

#### Regional Forums

- 200 held since inception in 1975
- 4 and one additional in 2016. Total attendance over 1,800 including more than 1,000 first-time attendees

#### **World Services**

- 24<sup>th</sup> World Service Meeting held last October with 60 delegates representing 41 countries Paraguay and Slovakia attending for the first time. The Trustees recognize that the World Service Meeting has a significant impact on the unity of AA and on the effectiveness of our Twelve Step Efforts
- In 2016, we sent folks to attend the 37<sup>th</sup> Central American Convention, the German General Service conference and Costa Rica's 38<sup>th</sup> National Conference
- In 2017, we plan to attend the Cuban General Service Conference, 6<sup>th</sup> National Convention of AA Peru, Sub-Saharan Africa Service Meeting among others

#### **International Conventions**

Detroit 2020 – planning is gaining steam, with a focus on improving the effectiveness and overall
experience of the convention, reviewing past practices and making our best estimates for the future

#### Page 3 General Service Board Highlights

#### Corrections

- Video "A New Freedom," well received. And online views of 856,770
- Corrections Canada: Progress made with governmental agencies to reach members behind the walls and to expand the corrections correspondence service
- Throughout the fellowship efforts have helped to carry the message to Native American/First Nations groups in tribal jails and correctional facilities
- First National Corrections Conference to be held in St. Louis, November 10-12, 2017. See nationalcorrectionsconference.org for information

#### **Seventh Tradition**

- Much of the board focus over the past year has been on our current and projected financial position as a spiritual Fellowship
- As we continue to plot a stable financial course through the years ahead, the continuing importance
  of the Seventh Tradition cannot be overlooked

#### Page 4 General Service Board Highlights

#### **GSB Strategic Plan**

- "Serving the Fellowship." Plan was approved in 2016. It outlines the mission, vison and actions taken by the board to fulfill its responsibilities to the Fellowship
  - In July 2016, 40 action priorities were assigned one of four priority levels. 13 were assigned level
    one. They were assigned a start date, progress report date and completion target. One has been
    finalized with no further action and progress reports on the remainder will be reviewed at the July
    2017 board meeting

#### Listing of Intergroups in database

- January 2017, the complaint against AAWS and the GSB were in the Ontario (CA) Human Rights
   Tribunal was withdrawn. AAWS and GSB made no settlement, monetary or non-monetary, with the
   applicant.
- Issue of listing in database intergroups that have outside affiliations arose during this time and was discussed in detail by GSB and AAWS boards

#### Closing remarks

- The General Service Conference is a gift passed on to us and each of us has an obligation to keep the doors of AA, and its life-saving message, open to those who need it
- I sincerely thank you for the opportunity to serve the fellowship

A.A. World Services, Inc. Report Summary

Bill N, GSB Trustee & Chairperson AAWS Board

#### Last Year, The General Service Office of AA...

Responded to more than **90,000 emails and letters** from AA members, suffering alcoholics, distraught family members, professionals, students, the press and others interested in AA



#### CONTRIBUTIONS

Received over **73,000 pieces** 

(AA received ~8,000 contribution letters in the month of December alone)



#### **NEW GROUPS**

A total of

1,020 new A.A.
groups in the U.S.
and Canada
were listed at
G.S.O. last year.



#### CORRECTIONS

Corrections
answers over
6,400 letters
annually; that's
more than 17
letters per day,
every day



#### ARCHIVES

Received

1,450 requests for information and research



#### SHIPPING

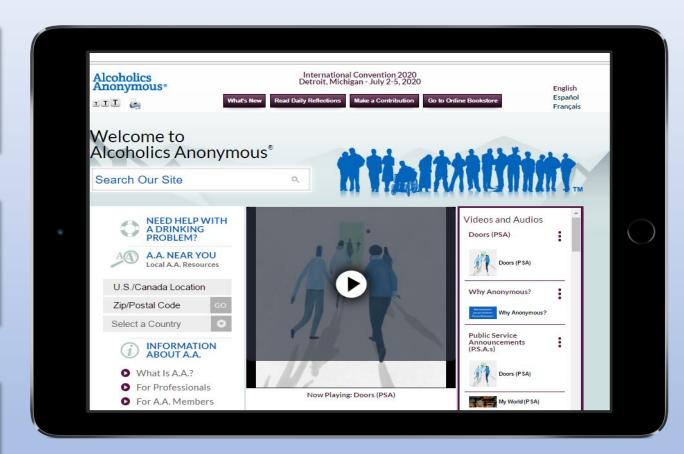
Distributed7.6 millionbooks, pamphlets& audio materials

#### Our AA Website...

AA.Org receives over 1,000 visits a day for "Need Help With A Drinking Problem"

Online requests for **PI** information for the media and press averaged **3,000 per month** 

AA.Org received over 13 million visits last year

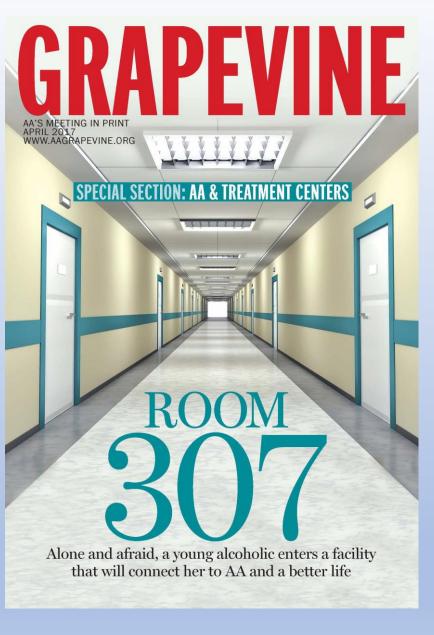


## People I Sat Next To

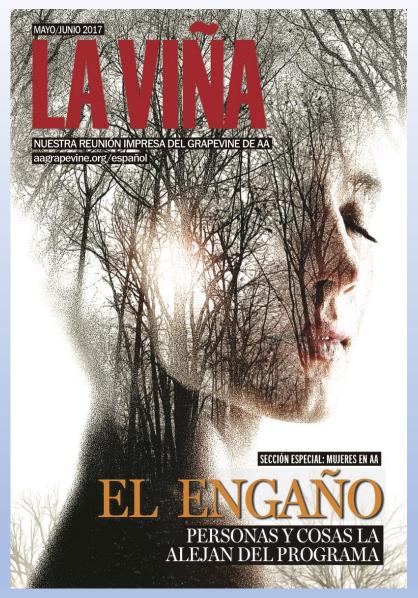
- Ben B, P67/A57, Oklahoma
- Tim M, P67/A82, Nova Scotia/Newfoundland/Labrador
- Bob D, P67/A85, Northwest Ontario
- Bob H, P67/A17 Hawaii

## Presentation/ Report: A.A. Grapevine and La Vina

Joel C., Pacific Regional Trustee & Chairperson Grapevine Board Josh E, A.A. Grapevine Director







## IMAGINE

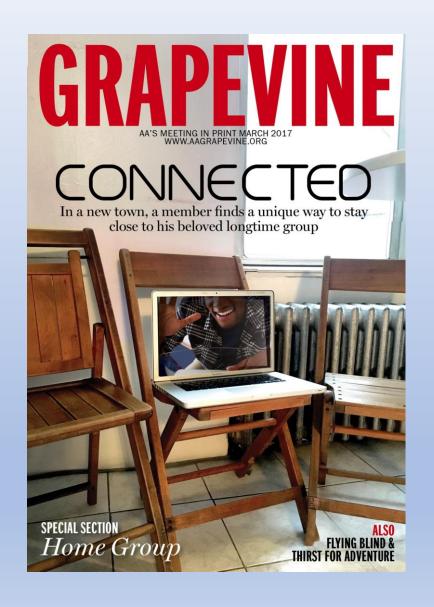
**GRAPEVINE PODCAST** 

**GRAPEVINE BLOG** 

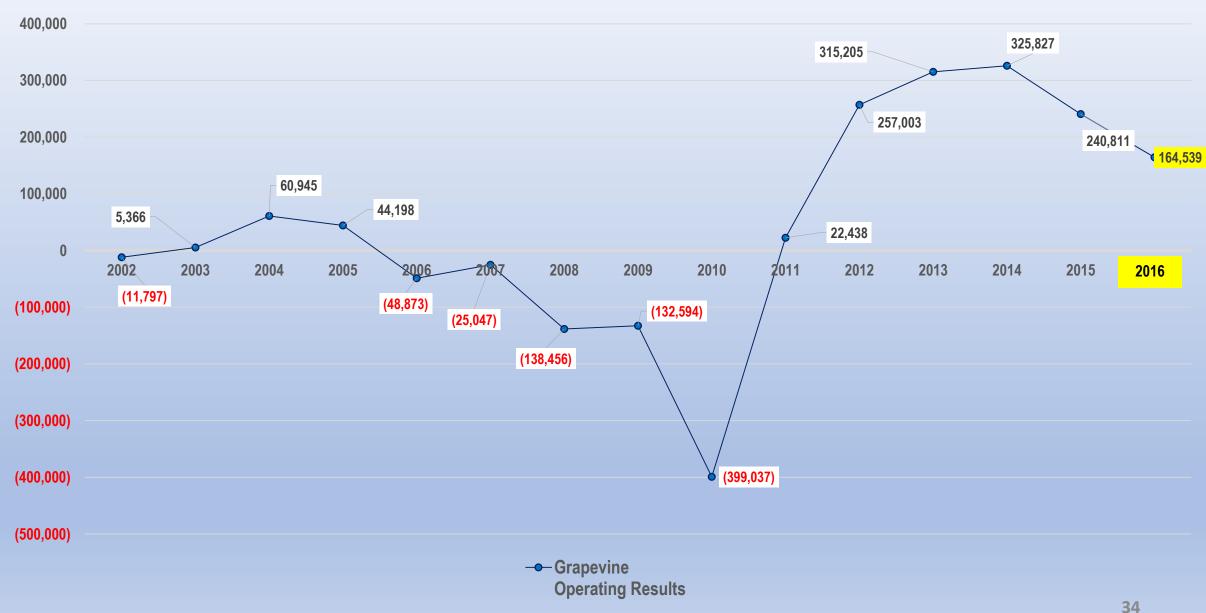
SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

REVAMPED AAGRAPEVINE.ORG

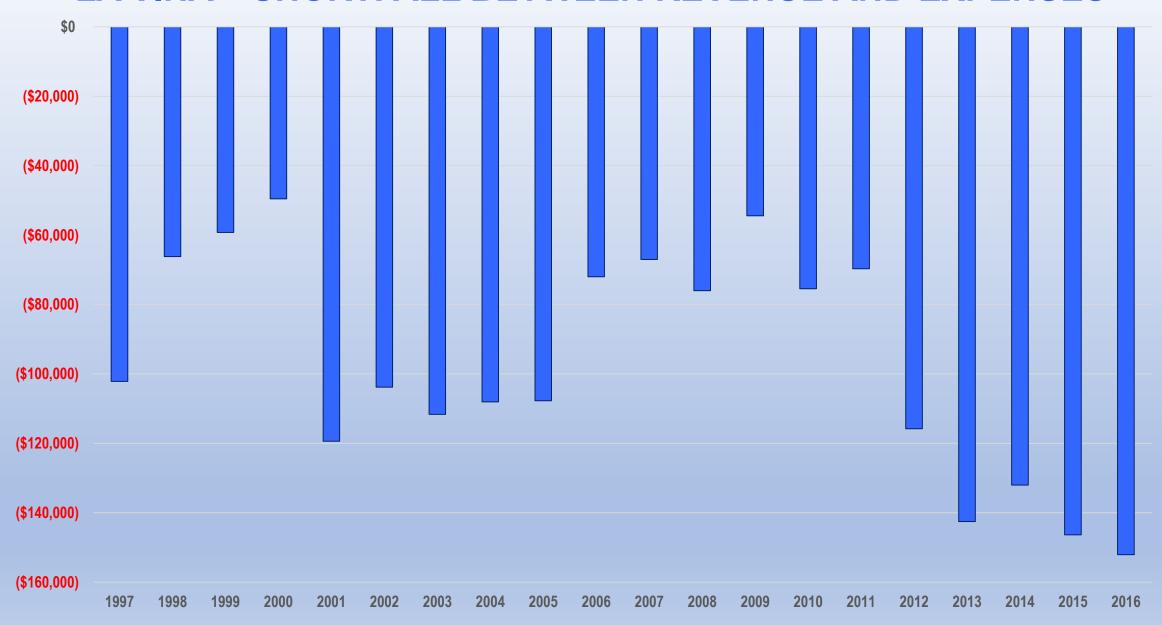
AUDIO AND VIDEO CONTENT INCREASED SHARE-ABILITY



#### **GRAPEVINE OPERATING RESULTS – 2002 – 2016**



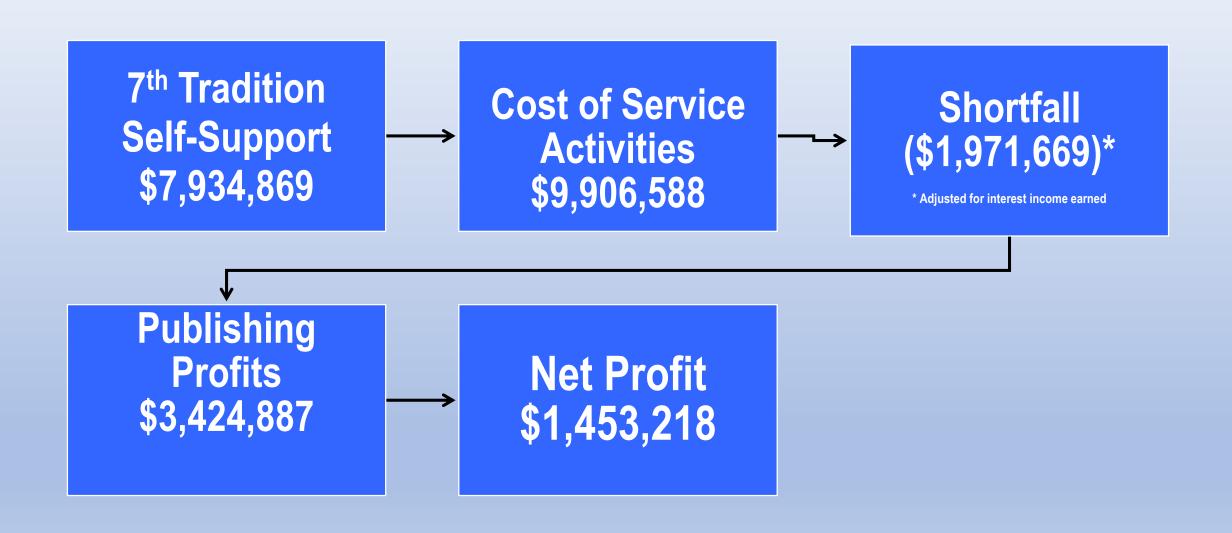
#### LA VIÑA – SHORTFALL BETWEEN REVENUE AND EXPENSES



## Finance Presentation

David M, GSB, Class A Trustee, Treasurer

#### **GSO & AAWS - OPERATING RESULTS - 2016**



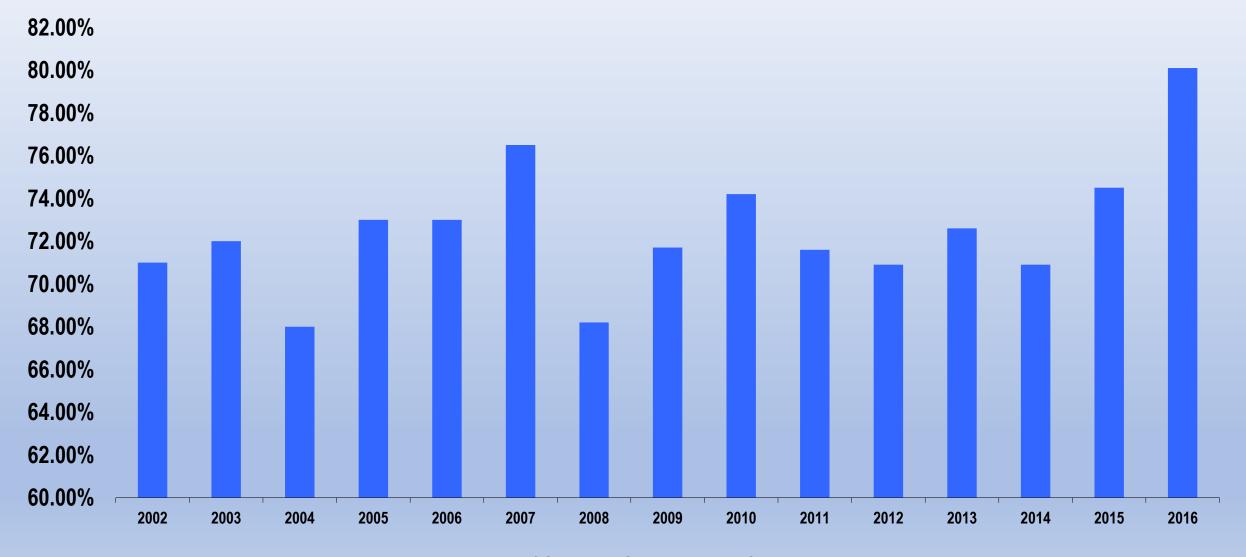
#### **7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION SELF-SUPPORT – 2016 – \$7.9 MILLION**

GROUPS \$6,500,000 INDIVIDUALS \$609,000

GROUPS SUPPORTING 27,500



## PERCENTAGE OF SERVICES SUPPORTED BY 7<sup>th</sup> TRADITION OF SELF-SUPPORT – 2002 – 2016



Percentage of Services Supported by Contributions

#### 2017 Budget Outlook and Trends

#### GSO/AAWS

- Membership levels remain flat
- Contributions show small growth
- Literature sales show small growth 2% per year
- Expenses continue to grow slowly 2% 3% per year

#### GRAPEVINE

- Subscriptions revert back to decline 2% 3% per year
- Expenses continue to grow slowly 2% 3% per year

#### \*2018 & 2019 Budget Outlook

GSO/AAWS, Grapevine, and La Viña combined budgeted results is \$763,000 loss in 2018, with following year having even larger loss, assuming no changes in contributions levels and operating expenses

Net Results (\$ in Thousands)	2016 ACTUAL	2017 BUDGET	2018 BUDGET	2019 BUDGET
GSO/AAAWS Slide 30	\$1,453	\$398	(\$255)	(\$746)
Grapevine Slide 34 – S 2	165	(114)	(326)	(527)
La Viña Slide 36	(152)	(168)	(182)	(195)
Total	1,466	116	(763)	(\$1,468)
Reserve Fund Ratio (months) Slide 42 – S 2	10.3	10.7	9.9	8.8

Presentation:
24<sup>th</sup> World
Service
Meeting

Scott H, Trustee At Large/Canada Bob W, Trustee At Large/US Mary C, GSO Staff ONE WORLD, ONE A.A., ONE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 24TH WORLD SERVICE MEETING

Rye Brook, New York | October 23-27, 2016



## The 24<sup>th</sup>World Service Meeting

October 23-27, 2016 Rye Brook, NY

# Presentation: 24<sup>th</sup> World Service Meeting

- 60 World Service Delegates attended, representing over 41 countries
- The World Service Meeting is held every two years. One year here in New York and the other is awarded by bid from a participating country, so it can be held in various locations throughout the world.

Presentation:
24<sup>th</sup> World
Service
Meeting

 Purpose of the meeting is to provide a forum for countries to share their experience of how AA is working within their countries to strengthen AA in their lands by learning from the success stories of others



## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**



- 1. Agenda
- 2. Literature/Publishing
- 3. Policy/Admissions/Finance
- 4. Working with Others



## Country-to-Country Sponsorship



## **International Literature Display**

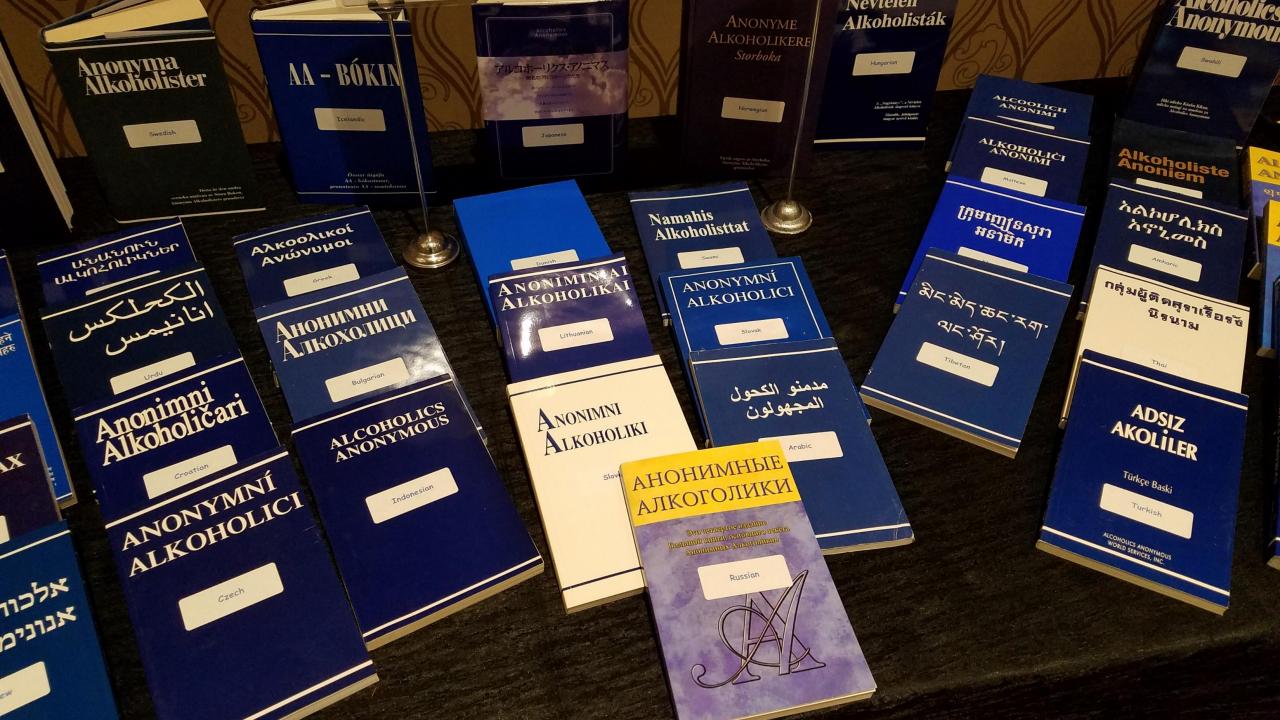


# Spiritual Experiences

 Bob W, Trustee At Large/US, relating the story about the whole delegate contingent of the World Service Meeting going to a local AA meeting around the block

# Presentation: 24<sup>th</sup> World Service Meeting

- 69 Translations of the Big Book,
   Alcoholics Anonymous
- 15 new translations pending, including the first-ever spokenword First Nations' Navajo language Big Book and many retranslations



# Presentation: 24<sup>th</sup> World Service Meeting

- The most recent new Big Books printed and now in circulation are in the Arabic, Twi (Ghana) and Rarotongan (Cook Island) languages
- AAWS prints the Big Book in 33 Languages, with 37 printed by local service structures
- AAWS has published literature across 298 publications in a total of 90 languages

Hopefully, the report back hasn't....



# Department of Get Over Mic Fright

- Committee Reports Begin:
   Wednesday, April 26 at 9:45 AM
- I go to the microphone for the first time: 10:20 AM
- Without a second thought I knew I had something to say



# On All Committees' Agendas "Conference Call" Result: No **Action Taken**

- The following text be added to the Composition,
   Scope and Procedure of the Conference Committee on Corrections:
- In order to assist Conference committees in handling their workload, if a Conference committee feels it is helpful to complete the work of their committee, they are welcome to meet via conference call in the 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference. They may use the call for such things as deciding how to conduct their business, including the means of voting within the committee, re-ordering the items on their agenda if needed, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what they consider to be priority agenda items. Conference committee secretaries would be available to facilitate these meetings.

#### **Advisory Actions**

## Policy/Admissions

 The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference develop a plan for the equitable distribution of the workload of Conference committees by combining and/or creating committees for review by the 2018 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions.

### **Committee Recommendations**

- Are considered a motion that has been seconded
- Outcomes
  - Approved
  - Not Approved
  - Recommitted to Trustee's
  - Withdrawn
  - Tabled, but must be acted on before conference concludes
- Additional Committee Considerations can be discussed

## And Now a Word From Our Sponsor's

38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NYS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP THE BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK IN A.A.! AUGUST 4-6, ROBERTS WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROC.

> NORTHEAST REGIONAL FORUM JUNE 2-4, MARS, PA

# Report and Charter Committee Members

#### Panel 66

- Jane G, Chair, A8, San Diego/Imperial CA
- Thomas G, A87, Southwest Quebec
- Bob M, A63, South Dakota

#### Panel 67

- Jamie B, A54, Northeast Ohio
- Erica C, A10, Colorado
- Kenneth C, A51, North Carolina
- Lester G, A44, Northern New Jersey

#### **GSO Secretary**

Racy J

# Report and Charter Committee

### We had questions so we asked...

- Terry B, GSB Chair
- Bill N, GSB Trustee, AAWS Chair
- Ames S, GSO, Publishing, Managing Director
- Clay R, GSO, Staff

# Report and Charter

### **Advisory Actions**

• The following text be added to Chapter Four of *The A.A. Service Manual*.

#### **Area Websites**

"Many A.A. entities now use websites as a way to communicate meeting and service information within the Fellowship."

(Continues with a total of 3 paragraphs)

• The bylaws of A.A. World Services, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. be included in *The A.A. Service Manual* as appendices.

# Report and Charter

### **Advisory Actions**

- 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 Report*.

# Spiritual Experiences

- Report and Charter committee members in our first meeting – United by a common bond
- Hearing my fellow Report and Charter Committee member, Thomas G, P66/A87, Southwest Quebec, say the serenity prayer in French as the conference adjourns



# Report and Charter

### **Advisory Actions**

• A new section on the General Service Board's "Mission-Vision-Action Statement" be added to Chapter 9 of *The A.A. Service Manual*.

# **TRUST**

"Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other. Therefore we cannot do less than trust are leaders in service. The "Right of Decision" that we offer them is not only the practical means by which they may act and lead effectively, but it is also the symbol of our implicit confidence."

- Bill W., The A.A. Service Manual Combined With the Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2016-2018 Edition, p. 14.

# International Conventions and Regional Forums

- My secondary committee
- I was elected, from the hat, Delegate Chair International Conventions/Regional Forums
  - Joint trustee/conference committees meeting next year
  - Report the committee's actions to the conference
  - Attend the 2018 pre-conference GSB meeting in January 2018
  - No Recommendations





I hit the wall, Tuesday Afternoon, April 25







April 25

# Agenda

#### **Advisory Actions**

- 2018 Conference Theme "AA A Solution for All Generations"
- Presentation / Discussion Topics
   Today's Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion
  - Participation in All of AA Is My Triangle Balanced?
  - AA Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions
  - Attraction not Promotion: AA's Relation to the World
  - Group Conscience: The Guiding Force
  - Workshop Topic "Getting the AA Message Out...."

# Heard at the Conference

 It all has to be said, but we all don't need to say it. – Terry B, Class A Trustee, GSB Chair

 In prison you are a number and not a name, in the A.A. meeting you are a name and not a number. – Nancy M, Class A Trustee

 The future has not been written so let's make it a good one. – Chet P, SERT

# Archives

### **Advisory Action**

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

#### **Advisory Actions**

- The pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W." be retired.
- A footnote with the following text be added to the pamphlet "Problems Other Than Alcohol" at the bottom of page one:

"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."

 The title of the pamphlet "Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace?" be changed to "Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace?"

#### **Advisory Actions**

The trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community review the pamphlet "If You Are a Professional," develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans and active members of the Armed Services, including information on how to contact A.A. worldwide, and bring back a report or draft text to the 2018 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community for review.

#### **Advisory Actions**

The trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community review the pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous," develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans and active members of the Armed Services, including information on how to contact A.A. worldwide, and bring back a report or draft text to the 2018 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community for review.

#### **Advisory Actions**

The trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community review the pamphlet "A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional," develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans and active members of the Armed Services, including information on how to contact A.A. worldwide, and bring back a report or draft text to the 2018 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community for review.



## Corrections

**Advisory Action** 

• None

• Y'all is singular, All y'all is plural. -Ben B, P67/A57, Oklahoma

# Heard at the Conference

 "A simple majority vote of the conference shall be considered a suggestion to the General Service Board and to GSO or the Grapevine." - David M, Class A Trustee, GSB Treasurer. Quotes Service Manual page S57, in the section on the Voting Process.

#### **Advisory Actions**

• The suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be increased from \$1,600 to \$1,800.

### Finance

- Review of the suggested Area contribution for delegates' expenses to the Conference be every other year. The next review will take place in 2019.
- Review of the Conference-approved level for bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members be every other year. The next review will take place in 2019.

## And Now a Word From Our Sponsor's

38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NYS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP
THE BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK IN A.A.!
AUGUST 4-6, ROBERTS WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROC.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL FORUM JUNE 2-4, MARS, PA

### **Advisory Actions**

## Finance

- Review of the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member be every other year. The next review will take place in 2019.
- The following text be added to the pamphlet: "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix": "Question: Can an individual or group make a recurring online contribution? Answer: Yes, online at aa.org."

#### **Recommendations Not Approved**

• The Conference-approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member of \$3,000 be increased to \$5,000.

### **Finance**

• The following text be added to the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix": "Question: Are there limits to the amount of money an A.A. group or an A.A. event can contribute to G.S.O.? Answer: No," and include this language in all appropriate service material.



# Grapevine

**Advisory Action** 

• None

#### **Advisory Actions**

- The following two bullet points in the section "What procedures can a group set up to sponsor new members?" in the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be removed:
  - A *file* of names, addresses, and phone numbers of newcomers (who wish to volunteer the information), with notations showing sponsor or sponsors for each one.
  - Review of newcomers list by steering committee (or Twelfth Step or sponsorship committee) – with follow-up activity where it seems needed.
- The revised plan for the annual review of recovery literature be implemented, with the first report to be delivered to the 2018 Conference Committee on Literature.

#### **Advisory Actions**

• The following text about young people's conferences be added to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." in the section "Where do I find A.A.?":

"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."

#### **Advisory Actions**

 Question 10 in the pamphlet "The A.A. Group" in the section "A.A. Group Inventory" that currently reads, "Are we doing all we can to provide an attractive and accessible meeting place?" be revised to read:

Are we doing all we can to provide a safe, attractive and accessible meeting place?

 The pamphlet "The A.A. Group" be revised to add the following text from "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" to the section "Principles Before Personalities."

Safety and A.A.: Suggestions to Consider

(First four paragraphs from "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" (SMF-209)

#### **Advisory Actions**

• The trustees' Literature Committee develop language regarding safety to be incorporated in current and new recovery literature, where appropriate, along with a plan for implementation. The committee requested that the draft language and proposed plan or progress report be brought back to the 2018 General Service Conference.

# People I Sat Next To

- Ami B, Executive Editor,
   Publishing, Grapevine
- Kenny B, P66/A26, Kentucky
- Ian S, P67/A38, Eastern Missouri
- Judge Ivan L, Class A Trustee

#### **Advisory Actions**

- A new video public service announcement be developed for a cost not to exceed \$40,000.

# **Public** Information

 The pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" be rewritten to include material from G.S.O. literature covering Tradition Eleven and to expand the discussion of humility in Tradition Twelve as it relates to anonymity and that a progress report or draft language be brought back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Public Information.

# Public Information



#### **Advisory Actions**

 A.A. World Services, Inc. create a Google for Nonprofits account, with use of the account limited to the YouTube Nonprofit Program and with a guarantee that comments not be shown on A.A.W.S. YouTube pages. The committee requested that a report including information from website analytics and the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account be brought back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Public Information.





#### **Advisory Action**

 A.A. Grapevine create a Google for Nonprofits account, with use of the account limited to the YouTube Nonprofit Program and with a guarantee that comments not be shown on the A.A. Grapevine YouTube pages. The A.A. Grapevine Board will track its effectiveness through website metrics.

# Public Information

# Recommitted to trustees' Committee on Public Information

• The draft 2017 A.A. Survey Questionnaire be changed as follows:

Question 2 be changed from "Sex: \_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female" to "Gender Identity: \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_ [language to include all gender nonconforming] \_\_ No Response" The committee recommended that the draft 2017 A.A.

Survey Questionnaire be changed as follows:

Question 2 be changed from "Sex: \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female"

to "Gender Identity: \_\_\_ [Male \_\_\_ Female [language to include all gender nonconforming] \_\_\_ No Response"

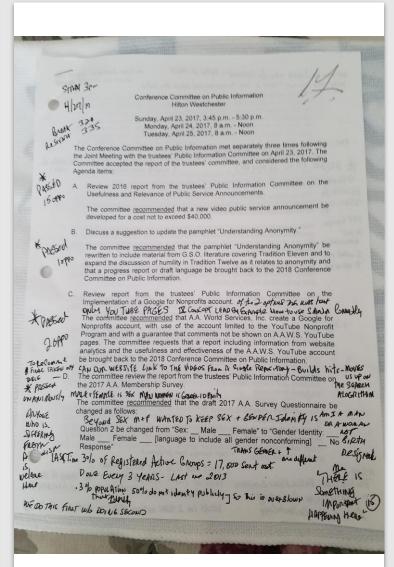
# Public Information

#### **Recommendations Not Approved**

• The 2017 A.A. Membership Survey be conducted by area on a random basis as was done in the 2014 A.A. Membership Survey and requested that the trustees' Committee on Public Information review the current A.A. Membership Survey methodology, possible methods for surveying the membership electronically and any reasonable hybrid of the two methods, and that a progress report be brought back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Public Information.



Back to Bo Motion THINE LY WITE SENT BACK- not The Purview of The committee Their Right of Recent our Signe JOE P66 AGO SCALF Should to Statement have concup for Approval By The Conference + Scott Trutt A LANGE Can - clint recall Any discussion service manual is prespective was A way to presence it w/o Introducy text. Sint back for futue revew. En fib Conte what was to attern of the Dodn't for snelson Ars 2 oper Sons. Not Attempt to Subvent Conf. Process, to guide + its self Point of? - Toel - we did not desces go to CONF + Atus peg tru CAN BOISVOST - oh Boy we are going to revent the Board 3t Northing That will hant Cenfe or fellowship BARRY PLOB IDANO 13 call to question \* questro his been culled Vote-going to A Court \* TOTAL VOTE 123 0/3 82 13 YES PLANTING IT Trobal Yes NO Part Postish it 49 Does not PASS 1 word face 67 A 10 Cole RK - oppo was softh The language - let to To 10 Scott- criticism wednest HAR & STRATER is plans wan son lost in The details - This Common that we have indeed tooke



# Policy/Admissions

#### **Advisory Actions**

 The 2018 General Service Conference move ahead with electronic voting to be used for all Conference voting, with the exception of elections for regional trustees and trustees-at-large, which are conducted by ballot.

 Starting with the 67th General Service Conference, an anonymity-protected, digital Final Conference Report be published in addition to the current print version.

# Policy/Admissions

#### **Advisory Actions**

- The 70th General Service Conference be held April 19-25, 2020 since these dates do not conflict with any significant holiday or hotel availability.
- Starting at the 2018 General Service Conference, the proposed dates of future General Service Conferences be considered as an Additional Committee Consideration rather than requiring an Advisory Action.
- General Service Office management submit a report on the process, implementation and status on the site selection of the General Service Conference for review by the 2018 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions.

# Policy/Admissions

# Recommitted to trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference

 Option 2 in the Final Report on the Translation of Conference Background be implemented for the Spanish language only for a three-year trial period, and that an annual report from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference be presented for review by the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions.

#### **Recommendation Not Approved**

 The General Service Conference be held in New York City every other year.



#### **Advisory Actions**

 In the spirit of unity and inclusiveness, the General Service Office strive to provide Conference background materials in English by February 15 and Spanish and French by the first week in March, beginning with the 68th General Service Conference.

# Treatment and Accessibilities

## **Advisory Action**

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

#### **Advisory Actions**

 Submitted Slates for Election at the GSB Annual Meeting

GSB Class A Trustees (7)

GSB Class B Trustees (13 – there is one vacancy)

**GSB Officers** 

**AAWS Directors** 

**Grapevine Directors** 

Bylaws of the GSB be approved at annual meeting

Trustees

# Trustee Elections

- East Central Regional Trustee: Mark E. (Nominated by A/56 – SW Ohio)
- SE Regional Trustee: Kathy B.
   (Nominated by A73 West Va.)
- Trustee at Large/US: Newton P.
   (Nominated by SE Region, and A/51 N.C.)

## **Advisory Actions**

 The pamphlet "Too Young?" be revised to reflect more current collective experiences of young alcoholics and their welcome to A.A.

#### **Recommendation Not Approved**

 In order to reduce the current annual cost of more than fifty thousand dollars and set an example for the Fellowship regarding our principles of rotation and financial prudence, the General Service Board develop a plan to allow no more than the immediate past chair of the General Service Board and two other emeritus trustees to attend each board weekend and the annual General Service Conference.

#### **Recommendation Not Approved**

 That the submission letters for proposed agenda items be placed on the Conference dashboard.

## Floor Actions

#### Withdrawn

 The Conference adopt Option 1 on the translation of Conference background material into Spanish and French as it is presented in the agenda and background for Policy/Admissions.

#### **Conference Declined to Consider**

- The General Service Board develop a policy regarding limits on contributions to the Board from groups and other A.A. entities, recognizing that groups and entities are autonomous in regard to both giving and accepting contributions. A draft text or progress report be brought to the appropriate committee of the 2018 General Service Conference.
- The General Service Conference of A.A. extend an invitation to the Y.P.A.A. to have two of their members attend the 2018 General Service Conference as observers.

# Spiritual Experiences

• Everyone dressed with respect and dignity for the work we are doing and circling up after a long day and saying the Responsibility Statement with conviction.

# Spiritual Experiences

 Listening to the Panel 66's say their farewell's. For all the prep for the conference at NERAASA and NERD no one mentioned this and how emotional it was going to be

# FOUR SPECIAL NERDS

Kenny D, P66/A61, Rhode Island

Linda J, P66/A29 Maryland

Susan R, P66/A12 Delaware

John W, P67/A49 SENY

# And One Special Northeast Regional Trustee: Rich P

- Area Highlights
- I am beginning to like you more Joe
- Yes! When I was elected Delegate Chair of International Conventions/Regional Forums
- All that practice, practice, practice



# Next Steps

- Rooted at the Home Group
- And in the Community
- Provide informational updates from GSO
- As requested, attends district, groups, intergroup, and other meetings
- Encourage group Seventh Tradition participation
- Grapevine ambassador
- Don't touch that dial: More to be revealed...

# Thank You

# 67<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference of A.A.

April 23-29, 2017 – Rye Brook, NY

**Supporting Our Future** 

Soutenir Notre Avenir

Respaloar Nuestro Futuro

Report to Area, May 20, 2017
Joe S, Delegate, Panel 67, Area 47, CNY