Conference Committee on Agenda

General Service Conference - Conférence des Services généraux - Conferencia de Servicios Generales

2026-04-27 08:00 - 2026-04-28 12:00 EDT

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2026 Conference Committee on Agenda

ITEM A: Review the suggested themes of the 2027 General Service Conference.

Background notes:

In the early years of the Conference (1951–1961), the theme of the Conference was defined following the Conference meeting itself, from taking a "sense of the meeting."

Pre-established themes came into being with the 1962 General Service Conference. We do not have documentation attesting to the selection of the topic or about the decision-making process. However, letters mailed to speakers/presenters prior to the Conference reveal that a clearly defined theme was selected before the start of the Conference.

The Conference theme and presentation topics revolve around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussion at area and district meetings, as well. Regions, areas and districts often incorporate discussion of these topics into workshops, meetings, pre-Conference assemblies, etc. This gives all A.A. members the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.

Background:

1. Suggestions for 2027 General Service Conference Theme
2. List of Conference Themes 1951–2026

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Suggested Theme Topics for the 2027 General Service Conference

1. Anonymity – Our Spiritual Foundation
2. United in Love and Service: Building Fellowship in Challenging Times
3. Embracing Our Past, Empowering Our Future
4. One Purpose, Many Voices: Listening, Loving, and Learning Together
5. Rebuilding A.A. Unity
6. Service With a Smile: Practicing Humility Without Losing Our Humor
7. The Spiritual Principle of Not Taking Ourselves Too Seriously
8. Trusted Servants, Not Glorified Bosses: A Humble Guide to Service

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English/Anglais/Inglés

Themes of the General Service Conference
1951–2026

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2026 – Humility in Action
2025 – Working Together, Increasing Trust
2024 – Connecting with Love, Unity and Service
2023 – A.A.'s Three Legacies – Our Common Solution
2022 – A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service
2021 – A.A. in a Time of Change
2020 – 2020: A Clear Vision for You
2019 – Our Big Book – 80 Years, 71 Languages
2018 – A.A. – A Solution for All Generations
2017 – Supporting Our Future
2016 – Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts
2015 – Celebrating 80 Years of Recovery, Unity and Service – The Foundation of Our Future
2014 – Communicating Our Legacies – Vital in a Changing World
2013 – The General Service Conference Takes Its Inventory – Our Solution in Action
2012 – Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age
2011 – We are Responsible for A.A.'s Future – Let it Begin With Us
2010 – Practicing A.A.'s Principles – The Pathway to Unity
2009 – Our Commitment to Carry A.A.'s Message – Enthusiasm and Gratitude in Action
2008 – Communication and Participation – The Key to Unity and Self-Support
2007 – Our 12th Step Responsibility – Are We Going to Any Length?
2006 – Sponsorship, Service and Self-Support in a Changing World
2005 – Basics of Our Home Group – Recovery, Unity and Service
2004 – Our Singleness of Purpose – The Cornerstone of A.A.
2003 – Living A.A.'s Principles Through Sponsorship
2002 – Sharing the Steps, Traditions and Concepts
2001 – Love and Service
2000 – Trusting Our Future to A.A. Principles
1999 – Moving Forward: Unity Through Humility
1998 – Our Twelfth Step Work
1997 – Spirituality – Our Foundation
1996 – Preserving Our Fellowship – Our Challenge
1995 – Pass It On – Our Three Legacies
1994 – Spirit of Sacrifice
1993 – A.A. Takes Its Inventory – The General Service Conference Structure
1992 – The A.A. Message in a Changing World
1991 – Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action
1990 – The Home Group – Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.'s Future
1989 – Anonymity – Living Our Traditions

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English/Anglais/Inglés

Themes of the General Service Conference
1951 – 2026

1988 – Singleness of Purpose – Key to Unity
1987 – The Seventh Tradition – A Turning Point
1986 – A.A.'s Future – Our Responsibility
1985 – Golden Moments of Reflection
1984 – Gratitude – The Language of the Heart
1983 – Anonymity – Our Spiritual Foundation
1982 – The Traditions – Our Way of Unity
1981 – A.A. Takes Its Inventory
1980 – Participation: The Key to Recovery
1979 – The Legacies: Our Heritage and My Responsibility
1978 – The Member and the Group – Recovery Through Service
1977 – The A.A. Group – Where It Begins
1976 – Sponsorship – Our Privilege and Responsibility
1975 – Unity Through Love and Service
1974 – Understanding and Cooperation – Inside and Outside A.A.
1973 – Responsibility – Our Expression of Gratitude
1972 – Our Primary Purpose
1971 – Communication: Key to A.A. Growth
1970 – Service – The Heart of A.A.
1969 – Group Conscience Guides A.A.
1968 – Unity Vital to A.A. Survival, Growth
1967 – Sponsorship – The Hand of A.A.
1966 – Principles and Responsibility
1965 – More Effective Ways to Use Tools of Service
1964 – Sharing
1963 – Our Common Welfare
1962 – One Primary Purpose
1961 – Working and Growing Together
1960 – Need for Improved Internal and External Communications
1959 – Confidence – Absence of Fear of the Future
1958 – Promise and Progress
1957 – Stability and Responsibility Without Complacency
1956 – Petition, Appeal, Participation and Decision - Principles of A.A. Service
1955 – A.A. Had Truly Come of Age
1954 – Self-confidence and Responsibility
1953 – On the Threshold of Maturity
1952 – Progress – Humility and Unity
1951 – Genuine Faith – It Begins as an Experiment and Ends as an Experience

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2026 Conference Committee on Agenda

ITEM B: Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference.

Background:

1. List of 2027 General Service Conference presentation/discussion topic ideas
2. List of General Service Conference presentation/discussion topics recommended by Conference 1985-2026

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Suggested Presentation Topics for the 2027 Conference

1. Tradition 12 — Humility: What do I even know?
2. Tradition 11 — Never a need to praise ourselves
3. Anonymity — What does that really mean?
4. Spirit of Rotation: Letting Go to Grow
5. Innovation Meets Tradition: How We Adapt Without Losing Our Way
6. The Warranties: What Bill Wrote
7. Ego at the Podium: Laughing at Ourselves While Leading Others — Exploring how humor can deflate ego and foster authentic leadership in service roles
8. How humor and lightness can coexist with reverence for A.A.'s Traditions
9. A playful but honest look at the difference between leadership and control

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Presentations recommended by Conference
1985–2026

2026: Restoration and Discovering Gracy, Unity and Fellowship
Gossip vs Facts: Examining the Health of Our Own Communications
Finding Common Ground

2025: Delegating: It is okay to ask for help
Closing the Gap: How do we make the voice of every Group count?
Our Financial Responsibility in carrying the message

2024: Responsibility in Service: When and How to Give
Safety Throughout the Structure in our Fellowship
1728 Sponsorship
Overcoming the Barriers to Participation

2023: General Service — Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm:
Our Common Perils and Common Solution
Using A.A.'s Literature in Carrying the Message
Fostering a Thriving Three Legacy Culture

2022: How do A.A.'s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve?
Going Beyond Fear
How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere

2021: Practicing A.A.'s Spiritual Principles in a Changing World:
Recovery in a Changing World
Unity in a Changing World
Service in a Changing World

2020: Recovery — Who is Missing in Our Rooms?
Unity — Practicing Our Principles
Service — Keeping A.A. Relevant

2019: Yesterday's World — Our Legacies Begin
Today's World — Demonstrating Integrity, Anonymity and Service
Tomorrow's World — Courage to be Vigilant

2018: Today's Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion
Participation in All of A.A. — Is My Triangle Balanced?
A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions
Attraction not Promotion: A.A.'s Relation to the World
Group Conscience: The Guiding Force

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2017:
1. Growth:
   - Diversity — Outreach and Attraction
   - Safety — Our Responsibility
   - Communication — Today and Tomorrow
2. Participation:
   - Fellowship vs. Membership
   - Leadership: "I am Responsible. . ."
   - Is Your Voice Heard?
3. Contributions:
   - Spirituality and Money
   - Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations
   - Apathy and Power of the Purse

2016: Connecting With the Newcomer
Connecting With Each Other
Connecting With A.A. as a Whole

2015: Our Common Welfare Through Gratitude in Action
1. Diversity in A.A. — Our Heritage of Inclusion
2. Safety and Respect — Practicing the Principles Begins in our Home Group
3. Safeguarding our Traditions through the Evolution of Technology
4. Inventory — Looking Back to Move Ahead

2014: Living in the Heart of A.A.:
1. Recovery, Unity and Service — Our Responsibility
2. Passing It on Through Sponsorship
3. Participating in Our Common Welfare through Contributions
4. Inventory — A Guiding Tool to Our Future

2013: Spiritual Principles for World Service:
1. The Triangle — More Than a Shape
2. The General Service Conference Inventory — Why Is it Necessary?
3. Self-Support — What Does it Mean to the Fellowship?
4. Primary Purpose — Carrying the A.A. Message

2012:
a. Carrying the A.A. Message:
   1. Still Our Primary Purpose
   2. Social Web Sites
   3. Young People in A.A.
   4. Importance of Sponsorship
b. Change — Essential to A.A.'s Growth:
   1. Service: Our Third Legacy
   2. Spirit of Rotation
   3. Diversity — Let's Keep Our Doors Open for Any Who May Suffer from Alcoholism
   4. Archives — Where the Past Meets the Present

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2011:
a. Alcoholics Anonymous in a Digital Age:
   1. Practicing Our Traditions in a Digital Age
   2. Carrying A.A.'s Message Online
   3. Grapevine — "A.A.'s Meeting in Print" and More . . .
b. An Informed Group Conscience: The Voice of A.A.:
   1. Self-Support — Where Do Money and Spirituality Mix?
   2. Humility — Accepting the Group Conscience
   3. An Informed Group Conscience — Using the Three Legacies
c. Diversity in A.A.:
   1. The Language of the Heart Is Spoken Here
   2. The Hand of A.A. — Inclusive Never Exclusive
   3. Tradition Five — Our Primary Purpose
d. Sponsorship:
   1. Importance of a Home Group
   2. Leading by Example — Attraction Not Promotion
   3 Recovery, Unity, Service

2010:
a. Practicing These Principles in All Our "Service" Affairs:
   1. What is the Difference Between General Service and Service in General?
   2. Love and Tolerance is Our Code
   3. Setting an Example — Attraction to Service
b. Unity Through Inventory:
   1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First
   2. This We Owe to A.A.'s Future
   3. What Happens After Inventory?
c. General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process:
   1. How it Works
   2. Collective Participation
   3. Communication — The Key to an Informed Decision

2009:
a. Humility and Sacrifice:
   1. Setting an Example
   2. Changing Our Perceptions
   3. Anonymity — Sacrificing Our Egos
b. Enthusiasm and Gratitude:
   1. Hope and Purpose from Defeat and Despair
   2. Happy, Joyous and Free
   3. Enthusiasm — A Gift of Inventory
c. Spiritual Program in Action:
   1. Maximum Service — Our Spiritual Benefit
   2. Persistence — The Key to Progress
   3. Living the Traditions

2008:
a. Communication and Participation:
   1. Sharing the Message of Service

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2. Our Key to Keeping A.A. Strong
3. Leadership in A.A.: Building Communication

b. Unity
1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First
2. Principles Before Personalities
3. Diversity: Reaching Out to All Alcoholics

c. Self-Support:
1. Self-Supporting Through Members' Voluntary Contributions Only
2. Contempt Prior to Investigation
3. Responsibility to Communicate and Participate

2007:
a. Inclusiveness in A.A.:
1. Our 3rd Tradition
2. Growth of the Fellowship
3. Reaching Out to All Who Want It

b. Our Primary Purpose:
1. Attraction Rather Than Promotion
2. Working with Wet Drunks
3. Practicing These Principles in All Our Affairs

c. Humility and Responsibility:
1. Expressed by Anonymity
2. Are We Resting on Our Laurels?
3. Raising Literature Prices or Footing the Bill?

2006:
a. Sponsorship:
1. Presenting A.A. to Newcomers
2. Changes in the Alcoholic Coming to A.A.
3. Sponsorship Into Sobriety, Into Service

b. Service:
1. Performing Service Without Expectations
2. Leadership — An Ever-Vital Need
3. Responsibility With Accountability

c. Self-Support:
1. An Informed Group Conscience
2. Gratitude through Self-Sacrifice

2005:
a. Recovery:
1. "How It Works" in Our Home Group
2. Carrying the Message Through Practicing the Principles of Our Daily Lives

b. Unity:
1. "Love and Tolerance of Others is Our Code" (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 84)
2. The Basket — Where Money and Spirituality Mix
3. The Spiritual Principle of Our Twelfth Tradition

c. Service:
1. Concept One — Final Responsibility and Ultimate Authority

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2. Minority Opinion — Are We Listening?
3. Leadership — Responsibility for A.A.'s Future — Concept Nine

2004:
a. Our Singleness of Purpose:
   1. Our Responsibility to the Newcomer
   2. Communicating Our Singleness of Purpose
b. The Cornerstone of A.A.:
   1. Safeguarding Our Unity
   2. The Role of the Home Group
   3. Traditions Three and Five: Our Members, Our Message

2003:
a. Sponsorship:
   1. Responsibilities of Sponsorship
   2. Is Sponsorship Fading Away?
   3. Working with Medical Practitioners, Other Professionals and Friends
b. Principles:
   1. What are the Principles?
   2. Living the Principles, Accepting Our Differences

2002:
a. Unity:
   1. Spirit of Rotation — Letting Go!
   2. Does Our Committee System Work?
   3. The Internet — A Part of or Apart From?
b. Inventory:
   1. A.A. Literature — Is It Being Utilized or Collecting Dust?
   2. Seventh Tradition and Spirituality — Do They Really Mix?

2001:
a. Sponsorship:
   1. The Home Group
   2. Sponsorship into Service
   3. Never Too Late to Get a Sponsor
b. Language of the Heart:
   1. Listening to the Language of the Heart
   2. Sharing Experience, Strength and Hope
   3. Passing On Our Three Legacies
c. The GSR's Role in A.A.:
   1. In the Home Group
   2. Link to the District, Area and GSO
   3. Guardian of the Traditions

2000:
a. Recovery:
   1. Trust the God of Your Understanding
   2. Clean House
   3. Work With Others
b. Unity:
   1. Our Common Welfare
   2. The Informed Group Conscience and Substantial Unanimity

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3. Practicing Genuine Humility Through Anonymity

c. Service:
   1. Am Responsible…
   2. Our Primary Purpose
   3. Spirit of Rotation

1999:
a. Our Responsibility to A.A. Unity:
   1. Home Group
   2. A.A. Service Structure
   3. A.A. Worldwide
b. Many Faces — One Fellowship
   1. Accepting Our Differences
   2. I Am Responsible…
   3. Principles Before Personalities
c. Our Future Together:
   1. Sponsorship
   2. A.A. Literature
   3. Tradition Seven

1998:
a. Our Twelfth Step Work:
   1. Reaching the Newcomer
   2. Carrying This Message
   3. Back to Basics
b. Tools for Twelfth Stepping:
   1. The A.A. Member
   2. Sponsorship
   3. Literature
c. Diversity of Twelfth Step Work:
   1. Home Group
   2. Service Structure
   3. Around the World

1997:
a. Group Conscience — Seeking Our Ultimate Authority
b. Carrying A.A.'s Message Around the World
c. The Hat — Where Money and Spirituality Mix

1996:
a. Preserving Our Fellowship — Let It Begin With Me
b. Preserving Our Fellowship — Carrying Our Original Message
c. Preserving Our Fellowship — Unity and Spirituality in All Our Affairs

1995:
a. Pass It On: Recovery — Our First Legacy
b. Pass It On: Unity — Our Second Legacy
c. Pass It On: Service — Our Third Legacy

1994:
a. Spirit of Sacrifice: Bill's and Dr. Bob's Farewell Messages:
   Bill's Message
   Dr. Bob's Message

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b. Spirit of Sacrifice in the Long Form of the Traditions:
   Traditions One, Two and Three
   Traditions Four, Five and Six
c. Spirit of Sacrifice in the Long Form of the Traditions:
   Traditions Seven, Eight and Nine
   Traditions Ten, Eleven and Twelve

1993:
a. A.A. Takes Its Inventory
   The Purpose of the General Service Conference
   The A.A. Conference Relation to A.A.
   The General Service Conference and Its General Procedures
b. A.A. Takes Its Inventory
   Conference Relation to the General Service Board and Its Corporate Services
   The General Service Board: Composition, Jurisdiction, Responsibilities
c. The General Warranties of the Conference
d. A.A. Takes Its Inventory: Finance
e. A.A. Takes Its Inventory: The Grapevine

1992:
a. The A.A. Message in a Changing World
   Our Common Welfare
   Unity: Together We Can
   The Language of the Heart Worldwide
b. The Joy of Living
   The Newcomer: A.A.'s Future
   Principles Before Personalities
   Humility Through Rotation
c. Love and Service
d. GSO Finances

1991:
a. Sponsorship
   Help and Hope
   I Am Responsible
   A Way of Life
b. Our Collective Humility
   How We Identify Ourselves
   Anonymity — Our Spiritual Foundation
   In All Our Affairs
   Self-support Project — Five Years Later
   GSO Finances

1990:
a. The Importance of the Home Group
   In Recovery
   For Unity
   For Service
b. Sponsorship

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In Recovery
For Unity
For Service

c. Self-support
d. GSO Finances

1989:
a. Self-support
b. GSO Finances
c. Anonymity
   How It Developed
   Its Necessity Today
   Principles Before Personalities
d. Back to Basics
   The Group in the Structure
   Sponsorship in Recovery and Service
   A.A. Literature — Tool or Mandate

1988:
a. Self-support
b. Singleness of Purpose — Key to Unity
   Groups vs. Meetings
   Are We Being Too Friendly with Our Friends?
   Our Primary Purpose — Is Our Message Clear?
c. Focus on the Positive
   Communications — Challenges
   What Are We Doing Right?
   Spirit of Rotation

1987:
a. Are We Carrying the Message to All?
b. Area Structure
   General Service Representative
   District Committee Member
   Area Committee
   Delegate
c. Finance
   Can GSO be Self-supporting Through Group Contributions Only?
   What About the Birthday Plan?
   Could Groups Pledge Contributions?
   Group Support to District, Area and Intergroup

d. Maintaining the Basics — A.A.'s Principles
   Our Primary Purpose
   The Twelve Steps
   The Twelve Traditions
   The Twelve Concepts — How Can We Live the Concepts in Service?
e. Right of Decision

1986:
a. The Committee System

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Do We Trust It?
Does It Eliminate Conflict?

b. Responsibility in Service
   - Why Are You a General Service Representative?
   - Why Are You a District Committee Member?
   - Why Are You an Area Officer?
   - Why Are You a Trustee?

c. Trusted Servants
   - Do We Trust Them?
   - Ultimate Authority — Are We Listening?
   - Are Trusted Servants Informed?
   - The Importance of Rotation

1985: (Presentation and/or workshop for 1985)

a. Will the Hand of A.A. Always Be There?
   - The Middle Years of Sobriety — A Dangerous Time
   - Are We Diluting Ourselves?
   - Communication Within the Fellowship

b. The Warranties

c. Beyond the Seventh Tradition — Group Responsibility
   - In the Meeting Place
   - To the Newcomer

d. Fifty Years of Caring and Sharing
   - In Treatment Centers
   - In Correctional Facilities
   - With Young People
   - In the Group

e. The GSR — The Key Role
   - Obtaining the Most Qualified Member
   - The Service Sponsor

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2026 Conference Committee on Agenda

ITEM C: Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference.

Background:

1. List of 2027 General Service Conference workshop topic ideas
2. List of General Service Conference workshop topics recommended by Conference 1985–2026

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Suggested Workshop Topics for the 2027 General Service Conference

1. Why remain anonymous?
    a. How does social media work into the 11th Tradition?
    b. Does live streaming of a social event hurt anyone?
    c. How do our action and our friends speak for us?
2. Cultivating future delegates
3. Sharing stories of missteps and lessons learned with humility and grace
4. Using laughter as a tool for connection, not distraction
5. A lighthearted dive into the unexpected spiritual lessons of everyday service

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Workshop Topics Recommended by the General Service Conference
1985–2026

2026: Keeping Our Own House in Order.

2025: How do we address the new financial reality facing our spiritual movement?

2024: Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year, to Better Inform the Group's Conscience.

2023: Practicing Our Twelve Traditions Across All Group Settings.

2022: The Warranties — Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World

2021: Inform — Communicate
Involve — Act
Inspire — Attract

2020: Attraction Through Action

2019: Clarity of Purpose — Addressing the Needs of Our Meetings

2018: Getting the A.A. Message Out…

2017: Anonymity — The Spiritual Foundation

2016: GSB Brainstorming Ideas — no Workshop

2015: Conference Inventory — no Workshop

2014: Conference Inventory — no Workshop

2013: Conference Inventory — no Workshop

2012: Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare

2011: How to Increase Participation in A.A. — Striving for Self-Support in All Our Affairs

2010: Discuss the General Service Agenda Selection Process

2009: Language of the Heart — Keeping It Simple

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2008: Love and Tolerance, Now More Than Ever

2007: Spiritual Value of Our A.A. Dollars

2006: Passing It On in a Changing World

2005: Do I Carry the A.A. Message Or My Own?

2004: How is Singleness of Purpose Important to the Individual, Group, District, Area, GSO and Grapevine Office?

2003: Sponsorship — Remembering to Practice Our Principles

2002: Using the Steps, Traditions and Concepts in Our Daily Lives

2001: Love and Service
- a. Carrying the A.A. Message of Service
- b. Living the A.A. Principles in All Our Affairs
- c. Maintaining the Spirit of Anonymity

2000: Trusting Our Future to A.A. Principles
- a. Twelve Steps
- b. Twelve Traditions
- c. Twelve Concepts

1999: Moving Forward: Unity Through Humility
- a. Harmony in the A.A. Community
- b. Principle of Rotation
- c. Spiritual Significance of Anonymity

1998: Our Twelfth Step Work
- a. In the Home Group
- b. In the Service Structure
- c. Around the World

1997: Spirituality — Our Foundation
- a. Spirit of Rotation
- b. Working with Faith, Serving with Love
- c. Unity — We are Responsible

1996: Preserving Our Fellowship — Our Challenge
- a. Through Your Home Group
- b. Through Your District
- c. Through Your Conference Area

1995: How We Pass It On:
- a. Our Basic Message

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b. Sponsorship in Recovery and Service
c. Communication — The Language of A.A.

1994: The Twelfth Step in Action:
a. Where have we been?
b. Where are we now?
c. Where are we going?

1993: A.A. Takes Its Inventory — The General Service Conference Structure (Focus to be on the other six articles of the Conference Charter)
A Vision for Us — Where Are We and Where Are We Going?

1992: The A.A. message in a Changing World

1991: a. Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action
b. Sponsorship: Our Three Legacies
c. Sponsorship: The Hand of A.A.

1990: a. Home Group — Where Love and Service Begin
b. Home Group — Our Link to the Fellowship
c. Home Group — Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.'s Future

1989: Anonymity — Our Past, Present and Future or
Anonymity — Living Our Traditions
Love and Service

1988: Our Singleness of Purpose — Key to Unity
(Per conference: A second workshop be scheduled, if time permits, with the subject to be determined at the trustees' Conference Committee's discretion)

1987: Unity — Let's Talk About It
Living Sober — Growing Together or Growing Apart?

1986: a. Letting Go of Old Ideas:
New Ways of Carrying the A.A. Message
Are We Getting Too Rigid?
b. A.A.'s Impact on the World
Are We Being Friendly With Our Friends?
How A.A. Cooperates

1985: (Presentation and/or workshop for 1985)

a. Will the Hand of A.A. Always Be There?
The Middle Years of Sobriety — A Dangerous Time
Communication Within the Fellowship
b. The Warranties
c. Beyond the Seventh Tradition — Group Responsibility

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In the Meeting Place
To the Newcomer

d. Fifty Years of Caring and Sharing
In Treatment Centers
In Correctional Facilities
With Young People
In the Group

e. The GSR — The Key Role
Obtaining the Most Qualified Member
The Service Sponsor

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2026 Conference Committee on Agenda

ITEM D: Review the 2026 General Service Conference Evaluation Form and the 2025 Evaluation Summary.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the February 1, 2026, meeting of the trustees' General Service Conference Committee:

> The trustees' General Service Conference Committee reviewed the progress report of the 2025-2026 Subcommittee on Conference Improvements (SCI) and **agreed to forward** the report to the 2026 Conference Committee on Agenda.

Excerpts from the 2025 Conference Committee on Agenda:

> The committee reviewed the 2024 Conference Evaluation Summary and noted several improvements were being made at the 75th General Service Conference. The committee requested to include visual quantitative graphics to recap the feedback and looks forward to reviewing the 2025 evaluation summary at the 2026 General Service Conference.
>
> The committee reviewed the 2025 Evaluation Form noting the request for feedback from Conference members on the Opening Sunday Banquet. The committee requested that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee consider alternatives such as attendees bringing a guest to future Conferences at their own expense. The committee noted the costs for coordinating a visit for Conference members and guests to Stepping Stones, following the 2024 General Service Conference, were offset by their voluntary contributions.

Secretary's Note: Elements of the 2025 Conference Evaluation feedback were presented to relevant GSO departments to assist in developing and refining preparation and plans for the 2026 General Service Conference. All evaluation feedback was additionally reviewed by the Subcommittee on Conference Improvements, which approached the evaluation topic by topic rather than day by day.

The subcommittee focused its review on actionable items, broadly grouped into Conference-week sessions, meals and scheduling within the Conference week, and pre- and post-Conference events.

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The evaluation forms for the 76th General Service Conference will be distributed to General Service Conference members and observers through an electronic survey during the Conference week.

Background:

1. 2026 GSC Evaluation Form
2. 2025 Evaluation Summary

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April 2026

76th GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE EVALUATION FORM

(The introduction below will be included on the online form.)

To: All Conference Members

Please take the time to share your experience and opinions by filling out and turning in this Conference Evaluation. **Your input is critical and is actively used as a tool to help facilitate the schedule and experience for next year's Conference.**

This Conference Evaluation plays an important role in helping both the trustees' General Service Conference Committee and the staff to plan the next annual meeting of the General Service Conference.

To ensure that useful decisions for improvement of the Conference can be made, all Conference members have an obligation to fill out the Conference Evaluation Form.

The committees and staff members responsible for the agendas for future Conferences give careful consideration to the comments of all delegates, trustees, directors and staff who turn in a form.

Pre-Conference Meetings and Activities
(sent on the evening of Saturday April 25, 2026)

Virtual General Service Conference Sharing Sessions
Please rate and comment on the virtual General Service Conference sharing sessions.

Housekeeping Meetings
Please rate and comment on the housekeeping meetings.

Remote Communities Meeting
Please rate and comment on the Remote Communities meeting.

Optional GSO Tour
Please rate and comment on the optional GSO tour.

Saturday Meet and Greet
Please rate and comment on Saturday's meet and greet.

OnBoard Platform
Please rate and comment on the usefulness of the OnBoard platform.

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Conference Background
Please rate and comment on the effectiveness of Conference Background materials.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Opening Session
Please rate and comment on Sunday's Opening Session.

Workshop Discussion Group Session
Please rate and comment on the Workshop Discussion Group Session.

Regional Lunch and Delegate Orientation
Please rate and comment on Sunday's Regional Lunch and Delegate Orientation

Topic Presentation
Please rate and comment on the effectiveness of the topic presentations and discussion.

General Service Board Report Summary
Please rate and comment on the GSB Report summary.

Joint Committee Meetings
Please rate and comment on the joint committee meetings.

Sunday Opening Dinner and A.A. meeting
Please comment on your experience of the Sunday Opening Dinner and A.A. meeting

MONDAY, APRIL 27

General Sharing Session
Please rate and comment on the General Sharing Session.

A.A. International
Please rate and comment on the A.A. International presentation.

Finance Report
Please rate and comment on the Finance report and discussion.

Cross-Functional Communications Group Report
Please rate and comment on the Cross-Functional Communications Group report.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 28

AAWS Board Report Summary
Please rate and comment on the AAWS Board report summary.

Inventory Implementation Report
Please rate and comment on the Inventory Implementation report.

General Sharing Session
Please rate and comment on the General Sharing Session.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

AA Grapevine Board Report Summary
Please rate and comment on the AA Grapevine Board report summary.

Inventory Implementation Report
Please rate and comment on the Inventory Implementation report.

Wednesday Regional Lunches for Delegates
Please rate and comment on Wednesday's regional lunches.

Trustee Elections
Please rate and comment on the Trustee Elections.

Secondary Joint Committees Dinner Meetings
Please rate and comment on the secondary Joint Committee Dinner meetings.

Conference Committee Reports
Please rate and comment on the discussion of Conference Committee reports.

Mid-Week Conference Review
Please comment on the Conference so far. (write in)

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Conference Committee Reports
Please rate and comment on the discussion of Conference Committee reports.

Secondary Committee Lunches
Please rate and comment on the Secondary Committee lunches.

General Sharing Session
Please rate and comment on Thursday's General Sharing Session.

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FRIDAY, MAY 1

Conference Committee Reports
Please rate and comment on the discussion of Conference Committee reports.

Conference Member Participation
Please comment on Conference member participation.

End-of-Week Conference Review
Please rate and comment on the overall Conference experience (write in)

French and Spanish Interpretation
Please rate and comment on the interpretation services.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Saturday after Conference
Please comment on the Saturday, May 2, 2026, gathering to announce the 2027 new delegate chairperson and farewell talks given by rotating trustees. (write in)

Trip to Stepping Stones
Please comment on Saturday's trip to Stepping Stones.

Overall Conference Experience
Please comment on your overall Conference experience.

Meals on Your Own
Please rate and comment on your experience with meals on your own.

Area Highlights
Please rate and comment on your experience with the Area Highlights.

What's On Your Mind? / General Sharing Sessions
Please provide suggestions for improvement to the "What's on Your Mind? / General Sharing Sessions."

Future Conferences
How can we improve on the overall experience?
Please provide suggestions for improving the Conference experience.

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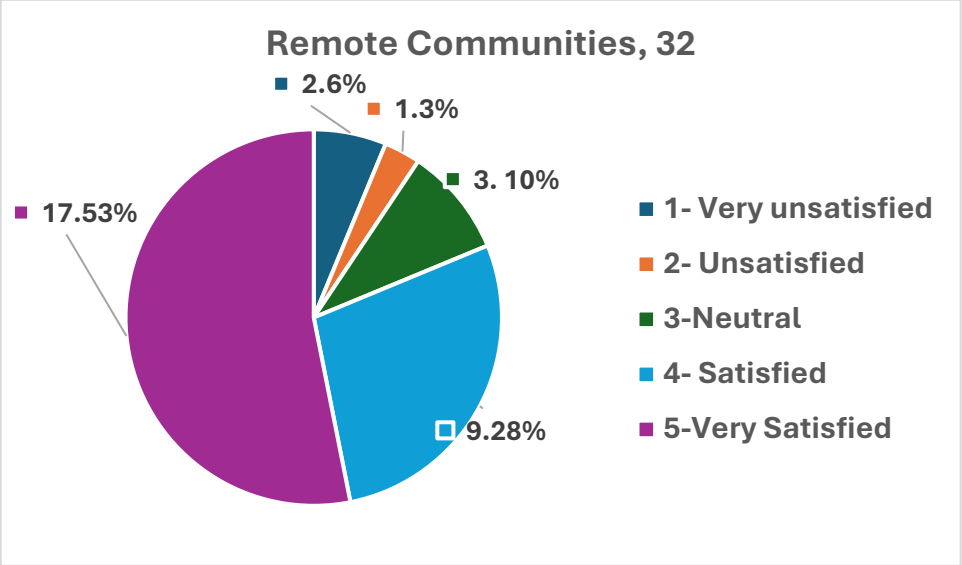

Successes:

- Valuable opportunity to hear diverse experiences and strategies for outreach to remote communities.
- Fostered meaningful discussions and idea-sharing.

Opportunities:

- Shares should be timed and meeting times should be extended.
- Hold earlier in the spring and explore in-person options.

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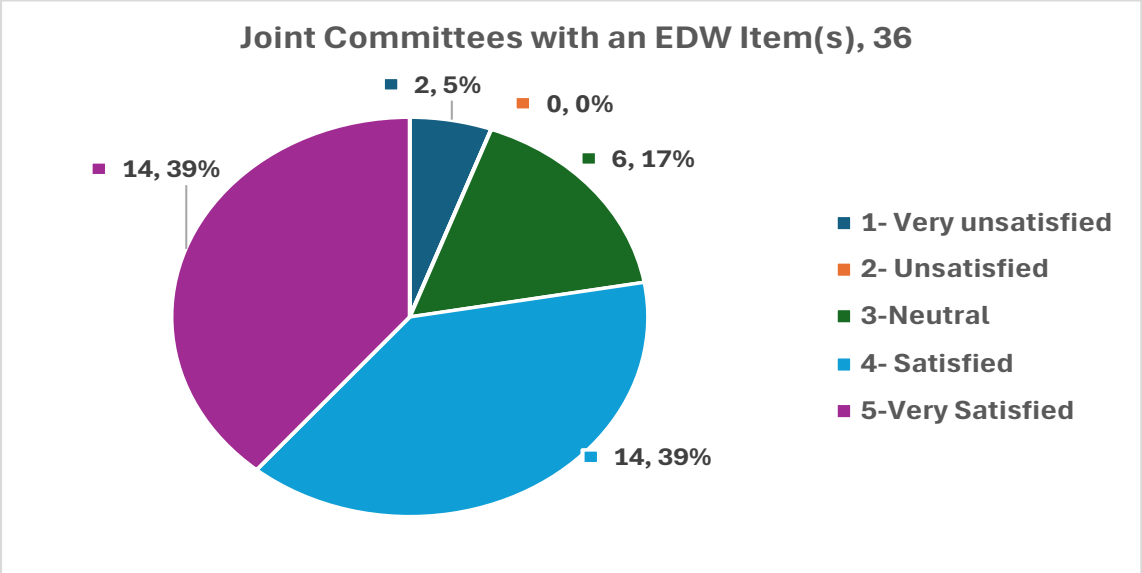

Successes:

- Trustee participation provided historical context, clarified agenda items, and supported informed decision-making.
- Helpful preparation for the Conference; answered questions and addressed concerns.
- Trustees and staff were responsive to questions. Their accessibility was appreciated.

Opportunities:

- Ensure EDW items are consistently shared with all relevant parties.
- Committees with extensive agendas felt meetings were too short to fully explore complex topics.
- Concerns about straying from scope and agenda.

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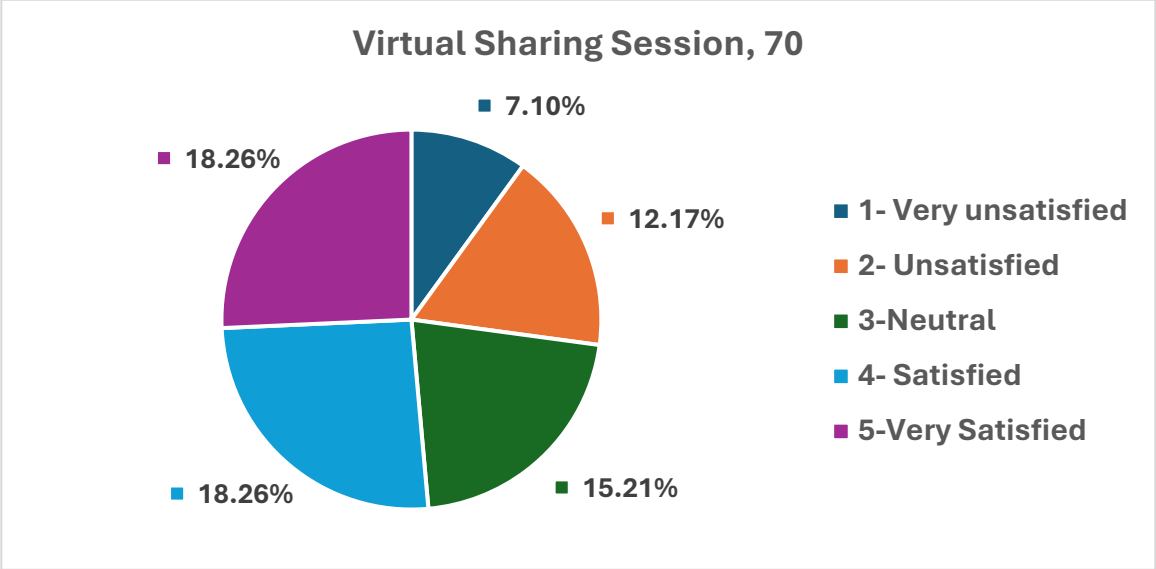

Successes:

- Cost-effective sessions fostering meaningful discussions, allowing delegates to express differing views while maintaining trust and unity.
- Presentations on time management and Conference processes were appreciated, especially by newer delegates.

Opportunities:

- Sessions became tense or combative, detracting from the intended spirit of unity and collaboration.
- Inconsistent scheduling, unclear objectives, and the dominance of certain voices over others.
- Discussion should focus on current issues affecting the Fellowship rather than abstract themes.

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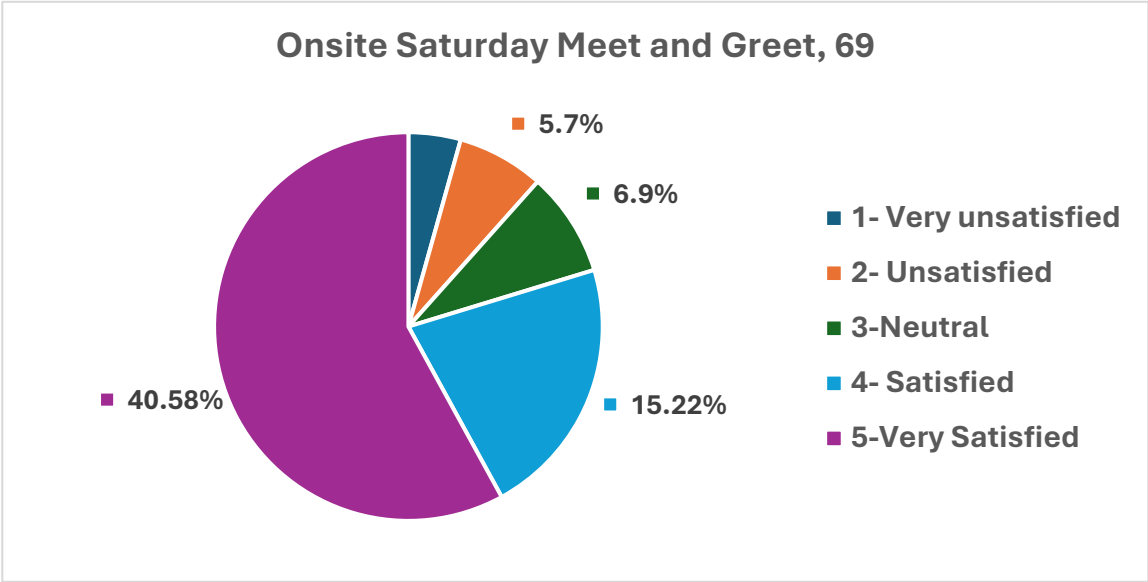

Successes:

- Fun, meaningful, and a great connection with delegates and staff.
- Important to make this a recurring event, noting its absence in previous years was felt.

Opportunities:

- Room was hot, poorly ventilated, and noisy. An uncomfortable environment caused some attendees to leave early.
- Expectations for refreshments were not met. Many noted the lack of substantial food options and suggested improvements for future events.

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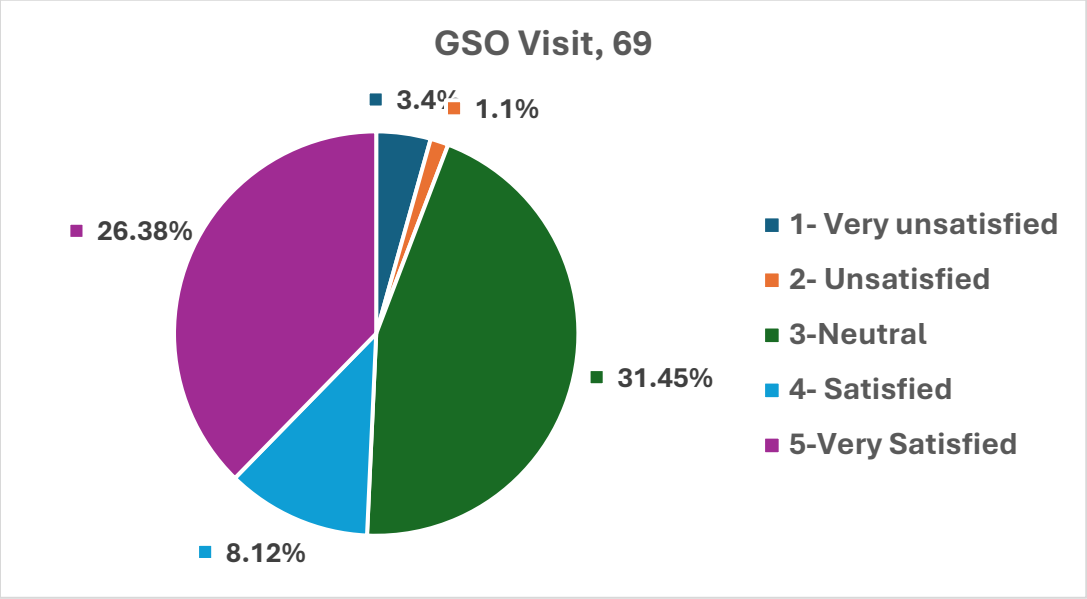

Successes:

- GSO staff were warm and knowledgeable, adding a personal and welcoming touch.
- There was an emotional and spiritual impact of visiting the office, particularly during meetings held on-site.

Opportunities:

- Some tours were rushed due to large group sizes, limiting opportunities for deeper engagement or questions.
- Clearer instructions and more flexible timing could help increase participation.

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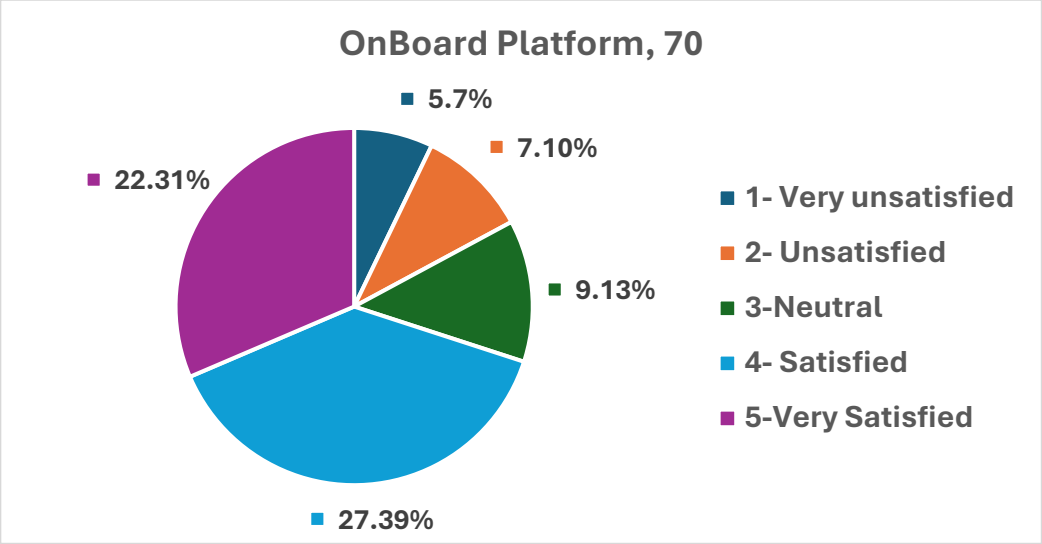

Successes:

- OnBoard was described as fantastic and very useful.
- Alerts for critical and new postings were appreciated.
- Users appreciated having app access.

Opportunities:

- Members had trouble finding documents; the search feature was problematic.
- Users received multiple notifications for each document, chat message, and language posting.
- Training on appropriate use of chat threads to reduce unnecessary alerts and distractions.

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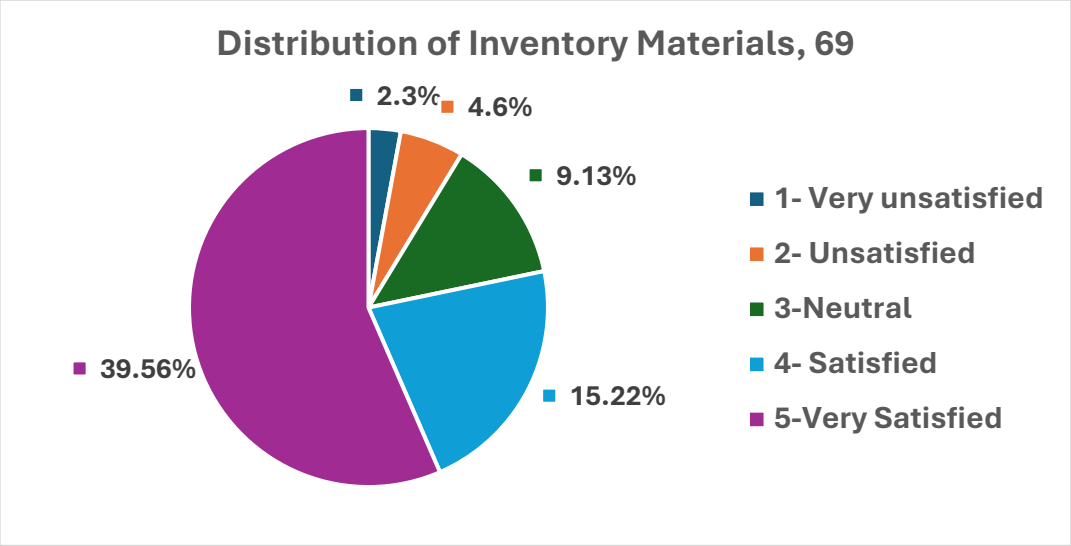

Successes:

- Timely delivery of inventory materials with clear instructions fostered feelings of being prepared.
- The opportunity to read feedback, engage in group discussions, and reflect on shared experiences were all positives.

Opportunities:

- Some questions were poorly worded or misleading, especially for first-year members.
- The volume of materials was overwhelming.

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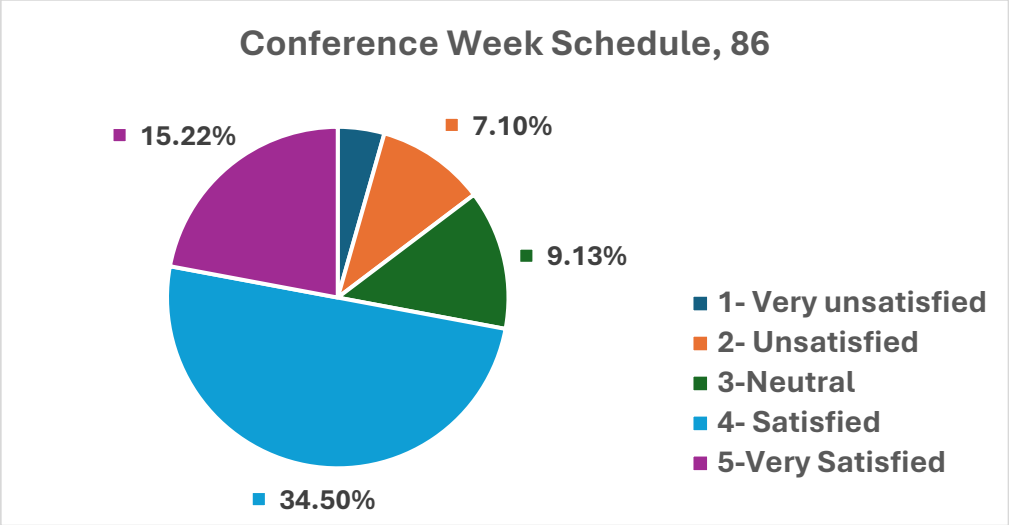

Successes:

- The schedule was well laid out and thoughtful.
- There were improvements in time management and scheduling.

Opportunities:

- Long days with little time for bathroom breaks, meals, and informal discussions.
- Important items, like committee reports and agenda discussions were rushed, without sufficient time on the schedule.

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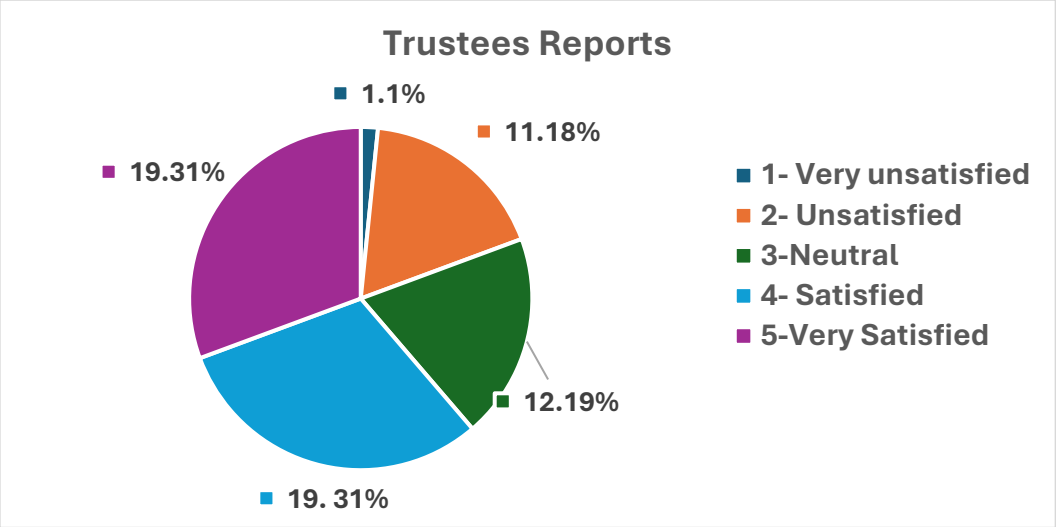

Successes:

- Members received materials with adequate time to review and appreciated the ability to reference documents during and after the conference.
- The quality and integrity of trustee reports were excellent.

Opportunities:

- Materials should be shared earlier to allow for thorough review and translation.
- The volume of information arriving last-minute was overwhelming for many, especially those balancing full-time work.

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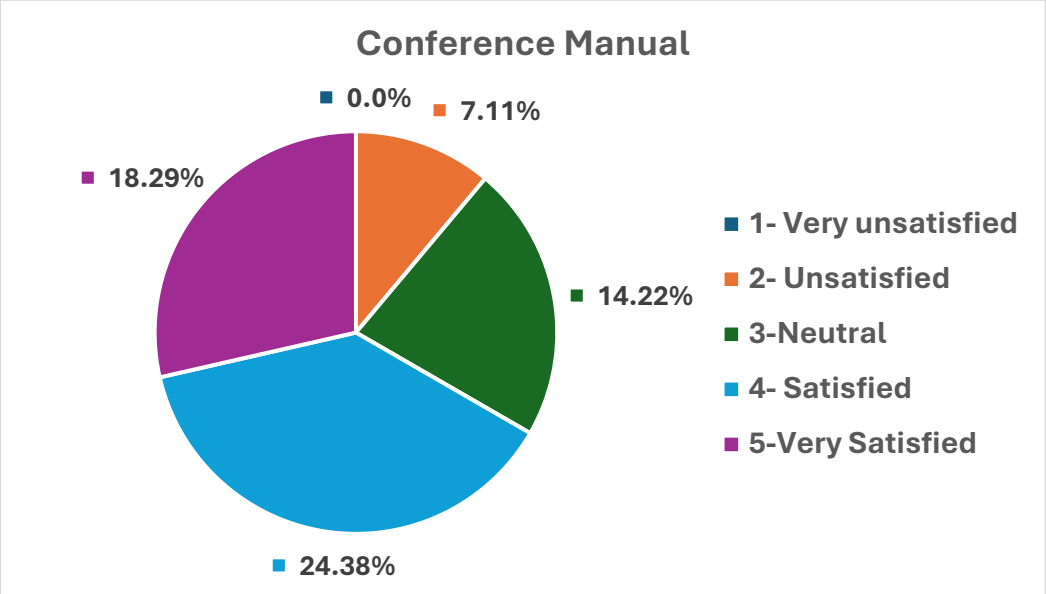

Successes:

- There was sufficient time to review; members felt prepared and appreciated the clarity and completeness of the materials.
- Availability prior to the Conference was great. Delegates found it helpful to access and review materials digitally, especially while traveling.

Opportunities:

- Last-minute updates and multiple versions of documents caused confusion and made it difficult to track changes.
- The amount of information is difficult to process, especially with frequent updates.

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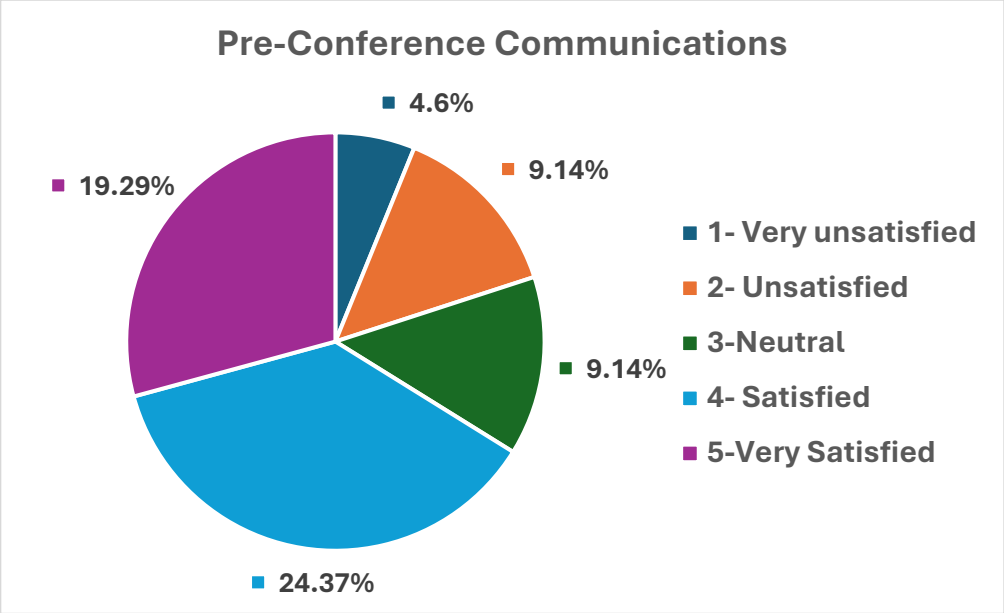

Successes:

- The volume and speed of communication was good. Alerts for new postings were helpful when used appropriately.
- The dedication of the Conference Coordinator and GSO staff contributed to a sense of preparedness and support.

Opportunities:

- An overwhelming amount of information was delivered close to the Conference date, making it difficult to absorb and prepare adequately.
- Excessive notifications, especially when documents were uploaded in multiple languages separately was tiring.

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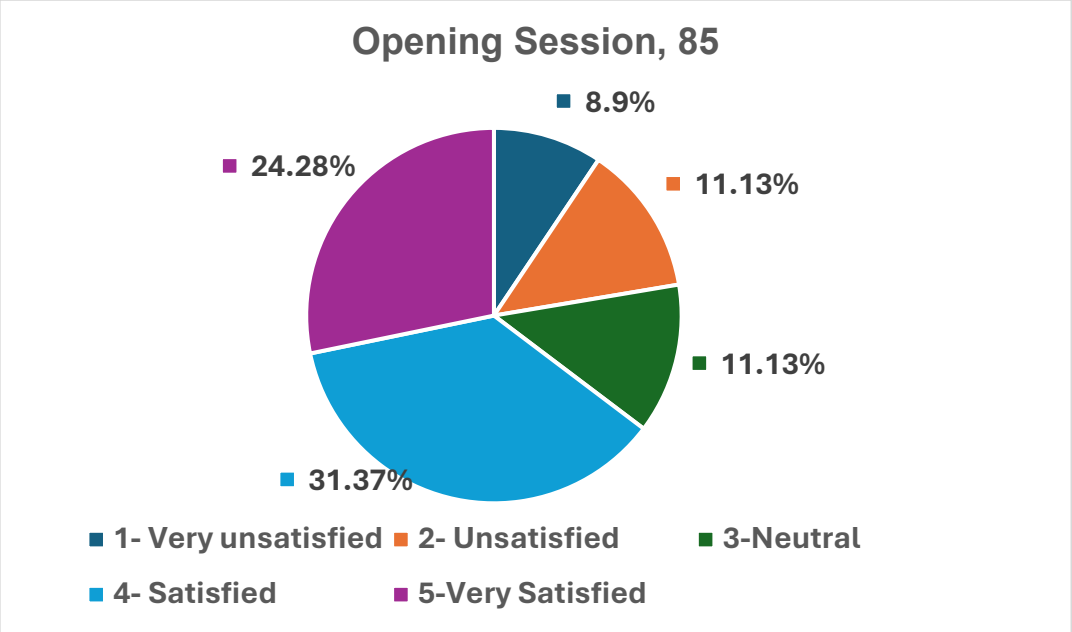

Successes:

- The roll call and keynote address were powerful, emotional, and spiritually grounding.
- The GM and GSB chair were commended for their calm demeanor, humor, and ability to maintain a respectful tone amid tension.

Opportunities:

- Discrepancies between the oral delivery and "How the Conference Operates" in the binder was confusing, leading to mistrust and procedural uncertainty.
- Leadership should be better prepared to manage difficult discussions with sensitivity and procedural accuracy.

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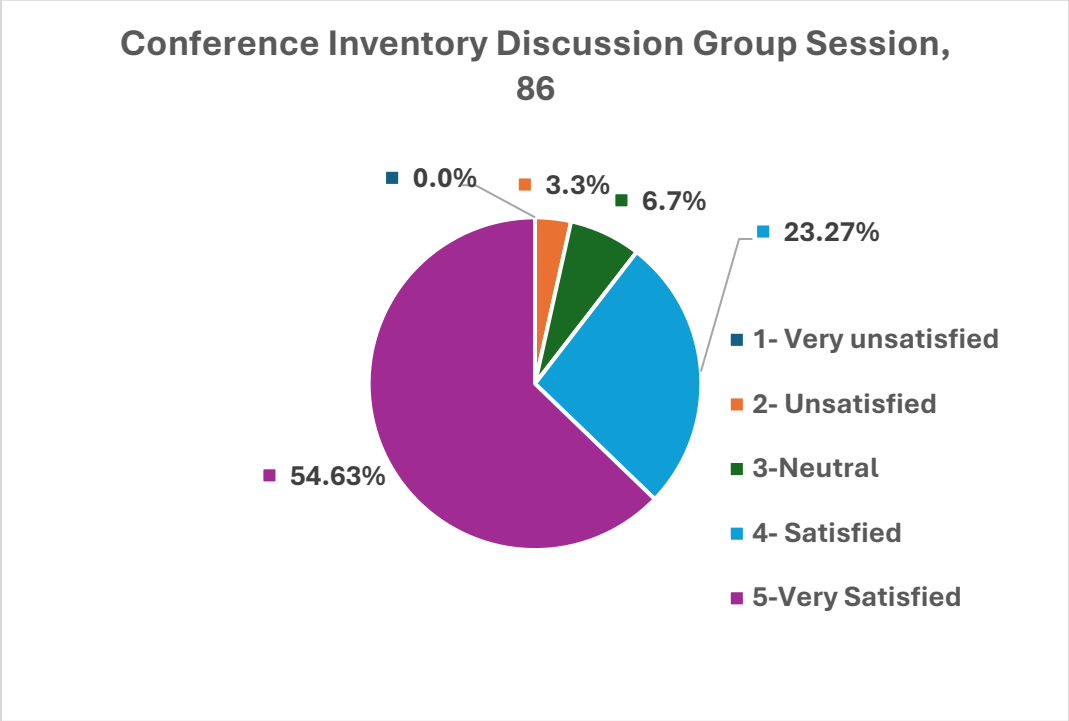

Successes:

- Participants came prepared and moderators facilitated thoughtful exchanges.
- The chance to interact across roles broke down perceived barriers and fostered mutual understanding.

Opportunities:

- Some discussions felt rushed; extend sessions 20–60 minutes to allow deeper discussion.
- Some members were unaware they had been assigned as moderators, leading to confusion and uneven facilitation.
- There was confusion about whether reporters were meant to share personal answers or summarize group responses.

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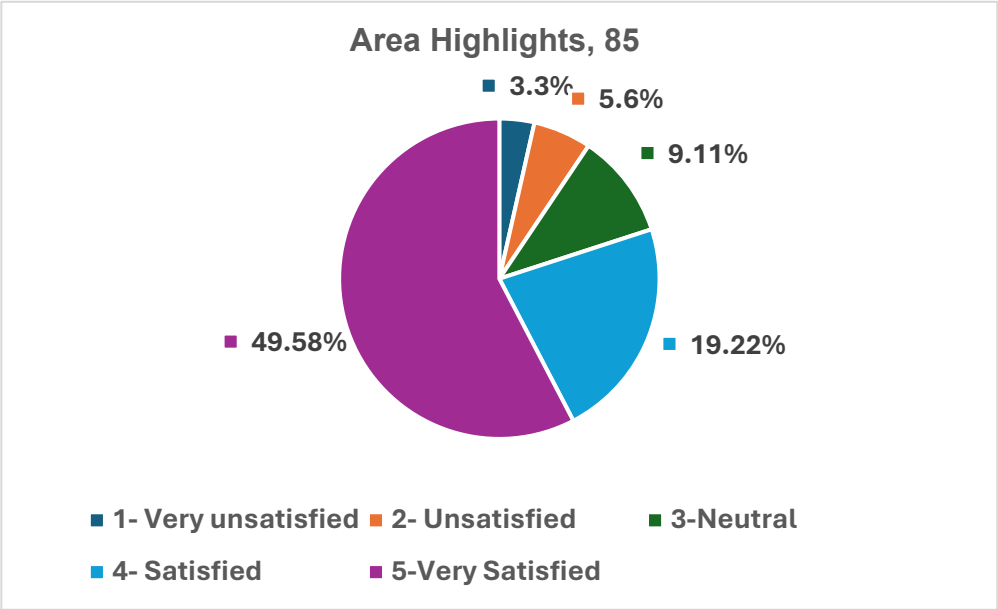

Successes:

- The Area Highlights were inspiring and energizing.
- Giving highlights helped members feel included and connected to the broader conference body.
- Highlights deepened understanding of the diverse area practices.

Opportunities:

- The time could be better used for Conference business.
- Highlights did not change significantly, reducing their value.
- There is a lack of necessity in the formal conference.

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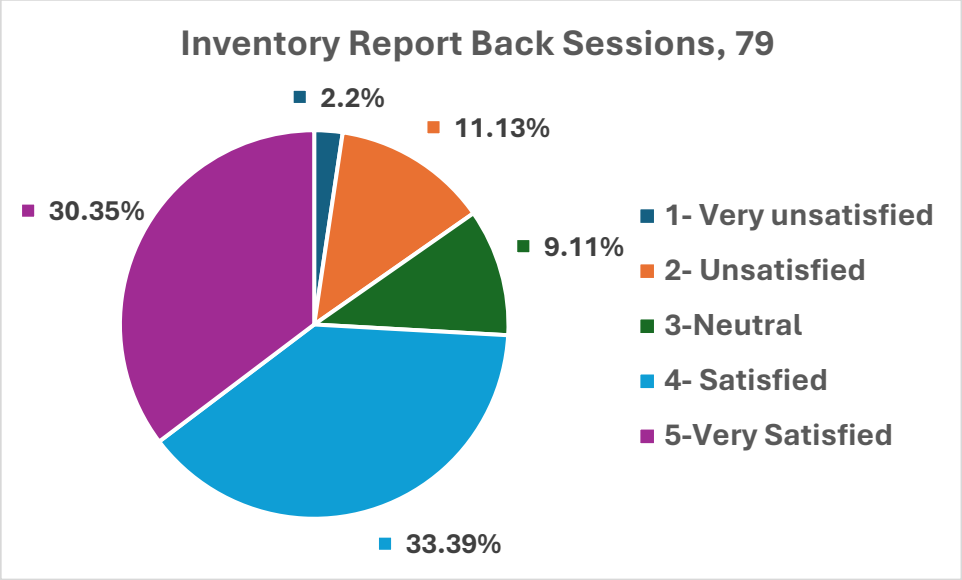

Successes:

- The sessions were informative and helped members think differently about service and Conference operations.
- Reporters were well-spoken and captured the spirit of group discussions.

Opportunities:

- Sessions felt rushed or long, with limited time for floor sharing.
- There was disappointment that few concrete solutions were proposed.

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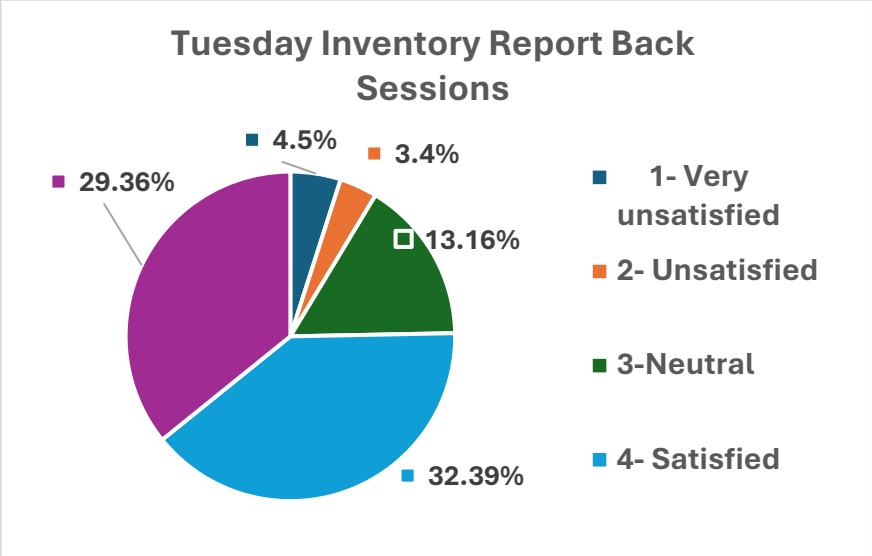

Key Observations:

- Improving communication was a recurring theme for all levels of the organization. Members appreciated the opportunity to hear diverse perspectives and emphasized the need for honest and respectful dialogue.
- Members expressed strong support for a regular inventory as part of the Conference, noting benefit to collective accountability and uncovering underlying issues.
- Members found the process repetitive and overly time-consuming. Consolidating reports, reducing the number of questions, and synthesizing summaries would be helpful.
- Comments emphasized the importance of translating insights into concrete actions, with progress tracked over time.

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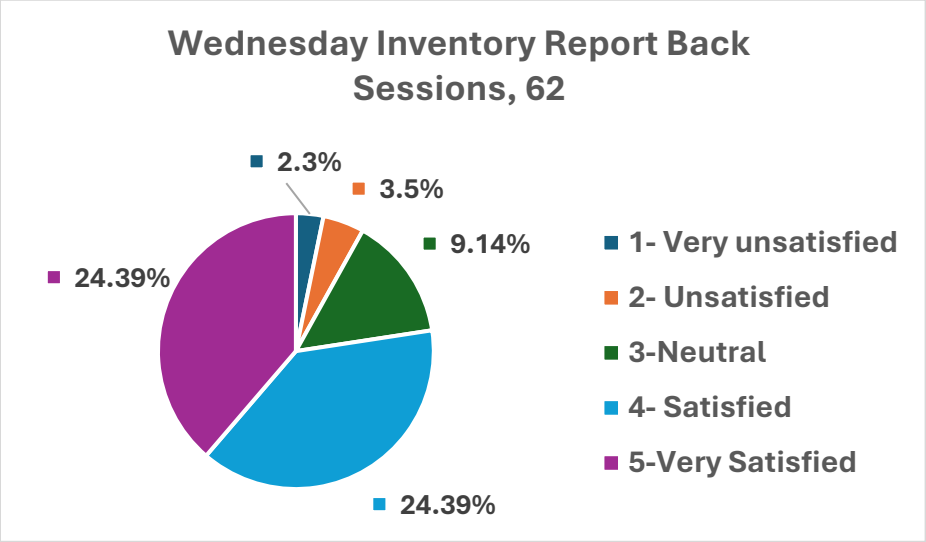

Key Observations:

- The need for better communication was a dominant theme. Transparency, clarity, and consistency in messaging is needed.
- There was a call for the implementation of solutions and for the newly formed Inventory Implementation Committee to act on the feedback.
- Sessions became repetitive; streamlining the report-back process and limiting the number of questions would be effective.

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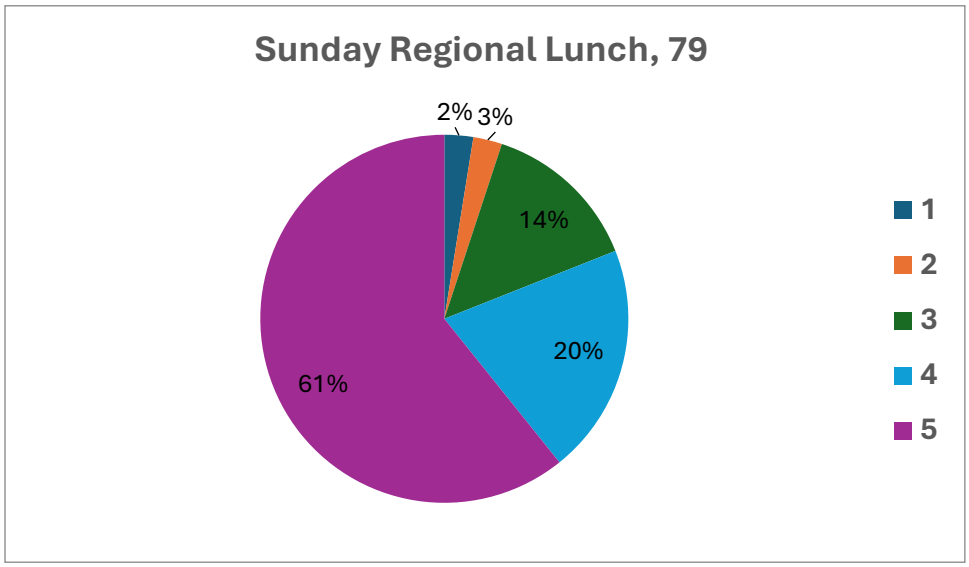

Successes:

- Delegates valued the chance to gather with their regional peers.
- Regional trustees offer an opportunity to ask questions, clarify processes, and build unity.

Opportunities:

- Food ran out in some locations and fresh vegetable options were limited.
- There was confusion about the lunch's purpose. Is it social, educational, or both?

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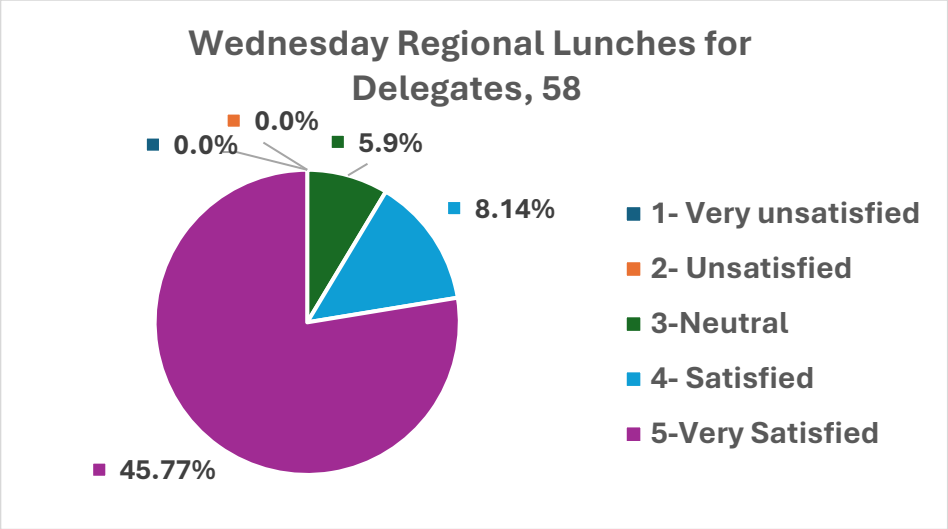

Successes:

- Gathering with regional peers was a meaningful time to bond, share experiences, and strengthen relationships.
- The lunch was productive in facilitating the trustee-at-large election.

Opportunities:

- The luncheon was somewhat rushed. Several participants expressed a desire for more time to engage in deeper conversations.
- A few attendees cited limited food options and a lack of engagement during the session.

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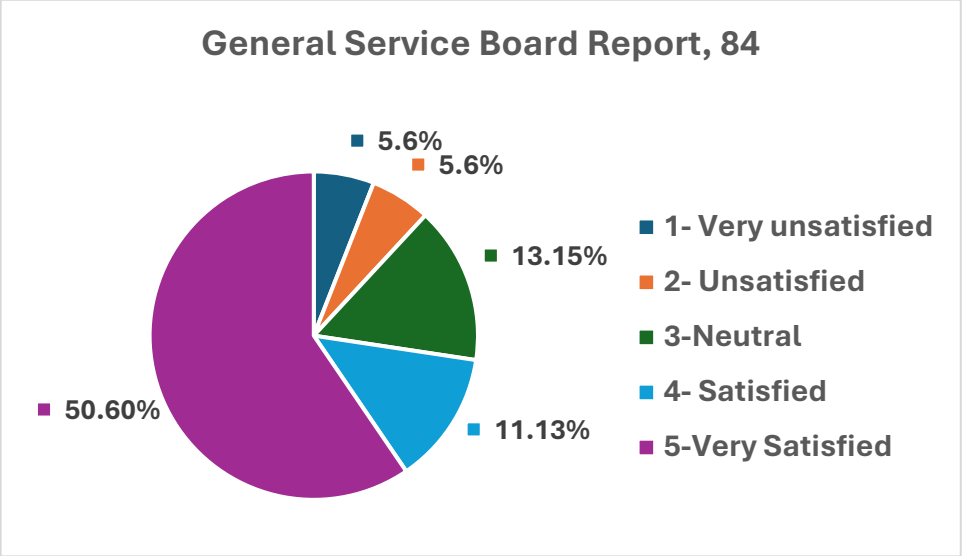

Successes:

- Praise for the chair's decision to speak candidly and off script. His vulnerability and willingness to address difficult topics were seen as a model of principled leadership.
- The calm, clear, and compassionate tone was widely appreciated.
- The acknowledgment of harmful behavior within the Fellowship and the call for accountability were necessary and impactful.

Opportunities:

- Some felt the report came across as chastising or shame-based and felt alienated or unfairly targeted.
- The report was cut short due to prior agenda items, limiting opportunities for questions and deeper engagement.
- Changes to Conference procedures should be transparent.

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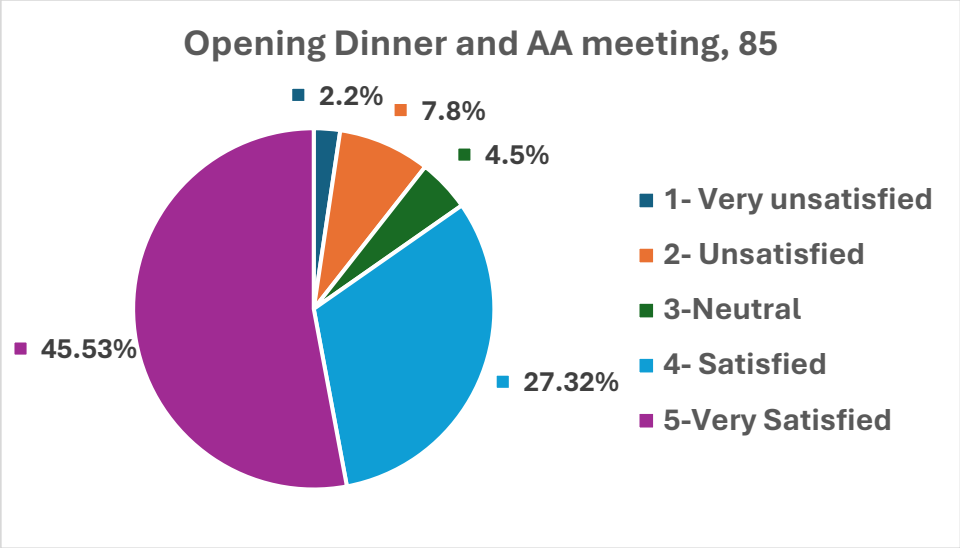

Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Assigned seating as a successful strategy to encourage interaction beyond familiar circles, fostering unity and deeper connections among Conference members.

The A.A. meeting format was appreciated for its effectiveness and emotional resonance. Attendees found the speakers to be inspiring, relatable, and a grounding reminder of the purpose of the Fellowship.

A recurring theme in the feedback was disappointment over the exclusion of guests ("plus ones"). Several attendees expressed that their partners play a significant role in supporting their service work and should be acknowledged through inclusion. Suggestions included allowing guests at their own expense or reinstating past practices of inviting alternate delegates and trustees.

A few participants questioned the necessity of the dinner, suggesting alternative formats or cost-saving measures.

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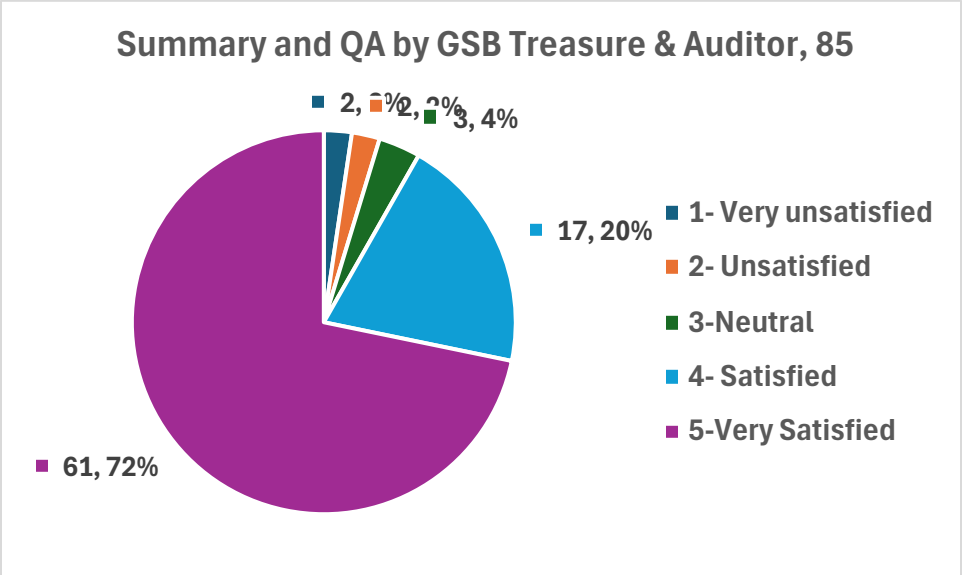

Key Observations:

- The auditor and the treasurer answered questions openly and receive candid responses, which fostered trust in A.A.'s financial governance.
- The treasurer's "Picnic Table" presentation was a helpful tool for communicating financial data to local areas.
- The speed and efficiency of the audit process were noteworthy.
- Many expressed sadness over the treasurer's early rotation, acknowledging his integrity, dedication, and ability to make financial topics engaging and understandable.
- Some responses noted challenges with financial terminology, the length of the audit presentation, and the benefits of simplifying future presentations.

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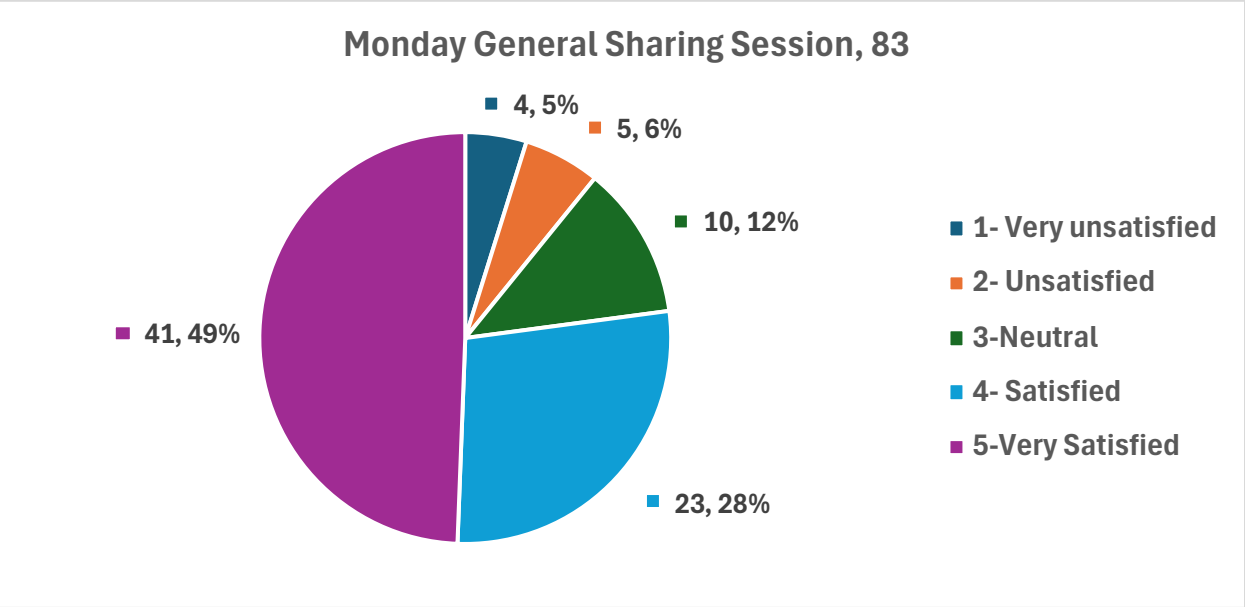

Key Observations:

- A vital space for honest communication, emotional expression, and group conscience.
- Speakers showed courage and the transparency of discussions were appreciated, even when topics were difficult.
- There were concerns over a divisive and overly negative tone. There was some finger-pointing or grandstanding rather than constructive dialogue.
- There was a noted need for civility, respect, and accountability.

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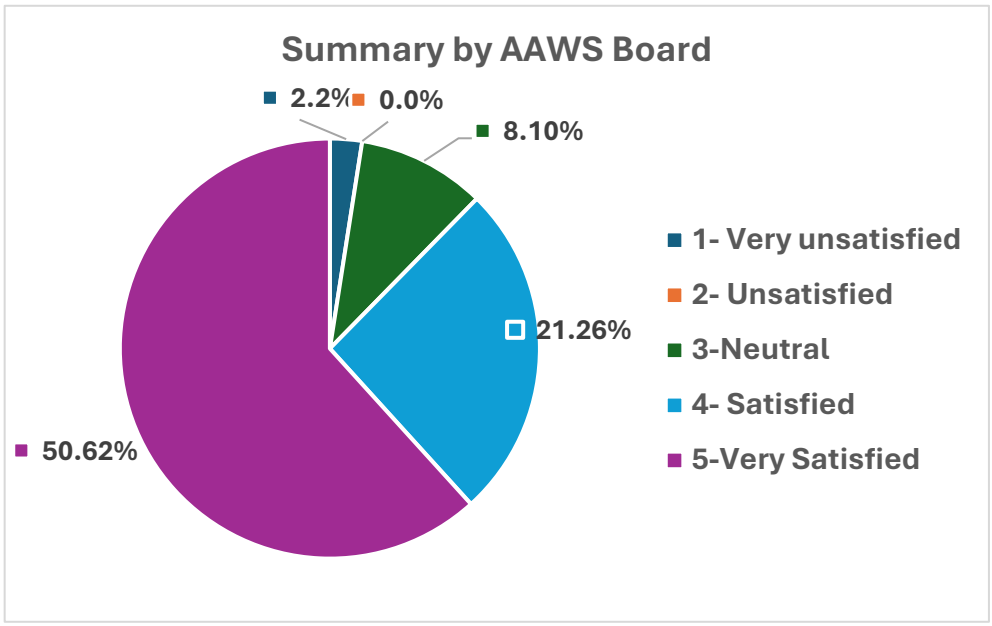

Key Observations:

- Rich, well-organized, and effectively communicated information on the work and vision of the AAWS Board. The commitment to the Fellowship was clearly displayed.
- The dedication, clarity, and emotional honesty was moving and humanizing.
- Strategic planning, the future of the Reserve Fund, and the workload of the board were thoroughly covered.
- Future presentations would be enhanced through improved delivery, timing, and transparency.

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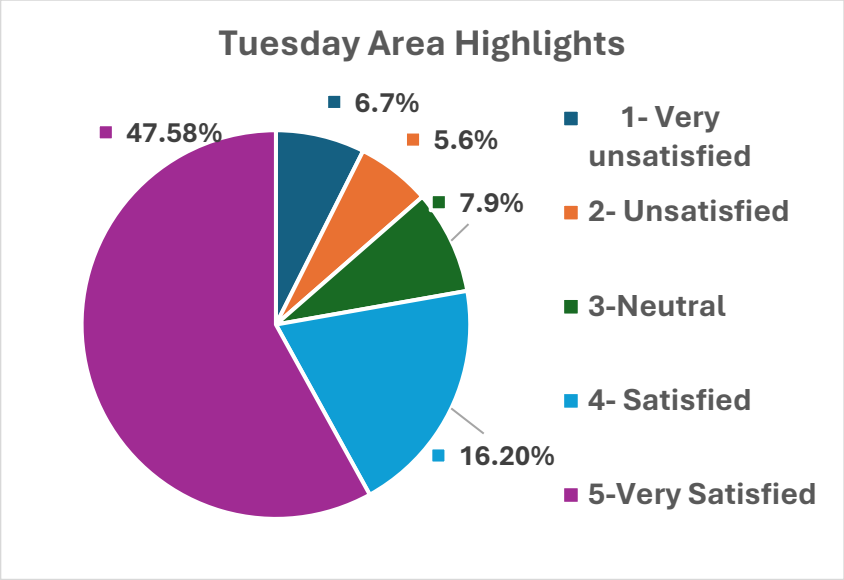

Successes:

- Informative and valuable way to learn about diverse approaches to service and outreach.
- A meaningful way to build community, understand regional differences, and gain new ideas to bring back to their own areas.
- Highlights deepened understanding of the diverse area practices.

Opportunities:

- Concerns that time is better spent on committee work.
- Printing in the *Final Conference Report* is sufficient.

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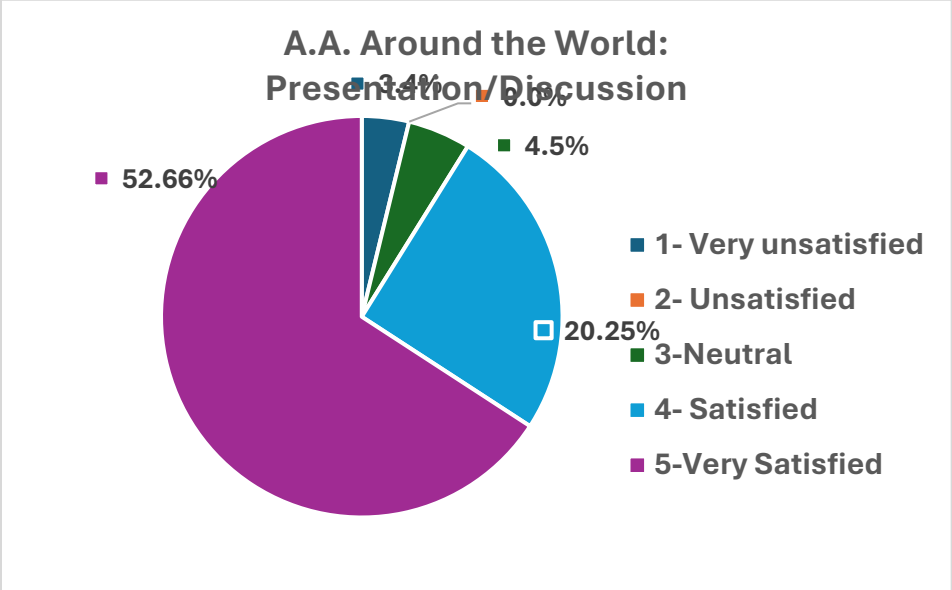

The international presentation was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback. There was deep appreciation for the chance to hear an inspiring, informative, and powerful testament to the global reach and impact of A.A.

Feedback highlighted the resonance and authenticity of the stories. The experiences and dedication to carrying the A.A. message across borders were moving. Members were inspired by the passion and humility of the speakers.

The presentations shed light on how A.A.'s 36 spiritual principles are applied in diverse cultural contexts. Attendees valued learning about the growth of A.A. communities worldwide and the creative ways members are reaching alcoholics outside traditional service structures. The session was seen as a reminder of the vital role that international coordination plays in supporting the still-suffering alcoholic globally.

The feedback was predominantly positive, but there were suggested improvements. Some members found the session disjointed or difficult to follow; a handful expressed a desire for structured data. There was a desire expressed to allocate more time in future Conferences.

In summary, the international presentation was a highlight for many, offering a heartfelt and enlightening glimpse into A.A.'s global efforts. The session successfully fostered a sense of unity, purpose, and gratitude among attendees, reinforcing the importance of international service and collaboration.

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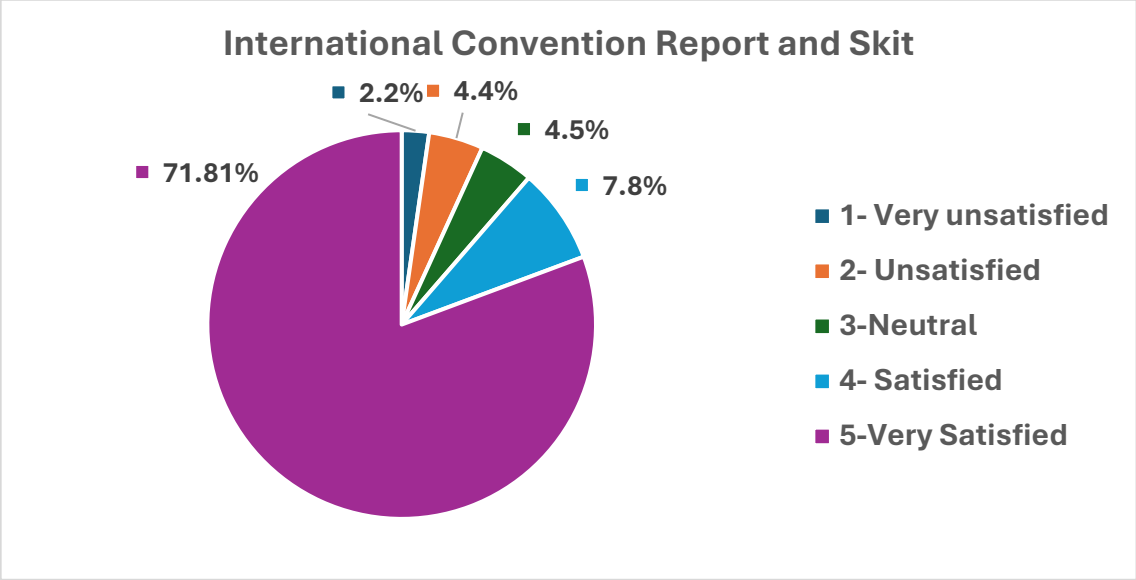

Key Observations:

- The International Convention coordinator was widely commended for their dedication, and enthusiasm in coordinating a large-scale event.
- The skit was a standout moment, with members appreciating the humor, energy, and talent displayed by the Staff.
- There were concerns about the cost and time allocation for the skit.

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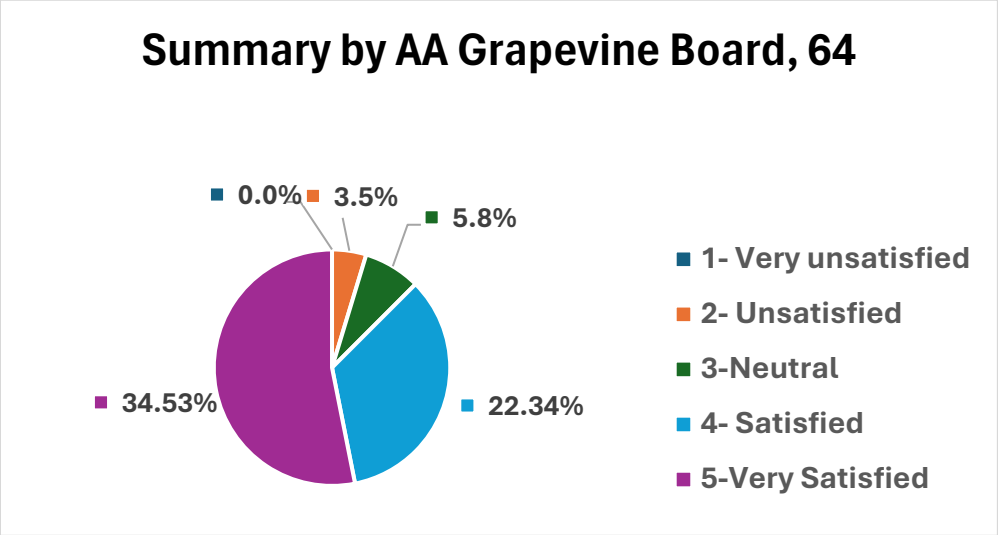

Successes:

- "Informative," "well presented," and "thorough." Slides aided comprehension and report-backs to local groups.
- The presentation was engaging and accessible, with renewed interest in the Grapevine as a result.
- Comments acknowledged the dedication and hard work of the Grapevine/La Viña staff and volunteers.

Opportunities:

- Concerns were expressed over the lack of financial details. There was a desire for more transparency and discussion around sustainability.
- The La Viña website should be bilingual (Spanish and English) to better serve all members.

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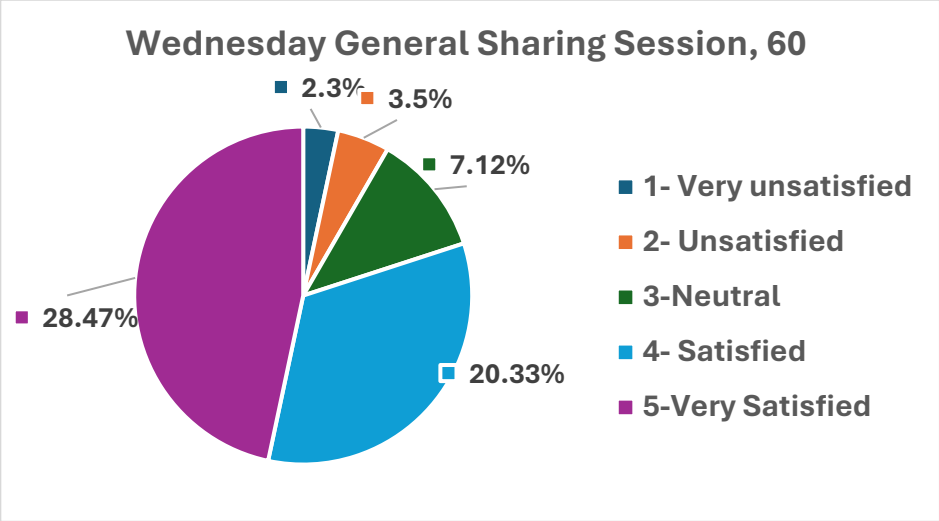

Key Observations:

- Members appreciated the chance to hear from a variety of voices and found the session to be informative, educational, and emotionally resonant.
- There was discomfort with the tone of some remarks, citing instances of shaming, punitive language, and perceived hypocrisy.
- The session lacked personal reflections and meaningful insights; discussion resembled a continuation of inventory reporting rather than a space for genuine sharing.
- Comments about inconsistent time management. Time was allocated differently between speakers, particularly between trustees and area delegates.

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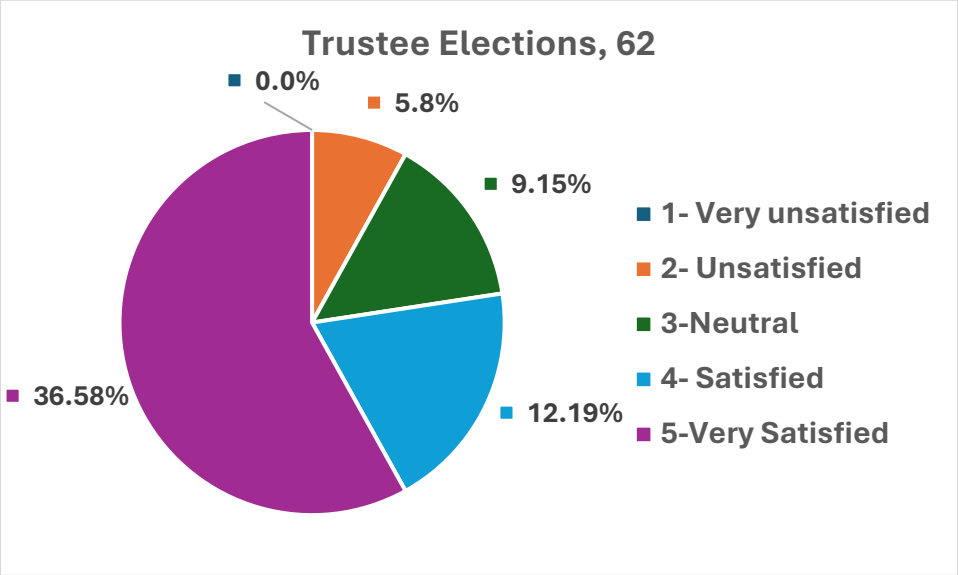

Successes:

- The elections were well-run with many appreciating the process and the professionalism of those involved.
- The use of visual aids and the support from staff during the election were noted as helpful and effective.

Opportunities:

- There was insufficient time to review candidate resumes limiting informed decisions and contributing to a sense of disengagement.
- Smaller regions expressed that their nominees were at a disadvantage due to fewer regional delegates.

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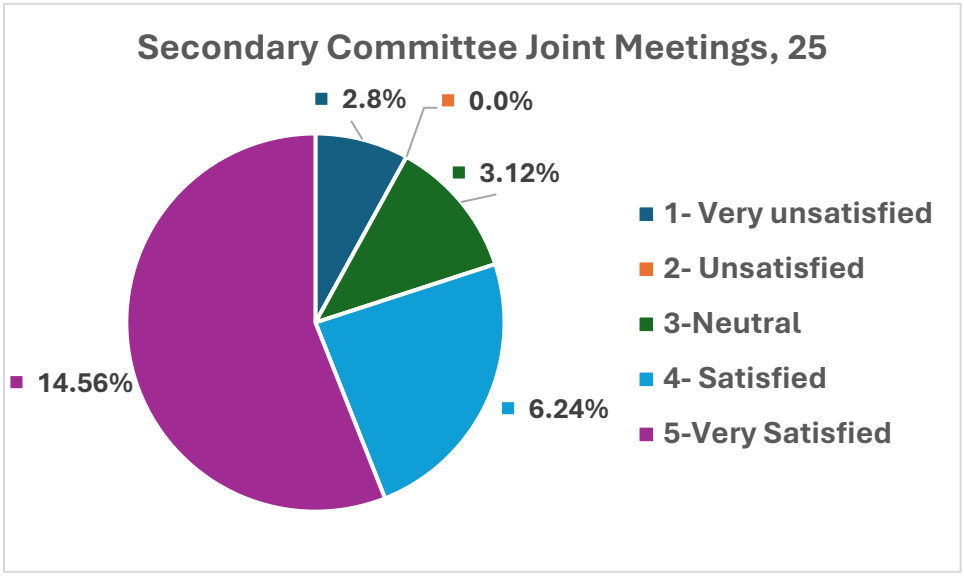

Key Observations:

- Some participants enjoyed dining alone or with small groups, others expressed dissatisfaction with food options. Chicken was frequently mentioned as repetitive and difficult to eat during meetings.
- Sessions were generally well-organized but overlapping meetings and concurrent dining posed logistical challenges.
- Concern was raised regarding a trustee's behavior during a meeting, where a dismissive reaction to a delegate's comment was observed.

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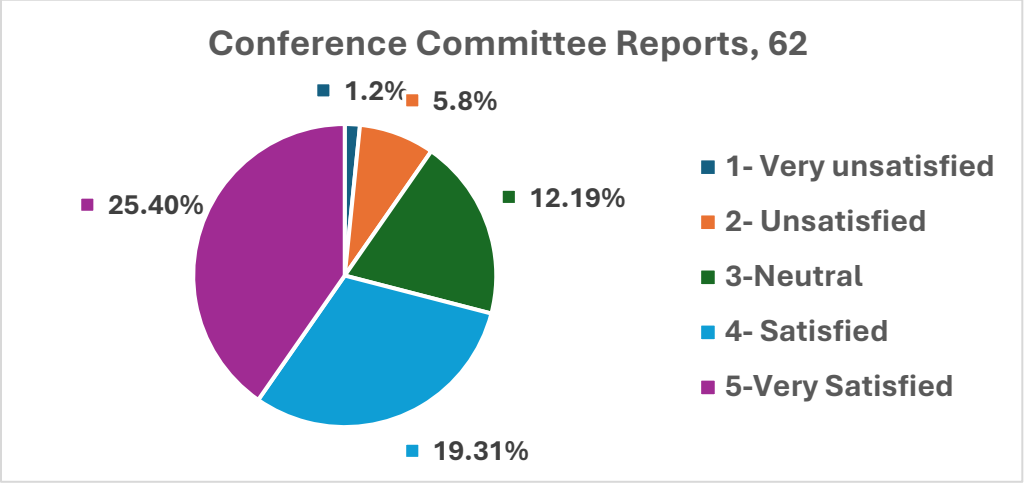

Key Observations:

- Many noted a positive shift in tone, a sense of unity and mutual respect. The chairs were commended for their skilled and balanced facilitation.
- Frustration with excessive wordsmithing and amendments to committee recommendations. This practice undermines the trust in committee work and slows progress.
- Suggestions were made to empower chairs to move discussions forward more decisively and supported skipping procedural votes to save time.
- Committee efforts were widely praised. Feedback urged a balance between thorough discussion and efficient decision-making.

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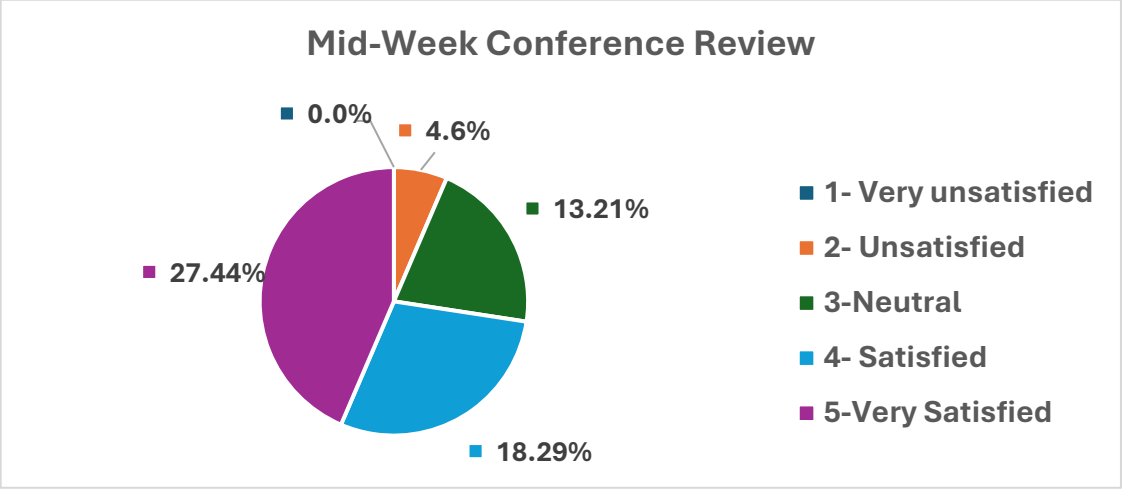

Evaluations showed dynamic and emotional feedback. Experiences ranged from deep appreciation to constructive critique.

Successes:

- Organization, hospitality, and leadership. Grace, responsiveness, and sensitivity to the Conference body were noted in multiple evaluations.
- The Conference tone was described as more hopeful and respectful compared to previous years.
- Committee work was widely appreciated.
- The venue, food, and logistics received favorable reviews.

Opportunities:

- Time management was a recurring issue. The schedule was overly demanding, with long days and limited personal time.
- The inventory process was seen as overly time-consuming.
- Emotional strain was noted, with some describing mental exhaustion.
- Concerns of lobbying, cliques, and adherence to Conference principles.

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Conference member participation

(not scored, narrative only)

Delegate Participation:
Many respondents felt that delegate participation was excessive, often dominated by a small group of voices. While some acknowledged their own frequent contributions and expressed a desire to be more discerning, others encouraged quieter delegates to speak up. There was a shared concern that over-participation by a few may discourage broader engagement and compromise the collective voice.

Trustees and Directors:
Feedback on trustees and directors was generally positive. Experience and historical perspective were valued, especially during discussions on recommendations and amendments. However, a few comments suggested that some trustees participated more like general service representatives (GSRs).

Staff Participation:
Staff engagement was seen as insufficient by many. Participants expressed a desire to hear more from staff, citing their unique insights and broad exposure to the service structure. Some noted that staff contributions were impactful when they did occur, though concerns were raised about perceived bias or influence when staff spoke in opposition to committee recommendations.

Key Points:

- The repetition of voices at the microphone was a common concern.
- Emphasis on trusting the committee process and avoiding unnecessary debate.
- Appreciation for the transparency and humor displayed by leadership.
- Some responses challenged the framing of the participation question itself, arguing that it reinforces divisions among Conference members.

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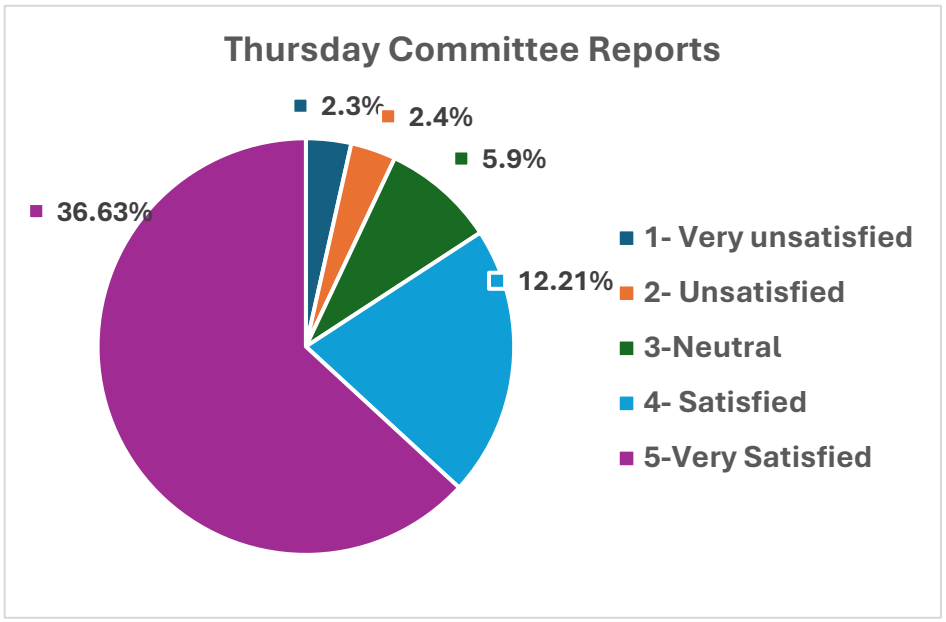

Successes:

- Numerous comments praised co-chairs for their professionalism and patience in keeping the Conference moving smoothly.
- Deep appreciation for the committees' diligence and preparedness. Reports were thoughtful, well-written, and instrumental.
- The day was highly productive; the decision to shorten sharing time was widely supported and viewed as successful.

Opportunities:

- The repetition of comments detracted from efficiency.
- Trustees were praised for stepping up when needed, others were perceived as speaking too frequently.
- Discomfort with floor actions being introduced as committee recommendations.

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Cancellation of Thursday's General Sharing Session

The Thursday General Sharing Session was canceled during the Conference to allow more time for committee reports. This decision, made with broad agreement among participants, generated a wide range of feedback reflecting both support and concern.

Key Observations:

- Need to prioritize committee work due to the volume and complexity of agenda items.
- Disappointment, emphasizing the value of sharing sessions for building trust, exchanging ideas, and fostering unity.

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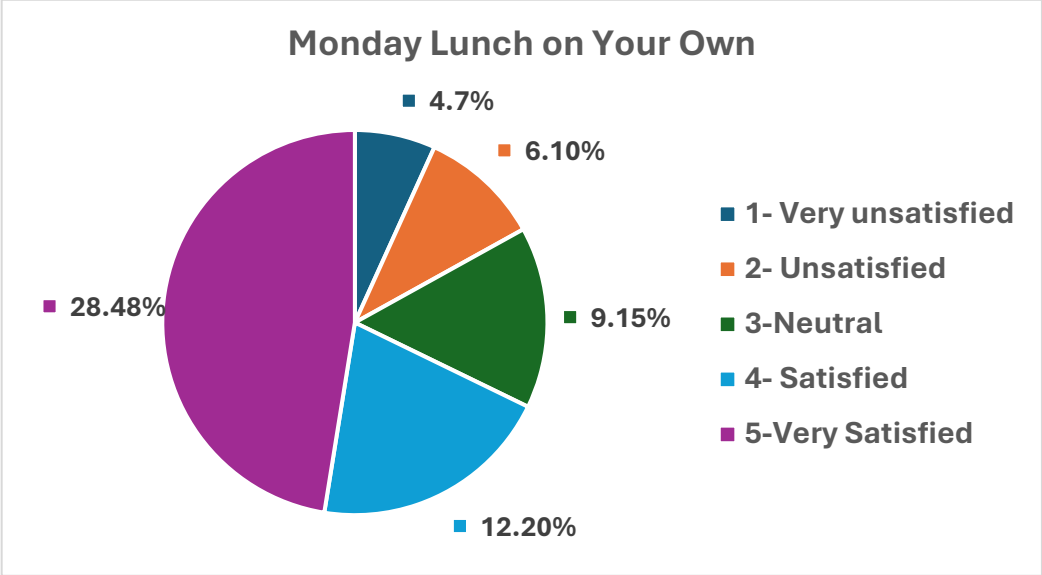

Successes:

- Appreciated the opportunity to step away from the Conference environment.
- Break allowed for rest, informal connection with peers, and a refreshing change of pace from structured sessions.

Opportunities:

- Some committees worked through lunch, which limited their ability to take advantage of the “on your own” option.
- Challenges such as long lines, limited food options, and insufficient time.

Emotional and Social Considerations:

- A small number of participants felt isolated during lunch, with one noting the awkwardness of eating alone and difficulty joining groups.

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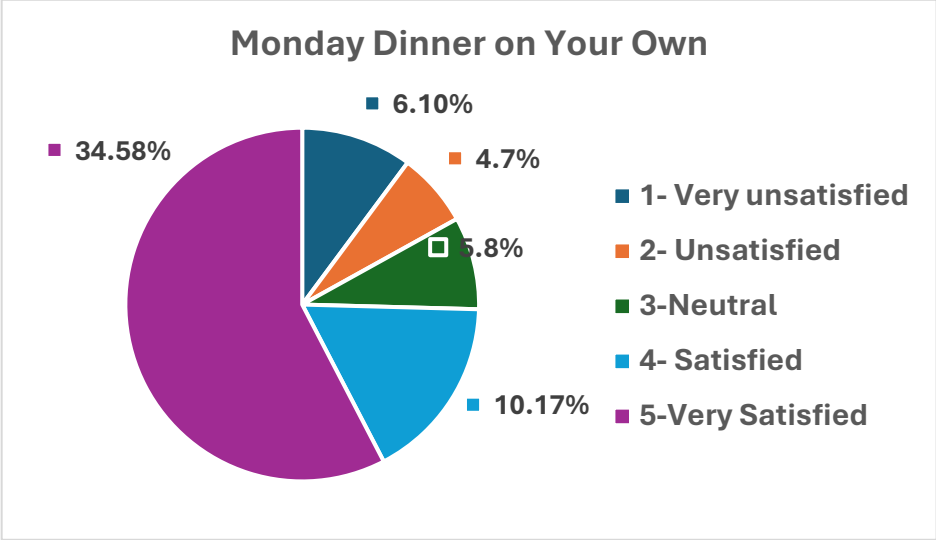

Successes:

- Participants indicating strong approval.
- Many appreciated the chance to leave the hotel, reconnect with their plus ones, and decompress.

Opportunities:

- Some committees worked through dinner, limiting their ability to participate.
- Some found off-site dining stressful due to time constraints or expressed discomfort eating alone.

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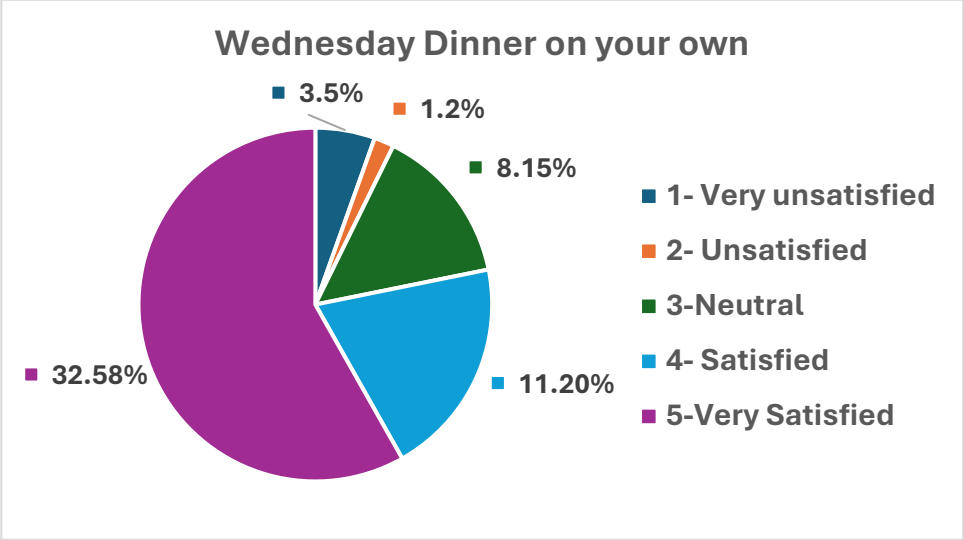

Successes:

- The chance to step away from the hotel and enjoy fresh air, good food, and meaningful conversations was a recurring theme.
- Participants valued the opportunity to dine with regional groups, new friends, or quietly with close companions.

Opportunities:

- Dinner was too short, especially for those involved in committee work or late sessions.
- Multiple “on your own” meals reduced opportunities for collective discussion and unity.

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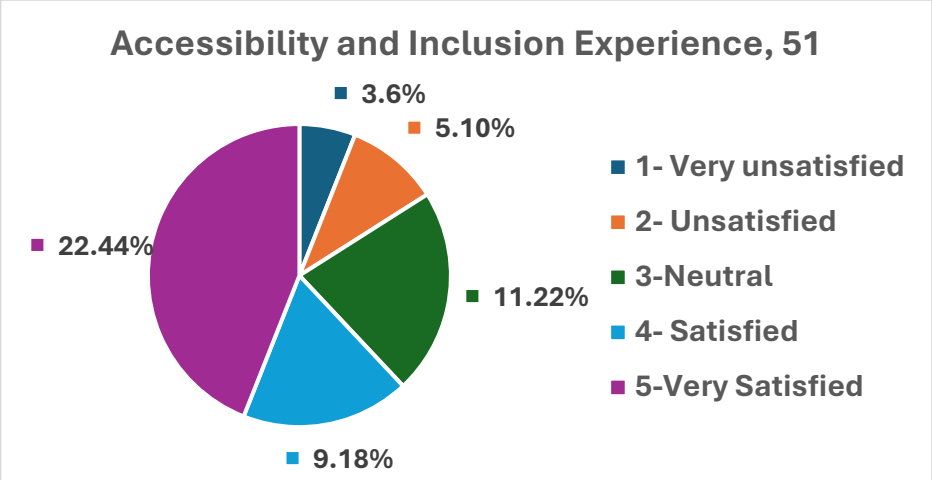

Successes:

- The venue was easy to navigate, elevators were efficient, and staff made efforts to ensure everyone felt welcome.
- Improvements in translation services and intentional pauses to ensure understanding were appreciated.

Opportunities:

- Hotel layout challenging, citing long distances between rooms and limited alternatives to escalators.
- Restrooms were crowded or difficult to access during short breaks.
- Lack of gender-neutral washrooms; absence of vegan meal options.

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Conference member participation

(not scored, narrative only)

General Sentiment:

- Most members felt that participation was appropriate and constructive.
- Staff contributions were generally viewed positively, with many noting that staff stepped in when needed and added valuable insight.
- Trustees and directors were often praised for their experience and thoughtful input, though some felt their influence could overshadow others.

Concerns Raised:

- A recurring theme was the over-participation of a small group of delegates and trustees, with some using every opportunity to speak — even when their input added little value.
- Frustration with repetitive comments and procedural inefficiencies, suggesting that time limits and stricter facilitation could improve flow.
- Evaluating participation levels, arguing that it could be divisive and counterproductive.

Diversity of Voices:

- While many felt that all voices were heard, others noted that some members spoke on nearly every item, while others were rarely heard. This imbalance raised concerns about the need to encourage broader engagement.
- Some participants expressed a desire for more input from non-delegate members, including staff and directors, whose perspectives were seen as underrepresented.

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Friday committee reports

(only narrative responses available)

Successes:

- Thorough Reports: The quality of the committee reports reflected deep commitment and collaboration.
- Inclusive Sharing: The extended opportunity to speak allowed everyone to be heard. This contributed to a sense of transparency and collective ownership of the process.
- Facilitation: Co-chairs were commended for their steady guidance and responsiveness. Extending the schedule allowed all reports to be heard.

Opportunities:

- Time Management: Frustration over the extended schedule and the need to spend additional funds to accommodate it. Participants urged more efficient use of time in future Conferences.
- Process Integrity: Committees strayed from agreed-upon agendas or introduced items without sufficient action. Concerns were raised about overreach and the need to respect the boundaries of committee work.
- Emotional Impact: The tone of certain floor actions and discussions was described as painful or unhealthy.

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Friday participation

(only narrative responses available)

Successes:

- Participation was appropriate and inclusive. Courage and transparency were shown by board members, staff, and delegates.

Opportunities:

- Concern about the dominance of a few who spoke repeatedly on multiple items. Suggestions included limiting shares to one per item and enforcing time limits from the outset.
- The censure discussion brought forward deep emotional responses. Some shared experiences of intimidation and harassment, while others felt that dismissive or defensive responses undermined the integrity of the conversation. The contrast in how behavior (vitriol vs. passion) was noted as a troubling double standard.
- Concerns were raised about floor actions being revisited after prior votes, and about inappropriate lobbying or pre-meeting strategizing. These actions were viewed as contrary to the spiritual principle of participation.
- Participants suggested clearer guidelines for sharing, more equitable facilitation, and stronger enforcement of respectful conduct. There was also a call to educate delegates more thoroughly before the Conference to ensure informed and balanced contributions.

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End of the Week review

(only narrative responses available)

Successes:

- The Conference coordinator, and co-chairs were widely commended for their professionalism, grace, and ability to guide the process through challenging moments.
- The depth of discussion and the opportunity to contribute meaningfully was described as “life-changing,” “spiritual,” and “beautiful.”
- The tone was seen as more respectful and hopeful. A shift toward healing and collaboration, especially among Panel 75 delegates.

Opportunities:

- The introduction and handling of a censure motion created significant emotional disruption. Many felt it drained the room of joy and unity, with some describing it as punitive and divisive.
- Reports of verbal altercations, dismissive behavior, and lack of intervention during conflicts raised concerns about safety and respect. Some delegates felt unsupported or demeaned during vulnerable moments.
- The schedule was described as grueling, with limited breaks and long sessions contributing to physical and emotional fatigue. Suggestions included more structured time management and better access to facilities.
- Feedback pointed to a lack of diversity in age and thought, and concerns about cliques and pre-conference strategizing that undermined the spirit of open dialogue.

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French and Spanish Interpretation Services

(only narrative responses available)

Successes:

- Interpreters were praised for their professionalism, dedication, and effectiveness.
- The interpretation booths and rapid posting of translated materials in three languages were seen as significant enhancements to the event's accessibility.
- Feedback from those who used the services, as well as observations from others, indicated that the interpretation was accurate, timely, and helpful.
- Even among those who did not use the services, there was a strong sense of gratitude for their availability.

Opportunities:

- Enhance efficiency and reduce costs.
- Broader engagement or feedback mechanisms.

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Reflections on the Closing of the 75th Conference

(only narrative responses available)

Attendees appreciated the farewell talks delivered by rotating trustees, describing them as insightful, emotional, and spiritually grounding. Many felt these talks were among the most meaningful moments of the week, offering closure and inspiration.

Some expressed disappointment that outgoing delegates were not given the same opportunity to speak, reinforcing concerns about perceived hierarchies and an “us versus them” dynamic between trustees, staff, and delegates.

Feedback also highlighted logistical considerations, such as the timing of sessions and the need for more space to express gratitude and connect personally. Several comments noted the emotional toll of Friday’s sessions and suggested a later start on Saturday to allow for recovery and reflection.

Despite some tensions and critiques — particularly around transparency, respect, and inclusivity — the overall sentiment was one of appreciation for the service and dedication of all involved. The Conference was seen as a vital space for spiritual growth, shared responsibility, and the ongoing evolution of A.A.’s mission.

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Overall Conference experience

(only narrative responses available)

The 75th Conference was a deeply impactful and emotionally charged experience for attendees, marked by both spiritual growth and organizational challenges. Feedback from participants reveals a complex tapestry of gratitude, exhaustion, inspiration, and concern.

Successes:

- Attendees described the Conference as transformative, spiritually enriching, and professionally executed, with high praise for the General Service Board, staff, and interpreters.
- The Conference inventory was widely seen as a success, fostering unity and progress.
- Delegates expressed deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve and connect with peers, often highlighting the dedication and grace of leadership.
- The committee work and collaborative spirit were frequently cited as highlights, with several participants eager to return next year.

Opportunities:

- A recurring theme was emotional fatigue.
- Attendees voiced concerns about interpersonal conflicts, gossip, and floor actions that introduced tension and detracted from the Conference's purpose.
- Calls for greater transparency, healing, and respectful dialogue, especially in light of incidents involving alleged misconduct and censure motions.
- Logistical issues, such as overloaded agendas, expensive accommodations, and limited time for reflection, were noted as areas for improvement.

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Overall Conference experience pt 2

(only narrative responses available)

Successes:

- Attendees found the Conference spiritually enriching and emotionally meaningful, praising the leadership, collaborative spirit, and the opportunity to bond with fellow members.
- The event was generally well-organized, with timely meals, effective meeting structures, and a strong sense of purpose throughout the week.
- The Conference coordinator and support staff received widespread gratitude for their dedication and professionalism.

Opportunities:

- Repeated concerns were raised about the lack of variety in meals, absence of microwaves and coffee makers in rooms, and the high cost of hotel food. Many suggested more “meals on your own” to reduce expenses and increase flexibility.
- Alternate between in-person and virtual formats to reduce costs, start sessions later to allow for rest, and incorporate more time for committee work and sharing sessions.
- Attendees advocated for better support for non-English speakers, more vegan options, and opportunities for guests to participate in select events like the opening banquet.
- There were reported delays in reimbursement and suggestions for clearer communication and tracking mechanisms for expenses.

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2026 Conference Committee on Agenda

ITEM E: Discuss progress report on Conference improvements.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the February 2026 trustees' General Service Conference Committee meeting:

> The committee received the Subcommittee on Conference Improvements (SCI) report and agreed to forward the SCI report to the 2026 Conference Committee on Agenda.

Excerpts from the November 2025 trustees' General Service Conference Committee meeting:

> The committee reviewed a progress report from the Subcommittee on Conference Improvements (SCI). The committee postponed a decision to forward the SCI report until the Q1 2026 General Service Board weekend.

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' General Service Conference Committee meeting:

> The committee agreed to assign the following items to the Subcommittee on Conference Improvements, and looks forward to a progress report at their November 2025 meeting:

- Conference Evaluations
- Conference Week Schedule
- Sunday Opening Banquet
- Revision to "How the Conference Operates"

2025 Conference Committee on Agenda additional committee consideration:

> The committee reviewed the 2025 progress report on Conference Improvements and appreciated the thoughtful and thorough efforts to incorporate improvements based on feedback from Conference members. The committee appreciated the reinstatement of the Saturday Meet-and-Greet gathering. The committee also noted the effort to address improving the Conference mechanics by revising "How the Conference Operates." The committee agreed that the ability to make Floor Actions during the opening session should be allowed in cases of urgency or importance.

Background:

1. 2026 Subcommittee on Conference Improvements report

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AGENDA
Item E
Doc. 1

Trustees' General Service Conference Committee (TGSCC)
Subcommittee on Conference Improvements (SCI) Report
January 16, 2026

Subcommittee: Carolyn W., chair; Reilly K., Kerry M. and Rainer L., secretary

The subcommittee was appointed with the following scope:

- Review targeted and broad feedback from the General Service Conference evaluations.
- Review the draft of the 2026 Conference week schedule.
- Committee considerations focused on improving the Conference experience.

The subcommittee is also charged through the scope of the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference with suggesting ways to improve:

- Participation of all Conference members.
- Scheduling.
- Communication with all Conference members.

Annual report: The subcommittee met five times between August 2025 and January 2026. Following their review of the 2025 Conference evaluations, the subcommittee suggested the following improvements regarding the 76th General Service Conference (GSC):

Pre-Conference

- Scheduling 30 minute in-person Joint Committee meetings on Sunday.
  - These meetings would be included within the Conference week schedule.
  - The subcommittee recommended setting a window for any additional virtual meetings which are requested, potentially from March 20 to April 4, 2026. The virtual joint meetings are optional for committees that would like more than the 30 minutes scheduled in person at the Conference.
- The Remote Communities meeting should stay virtual.
  - It should be scheduled well in advance.
  - It should be included within a comprehensive pre-schedule.
  - The first week in April may be an ideal time for the Remote Communities meeting.
- The pre-Conference event schedule should be released on the same timeline as the Conference week's schedule.
- Pre-Conference Housekeeping meetings should be included on this calendar.
  - There should be clear definition for the Housekeeping meetings and the timeframe for their scheduling.

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- Meals on your own were well-received and should be continued within an exploration of spacing these out differently during the Conference week.

During Conference

- That Saturday evening Meet & Greet continues.
  - Invitations should be extended to Conference guests and the New York hospitality committee.
  - Exploring limited hors d'oeuvres, snacks, or one-handed finger foods.
- Pausing on any changes to the Opening Dinner.
  - To continue with the 2025 practices.
  - Communications should emphasize what we are doing and why, the spiritual benefit, and the ongoing opportunity to provide feedback through the Conference evaluation.
- Asking the co-chairs to provide the "How the Conference Operates" document for use at the 76th General Service Conference.
  - Dealing with this document through proactive communication.
- Retaining the 8am-12pm times for committee work.
  - Communicating that the hours for committee work were extended in 2025 as a means of balancing out the lengths of Conference workdays.
- Moving to one-minute sharing earlier in the week at the 75th General Service Conference was noted and appreciated.
- Reporting times were established for Inventory Implementation. These were scheduled through two sessions: one to focus on reporting and general discussion on the committee's process and considerations; a second to focus on committee recommendations, active discussion and voting on committee recommendations.
- A presentation from the Cross-Functional Communications group was added to Monday evening.
- Friday night was noted to have a hard stop at 9pm based upon contracted limits with hotel services, DOTS voting, and interpretation.

After Conference

- Continuing the trip to Stepping Stones.
  - Attaching the trip to the Conference schedule.
  - Clearly noting that the trip happens independently of Conference activities.
  - Provide clear advanced communication to support plans for participation.
  - That the trip be included on a "pay your own way" basis.
  - For Conference members to respond in advance to allow the appropriate number of buses to be booked.
  - That Conference members be invited to include their guest.

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- That communication clearly states that Conference covers the Friday night hotel room but no additional nights for those staying Saturday night for the Stepping Stones trip.
- That the buses have planned departure times that allow for a shared experience between area delegates and other Conference members, noting that some Conference members must attend Saturday's board meetings.

Meals: The committee explored varying the timing of meals on your own to space these out during the week in accordance with other needs within the week's schedule. The committee discussed the benefits and prudence of continuing a practice of meals on your own within the challenges of standing meetings during delegates-only dinners, trustees dinners, secondary committee meetings, and corporate board dinners.

Lunch	Dinner
Sunday – regional lunches / at the hotel	Sunday – Opening Dinner
Monday – at the hotel	Monday – on your own (extended time)
Tuesday – on your own	Tuesday – delegates-only dinner / trustees dinner / others on their own (extended time)
Wednesday – regional lunches / others on their own	Wednesday – secondary committee dinners / on-site dining for others
Thursday – secondary committee lunches / others on their own	Thursday – corporate board dinners / others on their own
Friday – at the hotel	Friday – at the hotel

Review 2026 Evaluation Questions: The subcommittee discussed additions, removals, and re-wording of evaluation questions. Some items no longer require feedback/case-specific evaluation, such as the meals on your own. The subcommittee thought these questions may also be consolidated rather than itemized across each instance. Additional language was added to clarify access to each day's evaluation forms and the deadline for post-Conference responses.

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2026 Conference Committee on Agenda

ITEM F: Discuss offering 10 minutes of presentation time during the General Service Conference to *La Vigne*. (PAI 91)

Background notes:

Excerpts from the trustees' General Service Conference Committee meeting report:

> The committee considered a proposal that "the Board of Editions *La Vigne* obtain a maximum of 10 minutes at each Conference to present the magazine" and **agreed to forward** to the 2026 Conference Committee on Agenda. The committee recognized the appreciation of *La Vigne* expressed at the 61st General Service Conference. The committee suggested that additional time could be appended to the presentation of Eastern Canada's Area Highlights, ideally on Sunday or Monday, to allow for a presentation prior to the conclusion of committee work.

Secretary's note: An Advisory Action in 2011 stated that "The 61st General Service Conference expressed its appreciation and gratitude for the French-language magazine La Vigne*, the value it has for French-speaking members of Alcoholics Anonymous and the respect* La Vigne *has shown for the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.*

Background:

1. PAI 91 submission form

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(1) **Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.**
"Proposition à l'ordre du jour en vue de la 76e Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes : Le Conseil d'administration des Éditions La Vigne, qui inclu les délégué.e.s des quatre régions de la province de Québec (Canada) et l'appui unanime de tous les membres des quatre régions du Québec (Région 87, Région 88, Région 89, Région 90), souhaite soumettre une demande à la Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes d'obtenir une fenêtre d'un maximum de 10 minutes à chaque Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes afin de présenter le magazine « La Vigne 2.0 ». Proposed Agenda Item for the 76th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous: The Board of Éditions La Vigne, which includes delegates from the four areas of the province of Quebec (Canada) and the unanimous support of all members of the four areas of Quebec (Area 87, Area 88, Area 89, Area 90), wishes to submit a request to the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous to obtain a maximum of 10 minutes at each General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous to present the magazine "La Vigne 2.0."""
(2) **What problem does this proposed item address?**
"L'absence de reconnaissance de la contribution essentielle à la transmission du message des AA par les travailleurs bénévoles des Éditions de La Vigne AA envers les membres actuels et futurs de la communauté AA francophone à travers l'Amérique de Nord et de partout dans le monde. The lack of recognition of the essential contribution made by the volunteers at Éditions de La Vigne AA to carry the AA message to current and future members of the French-speaking AA community throughout North America and around the world."
(3) **What level of group conscience, if any, discussed the proposed agenda item? Make it clear who is submitting the item (an individual, group, district, area, etc.).**
Note: While all items are received equally, experience has shown that ideas greatly benefit from the value of a broader group conscience. Consider if and with whom you would like to have a group conscience discussion on the proposed agenda item prior to submitting.
"Le Conseil d'administration des Éditions La Vigne, qui inclu les délégué.e.s des quatre régions de la province de Québec (Canada) et l'appui unanime de tous les membres des quatre régions du Québec, souhaite soumettre une demande à la Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes d'obtenir une fenêtre d'un maximum de 10 minutes à chaque Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes afin de présenter le magazine « La Vigne 2.0 ». The Board of Éditions La Vigne, which includes delegates from the four areas of the province of Quebec (Canada) and the unanimous support of all members of the four areas of Quebec, wishes to submit a request to the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous to obtain a

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maximum of 10 minutes at each General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous to present the magazine “La Vigne 2.0.”"

(4) **Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:**

"Reconnu lors de la 64e Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes comme le magazine des AA francophones de la structure de la Conférence des États-Unis et du Canada, La Vigne 2.0 est le magazine des AA francophones de la structure de la Conférence des États-Unis et du Canada, et sert les membres des AA de langue française aux États-Unis et au Canada.

Une présentation d’un maximum de 10 minutes serait faite par l’un des quatre délégués du Québec présents à chaque Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes dans la langue de son choix. Cette présentation aurait pour but de souligner le travail de l’équipe entièrement bénévole des Éditions La Vigne qui produit à tous les deux mois le magazine La Vigne 2.0 qui est tiré à 5 250 exemplaires à chaque publication.

Recognized at the 64th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous as the magazine of French-speaking AA members in the United States and Canada Conference structure, La Vigne 2.0 is the magazine of French-speaking AA members in the United States and Canada Conference structure and serves French-speaking AA members in the United States and Canada.

A presentation of no more than 10 minutes would be given by one of the four Quebec delegates attending each General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in the language of their choice. The purpose of this presentation would be to highlight the work of the entirely volunteer team at Éditions La Vigne, which produces the bimonthly magazine La Vigne 2.0, with a print run of 5,250 copies per issue."

(5) **What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?**

"Nous croyons que cette présentation permettrait de mieux faire connaître le magazine La Vigne 2.0 auprès des membres de la Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes, de souligner sa contribution essentielle à la transmission du message des AA en français en Amérique du Nord, et de renforcer le lien d’appartenance des membres francophones à la structure de la Conférence des Services généraux des États-Unis et du Canada.

We believe that this presentation would raise awareness of the magazine La Vigne 2.0 among members of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous, highlight its essential contribution to carrying the AA message in French in North America, and strengthen the sense of belonging among French-speaking members to the General Service Conference structure in the United States and Canada."

(6) **Provide a primary contact for the submission.**

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"André D.
Delegate A87P74

(7) **Final comments:**

"Merci de votre attention. Amour & Service. Les membres AA des quatre Régions du Québec.

Thanks for your consideration. Love & Service. All Members of Quebec Four Areas."

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