

2021 “A.A. in a Time of  
Change”

The 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of  
the General Service  
Conference of  
Alcoholics Anonymous:  
Final Report

2021 “A.A. en Tiempos de  
Cambio ”

La 71a Reunión Anual de la  
Conferencia de Servicios  
Generales de  
Alcohólicos Anónimos:  
Informe Final

Geene Delaplane

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# Digital

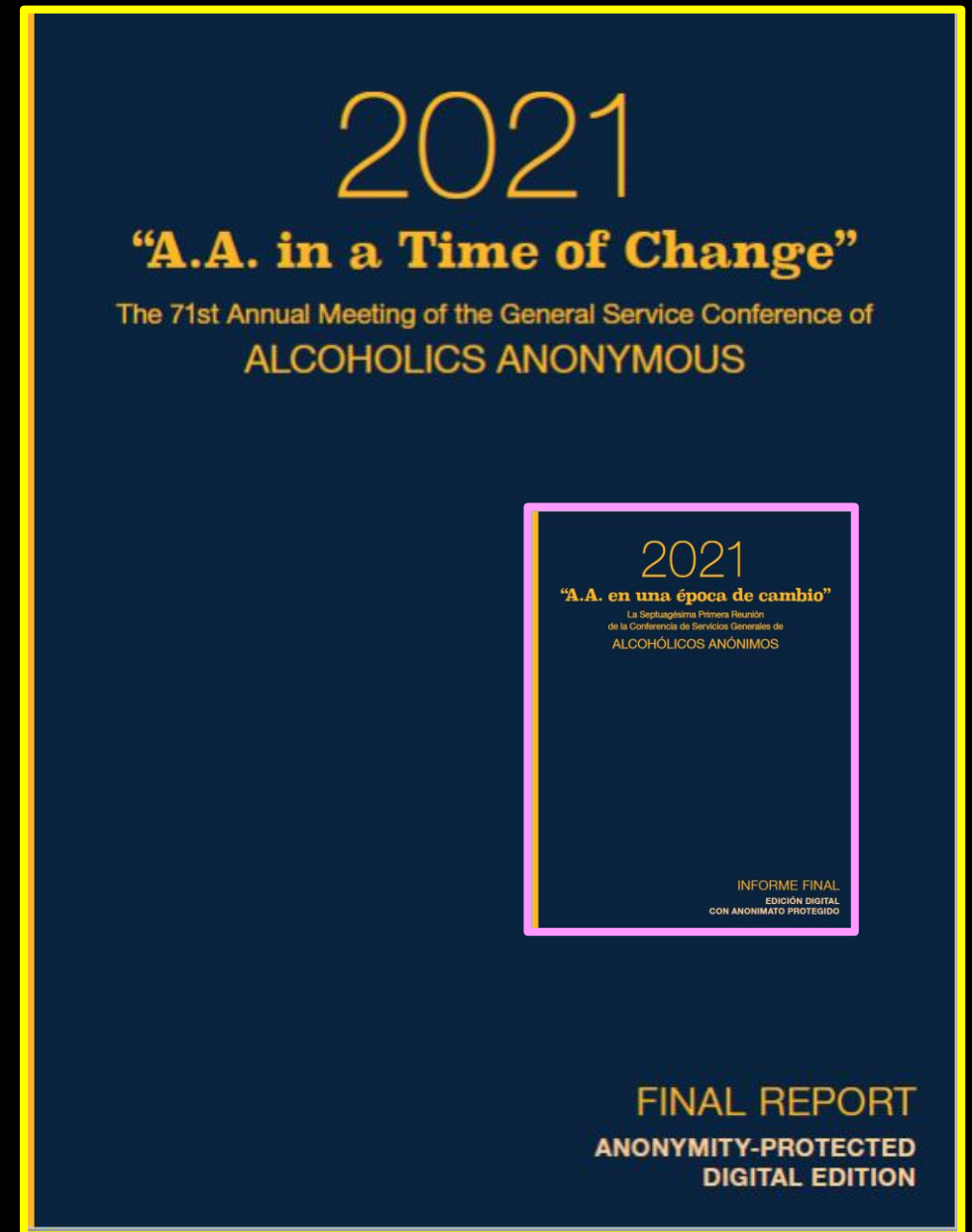
English / Ingles

Spanish / Español

## Hard Copies / Copias Duras

400 English & 100 Spanish copies to be delivered to District Committee Members (DCMs) and Chairpersons (DCMCs), other?

00 copias en inglés y 100 en español para ser entregadas a los miembros del comité de distrito (MCD) y coordinadores(MCD), ¿otros?



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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 A.A. 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.

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.

• 3 Reports / 3 informes: General Service Board (G.S.B.); A.A. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S); and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. (A.A.G.V.) / *Junta de Servicios Generales (G.S.B.); AUTOMÓVIL CLUB BRITÁNICO. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S); y A.A. Grapevine, Inc. (A.A.G.V.)*

• 16 Reports / 16 informes: Trustees' Committees and Staff Reports / *comités de fideicomisarios e informes del personal*

• Finance Report / *Informe financiero*

• Conference Advisory Actions / *Acciones de asesoramiento de la conferencia: 13 Conference Committees and Floor Actions / 13 comités de conferencia y acciones de piso*

• Conference Committee Considerations / *Consideraciones de los comités de conferencias: 13 Conference Committees / 13 comités de conferencias*

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- Workshop Summary / resumen del taller
- Area Highlights / Aspectos destacados del área: For Panel 71 / para el Panel 71
- # Groups & # Members / N.º de grupos y N.º de miembros
- Workshop/Other Presentations / Taller / otras presentaciones
- G.S.O. Department Reports / OSG Informes de departamento
- Literature Distribution in 2020 / Distribución de literatura en 2020
- Grapevine Distribution in 2020 / Distribución de vid en 2020
- Independent Auditor / Auditor independiente
- 2021 Conference Committees / Comités de la Conferencia 2021
- 2022 Chairpersons & Alternates / Coordinadores y Alternos 2022
- 2021 Trustees' Committees / Comités de Fideicomisarios 2021
- 2021 Conference Members / Miembros de la conferencia 2021
- 2021 Nonvoting Participants / 2021 Participantes sin derecho a voto

# 3 Reports: Pp 8-20 / 3 Informes: págs. 8-20

## General Service Board / *Junta de Servicios Generales* by / *por* Michele Grinberg

Function of GSB; need for virtual meetings; financial considerations; trustees' committees; and rotation/new leadership. / *unción de la JSG; necesidad de las juntas virtuales; consideración financiera; comités de fideicomisarios; y rotación / nuevo liderazgo.*

## A.A. World Services, Inc. / *A.A. Servicios Mundiales, Inc.* by / *por* 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. / *EE.UU. / CAN; diseño de páginas web; Guía de reuniones; YouTube; Anuncios de Google; servicios tecnológicos; Seminario intergrupar; aspectos destacados de operaciones internacionales, financieras, editoriales; Archivo; Operaciones OSG; y actualizaciones de AAWS.*

## A.A. Grapevine, Inc. by (our own) / *por(nuestra propia)* Kathi F.

Purpose; financial update; and plans going forward. / *Objetivo; actualización financiera; y planes para el futuro.*

# Trustees' Committees & Staff Reports: Pp 21-54

## *Comités de Fideicomisarios e informes del personal: págs. 21-54*

16 familiar and perhaps unfamiliar Committees & Staff reports: 16 Comités e informes de personal conocidos y quizás desconocidos:

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

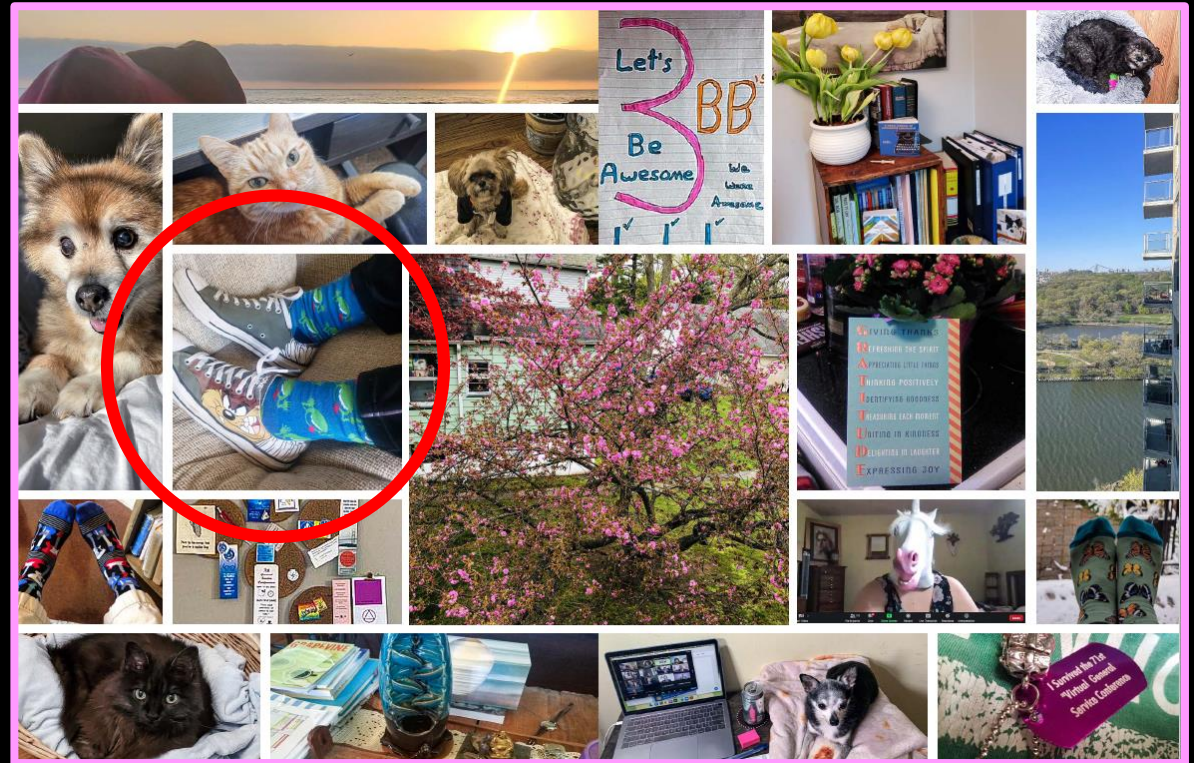
*Familiar: Archivos, Cooperación con la Comunidad Profesional / Trato y Accesibilidades, Correcciones, Grapevine, Convenciones Internacionales / Foros Regionales, Literatura, Información Pública*

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

*No familiarizado: Comité de Auditoría, Comité de Compensación, Conferencia, Finanzas y Presupuesto, Sesión General Compartida, Servicios de Grupo, Internacional, Nominaciones, Coordinador de Personal*

# Images of Personal Interest / *Imágenes de Interes Personal*

From Head on page 46 / *De Cabeza en pagina 46*



To Toes on page 127 / *De Pies en pagina 127*

# Finance Report: Pp 56-58 / Informe Financiero 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 Service Board and chair of the trustees' Finance 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, see 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 113-127 of this report.



Good 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 treasurer's report virtually to the 71st 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.

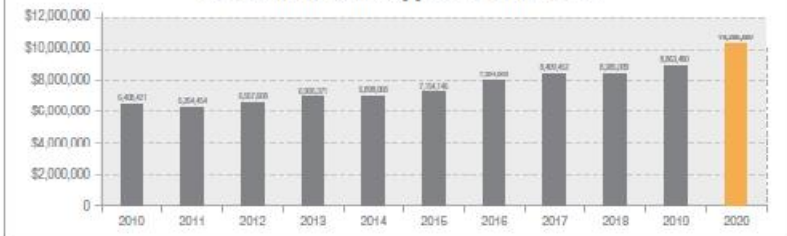
Enhancing our collective understanding of our finances is one way to improve the service structure, and clear

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 perils of 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



- **7th Tradition Self-Support, 2010–2020**  
*Autosuficiencia, Septima Tradicion 2010–2020*
- **Growth of Online Contributions, 2010–2020**  
*Incremento de las Contribuciones en linea, 2010–2020*
- **2020 Financial Highlights**  
*Aspectos Financieros Destacados de 2020*
- **Monthly Average Revenue and Expense**  
*Ingresos/Gastos Promedio mensuales*
- **Reserve Fund Ratio Number of Months Coverage, 2006–2020**  
*Cociente del Fondo de reserva Numero de meses de cobertura, 2006–2020*



# 49 Advisory Actions: Pp 58-62 / 49 Acciones de Asesoramiento: Pp 58-62

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= 4  
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 = 4

*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.*

Las acciones consultivas de la conferencia representan recomendaciones hechas por los comités permanentes y aprobadas por la conferencia. cuerpo en su totalidad o recomendaciones discutidas y votadas por todos los miembros de la Conferencia durante las sesiones generales. El grupo La conciencia de la confraternidad en los Estados Unidos y Canadá se expresó en las siguientes Acciones de asesoramiento, que el La Junta de Servicios Generales fue aceptada en su reunión anual legalmente requerida después de la Conferencia de 2021.

# 85 Committee Considerations: Pp 63-72 / 85 Consideraciones del Comité: Pp 63-72

Agenda .....
Archives .....
Cooperation with the Professional Community .....
Corrections .....
Finance .....
Grapevine and La Viña .....
International Conventions/Regional Forums .....
Literature .....
Policy/Admissions .....
Public Information .....
Report and Charter .....
Treatment and Accessibilities .....
Trustees .....

= 6  
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= 3  
= 8  
= 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.

*Una Acción de Advertencia de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales de 1990 establece: "Temas discutidos, pero ninguna acción tomada o recomendación hecha". Enumerados por comité, dichos elementos se incluyen aquí "en su totalidad" según la Acción de recomendación de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales de 2019.*

# Workshop Topics (Minutes): Pp 73-75 / *Temas De Taller (Actas): Pp 73-75*

If we were “10 times bolder” how would we / *Fueramos “10 veces mas atrevidos” Como Podriamos:*

- Inform and communicate with others about A.A. / *Informar and comunicarse con otros sobre A.A.*
- Involve and call all A.A. members to action and service / *Involucrar y llamar a todos los miembros de A.A. a la acción y servicio*
- Inspire and attract potential A.A. members and others / *Inspirar y atraer potenciales miembros de A.A. y otros*

## Area Highlights for Panel 71: Pp 76-94

### *Aspectos Destacados para el Panel 71: Pp 76-94*

Learn about seven other “odd-year” Pacific Region Areas / *Obtenga más información sobre otras siete áreas de la región del Pacífico de "años impares"*:

Area 93 – Central California – Pp 77 (Karla Y)

Area 06 – Northern Coastal California / *Costa norte de California* – Pp 77 (Jennifer B)

Area 05 – Southern California / *Sur de 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 / *Oeste de Washington*– Pp 93 (Geene D)

■ Estimates of A.A. Groups and Members  
as of December 31, 2020<sup>1</sup>

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

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.

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.

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

*Numero Estimado  
De Miembros y Grupos  
En U.S. y Canada:  
Pp 88*

# Presentations: Pp 95-102 / *Presentaciones: Pp 95-102*

## Delegate Presentations / *Presentaciones de Delegados:*

“Recovery in a Changing World” / *"Recuperación en un mundo cambiante"*  
by / *por* Cynthia T, Maryland

“Service in a Changing World” / *"Servicio en un mundo cambiante"*  
by / *por* France F, Quebec

“Unity in a Changing World” / *"Unidad en un mundo cambiante"*  
by / *por* Carlos L, Puerto Rico

## General Service Office/General Service Board Presentations / *Presentaciones de la Oficina de Servicios Generales / Junta de Servicios Generales:*

“General Service Office Archives” / *"Archivos de la Oficina de Servicios Generales"* by / *por* Michele Mirza

“Carrying the Message Virtually in the Americas: REDELA (Meeting of the Americas)” / *"Llevando el mensaje virtualmente en las Américas: REDELA (Encuentro de las Américas)"* by / *por* Newton P

“26th World Service Meeting” / *"26ª Reunión de Servicio Mundial"* by / *por* Trish L

# G.S.O. Department Reports: Pp 103-108 / *O.S.G. Informes de Departamento: 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

*9 informes departamentales, que incluyen:*

- (1) Administración;*
- (2) Archivos;*
- (3) Departamento de Servicios de Comunicaciones;*
- (4) Finanzas y Contabilidad;*
- (5) Recursos humanos;*
- (6) Operaciones;*
- (7) Publicación (tienda web, ebook / audio, videos, audiolibros, letra grande, libro de recuerdo, correo / envío / recepción);*
- (8) Servicios al personal y*
- (9) Servicios tecnológicos*

Literature Distributed: Pp 110-111 / *Literatura Distribuida: Pp 110-111*  
Grapevine Literature: Pp 113 / *Literatura Grapevine: Pp 113*

**Literature** (in English, Spanish, & French): / *Literatura* (en inglés, español y francés):

Numbers of books, booklets, pamphlets, miscellaneous (cards, placards, workbooks, guidelines, CDs, DVDs,) etc. / *Cantidad de libros, folletos, panfletos, misceláneos (tarjetas, carteles, cuadernos de trabajo, pautas, CD, DVD,) etc.*

**Grapevine** products / *Productos de Grapevine*

Numbers of books, e-books, CDs, cassettes, MP3s, and subscriptions for both Grapevine and La Viña / *Cantidad de libros, libros electrónicos, CD, casetes, MP3 y suscripciones tanto para Grapevine como para La Viña*



# Report of Independent Auditor: Pp 113-127 / *Informe del Auditor Independiente: 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.

*(1) Función de auditor; (2) notas a los estados financieros consolidados; (3) políticas contables importantes (por ejemplo, activos netos, efectivo / equivalentes de efectivo, inversiones, inventario, contribuciones, etc.); (4) liquidez y disponibilidad de recursos para gastos operativos; (5) inversiones; (6) propiedad y equipo; (7) beneficios para la salud y después de la jubilación; (8) plan de jubilación; seguido de 7 páginas de tablas con figuras.*

# 2021 – 2022 Committees: Pp 130-138 / 2021 – 2022 Comites: 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):

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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

2021 Miembros del Comité de la Conferencia : Pp 130

2022 Coordinadores y Alternos de los Comités de la Conferencia : Pp 132

2021 Miembros del Comité de Fideicomisarios : Pp 132

2021 Miembros de la Conferencia (descripciones personales):

Fideicomisarios Clase A (no alcohólicos) que prestan servicios en 2021:

Pp 132

Fideicomisarios Clase B (alcohólicos) que prestan servicios en 2021:

Pp 133

Directores no fiduciarios en servicio en 2021: Pp 134

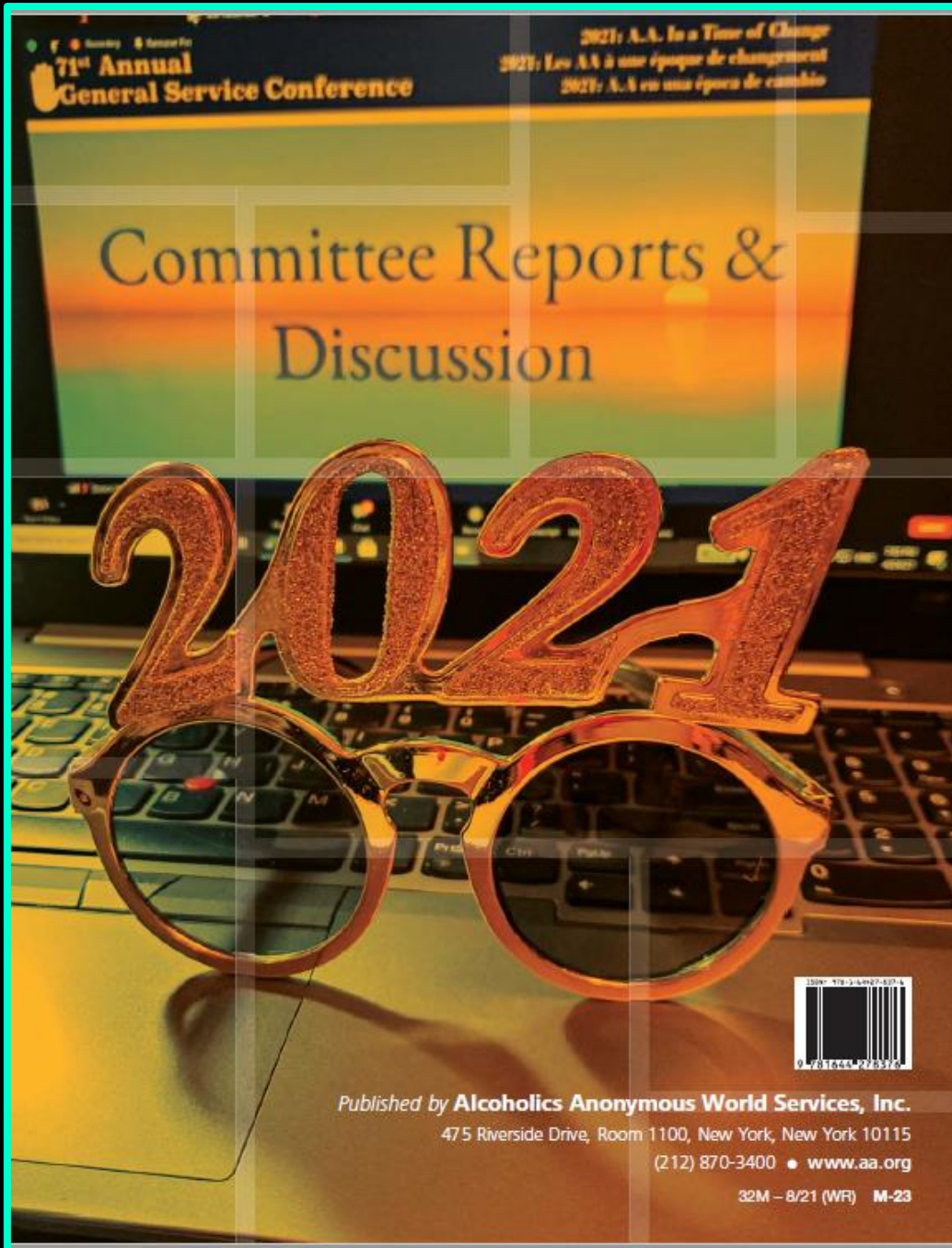
Fideicomisarios Clase A que prestan servicios en 2022- ? : Pp 134-135

Fideicomisarios Clase B que prestan servicios en 2022- ? : Pp 135

Directores no fideicomisarios en servicio en 2022- ? : Pp 135

2020-2021 93 Panel 70/71 delegados: Pp 136-137

2021 Asistentes de recursos sin derecho a voto que colaboran con la 71a  
Conferencia de servicios generales virtual: pág.138



Thanks for  
changing  
my life!

Gracias Por  
cambiar  
mi vida!