2021 "A.A. in a Time of Change" The 71st Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference of

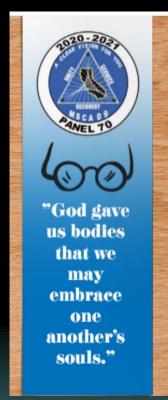
Alcoholics Anonymous: Final Report

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<u>Digital</u>

English:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/pzv4202f40owek2/71st%20GSC%20Final%20Report%20%28Anonymity%20Protected%29%20-%20%28English%29.pdf?dl=0

Spanish:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/z9uk2jb1p12pw9j/71st%20GSC%20Final%20Report%20%28Anonymity%20Protected%29%20-%20%28Spanish%29.pdf?dl=0

Hard Copies

300 English & 300 Spanish copies to be delivered to District Committee Members (DCMs) and Chairpersons (DCMCs), other?

2021

"A.A. in a Time of Change"

The 71st Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



FINAL REPORT

ANONYMITY-PROTECTED DIGITAL EDITION

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Anonymity-Protected Digital Edition

This edition of the 2021 General Service Conference Final Report has been formatted to protect the anonymity of AA. members (who are represented by first name and last initial only) in order to make the report more widely accessible to the Fellowship. Our many nonalcoholic friends, trustees and employees are noted by their full names.

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- 3 Reports: General Service Board (G.S.B.); A.A. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S); and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. (A.A.G.V.)
- 16 Reports: Trustees'
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About the Artwork: The artwork used to illustrate this report was provided by individual Conference members, showing photos of their workspaces and the areas around them. Prior to the Conference a request was made for Conference members to provide photos that could be used to illustrate the report and many complied.

- Workshop Summary
- Area Highlights: For Panel 71
- # Groups & # Members
- Workshop/Other Presentations
- G.S.O. Department Reports
 - Literature Distribution in 2020
 - Grapevine Distribution in 2020
 - Independent Auditor
 - 2021 Conference Committees
- 2022 Chairpersons & Alternates
- 2021 Trustees' Committees
- 2021 Conference Members
- 2021 Nonvoting Participants

3 Reports: Pp 8-20

General Service Board by Michele Grinberg

Function of GSB; need for virtual meetings; financial considerations; trustees' committees; and rotation/new leadership.

A.A. World Services, Inc. by Beau B.

US/CANs; website design; Meeting Guide; YouTube; Google Ads; technology services; Intergroup seminar; international, financial, publishing, operations highlights; Archives; GSO operations; and AAWS updates.

A.A. Grapevine, Inc. by (our own) Kathi F.

Purpose; financial update; and plans going forward.

Trustees' Committees & Staff Reports: Pp 21-54

16 familiar and perhaps unfamiliar Committees & Staff reports:

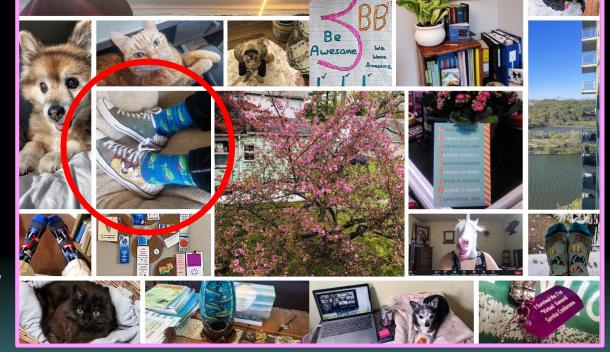
Familiar: Archives, Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities, Corrections, Grapevine, International Conventions/Regional Forums, Literature, Public Information

Unfamiliar: Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Conference, Finance and Budgetary, General Sharing Session, Group Services, International, Nominating, Staff Coordinator

Images of Personal Interest



From Head on page 46



To Toes on page 127

Finance Report: Pp 56-58

■ Finance Report

The Finance report, which is summarized and condensed here, was given on Monday evening by Leslie Backus, treasurer of the General Gervice Board and chair of the trustees? Timance and Budgetary Committee, covering the audited 2020 finances of the General Service Board, A.A.W.S., the Grapevine and La Vina. The full report, accompanying slides and detailed notes are not included in this publication, but are available upon request. For more details on A.A. finances, as the report of the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee (page 33) and the independent auditor's statement and audited consolidated financial statements that appear on pages 115-127 of this report



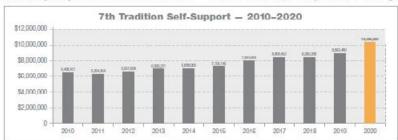
ood evening. My name is Leslie Backus and I am a Class A trustee and treasurer of the General Service Board. It is my privilege to deliver this year's reasurer's report virtually to the /ist General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Through this report, our goal is to help you become familiar with A.A.'s financial position so that you can share it with the Fellowship. Communication is key. We all need to be very aware of what the numbers are and how they came about.

Enhancing our collective understanding of our finances is one way to improve the service structure, and clear and concise communication is the key. Although our finances continue to grow more complex, remember that Corporate Poverty is more a state of mind, rather than the size of our bank account. "Too much money — and we argue over perilous wealth and lose sight of our primary purpose of carrying the message. Too little — and we risk losing the ability to carry the message at all."

As an overview, there are some highlights I'd like to cover, both good news and bad:

 We got some great news regarding the Seventh Tradition, which ended the year at a record high



- 7th Tradition Self-Support, 2010–2020
- Growth of Online Contributions, 2010–2020
- 2020 Financial Highlights
- Monthly Average Revenue and Expense
- Reserve Fund Ratio Number of Months Coverage, 2006–2020

49 Advisory Actions: Pp 58-62

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Conference Advisory Actions represent recommendations made by the standing committees and approved by the Conference body as a whole or recommendations discussed and voted on by all Conference members during general sessions. The group conscience of the Fellowship in the United States and Canada was expressed in the following Advisory Actions, which the General Service Board accepted in its legally required annual meeting following the 2021 Conference.

85 Committee Considerations: Pp 63-72

Agenda	= 6
Archives	= 2
Cooperation with the Professional Community	= 1
Corrections	= 4
Finance	= 10
Grapevine and La Viña	= 6
International Conventions/Regional Forums	= 2
Literature	= 22
Policy/Admissions	= 7
Public Information	= 9
Report and Charter	= 3
Treatment and Accessibilities	= 8
Trustees	= 5

An Advisory Action of the 1990 General Service Conference states: "Items discussed, but no action taken or recommendation made, as well as committee recommendations which are not adopted, be included in a separate section of the Final Report." *Listed by committee, such* items are included here "in their entirety" per Advisory Action of the 2019 General Service Conference.

Workshop Topics (Minutes): Pp 73-75

If we were "10 times bolder" how would we:

- Inform and communicate with others about A.A.
- Involve and call all A.A. members to action and service
- Inspire and attract potential A.A. members and others

Area Highlights for Panel 71: Pp 76-94

Learn about seven other "odd-year" Pacific Region Areas:

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Area 93 – Central California – Pp 77 (Karla Y)
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Area 06 – Northern Coastal California – Pp 77 (Jennifer B)

Area 05 – Southern California – Pp 77-78 (Lauren A)

Area 17 – Hawaii – Pp 80 (Kunane D)

Area 42 – Nevada – Pp 85 (Julie C)

Area 69 – Utah – Pp 93 (Sheryl T)

Area 72 – Western Washington – Pp 93 (Geene D)

■ Estimates of A.A. Groups and Members as of December 31, 2020¹

	Groups	Members
United States	69,812	1,438,253
Canada	5,137	86,790
Sub-Total	74,949	1,525,043
Correctional facilities	1,559	39,170
Loners, Internationalist, Homers	0	199
Total	76,509	1,564,412
Outside U.S. & Canada ²	53,281	573,789
Grand Total	129,790	2,138,201

^{1.} The General Service Office does not keep membership records. The information shown here is based on reports given by groups listed with G.S.O. and does not represent an actual count of those who consider themselves A.A. members.

Estimated Number Groups & Members in U.S. and Canada: Pp 88

^{2.} We are aware of A.A. activity in approximately 180 countries, including 64 autonomous general service offices in other lands. Annually, we attempt to contact those G.S.O.s and groups that request to be listed in our records. Where current data is lacking, we use an earlier year's figures.

Presentations: Pp 95-102

Delegate Presentations:

- "Recovery in a Changing World" by Cynthia T, Maryland
- "Service in a Changing World" by France F, Quebec
- "Unity in a Changing World" by Carlos L, Puerto Rico
- General Service Office/General Service Board Presentations:
- "General Service Office Archives" by Michele Mirza
- "Carrying the Message Virtually in the Americas:
 - REDELA (Meeting of the Americas)" by Newton P
- "26th World Service Meeting" by Trish L

G.S.O. Department Reports: Pp 103-108

9 Department reports, including:

(1) Administration; (2) Archives; (3) Communications Services Department; (4) Finance and Accounting; (5) Human Resources; (6) Operations; (7) Publishing (webstore, ebook/audio, videos, audiobooks, large print, souvenir book, mail/shipping/receiving); (8) Staff Services, and (9) Technology Services

Literature Distributed: Pp 110-111 Grapevine Literature: Pp 113

Literature (in English, Spanish, & French):

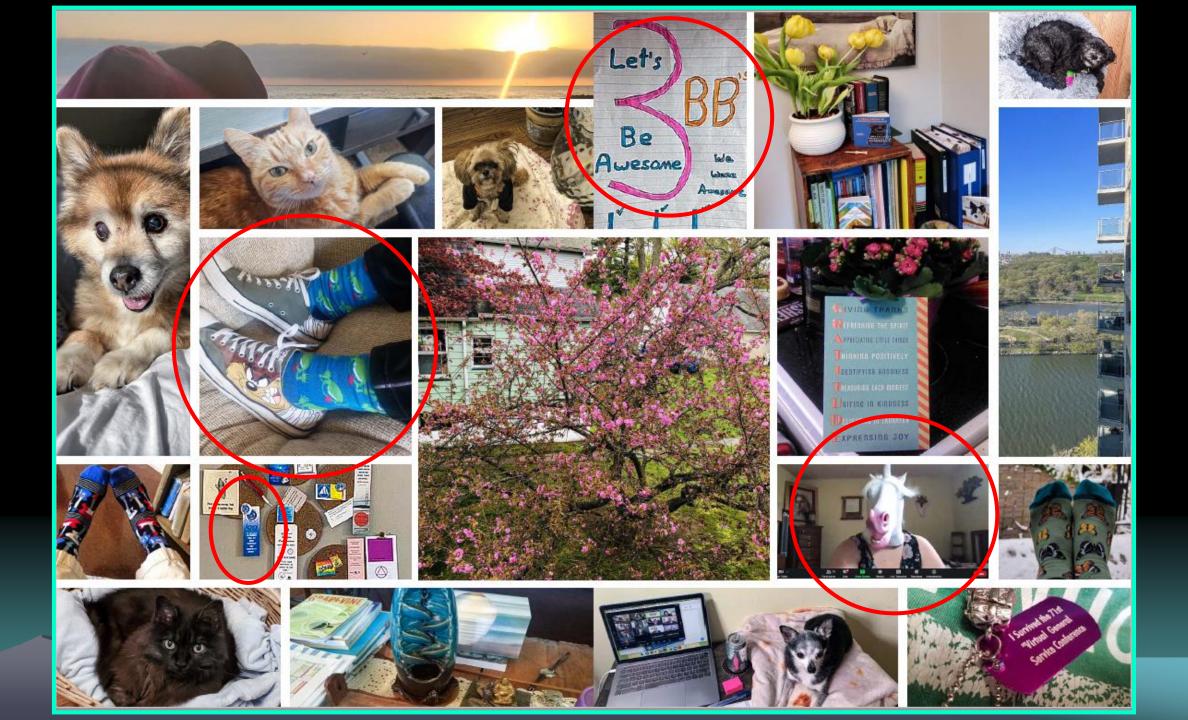
Numbers of books, booklets, pamphlets, miscellaneous (cards, placards, workbooks, guidelines, CDs, DVDs,) etc.

Grapevine products

Numbers of books, e-books, CDs, cassettes, MP3s, and subscriptions for both Grapevine and La Viña

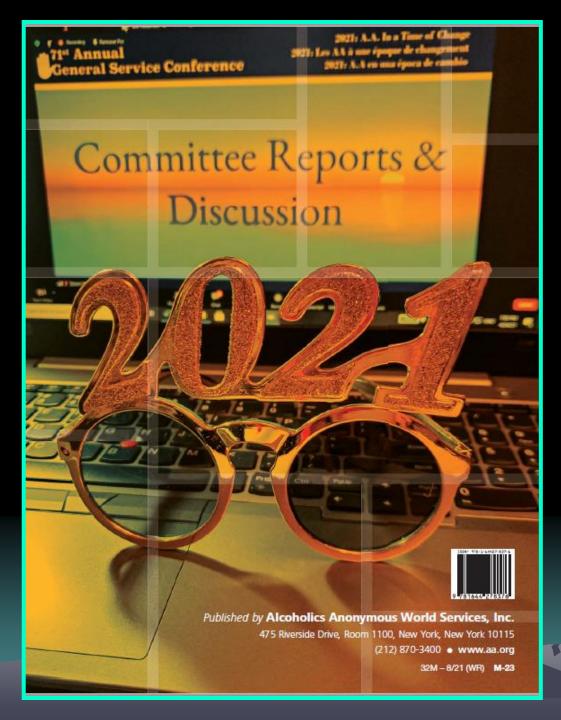
Report of Independent Auditor: Pp 113-127

(1) Function of Auditor; (2) notes to consolidated financial statements; (3) significant accounting policies (e.g., net assets, cash/cash equivalents, investments, inventory, contributions, etc.); (4) liquidity and availability of resources for operating expenditures; (5) investments; (6) property & equipment; (7) postretirement & health benefits; (8) retirement plan; followed by 7 pages of tables with figures.



2021 – 2022 Committees: Pp 130-138

- 2021 Conference Committee members: Pp 130
- 2022 Conference Committee chairs and alternates: Pp 132
- 2021 Trustees' Committee members: Pp 132
- 2021 Conference Members (personal descriptions):
 - Class A (nonalcoholic) Trustees serving 2021: Pp 132
 - Class B (alcoholic) Trustees serving 2021: Pp 133
 - Nontrustee Directors serving 2021: Pp 134
 - Class A Trustees serving 2022-?: Pp 134-135
 - Class B Trustees serving 2022-?: Pp 135
 - Nontrustee Directors serving 2022-?: Pp 135
- 2020-2021 93 Panel 70/71 delegates: Pp 136-137
- 2021 Nonvoting Resource Attendees Assisting with the 71st Virtual General Service Conference: Pp 138



Thanks for changing my life!