

XIII.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/ REGIONAL FORUMS

AGENDA

**Joint Meeting of Conference Committee on International Conventions/
Regional Forums**

and

Trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Room: TBD

Chairperson: Darin H.

Co-secretaries: James H. and Sandra W.

Trustees' Committee Members

Irma V.*
Cathi Clark**
Cindy F.
Paz P.
Kevin Prior+
Carolyn W.
Paz P.

Conference Committee Members¹

Panel 72
Shannon C.
Darin H.*
Mary M.
Richard M.**

Panel 73
Ed A.
Jon C.
Celine L.
Crystal S.

* Chairperson

** Alternate and/or vice chairperson

+ Nonalcoholic

¹ Members of this committee serve on this as a secondary committee assignment.

- ◆ Introductions – Irma V., trustees' committee chairperson.
- ◆ Review Conference committee Composition, Scope and Procedure – Darin H., Conference committee chairperson.

Note: 1989 Conference Advisory Action

Each Conference Committee carefully consider their Agenda items and strive to make their recommendations for Advisory Actions to the Conference at the policy level. To be more financially responsible, when a Conference Committee recommendation involves a substantial expenditure of money, an estimate of cost and its impact on the budget be part of that recommendation.

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CONFIDENTIAL: 73rd General Service Conference Background

- ◆ Review History & Actions of Conference committee – James H. and Sandra W., co-secretaries.
 - ◆ Report of trustees' committee – Irma V., trustees' committee chairperson.
 - ◆ Discussion of trustees' committee report.
 - A. Discuss selection of cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2035.
 - B. Discuss inviting up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers to participate in the 2025 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.
 - C. Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
 - D. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
 - E. Election of chairperson. *
-

* Election of chairperson

1. All Panel 73 members are eligible except for the 2024 delegate chairperson and 2024 Conference committee chairpersons.
2. All committee members vote by written ballot (no verbal nominations).
3. Election by plurality. Second place becomes alternate chairperson.
4. New chairperson serves one year beginning at the close of the Conference.

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2023 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

AGENDA ITEM A: Discuss selection of cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2035.

Background notes:

At their first quarterly meeting in January 2023, the General Service Board recommended that the undernoted four cities, which meet the minimum city site selection criteria for consideration as possible sites for the International Convention in 2035, be forwarded to the Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums:

Indianapolis, Indiana
New Orleans, Louisiana
Phoenix, Arizona
Toronto, Canada

Background will be provided to committee members at the Site Selection meeting on Saturday, April 22, 2023, where they will hear presentations by the respective area delegates and convention and visitors' bureau personnel from the bidding cities in a randomly selected order.

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2023 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

ITEM B: Discuss inviting up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers to participate in the 2025 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.

Background Notes:

From trustees' IC/RF Committee January 28, 2023 meeting report:

"The committee discussed the participation of non-A.A. speakers at International Conventions and agreed to forward a request to the 2023 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums that up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers be invited to participate in the 2025 International Convention at A.A.'s expense."

It is estimated that transportation, housing, etc. will be \$3,500 to \$4,500 for each speaker.

Historically, A. A. has invited non-A.A. friends to be Panel speakers at our International Conventions. These Panel meetings at the International Convention maintain communication with the professional community, demonstrate Cooperation with the Professional Community work for A.A.s attending, and ensure accurate information about A. A.—the papers presented are often later reprinted in our bulletin for professional entitled "About A.A."

Customarily, these Panels comprise two non-A.A. speakers, and one A.A. speaker—someone experienced in Cooperation with the Professional Community service work in Alcoholics Anonymous, or who has been a beneficiary of cooperation between A.A. and the professional community. Moderators are most often Class A or B Trustees and A.A.W.S. and G.V. Directors.

The twenty-one non-alcoholic speakers come from suggestions made by the Fellowship, especially the Trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee and Staff members who have heard such speakers at Professional Conferences and Conventions attended in connection with the C.P.C. Staff Assignment. From these suggestions, a selection is made by the General Service Board of Trustees, after consideration by the trustees' and Conference International Convention Committees.

Non-A.A. panelists do not receive an honorarium. However, in keeping with our Seventh Tradition, their travel to the International Convention and their hotel expenses are covered.

Background:

1. List of 2015 Non-A.A. Speakers

2015 Non-AA Professional Panel Meetings

FRIDAY		
9:00-10:30 am <i>Panel Title:</i>	Treatment A.A. and Treatment Facilities	Speakers: 1 Debbie Bang, RN/BScN/MHSc, ON 2 Arlene Gonzalez-Sanchez, NY
9:00-10:30 am <i>Panel Title:</i>	Clergy A.A. and the Clergy	Speakers: 3 Rev. Greg Rickel, WA 4 Rev. John A.V. Strickland, GA 5 Bishop Venedykt Aleksiychuk, Ukraine
3:00-4:30 pm <i>Panel Title:</i>	Healthcare A.A. and the Healthcare Professional	Speakers: 6 Irene Gladue, AB 7 Brian Johnson, M.D., NY 8 Warren Pendergast, M.D., NC
3:30-5:00 pm <i>Panel Title:</i>	Courts A.A. and Court Programs	Speakers: 9 Judge Thomas F. Scully, NJ 10 Kito J. Bess, LA 11 Judge Kerry Meyer, MO
SATURDAY		
9:00-10:30 am <i>Panel Title:</i>	Community Resource A.A. as a Resource for the Military	Speakers: 12 Anthony Dekker, D.O., VA 13 Joyce M. Johnson, D.O., MA USPHS 14 Donald E. Reichert, KY
1:30-3:00 pm <i>Panel Title:</i>	Alcoholism Field A.A. and the Alcoholism Field	Speakers: 15 John Francis Kelly, Ph.D., MA 16 Maria Pagano, Ph.D., OH
3:30-5:00 pm <i>Panel Title:</i>	Corrections A.A. and Correctional Facilities	Speakers: 17 Nancy McCarthy, MO 18 James Watson, NC 19 Sharon Hickey, RN/BSN/MSHA, NS
3:30-5:00 pm <i>Panel Title:</i>	Workplace A.A. and the Workplace	Speakers: 20 Dawn Klug, LPC/CEAP/LEAP, NC 21 David Nesbitt, MSW, Exec. Pastor, AB

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2023 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

ITEM C: Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.

Background Notes:

Trustees' IC/RF Committee – December 14, 2022, meeting report excerpt:

The committee reviewed and discussed the survey results and agreed that the data did not reflect an overwhelming desire by the respondents to change the current practice (i.e., the chairs of the Big meetings at the International Conventions have been invited to close in the manner of their choice, with some closing with the Lord's Prayer, some closing with the Serenity Prayer and some closing with the Responsibility Statement.) Calculating the English, French and Spanish responses in total, the committee noted over 50% responded favorably to keeping with the current practice.

The committee also agreed that that dispatching the survey and providing the results and summary to the Conference satisfied the 2021 ICRF Conference committee consideration requesting that the trustees' committee on ICRF explore the preference of the Fellowship regarding methods of closing the Big meetings at the International Convention. The committee requested that the documentation and summary be provided as background for the meeting of the 2023 Conference Committee on IC/RF.

2022 Conference Committee on IC/RF Committee consideration:

The committee reviewed the update report submitted by the trustees' committee regarding surveying the Fellowship on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention. The committee understands that a survey has been developed designed to gather information from the Fellowship regarding aspects of the 2025 International Convention; and that a question(s) regarding use of the Lord's Prayer and options to the use of the Lord's Prayer (e.g., the Third Step Prayer, the Seventh Step Prayer and A.A.'s Declaration of Unity) will be added to the survey. It is anticipated that the survey will be dispatched in May 2022 via mail and through multiple communication platforms (e.g., Box 4-5-9, AA Grapevine/La Viña, etc.); and that a progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums.

Background:

1. [Response report \(English speaking members\)*](#)
2. [Response report \(French speaking members\)](#)
3. [Response report \(Spanish speaking members\)](#)

**Pages 9-127 are available on the Conference Dashboard. A full copy can be requested from your Area Delegate.*



Feedback for Closing Big Meetings - 2025 IC



7256 Completed Responses

0 Partial Responses



Feedback on Closing Big Meetings at the International Convention

"The 2021 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums had a thoughtful and wide-ranging discussion regarding methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention, particularly the use of the Lord's Prayer and the understanding that although the prayer is part of the history of A.A. and is widely used and supported in some A.A. communities, it is not used in meetings in other A.A. communities and some feel that it could make some members feel excluded and support the perception of A.A. as a religious organization.

Agreeing that it would be beneficial to gather shared experience from the Fellowship to make an informed decision, the committee requested that the trustees' International Conventions/ Regional Forums Committee explore the preference of the Fellowship regarding methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.

It may be helpful to note that for several International Conventions the chairs of all 200+ meetings at the convention have been invited to close in the manner of their choice. Some close with the Lord's Prayer, some close with the Serenity Prayer, some close with the Responsibility statement, while some close with a moment of silence. There has not previously been a policy or requirement as to which prayer or method of closing the meetings would be used."

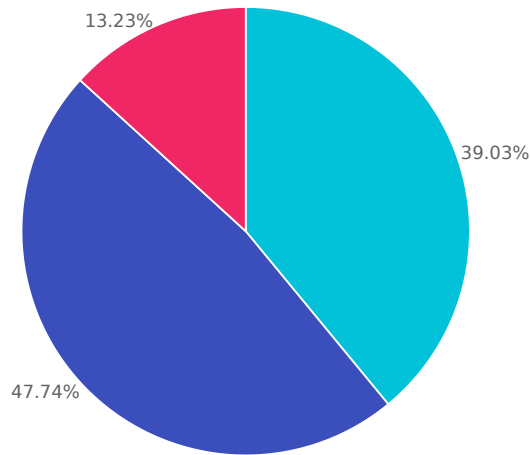
For the last four International Conventions, at the choice of the respective chair, one of the Big Meetings closed with the Lord's Prayer, one closed with the Serenity Prayer and one closed with the Responsibility Statement.

No Responses

Q2

Would you prefer that we continue with this practice but substitute another option for the Lord’s Prayer?

Answered: 7097 Skipped: 159



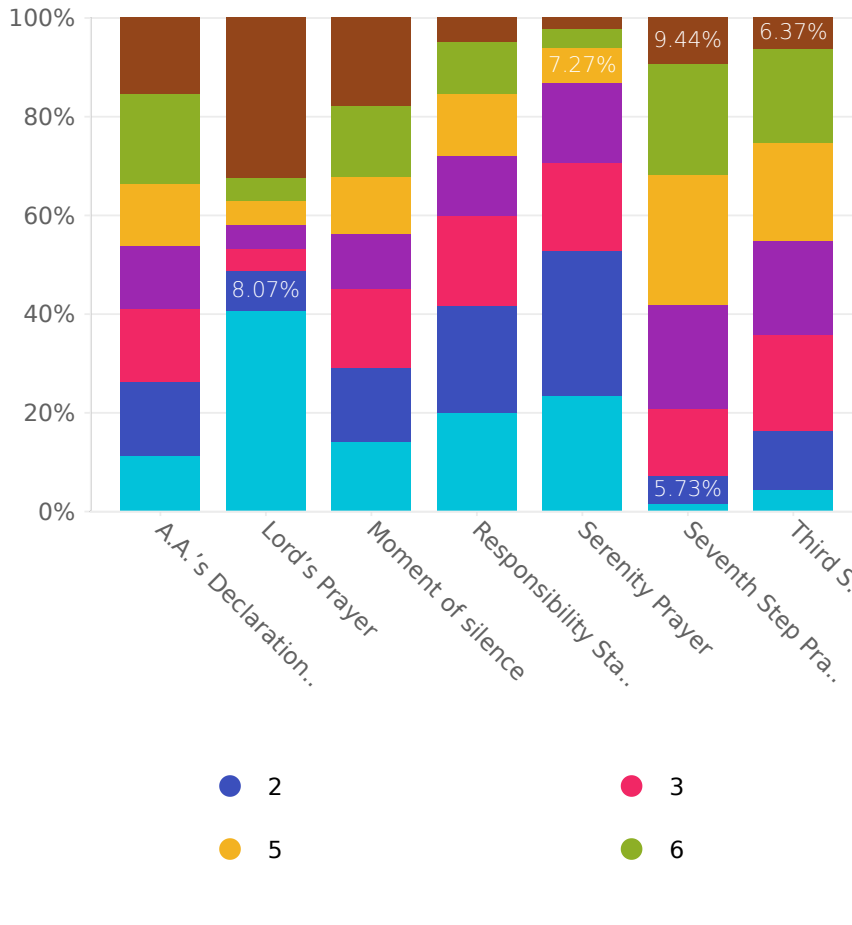
● Yes
 ● No
 ● No preference

Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	39.03%	2770
No	47.74%	3388
No preference	13.23%	939

Q3

Which options would you like to see included for closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention? Please rank the options below in order of preference (1 - 7)

Answered: 7011 Skipped: 245



Choices	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Score	Rank	Response count
A.A.'s Declaration of Unity	11.03 % (659)	15.13 % (904)	14.74 % (881)	12.73 % (761)	12.62 % (754)	18.19 % (1087)	15.56% (930)	3.82	5	5976
Lord's Prayer	40.55 % (2461)	8.07% (490)	4.33% (263)	5.03% (305)	4.93% (299)	4.66% (283)	32.43% (1968)	4.31	3	6069
Moment of silence	13.92 % (849)	15.01 % (916)	15.93 % (972)	11.29 % (689)	11.46 % (699)	14.42 % (880)	17.96% (1096)	3.94	4	6101
Responsibility Statement	19.87 % (1244)	21.58 % (1351)	18.19 % (1139)	12.35 % (773)	12.43 % (778)	10.67 % (668)	4.90% (307)	4.72	2	6260
Serenity Prayer	23.30 % (1470)	29.29 % (1848)	17.89 % (1129)	16.09 % (1015)	7.27% (459)	3.93% (248)	2.23% (141)	5.25	1	6310
Seventh Step Prayer	1.45% (83)	5.73% (328)	13.58 % (777)	20.88 % (1195)	26.32 % (1506)	22.60 % (1293)	9.44% (540)	3.30	7	5722
Third Step Prayer	4.21% (245)	11.97 % (697)	19.39 % (1129)	19.13 % (1114)	19.70 % (1147)	19.22 % (1119)	6.37% (371)	3.79	6	5822

Do you have a different suggestion for closing the Big Meetings?

Answered: 2670

- 1 I don't care for the moment of silence option at all. My home group closes with the "we" version of the serenity prayer. I would like to see that included in the options.
- 2 No
- 3 My preference is the moments silence instead of any prayer spoken with a card containing all prayer except The Lord's Prayer and only voice The Serenity Prayer in the First Person Plural as suggested in Step 12 of the 12 & 12. We are Anonymous and seeking no religious affiliation or hierarchy!
- 4 Prayer of St Francis of Assisi
- 5 The reason I would prefer not to do the Lord's prayer is that the religious connection may be a reason for a new comer to turn away from AA and recovery because of their personal reaction to a religious prayer associated with AA.
- 6 Yesterday, today tomorrow
- 7 No
- 8 I would ask that the ICRF committee also have a discussion around the cultish chanting that occurs in many parts of AA and see what might be done to send a message to attendees on how that crowd sourced in AA via treatment centers and other non-AA outlets.
- 9 From a professional or public perspective I am much more concerned with a society of chanters who claim membership in a spiritual organization than I am with a prayer that has been employed by thousands of various groups throughout the millennia.
- 10 St Francis prayer
- 11 no
- 12 No
- 13 We could read AA comes of age so all could learn about our history's roots from Akron.
- 14 Possibly a little disclaimer before the prayer- example- in closing this meeting and including all spiritual power's, the chairs of this international convention have chosen the prayer.
- 15 I think it would be really awesome to discontinue the use of the Lord's Prayer. It is totally inappropriate for a worldwide organization like ours.
- 16 Any prayer from the big book or the serenity prayer would be great
- 17 Respecting the history and traditions of AA and the community from which it arose suggests tthat the use of the Lords Prayer at at least one of the meetings is an important action to take.
- 18 No
- 19 since we have AA members from different (or none) religious backgrounds, I think sticking to the common prayers (serenity prayer, third step prayer and seventh step prayer) would be more inclusive
- 20 No
- 21 Keep it simple as our cofounder had it
- 22 The Lord's Prayer is a simple and complicate prayer
- 23 The Lord's Prayer should be paramount.
- 24 Sing Kumbaya. Just kidding 😊
- 25 A count down from oldest to newest
- 26 No
- 27 If we continue to use the lords prayer, we should rotate in prayers from other faiths e.g. Islam, Judaism, atheist, etc.
- 28 No
- 29 Nope

A Vision for You

28 I would rank all the prayers at a 7 (with the exception of the Serenity Prayer. We are suppose to be non-
christian. The Lord's, #rd Step & 7th Step prayers are Christian prayers.
29 Keep coming back. It works if you work it. So work it, you are worth it.
30 No
31 Contest to create a statement all can relate to.
32 Read the Promises section of the Big Book.
33 Each Big Meeting should be closed with a prayer of choice of that particular chairperson.
34 no

If we don't acknowledge our Higher Power and the Grace we have received for personal sobriety and for the
sustaining of our beloved Fellowship, we won't survive long. We are not sober on our own power.
35 AA should not change to suit anyone. Everyone is welcome in AA. No one is obliged or forced to do
anything. There are already many "generic" addiction programs that do not rely on a Higher Power. They
come and go - usually depending on the funding! I hope Alcoholics Anonymous does not become one of
them.

36 No
37 no
38 No, but thank you for asking.
39 No.
40 You have enough options as it is
41 These arguments with the preamble and closings are getting out of hand.
42 Page 164
43 No
44 Not at this time.
45 Quote the closing statement on page 164.
46 No
47 No
48 no
49 Someone reading page 164
50 Anything but the Lord's prayer

After a moment of silence for the still suffering alcoholic both inside and outside our rooms, we could end the
meeting by just saying "Thank You" in unison
51 (It's the shortest prayer I know and always reminds me to be grateful for everything and everyone in my life -
whether good, bad or indifferent)

52 Tradition 12: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles
before personalities.

53 A pause, moment of silence, and I mean a moment of silence, 30 seconds at least. Then the Responsibility
Statement

54 I think the Lord's Prayer has no place in the closing of an AA meeting. Therefore, I did not rank it.

55 I feel excluded when the meeting is not closed with the Lord's Prayer. Close all the meetings with the Lord's
Prayer.

56 none
57 no

58 In question three, I chose not to rank the Lord's Prayer or the 3rd or 7th Step Prayers. I believe we should not use any of those prayers to close meetings. I am not in favor of using the Lord's Prayer because it is affiliated with a specific religion, and we are not. I am not in favor of group recitations of the 3rd and 7th Step prayers because it undermines the text's promise that the wording is optional for both of these prayers.

59 Whatever happens use a different marketing company that coordinates the events. They are tragic and horrible experience with registration last 3 conferences

60 I do not.

61 Ninth Step Promises; A Vision For You, page 164, last two paragraphs or last three paragraphs

62 No

63 I do not

64 It's the International so maybe a prayer of choice of an attendee from a randomly selected country, preferably delivered over the sound system, in their native tongue, with the text of the prayer displayed in both that language, English, Spanish, and French. Invite everyone to join if they wish, in whatever language they prefer. It'll be pure cacophony, much like the closing of many, many Zoom meetings I've attended.

65 I do not.

66 We version of the serenity prayer

67 Close them all with the Lord's Prayer

68 I love the responsibility and the unity prayer. Otherwise, I really have no preference.

69 No

70 No

71 No

72 Acceptance is the Answer. Pg. 417

73 No

74 No

75 A moment of silence allows all to close in their own way silently and it would be very impactful having 50,000 people in a silent moment together. Many of us are not Christian and it is time for us to be inclusive at our international convention.

76 I believe a prayer that is consistent with the presence of God in the Twelve Steps is very appropriate. To exclude the spirituality of the 12 steps does not make sense. There are ways to have prayer with respect for various denominations but acknowledgement of God within the essence is imperative.

77 Only that if we do the declaration of Unity, 3rd or 7th step prayers - they should be on a screen somewhere as many newcomers do not know them.

78 Anything secular. No mention of God. Thanks for asking!

79 no

80 No

81 No, but thank you for conducting this survey. For those of us who choose not to end with the Lords Prayer, this is an opportunity for greater unity within AA.

82 Only the Lords Prayer.....

83 no

84 An alternative is to close each meeting with a moment of silence, no had holding.

85 No, thanks!! Keep up the good work!!

86 No I love the Lords Prayer

87 Close all meetings with the Lord's Prayer

88 A non religions prayer would be best or a moment of silence and leave it at that.

89 No



Feedback for Closing Big Meetings - 2025 IC (French)



185 Réponses complètes

0 Réponses partielles



Commentaires concernant la clôture des grandes réunions lors du Congrès international

"En réponse à un point de l'ordre du jour demandant d'examiner l'utilisation du Notre Père pour la clôture des Grandes Réunions aux Congrès internationaux des AA, le Comité des Congrès internationaux/Forums territoriaux de la Conférence de 2021 a eu une discussion réfléchie et étendue sur les méthodes de clôture des Grandes Réunions au Congrès international, en particulier l'utilisation du Notre Père et la compréhension que, bien que la prière fasse partie de l'histoire des AA et qu'elle soit largement utilisée et soutenue dans certaines communautés des AA, elle n'est pas utilisée dans les réunions d'autres communautés des AA et certains pensent qu'elle pourrait faire en sorte que certains membres se sentent exclus et soutenir la perception des AA comme une organisation religieuse."

Reconnaissant qu'il serait bénéfique de recueillir l'expérience du Mouvement pour prendre une décision éclairée, le comité a demandé au Comité du Conseil pour les Congrès Internationaux/Forums territoriaux d'étudier les préférences du Mouvement concernant les méthodes de clôture des Grandes Réunions lors du Congrès international.

Il peut être utile de noter que, depuis plusieurs Congrès internationaux, les présidents des plus de 200 réunions du congrès ont été invités à clôturer de la manière de leur choix. Certains clôturent avec le Notre Père, d'autres avec la Prière de la Sérénité, d'autres encore avec la Déclaration de Responsabilité, tandis que d'autres clôturent avec un moment de silence. Il n'y avait pas auparavant de politique concernant la prière ou la méthode de clôture des réunions qui était requise."

Lors des quatre derniers congrès internationaux, au choix du président respectif, une des Grandes Réunions s'est terminée par le Notre Père, une autre par la Prière de la Sérénité et une dernière par la Déclaration de Responsabilité.

Aucune réponse

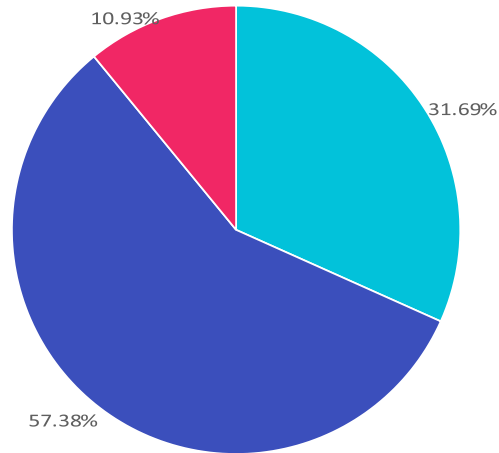
Q1

Préféreriez-vous que nous continuions cette façon de faire, y compris le Notre Père ?

Répondu : 183

Ignoré : 2

CONFIDENTIAL: 73RD General Service Conference Background



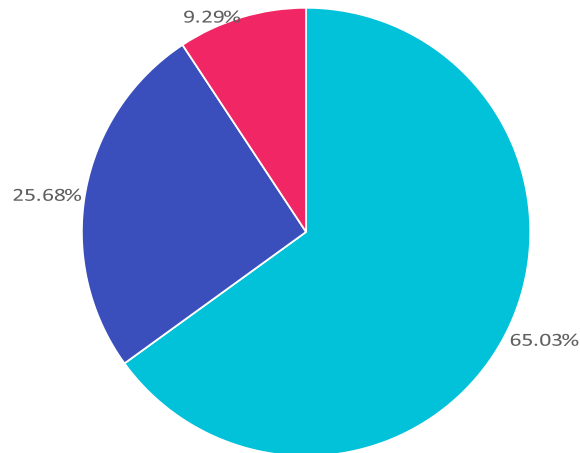
● Oui
 ● Non
 ● Pas de préférence

Choix	Pourcentage de réponses	Nombre de réponses
Oui	31.69%	58
Non	57.38%	105
Pas de préférence	10.93%	20

Q2

Préfèreriez-vous que nous continuions cette pratique mais que nous remplacions le Notre Père par une autre option ?

Répondu : 183 Ignoré : 2



CONFIDENTIAL: 73RD General Service Conference Background

● Oui ● Non ● Pas de préférence

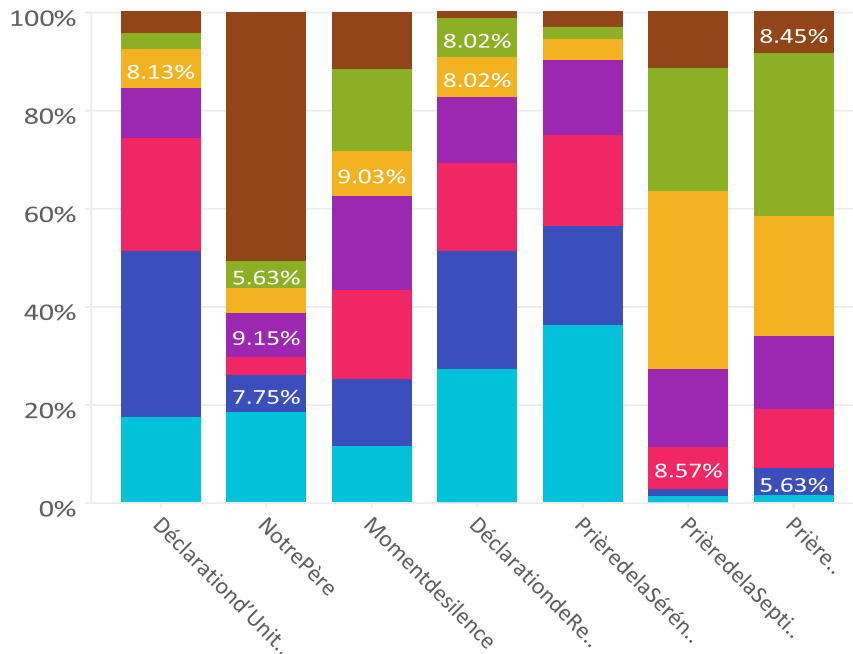
Choix	Pourcentage de réponses	Nombre de réponses
Oui	65.03%	119
Non	25.68%	47
Pas de préférence	9.29%	17

Q3

Quelles options souhaiteriez-vous voir incluses pour la clôture des Grandes Réunions lors du Congrès international ? Veuillez classer les options ci-dessous par ordre de préférence (1 - 7)

Répondu : 179

Ignoré : 6



● 1 ● ●
● 2 ● ●
● 3 4 5
● 4 5 6
7

CONFIDENTIAL: 73RD General Service Conference Background

Choix	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Score	Rang	Nombre de réponses
Déclaration d'Unité des AA	17.50 % (28)	33.75 % (54)	23.13 % (37)	10.00 % (16)	8.13% (13)	3.13% (5)	4.38% (7)	5.16	3	160
Notre Père	18.31 % (26)	7.75% (11)	3.52% (5)	9.15% (13)	4.93% (7)	5.63% (8)	50.70% (72)	3.06	6	142
Moment de silence	11.61 % (18)	13.55 % (21)	18.06 % (28)	19.35 % (30)	9.03% (14)	16.77 % (26)	11.61% (18)	4.03	4	155
Déclaration de Responsabilité	27.16 % (44)	24.07 % (39)	17.90 % (29)	13.58 % (22)	8.02% (13)	8.02% (13)	1.23% (2)	5.20	2	162
Prière de la Sérénité	36.20 % (59)	20.25 % (33)	18.40 % (30)	15.34 % (25)	4.29% (7)	2.45% (4)	3.07% (5)	5.49	1	163
Prière de la Septième Étape	1.43% (2)	1.43% (2)	8.57% (12)	15.71 % (22)	36.43 % (51)	25.00 % (35)	11.43% (16)	2.95	7	140
Prière de la Troisième Étape	1.41% (2)	5.63% (8)	11.97 % (17)	14.79 % (21)	24.65 % (35)	33.10 % (47)	8.45% (12)	3.11	5	142

Q4

Avez-vous une autre suggestion pour clore les Grandes Réunions?

Répondu : 58 Ignoré : 127

- 1 Either the Lords prayer or the Serenity prayer.
- 2 The responsibility statement.

The Lords prayer is great. It has existed for 2000 years and it suits alcoholics well. Agnostics and

- 3 atheists are presents in AA since 1935 so I don't see what's different today. Re-read your history. I'm not teaching you anything. Have a good day.
- 4 Serenity prayer followed by the responsibility statement.
- 5 Invite 3 members to say the Serenity prayer, one in English, one in French, one in Spanish...
- 6 None
- 7 With a smile, a handshake, and at least 5 people around us... I Hope to be able to make it in 2025!!

No.

CONFIDENTIAL: 73RD General Service Conference Background

- 8 The declaration of Unity of AA seems to be the most appropriate way to end a convention of this scale. Since it is an International convention, we have to stay neutral and not give the impression that we are associated to a church or a religion.
- 9 The declaration or Unity and the responsibility statement. This app won't let me pick more than one.
- 10 Thank you for this question. May His Will be.

11 thank their Higher Power. A moment of silence and suggestion to the members to say in silence whatever prayer they want to 12 No prayer coming from any religion at all.

13 Just before the moment of silence (option 2 above), thank the partmeeting, and then say : THANK YOU AND LET'S STAY UNITED. Participants for their presence at this

14 No

15 The Lords prayer IS NOT inclusive and SHOULD NOT BE suggested in any circumstance.

When I first joined the fellowship and for a few decades, I tried to ban the Lords Prayer and God related things from our meetings. Until an old timer ended a meeting by saying : FOR THOSE WHO WISH, let's end the meeting with the Lords Prayer.

16

These words from an « old wise man » ended my fight and the one of others.

Richard B

17 No but everyone at the end holding hands saying the Lords prayer is something that gives you chills or goosebumps it's just awesome

The Serenity prayer by replacing « God » by « Friends », God being a friend for the believing Christian 18 or Muslim. And that way other beliefs are also respected. This makes the Serenity prayer/thinking more universal on a philosophical level.

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- 19 The 12 promises.
20 Meditate.
21 AA works since 1935, it works for me since May 15 2008. I trust and I let myself being carried by the Vancouver friends.

22 Benoît

- 23 Nothing to say.
24 No other suggestion.

According to me, Vincent, alcoholic, the Serenity prayer is the best way to end a meeting. The declaration of confidentiality could be an alternative. The other prayers, like explained, could make some friends who need help believe that it is a religious fellowship.

- 25 It is difficult to explain that the Lords Prayer is an ancestral AA tradition since AA is not a religious organization.

In fellowship.

- 26 Transmitted live on the internet.
27 No
28 A song of hope

- 29 Formulate a prayer that would feel like the Lords Prayer but specific to AA that would include the large scope of AA and of spirituality.

30 The San Francis prayer.

- 31 Remind that if we are not responsible for our illness we are responsible for our recovery.

No, I don't have other suggestions.

I can't wait to be at the International convention. This will be my first International convention.

Many members say that this event is not to be missed ! So
I will be there with joy !

- 32 Thank you for taking the time to ask questions to members because the base is important in the Where does the theme of the Convention comes from, what country, what area, what district ?

Fellowship of Alcoholics anonymous.

For the Love of AA and the Love of Service.

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Danielle S. Chair of District 03 in Joliette in Area 90 in Québec, Canada.

33 The 10 step promises from the BB p 95-96 34 The chain of love.

35 No but the Serenity prayer is essential in AA.

36 For the Serenity prayer, I would prefer that we call it Serenity thinking (note from translator : this does

not translate well, the idea is to not call it a « prayer »), and that we don't start with « God » and just

start with « Grant me the...»

37 no

Simply say

38 « See you later » or « See you next time » (for a simple meeting)

“Bye and see you next time” (for a big closing meeting) No,

I do not have other suggestions.

39

Jean-J., Belgium

7 of 8

40 Continue the great work that you do, 24 hours at a time.

41 no

In France, we let the groups choose words in our literature to close meetings as see fit, but we are attached to the Serenity prayer. But the Lords Prayer is too catholic for the secular oriented members.

42

I hope to come to Vancouver.

I want to specify that I believe in God and that I say the Lords Prayer every day. It is a Christian prayer
43 and it does not seem appropriate to use it in AA. I was indeed chocked when I heard it at the end of a meeting during the Convention in Toronto.

44 -

45 Thank you.

46 End by inviting people to meditate for 1 minute on what they where looking for in coming here, how to

carry it and how to apply it in their lives. Then we can invite people to wish a good 24 hours to the

people around them.

47 A moment of gratitude, thank you to ourselves, to others, to the Convention of the 90 years, to God (to bigger than ourselves).

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48 Second, is this coming from a NEED ? NO, I don't think so. Good 24 hours. First of all, STOP trying to change what exists in our approved literature of alcoholics anonymous.

49 No

50 Reminder of the preamble

51 No 52 No

53 Thank you for the suggestions. I prefer the Lords Prayer.

54 I trust the decisions that will be made for the good of our Fellowship. Thank you

55 no

56 No thank you

Hello, my name is Michel V., I live in the suburbs of Montreal in Quebec, I have been going to AA meetings for 40 years, I know there are people from other cultures and there are also atheists that join our beautiful fellowship of AA. There are always been controversies in AA, but I have never ever heard

57 anyone complain about the Lords Prayer! ... In « How it works » it says that our saving needs to come from a higher power as we understand it, we can call it whatever we want, we can belong to the religion of our choice, we always need to rely on a power greater than ourselves, no matter what prayer we use to close the meetings, there will always be members who disagree, and as far as I'm concerned, I want us to continue using the Lords Prayer! I wish you a great 24 hours.

58 Respect what Bill and Bob taught us. If everyone starts giving their opinions it will be chaos.



Feedback on Closing Big Meetings - 2025 IC (Spanish)



69 Respuestas completadas

0 Respuestas parciales



Comentarios y Sugerencias sobre cómo cerrar las Reuniones Grandes en la Convención Internacional

"En respuesta a un punto de agenda que solicitó que se llevara a consideración el uso del padrenuestro para cerrar las reuniones grandes en las Convenciones Internacionales de AA, el Comité de Convenciones Internacionales y Foros Regionales de la Conferencia de 2021 tuvo una discusión amplia y concienzuda sobre los métodos para cerrar las reuniones grandes en la Convención Internacional, particularmente el uso del padrenuestro y la comprensión de que si bien la oración es parte de la historia de AA y se la utiliza y defiende con bastante frecuencia en algunas comunidades de AA, no se usa en las reuniones de otras comunidades de AA y algunos piensan que podría hacer que algunos miembros se sintieran excluidos y que reforzaría la percepción de que AA es una organización religiosa.

El comité concordó en que sería beneficioso recopilar información compartida de la Comunidad para tomar una decisión informada, y por ello solicitó que el Comité de Convenciones Internacionales y Foros Regionales de los custodios explorara la preferencia de la Comunidad en relación con los métodos para cerrar las reuniones grandes en la Convención Internacional.

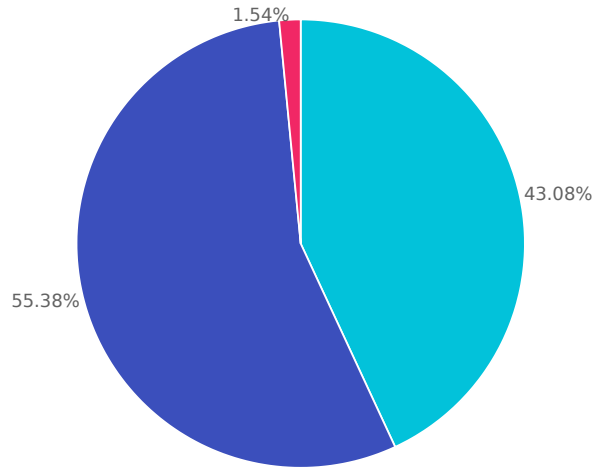
Es conveniente señalar que, desde hace varias Convenciones Internacionales, los coordinadores de las más de doscientas reuniones en la convención han sido invitados a cerrar las reuniones de la manera que ellos elijan. Algunos cierran con el padrenuestro; otros con la Oración de la Serenidad; algunos usan la Declaración de responsabilidad, mientras que otros cierran con un momento de silencio. Anteriormente no ha habido ninguna política sobre qué oración o método se requiere utilizar para cerrar las reuniones."

En las cuatro últimas Convenciones Internacionales, según la elección del coordinador o coordinadora respectivos, una de las reuniones grandes se cerró con el padrenuestro, una con la Oración de la Serenidad y una con la Declaración de responsabilidad.

R1

¿Preferiría que continuáramos con esta práctica, incluyendo el padrenuestro?

Respondida: 65 Omitida: 4



● Sí

● No

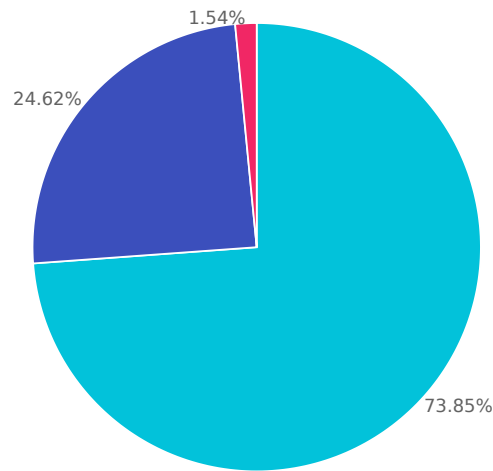
● Sin preferencia

Opciones	Porcentaje de respuesta	Conteo de respuesta
Sí	43.08%	28
No	55.38%	36
Sin preferencia	1.54%	1

R2

¿Preferiría que continuáramos con esta práctica, pero que pongamos otra opción en vez del padrenuestro?

Respondida: 65 Omitida: 4



● Sí

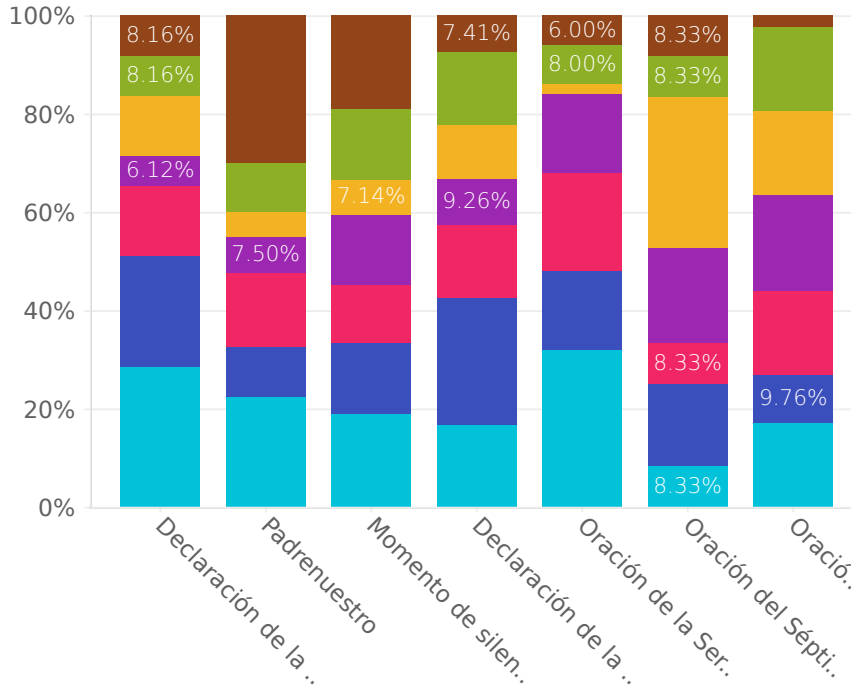
● No

● Sin preferencia

Opciones	Porcentaje de respuesta	Conteo de respuesta
Sí	73.85%	48
No	24.62%	16
Sin preferencia	1.54%	1

¿Qué opciones le gustaría ver incluidas para el cierre de las reuniones grandes en la Convención Internacional? Por favor califique las opciones a continuación en orden de preferencia (del 1 al 7).

Respondida: 66 Omitida: 3



Opciones	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Puntuación	Clasificación	Conteo de respuesta
Declaración de la unidad de AA	28.57% (14)	22.45% (11)	14.29% (7)	6.12% (3)	12.24% (6)	8.16% (4)	8.16% (4)	4.92	2	49
Padrenuestro	22.50% (9)	10.00% (4)	15.00% (6)	7.50% (3)	5.00% (2)	10.00% (4)	30.00% (12)	3.88	7	40
Momento de silencio	19.05% (8)	14.29% (6)	11.90% (5)	14.29% (6)	7.14% (3)	14.29% (6)	19.05% (8)	4.05	5	42
Declaración de la responsabilidad	16.67% (9)	25.93% (14)	14.81% (8)	9.26% (5)	11.11% (6)	14.81% (8)	7.41% (4)	4.54	3	54
Oración de la Serenidad	32.00% (16)	16.00% (8)	20.00% (10)	16.00% (8)	2.00% (1)	8.00% (4)	6.00% (3)	5.12	1	50
Oración del Séptimo Paso	8.33% (3)	16.67% (6)	8.33% (3)	19.44% (7)	30.56% (11)	8.33% (3)	8.33% (3)	3.94	6	36
Oración del Tercer Paso	17.07% (7)	9.76% (4)	17.07% (7)	19.51% (8)	17.07% (7)	17.07% (7)	2.44% (1)	4.29	4	41

¿Tiene alguna sugerencia diferente para el cierre de las reuniones grandes?

Respondida: 40

- 1 Continue closing them as we traditionally do, with the Serenity Prayer or the Declaration of Unity.
- 2 No
- 3 I think it's just that the Lord's Prayer may cause problems. It should not be used.
- 4 No
- 5 Have it close with something related to Alcoholics Anonymous.
- 6 The St. Francis Prayer: Make an instrument of your peace...
The Lord's Prayer is the essence of our spirituality... we should always keep what helped people recover back in the day, and continues to help many AAs recover. The program is being devalued with illogical changes. Let's keep it simple. May God protect us from tyranny.
- 7 The Eleventh Step prayer followed by a minute of silence/meditation.
- 8 Together with the Step 3 prayer.
- 9 Let's keep it simple. One minute of silence and the responsibility statement.
The Lord's Prayer will only cause conflict with people who thrive on resentment or atheism, as has already happened once. Also, it is a 2000-year-old prayer and Alcoholics Anonymous is only 87 years old. Does this mean we can add religious sections to our literature? Let's keep it simple. Everyone has their own Higher Power already, Steps 2 and 3 tell us to go look for it, not impose it upon others.
- 10 No. Thank you for sharing.
- 11 I don't think it's such a bad idea for the decision to be left to the event chairs, but I'm also not against using the Lord's Prayer as just another prayer, with a meaning beyond what it signifies for the Catholic religion, etc. I hope my opinion will be useful.
Thank you, dear AA friends, for your service and happy 24 hours!
- 12 No. I would like it to be the Responsibility Statement, or the Declaration of Unity.
Dr. Bob described our Fellowship with the words Love and Service. The St. Francis Prayer suggested for the practice of Step Eleven covers both proposals. It asks that I become an instrument and carry the message of love, forgiveness, unity, truth, hope, light, joy, consolation and understanding which are a part of our recovery program.
- 13 Thus, I would suggest that we close with the St. Francis' Prayer.
- 14 I like the Declaration of Unity a lot. Since this is an International Convention, which will gather
- 15 many AAs from around the world, I think the Declaration of Unity would make more sense. Thank you. It's the opinion of Luis N.R., AA member from Mexico.
- 16 It could be the Lord's Prayer and the Responsibility Statement.
- 17 Traditionally they always close with the Responsibility Statement, remembering always that group and convention autonomy ought to be respected.
- 18 Only with the Responsibility Statement.
- 19 Not for the time being.
- 20 With the Lord's Prayer and a few seconds of silence.

21 In my group we end the meeting by hugging each other in brotherly love.
Many AA members at conventions do this spontaneously and some with tears in their eyes as they are overtaken by emotion.

22 No

23 I think it's necessary to have the Lord's Prayer at the closing of the meeting.

24 Foster the inclusion and relevance of young people for AA as a whole.

25 No, I am OK with my suggestions.

26 We could include the Responsibility Statement in French, Spanish and English and close the big AA meeting this way.

27 Serenity Prayer and Declaration of Unity.

I think that most groups are in agreement and fully convinced that when the bell rings, it is God whom we call upon, in silence, which unites us all. Followed by our Serenity Prayer, which stands for daily work through the Steps, ending with commitment to AA and as a Fellowship with the two statements. And everything [applies to] atheists, agnostics, believers and any member of any faith, this being AA. IT INVOLVES US.

28

29 The Declaration of Unity and Responsibility Statement.
Some people from other religions might feel left out if we use the Lord's Prayer.

30 I like the Responsibility Statement.

If we sense a lot of conflict because of closing with the Lord's Prayer, it think it would be best to close with the Responsibility Statement, although we know that the Lord's Prayer was a much-used tool in the early days of our Fellowship. Thank you for taking our opinion into account.

31

1. Declaration of Unity
2. I am responsible
3. The Lord's Prayer

32 My personal reasons:
We need unity
I am responsible for practicing this.
HE is our hope to free us from any evil that could break us apart.

33 Only three moments: 1. Lord's Prayer; 2. Serenity Prayer and 3. Responsibility Statement

34 NO

35 Replace the Lord's Prayer with the St. Francis Prayer.

36 NOT for now.

37 None

38 FIRST THE DECLARATION OF UNITY, FOLLOWED BY THE RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT.

39 AA is not allied with any sect, DENOMINATION, politics, organization or institution.

40 The St. Francis Prayer.

2023 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

ITEM D: Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

Background:

1. [Summary Suggestions 2017 to 2022](#)
2. [2022 Eastern Canada Regional Forum Questionnaire Summary](#)
3. [2022 Western Canada Regional Forum Questionnaire Summary](#)
4. [2022 Pacific Regional Forum Questionnaire Summary](#)
5. [2022 Southeast Regional Forum Questionnaire Summary](#)

Summary of Suggestions on Ways to Encourage Interest in Forums from Conference Committees on International Conventions/Regional Forums (2017-2022)

The committee discussed ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first time attendees, and suggested:

2022

- Consider options to the title “Regional Forum” utilizing more current language.
- Continue utilizing digital communication options; however, also continue non-digital options to ensure full accessibility and participation by members who may not have access to technology.

2021

- Consider using the meeting guide app to further convey Regional Forum information.
- Continue using videoconferencing technology to broadcast portions of future in-person forum programs allowing members who may not have resources or time to travel to participate.
- Ensure future host regions are well informed about dates, locations, programs, and ways the local membership can participate.
- Extend outreach materials to invite the Spanish-speaking and LGBTQ communities to attend Regional Forums.
- Conduct at least one presentation or workshop in Spanish and/or French at each Regional Forum.

2020

- Providing options for remote attendance.
- Providing digital access to Regional Forum materials and presentations (including use of the Meeting Guide App or mobile app).
- Developing service material for host committees providing shared experience on hosting a Regional Forum and stimulating participation.

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- Developing a “video invitation” from the G.S.B. chair.

Suggestions for implementation at the local area included:

- Early and consistent communication about Regional Forums, including “What is a Regional Forum; no registration fee; what happens at a forum.
- Involve members at all levels of service; do “sponsorship road trips.”

Use the Regional Forum video after it is released.

2019

- Compile notes from the first-timer sharing at a Forum for later distribution to encourage members to attend a future Forum.
- Consider developing a Regional Forum app.
- Consider developing a micro-site in addition to postal mailing the Regional Forum flyers.
- Increase awareness at the local level, including “intentional” outreach to different populations (i.e., young people, Spanish-speaking communities).
- Encourage local welcome committees to create “Save the Date” flyers.
- Consider inviting A.A.W.S./AA Grapevine directors to “non-service” A.A. events to increase awareness of Regional Forums.
- Place information about Regional Forums in the AA Grapevine and La Viña.

2018

- When possible, provide bilingual written and PowerPoint presentations, especially important when the Regional Forum is held in an area with a large population of non-English speaking members.
- Consider providing “meet and mingle” opportunities for Forum attendees to meet with trustees and G.S.O. staff in informal settings (i.e., lunch).
- Provide members the opportunity to register earlier than the current two months lead time.

Suggestions for Forum workshops include:

- Lengthen workshop times;
- Trustees and G.S.O. staff could lead more workshops to foster more interaction with Forum attendees;
- Adding workshops that would specifically address the topic of our Primary Purpose;
- Providing additional Spanish workshops.

2017

- Communicating information to groups that are a car ride or day trip away from the Forum site;
- Looking for attractive sites for Forums;
- Forwarding any and all announcements from G.S.O., including when pre-registration opens;
- Forwarding announcements to states that are in other regions when Forum sites are nearby;
- Utilizing FNV for email blasts to communicate with trusted servants about upcoming Forums.

Additionally, one area through its Assembly Development Committee organizes ride sharing and room sharing for Forums; and one delegate shared that they bring a laptop to A.A. gatherings and use it for pre-registration.

**2022 EASTERN CANADA REGIONAL FORUM – (May 13-15 2022)
Questionnaire Summary**

64 participants members of the 2022 EASTERN CANADA REGIONAL FORUM completed their evaluation questionnaires. A summary of their responses follows.

1. How did you hear about this Forum?

Area	32 (54.2%)
District	12 (20.3%)
G.S.O. Flyer	2 (3.4%)
Local Intergroup/Central Office	1 (1.7%)
Home Group	10 (16.9%)
www.aa.org	9 (15.3%)
Friend	3 (5.1%)
Other	3 (5.1%)

Responses to other:

- I was not able to attend
- I am the Delegate for an Area
- I am a member of the G.S.B.
- I knew about it from District and was encouraged to go by a friend
- Meeting
- I was the Delegate who applied for the forum
- I was already aware

2. Please list any suggestions for future virtual Workshop or Presentation topics:

The following suggestions/comments were provided by the members for future virtual Workshop and Presentation topics:

- General Service Conference Process
- I'd like to see the issue of attracting younger people addressed along with the issue of dual addiction (the discouragement of mentioning it which drives some young people away)
- Love and tolerance
- Security in our rooms
- Canada bill c31/ the Indian Act

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- Indigenous Canadian women make up 1/0 of the Canadian population; they make up 1/2 of the prison population (federally)
- FASD (fetal alcohol spectrum disorder and corrections/treatment in A.A.
- A.A. approved Zoom Meetings, and making sure 7th tradition contributions made during Zoom meetings reach the G.S.O.
- Information about the workings of the A.A.W.S. board and the GSC, something to help us to understand that we are all working together for our common purpose of helping alcoholics
- Will we accept virtual areas as part of our service structure? Should we be investigating this now?

Comments:

- This was my first Forum. I suggested to Sandra that for people wearing hearing aids, background noise makes it very difficult to understand what's being said in group sessions. This did concern her, and she said that this is certainly something that will be addressed in the future.
- This forum found out coffee was not a necessity or a necessary expense, as well as the ice cream social. People who wanted it could arrange it among themselves. They are long days, and I could go and rest if I chose to
- This was my first Regional Forum, I found that the workshops were well thought out and executed. The only thing that I would recommend is more time for participants to share input. I understand the time constraints, however in one of the workshops "How to Encourage Service Work", the facilitator spoke for a third or more of the time allotted for the workshop, and several participants left before the facilitator finished speaking, which defeats the intent of ideas and the opportunity for sharing
- More Workshops
- More time for participants to contribute their ideas for greater involvement in A.A. Service
- A better handling of the requirements for French-speaking people. We were about one third of the people present there. Sure, there are some efforts, but it shows that everything is conceived by English speakers, rather than taking seriously into consideration our specific needs. Some people did roughly 30 hours by bus, because they feel it is important, and then, many parts of the event are English-centered, they are asked to try to ask their questions in English, to attend workshops that are conducted without simultaneous translation, and so on. The worst was the fact that when the translator said she was going to speak French, many people just left the room rather than pick some headsets...Then, we discuss inclusiveness...what a canyon between our realities. A full list of what could and should be done (and is feasible) will be forwarded to you through our Delegate.

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- Why isn't there an official list of meetings on Zoom that must be approved by the G.S.O.?
- I just loved it all, and felt very reassured that A.A. is on the right track. I am in awe about the humility and consideration that all of the present Class A and Class B trustees are showing their positions. I am thankful to have met you. I had a lot of old questions in my mind answered throughout presentations and sharing sessions. I really enjoyed hearing about financials and Kevin's considerations. I was grateful for all the work done to preserve and continue the outreach of Grapevine and La Vina. I am proud to be a member of A.A., beyond the lifesaving obviously. I would suggest that in the future there is coffee and tea available, or even for purchase. It was disruptive to have to leave and go out in search of it, instead of staying.
- The 2022 ECanRF opened Friday night with the Service Structure. As a first-time attendee, I sank into my seat thinking this event was going to be very boring for me because I was so familiar with that part. I did not anticipate an enjoyable or informative weekend. Saturday was better and got more so as it went on. Saturday night was very interesting, and Sunday was amazing. I thought afterwards that if the event had STARTED with one of the past trustees sharing their experience, like Jo-Anne, everyone would be drawn in immediately and look forward to the rest of the program. Her story really described what A.A. actually DOES, and what our group contributions to G.S.O. pay for: spreading the message. I told Jo-Anne about my feelings after the forum, and she urged me to include this in my review.

When I was in Drama Club in high school, our director (teacher) always rehearsed first the third act, then the first, then the second. He said if the third act was good people would go away thinking the whole thing was good, and the first act needed to be good to draw people in. I think it would be good for the first act of the Forum, Friday night, to draw people in.

Please have someone announce AT THE VERY BEGINNING that the translation headphones were available and would be needed. Friday night was pretty much a loss for me as I didn't realize I would need them, and I think more than half the attendees were there for the first time

- I went to the ECanRF website and read that event agenda would be available when ready or at the event. I messaged the ECanRF site and requested the agenda seven days before the event. I was surprised that hundreds of people would book into hotels and expend travel funds with no idea of the topics or times of workshops. I was messaged back promptly and told that the agendas were not yet translated and that NY had not authorized the release. I continued to look for the agenda on the ECanRF throughout the week and looked at the Area website, to no avail. The day of the opening, I contacted the ECanRF site once again requesting the agenda. I made that contact about 9:30 p.m. and received a link by the next morning which directed me to a different site to view the agenda. I had missed the opening evening

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and next morning activities by that time. When I arrived at the event that day, I was advised that the agenda had been up online on another site all week! This was disappointing.

3. At future Forums would you like to see:

	More	Less	Just Right	No Answer
Presentations	12 (24.5%)	5 (10.2%)	32 (65.3%)	
Workshops	26 (47.3%)	2 (3.6%)	27 (49.1%)	
Sharing Sessions	21 (42.0%)	1 (2.0%)	28 (56.0%)	

4. What was effective and what improvements might be made to A. Presentations B. Workshops C. Sharing Sessions:

Comments:

Presentations

- More on people incarcerated so we can help out as much as humanly possible
- All the presentations were very informative and helpful. It gave us a look at the inner workings of the worldwide organization of Alcoholics Anonymous. I especially enjoyed the presentation "A.A. Around The World". The lady doing the presentation was awesome, full of wisdom and very joyful
- It was great to have the Delegates present on different topics
- Feedback on the presentations as they are completed. As the forum gets busy, presentations can be forgotten
- I thought the presentations were wonderful and very informative!
- Not so long with some speakers all the time. I felt bad for the one lady she was up there four times it seemed on Saturday. Also, I had no idea that I needed headphones to hear the French conversations. I am a brand new G.S.R. and have no idea what to do as our old one died. PEI is a very aging A.A. population. We need to find a way to bring younger people into the fellowship
- Concise, not over-long, informative....no improvement necessary
- I would keep the number of presentations, but give them more time and more time for sharing sessions
- More PowerPoints
- Too many
- Good topics

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- I challenge you to listen to an interpreter while a presentation is displayed in French only. Why do you expect that French-speaking people can do it when you project in English only? The fact that some terms to describe finances are very specific and somewhat of a lingo make it even worse
- I enjoyed hearing the Class A shares and seeing that non-alcoholics have our cause at heart. I would like to learn more about that
- Need more slides
- More group sharing on personal experiences in different types of service work
- What was good: All of it! The love between the G.S.O. staff, present and recent trustees, delegates, and members of the 10 areas.....the “hallway conversations” in lobby.....etc.....The host area committee was really visible....and welcoming, and ready to “put out fires” like... why no coffee, Dave A.’s lobster pot early bird meetings gave a Maritime flavor and taste for more to the 217 first timers. What could improve.....the workshop rooms were too small for 317 participants to social distance. Many of us were there on our own dime and had to stay at cheaper hotels nearby.....so there was an “elitist” mode, but not bad...There was a Hospitality room, I set up a corrections treatment display but hardly anyone came in as there were no snacks, etc due to c19 restrictions....but nothing is wasted.....this display will reappear in a different Area 81 venue or even zoom. Could the ECanRF could be Hybrid.....many are not able to attend due to high gas prices and so many lost jobs/ deaths during Covid-19 pandemic.....we are entering an A.A. Comes of Age Brave New World now.....
- None needed
- Power point if possible
- Excellent presentations. I look forward to getting a written copy of them
- Suggest using screens to show presentation (including charts and tables from the Service Manual). Make it more dynamic. It’s a little boring to see someone reading notes while there are no visual cues on the screen
- The translation services were excellent
- Speakers were kept to equal amounts of time. Translations were available
- All good
- A presentation on IG’s/CO’s integrating with General Service
- I really enjoyed both the Past Trustees stories. I think one should begin the Forum, perhaps another one Saturday morning. And it was great to hear two on Sunday
- Not at this time
- Presentations (on screen) should have been in French as well
- Too long

Workshops

- I was unable to attend because the rooms were at capacity

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- Good
- Workshops were informative and a helpful sharing tool with members
- If possible, maybe more time for individual workshops
- The workshops are much better when there is member participation in the workshops. I wish you would make it more accessible to members who speak other languages
- The workshops were great, and more would be of great interest I believe
- I didn't know they were even available
- Have translators for all workshops
- The rooms were a bit small for number of attendees
- Cut one and allocate more time to the presentations and sharing sessions
- Larger rooms for social distancing
- Not enough
- Topics were great
- During the workshop about virtual meetings, I would have liked to have learned more how the G.S.O. intends to make progress with virtual meetings
- More workshops
- Workshops should have more panel members, and break into groups
- More than 35 minutes....
- The time was so short for the workshops with only 25 minutes (and 5 mins to get to next session). Otherwise, it was good
- Larger conference rooms
- Need rooms with higher capacity - rooms were full
- All good
- A workshop on Engage, Inform & Educate
- There was no translation in the workshops. Since the group was at least half speaking in French, it was awkward for the presenters and mystifying for the rest of us. At the very least someone could repeat the question or comment whether in English or French as needed. Also, the rooms were too small and people were standing even outside the doors trying to hear
- Not at this time
- Prior to the workshops, an announcement should have been made that no translation would be provided in the workshops. All workshops should have been done at the same time slot. Giving a more diverse choice for everyone because there wasn't a French workshop in the second time slot, so the French members had nowhere to go. There wasn't enough time in the workshops. If they were all scheduled at the same time, they could have been for a longer period of time. And Claude's presentation could have been a workshop, so it would have accommodated the French speaking members. We only need one full forum workshop - Who's Missing in our Rooms - moderated my Sandra, or whomever
- Not long enough, and not enough space

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Sharing Sessions

- Sharing sessions in each language, rather than intertwined with interpretations
- What can I possibly say: sharing is what A.A. is all about - good or not so good. It's the only way to proceed in our continuous recovery
- Thank you for the translation and ASL interpretation
- Good
- Great to hear as many opinions as possible, to get the feel of all our areas and districts
- Great. Keep them as is. The sharing in both languages was wonderful
- Very well conducted. You staying on task, and ended the session as per the schedule
- Fine
- Too many
- More A.A. meetings and workshops on service, instructions as to fulfilling certain Service, Jobs such as Grapevine and Literature, and Jails and treatment center service
- Was well balanced. Adding the attendees sharing when speaking at the mic
- More A.A. members talking about personal service work experiences
- More sharing sessions would be very beneficial at future forums, especially sessions discussing personal experiences in A.A. service work
- Ditto
- None needed
- There was a good amount of time for sharing
- Actually enforcing the 2 or 3 minute rule when people go to the mic
- Very helpful - lots of topics commented on or questioned about
- All good
- Questions about the general service structure up and down the triangle
- Please have someone announce AT THE VERY BEGINNING that the translation headphones were available and would be needed. Friday night was pretty much a loss for me as I didn't realize I would need them, and I think more than half the attendees were there for the first time
- Not at this time
- With simultaneous translation, there is no need for 3 minutes given to French speaking members. It was finally straightened out by Sunday
- Good, but could be run better

5. Please indicate whether this was your first Forum:

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Yes 30 (50.8%) No 29 (49.2%)

6. Please select your current service position:

G.S.R.	11 (19.6%)
D.C.M.	5 (8.9%)
Area Officer	4 (7.1%)
Area Committee Chairperson	4 (7.1%)
A.A. Group Member	13 (23.2%)
Non-Trustee Director	0 (0.0%)
Delegate	6 (10.7%)
Past Delegate	5 (8.9%)
Trustee	3 (5.4%)
Past Trustee	0 (0.0%)
Friend of A.A.	0 (0.0%)
Other	5 (8.9%)

Responses to Other:

- Area committee alternate chair
- Area subcommittee chair
- Alternate Delegate
- Alternate DCM A83, D30
- District secretary
- Alternate Delegate (2)
- Other

7. Did you pre-register online?

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Yes 49 (83.1%) No 10 (16.9%)

8. Please list any suggestion to improve the online registration process.

- ???
- None
- I was unable to register through the website. I sent emails but no response. My delegate sent me a link
- ONLINE WORKED FINE FOR ME, AND I'M NOT THAT COMPUTER SAVEY
- I found it easy to register. If possible, maybe have the itinerary available sooner to better plan the time spent at the event
- It was fast and easy
- I have nothing to add at this time
- It was excellent
- Online pre-registration was easy and efficient
- Area 81 had the pre-registration hidden on their web page. If you didn't know it was there, you would give up
- None
- None needed
- Very simple and straightforward
- Nothing at this time
- Ask for hometown, so it can be listed on badge
- Works Great!

9. Is there anything that you saw at the forum that you think should be discontinued?

- NO
- Not at all!
- No
- As this was my first forum, I don't feel as if I understand the process well enough to answer that question
- Glasses clinking, it's a trigger for some of us new people. Bottled water would have been better
- Negative attitude towards cultural differences as when people will leave room or not care to listen to what we have to say in French. How can you respect my opinion if you do not even listen to it if I do not express it Shakespeare's language rather than in Molière's?
- The picture of a Heineken bottle sculpture! This is promotion of a brand and Alcohol. [This photo was included in the "A.A. Around the World" PowerPoint presentation]
- No

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- No
- No
- I would like to see more involvement from our Class A trustees. Maybe have them do a workshop with the Delegates
- No

10. Do you have any further thoughts or comments?

- From the BOTTOM OF MY HEART--THANK U THANK U
- Thanks for arranging airport transportation!
- NOT AT THIS TIME
- It was a wonderful spiritual experience. My favorite part was watching a couple of first timers catch fire
- As an Alternate Delegate, it was a pleasure to have meals with Board Members and G.S.O. Staff. Feel like we all got to know each other a little bit better, and the roles that our board members and staff play in our service structure. Thanks for a great weekend.
- I would like to thank the host area and committee for a great weekend. I spoke with one of the host volunteers about the unavailability of coffee. I also attended the lobster pot meetings and enjoyed them immensely. I don't recall seeing a 7th tradition basket at the forum?
- I had submitted a time sensitive question related to a document "Structure and Operating Procedures" (SOP) being created by an Ad Hoc committee in Area 11, District 81 which I didn't receive a response to. I completely understand that my question couldn't be addressed during the, "Ask It Basket" question period. I'm a new GSR and reached out to my GSR predecessor for guidance, however he was as puzzled with the proposed document as I was. At the April 28, GSR District meeting several of the participants stated that the proposed document was re-stating the General Service Manual. As a new GSR, I'm not familiar enough with the protocol to address such a moral dilemma. I believe that I owe it to my group to get a satisfactory answer before voting to accept this unorthodox change in protocol. If you could please provide me with an email address where I can send the document in question, it would be greatly appreciated.
- I was really disappointed that flyers weren't available and only for display purposes. I wanted to buy some literature as it's so lax on PEI
- I learned so much this weekend and it was so amazing!!
- A bit better pre-planning by the Area Forum committee would probably have enhanced the experience. The lack of coffee was a bit of a concern, and I was rather looking forward to the ice cream social. G.S.O. gave stellar presentations, and the overall enthusiasm by participants and attendees made it a memorable experience. I look forward to future Forums!!
- It was a really good moment! I'm grateful! Thank you all!

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- Coffee was missed
- Make sure there is an announcement to use interpretation equipment if you are not bilingual
- When in an Area that is primarily bilingual, please insure any Serenity prayer, Unity or Responsibility pledge is recited both languages re: English and French. Thank you! All and all it was a great weekend seeing old and new Friends, good job to all volunteers and G.S.O. staff
- This survey should have been available in three languages if the three cultures of the Conference are represented. Please note carefully that while many of the Spanish-speaking people speak English, nearly half of French-Speaking people live their day-to-day life totally in French, just as the English speakers live theirs in English, without a sufficient knowledge of a foreign language (French for you, English for them). No hard feelings, except for the fact that we explain this over and over and over again
- Excellent time!!
- The G.S.O. staff were great. Thank you Bob, and all Staff and Trustees
- There should have been coffee and tea, and more A.A. sharing personal experiences
- I was there to take photos of the 10 Delegates in front of the 10 Flags, and this was special
- Sandra's workshop on Saturday was great. Dividing us into twos and then fours was brilliant!
- Keep up the good work
- Thank you for the translation!
- It was really great. I wish I could have stayed longer!
- Although I'm not sure if feasible or not, it would be nice to have some sort of statistics running from Forum to Forum. For instance, there were 319 attendees at the PEI Forum, 217 of which were first time attendees. It would be very interesting to know, at the next Forum in 2024, what is the percentage out of the 217 who are involved in service work. Did they continue and/or begin service work following their attendance at the Forum?
- I would like to receive the schedule in advance by email. Going by the sample from previous years, I showed up at 6:30 expecting orientation for first time attendees and there was none. An orientation session would be valuable, once again to find out that we were ALL going to need the translation headphones. By the way, the translation was excellent. I really enjoyed that part of the experience.
- The absence of coffee at the A.A. meetings was strange for most and even the forum meetings could have had this on offer
- At the Meet & Greet on Friday night, the Board members (with badges on) could have been at the doors to greet the members as they come in. Badges should have not only our first name but also hometown. This would be in the online registration

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process.

The program looked like a working agenda i.e.: (read Script) was stated. The Regional Trustee's name wasn't even on the program Everyone should have had a PowerPoint presentation to keep people's attention. Those that did have PowerPoint presentations - why was one screen not in French? I realize it would have meant two people with clickers but this region is very bilingual and it would have meant a lot to the French members if there was French. The dates of the next Forum in 2024 in Ottawa should have been on the program. Why was the program that is on the website (listed as a sample program) not used? It is like a little booklet and makes for a great keepsake. Don't put designated rooms on the program. These could change, as they did for us. It caused mass confusion upstairs as no one really knew where they were going.. Rooms could be announced from the podium and could be posted at the registration desk. Post name of the workshop outside the room in the designated language that will be used - not in both languages. If both languages are posted then people think the workshop is being translated when it is not.

[Back to Agenda](#)

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**2022 WESTERN CANADA REGIONAL FORUM – (June 3-5 2022)
Questionnaire Summary**

50 participants members of the 2022 WESTERN CANADA REGIONAL FORUM completed their evaluation questionnaires. A summary of their responses follows.

1. How did you hear about this Forum?

Area	21 (45.7%)
District	7 (15.2%)
Local Intergroup/Central Office	2 (4.3%)
Home Group	6 (13.0%)
www.aa.org	6 (13.0%)
Friend	6 (13.0%)
G.S.O. Flyer	6 (13.0%)
Other	6 (13.0%)

Responses to other:

- A loving invitation
- A.A. Friend
- Area website
- G.S.O. Regional Forum Desk
- Past delegate told me
- Past Delegates Reunion information
- Delegates Reunion committee
- Other Participants
- A.A. member
- Bob shared a message at my homegroup AACTION

2. Please list any suggestions for future virtual Workshop or Presentation topics:

The following suggestions/comments were provided by the members for future virtual Workshop and Presentation topics:

- None
- Hybrid meetings (lessons learned, best practices, pros/cons)
- The diversity and inclusion segment was especially great. Drew did an amazing job in setting the tone. However, he spoke about trans people almost exclusively. It would be nice to have two or three presenters with different exclusion experience

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- Topics that can bring us back the basic foundation of A.A. "One alcoholic talking to another", which is the essence of our fellowship.
- GSR – A.A. Groups top of the upside-down triangle
- How the service structure is intended to work
- Encouraging participation
- I spoke with a trustee who gave me suggestions on how to encourage members to service. I think that could be a presentation suggestion
- We did address: "The one not in the rooms" as far as the alcoholic still sufferings, but what can we do to recharge interest in our area for members to come.... In large group and small groups
- How to write my story with a beginning, middle and end so I can send it into Grapevine
- Don't lose sight of the alcoholic!
- Is using medical marijuana sobriety?
- Where do elder statesmen come from?
- The tyranny of the minority
- The newcomer, the most important person at a meeting
- The value of service work demystified. Trying to get people involved, service is not that hard, just try it. Remember, everything in this program is one day at the time
- How do you address remote areas?
- In Canada, we have French speaking who are involved in service with G.S.O. Why are there so few Indigenous members? Can you address this issue?
- Living Step 7 in General Service in A.A.
- Service Sponsorship

Comments:

- Sorry, I had health problem which kept me from attending
- Why is attendance lower?
- it would be nice that the presentations and workshop topics come from the upcoming conference themes to help convey that the conference is a year-round process
- I thought this Forum was excellent!!
- I'm still learning and don't have suggestions to offer at this time
- Communication. I'm not sure where it breaks down and when some of the information was communicated to each region, but it seems like the call for volunteers, the agenda for the weekend took a LONG time to come out (or come to the announcements/groups). We were advertising the function for a long time, but it seems like we had little details. It took a long time to hear back from when I

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sent in my email that I was interested to volunteer until someone contacted me the week of the event. By that time, I figured that I wasn't needed and made other commitments lowering the number of hours I could have volunteered at the program. I KNOW it's NOT an easy job. Overall, a FANTASTIC WEEKEND!

- I have none at this time. I felt that everything was covered. I was very pleased

3. At future Forums would you like to see:

	More	Less	Just Right	No Answer
Presentations	6 (15.4%)	6 (15.4%)	27 (69.2%)	
Workshops	20 (45.5%)	4 (9.1%)	20 (45.5%)	
Sharing Sessions	17 (38.6%)	3 (6.8%)	24 (54.5%)	

**4. What was effective and what improvements might be made to A. Presentations
B. Workshops C. Sharing Sessions:**

Comments:

Presentations

- The presentations on Saturday by the Area Delegates and our trusted servants from G.S.O. were informative and very well done
- There's a good amount of repetition in the presentations, but I think that might not be a bad thing
- The PowerPoint presentations on Friday were excellent
- The treasures presentation was outstanding and easy to follow
- Nothing from my perspective. It was perfect and the speakers were fantastic
- All the presentations were very informative and not too long and not boring
- Such great speakers and content, nothing to improve
- The presentations were excellent and very informative
- Great presentations
- Class A presentations are always the most impactful
The finance presentation length was perfect. Not too long, just right
- I loved learning about each piece of the General Service Board and the G.S.O and the G.S.C.

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- All good!
- You only emphasized transgender problems with exclusivity. Why not add blacks, native Americans, Asians etc.?
- Very good
- Simplified explanation on first presentation. What is a Forum? For the "first time" members.
- The visual portions of the presentations were appreciated to help keep focused on what was being said
- Delegates: Having four presenters choose topics they felt pertinent and important to share on. The presenters could have used a few more minutes each. Having 10 minutes each would have been appreciated they all said. The presentations were well done by all. The Class A and B went over the scheduled time, but it needed that time to give a good overview. I would recommend scheduling to make time for this. It flowed, and it was great having the Class A and B Trustees work together. I would have liked a little personal story if there was time. The fact most presenters used PowerPoints was appreciated, and the PowerPoints were well done. It was great to have a visual of the office and staff assignments. A bit more about what staff positions do and their assignments would be appreciated. Group services could be highlighted a bit more and how members can help such as loners international and through corrections correspondents. I do not want to rush this session since this is why many come. The sharing from the three Class A trustees were great
- They were excellent and impactful
- I loved the new Grapevine Website and I'll be looking for it to launch in September 2022.
I want to see the Quarterly Grapevine Workshop - This is not the same as the launch, right?
- While presentations are thoughtfully written and carefully delivered to address timely issues within the fellowship, the copious information flow throughout the forum dilutes the effectiveness of the presentations. They are the appetizers before the main meal. Perhaps a panel of three - board, staff, and delegate - could address a single, clearly stated topic in a question and answer session
- It was my first forum and I liked it all
- This was my first Forum. It felt that everything I saw or attended was a presentation
The most valuable presentation was from Josh, he had a list of all the Trustees, then on another slide he took them from their list and sat them at a table to show who is working for us
- It is not easy to make a presenter exciting, if they are boring speakers to begin with. I think that presentations should continue with what is relevant for the times.

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There should be some focus on the younger generation, as there are so many new members who are younger

- Very well done, very informative
- I'm still processing the information I learned from the presentations I attended. I didn't even know my AREA or DISTRICT or much about the hierarchy of A.A.

Workshops

- The workshops I attended were had interesting topics. The facilitators and recorders knew their topic and how to facilitate getting the audience engaged
- Drew's workshop on "Who's not in the Room" was powerful and eye-opening. Loved the small group interaction. Forced some important discussion
- I attended the "Anonymity in the Digital Age" workshop and it was very good
- Awesome! - Attended the "Anonymity in the Digital World" workshop
- Informative sharing during and after
- The flip charts were useful. Maybe let moderators and presenters know that they are able to utilize PowerPoint
- The workshops felt short, I would have enjoyed another 30 minutes to discuss. I appreciated there only being four to choose from, that was good for my FOMO ("fear of missing out")
- They ran concurrently so you could only attend one
- I loved the group workshop with the entire forum. Did not enjoy the four individual workshop sessions, nor did I enjoy the 4:00 p.m. meeting
- I'd have liked to be at them all
- Fantastic learning exercises!
- Large group session to hear feedback on the small group's specific workshops
- The workshops could have provided more time for discussion. Specifically, the workshop on inclusivity, where we split off into pairs and groups. 5 more minutes at least would have given us a chance to better discuss the topic and hears what each other had to say
- It seemed too short, not everyone had an opportunity to participate. Not enough time for the report back in the small group. Some went over by fifteen minutes
- The topics seemed well suited, and there were enough to choose from
- It would have been nice to have even a few more in our workshop, so not having too many to choose from helped
- Looking forward to report back, would be nice to have time for a three minute report back on Sunday
- Hard to say. I wanted more of these, because it means I have to suggest less of something else. So, I chose less sharing sessions because as a teacher we have learned pedagogically that people will get more and learn more from participating

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in smaller group discussions (workshops) than large group (sharing session). Therefore, my suggestion is a soft one. Where possible, it might not even be a workshop, but rather than having a whole audience sharing session we might just break into four groups and have a hybrid between workshop and sharing session?

- Encourage workshop presenters to use methods that result in more audience participation
- It is always helpful to bring the attendees back to the focus of the workshop/sharing session, because once we go down a rabbit hole we tend not to be all inclusive anymore. It is okay to have the facilitators gently remind us of the intent or topic
- It was my first forum and I liked it all
- We need more of them. I understand that over the short weekend it is very difficult to accommodate. So, the one workshop I attended, the workshop on the Traditions, was very good. Great facilitators. They got everyone to share in on the subject
- Again, more workshops on what is relevant to the times, younger people, people of color (we always tend to be forgotten)
- I enjoyed the workshops, they were well attended and well facilitated, good content came from them
- I attended the "Anonymity in the Digital Age" workshop with Lori. I appreciate that I was able to speak openly. I hope I can help in the future with evolving A.A. in the digital era, once I have a better handle on my program

Sharing Sessions

- The Sharing sessions provided anyone the opportunity to voice their thoughts and feelings. I appreciated how Irma and the folks from G.S.O. listened and responded!
- Sometimes this allows chatty folks to just keep going to the mic
- The sharing sessions were managed well, with most of the sharing kept under 2 minutes. It appeared everyone who wanted to share had that opportunity
- It was so nice to hear everyone's point of views
- Sharing Sessions are the CORE of these Forums, as well as spending time with first time attendees
- Loved them
- Really enjoyed the sharing sessions
- Use Ask it basket more
- The Class A segment was amazing

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D.C.M.	5 (10.9%)
Area Officer	4 (8.7%)
Area Committee Chairperson	3 (6.5%)
A.A. Group Member	8 (17.4%)
Non-Trustee Director	1 (2.2%)
Delegate	0 (0.0%)
Past Delegate	11 (23.9%)
Trustee	3 (6.5%)
Past Trustee	0 (0.0%)
Friend of A.A.	3 (6.5%)
Other	2 (4.3%)

Responses to Other:

- Member
- Past Delegate: Pacific region
- Alternate delegate
- District con-level servant
- Central Office worker
- Area Committee Chair
- Alternate D.C.M. (2)
- I'm also the Treasurer for District 71

7. Did you pre-register online?

Yes 39 (78.0%) No 11 (22.0%)

8. Please list any suggestion to improve the online registration process.

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- I forgot to register! The METS team was great in giving me a printed name badge, so I didn't have to have a handwritten one
- My online attempt to register did not go though. On-site registration went smoothly
- Could a submit button be added to the form, and then a confirmation message would pop up stating that the user has completed the form, and that a confirmation email will be forthcoming? When I was filling out my form, something caused me to go back and re-fill my form a second time. I thought that I had missed a step in the pre-register form, even though the form stated register only once. This then resulted in a duplication of my registration
- None at this time
- OK
- I got confused by the question number. I have my phone number instead of my area number
- I need to hear more about Ask-it- basket questions
- My registration did not go through. I'm not sure why. Could this be simplified?
- It didn't seem easy to find for me. Not sure I have a suggestion on how to improve that. I know one person who wanted to come to the Forum and volunteer, but had no access to internet. Perhaps it could be made clear that registration could be done at the Forum
- Registration should be available sooner, so we can register then book the hotel and make plans. It should also be easier to find on the website
- No suggestions
- It was seamless
- I've attended a few forums now and changing up the agenda would be a good idea. Breaking into small discussion groups in the room is a great idea, it was fun to be encouraged/facilitated to talk to others in the room spontaneously to start strangers talking to one another
- Please keep it the same
- The Forum agenda could be emailed to registered attendees prior to getting to the event
- I did not register online, because we did not receive the agenda until a few days before the forum. I do not know who makes sure the agenda is in place, but it would be nice to have way before the date. Those who were part of the presentations knew about the forum, when, where it was to occur, it would have been helpful to us to receive that agenda sooner
- All good
- The link was extremely difficult to find. Please make it easier to find on Area website
- No issues registering

9. Is there anything you saw at the Forum that you think should be discontinued?

- No
- I didn't see anything that should be discontinued.
- I applaud inclusion but not at the expense of making normies feel excluded
- I've often felt that the "who's missing from our rooms" session should be discontinued because it hasn't always been productive. However, this important topic could not have been presented and handled better. We can't always have a one person presenting, though. I think how the time is set and how the topic is handled is as important as the topic itself
- Not sure
- No
- Nothing that I saw
- No
- Allowing people more than their fair share of time not only at sharing sessions, but workshops too. It's not a disrespect of them, it's a respect for others. Especially minority voice types that have a hard time speaking up and now it's easy to not speak up because time ran out
- Nope
- I know this difficult to control, but during one session I had difficulty hearing the speaker because there were three people having a conversation behind me for about 10 minutes. If whoever is chairing could mention to keep conversations minimal or step outside the meeting room
- I really enjoyed this forum. People choose what they want to participate in, as I did
- No
- N/A

9. Responses to Do you have any further thoughts or comments?

- I was celebrating a wedding anniversary on Friday, and we had family from out of town with us for the weekend. As such and unfortunately, I was only able to attend the Forum during the day on Saturday. I really enjoyed the day. It was a great opportunity to meet members from Western Canada and G.S.O. Had the opportunity to have lunch with Josh, James and Eileen and get to know them a bit better. Some members of our corrections committee and a friend from New Brunswick who previously met Eileen on zoom meetings had the opportunity to talk with her. I appreciate the folks from G.S.O. and all the people that travelled from out of province to attend. Thank you for hosting this and I hope to participate in future Forums

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- Class A panel was terrific. Three gems
- I liked this Forum because attendance was low, and it was more intimate
- I would like to say a big Thank You to all for a the time and work that is put into the forums, past, present and future
- Absolutely awesome...A great weekend
- I would like the A.A. Around the World Maps to be larger, and I would like to be able to hear and see things better
- Give the person a louder bell or have her ring more vigorously and have them go to where the people are congregating
- This was so incredibly well planned and executed. So much content, stayed on time, wasn't too few people, wasn't too many. One of the best events I've ever attended, left with my heart singing. Still is!
- This was my first time attending an A.A. forum ever in my life. I didn't know what to expect or how I was going to be received. I was a little apprehensive and scared, but when I got there I was met with open arms and immediately accepted. The love and welcomeness that was shown to me was amazing. I really enjoyed myself and learned a lot about A.A. Thank you for letting me attend
- Honestly, I felt like the gay pride celebration that was happening simultaneously in the hotel was mixed in with the forum. As a woman of a certain age, I do not like men using a urinal while I am washing my hands. I felt like the forum was specifically targeted towards trans-gay members and that's okay but then it should be billed that way. I went for A.A. and felt like I was being educated on outside issues of the day.
- The meal train was a great idea. It allowed me to spend time with small groups of members over a meal. I feel we don't have enough opportunity to hear what the issues and needs are of the members. We spend more time talking to them and I would like more opportunity to talk with them
- None. Thanks to all who made this happen
- The Saturday evening events proved to be very unifying for all, including the Class As and G.S.O. staff. We need more encouragement to have people go to the ice cream social and the trivia game, they were a huge success. The trivia game connected everyone. It would be nice to invite the class As to join and make it part of the evening. It created much unity
- I found it very informative and interesting and spiritually led. It was fantastic
- Great job. I really enjoyed the weekend
- This was my first forum. It was a friendly, warm atmosphere I really enjoyed it Thank you so much for your hard work
- Drew's speech was powerful, courageous and needed to be heard. Thank you, Drew, and thank you, Forum for including Drew as a speaker

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- Thank you so much for all the preparation and presentations. One question we could be given to take back to our areas , districts, groups, individuals, would be, "What are you going to do, take action with this information and fact we learned and sheared together with you area, district and groups
- It was truly an amazing experience! The best thing I've done in A.A. in years. Thank you to all who worked so hard to bring it to us
- No
- Coffee and tea Saturday night available would be appreciated. Sunday coffee was cancelled in the main room, and then the hospitality room having to supply meant they missed Sunday morning setting up and had not planned to be open Sunday after session started at 9 a.m. Sunday I missed the last "What's on Your Mind". I had something to share and never got the opportunity. The skit was funny and had us starting to think about the International Convention. Announcing in the upcoming in region was a good idea
- Thank you for everything that you do. We are blessed each day and into the future because of it
- I really enjoyed this. I left feeling so peaceful and filled with excitement. I was able to report to my home group on Monday. They could see and hear how I felt. I met so many people and finally met others that I've seen on screens. Things like this make me feel like I should keep doing service work. I don't have anything negative to say. I could go on and on. Thanks for this. Thanks to Area 80 for hosting
- The volunteers and hospitality room were top notch
- It would be great to hear more from the G.S.O. about the advisory actions that are being currently worked on - especially when it comes to the literature; policies or anything that is really meaty for the fellowship to take back to their areas. I.e.: background now coming out simultaneously which could possibly present a delay in distribution. I really appreciated the mention and reminders of safety in the room regarding COVID - everything was there and available for those that wanted to take their own personal safety precautions. It would have been nice to hear the impact of COVID at the first in person conference to stop the misinformation from circling within the areas. I'm so grateful to have attended and for the amazing staffers and volunteers that make the event so wonderful
- I really enjoyed it. Wouldn't change much to improve it
- Because this was my first Forum, I encourage to have as many of the G.S.O. staff attending these events. It was so nice to meet the people that work in New York
- I went to the Friday night but could not find where you were. If there had been better signs indicating the correct floor that would have been helpful
- I had an Amazing first-time exposure to a Regional Forum. All speakers and workshop presentations were Very informative, facilitated with grace and

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humility! Many of the speakers touched my heart. I will make sure to attend any Forums that I am able in the future

- No
- Thanks to all who made this forum happen, I love you all <3
- It would be lovely to see programs printed in the "old" format (8 1/2 x 11 folded, as per sample on website). It looks much more professional. The hotel sound problems were really annoying. G.S.O. staff did their best, but again, it wasn't as professional standard as we are used to. Grapevine presentations from Board and Staff had too much overlap. Class As were great. I have some concerns about past trusted servants from other Regions using time in the sharing sessions to bring their own concerns to the floor. I really wanted to hear the local concerns and trends. I do note that no one else was at the mic when they shared
- I try to attend as many forums as I can. I always find them informative, and they give me a chance to meet people I have not seen for a while
- I thought everything was extremely well done. I felt really inspired to do more for A.A. Thank you so much for a wonderful first forum experience
- There were so many past this and past that, kind of felt like maybe I should not be there, or only them and you know about A.A.
- Having a Canadian and a US bank account to facilitate Canadians to pay would be nice
- Update for the times, but don't change the wording of the A.A. book. Just add a marker and add the words at the bottom of page to modernize to the day

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2022 PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM – (September 16-18 2022) Questionnaire Summary

128 participants members of the 2022 PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM completed their evaluation questionnaires. A summary of their responses follows.

1. How did you hear about this Forum?

Area	64 (50%)
District	36 (28.1%)
G.S.O. Flyer	7 (5.4%)
Local Intergroup/Central Office	4 (3.1%)
Home Group	11 (8.5%)
www.aa.org	16 (12.5%)
Friend	7 (5.4%)
Other	7 (5.4%)

Times answered 121

Times Skipped 7

Responses to other:

- Facebook
- I am a previous attendee and I kept it in my calendar
- Service Sponsor
- My sponsor, who's a current DCM in another area than mine. There was no mention of it in my area
- I researched and tracked the date because I know Forums happen. Not well advertised
- I have attended peace previous Forums and I had been anticipating attending this one
- Email from A.A.

2. Please list any suggestions for future virtual Workshop or Presentation topics:

The following suggestions/comments were provided by the members for future virtual Workshop and Presentation topics:

- Cultivating future service leadership
- Our Critics are Our Friends
- Petition and Appeal: How to express our grievances and concerns with love and tolerance
- Reaching communities remote to AA; Asian African American, homeless etc.

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- Speaker meeting (like 2 or 3 speakers) on Saturday night regarding their service experience
- How to put on hybrid meetings
- Safety in A.A.
- Handling sexual advances and predatory behavior at A.A. meetings
- Online Groups Suite:
 - A. Primary Purpose - Embracing our Online Groups
 - B. Integrating our Online Groups into the Service Structure
 - C. Building Online Capacity: Costs and Expertise
- 3 Legacy/1728 Sponsorship
- Prudent Planning: Budgeting for Travel to the International Conference
- Grapevine/La Vina - Connecting Groups to A.A. as a Whole
- 21st Century 12-Step Work
- I would have like to know more about how A.A. is organized in the Americas. You did a great job of how US/Canada works together, but were does Mexico fit in?
- Member Experiences
- Helping to be of service according to the will of our higher power.
- The difference between wants and needs
- 12th step work at the local level
- Back to basic
- If not us, then who?
- Humility in service
- Lack of Service Sponsorship
- Love and Tolerance
- Discussions regarding Doctors' opinion, and potential updates to it
- Updates to the Big Book
- Bringing A.A. into the 21st century
- What shape is your triangle? (after the 1989 Grapevine article)
- Suggested practices for setting up website, contribution on internet/Venmo, email accounts and such for groups and districts.
- How do we make the literature more accessible?
- The Concepts
- Transparency in A.A. Are we honest? At the Group, District, Area and A.A.W.S. levels?
- I'd like to see a Presentation from the Group Services/Member Services staff about what kinds of problems come across their desks.
- Common Problems (so members know they're not alone) and what solutions have been offered...and how we best address these common problems
- Online meetings and how they will fit into our service structure (it's a hot topic and I think will be for a while)
- 13 stepping in A.A.
- Member safety (especially newcomers)
- Reinvigorate the elder statesmen as service sponsors
- The traditions and safety

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- Corrections as a committee under the general service umbrella “what does that look like”?
- Inventories: personal, group, district, area, G.S.O., trustees
- Embracing the in-person and virtual meeting reality: best practices
- “Old fashioned” A.A. - where technology is failing reaching out to the alcoholic who still suffers
- Safety in A.A. It is different for each and every one of us, and it is different in different 'regions' of A.A.
- GSR experience with the concepts
- DCMs sharing experience about their connections with GSRs
- Districts understanding about autonomy and concepts in action at their business meetings (preparing for assemblies)
- Sponsorship on 12 steps and service
- How to start an A.A. group
- A Transparency Workshop. How much information do Groups need to be effective? Why do some Areas behave as though Anonymity is total secrecy? And behave as though they are not there to serve the Groups?
- Safety: An Ongoing Concern
- Supporting the Sobriety of Hispanic Women - What Can I DO?
- Sexism in A.A.
- Racism in A.A.
- What Will It Take to Move Beyond "Male, Stale and Pale?" (Addressing gender, age and rigidity in A.A.)
- Tolerance: It's More Than aa Motto - It's a Practice
- Breaking Down Concept 9: the Leadership in Action
- How to start an A.A. group and how to teach others how to share in a group
- Concerns and Questions about A.A.

Comments:

- Unfortunately I was hoping you would have used the technology available to allow us who couldn't go, to provide a hybrid way for the fellowship to participate. Or at least stream it as a webinar on Zoom.
- Was not on Facebook?
- Have security outside of the doors to control noise disturbance. More room needed along mic walkways. Have someone sit near mic to help with set up and problems. Announce Ask it Basket availability
- Please, be sure chair and flyer has the same schedule. Saturday morning presentations started 15 minutes early.
- There were no greeters at the door during the entire forum. That usually makes it upbeat. The Grapevine presentation was good. I think that there should be a book of all the pamphlets. There were pamphlets mentioned but there was no place to pick one up. I thought all the presentations were amazing. Thank you

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- The topic of "overcoming local apathy" is very inappropriate in my opinion. Negativity toward A.A. members at the local level is unbecoming of a regional forum. It could easily be reframed as increasing participation, attraction to service or one of many other options
- Maybe make participation options at a short time, a minute max as most of us Hispanic speaking repeat same as the other participant but adds more to it as. I act like I was better at it. So, if you keep it at a shorter time partition or only participate once per topic there is less of EGO on our participation
- You guys did amazing! I am so pleased that I came it was well worth my time! It helped me put what we do in the perspective
- We have been talking about who is not in the room for too long in this region, when we are the region that usually supplies the diversity
- Less, less, less by the delegates. I think we need more time to hear from the members. There were always long lines of people at the mics that had questions that went unanswered. I think the sharing is the most important part of the forum. We get together to hear from the board and office and then want to ask our questions. WE don't need to hear from our delegates or alternates. The forum is not about them. It is about the members
- Not sure why we had a topic for a workshop and then we spent 20 minutes discussing more topics to discuss and not the actual workshop topic
- The workshop topics were relevant and well thought out
- The 12th Tradition workshop consisted of about 20 minutes to figure out what questions we would discuss, how to discuss them, and how long everyone would get to share on them (which was 30 seconds each). I would have liked to hear what the delegate had to say on the Tradition, or one of the other members who seem to know about the Traditions rather than to hear everyone in the room try to come up with something to say in 30 seconds each. I do not feel like it was effective at all. I would like to see more panels, workshops and talks pertaining to the 12 Traditions. I believe they are vital and relevant, and not discussed enough at the forum.
- Support Spanish language districts with complete interpretation options during workshops.
Better options for interpretation during large group presentations
- One of the workshops I attended wasn't well organized and there was no presentation on the tradition. My suggestion would make sure the presenters are three legacy and have the knowledge necessary to pass it on
- If we have a Spanish meeting, can we make sure to have an English translator as well
- You had two different workshop sessions on Saturday, one in the morning for 45 minutes and one in the evening for 45 minutes to an hour. With seven different topics each. you could have added another session on late Friday evening (9:15pm - 10:00pm) and divided the 14 topics up into three different workshop sessions. I was only able to attend two of the topics and this would have made it possible to attend three
- I really enjoyed the forum, thank you for your service to A.A.
- Ask-it-Basket was ridiculous. It should be fair, transparent, not hidden and fully disclosed. Questions should be pulled out of the basket. Instead, they were pre-typed and discussed in advance. No transparency!

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- A little clearer signage. Workshops were fine, some that I wanted to attend were more crowded than others, so I left. Air in the ballroom was stuffy. Hotel prices were too steep
- In a couple of the workshops I attended, it was nice to see audience participation, but since most of the participants were looking for answers also, they seemed to spend more time re-wording the problem than offering solutions to the problem itself. I attended the Forum to learn from the G.S.O. officers on how to get to solutions. I will admit that looking at the problem from different angles is always a good idea, there still seemed to be little assistance in coming to specific solutions from others still mired in the problem. (“What is your area webpage saying?” for example.)
- Please either make these hybrids or host a virtual workshop for those who cannot attend in person for various reasons
- I enjoyed the full forum workshop discussion. This topic should be transferred into a workshop, as well. I'd also like to hear more from members about their experiences
- *Mas tiempo de opinar al ultimo. para El ultimate*
- *Todo estuvo muy bien Gracias Gracias por ser posible el evento*
- *Informes al finas del foro de lo que se llevó acabo*
- *Más enfoque en los recién llegados y servicios generales.*

3. At future Forums would you like to see:

	More	Less	Just Right	No Answer
Presentations	25 (19.5%)	16 (12.5%)	50 (39%)	37 (28.9%)
Workshops	50 (39%)	5 (3.9%)	45 (35.1%)	(21.8%)
Sharing Sessions	48 (37.5%)	9 (7%)	39 (30.4%)	32 (25%)

4. What was effective and what improvements might be made to A. Presentations B. Workshops C. Sharing Sessions:

Comments:

Presentations

- The trustee's travels are interesting....to a point. An hour was way too long to hear about all the places this person had been to. And liven up!
- Be prepped, obviously. For presentation and audio.
- Really enjoyed hearing from all who presented and getting to know the staff and the trustees!!
- I thought they were great. Some conferences I have been to have had an App where you could access the schedule and all materials.
- Delegates were moved to Saturday morning from Friday night, and the “What’s on your mind?” sessions to discuss the topics they brought up has been removed. These are our

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future trustees, directors etc. The remainder of the forum program is the offices and the boards we should ensure that this limited participation from the delegates is a priority on the agenda

- A couple of the slide presentations had outdated info or were not displaying all info. Some also had too much info so the text was too small read from back part of the room
- The presentations were fine, but there should be a healthy balance of speakers and workshop presenters.
- Was very pleased with presentations. Very informative
- I think all presentation was great
- All 7 presentations were excellent!
- There was a lot of good information given, but unfortunately it is all just so much. It would be helpful if presentations could be pared down and allow more time for discussion. There was a good use of time when things ran long & had to be adjusted. I really enjoyed the chance to discuss in small groups about ways to improve.
- More representations of underrepresented communities. (ASL, Spanish, Seniors, Veterans LGBTQ etc.)
- Sharing from Past Trustees was not as relevant as some other things that could have been included
- Visuals
- Experience and real time information
- Loved hearing how the members in other areas do their 12 step work.
- Some of the presenters weren't very engaging
- There were two agendas with different times
- Good slides, perspective and history; fewer slides is almost always better?
- Presentations 20-25 min rather than longer?
- Delegates up front was nice
- It would be nice to hear perspectives from board members sooner in the meeting
- It would be nice to have A.A. meeting every morning in both languages - and in a room that is more conducive - podium a detriment/barrier to intimacy. They should also be informal and less staged (e.g., Sunday morning)
- Loved the presentations
- Making sure the projectors are both in English and Spanish on both sides of the room.
- I couldn't attend all the presentations, but the ones I did were phenomenal! Y'all are SO FUNNY!!!
- I would suggest giving each presenter more time to share, and not having the same presenter speak on basically the same thing each night. WE need to hear more of how things are done, with examples at G.S.O., and not so many pictures of the office etc. Or a one topic item, and the past trustees if they are going to do this need at least 15 minutes each.
- Test equipment before presentations. Too many disruptions to get slides, microphones, etc, working properly
- I believe there is a need for hybrid Forums so more people from remote communities. Also, the breakout sessions should have translation.

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- I enjoyed and learned a lot from the presentations. I would have liked to learn more about how the 5th edition Big Book came about and what all this "plain language" is about. Where do I look for information on this?
- I loved hearing about how the line of communication works and what each position is responsible for.
- The financial presentation was incredible. Interesting. Funny (Kevin) and enlightening enough to keep us motivated to send more money. For 30 years we've heard about the Grapevine's losses and would like to see movement toward a real solution. If this is a business strategy; then please be transparent about that.
- The finance was a good one, the grapevine not so much
- Very good! Interesting! Maybe more Class A trustees
- It was great to see some of the G.S.O. Officers in person and being able to associate a face with a name, and they have great stories and experiences that they shared
- In general, how they flowed
- To many side conversations going on. Really frustrating. Also, there were noisy conversations going on at the interpretation table
- Bring us the sketch of what is being asked for or worked on at G.S.O. There is a chance we might have an idea or two. This could be a tri fold flyer to be worked on during round tables
- Tended to run a little long and there were too many. I loved the ones I attended, but it was difficult to focus on them
- Timer
- The mics and translators were effective. Presentations are more effective with interactions with the audiences
- *Bien*
- *Tener presentaciones de la comunidad lgbq para dejar más los prejuicios y aprender dar más amor*
- *Quizás más tiempo para explicar sus temas*
- *De lavina*
- *Las experiencias y el tiempo en el servicio*

Workshops

- Not as much prep
- 45 minutes wasn't long enough to explore the topics in the workshop. Felt like if we had 15 more mins we could have gotten somewhere. Both workshop sessions were rushed and closed without a feeling of completion. Just wish we had a little more time.
- Excellent. I would like to see more of them. Presenters were well-prepared and the discussions were thoughtful. It would be nice to add a segment where each Presenter (after huddling with the Recorder), could have 5 minutes to summarize their sessions for the full Forum. I really wanted to attend more than one
- I loved both workshops I was able to attend, but there should be more interaction and cohesion. Also, if media was available for the presenters that'd be helpful

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- I enjoyed the information from our trustee-at-large about A.A. Around the World, but I would've like to hear more how G.S.O. is handling controversial issues like the revocation of licensing in a Russia and the Ukraine conflict
- Could use more direction with topics. Spent half the time trying to figure out what to talk
- I entered La Viña workshop as I serve in my local La Viña and I really liked the information given as I will use to bring back to my district groups
- Could have a couple more
- Breakout sessions are ineffective in a large room
- Don't schedule two Spanish speaking workshops at the same time, maybe shuffle them so they can attend both
- Better direction by the moderators. Too much time wasted in getting the discussion started
- The topics were timely & engaging. Thank you for the thoughtfulness. More
- Workshops should be literature based and somewhere to learn. Not sharing sessions. I heard more from newcomers than I did from the facilitator/speaker/presenter. Amber was a great facilitator if it were a sharing session, but she did not share anything at all about Tradition 12. It would be nice to have a 12 Traditions workshop from those passionate about the Traditions and can bring them to life and/or make them look attractive
- Better format instructions for all participants
- Love the Workshops and the Information Shared!
- I loved the workshop on Concepts 3, 4 & 5!! Very informative, interactive and engaging!! The workshop on the 12th Tradition was lacking organization and useful information. The attendees ran the show, which didn't provide much accurate or useful information
- Possibly repeat some workshops, as choosing was difficult in some circumstances
- Maybe a "Taking it Home" workshop towards the end?
- Good in-person vs. virtual one. Good one on being more inclusive.
- I wished that there they were more structured, and that the moderator or facilitator gave more information before asking the audience for their opinion.
- More traditions and concepts!!!
- Making sure our workshop presenters are knowledgeable in traditions, concepts, and our literature
- One of the workshops I attended was more in a "roundtable" format. While I don't mind that format, I would have preferred to have the name better represent the format. I say this admittedly not knowing if roundtable is a defined format or if it's something that can (and does) change locally
- I loved attending the workshops because the facilitators were interactive with each session. It was a GREAT experience
- One experience I loved was the lunch with the staff. That and the workshop were an amazing experience and helped me understand how I can help A.A. and the board, or Grapevine/La Vina
- More instruction on how to conduct a workshop - maybe a listing of workshops that other states have done that have been successful could be shared with G.S.O. and we could have a library of sorts on these
- I loved being able to share in them

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- A little too short
- It would have been better, in my opinion, if they specified a problem and offered more ideas on how to work through those problems, than asking the members present for their ideas, as most of us get the opportunity to speak and share ideas in other meetings and on other platforms of communication.
I do realize in many situations there is no "right or wrong" answers, many problems just need elbow grease applied and see what works and what doesn't.
- Is there a way to go from/include open microphones to segway into the workshops. there almost always seems to some pretty interesting comments/suggestions that don't get the follow through
- Saturday at 7 was a "session" regarding "In person to online to what's next?" This was an excellent "session". The moderator encouraged short shares that were to the point which allowed us to cover substantial ground on the topic of Zoom meeting and virtual general service/ virtual districts, areas and delegates. Hats off to Jodi B who was covering for Heather N.
- I was most impressed by the workshops. They tended to be a good length, engage many people, and I would like to see more of them
- Timer
- Great topics were brought up to discuss. Improvements would be more preparations seemed to be needed in the workshops I attended
- *Bien*
- *Tener más folletos de información . Y de experiencias para la comunidad de afuera .*
- *Mas tiempo*
- *Preguntas y respuestas*

Sharing Sessions

- More please
- More time
- Loved them!
- Good. Glad we had three mics. Appreciated how the questions were answered right away
- Limit to one trip to the mic
- Not sure what you mean by this. Do you mean segments like the First Timers' comments or Past Trustees' remarks? If so, they were excellent. Toward the end you started strictly timing everyone at the mic and that could have been done from the beginning so that more would have a chance to share
- More time for "what's on your mind?" and questions after reports
- Plan enough time for First timer sharing
- More giveaways to entice people to come to the mic
- More time for members at the mic
- Sufficient initial sharing sessions and/or ice breaking exercises to promote a greater sense of belonging, identification, and inclusion among attendees. This would be in accordance with Tradition One

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- Full forum sharing is hard to hear each other over the din of the crowd, not enough time to actually have an in-depth conversation on any topic and yet it feels like it is a band aid to look like you are doing something about an issue
- Loved hearing from the Class A Trustees
- Sharing session was very good
- I really liked seeing the engaging communication that was happening one on one as people were leaving the mic. I appreciate all your efforts. It was so helpful to hear follow-up to issues right after they were brought up
- Would have liked to have had more time for sharing
- I very much appreciated listening to members sharing during the "What's on your mind?" sessions and the participation by those in service who were willing to answer their questions, address member concerns, and offer information. These were my favorite part of the Weekend. I found the "What's on your Mind?" sessions to be very effective, interactive and informative
- Very Informative!
- These were good, I wouldn't change a thing
- A little more time and use a timer
- Very good
- The first attendee one - have half of it earlier in the meeting?
- Every so often, someone shared that was quite meaningful
- Making sure trustees are reaching out the members with questions and concerns
- I know timing is a pain, and some people really hate it, but maybe timing people speaking from the floor?
- The ask it basket needs to be each night, and or split up through the forum, so much good questions and information came out of that
- I think there were too many people and not enough time for people to share. A.A. members do have concerns and some of us are polite enough to let first timers go to the mic and express their love, gratitude, and talk about their own experiences and participation. Which left no time for concerns
- There were some excellent suggestions from the sharing session on in person vs online meetings. Group members shared some of the things that were working well that I can take back to my hybrid groups and share
- Needed more
- They were fun to be in as I don't usually have the time or ability to hear some of the attendee's stories. I sat in on the Spanish Speaking meeting, (no, I do not speak Spanish), and I could tell how important the issue was to the speakers by the way they shared their opinions on the problem and how much they wanted a solution to the problem. I found out what the issue was after the meeting, but now it's more important to me because I SAW how important it is to those affected by the problem, and those looking to fix the problem. The problem is how many groups are trying to keep the ladies out of meetings and even discouraging the ladies from attending open meetings and even stopping them from having "Women's Meetings"
- I like the variety; some are mostly the leaders speaking and others include the audience members more

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- Not sure what the distinction is but I want to discuss positive movement to the future with the people I may not be able to tap again for years- oh, and meet the G.S.O. staff
- It felt as though the whole world wanted to share at all times. In some ways that's a wonderful sign, but it would have been nice if more people had an opportunity to share
- Timer
- There should be floor mikes in each aisle for use by attendees, rather than having attendees get in line at 2 or 3 mics
- Having the 2 mics worked well and replies from Delegates was awesome. More time would be helpful
- The workshop topics above could also be sharing sessions
- *Nas*
- *Mas sesiones de compartimiento para conocer más experiencias de diferentes culturas y dejar de pensar que yo soy la que más sufrí en actividad y a veces hasta en la comunidad de AA sigo pensando que soy la ynica que estoy sufriendo*
- *Ser breve y conciso*

5. Please indicate whether this was your first Forum:

Yes 72 (56.2%) No 48 (37.5%)

6. Please select your current service position:

G.S.R.	18 (14%)
D.C.M.	24 (18.7%)
Area Officer	8 (6.2%)
Area Committee Chairperson	13 (10.1%)
A.A. Member	24 (18.7%)
Non-Trustee Director	(0%)
Delegate	4 (3.1%)
Past Delegate	11 (8.5%)
Trustee	0 (0%)
Past Trustee	2 (1.5%)

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Friend of A.A.	2 (1.5%)
Other	9 (7%)

Responses to Other:

- DCM (3)
- Alternate DCM (3)
- Although this was my first forum, it is not my first attendance at a big weekend AA event.
- Area Officer
- Information Technology Chair
- Past GSR, Past DCM
- DCM and District Officer
- Area Secretary
- Alternate delegate (3)
- La viña treasure at my district level
- Grapevine Rep
- Secretary of district 16 area 06 California
- District PI/CPC
- Past DCMC from CNCA06
- District officer
- In addition to being a GSR, I'm a District Grapevine Chair
- District Committee Chair - Treatment

7. Did you pre-register online?

Yes 95 (74.2%) No 26 (20.3%)

8. Please list any suggestion to improve the online registration process.

- A choice for participating Virtually
- I would register if it was a virtual forum
- Perfect
- Loved meals with the trustees
- Easy and good. Wish we had more of an idea of when the forum began on Friday so could plan better. But it was still good
- I didn't like that the Agenda was posted so late. I registered initially online but my badge was not there, so I had to re-register
- Sorry but it was clunky. First something came out and I went all through the process, only to get this weird feeling I wasn't actually registered. I called and sure enough, it was just practice. A couple of weeks later, I did register but still wasn't 100% sure it worked (it did, confirmed with another phone call)
- It was fine
- Mayb send the QR code in flyers or link to make easy for some of us.

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- Provide an agenda at time of registration. Have a more equitable method of signing up for chain meals
- Nothing, it was simple
- The registration portal was not intuitively self-evident at aa.org
- Difficult to locate anything on the new website. Even Bob W., the GM, knows it because he gave everyone there a lesson in how to find the FAQ for the International Convention. If the web site was user friendly, he would not have needed to do that
- Maybe a reminder. I got the initial announcement but not able to sign up that day. I thought I had signed up because I went to the site, wish I had signed up early. But honestly, registration was quick on site, and I didn't feel I missed anything.
- I'm good with what do you guys have
- I found it difficult to keep the schedule straight. I think I had multiple copies, hard copy & electronic copy, and I assumed they were the same information. Now I see they are not. This was disappointing when I missed something I wanted to attend because I got confused about the scheduling
- Have website translated into Spanish along with flyers ahead of time
- It was fine
- I pre-registered but didn't realize it was on aa.org. I googled "2022 forum Utah", found the forum site and registered not really paying attention to where it took me. It was SUPER easy
- I would've liked my Agenda emailed to me
- The lunch/dinner/ breakfast with a Trustee or GSO staff-- would've been nice to sign up for that in advance.
- It was very easy, and I was happy to have my badge all ready when I checked in
- Your on-line registration was easy to use, and I will be using it as a reference to how we, in Area 03, should be able to set up our on-line registrations!
- I liked the QR Code. A little bit more mobile friendly - there was a lot of scrolling rather than the mobile version jumping to the next fill in spot. Also, on AA.org - can you put the registration Call To Action button at the top of the Regional Forum page? - it wasn't always obvious to scroll down that far on the page for the button.
- The registration was easy and simple
- Pre-registration process was great
- *No. Solo para mi misma. Tratar de estar más informada con anterioridad de los muchos eventos que hay*
- *Ninguno*
- *Todo bien para mí*
- *Tener la información del evento lo más pronto posible y en un lenguaje general y entendible*

9. Is there anything you saw at the Forum that you think should be discontinued?

- Yes: to not only have this event only in person. More could attend if this was hybrid
- No (11)
- No. If anything I would have liked more! But can't think what more you could squeeze in.

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- I've only had one other forum to compare this one to, so no
- Not in my eyes
- Don't give the past trustees a topic. I love hearing how they view the issues of Fellowship. They have vast amounts of service and experience, we should tap into it
- Discontinue the lack of coffee service. I really appreciate all the costs being covered; it is incredibly generous. There is coffee available through Starbucks, which is fine. I don't mind paying, but their service is awful. It's not like you can just go get a cup of coffee. It takes forever to get through the line because they are not staffed to handle our rush between events. then they close early & that's it. No coffee after 2pm. Not cool
- Past Trustee Sharing
- Skit
- I defer to others...don't have enough perspective
- Either discontinue printing the grapevine/la vina and go fully digital OR call the grapevine what it is a 12-step tool and fund it threw contributions.
- ASL needs to be requested in advance. If no one needs it, don't use the ASL translators
- No, I loved it all
- The way you did ask-it-basket should be discontinued!
- The venue itself wasn't the best. It was difficult to find coffee (specifically the Starbucks closing during the day!) which is still the lifeblood of A.A. ~ Coffee~, a vital need!
- The cost of everything for the average person (one who is not being funded by their District, Area or Group) was fairly high. I also didn't care for so much PRAASA information being pushed.
If we stay focused on A.A. at an A.A. event, newer people won't get confused. While PRAASA is a good thing, I do think it's notable that newcomers find our actual service structure difficult to learn, without added "stuff"
- No, I did not see anything I thought would discourage a member from entering the wonderful world of service. Of course, I was not everywhere at all time
- I didn't like the breaking into two people to discuss a topic, then meeting in groups of 4. I thought this was more of a G.S.O. event where participants sat and listened and went to the mic
- The ego of the fellowships individual need to introduce themselves with a long list of service positions and responsibilities. Good luck with that
- *Más explicaciones*
- *Como fue mi primera vez estuvo bien*
- *Qué los miembros se mantengan en silencio a la hora de las presentaciones*
- *Más participación para los nuevos que se acercan por primera vez.*
- *Ponerle un poco más de amor y ánimo.*

10. Do you have any further thoughts or comments?

- It was my first forum. For what I know it was great
- Thank you for all that you do. My experience this weekend was full of love and support. See you in 2024
- Yes. I think it's great that this event is free. However, I do think GSO should charge amount for hospitality for coffee - if you paid for it, then stick a sticker on your badge,

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much like you would at PRAASA for the dinners. The number of complaints I heard about there not being coffee was excruciating. I think most A.A.ers would contribute a small amount even if they didn't drink it.

The translations are great, except they're becoming a huge distraction. The people requiring these much-needed services could use a lesson on common courtesy. There were several people who had their headsets up so loud that it was like listening to static the entire time and I for one was drowned out. Can they be politely told to keep their volume to a courteous level or receive some sort of "etiquette training" prior to?

- I would like to see more on how to find a place for an A.A. group and how to start one.
- The hotel was expensive, and the restaurant on-site was not prepared for such a large group. The restaurant was not open for lunch and did not offer breakfast to be done by room service
- Wish I could have participated. Just think of how many could be informed
- I saw that there were opportunities to have a meal with Trustees, yet this was not announced, and very few were able to participate. As a new attendee, I felt a little left out. I think meals with G.S.O. Board, staff or prior Trustees would be nice, and I'd obviously be willing to pay for this. Thank you!
- I wish it was virtual
- The Forum is always a treat! It's great to meet G.S.O. staff and Board members.
- I didn't attend all meetings but what I went to I liked. Thanks for all your efforts!!!
- It was tough to walk around the room to get to seats, there were no breaks in seats to form a walkway into the room. Constantly had to walk in front of people all weekend to get in and out. Maybe grapevine gets a bigger table? Also, it's nice if we have a place to stand in the back without standing in front of people. Really appreciate all of your hard work and love and dedication and support. You guys are AWESOME
- Must add coffee service. Maybe the host city can handle
- Just to say thank you
- First, let me take the opportunity here to say THANK YOU to Area 69, G.S.O. Staff and Trustees for this inspiring, spiritual and productive event. The Past Trustees comments were stirring and thought-provoking. We got a real sense of how hard everyone at G.S.O. is working on our behalf. The skit was hilarious. Kevin's poignant story revealed to us the vulnerability that fuels his genuine humor. Molly was soulful and captivating. Special shout out to Jon and Paz who generously shared their lunchtime with a few of us. I could say something specifically nice about everyone but you get the idea so I will stop here. We KNOW you now and can convey that sense of you as people and your purposeful lives when we get back home. Special thanks to Grace, the other tech staff and our indefatigable interpreters - all super awesome!! Thanks thanks thanks to all for your hard work. PS, I heard some dismay among people who arrived after Friday afternoon didn't get a chance to sign up for a meal with the staff. Perhaps you could add a request for this to the Registration and then draw names & let people know when they arrive?
- The support staff, G.S.O. staff and Grapevine staff all did an excellent job
- Great time
- A banquet would be great. Little gift bags or bags do people can carry papers and notebooks

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- Coffee!
- Sometime before the close of the forum on Sunday please clear the display tables of all materials such as books and tapes that are not to be taken by attendees prior to announcing that pamphlets, etc. are free to anyone. Most all of the books and tapes on display were quickly grabbed up contrary to your announcement!!! I am making this suggestion to avoid future reoccurrences. I realize that your staff may have a better remedy. Just saying.....
- More air conditioning
- The Forum was amazing, I am so grateful for those that serve us
- Thank you for all the efforts of this forum
- I was not able to attend the forum because the cost of travel and hotel were too high to justify the trip. I'm in Reno and the cheapest flight that was reasonable (e.g. not a 24-trip on Spirit Airlines) was \$600. The hotel was another \$450. I could not justify the trip at that cost
- Just to say thank you very much for all the info I have a great time for my first time
- The seating arrangements were not good. Movement through the main room was very difficult with no walking lanes across the room. Front to back was not a problem. I suspect this was done to maximize the number of chairs that could fit in the room, but this was not safe. if there was an emergency it could have been bad if people had to leave in a real hurry. I think this is more of a hotel issue but if I were in charge, I would have at least had them add space in a row across the back of the room
- More translation equipment, headphones and equipment for those who are hard of hearing
- Please include the 12 Traditions and offer copies of the following pamphlets:
 - *The AA Group Pamphlet
 - *GSR Pamphlet
 - *Circles of Love and Service
- Loved the literature table and opportunities to share the guidelines with my groups
- only having actual meetings in the very early morning was difficult, perhaps some evening or mid-day meetings, bilingual meetings, perhaps an hour reserved for several concurrent meetings.
- The chairs were too close together and no breaks in the rows to walk in and out of venue
- I loved the 2025 International skit!
- It was a "promise" realized - to be there and be part of - with our trusted servants. What an amazing experience and lovely group of people!!
- The main room was quite crowded, and I didn't have enough time to visit the literature table
- Main meeting room set up needs improvement. There was one exit door that everyone headed to at once on 15 minute breaks and it was a big traffic jam. There was no aisle set up that allowed people to exit the room without stepping over people's feet
- Are forums every recorded and available to purchase? I would have really loved to purchase recordings of the entire weekend. I really liked that there was so much to choose from. I know some may not like that because you can't attend everything, I personally love it! Everything was brilliant and I thank everyone who worked so hard! Can't wait for the next one!

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- I loved the Forum because it included the Spanish speaking community. Thank you
- I loved the meal train and totally enjoyed having a meal with the Trustees
- This was not a virtual forum; it was live and that was awesome. I would suggest not having a virtual forum, I attended the virtual one in 2021 and the live one in 2022, and the live one was so much better. I will suggest sticking to the timeline and not starting things earlier, numerous people missed out on speakers due to this situation arising. Give time in between workshops and presentations so if there is an overlap you have the time to cover it. Overall, a wonderful experience and happy I attended; I will be attending again
- Overall, it was GREAT...thanks
- Particularly enjoyed past trustee sharing and think allowing them a few more minutes might be good. Much knowledge, should be shared
- Qualifications for service in A.A. = availability and enthusiasm. What an inspiring weekend.
I am looking forward to seeing some of you again on the broad highway
- The programs, the podium books and other preparatory materials had omissions and/or misspellings that should have been remedied beforehand
- I was very happy with the entire forum program and don't believe any changes to the basic format are necessary. I encourage you to continue to discuss topics that may feel uncomfortable but are necessary to hear all points of view and help our fellowship stay united. Thanks for doing an outstanding job on this forum
- A huge thank you. Because I do value the Regional Forums. I appreciate all the effort that goes into planning, and G.S.O. staff's and Trustee's presence and participation. Regional Forums have been the source of true connection to All of A.A. for me. Post pandemic is a critical time, I believe, for all of us to come together in Love and Unity and Service. And thank you for the opportunity to give feedback.
- It was a great experience, again! See you in Missoula in 2024!
- I would like to thank you for being there for us. It was my first Forum and I enjoyed being there. I did not take a lot of notes, but I did write down some things that were important to me personally, and other things that I thought I needed to remember to bring back to my Homegroup and others in my District and sharing these things at the other meetings I attend, and hopefully they get shared across District boundaries. THANK YOU!
- I love Forums
- Thank you so much for all the wonderful discussion and time and patience of the GSB and host committee
- I was happy with the venue...the motel should have been way more accommodating given the money spent at their facility in Salt Lake as well as other as events. Overall, I thought that G.S.O. did a super fantastic job!!!
- I still wish for clarity as to what corrections work, getting the message into jails/prisons under the GSI service umbrella as opposed to the structures set up under central offices or a ninth tradition committee. Thank you, please stay sober today.
- I was disappointed there wasn't more to the archives display and hardly any Grapevine display
- I just want to commend the entire committee, and everyone involved in getting us all back together again. There's nothing better in my personal experience and having a

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group of drunks from all over the Pacific region gathering to help improve our attempts to reach out to the alcoholic who still suffers

- An electronic agenda would be a good option - something mobile friendly. The booklet format print version PDF emailed out was not very user friendly. Or a text drop at a prescribed time for the next item coming up and where to find it. Agenda's ran out and people needed something to remind them of the next thing to do
- Notice in advance for signups for the breakfast, lunch, and dinners with the trustees should be more available for the delegates to help DCMs and GSRs
- I loved the "Meal Train," though it seemed to fill up super-fast. I was grateful for that opportunity, which I learned about through my delegate. Grateful for the English/Spanish translations of most PowerPoints. I think it would be mindful and helpful to have stretch breaks. It would have been helpful to me if more "aisles" were created in the main forum space. It was not fun to weave through an aisle, stepping over member's feet, when it would have been simple to give 10 more inches for a workable aisle - both across and two aisles down from the main dais.
- While I was very happy to see that there was ASL and Spanish interpretation available all weekend, I was highly disappointed in the fact that the 7 am open A.A. meeting was in Spanish only WITHOUT translation.
- *Que le seguiré pidiendo a Dios que es mi poder superior como yo lo concibo hoy., que las personas que primeramente me siga ayudando a mi a seguir en esta comunidad y que me permita ver a personas que hay llegado y por mis acciones o comentarios yo los he corrido y que Dios quiera y permita que regresen para ya no irse nunca más .*
- *No*
- *No estuvo muy bien la información gracias a los custodios y delegados y a todos los que hicieron posible esté evento muchas gracias y que Dios los bendiga hoy mañana y siempre*
- *Mas tiempo Para compartir al ultimo*
- *Están haciendo un excelente servicio*

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**2022 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL FORUM – (December 2-4 2022)
Questionnaire Summary**

111 participants members of the 2022 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL FORUM completed their evaluation questionnaires. A summary of their responses follows.

1. How did you hear about this Forum?

Area	56 (52.3%)
District	26 (24.3%)
Local Intergroup/Central Office	5 (4.7%)
Home Group	17 (15.9%)
www.aa.org	13 (12.1%)
Friend	16 (15%)
Other	17 (15.9%)

Responses to other:

- Box 459
- Clubhouse
- I've known about them for years.
- Email (2)
- The GSO AA Meeting App
- Our S.E. Regional Trustee passes on the information as well.
- A friend/mentor and I were invited to attend by a past Louisiana delegate recently visiting our Area 67 Assembly.
- Private Social Media Groups
- Have known about forums since 2000.
- Just very familiar with their happening.
- ICYPAA
- Delegate Charles Thomas
- The Meeting App!
- Service sponsor
- News feed in Meeting Guide app

- SE Regional Trustee
- I'm a past trustee so I knew about it

2. Please list any suggestions for future Workshop or Presentation topics:

- I think it is of the utmost importance to have members who are successful in holding hybrid meetings share their experience so that we may implement them in the groups that are struggling to move into the future.
- Incoming GSR orientation
 - Best practices in taking people through the steps.
 - Spirituality, all inclusive?
 - Making service work attractive.
 - Safety.
- Workshop on servant leadership and concept IX — how to put on a workshop, run a meeting, encourage debate while maintaining a sense of unity and equality.
- Tradition and concepts
- I think we need to keep talking about diversity in membership and how we need to change to attract younger alcoholics. Safety in AA is where a lot of our discussion went when the topics was "who is not in the room". How do we allow for a safe and welcoming meeting for all the need to attend.
- Technology in AA
- 12 Tradition
- 12 concepts
- Service manual
- Working with professionals
- Specific topic about how to improve the participation of virtual groups in the service structure.
- How to make business meetings and service positions more attractive and accessible.
- Provide convenient registration from the Meeting App for future events!
- I would enjoy hearing the general manager's whole story.
- Workshop on how the decision process happens-what motions gets accepted to move forward with and which ones gets passed off on within the GSO office from us
 - Concepts
 - 2) Presentation on the processes of GSO from a simple request to a more complicated request. Members at the grass roots of AA would appreciate

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a better understanding of the daily routines of staff members. Kind of a day in the life of....

- An explanation of the different needs filled through Conference Approved literature, service pieces, AA guidelines, and the Grapevine's presentation of the Fellowship's voice.
- Inclusivity, sponsorship, sponsees and service commitments, unity and service, Our 3 legacies
- I think a presentation on how an agenda item is received and how it gets either selected or declined would be helpful to many. Also 30 min What's on Your Mind Sessions are short, it gives the feeling that you don't really want to hear what the fellowship has to say.
- Singleness of purpose
- Unity for online and in person hybrid meetings
- Third Legacy Sponsorship; Why we need It.
- The destruction of AA from the Inside: A loss of our Singleness of Purpose, and Dis-Unity
- General Service 101: this was my first forum, and it was absolutely incredible! Since I am so new to AA there were moments where things (positions titles, references to upside down triangle etc.) that went a little over my head. Could be cool to do an intro to general service workshop for us newbies!
- Possibly have a little more time for the Class A Trustees to explain how they got interested in trying to help AA since they definitely invest a lot of time.
- There was discussion of areas and GSRs and groups but nothing about districts. That might be helpful.
- Tradition One – Unity
- PI/CPC
- Tradition Two – How to find God's Will in service.
- Remote Communities
- How to be more welcoming – Radical Hospitality
- Anonymity in the digital age – Technology and social media – Both Tradition 11 and 12
- How Central Offices and Districts Cooperate
- Virtual Districts – How to incorporate online-only meetings into the service structure.
- Cooperation across fellowships
- Where AA meets the real world – navigating Tax IDs and checking accounts.
- Concept One – How do the groups remain at the top.
- General Service or Service in General
- Service is the secret.

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- Home group and District service – why is it important? Agenda item process
- Self-support
- Accessibilities – What does it mean to have an accessible group? How to start a committee
- Grapevine
- Leadership in AA/Servant Leadership
- Roberts Rules of Order-DCM'S Friend,
- How to Chair Your District Business Meeting
- Working Across Boundaries- Getting Better Connected as a Whole
- Need a better GSR workshop. Need to explain the role of the GSR and why it is important.
- The Second Step
- The Third Step
- The Twelfth Step
- Can you show how an agenda item gets on the agenda and gets voted on? Then show how the agenda item gets implemented by the trustees 'committees. It would show the same information that y'all presented, but it would be a case-based approach following one agenda item. This perspective would be helpful to average AA's because it's new information to most of us.
- We need to continue discussing the lack of diversity in Alcoholics Anonymous compared to the demographics of our population, especially with African Americans.
Misinformation and disinformation from outside of AA on issues such as race, gender, health, and safety are making it more difficult to have an informed group conscience inside of AA.
Being proactive at embracing new technology.
All future Regional Forums changing to virtual instead of in-person.
- Continue to offer opportunities to discuss and learn more about online groups and online group participation in the General Service structure
Consider specific workshops for various general service positions such as registrar.
- More input on why GSR position is important.
- I would like a breakdown of how contributions are disseminated.
- Grow young membership through outreach...
- Communication
- Something specific to archives would be good, though I know there is a special archives conference. Information on the workflows of GSO and how the different boards interact with one another. Also, some additional clarification of Grapevine and AAWS and how the finances between the two mixes if any.

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- Getting more people involved at the district/area levels - How do you do it in yours?

Comments:

- Timers during the workshops. I enjoyed the weekend very much.
- The workshop was held more like an open discussion meeting where the topic lead introduced the workshop as a topic and people shared their experience. it would be better to have the workshop lead actually bring more to the table than just an introduction of topic. I don't think attending an open discussion meeting where the topic is Gratitude can be called a gratitude workshop.
- -warning telling people who are sick to stay in their rooms. To many people visibly sick and coughing. Use of the email list to let us know people got very sick including GSO / GV employees. Advising us we might have been exposed.
- Unfortunately, I had to miss the Forum due to the untimely death of my dad, so I will not be able to complete the rest of the survey.
- Make sure coffee equipment is up to standards & working properly. Also check with hotel on electrical outlet loads.
- During the workshop I suggest having more information presented by the presenter and less comments from the attendees. I think it's important to have both, but the workshops I attended had primarily attendee comments.
- Suggest registration option available on the Meeting App!
- Sure, wish It was not so cold in the main meeting room. I had to miss some presentations due to the discomfort. Will be better prepared, hopefully, in the future.
- The public members attending should have had access to the lower rate at the hotel. We must always remember the triangle and who is at the top. It was very expensive for our group, district to attend this forum. And was certainly out of reach financially for most of our members.
- Have the people that will be called on sitting near mics.....and do they really need time to think about their answer.....lol.
- I found the topics to be informative a good mixture of familiar and new upcoming issues. on attendee in the in person, online, where from here was thrilled that “they” were wanting to hear from us on these issues. i am confident in two years you will know the heartbeat and what we need to talk about
- Please drop the skits!
- I thought the Peanut Butter and Jelly was too corny. I know you had good intentions, but I thought it took away from a great forum.

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- A lot of acronyms were used which was very confusing to people in AA. Even at 5 years in AA, I had to stop listening to figure out what acronyms were standing for.
- I believe the forum was a hu7ge success. This was my 1st. I learned a lot about GSO and their many moving parts.
- More sharing opportunities to share solutions & ideas to solve some common issues faced in the fellowship in our region. I think more people would speak given the opportunity. However, I wouldn't cut any of the presentations or speakers currently scheduled, so tough. If in a better area with more food/snack options close by, breaks could be shorter and/or less frequent. It's very well organized.
- ALWAYS have the staff/trustees sitting next to mics so they will be there to answer questions.
- The General manager's "Peanut Butter and Jelly" thing was condescending.
- One morning or afternoon social activity ala the ice cream social

3. At future Forums would you like to see:

	More	Less	Just Right
Presentations	24 (26.1%)	10 (10.9%)	58 (63%)
Workshops	47 (49.0%)	5 (5.2%)	44 (45.8%)
Sharing Sessions	35 (36.1%)	13 (13.4%)	49 (50.5%)

Times Answered: 103 (92.8%)

Times Skipped: 8 (7.2%)

4. What was effective and what improvements might be made to

Presentations

- More time for sharing/ Q&A after every presentation
- Fewer or briefer presentations
- I enjoyed the presentations although overheads were often difficult to read. Possibly, have hard copy handouts of overheads.
- Maybe fewer GV presentations. The forum was very GV heavy.

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- Great work
- Too lengthy but good info for the most part.
- Slides need much more contrast. For example, you could not distinguish the regions in the U.S. & Canada map.
I could not see most of Kevin's slides at all.
- Shorter finance, share finite details only when asked.
There were 3 different grapevine presentations, so I'd cut 2 of those. Maybe Coree & Chris could have presented together to save time and open more opportunities for sharing.
- I loved people's presentations. Very personal
- Time needs to be considered. Many of the presentations ran late.
- Hopefully they will be in the final report. I did ask specific presenters for copies of theirs
- More prepared. No one wanted to read the power points, which is good! but most read there talk. Ask them to slow down when speaking. The interpreter had a hard time keeping up. And people with hearing aids had a difficult time understanding what was said.
- Ask attendees to be quiet during the presentations. Overall, well done.
- Great
- I really enjoyed the presentation made at the beginning of Saturday of 15 minutes by each delegate. I really enjoyed the presentation made by Maurita. My suggestion might be that the treasury presentation might be on the Sunday morning so that there is more time for an additional workshop on Saturday.
- the presentation room was freezing cold.
- More about the history
- More time provided for questions/sharing sessions after a presentation!
- I appreciated the whole agenda was on time and the presenters kept to the topic.
- Power points could use a bit more vibrant colors (charts & graphs) in order to see them better, other than that excellent information.
- Keeping a healthy balance between the presentation lengths and member opportunity to ask questions seems most important.
- I enjoyed the presentations from all participants, was informative. Each one stayed within their timed segments; I personally had not experienced that before.
- I like the skit. Keep it up.
- Presentations were great all around.
- They were good.
- There was a noticeable duplication of information between the presentations "Your Corporate Boards - AA Grapevine & La Vina" and the "AA Grapevine & La Vina Presentation". It was almost like seeing the same presentation twice, just by

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different presenters. The class A trustees' presentation was done very well - the personal aspect was appreciated.

- I'd like to hear more from our GSO staff. While the new to forum folks are fun to hear, the reason I attend Regional Forums is to be updated specifically as to what we are seeing at GSO.

Those are my favorite parts of Forums. I get to listen to new GSRs at Assemblies and Regional Service events. Forums for me have always been about being caught up to speed with what's happening at our Service Center!

- Loved the financial, literature and international reports, Chris, Kevin and Margarite were wonderful.
- I found these to be very well done. It was wonderful to hear and actually feel how the Class A's love us as much as we love us.
- I truly enjoyed the entire forum and thank you for that.
- They were all really good.
- I am interested in all that presentations that I saw and thought they were very good. Finance and Grapevine are my passions but am interested in the work of the Trustee at large since it covers the world basically.
- These I enjoy the most and learn the most of concerning the goings on at GSO.
- None. appreciated the easy availability of notes, slides, etc.
- Maybe on the Friday there could be some type of meal, be it sandwiches, pizza, etc. and do short 10 presentations from GSO. State are good, but for me, I'm more interested in who can assist me in what I am trying to do in my district. Then on Saturday all that presentation time can go into workshops and share sessions. I believe it would also a family atmosphere when sitting at the tables. No Ice Cream Party, will help with my area.
- Having visuals was very effective. Without visuals, much of the presentations were too detailed for newer people in service to follow along with.
- They were great!
- Effective - humor & crowd engagement during treasurer report
- I would like to see the presentations not be afraid to talk about God.
- The speakers were effective and helpful. The volume levels were good. A lot of things went right. Interesting information was presented.
- Longer sharing sessions after each presentation!
- recordings should be provided.
- Have presenters offer their contact information at each presentation in case we have questions afterward. It's not always possible to get "face time" with them at the forum.
- Should be shorter.
- Presentations were very informative.

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- Only saw one, I volunteered.
- More effective graphics/PowerPoints. They were all very good don't get me wrong, just wanted to stress the importance of those to help make things easier to understand.
- The presentations by the Class A trustees and the office personnel were informative and interesting. I thought I knew a lot but I learned so much.
- The only thing that I can suggest, would be to have shorter and more presentations and a question/answer time after.

Workshops

- Timers
- fewer, so there are more opportunities for participation.
- I would have liked to be able to attend different workshops, but most were scheduled at the same times so i was forced to choose.
- The workshops I attended involved the sharing of experience and opinion. Informative.
- I was a little disappointed in the workshops that I attended, because I expected the person chairing the workshop to make some type of a presentation rather than basically saying OK let's hear what you've got to say on these three things or whatever the topic was. I specifically attended the workshop on GSR hoping to get some input or pointers since I will be a new incoming GSR but basically it was just other people sharing their thoughts. It was OK but I had a different expectation and I mentioned in the workshop what my expectation was based on the topic. also, someone else made a comment in the GSR workshop and I felt like it was not even acknowledged. It was very dismissive to me which was a little disappointing the moderator didn't even say thank you, will take it under consideration, or ask for comments or feedback about what this person said.
- Workshops are more like sharing sessions.
- Great topics; possibly stagger so not all at once?
- Questions not answered. Lack of accountability by dodging answering questions. Too many problems a big surprise to the department heads. Seemed like politicians answering questions rather than trusted servants answering to those that fund the corporation that pays them.
- More direction or guidance for facilitators. The 1130 3-legacy sponsorship workshop facilitator did a great job with intro & questions for group but took 15 minutes of 45-minute session. I'd cut intro to 10 minutes & extend sessions to 50 minutes. 630 pm session no intro, no guidance for GSR session so didn't learn anything.

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- The 11:00 am workshop with Chris and the 7:30 pm evening session regarding the AA Grapevine seemed repetitive. I was a little disappointed in that for I could have picked a different workshop to go to at 11:00 had I known the Ap discussion was going to be in the evening session. I know the morning was totally devoted to the Ap, but I think more information should have been presented about the inner workings of the GV.
- More structure to the format. Maybe 3 breakout sessions instead of two. How about a workshop: Bridging the gap between an old timer and a newcomer. The importance of a home group. How the 7th tradition impacts the whole of AA.
- The leader should start us with 10 minutes of a well-researched topic. Some did.
- I really enjoyed the workshop on three legacy sponsorship I attended. I really liked the workshop/sharing session presented by Cushing on barriers in AA.
- I enjoyed these.
- Would like to see more of a round table style so we can see everybody's face and not their backs.
- More time provided for questions/sharing sessions after a workshop!
- Need a timekeeper for each person-one person took a lot of time complaining in the workshop i went to
- I think that the number of workshops served to divide the attendance at the Forum, and that by having fewer events taking place during shared timeslots, we could more effectively unify members by allowing them to participate in collective discussion.
- They were fine.
- There were 2, 1 hour time slots with 5 workshops. Having to choose which 2 workshops, out of 10 workshops which was most of importance or maybe most educational, was tough. There were 4 that would have been nice to attend.
- Some workshops were just an open mic hour. The facilitator did say anything but ask people to come share on the topic. Others had material to present and discuss which was much better.
- The workshops were good, but the topics were not the best.
- Enjoyed the two workshops that I went to, however they were more like sharing sessions than actual workshops. They were good and introduced a lot of different perspectives, however, neither workshop presented a foundation of information to start from. they both just stated the title of the workshop and asked us to consider a question and then opened it up to the participants to share.
- The topics are of importance but would prefer they were less directed from specific Areas, and more suggestions coming from our GSO staff in each respective area of service.
For example, if GSO Corrections Desk is receiving calls for specifics from

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Prisons, the workshop could be hosted by GSO staff explaining the requests and we could brainstorm on how better to serve those facilities...

- Went to unity type workshops and I have never been more worried about the future of AA than after attending those. The dwindling away of singleness of purpose is scary.
- I prefer more interactive workshops.
- I enjoyed it all I thought they did a wonderful job and found it very informative.
- They were all very informative.
- I went to GSR workshop, and it was not really a workshop to me but rather a sharing session.
- Good to hear the input of all
- Get the presenters to use mics that were available.
- The more the merrier. More issue related than statistical data delivery.
- GSR workshop needed more recently rotated GSRs explaining the role of the GSR and why it is important. The workshop was set for brand new GSRs, yet they didn't get the info they needed.
- I think maybe having fewer workshops with more participation in a panel form might be helpful however I didn't enjoy just being able to share with everyone else on the floor.
- Improvement- longer time slot
- In the GSR workshop for new GSR's it would have been helpful to have someone with experience scheduled to be there. We were literally all new and had questions.
- Workshop topics that include God.
- Longer sharing sessions after each workshop!
- The chairpersons for the workshops need to have more guidance for the newcomers. Eg the GSR one could have used some basic framework
Bullets that need to be covered or perhaps a handout folks can take away with them a 1 pager GSR toolkit link in case they had not received it Also perhaps it seemed folks were having at it alone ? Commentary on having a service sponsor to guide the way and help.
- Not every workshop seemed to have a presenter who understood his or her topic. Consider making sure those who present are able to answer the questions that are likely to arise.
- More important
- Lacked structure.
- Offering different time slots for workshops so that an individual can attend more than just 2 at a forum.

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- Workshops that encourage participants to work together seem to be the most effective.
- These were fast and interesting. I also learned from how others are doing things in their areas.
- I would've liked to be able to go to more of the workshops, so if there could be a way to schedule them at different times so that more can be attended. *(or see below) *

Sharing Sessions

- They're great.
- being aware that time is short, adjust them so there are more opportunities to hear from the Fellowship.
- Some of the sharing sessions seemed to have people in them who hijacked the entire workshop. Time limits are important so perhaps a spiritual timekeeper might be suggested to those hosting the workshops.
- I was impressed with the questions and comments of attendees. A lot of good information from my fellows.
- I really enjoyed sharing sessions and the Q&A sessions.
- Keep that timer so people have time limit to share!
- These were nice but the timer bells being used constantly would have helped.
- Loved Cushing's interaction session and would like more opportunities to share ideas with each other, go to the mic, learn from each other, hear more from the participants.
- First time in the SE. some similarities, some differences.....go figure!!
- Maybe only allow people to share only once during each sharing session. Sometimes the same folks got up twice, and sometimes the same folks got up at every sharing session.
- Keep reminding folks to talk into the mic.
- Keep true to the two minutes.
- Well managed.
- Did not feel like there was enough time for sharing after the presentation by Cushing. Might make that into a larger time space.
- n/a
- I think that more information could be given out in advance that would allow people to be prepared. So GSR's could go to their homegroups and ask for suggestions, etc. I did not get a schedule with workshops and presentations until 1 day before the event. publishing that information sooner would have allowed me to plan for the weekend better.

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- More sharing sessions for fellowship and GSO interactions!
- I enjoyed most of them. I really enjoyed hearing other delegates from other regions having the same thoughts as our area. Made my "WE" a lot bigger.
- The sharing sessions were very well done. I always appreciate that there is a dedicated time reserved for first time attendees to share. The last session however, ended up being entirely filled through the ask-it basket. There were a lot of questions, and I think it's important that they were shared and answered. However, if it's possible to handle some questions through the ask-it basket in earlier sharing sessions, that could help preserve opportunities for questions from the floor during the Sunday sessions.
- I was surprised how little time there was for the sharing session. I guess my expectations of a forum was different.
- These were filled with suggestions, comments, experience and questions. Learned to look at some topics from a different angle and for that am thankful.
- On the last day, less sharing time from 1st time attendees and more ask it basket answers.
- N/A
- I was impressed with the integrity of the shares and the love and respect that was felt in the room.
- Important. Yes. But to beat dead horses? I've heard plenty these past few years on Preamble, Big book translation, inclusivity... And some folks just like to hear themselves talk? Seems like the same ones always at the microphone.
- The sharing sessions were nothing but people advocating for allowing people with mental problems to change the program. All of us old white guys as it was shared many times in a pejorative way have happy and joyful life's and love nothing more than carrying the message are pushed out of Alcoholics Anonymous we are doomed to go the way of the Washingtonians.
- more time for sharing at the end of each presentation, maybe expand the sessions or shorten the presentation to allow for feedback from the fellowship.
- Maybe add more focus to these. Comments were all over the place and often not relevant to why we were there.
- That's at the audience participation did a great job of asking amazing questions that I hadn't thought of yet
- They were all great.
- I thought they were kind of short. If a person is given 2 minutes at mic and takes 1 minute for person answering to be selected and get to the mic. Then takes another 2 minutes to answer, that is 5 minutes and only allows 6 questions in a 30-minute sharing session. I thought they were too short. I was also disappointed

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to see the person go to the mic that was on a walker (disability) that got overlooked by the Regional Trustee. I thought AA was trying to help people with disabilities?

- Good to hear the input of all.
- no comment
- Love them, I found out so much. One thing I did pay particular attention to, is that other Areas knew things that I did not know through my area, that was disappointing. That is one of the reasons, I feel working across boundaries will keep us better informed.
I didn't know there was SSAASSA, now I want to be there.
- Less fluff answers from GSO and GSB. We are not asleep. Telling the forum body that "God perhaps didn't want those delegates to participate at the conference" when asked about the 2022 conference was INSANE. And completely insulting to the groups. Also, someone showed up wearing an antifa shirt and certain board/staff were seen mingling. This was a bad example.
- Some of the time for sharing was stolen from presentations. Maybe keeping better time during presentations or even allotting more time for sharing later.
- effective - 3 mics positioned throughout the room, rotating questions.
- Extend time.
- Longer sharing sessions for fellowship to interact with GSO staff and presenters!
- It was helpful that the moderators had a good idea of who to bring to the mic for specific questions.
- To hear from the groups
- The sharing sessions were interesting and helped me to see different points of view.
- Ask it basket being read more than just 1 time during the forum to get more questions answered rather than having to wait until the final report to get most.
- If by "sharing sessions" we're talking about What's On Your Mind and Ask It Basket, more time should be devoted to this crucial interaction. If a Presentation or Workshop runs overtime, it should not diminish the amount of time for What's On Your Mind and the Ask It Basket.
- The sharing sessions were all pretty good. Only thing that could really be improved is somehow allowing the GSO representatives to more quickly answer questions or give feedback when called upon to do so. Maybe give them mics that can be turned off or on to allow them to answer without having to walk to the closest microphone.
- I actually liked the way these were spread through the forum - at first it seemed like too little time was allocated but once we were rolling, the timing seemed excellent.

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- After each presentation, have a short sharing session or question and answer time.

5. Please indicate whether this was your first Forum:

Yes 60 (56.6%) No 46 (43.4%)

6. Please select your current service position:

G.S.R.	21 (20.4%)
D.C.M.	11 (10.7%)
Area Officer	4 (3.9%)
Area Committee Chairperson	8 (7.8%)
A.A. Group Member	19 (18.4%)
Non-Trustee Director	0 (0%)
Delegate	10 (9.7%)
Past Delegate	14 (13.6%)
Trustee	0 (0%)
Past Trustee	2 (1.9%)
Friend of A.A.	0 (0%)
Other	14 (13.6%)

Responses to Other:

- Secretary of home group and incoming treasurer for my district.
- Outgoing Home Group Treasurer & Outgoing alkathon Chair
- District Web Chair, Area 1 Web Coordinator
- H&I Corrections Representative.
- District PI/CPC committee chair
- Currently serving as Alternative Delegate

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- Alternate Delegate
- Intergroup treasurer
- incoming GSR
- District Chairperson
- 3 Legacies (District 20, Area 27) Alt. GSR, Incoming District 20 (Area 27) Events Chair
- Also Alt. DCM
- Alt-GSR
- Area 27, District 7 PI/CPC Chair
- District Officer
- Alternate GSR
- Currently serving as Alt Delegate.
- H&I correctional representative.
- Area workshop chair
- Alt GSR a with my sponsee who the GSR was. We have a great district that provides a GSR.
- Alternate District Chairperson
- Area Secretary
- Alt DCM
- District Chairperson
- Archivist

7. Did you pre-register online?

Yes 90 (82.6%) No 19 (17,4%)

8. Please list any suggestion to improve the online pre-registration process.

- I was very impressed with how quick on-site registration was.
- It was simple and straightforward.
- Great!
- for me, the registration process was quite effective. Maybe communicate more about it. It is very important to inform [people].
Make the schedule more available (and sooner)

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- Needs to be easier to find the link for registration at AA.org. There should be an active link on the AA.org homepage for each of the 4 forums to register. Also, maybe some info about the hotel block and how it can sell out. My mistake and I ended up in another hotel but it never occurred to me that the block would sell out as quickly as it did.
- Link it on aa.org. I looked several times on aa.org for serf info and could only find the sample program. If there was a link to serf site, that would have helped.
- Done well. Loved that the flyer information was released early!
- Allowing a longer window of time in order to register online.
- finding information for the forum was like going through a maze. Make it easier.
- Provide convenient registration from the Meeting App for future events!
- Had no problem.
- Pre-registration process was easy to understand and to complete.
- Only suggestion would be, keep it like it is.
- I had no trouble with my registration online. It was smooth.
- None
- I thought I preregistered but didn't.... Also, I got a call from the committee prior to serve Ice-cream. So, I had made the attempt to preregister but didn't. Not sure what went wrong.
- Push the invite to the Meeting Guide App
- Thought it was very smooth worked well.
- Yes, but still had to register at The Hotel
- I thought it worked well and the badges were available when I walked up.
- none. I always register so i can get report even if I don't come.
- None
- Last names were printed on the badges. Is that really necessary? The first name was printed twice. Please take a look at the badge layout
- Suggest registration option available on the Meeting App!
- Will do that in the future.
- Emphasis on doing it before
- no issues, but it would have been nice to see the agenda ahead of time.
- Offer the agenda EARLIER.
- Very good
- No issues
- Having an agenda sent out when you register would be helpful for those who are planning flights and travel time so that they can know when sessions start and end on the first day and last day. I signed up to get notified when the registration was open, but I didn't get that notification.
- Registered online at the event.

- The online pre-registration process was pretty fast and easy. Not sure if there is a way to improve it any.
- Get the information out sooner.
- additional areas to request special handicapped needs.

9. Is there anything you saw at the Forum that you think should be discontinued?

- No (8)
- No-all great!
- Almost total lack of snack food for very long days. Yea water cold so no tea
- Inclusion workshop
- None
- I know you were trying to keep the atmosphere light, but I thought that the Peanut butter and Jelly skit was too corny.
- N/A
- N/A.
- N/A
- First time attendee sharing.
- No, not really.
- I feel more time should be given to the Delegate Presentations and less time to the Treasurer's Report.
- Wasn't a fan of the "skit" (Bob and Linda) ~ seemed to be dummifying down the importance of our Structure and what their jobs actually are. Maybe fun for them? But it felt a little insincere and dismissive to those of us who attend in hopes of catching some real truths about their positions, what the struggles are, and what kinds of things they see as solutions.
- skits
- The Peanut Butter and Jelly routine.
- You don't so I am a more kind of person more.
- The displaying of literature, if it's not there for us to have. I'm not saying grab handfuls, but...giving to Area to hand out does not always trickle down to us.
- There were so many sick people there. The host committee should have sent something out asking people that ARE sick to stay home.
- Presentation from the podium pushing outside agendas.
- Even though providing information is very important, I suggest you provide more opportunities to hear from the Fellowship.

- It was awesome
Definitely something I have promoted and talked about since participating.
- It is unfortunate but in-person should be discontinued.
- People stop with so many presentations.
- No, all of the content was informative and appropriate.
- I think the late-night eating activities would have been better scheduled mid-afternoon. For example, an ice cream social at 9:30 PM CST is 10:30PM EST - way past my bedtime and a bad time to consume ice cream. I think socializing over food is better done as a break in the middle of the day rather than late at night.

10. Do you have any further thoughts or comments?

- Held some place with easier access to food.
- My only suggestion or thought for future forums is if the host committee would perhaps assimilate a list of local restaurants nearby to help those people from out of town with meal options.
- Plan to try to attend in the future!
- I think it was well run for the most part. I think the presenters were lovely except for their refusal and sometimes inability to answer questions squarely.
- Forum assembly room was bitter cold. Cold is better than hot but it was bad. Maybe discussion with the hotel when negotiating, about room temps? Can they assure 66–68 degrees?
Food was not allowed in the hospitality room, which I understand, but then hotel's small dining facility was inadequate and slow. And there was nowhere to go outside without a car. It seems like hotel ought to have some obligation to provide reasonable food options when it prohibits outside food.

Loved the forum; loved seeing friends — old and new!
Thanks for putting on such great outreach.

- No
- How lovely this local community had a great relationship w the hotel!! Great that coffee and ice cream was by donation instead of over-priced like most hotels!
- I regret NOT signing up to volunteer
There was for me, a sincere sense of humility, respect, and gratitude by all of the presenters, which made (all) them so much more approachable.
Tom H, our SE Regional Trustee graciously ran a tight ship and kept us on schedule.

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Bob W, GSO General Mgr. was incredibly transparent and a delight to listen to Linda Chezem, GSB and the other Class A Trustees allowed me to find a deeper gratitude for "the friends of AA"

Many thanks to ALL that were involved to bring this event to us <https://na-admin.eventscloud.com/images/button.php?font=&style=&text=Done>

- Overall, it was a wonderful weekend and I loved meeting new people, the GSO Staff and the Trustees. After 21 years of General Service, I always learn something new!
- Remind presenters to stick to their time allotments.
- Have the staff sitting up front together. Move the microphones to the front sides of the stage so you can see who is speaking. During the ask it basket time have the panel on the stage platform ready to answer and time their answers to two minutes or less.

Loved meeting and sharing with all of you.

It made me laugh that someone thought the old timers talk too long, when in fact it really is the newcomers, under 30 years, that seem to think they know more than anyone else who don't shut up. Lol

- I truly appreciated the planning and efforts put into the conference. It was an extremely enjoyable experience. One note is to have more "stretch" breaks. There was a lot of time spent sitting and listening.
- This was a wonderful experience, and I learned a lot.
- Have the local hosting people better identified in case forum attendees have questions about suggestions for food to eat, etc. in the local area.
- This was an outstanding forum over the topics covered and the detailed information that was provided to everyone in attendance!
- A suggestion of having a speaker in the coffee room so the volunteer in their can hear the forum as well

I had a hard time understanding the questions sometimes by the people (comprehension on the spot not the best)

- I believe it was a good blend of workshops, presentations, and sharing sessions.
- Just many thoughts of gratitude for the considerate example and efforts of the people doing the work of offering us such an informative and spiritual weekend.
- As a first timer, was not sure what to expect. My overall take-away was this, a platform of sharing our experiences with each other, and discussion of how to better carry the message to the ones outside of the rooms of A.A.

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- Very small comment - There wasn't any communication about meal planning/food, and the hotel wasn't close to many food options. Maybe hosting committee could have snacks in hospitality room but I also understand the hotel may not have allowed it. There were attendees that hadn't planned well enough for their food budget because some assumed some food would be provided. Otherwise, the whole forum was really great.
- Please start and end sessions on time so other sessions like sharing sessions are not affected. It was not my first time, but I knew many first timers that had questions and were frustrated that the sharing sessions were cut short due to other sessions running late. My favorite session is usually the A.A. Around the World, but I was disappointed the data maps were not updated as well as the basic information about how many GSO's there are, how many countries A.A. is currently in etc. were inaccurate. SMF-165 is current and perhaps the Trustee at Large could update the slides, so the information matches. It's "A" Class Act - Class A Trustees were very enjoyable to hear their personal stories in addition to their knowledge with their current service positions. The skit for the International Convention was very funny! Since returning home I have heard of 5 people just from my Area that have tested positive for COVID. Is there any type of notice that will go out letting people know that people tested positive or do members have to rely on those that are sick to notify people? I realize there are legal restrictions with disclosing medical information and names but perhaps just saying what workshops they attended could be given to the attendees.
- Overall, the best forum I have ever attended. I was very pleased with some of the answers and at least the attempted answers to some of the questions. Much more respectful than the last forum, which was almost a complete joke with that at times. I feel good overall about the core of the current GSO Staff right now based on what I saw and heard.
- I would like to thank the individuals that put the Forum together, it was well done overall. The only real hard observation I have is about the hotel. The restaurant was not prepared or staffed for the business that entered their doors. Also, the breakfast times listed in the app were not the correct times the buffet was actually opened. I'm not sure what communication took place between the organizers of the Forum and the hotel regarding these areas.
- Maybe putting friendlier folks out on the registration and welcome tables? Not sure if that was the host committee or GSO staff, but it wasn't as warm and inviting as some other Forums.
- I would like to see more displays. My first Forum was in Knoxville TN and it seemed to be more to see. I also remember Tampa having more workshops... so many it was hard to choose.
- Thank you to everyone involved.

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- A little bit later start time on Saturday would have been helpful. Also having more workshop times and less competition. I was torn between several.
- Fantastic. Everyone in General Service should go to this!
- If anything at all it would be having food with the fellowship and not having to go elsewhere
- Thank you for allowing to meet our Trustees and get to know them as well as, meeting more of our fellowship.
- As a newcomer I left the forum feeling so inspired and uplifted. To be in a room full of hundreds (maybe thousands) of years of sobriety was overwhelming in the best way! I learned so much about what has gone on behind the scenes for years and years and years to ensure that that first room I walked into 6.5 months ago was there to receive me and help me start this beautiful journey into recovery. Thank you all so much! The gratitude is abundant, and I will be back!
- No. It was an excellent event.
- Overall, this was a great experience and hope I am able to attend the next 1 then I will be able to critique them more. Me and my roommate had a blast!! Thanks for putting this on. Could we do this every year and do away with SSAASA?
- More hotel rooms available in the block
Written guidelines or tips to share with the host/volunteer committee and better, more clear communication.
- Please have water available in the meeting rooms.
- Thank you to Board to staff and to Area 27 for an awesome event

I will mention. while I'm very use to cold rooms and they to come prepared, it seemed abnormally cold in the ball room.

- The fact that GSO/GSB has not sent any letter out to all attendees who registered regarding the positive covid cases since the forum is deplorable. It also speaks to the lack of effort we should expect at the next conference if Covid hits again.

Encourage people who are sick to stay home.

The main room temperature was too cold to endure. After requesting the temp be changed multiple times and no changes were made this was disappointing.

- The forum went smoothly and very informative.
- GSO Staff and Trustees were fabulous!!
- No. I was thrilled to be there. What a gift!

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- It takes a lot to put one of these on
Thank you for all the time and service
Looking for the link with the presentations so we can share that.
- I tested positive for covid along with my partner and my sponsor. This is the first time we have ever tested positive for covid, and we contracted it at the Southeast Regional Forum. All three of us will be missing more work now on top of taking time off for the Forum.

I hope we can explore ways to use technology to connect with our members at GSO instead of face-to-face. Maybe small virtual breakout sessions could provide more open conversations.

It was difficult to catch any members of GSO for 1-on-1 conversations because they were always busy. A virtual session would ensure that time was scheduled in advance.

- I always appreciate the generosity of those who participate in regional forums. I come away feeling more connected to those with whom I serve.
- No
- Want to thank GSO staff for the hard work everyone put in. Thank you, Nick P
- I suggest having a wider range of topics and more time to get to know each other and more time to discuss AA in smaller groups.
- The hospitality room was very disappointing at this forum. Since I was told that this area decided to forgo their state convention and put all funds into hosting this forum, I have to say I was disappointed with the lack of water and snacks provided, hopefully that can be addressed a little better at future forums. For our assemblies we provide a hospitality room through the weekend, and we have different districts sponsor different time slots to provide beverages, lunch, dinner or snacks, it works out really well.
- Would be nice if there was time to see some culture - maybe optional field trip for camaraderie.
- More "down time" would be my request. One of the best things about this type of gathering is the chance to meet and talk to people I don' yet know and catch up with people I rarely see.
- You
- I will definitely go to another SE Forum in the future, even if it is not right in my backyard. It was informative and helped me as a member of AA to better understand how GSO works and that they do listen to our concerns.
- This forum was in a food desert. Those of us who flew to the conference and had no transportation had little choice of where to eat. It would have been nice if

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local groups had provided refreshments other than coffee in the "hospitality room". It was hard to actually believe we were in the south with the lack of home baked goodies.

It would have been nice if some sort of excursion into the city had been planned for those of us who had never been to New Orleans.

Maybe a visit to a speaker meeting in the city following the evening session so we could get a taste of the local AA. I would have preferred that over an ice cream social. Three days and two nights in an airport hotel was informative but I may never get to NOLA again and I actually did not get there this time.

- ** the ability to purchase recordings of the presentations, workshops, etc.
- 2. have a way to make a room request for someone with a special need (i.e., room close to the elevator) for the handicapped. The hotel didn't adhere to the request on the reservation, in my case. My room was almost the furthest room from the elevator (which required a lot of walking)
- 3. have a larger area for the hospitality, so there was room to hang out between sessions and not have to go all the way back to the room.
- it would be great to have more than coffee in the hospitality room. some cookies or candy or other snacks. I wouldn't mind putting a little extra contribution in the basket to make this happen or even signing up to volunteer in the hospitality room to keep everything stocked if the host committee wants to pass signup sheets.
- Very grateful for the effort to organize such a forum.

[Back to Agenda](#)