

November 2022

Now & Then

Newsletter of Delegate Area 74

Northern Wisconsin & Upper Peninsula of Michigan

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Co-Editors: Jeff C. and Michelle Z.

Email: area74newsletter@gmail.com

Delegate's Corner

Greetings Area 74,

The Membership Survey is complete for Area 74, the completed paper copies have been mailed to the GSO, and two groups completed theirs electronically. Thanks to all that took the time to participate. The results of the survey will eventually be published, I am not sure of the timeline. One of the reasons for the survey was to try and figure out who is not in the rooms of AA, and then try to figure out how to share the message of Recovery with them.

The month of October has been busy with a lot of time on the road. On the 9th I attended the District 02 GSR meeting in beautiful Seymour WI, Home of the Hamburger. Next was the Intergroup meeting for District 20 held in Curtis MI, I really enjoyed the drive along Lake Michigan's Green Bay. On the 22nd, Shane R and I drove to Sturgeon Bay WI to attend the Spirit of Service workshop. The event was hosted by District 01 and District 22. All the meetings and events had great attendance but mostly, they all had great enthusiasm. Lastly, I attended the Area 74 Assembly in Three Lakes WI. Thank you to all who participated in these various events.

In addition to the road work mentioned above, all the Area 74 Archives Material has been delivered to our new Archivist, Jeff E. Within a relatively short time, Jeff has re-worked some of the Archives display material and then he brought that new look to the Spirit of Service Workshop in Sturgeon Bay.

Earlier in the month I sent an email to the DCM's, the Area Chairs, and the Area Officers which had a copy of the 180 Proposed Agenda Items (PAI) for 2023. Those Agenda Items will be reviewed by the appropriate Trustees subcommittee and then the final list of Agenda Items will be decided at the General Service Board weekend on January 29-31, 2023. The final list of Agenda Items should be available on 2-15-2023. If you want a copy of the 2023 PAI's, please let me know and I will send you a copy.

I have truly enjoyed the month of October. I have traveled all over our Area and met some new AA faces. The amount of time spent in being of service to AA has been a blessing to me. My sponsor told me early in my sobriety that as long as I put God's will for me ahead of other concerns, there will always be enough time. That has proven true, over and over again.

In loving service

Bryon B Delegate Panel 72 Area 74

715-579-5820

delegate@area74.org

FROM THE AREA 74 ALTERNATE DELEGATE/ AREA CHAIR

November is here! How did that happen? Can you believe we just finished our last assembly for 2022? We have 1 Area Committee Meeting remaining in December and our rotation is half over! Time certainly goes faster every year.

I recently had a birthday (belly button) and although I celebrated with an ear infection (insert sympathy for Nicholas), I am extra reflective around my birthday as this time of year marked the beginning of the end of my drinking. A couple of days before my birthday in 2008, I came to in a jail cell – unaware of how I got there. I later learned I had been in a horrific car accident in which, by the looks of the car, I should have been dead. I swore off drinking that day and within a few days I was a drunk and within 6 weeks was being arrested for another OWI.

It wasn't until I arrived at your doorstep that my life began to change for the better. Initially you were the power that allowed me to stay sober and you became my conduit to a power that would change my life.

I was fortunate enough to land in a group of people that practiced all 3 Legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous; Recovery, Unity, Service – each a pillar of my AA life today.

As 2023 is just around the corner and our dates to remember for next year are being finalized, let us begin our personal calendars by marking these dates off. I have been taught to build my calendar around my AA commitments.

I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in service,

Nicholas S

Panel 72, Area 74 Alt-Delegate / Area Chair

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Send Area 74 Contributions To: Area 74 Treasury

PO Box 171 Manistique, MI 49854

Very Important!! Please include group number, group name, and address of group location or point of contact

If there is only a group name and location, or contact address, please include this.

Thank You, Area 74 Treasurer treasurer@area74.org

PLEASE SEND ITEMS, ARTICLES, DISTRICT NEWS, STANDING COMMITTEE ARTICLES, GROUP OPINIONS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE UPCOMING ISSUES OF YOUR AREA 74 NEWSLETTER

Refer to www.area74.org for the most up to date info on AA and COVID19 ramifications

DATES TO REMEMBER 2022		
12/10/2022	Area Committee Mtg	Zoom

****NOTE FROM THE DELEGATE:** The servants of Area 74 are excited to provide the **dates for the Area 74 Service Structure**. We are lucky to live in an area that hosts many conferences, workshops and fellowship events. As your trusted servants, we sometimes miss the chance to participate in local events because they conflict with the service events you have entrusted us to conduct. We hope that, by providing the Area 74 service structure dates in early fall; they can be considered as you plan your service and fellowship events for the coming year. We look forward to seeing you.

NOTE FROM CO-EDITORS: We have combined the general events and the Area 74 Service Structure events into one calendar. **BOLD = AREA 74 events** UNBOLD = General AA events in our area

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ZOOM info for all Area 74 Service Meetings:

Meeting ID: 841 1096 5882

Passcode: 1212144

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,84110965882# US (New York)

+13017158592,,84110965882# US (Washington D.C)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84110965882?pwd=OWJScFNFRmhGSFI4ZEIYbkFYVGY0Zz09>

Invite an Area Committee to Present a Workshop to your District or group!

Ever wondered about why we have committees in Area Service or what these committees do? Have you thought about getting involved in a committee?

Learn about how AA works in Corrections, PI (Public Information), CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community), Grapevine, Literature, and Treatment & Accessibilities.

Learn about the role of Archives, Structures & Guidelines, Finance, the Webmaster, and the Now and Then.

You also get to strengthen your sobriety in AA when you meet new people from other communities who work the AA program.

All you have to do is ask! Find email addresses for Area 74 Committee Chairs at area74.org under “Directory” “Area Standing Committees”. Help us strengthen our ability to serve AA in Area 74.

CHECK WITH YOUR DCMs & OTHER TRUSTED SERVANTS FOR CURRENT INFO

DISTRICT MEETING Nov 2022 LIST					
1	Thursday	2nd Thur	6:30 PM	Zoom	Green Bay, WI
2	Sunday	2nd Sun	2:00 PM	1 st United Methodist 2300 w Wisconsin	Kaukauna, WI
3	Thursday	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave. Zoom info wiaadistrict3.org	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
4	Thursday	1st Thur	7:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S. Main St	Amherst, WI
5	Weds	2nd Wed	6:45 PM	Zoom ID 829 0126 1204 PW district05	
6	Thursday	3 rd Thur	7:45 PM	Club 76	Chippewa Falls
7	Sunday	3 rd Sun	5:00 PM	2111 S. Central Ave.	Marshfield
8	Thursday	1 st Thur	7:00 PM	Wausau Alano Club 711 McClellan St	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	Nov 13	2:00 PM	Augustine Catholic School, 507 Church St.	Oconto, WI
10	Saturday	2 nd Sat	9:00AM	1st United Methodist 724 Arbutus contact DCM for Zoom	Rhineland, WI
11				No information Available	
12	Saturday	1 st Sat	12:30 PM	Hayward Serenity Club, 10339 S Florida Ave & Zoom	Hayward, WI
13	Monday	1 st Mon	5:00 PM	Chequamegon Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave.	Ashland, WI
14	Sunday	2 nd Sun	5:30 PM	American Legion, Memorial Drive	Amery, WI
15				No information Available	
16				No information Available	
17	Monday	Last Mon	6:00 PM	105 W Fleshiem	Iron Mountain, WI
18	Saturday	Nov 5	11:00 AM	106 N Main St	Ishpeming, MI
19				No information Available	
20	Thursday	1 st Thur	11:00 AM	United Methodist Church, 1212 Morrison St	Germfask, MI
21	Tuesday	1 st Tues	6:00 PM	Portage Lake United Church, 1400 E. Houghton Ave	Houghton, MI
22	Thursday	1st Thur	6:00 PM	115 Club or Zoom: 399 417 5176 PW 115	Sturgeon Bay, WI
23	Weds	1st Wed	5:00 PM	Shell Lake Alano Club 267.807.9601 PW 983009#	Shell Lake, WI
24	Weds	1 st Wed	8:00 PM	Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

DISTRICT MEETING Dec 2022 LIST					
DIST	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
1	Thursday	2nd Thur	6:30 PM	Zoom	Green Bay, WI
2	Sunday	2nd Sun	2:00 PM	1 st United Methodist 2300 w Wisconsin	Kaukauna, WI
3	Thursday	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave. Zoom info wiaadistrict3.org	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
4	Thursday	1st Thur	7:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S. Main St	Amherst, WI
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23	Weds	1st Wed	5:00 PM	Shell Lake Alano Club 267.807.9601 PW 983009#	Shell Lake, WI
24	Weds	1 st Wed	8:00 PM	Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

Area 74 Fall Assembly Minutes Saturday, 9/17/22

Accepted 10-29-22

Quality Inn-Rhineland

Nicholas opened the meeting at 9:02 am, Brent-Timekeeper

Roll Call- **Area Officers:** Area Chair, Delegate, Secretary, Registrar, Treasurer

Committee Chairs: Corrections WI, Corrections MI, CPC, Finance, Grapevine Chair, Now & Then, Literature, Public Information, Structures & Guidelines

DCM's: 01 02 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 12 13 17 18

Past Delegates: Sara P, Marty L, Char V, Jeff C.

Approval of Minutes (5/121/22) Kendra DCM 02 motioned to approve minutes. Unanimously approved
Workshop Presentation – Concept 3 & 4 Kendra DCM 02-A 1,000 Foot View

Area Officer Reports (See Addendum 1) Chair-Nicholas

Secretary-Terri

Registrar-Kathy

Treasurer-Dean Delegate-Bryon Panel 72

Standing Committee Reports (See Addendum 2) Corrections WI-Hawk

Corrections MI-

CPC-Kevin

Finance-Dave working on 2023 Budget Grapevine-Char

Now & Then-Jeff C.

Literature-Bill

PI-Mike H. Mike spoke about an upcoming PI Zoom workshop. Feedback-Perhaps Lucas could attend the Area Assembly in October to give information about the Area 74 website.

Structures & Guidelines-Marybeth

Presentation about Delegates Past and Present Conference hosted by Area 19- Chicago:

Adam-Great experience, strength & hope. Extended fellowship of people he can share his life with & helpful to others.

Marty-Good round tables & panels, saw other Delegates; nice reunion with them. Networking was good.

James-Forums were the favorite, Alkathon went to midnight, spoke with staff from GSO & enjoyed, liked speaking to people in other regions.

Bryon-We belong to the East Central Region comprising 14 Delegate Areas. There was also a simultaneous IL State Conference convening at the same time, there were 4 Round Tables happening simultaneously, lots of discussions.

Char-The Conference rotated with the Forum, wants to know when Area 74 is supposed to host but not known at this time.

Nicholas-Spent time with Chairs from different areas, very informational, interactive & practical, wants to chat online with others who want to reach AA in their Area. Nicholas want to talk to members of Area 74 about the Area funding Area Service Reps to attend this Conference.

Old Business-

Area Treatment Chair vacancy. No nominations. Nicholas encouraged Area members to find willing servants in their Districts.

District 18 Motion: Area 74 to spend Area Contributions within the Area (see entire Motion, attached)

In 2020 the Area Assembly passed a Motion made by District 05 *to contribute \$5,000 to GSO*. The Area 74 Assembly approved that Motion. At the time, *District 18 DCM Gerianne*, brought the Motion forward. Discussion ensued:

Billy, the current DCM 18 indicated that the District felt the money should stay in the Area. *GSR Tracy* feels that when there is a group conscience as there was in the Area, the decision has been made.

Nicholas indicated that District 5 brought the original motion & opined that the intention of the motion was to send \$5,000 & there was substantial unanimity to send the money.

John District 06 DCM feels that at the time, the Assembly discussed the motion at length and found out that GSO indicated that Literature revenue hadn't been met and besides, there was a substantial unanimity vote.

Gary GSR Dist 18 said the money should stay in the Area.

Marty L. said that this District 18 motion is "reverse earmarking" and is a dangerous place to go.

Kevin CPC said that the Area expenses is something we vote on and that's what we did.

GSR John said that when a group, in this instance the Area, has more money than they know what to do with, they can decide to make a contribution.

GSR Alyssa reminded us of the Responsibility Statement- GSO is part of the service structure and they're responsible for seating our Delegate.

Jeff Panel 56 past Delegate said that we have a process spelled out in Concept IV, the right of participation. Many voted Yes on the original 2020 motion. Jeff is grateful we're having this conversation.

CALL THE VOTE ON DISTRICT 18 MOTION: MOTION FAILED YES-9 votes NO-39 votes

LUNCH

Finance Committee MOTION (see Motion, attached)-Dave Finance Chair spoke. He said that the motion is about Reimbursements. Registrar has met their budget limit and the Assembly needs to reimburse \$205.25 **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Finance Committee MOTION re: Adding verbiage to the current Area 74 Guidelines and also that a new section be added to the Area 74 Guidelines regarding the Area 74 Annual Budget. (see Motion, attached) Finance Chair Dave indicated that if we add the verbiage to the Guidelines, everyone can read them and know what to expect. **CALL THE VOTE. 44-YES & 0-NO** passes unanimously.

Archivist vacancy. District 01 DCM Lauren nominated Jeff E. Jeff spoke about the Area Guidelines Article 3, Section 10 which states the Archivist is the 'Keeper of the Past'. Very passionate about the history of AA. Vote: 47 YES & 1 NO Congratulations, Jeff.

New Business-

Vote on **2 Structures & Guidelines Motions** (see Motion, attached)

1. S&G implementation of Motion already passed in the Area Guidelines: Section 8.00 Treatment/Accessibilities, add verbiage.

CALL THE VOTE: 41-YES & 1-NO passed.

2. Area Guidelines change- As the result of a motion from **District 13 Motion Rebuild**, add: "Each Committee Chair to facilitate one Workshop or Sharing Session..."(see Motion attached) Heated discussion ensued. Many at the Assembly didn't understand exactly what the Motion entailed. Not enough information, confusion about the Area committee vs. Chairs. Others wanted more clarification about the Motion. DCM 13, Sunny spoke. Someone asked that the Spiritual intent of the Motion be explained. Sunny indicated that the intention is to have committees do one workshop per year. Gerianne withdrew S&G motion and stated that her committee will work with District 13 instead to insure that the Spirit of the Motion is being fulfilled. District 13 Motion passed unanimously. As the result, Structures & Guidelines withdrew their Motion and will work with District 13 to write verbiage for the Area Guidelines and to insure that the Spirit of the motion is being fulfilled.

Structures and Guidelines Committee member Vacancy: 2 year rotation for S&G Committee. Nicholas read the S&G open position description from the Area Guidelines. There were no nominations. Please take this back to your groups and it will be brought up at the Area Assembly on October 29 .

Finance Committee member Vacancy: 2 year rotation for Finance Committee. There were no nominations. Please take this back to your group and it will be brought up at the Area Assembly on Oct 29 .

Motion District 13 (see Motion, attached) "Increase amount of reimbursement to \$100. (Right now its \$75) Nicholas opened it up for discussion. Nicholas called the Motion. 43-YES & 0-NO. Passed Motion 2 verbiage change. Passed

Floor MOTION by Char V. (see Motion attached) "Increase Area Chair/Alternate Delegate travel expense to \$1,700". Current budget is \$1,300. Call the vote: 42 YES, 1 NO, 1 ABSTAIN.

Seed Money MOTION: (see Motion, attached) Amend amount of 'seed money' from \$1,000 to \$2,000. There was discussion by the last District to host a conference and they felt uneasy because they felt the 1,000 seed money they received wasn't enough. Lit Chair, Bill D. shared that the increase may allow other Districts to want to host Conferences. Kevin CPC chair agreed with that sentiment. *At this point, GSR Felicia offered a Friendly amendment to change the amount of the "Ask" to \$3,000. Sunny accepted. We need a 2/3 majority in order to change wording of a Motion. Dave, Finance Chair, stated that 'You don't need to ask for \$3,000 if you don't need it.' Call for Vote: 44 YES & 0-NO Passed

Corrections MOTION to add a budget line item to Corrections: "Add 1,500 to Corrections budget for Corrections Literature." (Motion, Attached) After a very heated debate, **Call the Question: 10 YES & 32 NO. Failed**

Conference Updates-

District 13 Conference recap - Spring 2022 in Ashland, 163 Attendees & 135 Banquet. Gain-\$1,209.48 & Returned to Area-\$2,000

District 01-Spring 2023, May 19-May 23.. DCM Lauren would like another \$1,000 seed money.

District 05 Motions to host the Fall 2023 Conference-Heated discussion ensued because of the distance involved with this being an Election Assembly & that a prior Motion had been passed to make future Election Conferences be held in a centrally located spots.

Motion: Area 74 waive the respective Guidelines for Fall and Guidelines for Election location in 2023. Call the Question: 42 YES & 0-NO. DCM

Shane indicated that there will be a functional committee formed with very much experiences with Conferences. Oct 15th is the date Shane offered. Majority passed.

District 13 Motion to host the 2024 Spring Conference May 17-19. Passed Closing and Wrap-Up @ 4:22 pm

Total Attendees & Participants at Assembly-**64 47-In Person**
17-Online

Area 74 Area Committee Meeting-DRAFT
Sunday September 18, 2022
Quality Inn-Rhineland

Area Chair Nicholas S. opened the meeting at 8:00 am

Roll call: (8 in-person & 20 Zoom @ the ACM)

Area Officers: Area Chair, Delegate, Secretary

Committee Chairs: Corrections MI, Corrections WI, CPC, Finance, Grapevine, Now & Then, Literature, Structures & Guidelines

DCM's: 1 2 4 5 9 12 13 18

Minutes approved from 05/22/2021 unanimously.

DCM Reports (See DCM Reports, attached)

Unfinished Business:

Area Conferences: There are 2 host Bids-Fall 2023 & Spring 2024

Discussion of Scheduling of Committees & Districts for Workshops (District 13 Motion)

Shane 05 opined that perhaps DCM's can express interest in which Committee they want at their District.

Kendra 02 said that a spread sheet could be made & Districts can fill in the sheet based on which committee is wanted at their District.

Sunny 13 wants PI

Bill-Literature wants to create enthusiasm for this. Q. Where did this come from?

A. District 13 Motion

Nicholas stated that December ACM Committees do workshops without an invitation. Committees can go to Districts. **Nicholas will create a spreadsheet for the December 2022 ACM & have a discussion...work in progress.**

Bryon Delegate said One committee per year goes to a district per year & that if the Districts have a request, they can set it up directly with the Committee Chair. Use the Standing Agenda item @ the ACM as a "check in". **If a Committee member talks to a District about a Workshop, let Nicholas know so he can put it on a Spread sheet.**

Marybeth-S&G thinks the Motion says that we cooperate with the Districts. Nicholas opines that he thinks the discussion could bring clarity but it could come up to the wording of this item in the Guidelines.

Dean-Treasurer Advertise this in the N&T to "advertise" that the Area is going to implement this.

Michelle-N&T co-editor said that the Committee chairs should reach out with simple communication & reminder to DCM's to contact Committee Chairs to do a workshop in their Districts. A 'captive audience' at an Area Conference would be a good idea.

Char-GV wrt to Finance, expenses will show how buy committees are. As an Area, maybe a Committee chair should do a presentation at the Area Conferences.

Lauren 01-DCM's should come forward asking committees to do a workshop. For "darker" districts, maybe Committee chairs should reach out and find contacts in those Districts.

Kevin CPC- will reach out to Districts and reinvigorate the Area and get some conversations going.

Hybrid Follow-up: Nicholas indicated that the new equipment worked well at the Assembly on Saturday but there were some audio issues. Feedback from the "ZOOM" crowd: It went smoothly except for one glitch, went very well, Shannon & Brian are doing a wonderful job, there were some distractions, Very good...kudos to the engineers, likes being online and having flexibility, our district meeting is Zoom only but would like to explore Hybrid capabilities for adding in-person.

New Business:

Dates to Remember 2023:

*Delegate's Workshop- ACM same day after the workshop. Nicholas will use his best judgment to determine if future service meetings should be at the Quality Inn or the Reiter Center.

*Winter Assembly: April 15, 2023

*Stand alone ACM's will always be Zoom going forward

*ACM December 16, 2023

*Fall Assembly October 28, 2023

*FALL Assembly Elections will be geographically centrally located

*Shane questioned this because their District is hosting an Election Assembly/Conference in Eau Claire which is not centrally located.

*Char reminded everyone that the last Election Assembly was held at the Reiter Center as a stand alone election. Char supports Stand-Alone Elections.

*Nicholas asked if the ACM can make a change to the Guidelines to do a stand alone election next October, not at the Conference.

Can we honor the Conference and have a stand alone election?

Nicholas stated that we have elections in October 2023. He will present a Stand-Alone Election Motion at the Fall Assembly in Three Lakes on October 20, 2022.

Nicholas closed the ACM at 9:58 am

In Service, Terri

DCM REPORTS-ACM September 18, 2022

TO: Terri B., Secretary, Area 74 AA Organization
FROM: Sunny LaPointe, DCM District 13
DATE: Thursday, September 15, 2022

Subject: Report thru September 2022

District 13 is located in Ashland and Bayfield Counties of North Wisconsin. The District Committee meeting is usually held on the 1st Monday of each month at 5:00 pm or 6:00 pm. The Chequamegon Bay Serenity Club is no longer active, and the district meeting has moved to PIRC Partners In Recovery Club. Due to the PIRC being closed for the Covid 19 pandemic, the district was using alternative sites to meet. The PIRC reopened May 30, 2022

Meeting Schedule: There are 23 Monday thru Sunday meetings. 1 seasonal meeting that meets in the warm season. Since March 2020 some groups and meetings were inactive. Some meetings met and still meet by zoom or hybrid. The meeting schedule is updated as needed. The AA Meeting app was filled out and submitted to Area 74 org's webmaster for uploading and available on the internet.

Website: The district has been making learning how to develop and have its own website.

Financial: Financial situation is that the district is maintaining a positive financial balance.

Phone: "Hot Line" (715) 682-4460: The phone company provider was changed to Freedom Voice and with the Meeting App, running now we are not getting many calls on the hotline now.

Corrections: There has been no meetings at either Ashland or Bayfield County jails.

Bayfield County Jail: The men's and woman's meeting are inactive.

Ashland County Jail: The men's and women's meetings are inactive.

Elections: The District held elections October 2021 and mentions each month about open committee positions. Current filled positions are: District Committee Member, Alternate District Committee Member, Treasurer and Secretary. Some of the positions are filled by same person and positions are continuous as the district committee is small in members.

Area 74 AA Organization: The district members advise of the agenda items that occurs and does an overview of the agenda items as needed. Also reviewed and some items were discussed about the GSC agenda items. The districts' meeting for July had an outreach presentation by Keith W. chairman of Cooperation with Professional Community. The session was very informative.

May 2022 Conference: District 13 hosted the May 20th, 21st, 22nd, 2022 spring conference that was approved by the Area 74 Assembly. The district's conference chairperson has done a report.

May 2024 Conference Bid: We have booked the motel for the three days needed for the conference of May 2024. The bid will be presented to the Area 74 Assembly on Saturday September 17th .

End of report

District 05 Shane

District meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:45PM on Zoom. We have an average of 10-15 active GSRs at our monthly meetings. All committees are active with the exception of CPC, have not been able to fill the chair position and there is no active committee. We are studying one concept each month with GSRs rotating the responsibility of presenting.

- PI committee has been active with informational booths at local events. Treatment committee is coordinating Bridging the Gap presentations at three local treatment facilities. Corrections is coordinating meetings at three county jails. Special Accessibilities has a meeting going into an assisted living facility for a local member with over 50 years of sobriety who is unable to travel out for meetings.
- Eau Claire is hosting WICYPAA January 6-8 at the Lismore Hotel. Please spread the word and consider attending. Registration information is available at www.wicypaa.org. Eau Claire is also the location of the Recovery on the River Jamboree, a three day conference featuring AA and Al-Anon speakers, panels, and workshops. The event is October 7-9 at the Best Western Plus. Register now at www.recoveryontheriver.org.
- District 5 has hosted several workshops and fellowship events this past summer and continues to be active with events planned through this fall.
- District 5 is planning a bid committee meeting for the Area 74 2023 Fall Conference on October 15 via Zoom. More information to follow at the October assembly.

District 04

Dennis G DCM

District meetings are held in-person. The 1st Thursday of the month at 7pm. Held at Peace Lutheran Church Amherst. At present the district has 24 in-person meetings and 2 online meeting. One meeting will be going to inactive at the end of the month. The GSR has stated lack of attendance is the reason. There are a number of meetings in that area. The district held the summer picnic. Despite the rainy weather there were 65 in attendance. We have one position open. A A Archives chair needed at this time.

To spend down some of the districts excess revenue: A Shindig/Mini conference is being held October 15 at the Jensen Community Center 487 N Main St. Amherst WI 54406. Starting at 8am and running till 7pm. There will be Meetings, Speakers, Panels and a Hospitality area. Any questions contact, Aaron M.

messier.aaron@gmail.com

Ethan.Edodd45@gmail.com

Also to spend down excess revenue. The district made a literature purchase to be distributed as such: 40% to meetings, 20% to treatment, 20% to jails, and 20% to sober houses. The literature has been purchased and distributed by the Literature Chair

Hi! My name is Lauren and I am the DCM for District 01! We meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month at Nativity Church in Ashwaubenon. We also meet hybrid. We have been discussing moving our meetings to all in person. We currently have our zoom account paid through March so we plan to stay hybrid until then, but we are going to try all in person at our December meeting and see how it goes! Hopefully jail meetings will be started soon on zoom as our corrections chairs have been working relentlessly to get something started

again. On October 22 District 01 and District 22 are hosting a Workshop called "Spirit of Service". This will be held at Hope United Church of Christ in Sturgeon Bay, WI 9am-4pm. We will have panels all throughout the day of the different levels of service positions in AA. Hope to see you all there!

Yours in service,
Lauren

District 12 - 09/18/2022

Hello, I'm Tom W., Alcoholic and DCM of District 12 in NW Wisconsin. Currently, our district lists 21 in-person meetings and no hybrid or virtual meetings. Meeting attendance generally was a little higher over the summer months due to the influx of seasonal residents and visitors. The district meeting is normally held at 9 AM on the first Saturday of the month. The location is hybrid at the Hayward Serenity Club and on Zoom. Attendance typically runs from 6-10 people. Each meeting begins with a volunteer presentation on a service concept or tradition.

Kevin W., Area 74 CPC chairperson attended the August district meeting where he shared his perspective on CPC work. The district voted to combine the CPC and PI committees and elected a new chairperson. Vacancies in several other committees still exist. Recently, an ad hoc committee was formed to consider ideas for holding future service and fellowship events. The district is financially sound, and the helpline and website are functioning well. Meetings for women are being held at the Sawyer County Jail and the District is currently seeking volunteers to lead men's meetings.

District 02

My name is Kendra, alcoholic, serving as DCM for District 02. We serve central Wisconsin counties: Calumet, Winnebago, Outagamie, and parts of Shawano, Brown, and Waupaca. We have 121 registered AA groups in our footprint.

Our monthly GSR Round tables start at 1:00p on the second Sunday of the month followed by our district meetings starting at 2:00pm CST. Currently our district meetings are held hybrid with physical location rotating among our six sub-districts (A, B, C, D, E, F). We are the only district in Area 74 with Local Committee Members (LCMs) to assist the DCM in visiting the AA groups. We have five open service positions: (4) LCMs and Alt-DCM.

We have the following upcoming events:

Eatin' Meetin' Intergroup is on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 809 S Commercial St, Neenah. Doors open at 5:00p, dinner at 6:00p, speakers at 7:00p. Raffle drawings, door prizes, potluck and fellowship.

Annual Moose & Goose Corrections Literature Benefit is on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 349 N Main St, Seymour. Doors open at 5:00p, dinner at 6:00p, speakers at 7:30p. This is a one-night event that has speakers who have lived experience behind the walls - former inmates. Raffle drawings, silent auction, door prizes, potluck and fellowship. Donations are used to purchase AA literature for corrections facilities in Area 74.

Stay Close,

Kendra R., DCM

District 02, Area 74 Rule 62 Advocate



WAUPACA AA AREA INTERGROUP

Saturday Nov. 12

Doors open at 5:00

Spaghetti Dinner at 6:00

AA Speaker at 7:00

Barb W.

Past Delegate, Area 75

Brighton, WI

Bring a Dish to Pass

Prizes and a 50/50 drawing

AA Literature Available for Purchase

Faith Community Church, N2541 County Rd K, Waupaca, WI 54981

Sponsored by the Speakeasy Group

U.P TRAVELING INTERGROUP

Where:

St. John Catholic

Sponsored by:

TnT Group

When: November 12th

TIMES: CORRECTIONS 4PM

GSR 5PM

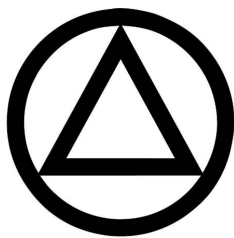
Dinner 6pm

Al-Anon/AA Speakers 7pm

***PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING
A DISH TO PASS***

2023 Area 74 Spring Conference

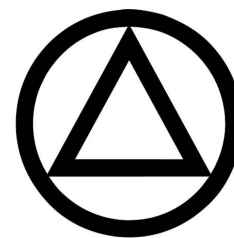
May 19-21, 2023 • Green Bay, WI



Radisson Hotel & Conference Center

2040 Airport Dr. • Green Bay, WI 54313

Rooms: \$99 single/double



Reservations call 920.494.7300 – provide conference name to receive above rate

Friday Night: Meet & Greet activity, Interview w/Jeff C., and skit!

Saturday: Panels - AA and Al-Anon

Al-Anon speaker, banquet & AA speaker & Assembly.

Sunday Morning: Area committee meeting & Spirituality Speaker

Friday Night begins with a meet and greet activity followed by an interview w/ Jeff C. The evening ends with original skit!

On Saturday enjoy panels, Al-Anon speaker, banquet, and AA speaker. Also, Area Assembly and Delegates report.

Sunday morning wraps up with the Area Committee meeting and a spiritual message from our main speaker.

ONE FORM PER PERSON

Please check: _____AA _____Al-Anon

First Name: _____ Registration ONLY... \$ 20.00

Last Name: _____

Address: _____ Banquet, **ADD \$25.00...** \$ _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** _____

Name to appear on your badge: _____

Phone (____) _____

Email: _____

Makes checks payable to “Area 74 Spring Conference” PO Box 13242, Green Bay, WI 54307. **Deadlines for banquet submission: May 5, 2023**

Questions? Call Kimberly 231.622.3743/kimmyschuyler@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!!

Area 74 Spring Conference

May 17,18,19, 2024

Americinn - Ashland, WI.

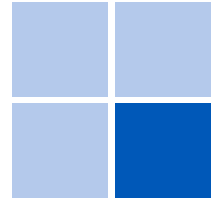
“This is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it”

From Chapter Seven, Page 89 of our Big Book

New comers in recovery - FREE Registration for those with one year or less of sobriety.

Speakers, Panels, A.A. Meetings, Dining, Dancing, Hospitality, Fellowship, Ice Cream and Music! More to be revealed! See you There!!

Quarterly Report from G.S.O.



Activities of the General Service Board Including A.A. World Services, Inc., AA Grapevine, Inc.

This is a confidential bulletin, for use only within A.A.

September 2022

General Service Board Meeting

The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. held its quarterly meeting at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn, NY, on Monday, August 1, 2022. Linda Chezem, Chair of the General Service Board, presided. The chair warmly welcomed all present. All committees met July 30-31. Highlights of committee reports appear below.

Archives

The committee made one minor edit to its Composition, Scope and Procedure, which was approved. The committee discussed the necessity of showing full faces to comprehend American Sign Language (ASL) and the anonymity challenges that presents for archival interviews of members who are deaf. The Archivist will do more research and present a report at the October meeting.

Conference

The committee and the General Service Board approved observers to the 2023 General Service Conference from service structures in Mexico, Peru, and Poland. The committee agreed to seek request for information (RFI) proposals from two vendors to explore potential sites for the 2024 General Service Conference to be held outside of New York City, while acknowledging that the current Conference Charter states that the Conference will meet yearly in the City of New York. The committee noted its support for every effort and means feasible to make background available simultaneously in English, French, and Spanish as expeditiously as possible.

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment

The committee noted the usefulness of the LinkedIn page for sharing information with professionals and helping to clarify misunderstandings and misconceptions about A.A. The committee reviewed a final draft of the Conference-approved pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community" and found the information in the draft was balanced, modern, and substantive. The committee reviewed the progress report on military audio interviews provided by its two appointed consultants and offered additional guidance. The committee

also reviewed the progress report on Bridging the Gap workbook and expressed appreciation for the ongoing work.

Corrections

The Publishing Director provided an update on the growing use of tablets in correctional settings, noting there are more than 200,000 tablets providing A.A. literature inside correctional settings within the U.S. The committee discussed corrections service in Canada, including the use of tablets inside correctional settings and raising awareness of Corrections Correspondence Service in Canada.

The committee noted the enthusiastic responses from the Fellowship on their experiences regarding sponsoring "inside" A.A. members.

Finance

GSO Financial Results

The committee reviewed the GSO unaudited financial results for June 30, 2022. Year-to-date gross literature sales are \$5,764,906. This represents 52% of the 2022 reforecast budget of \$11,000,000 and is \$29,201 more than last year. Year-to-date literature gross margin is \$2,744,100, which is 51% of the 2022 reforecast budget of \$5,390,000 and \$643,294 less than last year.

Year-to-date contributions are \$5,011,648. This represents 46% of the 2022 reforecast budget of \$11,000,000 and is \$35,332 more than last year. Historically, 44% to 46% of annual contributions are received in the first half of the year. Year to date, 22% of contributions have been received online. On average, a contribution made online costs \$2.67 less to process than a contribution made by check. The committee expressed its gratitude to the Fellowship for the continuing Seventh Tradition support.

Total operating revenue for the first six months of the year was \$8,106,647, which is 49% of the reforecast budget of \$16,714,400 and \$493,877 less than last year.

Year-to-date payroll and benefits expense is \$4,671,237, which is 45% of the reforecast budget amount of \$10,479,728 and \$136,016 more than last year. Year-to-date professional fees are \$671,244, which is 36% of the reforecast budget amount of \$1,868,458 and \$408,852 less than last year. Year-to-date facility and equipment expense is

Mail address: Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

\$1,203,178, which is 54% of the reforecast budget amount of \$2,238,063 and \$176,442 more than last year. The increase in facility and equipment expense is due to an increase in depreciation.

Total operating expense year to date is \$8,221,046, which is 45% of the reforecast budget amount of \$18,091,497 and \$610,758 more than last year. The increase from last year is primarily due to travel and meetings resuming after pandemic-related cancellations last year.

The combination of the above revenues and expenses resulted in GSO reporting an operating deficit to date of \$114,399 compared with a reforecast budget operating deficit of \$797,225 and an operating surplus of \$990,236 at this time last year.

The GSO financial report was accepted by the committee with an understanding that receivables and sales have a correction pending.

GSO 2022 Budget Reforecast

There is a reforecast of the budget for 2022. Total operating revenue is projected to be \$16,714,400 and total operating expense is budgeted at \$18,091,497, resulting in a deficit of \$1,377,097.

However, the budget anticipates an increase of \$1,111,802 in cash, primarily because the budgeted depreciation expense of \$1,063,138 is a non-cash expense. The committee discussed in detail the reductions and additions proposed in the reforecast budget. They also discussed being prudent with expenses. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the reforecast budget, with one minority opinion expressed.

Reserve Fund

As of June 30, the reserve fund balance net of Grapevine subscription liability is \$12,892,600, which represents 7.57 months of 2022 G.S.O., Grapevine, and La Viña reforecast expenses.

Reserve Fund Policy Draft

Kevin Prior, GSB treasurer, reported to the committee on the status of the reserve fund policy and guidelines project and sought additional input from the Committee. The chair noted that a revised document would be brought to the Committee's October meeting for further discussion.

Grapevine Financial Results

The Committee reviewed the unaudited financial results for the period ending June 30, 2022. Average paid circulation of the Grapevine magazine was 52,661, compared with a reforecast budget of 55,571 and 2021 actual of 58,444. Total revenue for the first six months was \$799,585 which is \$295 less than budgeted and \$205,396 less than the \$1,004,981 achieved in 2021.

Total costs and expenses of the magazine were \$980,631, which were \$139,231 higher than budgeted and \$194,779 more than the \$785,852 in 2021. After adding interest

earned, there was a net loss for the period ending June 30, 2022, of \$181,046, compared with a budgeted net loss of \$41,520 and a surplus of \$219,130 the prior year.

Grapevine 2022 Budget Reforecast

For the year 2022, there is a reforecast of the budget. The 2022 reforecast budget assumes an average paid circulation of the Grapevine magazine of 55,571 compared with 56,081 last year.

Total revenue for the year is estimated to be \$1,534,521 compared with \$1,696,310 in 2021. Total expenses which include editorial, circulation, and general and management costs are budgeted at \$1,796,739 compared with \$1,808,929 last year. After adding interest earned there is a budgeted deficit of \$262,218 compared with a deficit of \$112,618 the previous year.

La Viña Results

For the unaudited results for the period ending June 30, 2022, average paid magazine subscriptions for La Viña were 6,281 compared with a reforecast budget of 6,216 and 6,312 in 2021. Total revenue was \$27,785 compared with a budget of \$11,566 and \$24,146 in 2021.

Total expenses were \$258,846 compared with a budget of \$210,207 and \$204,924 the prior year. The excess of expenses over revenue was \$231,061. This compares with a budgeted deficit of \$198,641 and a deficit of \$180,777 in 2021. The shortfall for the La Viña service activity has been funded by a transfer from the General Fund of the GSB.

La Viña 2022 Budget Reforecast

There is a reforecast of the budget for 2022. The 2022 reforecast budget for La Viña assumes an average paid magazine circulation of 6,216, compared with 6,312 in 2021. Subscription revenue net of direct costs is estimated to be (\$19,007) and content-related revenue is expected to be \$22,740 for total revenue of \$3,733, compared with \$41,163 the prior year.

Total expense is estimated to be \$561,456, compared with \$429,809 the previous year. This creates a budgeted bottom-line deficit of \$557,723, compared with a deficit of \$388,646 in 2021.

AAWS Report on Self-support

The Self-support Subcommittee discussed streamlining the online contribution portal, including making it easier for groups to find their group number; updating the Seventh Tradition Fact Sheet that explains how group and member contributions help alcoholics around the corner and around the world; and the report on shared experience regarding passing the "virtual" basket.

General Sharing Session

Josh E., General Service Trustee, warmly welcomed friends new and old who are exploring new assignments, new committees, and new roles and responsibilities on our boards and at our offices. Participants had been asked to

consider in advance the following questions: “What is my job?”; “Where are its boundaries?”; “What requires my direct action, and where should I delegate?”; “Am I capable of delegation?” and “Where are the lines, and how can I stay on my side of them?” The following excerpt from the essay on Concept X was shared:

An outstanding characteristic of every good operational structure is that it guarantees harmonious and effective function by relating its several parts and people in such a way that none can doubt what their respective responsibilities and corresponding authorities actually are. Unless these attributes are well defined; unless those holding the final authority are able and willing properly to delegate and maintain a suitable operational authority; unless those holding such delegated authority feel able and willing to use their delegated authority freely as trusted servants; and unless there exists some definite means of interpreting and deciding doubtful situations — then personal clashes, confusion, and ineffectiveness will be inevitable.

The sharing opened with the chair relating his journey serving as an appointed committee member, then a non-trustee director, and now a trustee. He admitted to “stepping on a lot of toes” along the way and emphasized the importance of clarifying roles and responsibilities.

A director shared about his journey in service, how he lost elections in the local service structure in his area but was then selected to serve in his current role on the Grapevine board.

An AAWS director shared, “Seeing the result of the service work we do sometimes is incredibly hopeful. I was told I am needed, valued, and wanted in Alcoholics Anonymous — and that is why I am here.”

A regional trustee explained that he is here because he was dying of alcoholism and was introduced to someone with a spiritual solution who helped him recover. He recalled informing his sponsor that he was willing to do anything to stay sober, which informs his attitude toward service today. In his early years, with his limited experience, he “needed” others in A.A. to do things “the right way”; however, as he continued in service, he grew to see how many varied experiences there are in A.A. “When I listen to these other experiences, I am more equipped to help carry the message better.”

Another trustee shared that to be part of A.A., she has learned that you must be involved. A quote she remembered was, “God doesn’t call on the qualified: he qualifies the called.” She’s learned that, when asked if you are willing and able to serve, you say “yes.”

A director spoke about not showing up for her role as a GSR early in sobriety, but how later she was asked to serve as a DCM and was able to make amends. She was terrified to be vulnerable in roles at the bottom of the triangle. Being afraid of “what people would think” got in the way of her speaking up, but she learned to walk through the challenge. The more she gives to A.A., the more she feels that she owes to A.A.

A Class A trustee believes he is here because of his higher power. The ties and connections that linked him to serving on the General Service Board are spiritual for him. He shared about the spiritual experience of coming to realize what his roles and responsibilities were, so connecting with Concept X was easy to do.

A trustee-at-large stated that the question of why she was here was simple: Because the Fellowship elected her to serve. “The Twelve Steps have never been more important in my life than they are right now in my service journey.” A.A. principles help keep her “right-sized” and she acknowledged that feeling “less than” is not right-sized. She noted she believes firmly that to use her voice is to participate and to help to carry the A.A. message. She described her experience of the group conscience — how we come together to include the totality all perspectives, especially those she would have never thought of — is “magical.”

The AAWS chair expressed that she is here to serve both those in her family who have suffered tremendously from this illness, and those who may in the future. “We all want to be the director, we all have flaws, and knowing what my job is helps guide me to be more helpful and less controlling.”

One regional trustee spoke of “being here” because she put her name forward with grace and dignity and trusted the group conscience. She expressed how being at the bottom of the triangle helps her to see the bigger picture, and how bringing that information back home absolutely helps to carry the A.A. message. “We need not sell ourselves short; any of us can be of service in various ways.”

Another regional trustee described how he was taken “all the way back to the beginning” by the question, “Why am I here?” All the things he has learned and walked through — all the perspectives and many service opportunities — have brought him to where he is today. His answer to “Why I am here?” was clear: “to help carry the message of all of A.A.’s principles.”

The chair thanked all the participants for sharing from a vulnerable place. He expressed that it may be beneficial if we break down the formalities and the business to help allow us to be open and intimate with each other while we continue to grow together. The Sharing Session closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

International

The committee noted with appreciation the proposed new AAWS accounting procedures for the International Literature Fund (ILF) and World Service Meeting (WSM) Fund. The committee also noted the responsibility and the importance that these funds be maintained by AAWS, and clearly and accurately reported to the World Service Meeting.

International Convention/Regional Forums

International Conventions: The committee reviewed and accepted a Q3 update submitted by Talley Management,

International Convention Consultant, reflecting planning activities to date regarding the 2025 International Convention. The update included assurances that the current housing inventory (including hotels, dorms, and AirBnB) will be sufficient to satisfy housing needs. Additionally, the size and configuration of BC Place as well as the Vancouver Convention are well suited for our needs and will in fact serve to decrease production costs. The 2025 International Convention Membership Engagement Survey was distributed to the Fellowship (including International GSOs). The deadline for responses is October 31, 2022.

Regional Forums: The North/South Connections Virtual Special Forum was held on July 16 in collaboration with the service structures of Argentina and Chile. With 532 total registration and 345 peak attendance the Forum featured a total of 18 speakers – six each from the U.S./Canada, Argentina, and Chile service structures. The topics highlighted the obstacles of language, culture, and geography members overcame to carry A.A.’s message of hope into remote communities.

Literature

The committee reviewed progress reports on several ongoing projects including the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic,” the development of a Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos*, and the development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The committee requested that regarding the development of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American,” the new ACM establish and lead the implementation of the process for the pamphlet update. The committee also requested that the ACM form a working group made up of members of the intended audience with a note that members of the indigenous communities of Hawaii have asked to be included in this pamphlet.

The committee also reviewed a progress report on the translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language. The committee initiated a conversation on respecting A.A.’s spiritual foundations by keeping the Twelve Steps intact and in place in Chapter 5 and placing a possible differently formatted/designed plain language translation afterwards. That discussion will be continued at the October meeting.

Nominating

The committee noted the status of appointed committee members and consultants serving on trustees’ committees of the General Service Board in 2022–23, and vacancies for two regional trustees and trustee-at-large/Canada in 2023. The committee also noted the development of an information packet for Class A candidates in the previous year and continued their discussion on the development of recruitment approaches for Class A trustees. The committee agreed that developing proactive approaches and tools could be useful to identify Class A trustee candidates.

Public Information

The committee approved the revised 2022 Membership Survey questionnaire amended by the survey methodologist according to the 2022 Advisory Action. The committee reviewed and agreed that the project plan to administer the 2022 Membership Survey is comprehensive and will accomplish the goal of producing effective results. The committee approved the Young People’s Video Project to move forward as presented in 2022 with communications about this exciting new version of this project to come out in late August.

The committee approved GSO Communication Services department’s request to implement the Online Business Profiles management process presented for their consideration. The committee discussed the plan to manage the three business profiles on Google, Bing, and Yelp. The committee understands there is a public comment feature on each of the three claimed profiles that cannot be turned off or removed and agreed that this is an opportunity to further our public relations in this channel and to answer basic questions with standardized answers, ultimately guiding users to our communication channels on aa.org.

A.A. World Services

Since its January 2022 meeting, the A.A. World Services (AAWS) Corporate Board has met eight times: March 9 (Strategic Planning), March 10, April 27, May 10, May 31, June 17, June 24 (New Director Orientation and Strategic Planning), and June 25. During this same period, the A.A.W.S. Finance, Publishing, Technology/Communication/Services, and Internal Audit committees each met at least three times.

Administration

On March 14, after two years of remote work, another significant step was taken: all GSO and Grapevine employees returned to the office according to their hybrid work schedules. The Return-to-Workplace Task Force Committee will continue to meet and discuss all aspects of the return to the office, including health and safety protocols and the important topic of opening the office to outside visitors. There is continued collaboration and sharing with the GSO Staff and others throughout the office regarding document translation and the spiritual and practical aspects of background. The office will implement substantial process and restructuring of the document translation process, which includes increased staffing to allow for a swift, proactive approach to translations as items are identified. Discussions also continue regarding the reorganization of the functions of intellectual property, copyrights, and translations and licensing. Assessment of the related volume of this work and its process workflow has provided clarity, informing plans to bring efficiency and improvement in the delivery of these services.

Archives

A newly revised Archives Workbook (M-44i), encompassing about three years of changes, was printed (English

version only) in July. The workbook contains new shared experience from local archivists, revised policies, and other minor updates. The Spanish and French translations are in progress. Throughout the year, work papers and other materials from the daughters of former GSO Staff member Eve M. (employed at the GSO circa 1954–68) were periodically shipped to the office. The final shipment of materials was received in early July. The impressive collection includes a few audio recordings (one of Bill W. in 1948) that are not in our current holdings; lovely photos of Eve with Bill and Lois; and letters and other writings.

Human Resources

Turnover is down from 10% in first quarter to less than 1% in the second quarter. (There have been nine resignations in total.) Important to note that our newly hired HR Director and Executive/Legal Administrator both began employment in August. Spanish Translator, French Translator, and Document Translations Manager positions have been posted and the recruiting process has begun.

Operations

From January to June 2022, the team received and responded to approximately 15,650 unique email inquiries. During this same period, they received about 4,400 phone calls and performed 3,343 area/district/group updates in NetSuite. Area Registrars performed 4,891 Fellowship Connection updates. The team processed and managed 15,750 literature orders during the first six months of 2022. Additionally, 4,607 phone calls were received and routed through our front desk reception.

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. We continue to conduct Fellowship Connection training sessions for new Area Registrars and to facilitate quarterly sharing sessions with Area Registrars.

Technology Services

The team has made great progress and is using NetSuite's native Support Case functionality to support translation and license requests (four complete for A.A. India, five nearing completion with A.A. Japan). Next steps will involve integrating DocuSign and extending the Fellowship Connection technical infrastructure.

Services Summary

Accessibilities /LIM: Updates to the "A.A. Guidelines on Accessibilities for All Alcoholics" are ready for the next printing. In response to a Conference committee consideration, work has also begun on gathering more stories for the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic." The goal is to have a broader, more diverse representation of A.A. experience, including diverse ethnicities, cultures, and languages; LGBTQ+ communities; varied spiritual paths; and experience attending online meetings.

Conference: The business of the 72nd General Service

Conference was completed with 82 agenda items and nine submitted floor actions, resulting in 35 Advisory Actions and 78 committee considerations. Post-Conference meetings provided specific insight into what went well at the Conference as well as what areas have room for improvement, and ensured that all 72nd General Service Conference Advisory Actions have been reviewed and appropriate implementation planned. With a September 15 deadline for receipt of proposed Agenda items, work has already begun on planning the 73rd General Service Conference.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: The LinkedIn page now has 2,036 followers.

The spring 2022 issue of *About A.A.* went out in April. The issue focuses on efforts to reach out to mental health professionals, looks at "A.A. as a Resource Around the World" and introduces three new Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees of A.A.'s General Service Board.

Corrections: The staff member requested shared experience from the Fellowship on sponsoring A.A. members in custody; a summary report was provided to the trustees' Corrections Committee at their July meeting.

Group Services: The newly reinstated Service Unit is up and running, and is reviewing and updating service material as needed. Quarterly Fellowship Connection sharing sessions with Area Registrars continue to foster relationships and improve Fellowship Connection functionality.

International: In July, the International desk conducted a GSO Sweep (a systematic effort designed to update contact information for the International GSOs). The sweep included a request for information on group and member estimates, along with a first-time "yes/no" question regarding whether the GSO lists virtual groups. Some GSOs have expressed that due the pandemic it had been challenging to have a full sense of their membership estimates from 2021. The International desk is currently developing the agenda for the 27th WSM (virtual) October 1-6, 2022. The theme is "Carrying the Message of A.A. in the Digital Age."

Literature: The Literature desk worked with the Technology Services department to create a dedicated story submission page for the Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* (Spanish Big Book) and the "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic" pamphlet update. The submission tool features easy-to-find writing guidelines and a story upload function, and is available in English, French and Spanish on the aa.org website. We expect this to be an invaluable tool for current and future A.A. literature updates involving the Fellowship's personal stories of recovery.

Nominating: Informed by the "digital first" approach, the Nominating assignment distributed virtual announcements for the upcoming openings for Northeast Regional Trustee, Southwest Regional Trustee, and Trustee-at-Large Canada.

Public Information: Two newly developed PSAs offer a message of hope for people with a drinking problem and already have been picked up by news media sources 534

times, with a total potential audience of 192,067,172. The GSO podcast project is also moving along apace, the result of a collaborative effort with GSO's Communication Services and Publishing departments.

Regional Forums: Two successful Regional Forums have taken place in Canada already. We look forward to the Pacific Regional Forum slated for Salt Lake City in September and the Southeast Regional Forum in New Orleans in December.

Board Committees

Finance: The board accepted the Finance department reports in March, June, and July.

- Cost of goods sold continues to be the most significant concern. Year-to-date cost of goods sold is \$2,784,635, which is 64% of the budget of \$4,356,000 and \$485,941 more than last year. Year-to-date cost of goods was 48% of gross sales in June compared with a budget of 40% of gross sales.
- With fiscal prudence and responsibility to the Fellowship in mind, the board had a full and robust discussion of the 2022 Reforecast Budget

The board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Finance Committee:

That the General Service Board open a separate bank account for the International Literature Fund.

That a recommendation be forwarded to the trustees' Finance Committee requesting that the General Service Board open a separate bank account for the World Service Meeting fund.

Acceptance of the proposed budget reforecast (3.0) and forwarding to the trustees' Finance & Budgetary Committee.

Publishing: The board accepted the Publishing committee reports in March, June, and July, highlighting the following information:

- Executive Editor Ames S. is on long-term medical leave. The Publishing Director and the Managing Editor are working closely with the General Manager, assessing and redistributing responsibilities to others both inside and outside the department.
- Worldwide paper, printing, manufacturing, trucking and other delivery disruptions continue to beset the supply chain, causing backorders of books throughout the publishing industry.
- The team focused on Native American, First Nations and Indigenous languages is meeting bi-weekly with a local member who will scout out local participation with Inuktitut translations. Thus far, several people have been identified to assist with three dialects.
- Publishing Director David R. and Managing Editor Julia D. plan to provide TABB with selected chapters of the *Fourth Edition* Alcoholics Anonymous (*Plain Language*) translation for review in September.
- Ed Nyland provided issues, options, and possible solu-

tions to using staple-less pamphlets. The board requested more research on the options presented.

- Implementation has begun on the new jacket-less format for the next printings of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, in efforts to reduce backorders, streamline turnaround time, and bring the book to the Fellowship in a timely manner. This format will help us better navigate supply-chain disruptions, saving in off-press delivery time as well as expense. The first printing is scheduled to start in mid-October, to be completed November/December 2022.
- Due to a typographical error, the text of the Long Form of Tradition Eight was inadvertently repeated in the Long Form of Tradition Nine (page 177) in this edition of the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. The accurate full text of Tradition Nine (Long Form) appears on page 178. A full printing error remediation was implemented with digital and printed 'Erratum' sheet notices. An extra freelance proofing stage for final files of "high volume" print runs has been added to the workflow.
- Using the NetSuite tool to address all licensing and translation requests, the team has delivered tangible results with actual licenses completed and licensing in progress.

The board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Publishing Committee:

- That the Publishing and Member Services departments extend the "Mixed-Title Quantity Test Pilot" through December 31, 2022, and that appropriate announcements be sent to Central Offices and Intergroups by GSO management.
- That the Publishing Department move forward with the revision to the *A.A. World Services Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current* as follows:
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.

Technology/Communication/Services (TCS):

- The Communication Services Department (CSD) continues to advance its work on multiple projects and comprehensive planning for 2023. Projects including, but not limited to, the GSO podcast, refinements and enhancements to the Meeting Guide app, implementation and refinement of website management plan, and col-

laboration with the Public Information assignment on content creation and distributing press releases move along apace.

- The number of virtual groups listed with GSO continues to grow with 718 virtual groups now listed. Out of those 718 virtual groups, there are 558 GSRs and 143 alternate GSRs.

The board approved the following recommendations presented by the TCS committee:

- The idea that *A.A. is for Everyone* and feature pages, along with the background, be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
- That the 2022 First and Second Quarter Website, Meeting Guide, YouTube, Google Ads, and Podcast reports be forwarded by the AAWS Board to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
- That the 2022 First and Second Quarter LinkedIn reports be forwarded by the A.A.W.S. Board to the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee.
- That a subcommittee be formed to coordinate a thread-based forum pilot project.

Internal Audit Committee (IAC):

- The committee agreed to the location of the whistleblower policies and form on the employee portal Paylocity, which offers employees ready access to use the form as needed.
- The committee reviewed copies of AAWS and GSB revised draft 990s. The AA Grapevine 990 is pending completion for review. The CFO reviewed the 990s with the Internal Audit Committee. The CFO will notify the audit firm of all corrections or changes noted by the IAC, and final revised drafts are being prepared and will be provided to all trustees and non-trustee directors on the General Service Board and corporate boards.

The board approved the recommendation brought forward by the Internal Audit Committee:

That the Director's R.A.C.I. matrix be approved.

Additional Board Actions

Charlotte D. (Executive Assistant to the General Manager) was approved as the new board secretary.

Consistent with years prior, the AAWS Board managed the 2022 review of the General Manager. As reported by our previous chair, this process included three parts:

- Surveying AAWS board members
- Surveying the General Service Board
- Witt/Kieffer interviewing members of the boards and office.

AAWS reviewed all data and conducted the General Manager review, noting areas of accomplishment and areas requiring attention.

AA Grapevine

The AA Grapevine Board of Directors met five times since the General Service Conference, including a new director's orientation on June 23, a board planning meeting and executive session on June 24, and a quarterly meeting and executive session on July 28. The Nominating and Governance, Finance and Strategic Planning committees did not meet this quarter.

Overview

Following the General Service Conference, we have been focusing on implementing our strategic plan. This includes starting the process of developing a viable smartphone app, as well as engaging with and increasing our network of RLV's and GVR's. With the continued decline in print subscriptions and increased production costs, the need for a digital platform is critical to the mission of Grapevine and La Viña. While we have seen a decline in print subscriptions, we have enjoyed an increase in other publishing items. We have also seen an increase in activity with our podcast (more than 180,000 downloads) and Instagram accounts (GV has 7,868 followers and LV has 936).

Board Committee Activity

Finance and Budget: The treasurer reported the committee had not met. However, the treasurer, controller (*YPTC*) and publisher worked together to develop a 2022 budget re-forecast.

Nominating and Governance: The committee will meet with two Regional Trustees virtually to begin a review of Section 7 of the AAGV, Inc. Bylaws and the committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure.

Strategic Planning: The chair reported he met individually with directors on the committee to discuss workflows for compiling a report and business plan that will be presented to support Management's current activities to fulfill the strategic planning goals.

New Director's Orientation: The Grapevine Board met on June 23, 2022, for a day of orientation. Presentations were made on the following: An overview of the AA Grapevine, Inc., including staffing, editorial and various AAGV, Inc. books and products; vendor partnerships and roles; and responsibilities of trustees and non-trustee directors. There was an in-depth discussion about the current AAGV, Inc. Strategic Plan for 2022-2023.

Board Actions

July 27, 2022: The AAGV board approved the 2022 Grapevine and La Viña budget re-forecast. The reforecast reflects flat subscription sales, increased production costs, investment in a Grapevine smartphone app, and book price increases in the fourth quarter.

Reviewed 73rd General Service Conference agenda item PAI15 from Area 59 "*Consider the translation of the Grapevine books *Spiritual Awakenings* and *Young & Sober*, currently available in English only, into Spanish no later than 2025.*" The

board tabled this discussion until October 2022.

Reviewed 73rd General Service Conference agenda item PA18 from *Easy Does It Group*, Area 23: “Motion is made that the revision to the AA Preamble replacing the words “Men and Women” with the word “People” at the 71st General Service Conference by advisory action, be rescinded and the original wording restored.” The board tabled this discussion until October 2022.

Financial

For details on Grapevine Finance, see the report of the trustees’ Finance Committee on page 2 of this report and the summary of unaudited financial results on the last page of this report.

Circulation, Development and Customer Service

- Fulfillment vendor was informed that AAGV, Inc. will no longer require their services as of October 28, 2022. AAGV will be moving to a new fulfillment house that is a much better fit, as it specializes in paid subscription magazine fulfillment and can warehouse and ship books and other products as well.
- Developing plans to test simplified subscription models;
- Beginning the RFP process with app builders to develop comprehensive smart phone apps for both magazines;
- Developing models, samples, and schedules for auto-renewal;
- Continuing work with circulation vendor NPS to increase product distribution through email efforts to customers.

Editorial Advisory Boards

The Grapevine EAB met on June 21. The La Viña EAB met on June 14.

Editorial Report: Grapevine

Grapevine issues currently in production: September (*Young & Sober*), October (*Relapsing*), November (*Gratitude*)

Other publishing: *Home Group* book (Updated revise, with new virtual stories)—due spring 2023.

Publishing more AA News and interviews with Class A and B Trustees and important AA announcements.

Podcast: working with hosts to connect with interview subjects from current stories in magazine. The first podcast of the month is tied to the monthly Grapevine issue.

Audio Project: More stories are now being uploaded on YouTube.

Editorial Report: La Viña

La Viña issues currently in production and on schedule: July/August (*Prison issue*), September/October: (*No Matter What*), November/December: (*La Viña Short Stories*)

Outreach: LV informational workshop, Fridays at 12pm

Events: LV Anniversary, workshops.

Books & Media: Translation of *Emotional Sobriety*. Launching Jul/Aug Instagram video for new issue on July 1.

Web Report

The Web Coordinator reported monthly web traffic in the 2nd quarter averaged 82,685 new visitors; 11,781 returning visitors and 331,362 page views. Upgrade to Drupal 9 to be completed in September. Work to improve web user experience continues, including a single sign-in for all online interactions, a one-stop shop for users.

FINANCIAL DATA: For the six months ended 6/30/22 (unaudited)

G.S.O.	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2021 Actual
Contributions from A.A. groups and members	\$5,011,648	\$11,000,000	\$10,775,870
Sales less cost of production, warehousing, and shipping	2,744,100	5,390,000	6,301,350
General Service Conference	287,207	294,400	233,965
International	64,049	30,000	72,750
Total Operating Revenue	8,107,004	16,714,400	17,225,329
AA GRAPEVINE, INC.			
Sales less costs of products	\$ 799,585	\$ 1,534,521	\$ 1,696,310
Interest earned — Reserve Fund	4,570	0	14,000
Total Income	804,155	1,534,521	1,710,310
Expenses	980,631	1,796,739	1,808,929
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(176,476)	(262,218)	(98,619)
General Service Board Support of La Viña shortfall	231,061	557,723	388,646

For comments or questions write to: Staff Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

**Please direct all
communications to:**

P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

G.S.O. Announcement

With an Eye to the Future: G.S.O. Staff Positions

We are updating our file of applications from A.A. members who are interested in being considered for possible future openings for the position of G.S.O. staff member. G.S.O. staff people are A.A.s who carry out rotating assignments and correspond with A.A.s throughout the world on all aspects of recovery and service. Additionally, they represent G.S.O. at A.A. functions throughout the U.S. and Canada and provide the primary staff support for the General Service Board. Currently there are 11 staff members who cover a variety of assignments including: Public Information, Treatment/Accessibilities/Remote Communities, Literature, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Corrections, International and the General Service Conference.

Minimum qualifications include the following: a minimum of six years continuous sobriety; legally authorized to work in the U.S., a background in service at the group and district and area levels; business or professional experience; and excellent communication and organizational skills. Another consideration is a willingness to relocate to New York, if necessary. In addition, fluency in French and/or Spanish with excellent oral and written skills will be considered a plus for all candidates.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact: Director of Staff Services via email at directorstaffservices@aa.org or by postal mail at: Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

October 2022

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