



Panel 74 “ Connecting with Love Unity and Service”



HIGHLIGHTS From this Report

- Literature Committee Questionnaire - ONGOING
- La Vina Questionnaire - ONGOING
- Q1 January Board weekend Information -
- Book your 2024 Delegate Shareback
- Delegate Updates
- 74th General Service Conference information
- Important Dates !!! MARK YOUR CALENDAR DON'T MISS IT !!!!
- Conference Committee Updates
- Fellowship connection UPDATE
- In this report you will find several opportunities to be of service under “Opportunities to be of Service”. Take a look and see what is of interest to you.
- O - Feb 28 7:00 - 8:30 PM - Information Review (*Summaries/Background and Access to information*)
- **February 20 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Plain Language Big Book Information Session – 4 Area Event**
Zoom ID: 829 8381 7449 Zoom PW: PLBB58993.
Zoom Link:<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82983817449> *ASL & Spanish Interpretation

Feb Read - Our Great Responsibility Pages 102-110

WE are reminded change is a constant and to welcome it as it comes.

“A great man doesn’t seek to lead. He’s called to it. And he answers

February 1st, 2024
MSCA – Mid- Southern California Area Service Assembly
Area 09 Delegate Report

Coming up:

ACYPAA / Feb 8-11th, 2024
Delegate only meeting / Feb 15th, 2024 4:00 - 5:30 pm PST
Plain Language Information Session hosted by 4 SoCal Areas. Feb 20th, 2024
Conference Sharing Session Feb 27th, 24 4:00 - 5:30 pm PST
CPC Conference Committee - Feb 22nd 3-4:00pm PST
Joint Meeting of the Trustees' CPC/T-A, and 2023 Conf. Committee on CPC - TBD
MSCA 09 Eboard Meeting Feb 29th, 2024
PRAASA Feb 29-March 3rd, 2024

Conferences speaking and attending 2024 as of Jan 8th, 2024

- *Almost every weekend I have a speaking engagement at an AA group within Area 09 throughout 2024.*
- *Social H&I Convention - May 3-5th, 2024 -Bakersfield
- *ACYPAA- All California Young people Alcoholics anonymous) - Feb 8 - 11th- San Diego
- *ICYPAA (International convention for Young people in Alcoholics anonymous)- July 4th Austin, TX
- *OC Convention - March, 28 -31st, 2024
- *South Bay Roundup - Labor day weekend
- *PRAASA -Feb 28 - March 3rd, 2024
- **Pacific Regional Forum - July 12- 14th, 2024

Area 09

For the most recent and accurate information visit the Area 09 Delegates Web Page.

<https://msca09aa.org/delegate/> Members Only Section Password is Panel74.

Since our last meeting, I have attended our EBOARD where we are getting used to the roles we are in. We have an amazing group of people and I am lucky and blessed to serve alongside these humans. I am working with Ryan to set up the Venm, working with Rozanne to get her going and have been enjoying watching Manya embark on her journey as Alt delegate. I continue to ensure that any and all information is given to her and Rozanne, our Area chair. The delegate page and your DCMC is where you can obtain the latest information from GSO. Additionally, after much thought I have come up with my vision for Panel 74. To empower the MCD, and DCMC with the knowledge they need to be leaders and embrace concept 9. I have been asked to come to several districts and groups. I will be reviewing what will be best for that district. We are currently redoing the delegate page to make it more accessible and easier to access. In December I sent out a trustees questionnaire with a letter asking if the membership wanted to have a session to discuss this further, I had a session on Jan 20th and will be accepting feedback until I leave. I sent out literature that the trustees committee sent out please be sure to read. I have spoken with Diana and Rick who is the Grapevine and La vina Conference chair. The deadline to submit responses is March 18th. We have been asked to send it to the conference committee so the other delegates may have an opportunity to read your responses. How exciting. I am working alongside 30 brave souls to do our own summaries as an area. I am hoping we can keep this going for every panel there after. I thank everyone for assisting me. I have been advised of 4 new groups in our area but no contact information. If you know anyone registering with GSO please be sure to advise them to have a contact person assigned with the group form. Corrections desk update is below. Monkey Survey update - sharing cost with Area 5 and area 8. We are underway in building this out sooner. I am speaking at ACYPAA on Feb 9th on Tradition 6. I turned in my Area highlights and 8 names to the PRAASA committee. I will find out soon what topic I have and in addition who was selected. If you have any issues with eh emails please email Karen or myself we are working on it. Agenda items will be made available Feb 9th, in addition the background will be resealed between Feb 16-22nd. Our summaries will hopefully be completed by Feb 28th or March 1st. Two of the Pacific region delegates are chairs and advised us of what is new unofficially. First, the PAIS that were not fwded we will have an explanation as to why it was not. Next the delegates and I in New York will be given one hour and half to read the plain language after signing a confidentiality agreement. We do a draw down from the reserve more on that below. The Board completed their inventory and

found it to be very necessary and healing. We were advised of two delegates that are not able to attend and their alternates will be attending in their stead. We continue to utilize onboard as a primary means of communication. Things are gearing up !!!!

Area Highlights for PRASSA:

Spanning across four counties, we are sandwiched between Area 5 and Area 8. The area includes Catalina Island off the Pacific Coast, portions of south Los Angeles, down the oceanfront from Manhattan Beach to San Clemente to the San Diego County border, reaching up north to Barstow and east past Palm Springs and Coachella Valley to Blythe on the Colorado River. As one of six areas in California, we are also one of the largest in terms of membership with over 65,000 members attending, over 3,389 groups and of them 41 being virtual. As an officially Hybrid, Bilingual area we are in our adolescent period facing new challenges from cost to availability. We play the hand we're dealt, adapting and striving to keep up with the times. Our servants still continue to evolve with our present means of communication, with our website continuing to be the hub for all information. We meet as an area 12 times a year. Holding three area service assemblies, six area service committee meetings and three special events which are: a two day Mock Pre-Conference, a Servathon where we have fun in the name of service and our FORO where we celebrate our Spanish Districts History. Our committees remain active, working hard in ensuring every alcoholic who seeks a solution finds one at their doorstep from bringing the gap, to sharing the message of AA in highschools and colleges, we ensure no barrier gets in the way of our purpose. Our servants are of all backgrounds and nationalities. With much diversity we continue to improve collaborations bringing pamphlets to life through our 19 standing committees, 14 central offices (including six Hispanic offices), 42 Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) Committees. From the local treatment center, to the firecamp all the way to your neighborhood high school; Since 1958 we have been preserving history and creating it. **We are Area 09.**

MSCA 09 Corrections response from staff desk:

Rainer the corrections desk staff member and I have been in communication on the matter of our inmates not receiving communication responses from GSO. We were advised that there are limitations within what can be done from within GSO, and what matters should be handled through local facility review and cooperative relationships with administrators. Rainer went on to advise "We continue to receive a steady volume of letters from Correctional Facilities within California. With respect to points 1 & 2 below, I believe in the authenticity of Michelle's experience and the reports that she is receiving. I don't know what the root cause is, but my thoughts are that they are localized within certain facilities. If this were systemic and accurate throughout the California system, I would not be receiving so many letters from Chowchilla, San Quentin, Soledad, Salinas Valley, etc. Aside from possible rejection for naming conventions, could there also be particular phrases or words which are causing certain mail to be rejected? What would cause a letter not to be sent from within a facility's mailroom? Conversation with administrators by local committees seems like the best means to resolve any misunderstanding regarding regulation. The first step to making sure that members in custody are receiving responses is to make sure that their letters are reaching the Office. If the letter is not leaving the facility, there is no way for the member to receive a response. Does there appear to be a good understanding of the CCS program by members in custody? Do they understand that Corrections Correspondence is not a sponsorship program? It is a correspondence program; this Office does not and can not assign sponsors. There are many letters received on a weekly basis, which receive outgoing responses with CCS information and forms, and explanation that we cannot assign sponsors but we can provide an outside member with contact information for correspondence. All letters receive responses which include a Sharing From Behind The Walls newsletter, and regularly additional material particular to aspects of the incoming letter. I'm going to track every piece of returned mail which we receive through the end of February. I will report to you the number of pieces returned which were addressed to members in California. Hopefully that will help clarify whether the issue lies with outgoing or incoming mail. And I'll follow up with Michelle this evening, to see what thoughts or ideas she has for resolution. I am hoping to get a little help gathering information. In discussion with several active members of a Corrections Committee this weekend and leaning on research gathered from recent conversation, I am increasingly aware of facility trends towards the use of processing centers. Many facilities in Pennsylvania are routing all mail through Smart Communications in Florida. Many facilities in North Carolina and Texas are using security processing centers in Maryland. I'm hoping that you can verify whether the facilities in Area 09 are using a processing center, and if so whether there is a correlation between the use of these centers and the mailing issues which you have described. In speaking with several former Area Chairs, I learned that they needed to have the General Service Office added as an approved destination for mail from insiders.

I am still gathering information and have confirmed that the other California facilities from whom we regularly receive letters are all direct mailings without the processing center as an intermediary. I do not yet know if these decisions are being made primarily on a facility basis, or whether they are occurring as a DOC decision. As with most of the Corrections world, I imagine the answer varies from state to state. And I believe this would certainly be true with local county institutions.

Please let me know if you find out any information. For the moment, we have only had one piece of returned mail from California, which was mailed directly to a facility in Stockton, CA. The outgoing address did not include an OPUS number. It was returned to us and has since been re-sent.”

Opportunities to be of service:

For Corrections Correspondence Service (CSS) to the entire fellowship

<https://www.aa.org/corrections-correspondent-sign-form>

We need a corrections chair desperately.

Fellowship Connection:

As of Feb 3rd, 2023 we have 3894 Groups, that's 7 new groups since January. 1872 groups that are active and 1182 groups that are displaying inactive. We have 41 virtual groups and 1 inactive virtual group. We have 6 pending active groups. These groups did not have a designated person to reach so, if you have recently registered your group please make sure to get with Martin, or your registrar to properly register your group. There are 123 districts registered with GSO that include sub-districts.

PDAB Committee

PRAASA event assisting Pacific Region Advisory board - 5 on committee; 1 extra. Latest update; Reily fwded documents to the PDAB committee to update for 2024. Of these items, was an Open Packet Sequence checklist, older Minutes, a blank motion form and 2 motions that were transferred from 2023 Business Meeting Minutes. They had an additional motion on a virtual component that was not on the agenda and the committee is due to reach out to the motion maker to resubmit.

General Service Conference Season has BEGUN!

Like everything in life we have seasons. Each season represents a different set of requirements to make it through, to understand and to adapt. As of February we are entering into what I like to refer to as, General service conference season. What does this mean for you, the reader or the GSR. Please, help us ensure groups within our area have the information they need to be informed on what is happening within general service. If a meeting you attend doesn't have a GSR, or General Service Representative help them become informed. If there is a bulletin board at your local club, pin our flier. If there is an opportunity to make an announcement, make an announcement. It is all hands on deck until April 7th.

2023 Literature Conference Committee Questions

On November 13, 2023 the trustees literature committee sent out an email to the fellowship. They did not translate this into spanish so I thank the communications committee for translating this document for us.

On Dec 16th I put together an email and sent this out to the fellowship. I have since ensured this document is available on our website, Eblast and in paper copy at the area meeting. Please use the QR code and respond to the survey. As of Feb 3rd I have gotten 50 responses. Please share this with your groups, and the membership. *“This questionnaire was in response to a Committee Consideration from the*

73rd General Service Conference suggesting that trustees' Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s Founders, the trustees' Literature committee agreed it would be beneficial to gather shared experience from the Fellowship regarding this topic."

Opportunities to be of Service.

FILL IT OUT !!!



General Service Board 2023 - 2024 Financial Status

4th Q Reporting and 2024 Budget - PLEASE NOTE THIS UNAUDITED, UNOFFICIAL REPORTING FROM KEVIN P

- **The coming financial package**, in English, French and Spanish, will include 2023 Estimated Revenues and the 2024 Budgets for AAWS/GSB and AAGV as well as Reserve Activity up to and including transactions approved at the January 2024 General Service Board weekend.
- **The timing of this release** is As Soon as Possible but will depend on time to translate and compile the summary document. The summary document will be shared with Trustees Finance and ultimately all Trustees prior to submission for translation. This timeline is at least 2 weeks from Jan 28th, 2024.
- **Highlights of 2023 Revenues are:**
 - Contributions – Budget of \$10,500,000 actual \$10,872,239. This is the greatest number of contributions ever received.
 - Contributions – Number of groups contributing. Per Pandemic approximately 28,000. In 2021 a low of 18,558, 2022 saw 19,572, 2023 reached 20,497
 - Gross Literature Sales - \$14,489,002 versus 2022 of \$11,795,264 and budget of 15,582,000.
 - Net Literature Sales \$7,191,125 versus 2022 of \$4,894,113 and budget of \$7,950,000. Gross Margin Percentage of 49.6% versus 2022 of 41.4% and Budget of 50%
 - Grapevine total revenue of \$2,562,978 versus 2022 of \$2,646,860 and budget of \$2,512,000
- **Highlights of 2024 AAWS/GSB Budget**
 - Slight positive margin (\$47k) before depreciation of \$1.02 million. Positive Cash Flow of \$1.1 million expected
 - Literature gross sales assumed at same volume as 2023 – No revenue is assumed from titles still under discussion by the Conference. Gross margin budgeted at 50%
 - Contributions budgeted flat from 2023 budget (\$10,500,000) and less than 2023 actuals (\$10,872,239)
 - Six total iterations of the budget were run that resulted from an overall 6% reduction in expenses from version 1 to version 6.
- **Highlights of the 2024 AAGV Budget**
 - Revenues and overall net loss (\$582k) in line with the 5-year plan (2022 – 2026) which was reviewed by Trustees Finance in January 2023. Per the 5-year plan, Grapevine should be cash flow positive starting in 2025.
 - LaViña shortfall covered by GSB reduced from 2023 Reforecast of \$872k to \$582
- **Reserve Fund –**
 - \$564,652 to fund year three of the Grapevine 5-year Plan;
 - Draw of \$500,000 to the General Service Board to ensure sufficient cash on hand to meet liquidity requirements in the second quarter of 2024, which includes \$1.1 million of Conference expenses. This is in response to the cash on hand deficiency carried over since the end of 2022 that was not fully mitigated by positive cash flow results in 2023 that resulted from the generous commitment to self-support from the Fellowship that exceeded both the previous annual record and 2023 reforecast budget for contributions, close management of expenses, and collections of receivables. This draw plus expected positive cash flow in the first quarter of 2024 will fully fund the expenses expected to be paid in the second quarter of 2024.
 - **Barring unforeseen circumstances, rebuilding of the Reserve Fund could begin as soon as the fourth quarter of 2024.**

Opportunities to be of Service.

****Please consider giving a recurring donation to GSO using the link below.**

<https://contribution.aa.org/sca-dev-2020-1/checkout.ssp?is=login&login=T&origin=checkout#billing>

**** Please make sure your Meeting / Group is registered with GSO and that the contact information is up to date. To register with G.S.O. fill out this form.**

file:///C:/Users/monifra/Downloads/2022-Group_Information_Change_Form_Panel72%20revised.pdf If your group has changed names or contact please update that too on this form.

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/F28_GroupInformationChangeForm_fillable_EN.pdf

Friendly Reminder about following our A.A. Twelve Traditions and AA Twelve Concepts

Tradition 2 - “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.” Although we move DOWN the upside down triangle that does not change who we are responsible to, which is the groups and God himself . To be a servant is to serve at the highest level before God. At least in my humble opinion, it is the most honorable thing I can do. This is how I say THANK YOU to AA and God for my life. I am a servant.

Concept 2 - “The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.” How ? In the long Form we understand just what Bill meant.“When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference—excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter—the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.” We do this through electing a GSR at our respective Home groups. I was elected as an Alternate voting GSR in 2013 then a GSR in 2014. Delegate, we met with our District DCM and DCMC monthly. Then at our Area assembly 4 times a year. I participated in electing a delegate for the last 11 years. This year I am one of 93 who have the great honor of representing the U.S and Canada in April, alongside the trustees of the General Service Board, the staff of the General Service Office and the A.A. Grapevine and certain other service workers. For one week carry out being “the actual voice and effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.”

Pacific Region

PRAASA - <https://praasa.org/> - The purpose is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, and areas of the Pacific Region. Encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences. Provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Assembly and the PRAASA Committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous The MSCA board will be arriving on Thursday. I have put forward eight names to participate. Look out for our fellows being of service.

Upcoming Pacific Regional Events

PRAASA Feb 29th - March 3rd, 2024 in San Francisco, CA

Pacific Regional Forum - July 12-14, 2024 Pacific Westgate Resort & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada

Grapevine and la Vina

This month's feature section is “Getting Through Tough Times.” Members share hopeful stories about how they reach for help and use the tools of AA to stay sane and sober through adversity. This month's special section for La Vina is “Nuevos en AA” (Newcomers in AA.) Please let us know at EA@agrapevine.org if your Area plans any virtual or

face-to-face events. To request Grapevine Complimentary materials, please download the request form www.aagrapevine.org/gvr-resources. Events where Grapevine and La Vina will be attending. International Women's Conference 2024 Portland, ME February 22 — 24 NERAASA 2024 Hershey, PA
If you are a current or aspiring subscriber to Grapevine and La Viña And are experiencing delivery issues, please email or call 1.800.631.6025 or 1.800.640.8781 (Spanish). Email CustomerService@aagrapevine.org for English or Preguntas@aagrapevine.org for Spanish. Customer Service: USA (800) 640-8781. International: +1 (570) 567-0437.

Opportunities to be of service:

****Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues for La Vina; March/April 2024:** Cortos de La Viña (La Viña short stories.); **May/June 2024:** Recaidas (Relapse.)

*****Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:Grapevine**

Dating & Relationships — Learning how to date in sobriety? How did it go?

What were the challenges? Any sober tips? (Believe me, we all want to know!).

Share what you've learned about having sober relationships. How is your marriage or relationship different now than when you were drinking? **stories due Feb. 15, 2024.**

Young & Sober! — Did you come into AA at an early age? What was that like? What were the challenges? Do you go to Young People's AA (YPAA) meetings, dances or conferences? How have they helped you? **stories due March 15, 2024)** More upcoming topics: CPC Service stories & Remote Community stories.

Important: We're looking for stories of experience with each Step and each Tradition! (Pick a particular Step or Tradition and share your experience!) We also need your jokes

The 74th General Service Conference - Connecting with Love Unity and Service

As of Feb 3rd, 2024 we do not currently have the final list of conference committee agenda items. The Preliminary agenda items have been made available to the fellowship, on the area website and via email. The background will be made available in all three languages between February 15 - 22nd. MSCA 09 will be working together to create summaries for the membership to utilize as a tool for better understanding the agenda items. We plan to have everything ready to go by March 1st at the latest. **We have ONE MONTH to get our groups informed. ONE MONTH!!!!** I will be hosting various opportunities to provide feedback ask questions. I leave for the GSC on April 11th, the last day for me to accept feedback is April 7th after our pre-conference. In addition there is a La vina questionnaire and a literature questionnaire in response to several agenda items. Again please ensure that your home group has filled this out. This year's conference will take place in Brooklyn, NY April 14th - 20th, 2024. I will be attending this conference with my best friend alt GSR Megan J. I plan on flying in on the 11th and staying through the 21st. Please review the general service conference timeline to have a better understanding of how the conference week will go.

The changes that HAVE been made to AA literature since 2021. There are many but this is in regards to the 12&12

This has been taken directly from page 100 - 101 of the *1955 - 2022 Advisory Actions. For more information. -*

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/m-39_0722.pdf

2021 It was recommended that: The "A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference Approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format," 101 CONTENTS approved by the A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors in January 2020, be acknowledged and accepted by the General Service Conference.

2021 or Panel 71 " A Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that: "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion,' 'Dr. Bob's Nightmare,'

and the Appendices remain as is,” and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. Pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V.”

2021 Panel 71 “ A revision be made to page 117 in the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, replacing the phrase “opposite sex” with the word “partner” as follows, and that a footnote be added to provide context to the change as it relates to inclusivity: The text on page 117 which currently reads: “Nearly every sound human being, experiences at some time in life, a compelling desire to find a mate of the opposite sex with whom the fullest possible union can be made — spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical. This mighty urge is the root of great human accomplishments, a creative energy that deeply influences our lives. God fashioned us that way....” Be revised to read: “Nearly every sound human being, experiences at some time in life, a compelling desire to find a partner with whom the fullest possible union can be made — spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical. This mighty urge is the root of great human accomplishments, a creative energy that deeply influences our lives. God fashioned us that way....” The sentence which includes the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six” of the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, be revised to refer to the Seven Deadly Sins without specific mention of examples that are severe in nature as follows, and that a footnote be added to provide context as to the basis for the change: The text on page 66 which currently reads: “No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health.” Be revised to read: “No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust or gluttony.”

2021 Panel 71 “ A draft version of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)*, be translated into plain and simple language and be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible and that a progress report or draft be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature.”

The booklet *Living Sober* be revised to add the following paragraph regarding safety and A.A. in chapter 29, page 76: Of course, A.A. is a reflection of the larger society around us and problems found in the outside world can also make their way into the rooms of A.A. But by keeping the focus on our common welfare and primary purpose, groups can help provide a safe and secure environment for all their members.

2024 74th GSC (General Service Conference)

In order to receive the most accurate information please go to the Delegate’s Webpage or contact your District chair. If you are having issues with information please contact me DIRECTLY.

General Service Board (GSB)

The General Service Board contains 21 Trustees of which 14 are Class B (B for Boozers) and 7 are Class A (non-alcoholic). The Trustees are the recipients of our Seventh Tradition contributions and they are the custodians of our A.A. Traditions. The mission of the GSB: Our mission is to serve the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. As of Jan 2024 we have 20 Trustees. 13 Class B and 7 Class As. At this years conference we will be voting for a new General service conference chair. We have Scott (Alcoholic) submitted to the conference to serve as Chair.

Open Positions (enter roles/Definitions) Submissions may be made to specified personal on the letter.

ACM -Appointed Committee Member – An A.A. member who serves on a specific trustees’ committee (*for example, Public Information or Correctional facilities*) because of his or her knowledge and experience in the field.

Director (non trustee) – An A.A. member who serves on the corporate board of either A.A.W.S. or the Grapevine; Directors are selected for business or professional experience that relates to the activities of the corporation. (*The directorate of both corporate boards also includes trustees and A.A. staff.*)

Trustee – A member of A.A.’s **General Service Board. Fourteen trustees are A.A. members (Class B); seven are non-alcoholic (Class A).**

As of Jan 2024

Opening for Two Appointed Committee Members for trustees' Committee on CPC/Treatment and Accessibility - **January 15th, 2024.**

Two new Class B (alcoholic) regional trustees, from the West Central and Western Canada regions will be elected at the General Service Conference in April 2024.

Class A Trustee Vacancy Announcement – April 2024

Recommendation of Chairperson for General Service Board (74th GSC) - Scott April 2024

Vacancy for the position of Non-trustee Director of AA Grapevine Board in 2024- Due Jan 1st, 2024

If you know someone who may be interested in serving in this service position, Resume submissions should be forwarded to: access@aa.org .

Finance

The final 2023 audited report will be available at the general service conference this April

What services GSO funds.

Our 2024 Budget will be released at the end of January after the Board Weekend.

Contributions are above expectations – but the cost of goods sold has increased.

In recent July GSB reevaluated the budget and reviewed where we can trim expenses.

Every dollar of the 7th Tradition contribution matters. Whether it is \$1.00 from an individual or a few hundred from a group; this is where money and spirituality mix.

GSB - Finance - more to come after Jan 2024 Board weekend.

Grapevine & La Vina Finance - more to come after Jan 2024 Board weekend.

A.A.W.S.

Alcoholics Anonymous is a business and we have been affected just like every other business and industry with a supply chain. Throughout the world of paper, printing, and trucking industries there are delays and impact. We are taking action and having daily conversations with our printers. We currently have Big Books back in stock! We are scheduling press time and working on getting binding supplies at least nine months in advance. A.A.W.S. The board is reviewing alterations that may allow for a more cost-effective solution and more availability. Discussions are taking place about how we can do things differently. We do have challenges like all businesses with supply chains. For now, if you do need material immediately everyone can download one copy at no charge from www.aa.org With the recent Advisory Action on simultaneous translation of Conference Background Information into three languages – English, Spanish, and French it will be a substantial amount of time. There is a working group on translation, with the possibility of a paid position for French and Spanish translation versus outsourced consulting. Translation is a process and will be continued. We will see how this turns out at this year's conference.

● **Conference Committee Updates**

Also we will be getting a list of all the agenda items that weren't fwded to the conference and why after the background has been released.

Accessibilities

Audio project for A.A. Members in the military and are continuing to gather stories for the Older AA Pamphlet. Still accepting stories and you can submit at access@aa.org

Story Solicitation “A.A. for the Native North American” Added December 2023

Attached, [please find a memo regarding the recovery story solicitation for the “A.A. for the Native North American” pamphlet update.](#)

Public Information

They are still accepting videos from the Young peoples video project. - We want video submissions from A.A. members. WHY? To carry A.A.'s message to young people in high school and college settings. (FLYER IS ON DELEGATE PAGE)

Opportunities to be of service:

Share Your Experience! Submissions should be fifteen second minimum up to three minutes maximum in length and reflect and adhere to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, especially A.A.'s anonymity traditions. Be creative and have fun! Individuals submitting videos must be at least 18 years of age and must reside within the boundaries of the U.S. and Canada A.A. General Service Structure. Submissions should be in English, Spanish or French. For more information, [contact the Public Information Coordinator at publicinfo@aa.org.](mailto:publicinfo@aa.org)

International Convention/Regional Forums:

The committee reviewed a report from the 2035 International Convention Site Inspection Team. Based on the recommendation of the 2035 Site Inspection Team, the committee recommended to the General Service Board that Indianapolis, Indiana be the site for the 2035 Alcoholics Anonymous International Convention. The General Service Board approved the recommendation

Grapevine and La Vina Assignment

Update on Grapevine and La Vina Spoke with Conference Committee Chair Rick W, a dear friend. He requested we please fill out the questionnaire on La Vina, and share the results with him directly prior to the conference. There are two PAIs to pay attention to. **C. Discuss the cost effectiveness and sustainability of continuing to print La Viña.** **D. Explore the services provided by AA Grapevine and how they should be funded.** *The second item is speaking directly to how we make the services be cost generating that are currently available. Instagram, youtube, podcast and app. Come up with ideas and share them with me !!!* AA Grapevine Overview The GV Board approved the Sept. 2023 YTD financial results for Grapevine and La Viña, a draft 2024 high level budget, rolling cash flow forecast and the 990 Tax return. The GV Board of Directors has chosen a candidate for the upcoming position of Non Trustee Director. GRAPEVINE APP Downloads Subscriptions Gross Income Net Income 16,538 2,327 \$51,157 \$43,484 * LA VIÑA APP Downloads Subscriptions Gross Income Net Income 596 70 \$978 \$831* *Net incomes are an estimate based in gross less 15% • Fun Fact: The AA Grapevine App currently sits at number 32 on the Apple Top 200 Newspaper and Magazine App Charts.

Publisher's report:

The September 4 podcast included a discussion about the apps. There's a great spot each week about the apps on the podcast. • App subscriptions peak on weekends when Grapevine staff and directors are traveling to events and present the apps to membership. • App bugs worked out with calculator refresh, spiritual checklist refresh, subscriber re-entry. Working on subscribe button on main page, gifting of app, digital and print anniversary cards using sobriety calculator, and reader comment function for next release. • International App Release: The management and the board need to consider impact of apps on local Grapevine-like magazines. Also, we would need to convert all global currencies to US Dollars for fulfillment vendor the same way we do for Canadian currency now. App vendor and fulfillment house working on time and cost estimate. • Downloads Grapevine = 16,538; Subscriptions = 2,327; Gross Income = \$51,157; Net income = \$43,484* • Downloads La Viña = 596; Subscriptions = 70; Gross Income = \$978; Net Income = \$831* » Net incomes are an estimate based in gross less 15% • Fun Fact: The AA Grapevine App currently sits at number 32 on the Apple Top 200 Newspaper and Magazine App Charts. •

We engaged a recruiting service to assist us with placing new Controller. • Podcast: Over 630,000 downloads. • Instagram: Grapevine over 11,100 followers, La Viña 1,452 followers. • YouTube: 11,800 subscribers, 109 videos with 171,203 views. • Grapevine and La Viña News appearing monthly on the Meeting Guide App.

Literature Assignment

Final title for the plain language book - Plain language big book a tool for reading the big book of alcoholics anonymous - These are explanations in plain language - We will see a final product of plain language there will be a reading room for delegates to read. We will also be asked to sign a confidentiality document. “A thought to think about... this book might not be for you but for someone else”. Proposal for workbook none - not moving forward. Co- founders writing a sharing session - beginning of a conversation

Opportunities to be of service:

Story Solicitation “Do You Think You Are Different?”

Added October 2023

Attached, **please find a memo regarding the recovery story solicitation for the “Do You Think You Are Different?” pamphlet update.**

Regional Forums

Four Annual Regional forums that rotate amongst the 8 regions in US and Canada. Opportunity to cross exchange information and there is no registration fee. All are welcomed. As our Director of Staff Services says, “You already paid for it you might as well come.” This year it's our turn to make plans to attend the Las Vegas Regional Forum.

Group Services

2022 Membership Survey pamphlets are now available online and in the store.

<https://www.aa.org/alcoholics-anonymous-2022-membership-survey>

Participation is key and accessibility to participation is just as important.

It is our duty to make sure that whoever wants to be here is welcome to participate.

2025 International Convention, Alcoholics Anonymous Vancouver, BC, Canada July 3-6 2025.

We will be celebrating 90 years of A.A. and the theme is “90 Years – Language of the Heart.” Please make sure to review restrictions and regulations when traveling to Canada. Registration will be available in Mid- 2024. Email 2025ic@aa.org if you have any questions. If you have any potential issues with getting across the board the time to get this resolved is NOW!! The cost is for the conference is \$160.00 pre-registration and \$185.00 for on site.

<https://www.aa.org/international-convention-2025-faqs> Information for those who may have entry issues due to past criminal history:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/inadmissibility/overcome-criminal-convictions.htm>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/contact-ircc/offices/international-visa-offices.html>

CPC(Cooperation with the professional community) - As of Feb 5th, 2024

This is the Committee I serve on. We currently have 4 agenda items assigned to our committee under the preliminary agenda items. Please see below

- A. Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.
- B. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals.
- C. Review content and format of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.
- D. Discuss effectiveness and relevance of CPC videos currently on aa.org

In addition, the Q4 report came out: The committee discussed the development of the pamphlet For Mental Health Professionals and noted the enthusiasm of several of the interview subjects and their offer to advise us on potential drafts of the pamphlet. The committee recommended that the materials gathered to date be forwarded to the AAWS Publishing Department for the creation of a draft pamphlet and looks forward to an update at the January meeting. The committee was informed that the final draft of the CPC service card has been sent to Publishing and the card will soon be available to the Fellowship for printing and digital downloads on aa.org. Effectiveness of CPC exhibits: The committee offered suggestions for specific events to attend to broaden the array of professionals we inform about our program of recovery, and encouraged the desk to continue to explore these events and other events focusing on a breadth of professions. Progress report on LinkedIn: The committee received a verbal update from Communication Services on the engagement of posts by LinkedIn users and the improved, consistent cadence of posts. CPC Committee Kit and Workbook: The committee noted that the suggestions and revisions to the CPC Kit and Workbook have been forwarded to Publishing and are in the process of translation before being posted to the aa.org website and printed. The committee looks forward to an update on the printing at the January 2024 meeting.

Opportunities to be of service:

1. Please look at the AAWS LinkedIn page and advise of any suggestions to better improve the presence we have
2. For the pamphlet on mental health professionals, what do you believe needs to be in this that I should look out for.
3. If you are on the CPC committee within your district past or present, please advise me of any content and format of C.P.C. KIT necessary to change this and or the Workbook.
4. Please watch the CPC videos currently on aa.org and give me suggestions on how to change or improve the video experience.

Upcoming Events Throughout the U.S and Canada

PI CPC Working Group-2nd Saturday - Monthly 12:00pm PST Meeting ID: 878 0311 3474 Passcode: 411
 Plain language information session Feb 20th 7-8:00pm PST - information on website !
 National A.A. Archives.- 2024 NAAAW Workshop - Des Moines, Iowa <https://www.naaaw.org>
 National A.A. Technology Workshop - <https://naatw.org/> - St. Louis, MO, September 13-15, 2024
 Annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend.- <https://www.btgww.org/>
 Third Thursday MSCA 09 Area Sharing Session - Hosted by Panel 74 Delegate & Alt Delegate
 4 Area DCM Sharing Session Hosted by Area 5,8,9,&93 Chaired by Area 08 June 1st 2024
 ACYPAA -Hosted by San Diego YPAA **February 8 - 11, 2024**
 ICYPAA Hosted by Austin **July 3-7th 2024**

Pre Conference Shareback Discussion

Meeting ID: 854 8006 9965 Passcode: Panel74

****All times are PST **Spanish Interpretation will be available**

All meetings will be recorded and placed on the website under the Delegates page.

These discussions are an opportunity to ask questions, provide feedback, and expand on topics. Dates and location are subject to change; please check the MSCA 09 website regularly !

O = Online Only H= Hybrid IP= In person Only, MSCA09 HQ

O - Feb 28 7:00 - 8:30 PM - Information Review (*Summaries/Background and Access to information*)

Review Agenda Items Per Committee in the Month of March

O - March 6 7:00 - 8:30 pm PST

IP - March 17 3:00 - 5:00 pm PST - La Vina/Grapevine and Finace

O -March 20 7:00 - 8:30 pm PST

O -March 28 7:00 - 8:30 pm PST Online Only -

IP- March 31 Interdistrict Pre-Conference 8:00 am - 12:00 pm PST (In person)

H - April 6 -7 2024 MSCA 09 Pre-Conference (Hybrid)

April 14 - 20 General Service Conference

May 19 Delegate Report Back to Area 09

Looking for more:

Check out Box 4-5-9 : https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/subscribe-to-box-4-5-9-news-and-notes-from-gso
Quarterly Report from G.S.O Available Now

<https://www.aa.org/quarterly-reports-from-gso>

A.A. World Services Comprehensive Media Plan - Digital press kit

<https://www.aa.org/digital-press-kit>

I am available to attend Meetings, Groups, Districts, and Committee meetings.

My email is: delegate@msca09aa.org or the Alternate Delegate Manya W and invite us. We welcome the opportunity to meet with Area 09 Members.

It is an honor to be the voice of Area 09 Mid Southern California Area 09 A.A. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

In, Love and Service

Alex Wheatley

A09/P74 Delegate to GSC

CPC Conference Committee Member

Delegate@msca09aa.org