IX Report & Charter-EN

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 Report and Charter

ITEM A: *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2026-2028 Edition

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1. Review list of editorial updates.*
2. Consider request to remove a quote from Dr. Bob in *The A.A. Service Manual*.
3. Review progress report on the development of a new "Amendments" section to be added to *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

Background note:

Items A.1, A.2, and A.3 are included under separate covers with their respective background material.

This item is for committee eyes only.

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2026 Conference Committee on Report and Charter

ITEM A.1: Review list of editorial updates to *The A.A. Service Manual*.

Background notes:

From the 2024 Conference Committee on Report and Charter additional Committee Consideration:

> The committee underwent a multiyear process of assessing the accuracy and effectiveness of the redesigned 2021-2023 edition of *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*. While further functional clarity is needed, in order to prevent a further delay in printing, a significant number of revisions were identified and corrected. The committee requests that the General Service Board assign a dedicated trustee liaison to the Report and Charter Conference Committee to ensure the accurate implementation of those revisions to the 2024-2026 *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* for printing in 2024.

Secretary's note: Following the additional Committee Consideration suggesting that a corresponding committee be assigned to ensure the accurate implementation of Report and Charter Conference Committee revisions to *The A.A. Service Manual*, an ad hoc committee of the General Service Board was formed to review the changes and the draft of the "Amendments" section, for which a progress report has been provided, under separate cover.

From the 2018 General Service Conference Advisory Action:

The General Service Board, the AAWS Board and the AA Grapevine Board review *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* and forward necessary updates to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter biennially, only in printing years.

From the 2009 General Service Conference Advisory Action:

The General Service Board, the AAWS Board and the A.A. Grapevine Board annually review *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* and forward necessary updates to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

Background:

1. Editorial Grid*

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2026 Conference Committee on Report and Charter

ITEM A.2: Consider a request to remove a quote from Dr. Bob in *The A.A. Service Manual*.

Background note:

Excerpt from the trustees' General Service Conference Committee November 2, 2025, meeting report:

> The committee reviewed a request to remove the quote by Dr. Bob in "The Service Sponsor" section of the GSR chapter on page 10 of *The A.A. Service Manual* and **agreed to forward** to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter for consideration during the General Service Conference.

Background:

1. PAI 9

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(1) **Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.**
"I motion that an Advisory Action be passed to remove the quote by Dr. Bob in The Service Sponsor section of the GSR chapter on page 10 of the AA Service Manual. The quote: Co-founder Dr. Bob said, "I spend a great deal of time passing on what I learned to others who want and need it badly. I do it for four reasons: 1. Sense of duty. 2. It is a pleasure. 3. Because in doing so I am paying my debt to the man who took time to pass it on to me. 4. Because every time I do it I take out a little more insurance for myself against a possible slip."
(2) **What problem does this proposed item address?**
This motion addresses the problem that this quote from co-founder, Dr. Bob is completely out of context in the Service Manual and was not written to address service sponsorship. It paints a faulty picture of Dr. Bob's role as it relates to service sponsorship and General Service since he died before General Service and Conference were established. It's dishonest to present co-founder Dr. Bob in this way.
(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.
"While I agree in the value of a group conscience, there is no level of group conscience attached to this proposed agenda item. I do not read the Service Manual with my group. Therefore, this proposed agenda item is submitted by an individual, Cindy B. Jaywalkers Group, District 11, Area 14 in Central Florida. I read the Service Manual with my sponsees and come across this out-of-context quote on a regular basis. It causes confusion as to Dr. Bob's role in service sponsorship and General Service. I discuss with my sponsees how Dr. Bob's quote is out of context and how this portion of Dr. Bob's story was written well before General Service and the Service Manual were established and should not be in the AA Service Manual. I have discussed this issue with my service sponsor and have shared with her this PAI before submitting."
(4) **Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:**
"The date of Dr. Bob's story in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous is 1939. Dr. Bob died in 1950. The first General Service Conference was April 1951, one year after Dr. Bob's death. There is no way that quote relates to service sponsorship and General Service and the timeline supports it."

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(5) **What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?**
"If this proposed item is approved it will be removed from the Service Manual and clear up any confusion alcoholics may have as to why it is in there since it is completely out of context. It will also clear up the faulty picture of Dr. Bob as it relates to service sponsorship and General Service. Removing the quote will not change the information presented to GSRs on page 10 of the AA Service Manual. It is not needed."
(6) **Provide a primary contact for the submission.**
Cindy B. Jaywalker's Group, District 11, Area 14
(7) **Final comments:**
Thank you for your consideration.

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2026 Conference Committee on Report and Charter

ITEM A.3: Review progress report on the development of a new "Amendments" section to be added to *The A.A. Service Manual*/*Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

Background notes:

From the 2025 Conference Committee on Report and Charter additional Committee Consideration:

> The committee reviewed the progress report for the development of the new section "Amendments" to be added to the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*. The committee carefully reviewed the thoughtful discussions following the 2021 Advisory Action and provided suggestions on the organization and format of the section. The committee requested that the Staff secretary send a memo to AAWS Publishing clarifying the intention and rationale, and that it be considered in the development of an introduction to the "Amendments" section. The committee looks forward to a draft of this suggested version being included in the Report and Charter background for the Fellowship to review in preparation for the 76th General Service Conference.

From the 2024 Conference Committee on Report and Charter additional Committee Consideration:

> The committee reviewed the draft of the new section "Amendments" to be added to the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*. The committee agreed that a full re-examination is needed to achieve the intent of this section and be of benefit to the Fellowship as a clear source of reference. The committee requests that the General Service Board review the draft along with the committee's feedback and provide an updated draft or progress report to the 2025 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.
>
> *Secretary's Note:* Following the additional Committee Consideration suggesting that a corresponding committee be assigned to ensure the accurate implementation of Report and Charter Conference Committee revisions to *The A.A. Service Manual*, an ad hoc committee of the General Service Board was formed to review the changes and the draft of the "Amendments" section, for which a progress report has been provided.

From the 2023 General Service Conference Advisory Action:

> That a full rewrite be conducted of chapters 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 to correct inaccuracies and to better clarify the roles, responsibilities and relationships between the General Service Office, AA Grapevine and A.A. World Services, Inc. in *The A.A. Service Manual* and that the trustees' Literature Committee forward these draft sections or a progress report to the 2024 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

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From the 2021 General Service Conference Advisory Action:

> A new section be added at the end of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* titled "Amendments," and that it contains an updated version of the Concept XI essay that incorporates the information in the current footnotes and endnotes, along with comprehensive descriptions of the current General Service Board committees, and that a draft or progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

Background:

1. "Amendments" section draft*

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2026 Conference Committee on Committee on Report and Charter

ITEM B: Discuss the General Service Conference *Final Report*.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the Report and Charter Conference Committee Composition, Scope and Procedure:

> The conference committee is responsible for proposing any change considered desirable for changing and improving the format, method of reporting, style or content of the Conference *Final Report*.

Background:

1. 2025 General Service Conference *Final Report*

Note: The electronic anonymity-protected version that is available on the aa.org website is linked above.

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2026 Conference Committee on Committee on Report and Charter

ITEM C: Discuss workflow and anonymizing practices for the *Final Conference Report*.

Background notes:

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

The committee was asked to consider forwarding the topic of *Final Conference Report* workflow to the Conference Committee on Report & Charter. The language within a 2017 Advisory Action regarding "the current print version" would require Conference review and approval to distribute only an anonymized *Final Conference Report*, both in the digital and print versions. The committee considered the topic worthwhile for potential labor savings and consistency of practices and agreed to forward the topic to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

From the 2017 Conference Advisory Action (Policy and Admissions):

Starting with the 67th General Service Conference, an anonymity-protected, digital *Final Conference Report* be published in addition to the current print version.

Secretary's note: Because the print edition of the *Final Conference Report* includes full names, the draft must be anonymized for digital distribution and posting on aa.org, then subsequently revised to restore names. This process necessitates archiving six documents for each Conference year (print and digital versions for English, French and Spanish.)

Background:

1. 2025 General Service Conference *Final Report*

Note: The electronic anonymity-protected version that is available on the aa.org website is linked above.

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2026 Conference Committee on Committee on Report and Charter

ITEM D: Discuss progress on classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine literature.

Background notes:

From the 2025 General Service Conference Advisory Actions:

The General Service Board classify all AAWS and AA Grapevine literature written prior to 1971 as Recovery, Service, or Archival/Historical; review existing policies and consider proposing additional policies as appropriate for updating each classification, and that a progress report be provided to the 2026 General Service Conference.

Excerpt from the November 2, 2024, trustees' General Service Conference Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed a request to expand Article Three in the Conference Charter to protect the co-founders' writings and agreed to forward to the 2025 Conference Committee on Report and Charter and include PAIs 15, 26 and 109 as additional background.

Background:

1. Progress Report – GSB Chair verbal update

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