



**Panel 74 “ Connecting with Love Unity and Service”**  
**Panel 75 “Working together Increasing Trust”**  
Panel 76 “



**HIGHLIGHTS From this Report**

- Delegate report ( Sept,Oct,Nov)
- Updates from August Board weekend
- Updated Reserve fund
- Important updates for 2026 - Next panel !!
- Opportunities to be of service
- Traditions and Concepts recap
- Announcements to bring to your homegroup or share within the fellowship

**Pacific Regional Forum 2028 - We are hosting Friendly  
reminder**

## September Report

MSCA – Mid- Southern California Area Service Committee Meeting

Area 09 Delegate Report

Alex w Panel 74 Delegate Area 9 - Home group, shut up and cross talk on tuesday nights 8:00pm.

Leadership in AA. Next month, we will be voting on Area Board positions, making important decisions about the leadership of our Area. I want to take a moment to speak directly to the next Delegate—whoever that may be—and to all of you about what your vote truly represents.

When you cast your vote, you are entrusting this individual with a great responsibility. They will be expected to read and review lengthy reports and then share that information with you clearly and in a timely manner. You will be trusting that they have a strong understanding of our Traditions and Concepts and that they have spent time studying the Service Manual.

The next Delegate will also face significant decisions, such as voting on the future editions of the Big Book and carefully reviewing finances while asking the difficult questions that need to be asked. They will be called to attend many meetings, carrying our voice and message wherever they go.

As you consider each candidate, I ask you to reflect on the type of service they have already given.

- Did they provide timely and thorough reports?
- Did they demonstrate vision and inspire you to follow it?
- Were they able to step aside gracefully, showing tolerance when faced with opposing opinions or even personal criticism?
- Have they shown flexibility, always keeping the greater good of AA as a whole—not just Area 9—in mind?
- And finally, are they willing to take action, even to the point of making a floor motion, to help this Area move forward with clarity and purpose?

This vote is about more than filling a position—it's about choosing someone who will serve with integrity, humility, and courage. I urge you to weigh these qualities carefully as you cast your vote. I say this also for whomever this area might nominate as our candidate for the Pacific regional trustee.

Since we last met, I've had the privilege of serving in several ways. I attended the Arizona State Convention for the Hispanic community as a speaker, which was an incredible experience. I've also hosted two Election Planning meetings and have been working diligently on the deck and detailed plan to ensure a smooth and well-organized Election Assembly. Additionally, I attended our Area E-Board meeting. Attended our Pacific regional delegates monthly meeting, and our Service Manual study that we host for all of you.

On **August 25th**, we held a General Service Conference meeting focused on **workload**—a very meaningful and timely topic. I also met with my Conference Committee on CPC to receive the most recent updates.

Yesterday, alongside Manya, Rozanne, Debra, Jeryl, and Cathy, I had the opportunity to support **Area 8** with their elections, where we helped run the online portion of the process. Last week, I joined members of **Area 93** and **Area 8** at the SoCal Convention.

As many of you know, **ACYPAA** will be hosted within the boundaries of our Area next year. I've been working closely with the planning team to ensure they have the general service support and a budget in place to make the event accessible—particularly for the Hispanic community—so there are **no barriers to participation** for anyone who wishes to attend.

I have also updated the Delegate's responsibilities and will be submitting a **floor motion** in time for the Area elections. In addition, the Board is actively working on an updated Executive Handbook to better support future panels with clarity around their tasks and duties.

Currently, I am working with Ryan and Manya on **Treasurer AP duties**, and I have submitted my proposed budget. I'm looking forward to hosting **Carolyn and Manya** at my home for the upcoming Servathon and elections.

### **Conference Updates:**

We've received recent updates from:

- **CPC , Literature Desk , Finance , La Viña/Grapevine , Apology from GSB for the souvenir book not including israel as a nation. Meeting guide app updates.**

We are still awaiting final numbers and board reports from the **International Convention**.

The **bitley** has been updated with the latest information. Please take time to **review the slide decks for September and October** to stay current.

### **October/ November Report**

#### **Personal:**

Dear Friends,

My heart was overflowing yesterday as I watched so many of you stand for election. Seeing that spirit of willingness alive and well reminded me once again that our Fellowship is truly in good hands. I'm filled with gratitude and peace as I prepare to pass the baton to the wonderful panel we've elected. A special thank-you to all who made themselves available to serve — even if God has other plans for you in the next two years. Your willingness is what keeps our spiritual engine running.

We'll have additional elections in January, and I sincerely hope that those not elected to the board will continue to serve. You are the “meat and potatoes” of Area 9 — the hands and hearts that make Twelfth Step work possible.

I want to thank the many districts and groups that invited me over the past quarter to share a Delegate Report or to help with elections. It fills me with joy to see members participating in our Third Legacy Procedure — one of the most spiritual experiences in A.A. service. Truly, one of the greatest blessings of my time as your Delegate has been our conversations — about what's happening in our Fellowship, the challenges we face, and the hopes we share. Please continue to reach out with your questions, ideas, and reflections — both to me and to your next Delegate.

Though I only have about 50 days left in this service role, I plan to serve just as actively as I did in my first 50. If I haven't yet visited your district or group and you'd like me to come share a report or simply connect, it's not too late — I would love to visit and talk about whatever is on your mind. Final Conference Reports arrived at my home just three days after our recent elections. After returning from a 12-day trip to Tokyo — where I had the privilege of carrying our message abroad — I was able to ensure that all Spanish-speaking districts received their hard copies (about 45 for each group). I've also coordinated with DCMCs to deliver reports to all other districts. The digital version of the **Final Report of the 75th General Service Conference** is now available at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). As a gentle reminder, we have two more sessions left in our monthly **Service Manual Study**, held on the third Thursday of each month. My hope is that our incoming Alternate Delegate will continue this vital service to the Area, and that next month we'll move into studying the **Concepts** together. All past recordings can be found on the Area website — perfect for listening while traveling to Area meetings or during your workday.

With gratitude, love, and faith in our Fellowship,

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*My friend Nick shared recently a talk he did and I wanted to share his thoughts today with you all.*

***Willing to Be Uncomfortable: Leadership in A.A.*** Service speaks straight to my heart. I've come to believe that willingness and sacrifice are sacred tools in the hands of a loving God.

*When I came to A.A., I was a broken teenager. I couldn't function in the world around me and you all showed me a solution. I thought your solution would mean instant happiness, like the laughter I heard in meetings. As it turns out, you taught me that our solution relies on spiritual growth, often times by saying yes to something that terrifies me. Service has been one of those things. It's easy to confuse comfort with peace. But I've learned in A.A. that comfort can actually be the enemy of my growth - the growth I rely on to stay sober one day at a time. Peace, on the other hand - true spiritual peace - is what comes when I'm aligned with my higher power's will, even if I'm shaking in my boots.*

*Our 36 spiritual principles—the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts—offer us a way of life that's rooted in love, humility, and responsibility. And sometimes, living by these principles means stepping into situations that are uncertain, difficult, or even painful.*

*Let's talk about one of the most uncomfortable aspects of leadership in A.A.—speaking the truth when it's unpopular. Maybe you've experienced this: You're in a group business meeting -or- a district, Area, or even the General Service Conference. You feel nudged to speak up—to share a concern, suggest a needed change, or challenge something that doesn't align with our principles. And yet, when you do, you're met with silence. Or worse—eye rolls, resistance, maybe even open criticism - or even outward hostility.*

*It hurts. It's uncomfortable. It's tempting to stay silent next time. But spiritual leadership means we sometimes have to be the voice of principle in a room full of personalities. It takes courage to be the voice of reason in unreasonable times. Bill W. wrote, “When such an occasional situation arises, and something very vital is at stake, it is always the duty of leadership, even when in a small minority, to take a stand against the storm—using its every ability of authority and persuasion to effect a change.” Not to be self-righteous. Not to get our way. But because we've been entrusted with something sacred—this Fellowship. Our higher power did not pull us from the gates of death so we could be liked. We were pulled out so we could be useful.*

*Tradition One reminds us that our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on A.A. unity. But unity is not the same as uniformity. Sometimes we confuse keeping the peace with keeping quiet. Real unity is forged in love and*

transparency, not silence and secrecy. It comes from a group conscience rooted in prayer, from individuals who are willing to be vessels for spiritual principle—especially when it's hard.

*There have been times I've left a meeting - even at this year's General Service Conference, questioning everything—"Did I say too much?" "Was I wrong to speak?" "Why do I feel so alone?" "Where were the others who said they'd speak up?" But in those quiet moments, when I turn inward in prayer and meditation, I'm reminded: You didn't come here to be liked. You came here to serve. We're called to serve, and when we do so with our principles as the guide, our character continues to be forged and our ego slips away.*

*You taught me being willing to be uncomfortable means learning to get our comfort from a higher power, not from people, not from outcomes. When I speak what I see to be the truth and feel misunderstood or disliked, I get to go back to the decision I make in Step Three. Turning over my will and my life includes my reputation and whether people approve of me. If I'm living in the Steps, if I'm guided by the Traditions, if I'm serving through the Concepts—then I'm standing on spiritual ground, no matter how shaky I feel inside. No matter how the people around me show up.*

*The people who came before us—those early trusted servants—were no strangers to discomfort. They risked friendships, reputations, and security to build this fellowship. They spoke up when it was hard. They followed conscience over comfort. We are here today, literally alive, because they were willing to be uncomfortable. The question is: are we?*

*Because someone has to speak for the newcomer who's not in the room yet. Someone has to raise the question no one wants to ask. Someone has to say, "That doesn't feel aligned with our principles." That someone is you. It's me. It's all of us—together, guided by prayer and love for Alcoholics Anonymous.*

***My experience is this: When I've been willing to step into discomfort—into leadership, into conflict, into truth—I've found a deeper connection with my Higher Power. And I've seen that power use my trembling hands and my uncertain voice to carry its message. So I leave you with this: Don't fear the discomfort. Invite your higher power into it. What would that power have you be? That's where the growth is. That's where the grace is. And that's where the true heart of A.A. service lives.***

Over the past several months, it has been my privilege to participate in many gatherings of our Fellowship — moments that continue to remind me how alive and dedicated our service community truly is.

#### Meetings and Events Attended

September: ASA Meeting, Executive Board Meeting, Service Manual Study, two Election Planning Meetings, Pacific Regional Delegates Meeting, SoCal Convention, Area 8 Elections, and my Home Group's Chili Cookoff.

October: Area Elections, Servathon, a joint meeting of the Conference Committee on CPC and the Trustees' CPC Committee, three Implementation Committee meetings, and another Executive Board Meeting.

November (Upcoming): District 6 and 4 Elections, a CPC Presentation, Implementation Committee, and the Board Meeting and Dinner.

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#### Area Updates

The Board and I have been working diligently to ensure a smooth and well-organized transition for the incoming Panel 76 trusted servants. We have created a series of process documents — including a detailed, step-by-step Election Planning Guide — to support future panels. We continue to collaborate with Devin on website improvements, ensuring it remains accessible and up to date. To help conserve Area funds, I was grateful to host our Elections Chair, Carolin, and Manya at my home during the recent election weekend — and I'll gladly make that option available in the future if it helps the Area save money. To all who stood for election — thank you for your willingness to serve. Your courage and humility embody the spirit of A.A. service. And to those newly elected, congratulations. The Panel 74 trusted servants are filled with gratitude as we prepare to pass the baton and assist with a thoughtful, smooth transition. We're updating our Executive Board documents and have prepared binders with bylaws, guidelines, and key materials to support the next rotation. I also had the joy of attending the first-ever La Viña / Grapevine event — a wonderful experience filled with learning, fellowship, and gratitude. Thank you to Mitchell for sharing the beautiful history and purpose of this vital publication. The Area budget review has been completed, and the Delegate budget has been received and approved. Lastly I am working with Cesar and Debra to

ensure when she presents him, she presents an accurate depiction of him. I have submitted Cesar as our pacific regional trustee. God speed.

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## GSO Updates

In October, many Conference Committees reviewed and discussed their Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs) in preparation for the 2025 Conference. The CPC Committee reviewed two PAIs, both of which were forwarded for inclusion. A more detailed update on all committee work is available in the full report. Financially, the General Service Board continues to face challenges. Contributions are down about 17% compared to last year, and *Grapevine* has already experienced greater losses than projected for the full year. I am not asking anyone to send contributions. However, if your district, group, or service entity has chosen not to contribute, I encourage you to share your reasons directly with the General Service Board. Open communication helps us all grow in accountability and transparency. If you send a letter, please feel free to copy me so I can help ensure that your message is acknowledged and addressed. And if you've written in the past but haven't received a response, please let me know — I will gladly help follow up. Above all, please remember: we are here to serve you. The Board recently released a summary packet from their July Board Weekend. While the full packet is not available for distribution, I'll include key highlights in future updates to keep the Area informed.

### **Tradition 10 - Don't wear that shirt**

Tradition 10 reminds us that A.A. stays neutral on outside issues—political, religious, or social. Our primary purpose is to help alcoholics recover, not to take sides or influence public debates. By avoiding controversy, we protect the Fellowship's unity and maintain focus on our common goal: carrying the message of sobriety.

**Concept 10 - Review Reminder** to let people serve how they wish. There is no right or wrong in A.A.; except for not doing it of course. Concept 10 reminds us that responsibility and authority should balance each other. If someone is tasked with a service role or responsibility, they should also be given the authority to carry it out effectively. Clear definitions of authority help prevent confusion, duplication, or conflict in service. This ensures that trusted servants can fulfill their duties efficiently and with accountability to the Fellowship.

**Tradition 11 Review** - Why do I say my last name ? because Dr. Bob famously reminds us where we are anonymous AT THE level of press radio and films. Tradition 11 reminds us that A.A. shares its message through attraction, not promotion. We don't advertise or seek publicity for ourselves as individuals. Instead, we let our program — and the changes in our lives — speak for themselves. Anonymity at the public level protects both the individual and the Fellowship. When A.A. members speak publicly (in media or online) as A.A. members, we avoid using our full names or faces, so that no single person becomes the “face” of A.A. This Tradition helps keep our focus on the message, not the messenger — ensuring humility, unity, and the preservation of A.A.'s spiritual foundation.

**Concept 11 Review** Concept 11 emphasizes that A.A.'s trusted servants and staff should be carefully chosen and supported. The General Service Board (trustees) is responsible for ensuring that committees, executives, and staff have the right skills, experience, and training to serve the Fellowship effectively. It also highlights the importance of clear roles, proper orientation, and ongoing oversight, so that everyone can serve responsibly and in alignment with A.A.'s principles.

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## 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 Panel174.*

### PRASSA:

February 27 –March 1, 2026 , Hilton Hawaiian Village, Waikiki Beach, Oahu\*\* CURRENT HOTEL PRICE \$364.00 TAX NOT INCLUDED. You can book a (Hilton Hawaiian Village) room cheaper than \$360 do it. Please book the room under the same name you will register for PRAASA. By doing so your room will be credited toward PRAASA's room count. Registration for PRAASA will be opening soon — hotel reservations can already be made through praasa.org.. I encourage you to attend if possible — and if finances are a concern, consider rooming with another member. If you can't make PRAASA, please know that the Pacific Regional Forum will be held in December 2026 in San Diego, and remember — Area 9 will be hosting in 2028! Let's start getting ready. I've also been in touch with Sharon as we continue negotiating hotel arrangements for the 2026 Forum. I'll keep the Area informed as more details are finalized.

### Fellowship Connection:

As of October 15th - 3976 registered groups, Regular 1191 Active and Virtual 52.

I have sent an email to the district chairs with Pending Active and unknown status, as well as incomplete, As well as if they want contributions.

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### 2026 76th GSC ( General Service Conference)

January 17 2026

Special Forum Online for Deaf Alcoholic Anonymous Members

January 30 2026 - February 2 2026

**General Service Board Weekend**

General Service Conference

April 26 2026 - May 02 2026

July 31 2026 - August 3 2026

**General Service Board Weekend**

October 30 2026 - November 2 2026

**General Service Board Weekend**

### 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).

- AAWS Non - Trustee Director
- 2 ACMS for Public Information

- 2 ACMS for Literature - Filled
- Pacific Regional Trustee - elections in October - Cesar
- Class A Trustee
- A Call for Military Veteran A.A. Members for Interview Project
- 1 General Service Trustee -Class B
- 1 Class A trustee - Non Alcoholic
- Grapevine - Non trustee Director
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### **Grapevine and La Vina Board Report**

**Grapevine Editorial – Jon W., Editor-in-Chief** - Books for IC2025 published on time / Gratitude-themed book scheduled for Spring 2026 release / Podcast and news efforts expanding to include trustee interviews and AA announcements

- **La Viña Editorial – Paola M., Editor**  
Released two new publications:  
*Lo Mejor de La Viña II* (The Best of La Viña II)  
*La Viña Agenda del Grupo* (group record book)
- **Production – Jonathan S., Manager**  
Convention Souvenir Journal completed  
Commemorative hardcover of *The Language of the Heart* prepared  
New Spanish-language releases arriving by September  
AA Grapevine YouTube channel: added ASL videos and new audio playlists
- **Licensing – Kimberly L., Office Manager**  
Presented 3-tier licensing fee structure  
Updated licensing agreement to include compliance enforcement and annual reporting  
Digital tool created to track usage and automate fee calculations  
Final reviews and legal input pending
- **Digital Publishing – Niurka M., Manager**  
App now reaches over 150 countries (excluding EU due to privacy compliance work)  
Trilingual email blast planned for August for:  
New La Viña book La Viña group agenda Greeting cards Two special convention products
- **Customer Service – Sonia D., Manager**  
Improvements noted in La Viña service Collaboration continues for smoother transition to new fulfillment system Increase in Gift Certificate purchases after General Service Conference

acknowledged

- **Outreach Calendar – Kimberly L., Office Manager**  
2026 calendar to be prepared by October Board discussed outreach to non-service events  
Suggested sending a letter to all Regional Trustees for delegate engagement

### **Board Committee Activity**

#### **Nominating & Governance – Teddy B.W., Chair**

No written procedures for Class A trustees

Progress on Non-Trustee Director communication to be discussed with AAWS Nominating Committee

- **2025 International Convention Ad hoc – Nikki O., Chair**  
Grapevine Board, former Trustees, and staff provided active support  
Highlights from IC2025:  
Grapevine play drew large crowds; ~400 attendees turned away due to space  
Writing workshop had to turn away several attendees  
“Bringing Grapevine to Your Group” workshop well attended  
La Viña workshops: ~35 attendees each; questions focused on workshops, literature, and upcoming products  
Podcast team conducted dozens of interviews and recorded a live podcast with 200+ audience members (200th episode posted July 28, 2025)  
Chris C.’s stadium presentation generated hundreds of new app subscribers
  - Overall, convention increased visibility and interest in Grapevine and La Viña

### **New Business**

#### **Carry the Message Program**

Reviewed delegate suggestion to include Grapevine and La Viña books

Staff to explore feasibility and challenges; formal response pending

- **Australia GSO Inquiry**  
Requested placing AAWS and Grapevine literature on tablets for prisons  
Matter to be discussed with Licensing team, AAWS Corrections Desk, IP team, and International Desk
- **Policy Reviews**  
Whistleblower, Travel & Expense, Acknowledgment of Policies, Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest documents under reviews
- **Bulk Sales and Discounts**  
Board discussed offering increased quantity discounts to stay competitive with online retailers
- **Print Subscription Phase-out**  
Board began discussions on phasing out print subscriptions outside of... *(text cut off in original)*

## **Archives**

### **GSO Archives Audiovisual (AV) Preservation Project**

- **Phase 2** (initiated January 2025)  
Appraising and inventorying analog recordings not yet digitized  
Capturing data points: media type, condition, title, final recommendations, other relevant info  
Anticipated completion: within three years
- **Phase 3**  
Content migration of digitized audio recordings from optical discs to digital files for preservation and access  
Archives staff assessing proposals from audio engineers for the project. Archives Director to provide quarterly updates, including **Phase 3 cost estimate** in the preliminary 2026 budget for discussion at November 2025 meeting

### **Archives Sound and Moving Image Policies and Procedures - tabled**

#### **Permission Requests**

- Approved request to access **historical correspondence relating to A.A. in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.**

#### **New Business**

\* Discussed 75th GSC Advisory Action regarding classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine literature written prior to 1971

#### **Trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/ Treatment/Accessibilities Committee**

##### **Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)**

- \* Informing Professionals Working with Neurodivergent Alcoholics - Limited
- \* Informing Professionals Working with Unhoused Alcoholics

- LinkedIn Update
  - Staff secretary to send memo to Communication Services Department (CSD) to purchase and establish account
- CPC Videos on aa.org  
Discussed three existing professional videos , Noted outdated look and content, Reworking/editing existing videos insufficient to update appearance, Producing new videos is cost-prohibitive, Office asked to continue exploring updated video options
- CPC Committee Kit and Workbook - Conference Committee and staff secretary continue reviewing service items
- CPC Exhibits  
rCommittee requested information on future exhibit selection with focus on:

- Obstetrics Gynecology Family medicine  
Emergency medicine Attention to Class A trustees' career experience for event presentation
- New Business  
Requested GSO to improve focus of 2026 CPC exhibit schedule  
Include Class A trustees where professional experience is relevant  
Previous events with Class A trustees proved very effective in informing professionals

Update to "A.A. in Treatment Settings" (P-27)

Proposed amendment to section "Alcoholics Anonymous does not:"

Current: "[A.A. does not] provide detoxification or nursing services, hospitalization, drugs or any medical and psychiatric treatment."

Proposed: "[A.A. does not] provide or directly engage in detoxification services, nursing, hospitalization, medicine or any medical, psychiatric, psychological or therapeutic treatment."

- Suggested cross-checking other AAWS literature to ensure consistent A.A. messaging

Part IV – Accessibilities

- Military Veteran Interview Project
  - Approved next candidates for interviews proposed by appointed committee members
- Military Members' Access to A.A. (from audio interviews)
  - Discussed extracting information on how military members find A.A.
  - Aim to share findings to better inform local service committees
- Accessibilities Checklist for Meetings and Groups (SMF-208)
  - Reviewed draft revision of checklist
  - Made suggestions for improvements (details to be incorporated in next draft *Add the following bullet: "Is your meeting listed as accessible on the local A.A. website?"*)

**Trustees' Corrections Committe**

\* Digital Communication Methods

Incarcerated individuals are contacting the Corrections desk via: JPay, Edovo, Securus, GTL Ingram, CoreSource OverDrive, Smart Communications

- eBooks and FAQ for Corrections Committees
  - Discussed A.A. materials available on eBook platforms in English, French, and Spanish

- Noted high completion rates and unique starts of short audio and reading content  
Committee looks forward to continued discussions on audio materials in November 2025
- Sharing from Behind the Walls (SFBTW) Newsletter  
Reviewed printing and mailing process / Agreed to discontinue third-party printing and distribution due to high production costs / Noted printed newsletter remains effective for incarcerated members  
Corrections desk will:  
Continue producing physical versions in return letters  
Provide digital versions to service committees via aa.org and triannual distributions

### **Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee**

#### AAWS/GSB 2025 Financial Report

##### CFO Presentation

Unaudited GSO financial results as of May 31, 2025.

Operating Revenue (5 months ended May 31, 2025): \$8,116,067 (≈3% below YTD budget of \$8,381,747)

Operating Expenses (before depreciation): \$7,470,100 (≈7% below YTD budget of \$7,995,815)

Operating Surplus (before depreciation): \$645,967 (budgeted: \$385,931)

Literature Accounts Receivable: \$878,026

42.4% current / 18.5% < 60 days past due / 39.1% > 60 days past due

Reserve Fund: 6.40 months of 2025 budgeted GSO, GV, and LV operating expenses

##### Comparative Balance Sheet Notes

Cash: Increased \$4.268M YoY due to: Robust January–February literature sales. IC registration and souvenir book receipts

International Convention (IC): Separate budget & P&L managed by Talley Management Group (TMG). Funds recorded as assets; associated expenses will follow GAAP

Accounts Receivable: Increased \$569K YoY due to higher literature sales - 60 days past due increased \$172K YoY

Prepaid Expenses: Increased \$1.858M due to IC-related costs (to move to IC income statement in July 2025) Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses: Decreased \$134K YoY due to timely invoice payments / Deferred Revenue: Increased \$5.623M due to IC registration & souvenir book receipts

##### Income Statement Notes

Contributions: 7% below budget, Gross literature sales: 5% above budget, Literature gross margin: 2% below budget

Operating Cash (June 4, 2025): \$1.123M vs. accounts payable \$970K → \$153K short-term surplus

##### 2025 Budget Reforecast (1.1)

Operating expenses (before depreciation): \$19,146,151 (1.8% decrease from original budget \$19,495,343)

Operating revenue: \$20,283,275 (unchanged)

Operating surplus (before depreciation): \$1,137,124

- \$681,498 after \$455,626 La Viña support
  - Salary expense offset by IC overhead recoupment (\$552,165)
- Significant Changes Since Original Budget:
  - Salary budget reduced by \$278K (vacancy savings)
  - Retrofit: Increased \$70K (from \$2,030,000 → \$2,100,000)
  - Grapevine rent: Reduced \$14,393
  - New Deputy Controller: \$125K annual cost, partially offset by \$106.5K outsourced accounting savings → net \$18.5K
  - Conference budget: Reduced \$55K (travel, meals, lodging)
  - Finance budget: Reduced \$60K (prior year audit expenses already paid)
  - Technology Services budget: Increased \$93K
- Reserve Fund Review (June 30, 2025):
  - Coverage: 6.42 months of operating expenses (goal: 9–12 months)

#### Grapevine & La Viña 2025 Financial Report

- Grapevine (GV)
  - Subscriptions: Lower than last year & below budget by 2,397
  - Growth in digital & app subscriptions; print declining
  - Subscription income: \$32,084 below budget
  - Subscription costs: \$86,453 below budget
  - Gross margin on subscriptions: \$54,369 over budget
  - Content income: \$82,706 below budget
  - Content COGS: Over budget → gross margin \$130,587 below budget

Total GV gross margin: \$76,218 under budget

Expenses: Over budget by \$23,494

Net deficit: \$141,195 (over budget by \$99,713; \$246k improvement from last year)

#### La Viña (LV)

Subscriptions: + 52 over budget, 1,203 higher than last year

- Subscription income: Under budget due to print magazine; app issue corrected → \$2.50 avg earnings per copy
- Sub revenue: \$6,671 under budget; COGS over by \$622
- Content: Under budget by \$3,601; Souvenir Journal allocation \$2,500
- Gross margin: Under budget \$8,946
- Expenses: \$11k under budget, \$16k lower than last year
- Bottom line: Improved \$54,338 vs. last year

#### Grapevine & La Viña 2025 Budget Reforecast

## Grapevine

Reforecast circulation: 58,134 (5,364 lower than budget)

Print subscriptions down 7% in first half of 2025; digital growth ongoing

Total subscription income: Reduced from \$2,185,812 → \$1,990,117

Content revenue: Reduced from \$1,127,512 → \$150k below budget

Content direct costs higher due to one-time adjustments (IC Journal shipping, fulfillment)

Gross margin: \$1,809,187 (~\$198k lower than 2025 Budget, \$155k higher than 2024)

Expenses: Projected +\$56k (website, salaries, audit, fulfillment, office)

- La Viña

Circulation: Strong print growth; overall reforecast close to budget

Subscription income: Reduced from \$161k → \$141k

Subscription gross margin: \$42,593 (~\$30k lower than budget)

Content revenue: Reduced \$217k → \$182k (higher than 2024's \$138k)

Gross margin reduction: \$60,900 → from \$227,763 → \$166,863

Expenses: Reforecast ~\$23k lower than budget

Bottom line: Improved by \$43,687

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## Reserve Fund Drawdown Discussion

Proposed drawdown: \$2.1M for GSO retrofit, \$350k for Grapevine operations → total \$2.45M

Current Reserve Fund: \$11,941,173 (6.42 months coverage)

Post-drawdown balance: \$9,491,173 (5.10 months coverage)

Committee emphasized need for clear messaging on

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Brief 2025 International Convention Report- Initial financial summary: ~\$90,000 surplus

Correction to literature sales: ~\$168,000 → deficit ~\$78,000 (effectively break even) Final invoices may slightly adjust bottom line Event considered a major success; committee expressed gratitude

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## **Trustees' General Service Conference Committee**

*Service Manual* changes , Edit to *Concept IV* Classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine literature written before 1971 Development of a podcast featuring the *Final Conference Report*

Dates for the 2029 General Service Conference Two-year process for a *Super Majority Vote* on *Co-founders' Writings* Accepted guidelines for *temporary replacement Delegates* Memo on Advisory Action exploring *Spanish-speaking members' access to the Big Book*

## Subcommittee Appointments

- EDW (Equitable Distribution of Workload) - Task: Discuss 2025 considerations for the EDW process and report progress in November 2025.

- Conference Improvements - Review feedback from Conference evaluations, draft 2026 schedule, and identify ways to improve the Conference experience. Progress report due November 2025.

Conference Inventory Implementation Committee. - Report expected to be brought to the 2026 General Service Conference.

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**Proposed Agenda Item (PAI-9)** - Reviewed request to remove a Dr. Bob quote from page 10 of the *A.A. Service Manual*.

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#### Conference Committee Selection Process

- Reviewed and accepted prioritization criteria for delegate selection (from Policy & Admissions Committee). Discussed area experiences with delegate assignments. Requested historical review of committee selections; update due November 2025.

#### Open-Source AI

Discussed potential use of open-source AI for improving committee selection. No action taken, as this does not align with current AAWS policy on AI use.

Improving Quarterly Communications - Adding committee secretaries , Developing guidelines or template agendas , Enhancing relationship-building and consistency

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Simple Majority Outcomes - Discussed listing *Simple Majority* outcomes in the Conference Committee's *History and Actions*.

#### EDW Subcommittee Tasks (76th GSC)

Assigned considerations:

1. Create a proposal identifying critical workload issues and implementation paths for CSP shifts.
2. Explore the possibility of addressing standing committee items *outside Conference week*, considering implications for *Article Nine* of the Conference Charter.
3. Review classification of agenda items (standing, ongoing, new).
4. Explore ways to improve completion rates and adherence to work hours.
5. Review trustees' Committee CSP for potential EDW-related updates

#### Improvements Subcommittee Tasks (76th GSC)

\* Review 75th GSC feedback; summarize lessons to enhance future experiences. Encourage member participation in *Quarterly Virtual GSC sharing sessions* (Concept IV). Note success of Saturday gatherings for unity and cohesion.

Conference Week Schedule - Review 2026 schedule and integrate *Inventory Implementation Report* into

planning.

Sunday Opening Banquet

\* Discuss alternatives for inviting guests to the Opening Dinner.

Revision: "How the Conference Operates"

\*\*\*\*\*Review both 2024 and 2025 versions and propose revisions per Agenda Committee consideration. New Business - New Chairpersons' Communication Channel - Discussed creating an OnBoard Platform channel for trustee and conference chairpersons. Requested exploration of a centralized documentation repository and messaging feature.

### Trustees' International Committee

#### **AAWS Licensing and Translation Report**

- The committee **reviewed and accepted** the **AAWS Licensing and Translation report**.
  - Requested that the **Licensing and Translation Department** provide an **expanded version** of the **June 2025 Languages Worldwide report**, to include:
    - **Geographic context:** Identify the **country or countries** where each language is spoken.
    - **Literature type:** Specify the **types of A.A. literature** available in each language (e.g., pamphlets, the Twelve Steps, Serenity Prayer, etc.).
    - **Availability:** Indicate whether the literature is **currently available** in the **U.S./Canada G.S.O. online store**.
    - **Original files:** Identify the **location of the original translated files** and whether these are **available for printing and distribution**.
    - **Process:** Outline a **process to make literature available** in the online store
- 

#### **International Literature Fund (ILF) Report**

- The committee **reviewed the ILF report** and **forwarded it** to the **trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee**.
  - Requested that **future ILF reports** include a **footnote** noting that the **U.S./Canada structure participates** in the fund.
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#### **International Trips**

- The committee received a **report on completed international trips**:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
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<b>March 28–30, 2025</b>	50th Anniversary of A.A. in Japan Convention	Tokyo, Japan	U.S./CAN Trustees-at-Large (TAL): Marita R., Robert L., Irene D. (G.S.O. Staff Member)
<b>June 13–15, 2025</b>	8th General Service Conference	Stara Zagora, Bulgaria	U.S./CAN TAL: Jennifer B., Robert L., Irene D. (G.S.O. Staff Member)

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### Scheduled International Events (Approved for 2025)

- Reviewed and confirmed **approved international travel** for 2025:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
<b>November 14–16, 2025</b>	East African A.A. Convention – “A.A. A Design for Living”	Kisumu City, Kenya	U.S./CAN TAL: Jennifer B., Patrick C. (G.S.O. Staff Member)

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### World Service Meeting Fund (WSMF) Report

- The committee **reviewed and accepted** the **World Service Meeting Fund report**.
- Forwarded the report to the **trustees’ Finance and Budgetary Committee**.
- Noted that a **WSMF report including the proposed budget** for the **29th World Service Meeting** will be **available at the next meeting**.

### Trustees’ International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee

- Reviewed the **2025 reforecast budget**, focusing on **language interpretation**. Two notable changes: **Added cost** for the new **AI Interpretation Tool**. **Decreased estimate** for sign language interpretation, as it is **not currently needed** at the first two Regional Forums.
  - 2030 Prospective Convention Consultant Process  
*A recommendation will be submitted to the trustees’ IC/RF Committee at the November 2025 meeting.*
  - Questions raised included: Which dialects are supported in the AI Wordly Interpretation Tool. How the Board can provide feedback on the convention experience. Improving onsite access to printed programs and ensuring volunteer recognition*
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### 2025 Conference Advisory Actions

Update received on a change to the **Conference Committee on IC/RF Composition, Scope, and Procedure**. The following text was added under Composition: “The new chairperson and alternate

chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting during the Conference session from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference.”

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### **Quarterly Financial Update**

Reviewed *third quarter financial report* for the *2025 International Convention*, produced by *Talley Management Group (TMG)*.

Discussed *final vendor invoices and wrap-up activities*. A *final financial report* will be presented at the *November 2025 meeting*.

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### **Development of a New Declaration or Statement (2030 IC)**

Reviewed a *2025 Conference Committee Consideration* supporting creation of a *declaration on the Group Conscience and Service*.

A committee member was assigned to *draft the declaration*, emphasizing: *The Third Legacy of Service*. *The Fellowship’s participation* in the collective conscience of A.A. A *draft or progress report* will be presented at the *November 2025 meeting*.

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### **Flag Ceremony: Inclusion of Sovereign States**

\*Reviewed request that *all sovereign states’ flags* be included in the *International Convention Flag Ceremony*.

The *chair appointed a subcommittee* to explore: *Inclusion of sovereign and indigenous nations*. Gathering shared experience from *indigenous members*.

\* The committee suggested adding a *survey question* for future conventions to determine how many attendees identify with *First Nations sovereign states*.

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**Proposed Agenda Item #6: Lord’s Prayer at Big Meetings** - Considered *PAI #6*, proposing the return of the *Lord’s Prayer* as a closing option for Big Meetings. The committee **took no action**, noting: *The 2024 GSC Advisory Action* already approved *six closing prayer options*. *The 2025 IC implemented those options*. The committee believes it is **premature to revisit** the issue

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**Volunteer Welcome Committee (VWC) Update** - Received a *verbal report* from the *2025 VWC Chair*, supplementing the written wrap-up. Reflections included: *Building upon successes and lessons from the 2025 IC*. Approaching future conventions with *fresh insight and creativity*.

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### **Trustees’ Literature Committee.**

- **Advisory Actions Updates:**

- \* **Spanish-Speaking Members Study:** The Advisory Action to explore the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book was referred to the **trustees’ Literature Committee** on **July 25, 2025**. A subcommittee was appointed on **June 20, 2025**.

- \* **Literature Classification:** The Advisory Action to classify all AAWS and Grapevine literature written prior to 1971 as Recovery, Service, or Archival/Historical was referred to the **trustees’**

**Archives Committee** and requires no action from the Literature Committee.

- **Pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship”**- Approved the pamphlet with these editorial changes. Reviewed an updated draft of the pamphlet. , Requested the Publishing Department replace the term “**meltdown**” due to its potentially pejorative tone. Noted several typographic and punctuation issues to be corrected before printing. Approved the pamphlet with these editorial changes.
- **Twelve Concepts Video Animation:**  
Acknowledged a memo to the Publishing Department about editorial changes. Requested to **review the final proof** before distribution.
- **Plain Language Big Book (PLBB):**  
Reviewed the **75th GSC Advisory Action** regarding the process to rescind or revise the PLBB, deferring further proposals until the **77th Conference**. Reviewed a report from the **PLBB Process Development Subcommittee** and supports its continued work on defining procedures for assessing and forwarding proposed changes.
- **Living Sober Subcommittee:**  
Reviewed the subcommittee’s scope and anticipates its **first progress report at the November meeting**.
- **Fifth Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous (English):**  
Received a verbal update on progress toward completing a **draft manuscript** by November 2025. The subcommittee held meetings on **July 11** and **July 28**, reaffirming its role as a recommending body. Plans to prepare a **final report documenting its history and work**.
- **Fourth Edition of Alcohólicos Anónimos (Spanish):**  
Received a progress report on the **working group’s ongoing translation and story selection**, currently reviewing the chapter “**A Vision for You.**”
- **Pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?” Revision:**  
Received an update from the subcommittee resuming this project. Exploring **new presentation formats** (excerpts, pull quotes, shorter sections) to include more diverse member voices.
- **Pamphlet for the Asian and Asian American Alcoholic:**  
An **Appointed Committee Member (ACM)** was selected at the **June 20, 2025** interim meeting; selection approved by the **trustees’ Nominating Committee** on **August 2, 2025**
- **Pamphlet for the Transgender Alcoholic:** An **ACM was selected and approved** at the June 20 and August 2 meetings.
- **Conference Actions Disposition:**  
Reviewed the matrix of Conference Actions and discussed the **time and cost** associated with annual updates to the **Recovery Literature Matrix**. Awaiting additional details in future Staff

Reports.

- **Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs):**

Received **five initial PAIs**; deferred detailed discussion until after the **September 30, 2025 submission deadline** due to historically high volume.

- **What's on Your Mind:**

Members expressed gratitude and shared **positive Fellowship feedback** for the pamphlet "Indigenous People in A.A."

### **Trustees Public Information :**

Public Information Media Platforms:

- GSO is collaborating with an external vendor to develop an analytics dashboard for improved internal reporting to AAWS and the General Service Board.
- Best practices will include less frequent, higher-level reporting focused on strategic decision-making about communication platforms.

Podcast Discussions:

- The committee considered developing French and Spanish podcasts but concluded that current resources, staffing, and advisory capacity are insufficient at this time.

AAWS YouTube Channel:

- Reviewed the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information's consideration to add shorter versions of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to the AAWS YouTube Shorts channel.

Google Ads Report:

- Operations were reported to be in good working order.

AAWS Meeting Guide App:

- Ensured calendar sync functionality and confirmed all literature updates, including changes to Daily Reflections, are now reflected in the app.

GSO A.A. Website:

- Discussed the addition of chat functionality on aa.org and suggested that local A.A. entities handle such features for Twelfth Step work.
- Requested preliminary research from GSO Technology Services on a potential texting platform for Fellowship communications.

AAGV/La Viña Media Reports:

- The trustees' PI Committee will continue reviewing Grapevine and La Viña media reports but

will forward them to the Conference Committee on Grapevine rather than Public Information.

#### New Public Service Announcements (PSAs):

- Reviewed the Advisory Action to adapt three Australian A.A. videos (“Are you risking your job?”, “Are you a danger to your family?”, “Cham-pain”) for U.S. and Canada use.
- Directed Communication Services to add disclaimers and bumpers and post “Cham-pain” only on the English version of aa.org.
- Formed a subcommittee (David S., chair; Clinton M.; Joyce S.; Teresa J., ex-officio) to develop a plan for new short video content that respects cultural and linguistic differences and includes regular review processes for Spanish and French PSAs.

#### Review of Video and Audio PSAs:

- Adopted a five-year review cadence for PSA evaluation per the 75th General Service Conference Advisory Action.
- Expressed concern that five years may be too long and will continue monitoring timeliness.
- The next review, including “Since getting sober, I have hope,” will occur at the November 2025 meeting.
- Noted that radio PSAs remain relevant longer than video PSAs.

#### Evaluation of French and Spanish PSAs:

- Supported refining a plan for evaluating non-English PSAs under the new video content subcommittee and expects a progress report in November 2025.

#### Mesmerize Point Distribution Channel:

- Agreed to end the relationship with Mesmerize Point and explore new “point of care” content providers willing to air A.A. messages at no cost.
- Requested outreach to the trustees’ CPC/TA Committee for collaboration on securing a marketing partner.

#### 2025–2026 PSA Distribution and Tracking Refresh:

- Directed the staff secretary to finalize agreements with the PSA vendor and explore cost-effective alternatives.
- Requested communication with area delegates and PI chairs to encourage airing AAWS video PSAs on local stations

#### Membership Survey Subcommittees:

- Due to workload, two subcommittees were created:
- Membership Survey Content Subcommittee: Tasked with reviewing 2022 survey content and recommending updates for the 2026 survey.
- Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee: Focused on survey methods and

implementation.

Revision to “Understanding Anonymity” (P-47):

\* Formed a subcommittee to revise the pamphlet to better address anonymity and social media.

Service Material for Young People:

- Discussed the need for new service resources for young members.
- Requested feedback from trustees and nontrustee directors attending ICYPAA 2025 (Teresa J., Matt K., and Clinton M.) to assess interest in materials such as a young people’s service card.

Comprehensive Media Plan (CMP):

- Recommended that the Comprehensive Media Plan be retired.

Tabled Items:

- Young People’s Video Project and PI Kit and Workbook discussions were postponed for future meetings.

### **Trustees Nominating Committee**

**Nontrustee Director Nominations:** Resumes for AAWS nontrustee director nominees will be received on **August 8, 2025**, and for AAGV nontrustee director nominees after **November 12, 2025**.

**Policy Update:** The phrase “*the treasurer will be chosen from currently serving Class A trustees*” was removed from the calendar to reflect current practice.

**2025–2026 Rotation Schedule:** The committee reviewed the rotation schedule for trusted servants on the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., and AA Grapevine, Inc.; corrections will be made for Teddy B-W. and John W. to reflect a 2029 rotation date.

### **Advisory Committee Members (ACMs):**

\* *Manisha G.* (Berkeley, CA) was selected to assist in developing a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A.

\* *Brian P.* (Temple City, CA) was selected to assist in developing a pamphlet on the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic in A.A.

\* The committee clarified that ACM interviews are conducted by the respective trustee committee chair, the assigned GSO staff member, and the GSO General Manager.

**Class A Search:** Eight candidates submitted resumes. The committee emphasized selecting “*only the best obtainable*” candidates with proven leadership skills, noting that while financial expertise is valued, several options exist for filling the GSB treasurer position.

**2025 Budget Reforecast:** The committee reviewed the June 2025 budget tracker and agreed with the CFO that no adjustments were needed, as most projected expenses occur early in the year.

**Recommitted Motion:** The recommendation that motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees (for committee eyes only) was recommitted to the **2026 General Service Conference**. The chair discussed ongoing coordination with the 2026 committee to provide background materials.

**Subcommittee on Addressing Grievances:**

- Review feedback from the 75th GSC Trustees Committee and provide background on the recommitted motion.
- Analyze GSC inventory reports and survey results for relevant feedback and ideas.
- Review input from the 75th GSC Agenda Committee regarding “Harmony and Effectiveness” topics for future All-Conference virtual sessions.

**Preparing for Future Vacancies:**

- \* Review procedures to ensure a strong nontrustee director applicant pool.
- \* Explore methods to develop and sustain applicant pools for other roles under the TNC.
- \* Recommend improvements to the process and communications for appointing regional trustees to affiliate boards.

**Nominating Procedure Review:**

- Confirm the latest GSB-approved versions of procedures listed in the Composition, Scope and Procedures (CSP) document.  
Draft revisions to Procedure No. 3 to include use of the Third Legacy procedure for selecting GSB officers.
- Review Procedure No. 4 for potential updates.
- Note: TNC made a one-time exception allowing release of incoming Class A trustee resumes to the 2025 Conference Committee on Trustees.

**PAI #3 Discussion:** The proposal allowing past Class A and B trustees to serve as GSB treasurer was deferred pending feedback from the Conference Committee on Trustees in October. Procedure No. 3 was modified in April 2025, but outdated versions remain in files and will be corrected.

**AA Grapevine Nontrustee Director Search:** The committee reviewed the July 29, 2025 announcement for the 2026 vacancy, noting the **November 12, 2025** submission deadline. The TNC calendar was updated to review resumes in late November before interviews.

**Procedure No. 2 Update:** The committee approved adding language specifying the review timeline — candidate resumes in **Q3**, slates at the **Q4 meeting**, and announcement materials reviewed by **Q1**. The

secretary will include in the Q4 background materials a past study on AAWS and AAGV nontrustee director searches and applicant trends.

#### Meeting Guide App Update

##### **Dedicated Online Meeting Finder Tab:**

- Allows members to search **specifically for online meetings** without geographic limitations.
- Enables members to:
  - Discover a wider variety of meetings across time zones and regions.
  - Find meetings that best fit their preferences.
  - Access online options beyond their immediate local area.
- The Online tab includes:
  - **Worldwide Listings:** Global schedule of upcoming online meetings.
  - **Expanded Filter Options:** More meeting filters, including new ones specific to online meetings.
  - **Device Timezone Support:** Meetings display in the member's local device timezone.

##### **Hybrid Meetings:**

- Meeting Guide continues to list both **local in-person** and **online meetings** together.
- **Hybrid meetings** appear in both the geographic listing and the Online tab since they can be attended either way.

##### **Favorites Relocation:**

- Members can still save meetings directly from the meeting detail page.
- **Favorites** have been moved from the **bottom navigation bar** to the **top left corner** of both the Meeting and Online views.
- Favorites saved in one view will appear in that same view's list.

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##### **Announcements to make at your home group.**

- Download Meeting guide App to find meetings !
- Update information in fellowship connection for your meetings
- Utilize new videos from GSO to help you carry the message
- Make an online contribution !!
- New Service Manual is available online and for order.

**Opportunities to be of service:**

1. Sign up to help with summaries for 2026
2. Stand to serve !!!
3. Carry the message
4. Host a workshop or chair a General Service conference meeting at a convention

**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](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](mailto:delegate@msca09aa.org) or the Alternate Delegate Many 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](mailto:Delegate@msca09aa.org)