

76th General Service Conference Committees

Below are the final agenda items for the 76th General Service Conference (GSC) committees as of February 2026, which includes standing items for each committee, ongoing items from the prior Conference, and new items that are being forwarded to the Conference.

The final list of agenda items includes the committee distribution by the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) plan.

Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) Process Summary

Question – Why do some agenda items seem to be misplaced?

Answer – The EDW process allows new agenda items to be assigned to Conference Committees with shorter agendas.

The EDW process was developed to provide a fair and balanced experience for all Conference members. EDW addresses the issue of uneven committee workloads by assigning some new agenda items to less busy committees. This allows for more meaningful participation across the Conference and helps distribute work more evenly.

Each year, the EDW Subcommittee reviews November's preliminary Conference agenda and proposes adjustments to balance committee workloads. Their plan is reviewed and approved by the trustees' General Service Conference Committee, then forwarded to the General Service Board for final approval during the January Board Weekend. The approved EDW plan is reflected in February's final Conference agenda.

The 2021 General Service Conference started a three-year EDW trial (2022–2024). After the third year, the 2024 General Service Conference formally approved the EDW process after gathering feedback through surveys and sharing sessions.

Agenda Items

1. Agenda

- a. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2027 General Service Conference.
 - b. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference.
 - c. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference.
 - d. Review the 2026 General Service Conference Evaluation Form and the 2025 Evaluation Summary.
 - e. Discuss progress report on Conference improvement.
 - f. Discuss offering 10 minutes of presentation time during the General Service Conference to La Vigne. (PAI 91)
-

2. Cooperation with Professional Community

- a. Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.
 - b. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals.
 - c. Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.
 - d. Review progress report on the effective use of CPC videos on aa.org.
 - e. Consider a request that stand-alone audio/visual clips be created when developing any new/revised videos for professionals.
-

3. Corrections

- a. Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.
 - b. Review progress report on development of a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A.
 - c. Consider a request to update the pamphlet "The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs."
-

4. Finance

- a. Review Self-Support Packet.
 - b. Discuss motion to add wording to Item F-3, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.”
 - c. Consider a request to create a Twelve Step study guide or workbook.
 - d. Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (GSC) (PAI-22).
-

5. Grapevine / La Vina

- a. Review AA Grapevine Workbook.
 - b. Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine and La Vina book topics for 2027 or after.
 - c. Review the five-year plans for both Grapevine and La Viña
 - d. Review the progress on the AA Grapevine survey of the membership to identify relevance, usefulness and financial viability of products and services provided by Grapevine, such as the magazines, books (print, digital, and audio), podcast and social media (Instagram and YouTube).
 - e. Review the AA Grapevine/LaViña Media Platforms report.
 - f. Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc., accept contributions.
-

6. Literature

- a. Annual review of recovery literature matrix.
- b. Review content and format of Literature Kit and Workbook.
- c. Review progress report on the development of the Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* – Spanish.
- d. Review draft of the Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.
- e. Review progress report on the update to the book *Living Sober*.
- f. Review progress report on the development of a *Plain Language Big Book* amendment process.
- g. Review progress report of subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book.
- h. Review progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian American alcoholic.

- i. Consider publishing the personal stories from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* not included in the draft Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.
-

7. Policy and Admissions

- a. Review GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
 - b. Review dates for the 2030 General Service Conference.
 - c. Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW)
 - i. Discuss the suggestion to discontinue the annual review of service kits and workbooks by Conference committees.
 - ii. Discuss the suggestion that a similar number of agenda items be assigned to each Conference Committee.
 - iii. Discuss creating a "Conference Committee on Digital Communications."
-

8. Public Information

- a. Review progress report on PSA Development and Review Plan
 - b. Review report on the GSO Podcast, "Our Primary Purpose."
 - c. Review report on AAWS YouTube Channel.
 - d. Review report on Google Ads.
 - e. Review report on Meeting Guide app.
 - f. Review report on GSO's A.A. website.
 - g. Review report for AAWS "Online Business Profiles."
 - h. Review AAWS Social Media Policy.
 - i. Review proposed plan for 2026 Membership Survey.
 - j. Review draft revision of the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" (P-47).
 - k. Review content and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook.
-

9. Report and Charter

- a. Discuss the A.A. Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition.

- i. Review list of editorial updates.
 - ii. Consider request to remove a quote from Dr. Bob in *The AA Service Manual*.
 - iii. 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*.
 - b. Discuss the General Service Conference Final Report.
 - c. Discuss workflow and anonymizing practices for the Final Conference Report.
 - d. Discuss progress on classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine Literature.
-

10. Treatment and Accessibilities

- a. Review progress report on the Military/Veteran Interview Project.
 - b. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
 - c. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
 - d. Review the A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility.
 - e. Consider a request to review locally produced safety-related video service material and provide input on the potential for this video service material to be adapted for use by GSO.
-

11. Trustees

- a. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - i. Pacific Regional Trustee
 - ii. Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
- b. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- c. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- d. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- e. Review Progress Report on process for receiving motions to censure.
- f. Review progress report on the revision to the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?”
- g. Consider a request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”

- h. Consider a request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
-

12. Archives

- a. Review content and format of Archives Workbook.
 - b. Consider a request to define eligibility for Area-level service for members residing outside of the geographic area they want to serve. (PAI 46)
-

13. International Conventions / Regional Forums

- a. Review progress report from Subcommittee on Inclusion of Sovereign State Flags in the IC Flag Ceremony.
 - b. Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.
-

14. Inventory Implementation

- a. Review Inventory Implementation Report.



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

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and acceptance of the trustees' General Service Conference Committee report.

A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2027 General Service Conference.....	3
AG-A0 Cover 2026 Themes.docx.....	3
AG-A1 2026 Suggestions.docx.....	4
AG-A2 2026 Historical List.docx.....	5
B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference.....	7
AG-B0 Cover 2026 Presentation Topics.docx.....	7
AG-B1 Suggested Presentation.docx.....	8
AG-B2 Historical List.docx.....	9
C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference.....	18
AG-C0 2026 WorkshopTopics.docx.....	18
AG-C1 2026 Workshop Suggestions.docx.....	19
AG-C2 2026 Historical List.docx.....	20
D. Review the 2026 General Service Conference Evaluation form and the 2025 Evaluation Summary.....	24
AG-D0 Cover Evaluations.docx.....	24
AG-D1 2026 Evaluation Questions.docx.....	26
AG-D2 2025 Evaluation Summary.docx.....	30
E. Discuss progress report on Conference improvement.....	78
AG-E0 Cover Page Conference Improvements.docx.....	78
AG-E1 Conference Improvements Update Report.docx.....	79
F. Discuss offering 10 minutes of presentation time during the General Service Conference to La Vigne. (PAI 91).....	82
AG-F0 Cover PAI 91.docx.....	82

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

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

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

**Themes of the General Service Conference
1951–2026**

Agenda
Item A
Doc. 2

- 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

**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

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

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

**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

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- 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

2 of 9

- 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

- 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

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- 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

5 of 9

- 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

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- 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

- 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

- 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

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

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

**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

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- 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

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- 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

3

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- 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

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.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

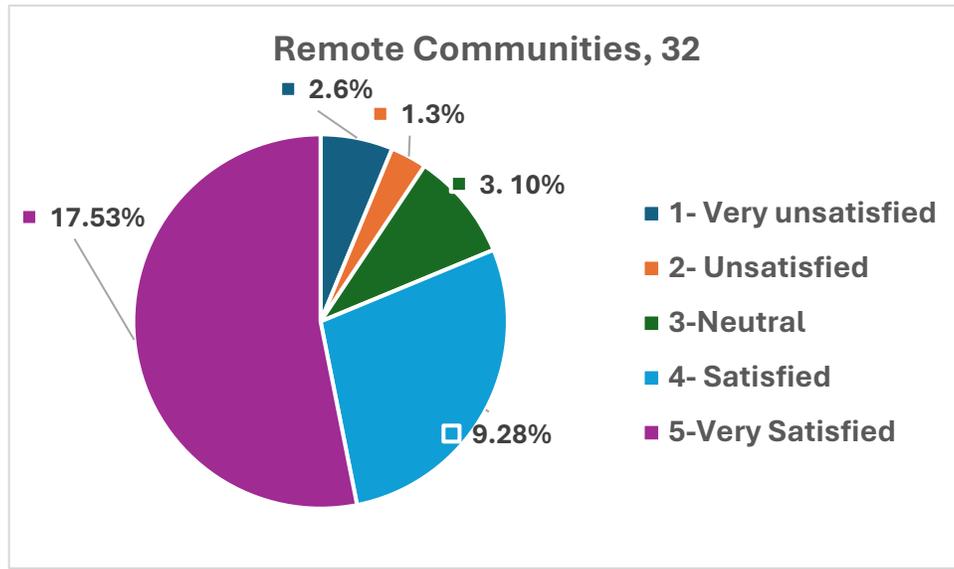
What's On Your Mind? / General Sharing Sessions

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.



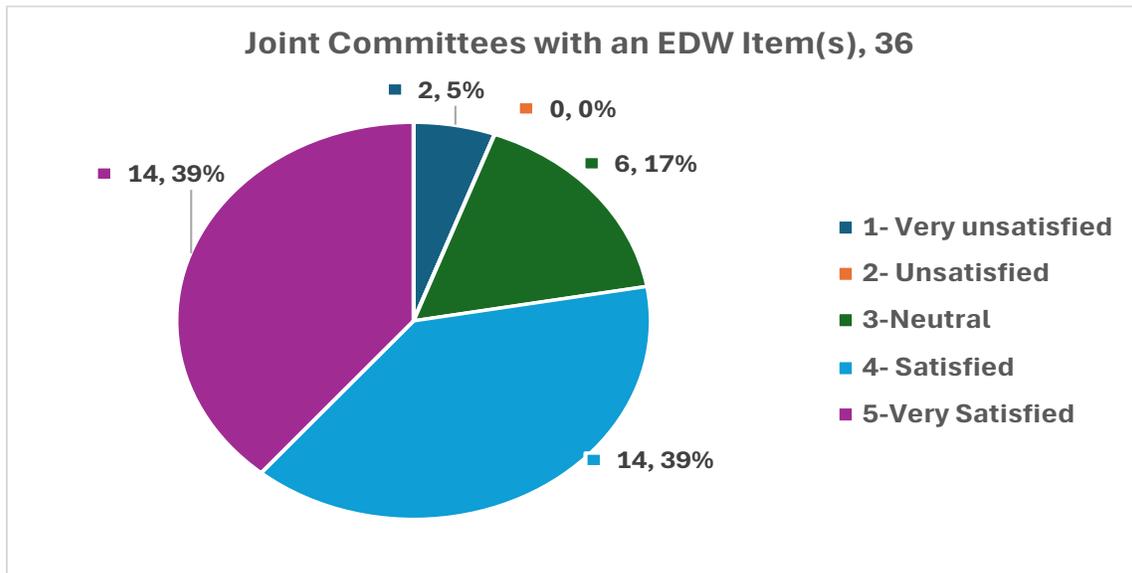
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



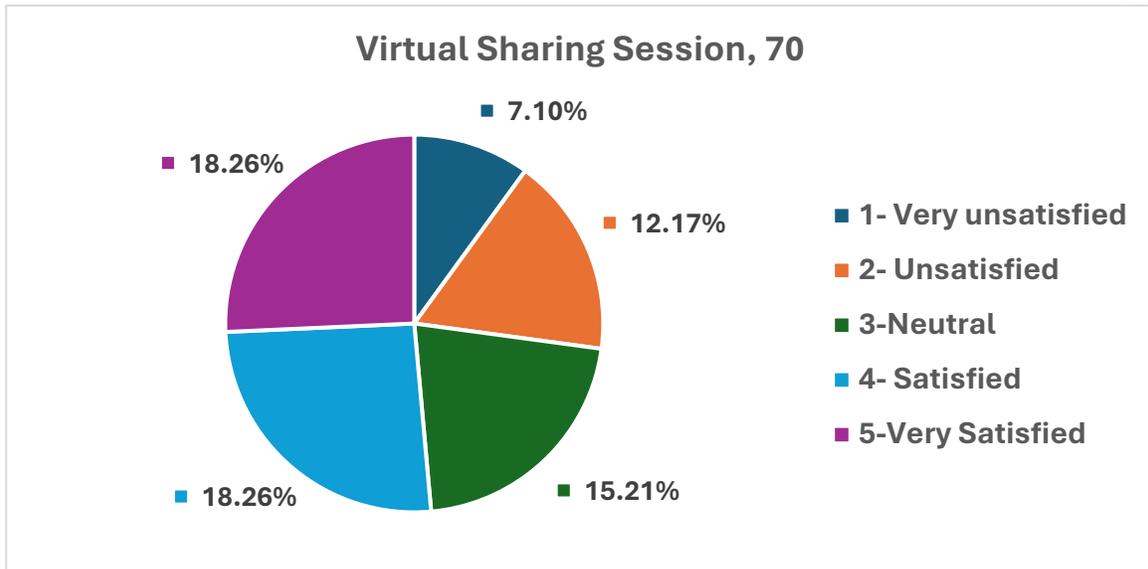
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

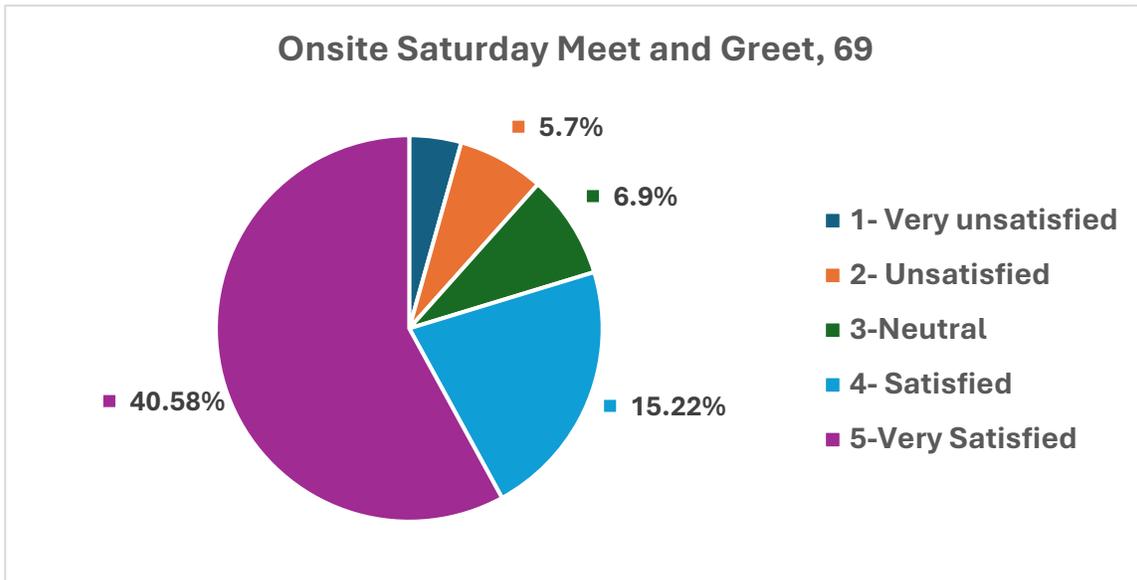


Successes:

- 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.



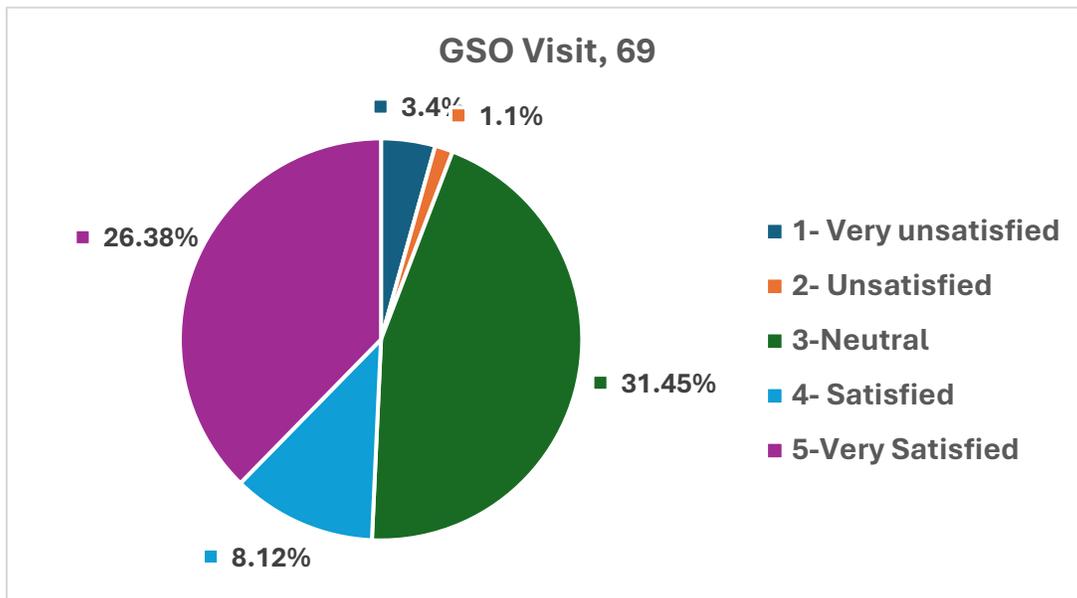
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



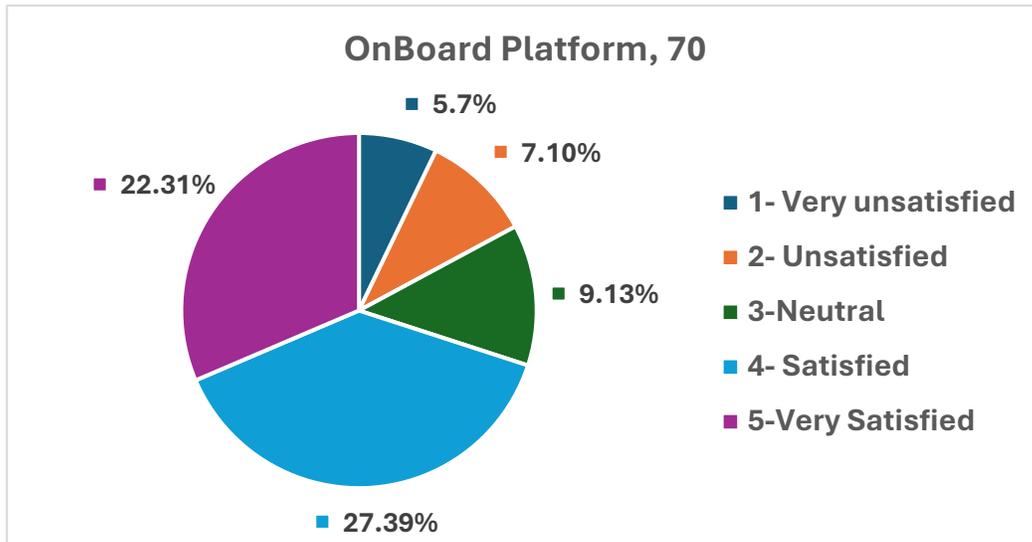
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



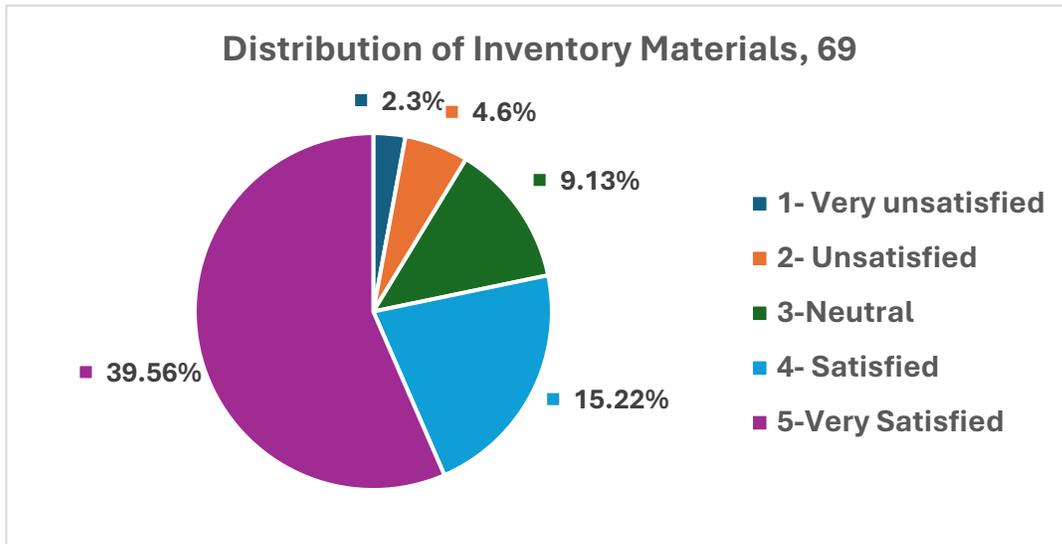
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



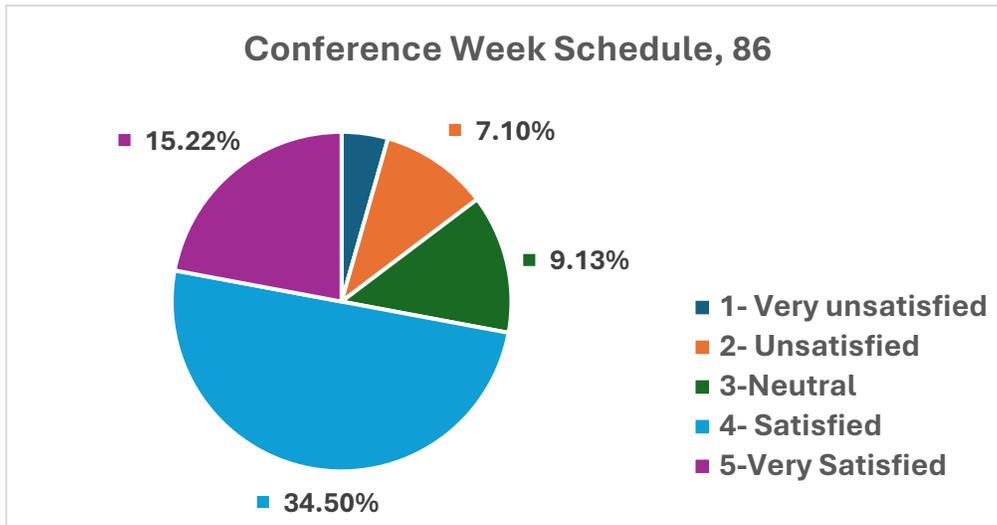
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



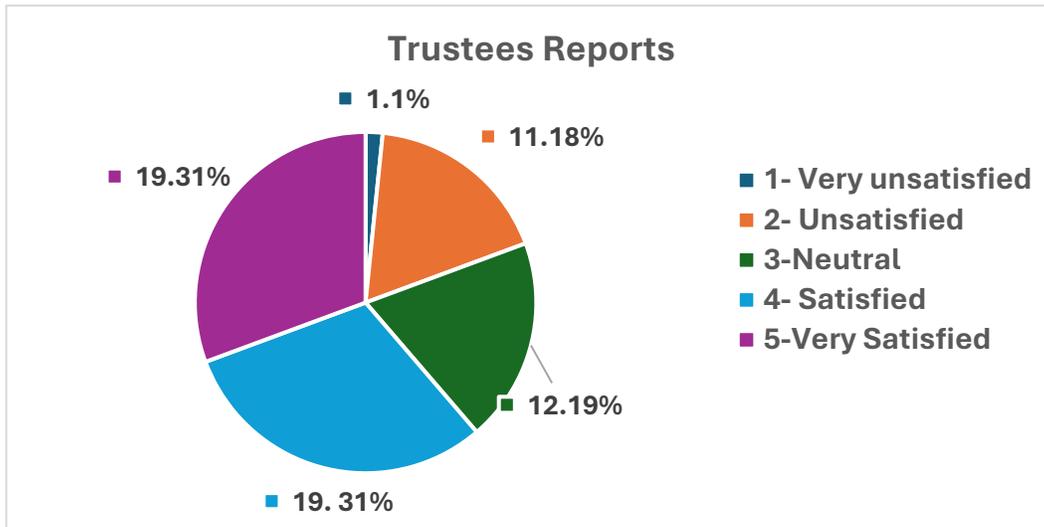
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



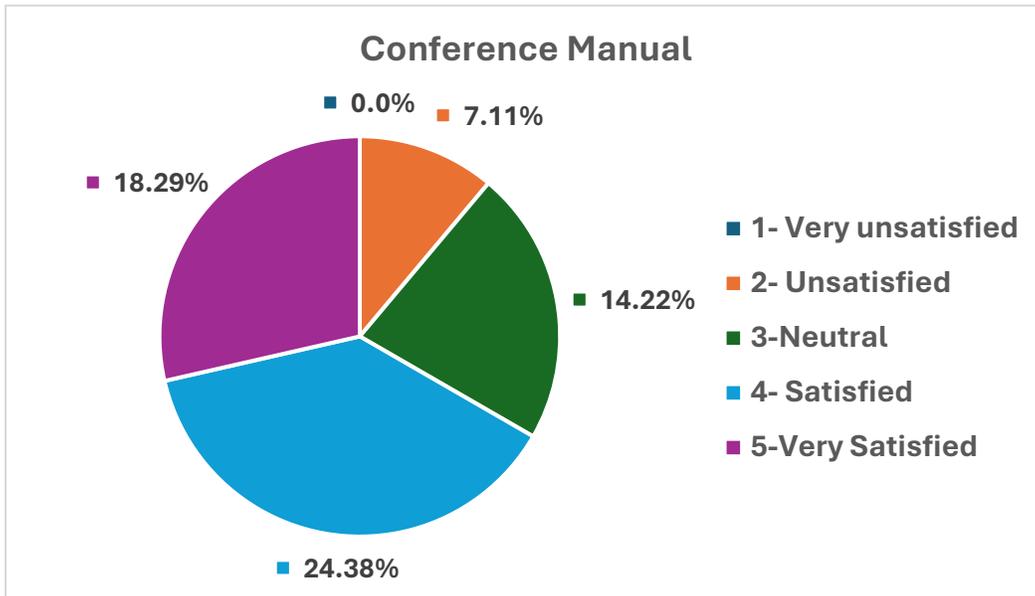
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



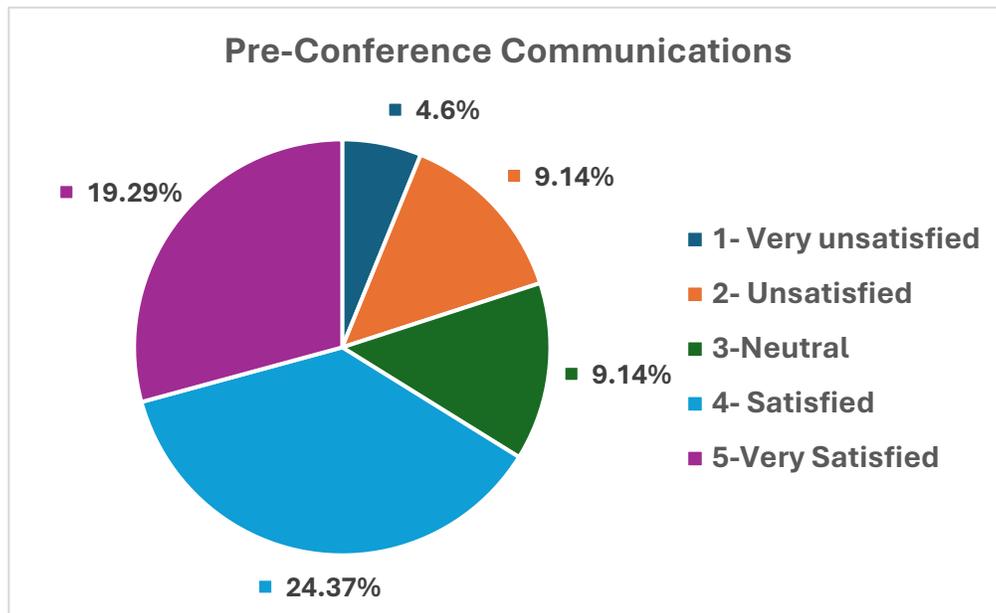
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



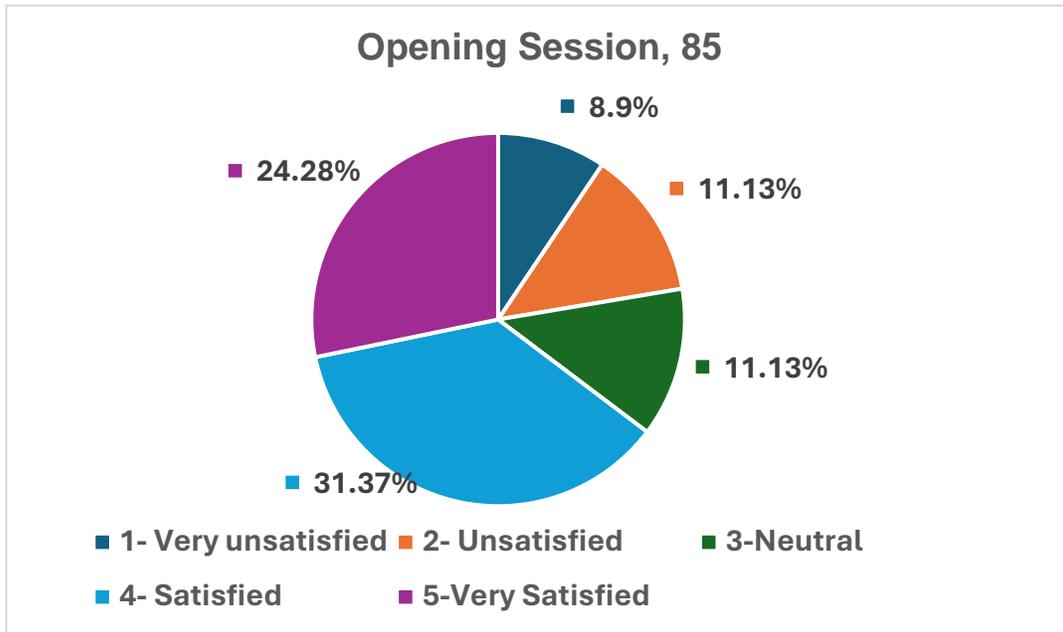
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



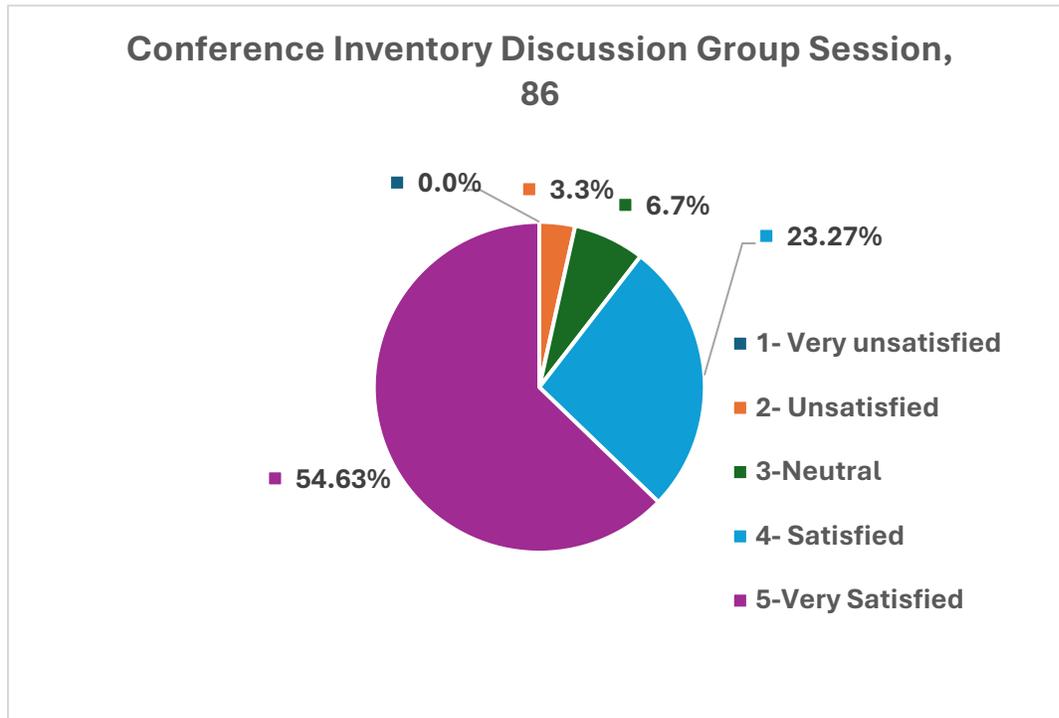
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



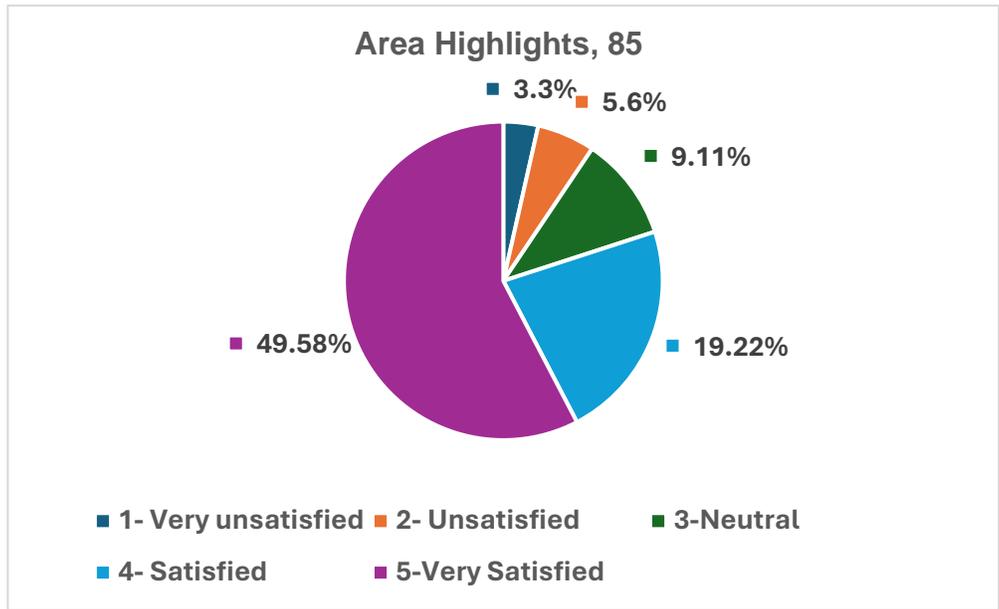
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



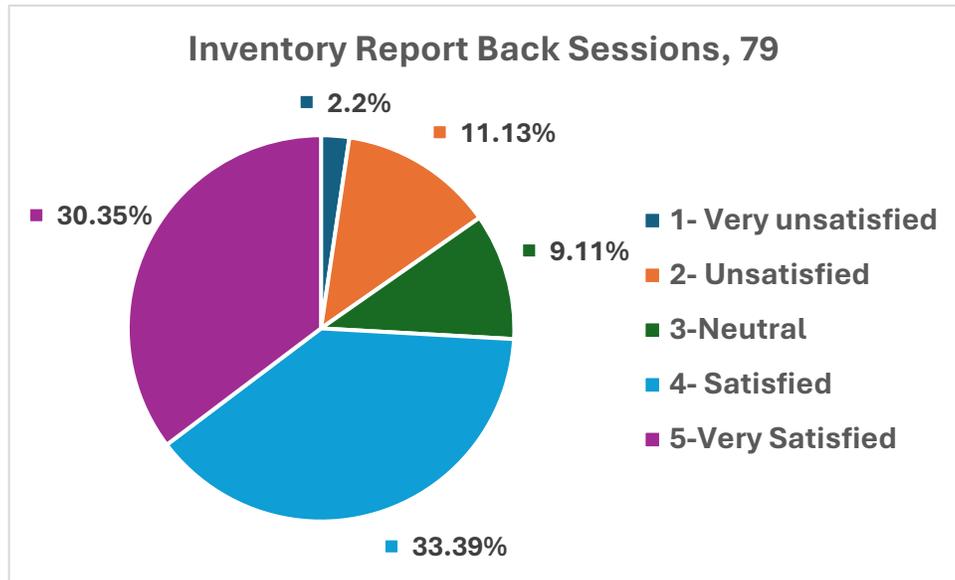
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

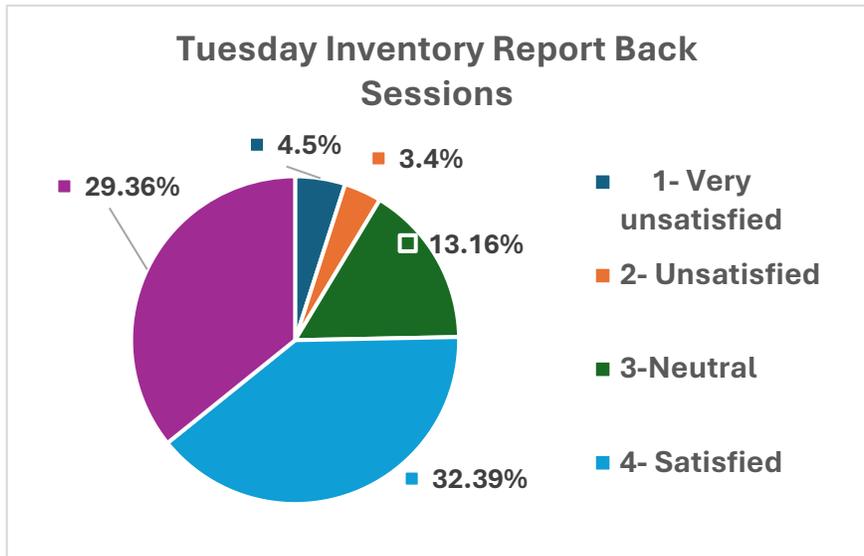


Successes:

- 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:

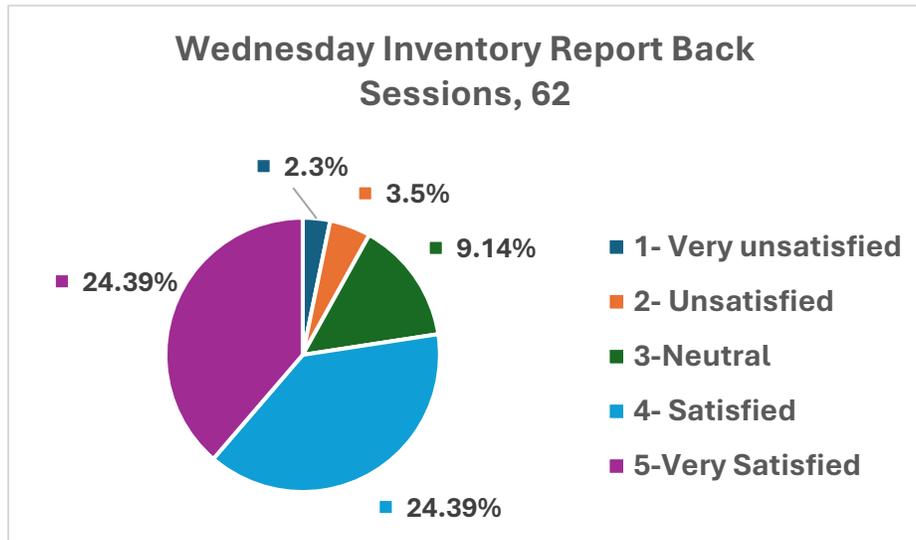
- Sessions felt rushed or long, with limited time for floor sharing.
- There was disappointment that few concrete solutions were proposed.



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.

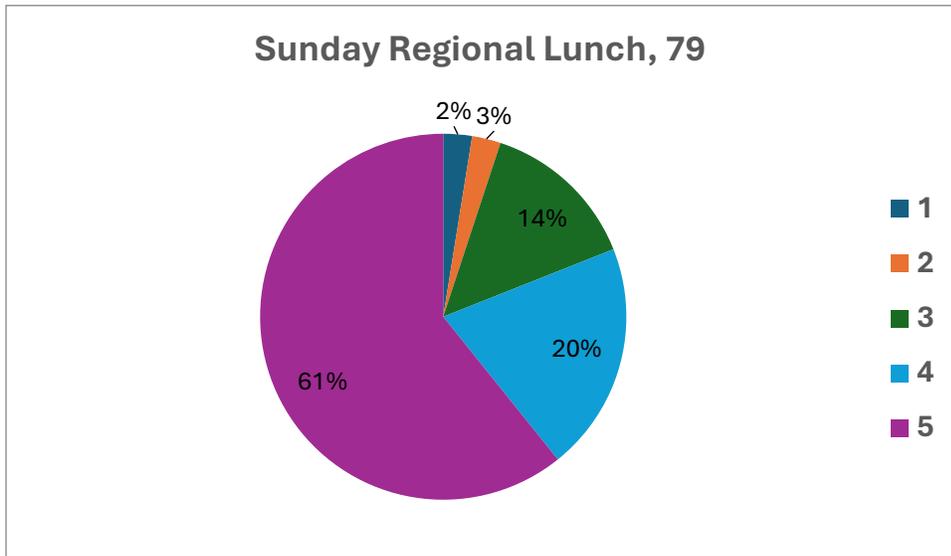
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

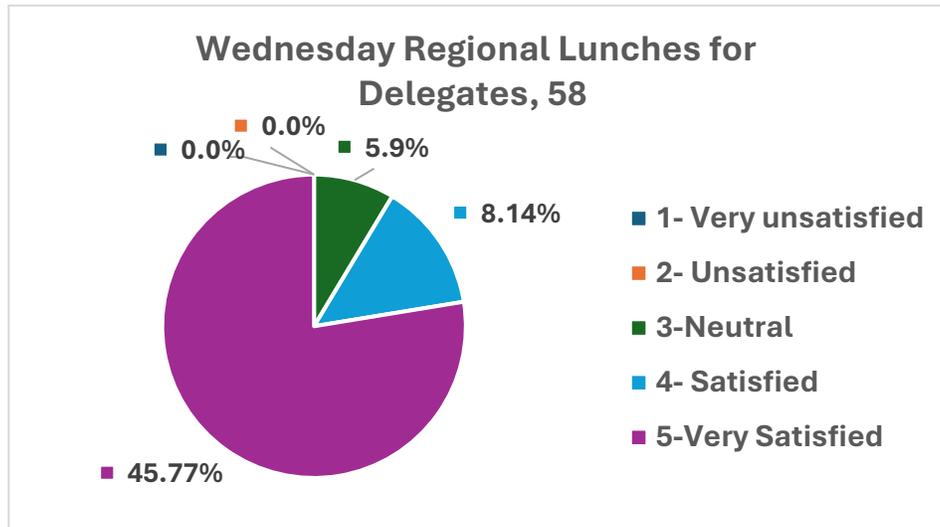


Successes:

- 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?



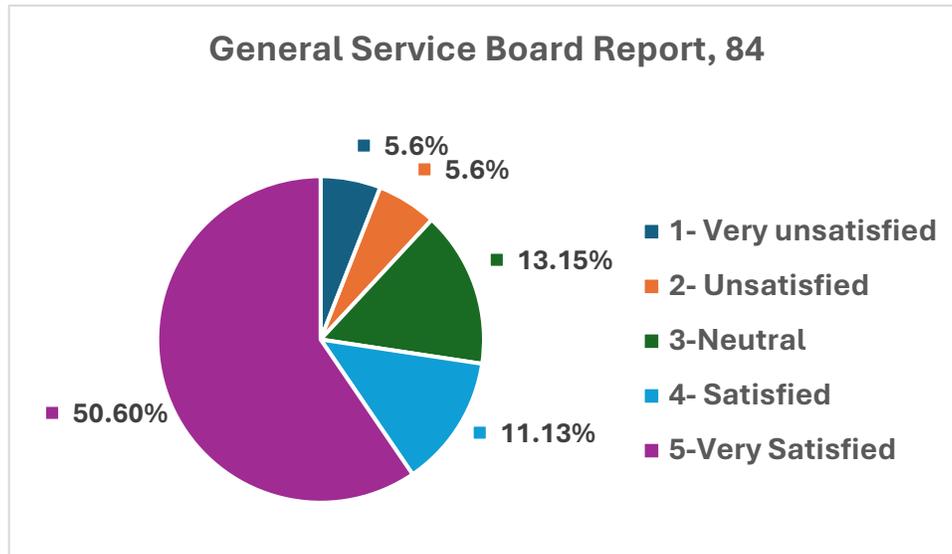
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



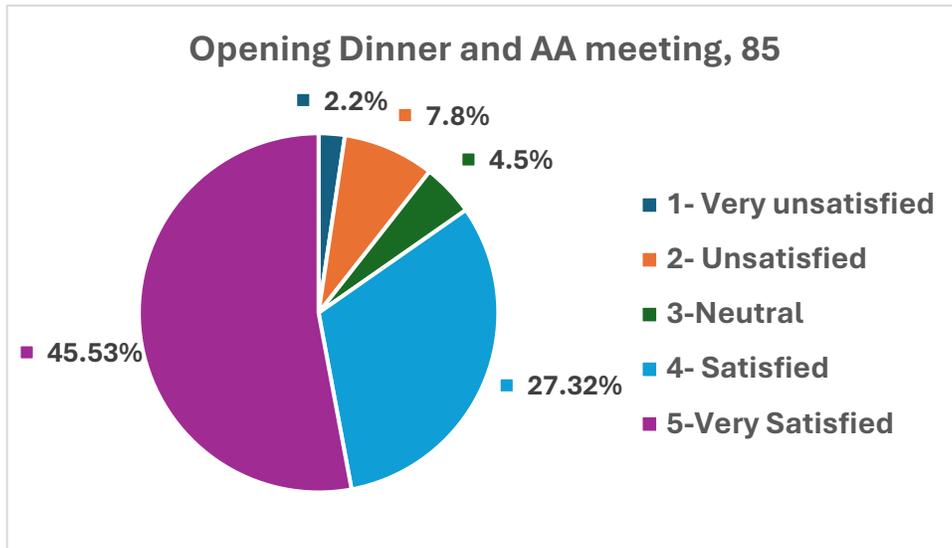
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.



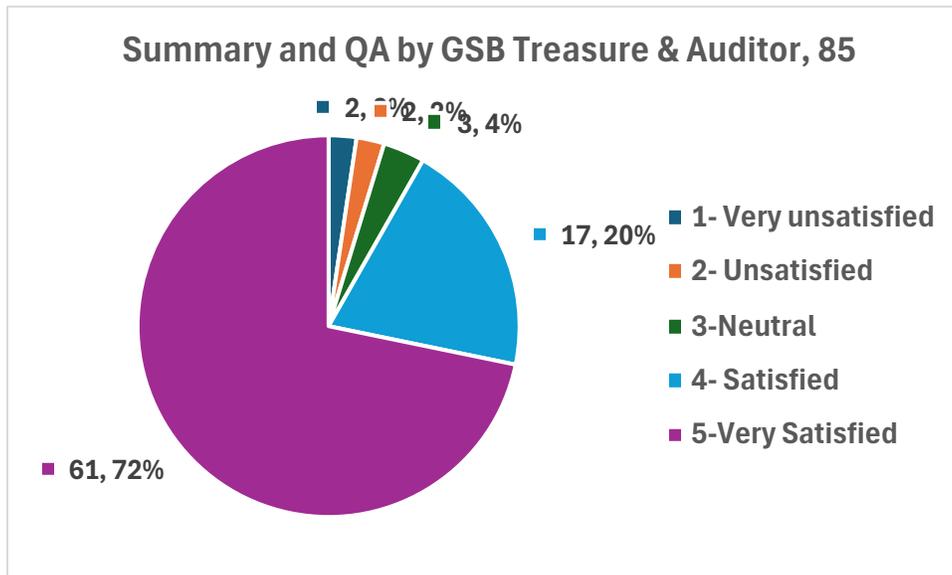
Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Assigned seating as a successful strategy to encourage interaction beyond familiar circles, fostering unity and deeper connections among Conference members.

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.

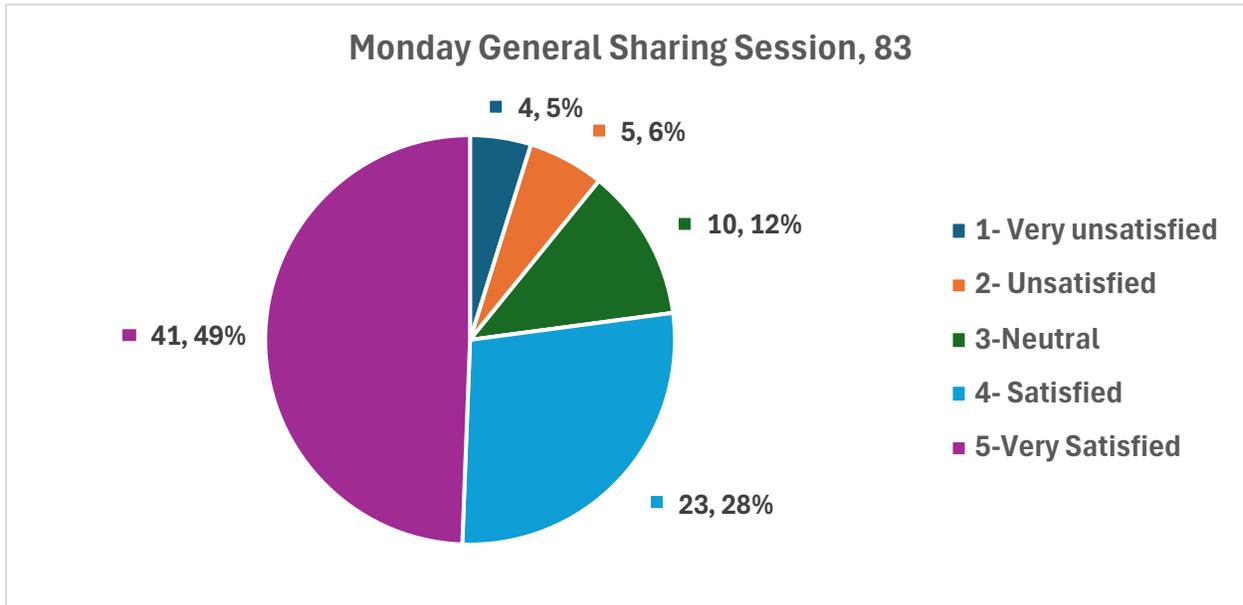
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

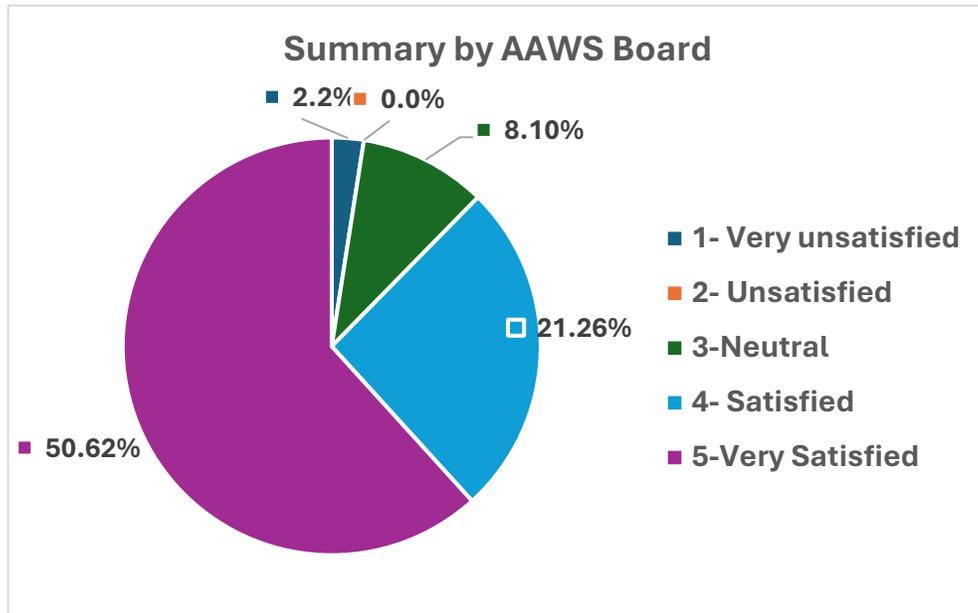
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.



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.

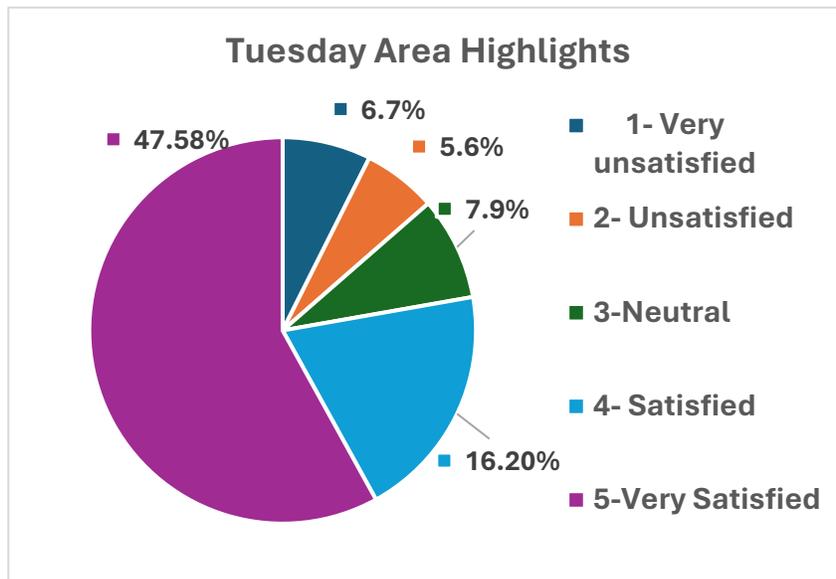
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



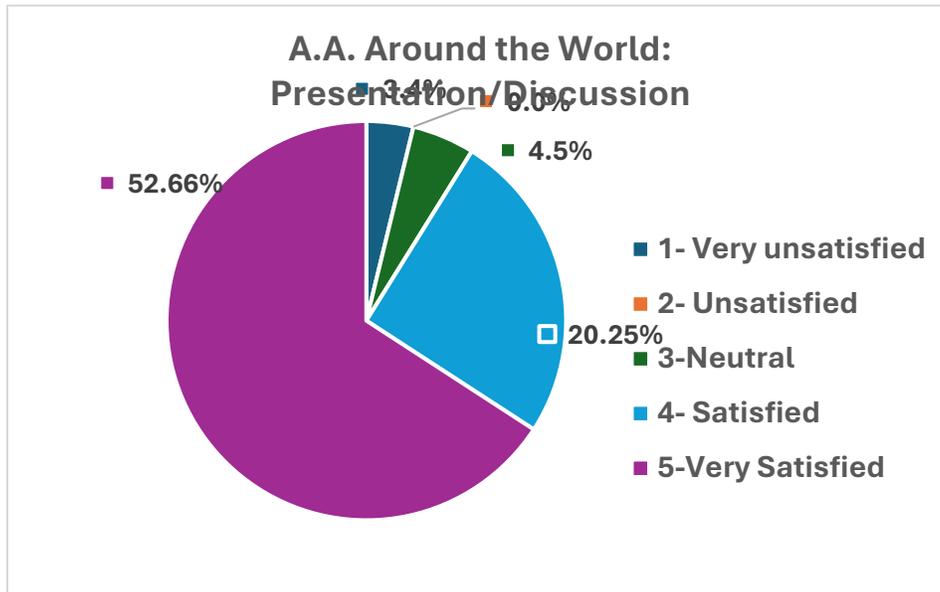
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

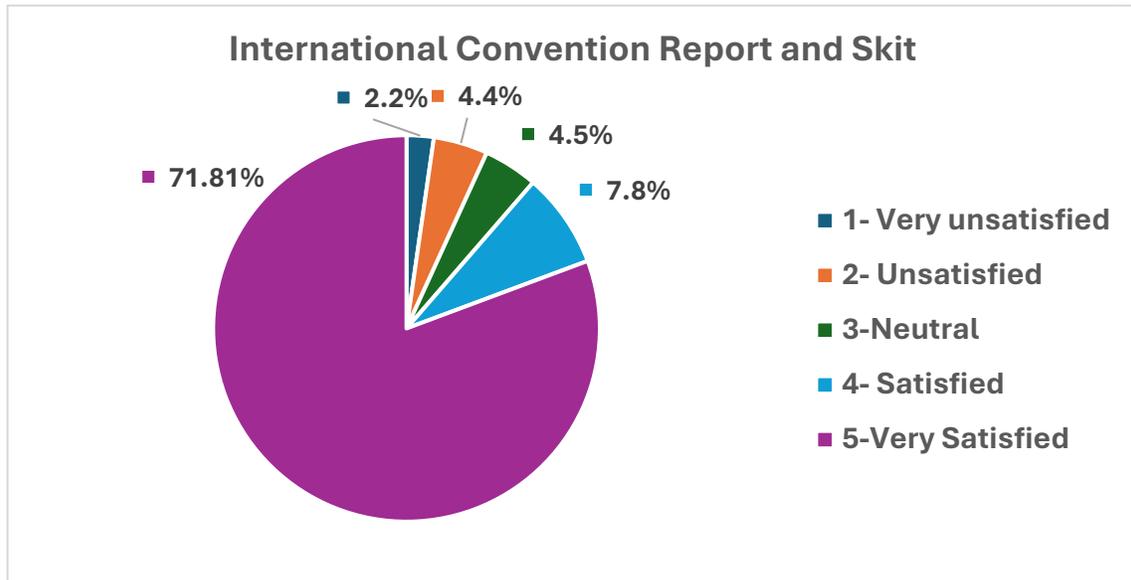
Feedback highlighted the resonance and authenticity of the stories. The experiences and dedication to carrying the A.A. message across borders were moving. Members were inspired by the passion and humility of the speakers.

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.

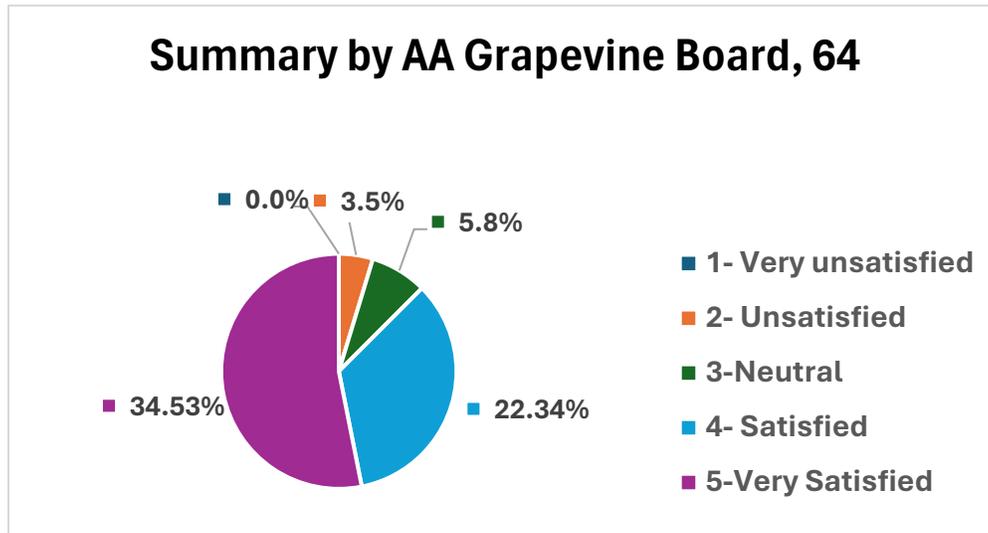
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

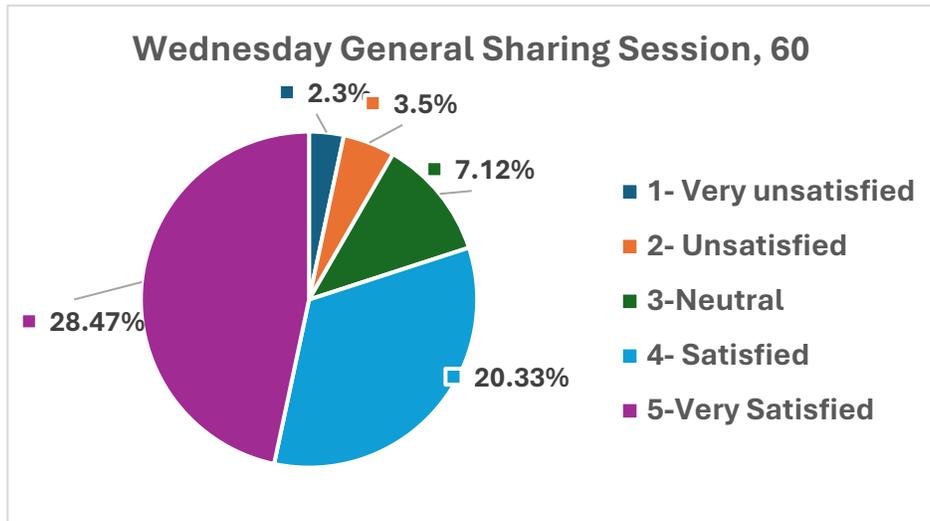


Successes:

- “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:

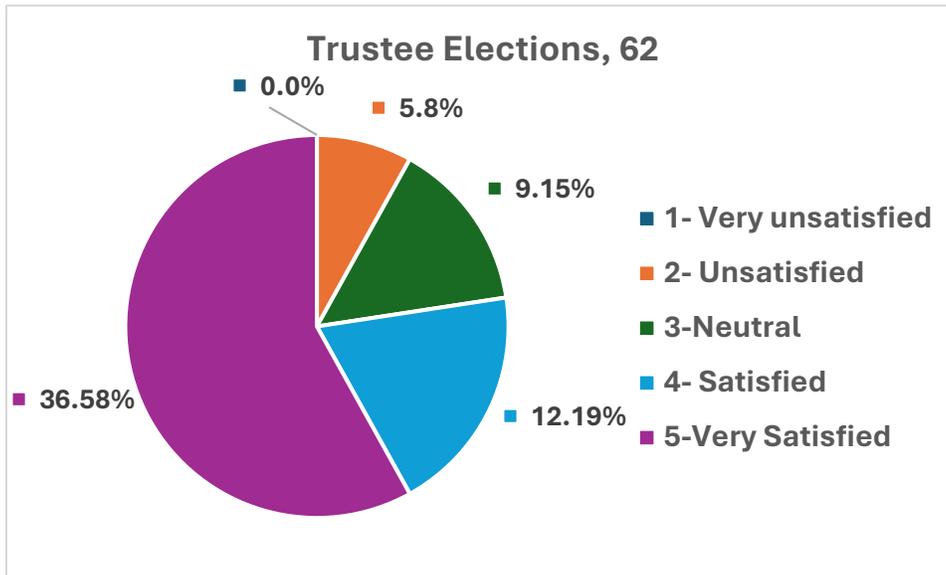
- Concerns were expressed over the lack of financial details. There was a desire for more transparency and discussion around sustainability.
- The La Viña website should be bilingual (Spanish and English) to better serve all members.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



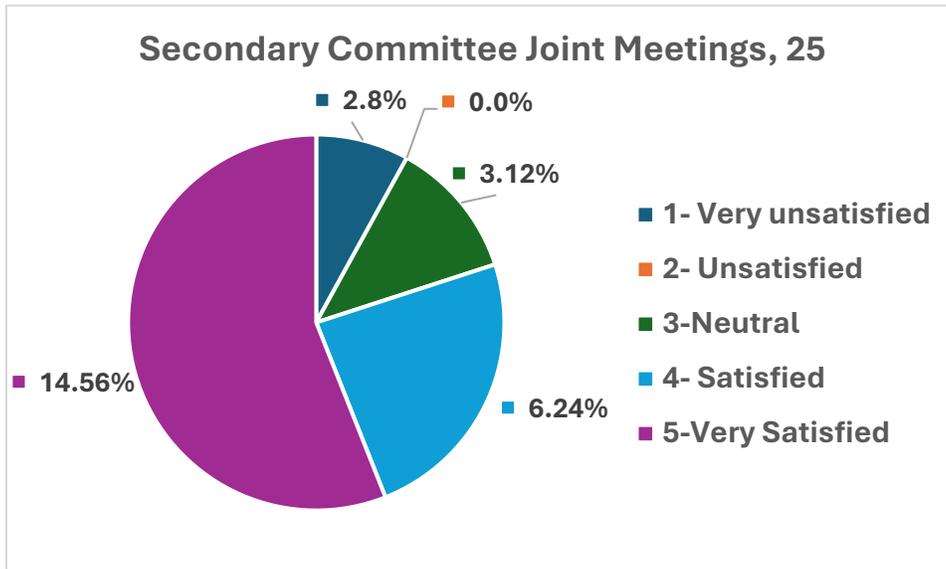
Successes:

- 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.

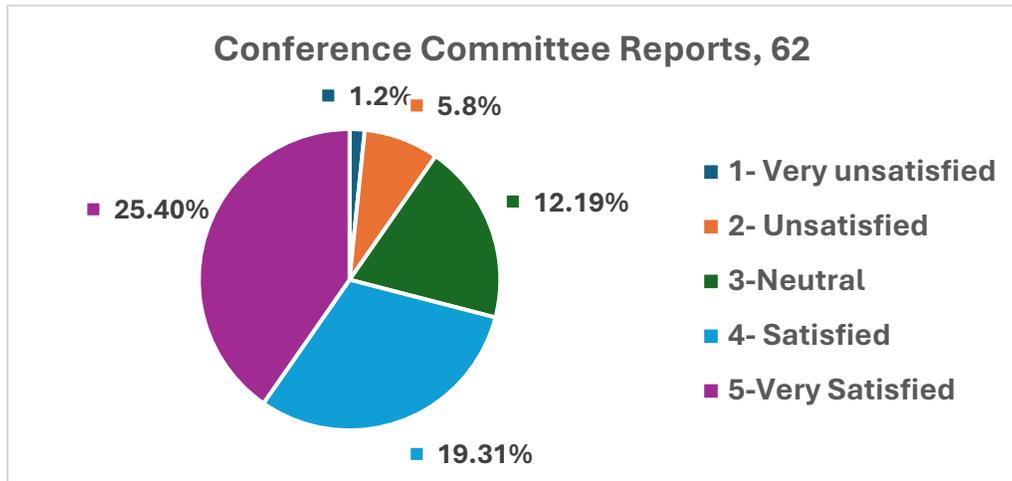
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

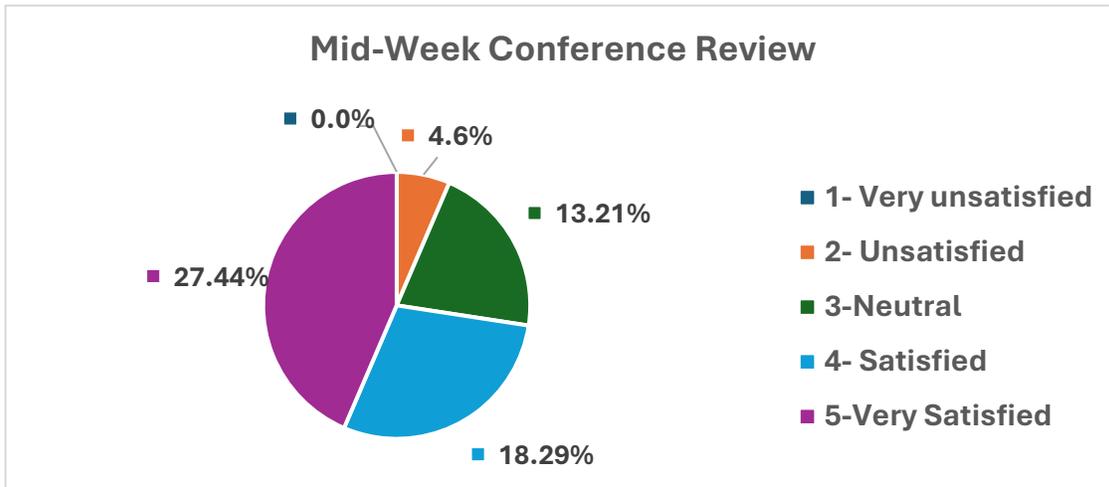
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

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:

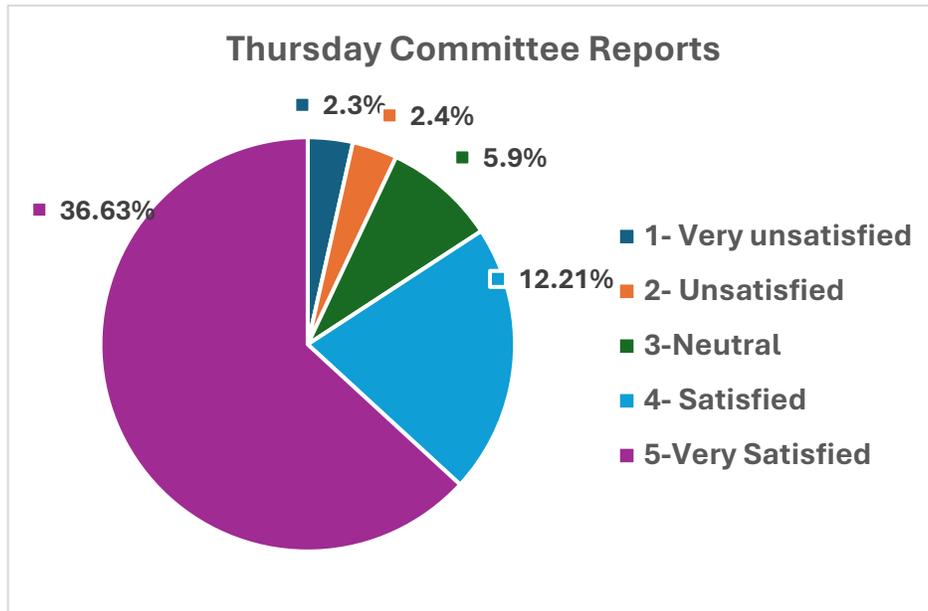
Feedback on trustees and directors was generally positive. Experience and historical perspective were valued, especially during discussions on recommendations and amendments. However, a few comments suggested that some trustees participated more like general service representatives (GSRs).

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.



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.

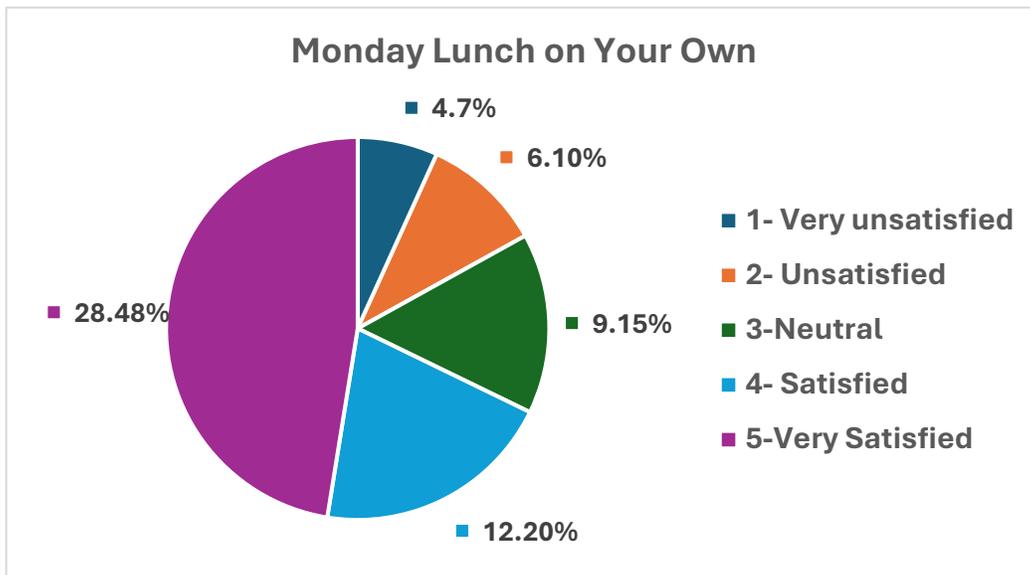
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

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.



Successes:

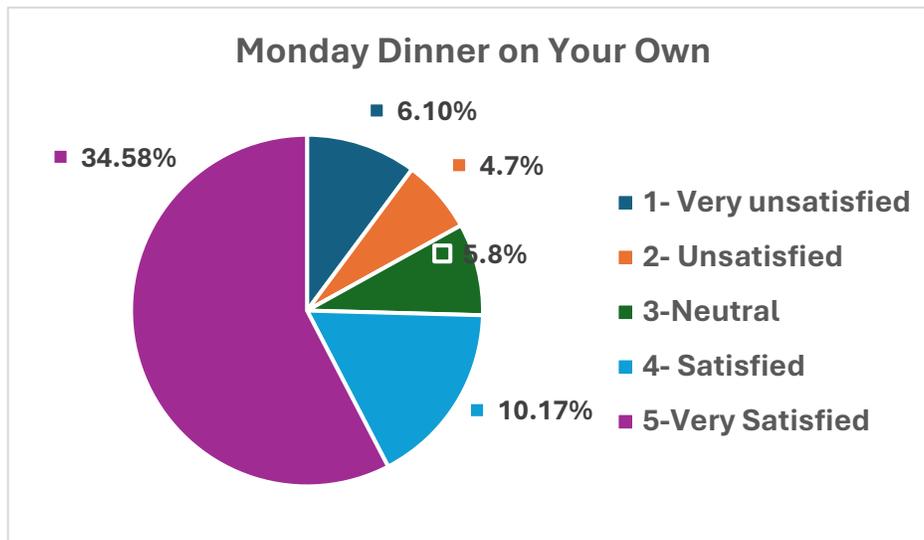
- Appreciated the opportunity to step away from the Conference environment.
- Break allowed for rest, informal connection with peers, and a refreshing change of pace from structured sessions.

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.

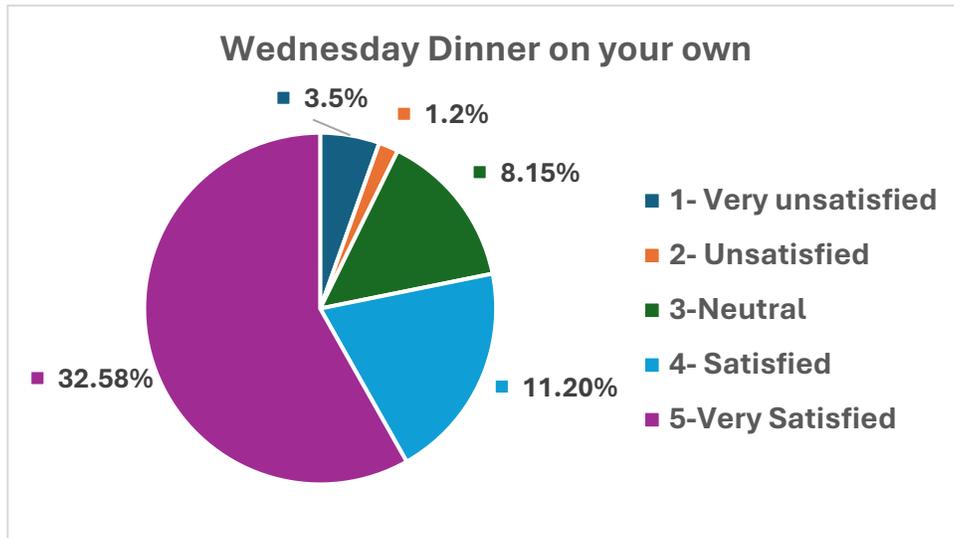


Successes:

- 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.



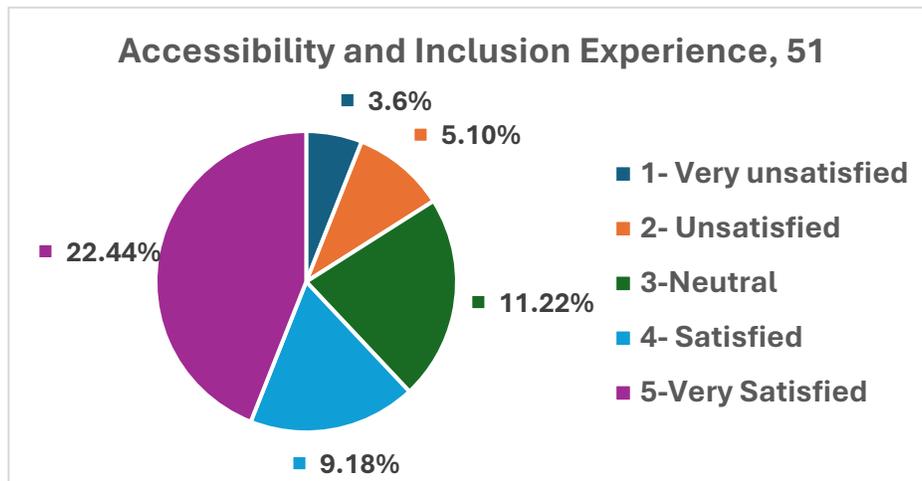
Successes:

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

**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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

- 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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

- 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.

###

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

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

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>"Proposition à l'ordre du jour en vue de la 76e Conférence des Services généraux des Alcooliques Anonymes :</p> <p>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 ».</p> <p>Proposed Agenda Item for the 76th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous:</p> <p>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."</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>"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.</p> <p>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."</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>"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 ».</p> <p>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</p>

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.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Agenda
Item F
Doc. 1

"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."



II. CPC – EN

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and acceptance of trustees' Committee report

A. Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.....	2
CPC-A0 Cover LinkedIn.docx.....	2
CPC-A1 LinkedIn Summary Q4-2024 - Q3-2025.docx.....	4
B. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals.....	6
CPC-B0 Cover Mental Health Pamphlet.docx.....	6
C. Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.....	9
CPC-C0 Cover CPC Kit and Workbook.docx.....	9
D. Review progress report on the effective use of CPC videos on aa.org.....	10
CPC-D0 Cover CPC Videos on aa.org.docx.....	10
CPC-D1 CPC Videos Progress Report.docx.....	11
E. PAI 82: That the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee/Treatment & Accessibilities Committee in the development of any new videos for professionals also create short, professional-specific, stand-alone audio/visual soundbites.....	12
CPC-E0 Cover PAI 82 CPC Soundbites.docx.....	12
CPC-E1 PAI 82 CPC Soundbites.docx.....	13

2026 Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

ITEM A: Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the November 2025 trustees' CPC-Treatment & Accessibilities committee meeting:

AAWS LinkedIn Update: The committee accepted the AAWS LinkedIn report. The Communications Services Department also reported that they are awaiting confirmation on the status of the LinkedIn Premium subscription.

Excerpts from the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community:

- On a one-year trial basis, AAWS subscribe to a LinkedIn Premium Business account at a cost not to exceed \$1,000 per year, and to bring back a report on the effectiveness of the upgraded account to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee reviewed the progress report on the LinkedIn page and received a verbal update from the Communication Services Department. The committee noted that the formatting and content would include informing professionals in three languages within the limitations of the platform and best practices for posting to social media. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.
- The committee requested that AAWS explore increasing the cadence of LinkedIn posting and what resources would be required to support that effort.

Secretary's note: *An Advisory Action in 2018 stated that "The committee recommended that A.A. World Services, Inc. develop a company page on LinkedIn with the following goals in mind:*

- *To offer another digital resource, in addition to www.aa.org, where professionals can find accurate information about A.A.*
- *To broaden the reach of the About A.A. newsletter for professionals.*
- *To offer a platform where our professional friends may recommend us.*

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- *To raise awareness of exhibits staffed by local CPC committees at national and local professional conferences.*
- *To expand the network of our professional friends and perhaps deepen the pool of Class A trustee candidates.*
- *By our presence on LinkedIn, to reinforce the continuing relevance and efficacy of A.A. to professionals.*

An Advisory Action in 2021 then stated that “The goals expressed in the 2018 Advisory Action establishing a dynamic AAWS LinkedIn page be implemented by GSO, to provide current and relevant content about A.A. to professionals in accordance with A.A. principles and Traditions; and that a progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of implementing these updates on the AAWS LinkedIn page be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.”

Background:

1. LinkedIn: Annual summary Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)



LinkedIn: Annual summary

Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aaworldservicesinc>

- During this time period, information was posted 36 times.
- As of October, 75 private profiles have been reported that are not current or past employees. As has been the case, these profiles take a while to remove and it seems like they are increasing at a faster rate than they are being removed.
- The Staff secretary met with the Communication Services Department to discuss the implementation of the 2025 Advisory Action:

“On a one-year trial basis, AAWS subscribe to a LinkedIn Premium Business account at a cost not to exceed \$1,000 per year, and to bring back a report on the effectiveness of the upgraded account to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.”

 - We found that LinkedIn is currently in the process of testing the impact of the Premium subscription and as a result, it is not available to us yet. A LinkedIn representative said this option may not be available or recommended for company pages, rather for individual profiles. The team will continue to follow up with LinkedIn for an update.
- CPC Staff coordinator and the Communications Service Department continue to develop the content calendar, populate a backlog of posts, and post at least twice a month.
- The hashtag research project with the Language Services’ department is still on hold as we determine a process for research on French and Spanish hashtags.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- There is a continued upward trend in people reaching out through LinkedIn, mostly about job postings. We direct them to the appropriate Staff desk or department for assistance.
- Our highest engagement rate for the year was for an issue of *About A.A.* focusing on myths and misconceptions.
- While our rate of engagement has decreased from last year, we’ve gained nearly 900 subscribers who want to receive the information we share.
- There was a focused effort this year to develop reusable content highlighting why professionals would reach out to various service desks, the Corrections Correspondence Service, and Accessibility resources. Posts for each are planned for 1-2 times a year to keep these resources visible and searchable. This will move us closer to the goal of posting more often.

ANALYTICS:

- As of September 30, 2025, we have 4,910 followers (an increase of 890 from last year’s 4,020).
- Channel stats this year:
 - Total page views: 9,303 (13% decrease from last year’s 10,743)
 - Unique visitors: 3,708 (14% decrease from last year’s 4,288)
- During this time period, we had a total of 1,840 reactions and 138 reposts.

- Top 5 posts during this period, by engagement rate*:
 1. April 3, 2025: [Ever wondered about common myths and misconceptions about Alcoholics Anonymous?](#) (10.33% engagement rate)
 2. January 16, 2025: [Alcoholics Anonymous World Services has announced the debut of Our Primary Purpose, the official podcast from the General Service Office \(GSO\) of Alcoholics Anonymous for the U.S. and Canada.](#) (8.15% engagement rate)
 3. August 7, 2025: [Young and Sober in A.A.: "I thought drinking made me an artist"](#) (6.65% engagement rate)
 4. December 5, 2024: [Attending one of these national conferences? Stop by our exhibit booth to learn more about A.A. resources.](#) (6.55% engagement rate)
 5. March 20, 2025: [Attending one of these national conferences? Stop by our exhibit booth to learn more about A.A. resources.](#) (6.32% engagement rate)

*Engagement rate is calculated by LinkedIn as: (Clicks + Likes + Comments + Reposts + Follows) / Impressions.

2026 Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

ITEM B: Review progress report on the development of an outward-facing pamphlet for mental health professionals.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the November 2025 trustees' CPC-Treatment & Accessibilities Committee meeting:

Pamphlet for Mental Health Professionals: The committee accepted the progress report on the development of a pamphlet for mental health professionals. The AAWS Managing Editor and Staff secretary on the CPC assignment will explore the development of an outline and project plan and bring back a status update at the Q1 2026 meeting.

Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference:

- The project for the development of an outward-facing pamphlet for mental health professionals be redirected, utilizing existing content in the current draft and reformatted in a quad-fold layout. The committee requests that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community additional committee considerations:

- Regarding the redirection of the pamphlet for mental health professionals, the committee requested that the Staff secretary forward a memo to the Publishing Department, including the following suggestions to shape additional content and update the layout and format:
 - Include hyperlinks to the stories and shared experiences previously provided in the interviews and the earlier draft pamphlet.
 - Update subject titles, including the following:
 - Brief FAQ
 - How A.A. may be helpful to mental health treatment
 - How do I suggest A.A.?
 - How to find us?
- The committee further requested that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee review these recommendations and considerations for the new pamphlet, and that a report on

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

how this work will be done be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community. The committee requests that the report should include what options were considered, what progress was completed, and if the considerations were not implemented, those reasons be included in the report.

Secretary's note: A 2021 Advisory Action states: "The trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities develop a pamphlet directed to mental health professionals. The committee request that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought to the 2022 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community."

A 2023 committee consideration states: "The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of an outward-facing pamphlet for mental health professionals and expressed their appreciation for the work completed to date. The committee supports the continued efforts to interview additional mental health professionals with a focus on professionals who are not A.A. members. The committee suggested a theme and direction to move forward, and that interviews seek to identify the myths and misconceptions that could prevent a clear understanding of Alcoholics Anonymous. Additionally, the committee suggested the trustees' CPC/TA Committee consider other vehicles of communication beyond a pamphlet to make the message more relevant for current mental health professionals. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community."

A 2024 committee consideration states: "The committee suggested the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment-Accessibilities Committee (TCPC/TA) consider developing additional service materials as follows:

- *A "hard copy" service piece for local Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) committees to provide to professionals in their face-to-face contact and when exhibiting or presenting at professional events.*
- *That the service piece includes newly designed infographics gleaned from existing content in the draft pamphlet for mental health professionals.*
- *That the service piece also includes a way to link to material for the mental health professional, such as the content of interviews already conducted and content from the draft pamphlet.*
- *That the presentation of materials developed reflects a modern look and feel appealing to professionals.*

The committee requested that a progress report on the development of the service piece be brought to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

Background:

1. Draft Mental Health Pamphlet (P-XX): **Committee Eyes Only**

2026 Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

ITEM C: Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.

Background notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These changes may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The CPC Workbook (Item M-41i) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Background:

1. CPC Workbook and Kit content lists available to view at the links below:

Workbook:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

Kit content lists:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

ITEM D: Review progress report on the effective use of CPC videos on aa.org.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the November 2025 trustees' CPC-Treatment & Accessibilities committee meeting:

CPC videos on aa.org: The committee reviewed the report on the use of CPC video clips in local committee work and discussed the options presented by the Communication Services Department for updating the current full videos. It was agreed that further clarity was needed on permissions related to the intellectual property of the videos and what permissions could be granted for the use of audio/video clips of our materials. Additionally, it was noted that it would be helpful to have clarity on possible cost estimates for updating the content. The secretary will bring back additional background on this topic at the Q1 2026 meeting.

2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community additional committee consideration:

Regarding the development of a new CPC video, the committee requested that the most cost-effective means of producing the video be used, utilizing in-house resources when available. The committee also requested that the video should reflect the diversity of the Fellowship.

Secretary's note: A 2024 additional committee consideration states: "The committee reviewed the three existing Cooperation with the Professional Community videos for professionals available on aa.org and requested that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee explore the option of repurposing the videos, including updating the scripts with new voiceovers while also using stock footage and images to replace outdated video/images. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community."

Background:

1. Progress Report on CPC videos on aa.org

Progress Report on Development of CPC Videos

Intellectual property of AAWS media on aa.org and YouTube: The CPC coordinator met with the Legal, Licensing and Intellectual Property (LLIP) Department director to discuss copyright permissions/restrictions for videos. An initial assessment includes further development of a disclaimer before and after the videos, as well as a watermark. The disclaimer should express that content is the property of AAWS and is not to be reproduced or modified in any capacity.

Creation of cost-effective videos: The CPC coordinator met with the multimedia production coordinator and Public Information coordinator to discuss a plan for developing short CPC videos in-house that would align with current PI initiatives.

An initial assessment of criteria was discussed: topics, new vs. existing content, length, linking to aa.org, cover and end language, style and format, consistency with branding, development lead time, and content sources.

As an initial project, the working group agreed to begin a series focused on introducing the current Class A trustees in short reels of 30 seconds to one minute in length. Time was scheduled during Q1 2026 board weekend for recording. As it would not be possible to produce five new videos by the Conference background deadline, the proposed series would be suggested as service materials, and any available progress on the series will be presented to the Conference committee for review, prior to any posting. This will include the aforementioned copyright disclaimers.

###

2026 Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

ITEM E: Consider a request that standalone audio/visual clips be created when developing any new/revised videos for professionals. (PAI 82).

Background notes:

Excerpts from the November 2025 trustees' CPC-Treatment and Accessibilities committee meeting:

The committee reviewed a request that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee in the development of any new videos for professionals also create short, professional-specific, standalone audio/visual soundbites of professionals recommending A.A. to coincide with the new/revised video and **agreed to forward** to the 2026 Conference Committee on CPC.

Background:

1. PAI #82 submission form

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p>
<p>That the Trustees Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee/Treatment & Accessibilities Committee in the development of any new videos for professionals also create short, professional specific, stand-alone audio/visual soundbites of professionals recommending A.A. to coincide with the new/ revised video.</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p>
<p>"There are three existing videos for professionals, each more than six minutes in length. This is the only audio/visual material specifically available for professionals at aa.org. The videos feature professionals recommending Alcoholics Anonymous to other professionals in their field. There aren't any shorter videos that reflect the current shortform video content practices that engage viewers.</p> <p>New videos will be created which allow more "bite size" segments that can attract professionals to other content. A.A. Service Committees will have access to professionally produced soundbites (15 to 60 seconds in length) pulled from new video(s) to catch professionals' attention. These stand-alone clips could be included in welcome letters, providing a "hook" encouraging the busy professional to explore the "If You Are a Professional" page on aa.org, watch the video in its entirety, and/or the AAWS LinkedIn page."</p>
<p>(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.).</p>
<p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p>
<p>This motion was passed by the Panel 75 Area 79 CPC committee. It was then brought forward to the full assembly body and carried unanimously at our September Voting Assembly by the BC/Yukon Area 79 voting body.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p>
<p>Today's media landscape provides information rapidly and effectively, in shortform content. Busy professionals are unlikely to sit and watch a full-length video without first having their interest piqued. Providing stand-alone soundbites preserves the shelf life of new video(s), with the ability to have new/fresh soundbites pulled and added to the collection periodically.</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p>

The intended outcome is to create short, engaging soundbites that capture the attention of busy professionals. These 'hooks' would highlight the benefits of Alcoholics Anonymous for their clients or patients, helping us carry the message more effectively and in a way that aligns with today's changing media landscape.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Drew W.
Panel 75 Delegate
BC/Yukon Area 79

(7) Final comments:

Thank you



III. Corrections

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and Acceptance of the Trustees' Corrections Committee Report

A. Review Content and Format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.....	2
CX-A0 Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.docx.....	2
B. Review Progress Report on Development of a Pamphlet of the Transgender Alcoholic in A.A.....	3
CX-B0 Cover Sheet Transgender Alcoholic.docx.....	3
CX-B1 Review Progress Report on development of a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic.docx.....	4
C. Consider a Request to Update the Pamphlet "The A.A. Member - Medications and Other Drugs".....	7
CX-C0 Cover Consider update to the pamphlet A.A. Member Medications and Other Drugs.docx.....	7
CX-C1 PAI 50- changes to-P-11 A.A. Member-Medications-OtherDrugs.docx.....	8
CX-C2 PAI-56- Revisions to P11-AA Member - Medications and Other Drugs.docx.....	16

CONFIDENTIAL:
76th General Service Conference Background

2026 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM A: Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

Background Notes:

Workbooks for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

Alternatively, the trustees' committee may choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks are service material, and suggested changes to content do not require recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Committee Considerations. The Corrections Workbook (Item M-45i) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Background:

1. The Corrections Workbook and Kit Content Lists available to view at the links below:

Workbook:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

Kit Content Lists:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM B: Review progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the transgender alcoholic.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Nominating Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the transgender alcoholic and **agreed to forward** the report to the 2026 Conference Committee on Corrections.

Advisory Action of the 74th General Service Conference:

That a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A. be developed. The committee requested that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Corrections.

Background:

1. Progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the transgender alcoholic.

**Trustees' Committee on Corrections
Working Group for the Pamphlet on the Transgender Alcoholic in A.A.
Progress Report, February 2026**

This effort is in response to the 2024 General Service Conference Advisory Action that “a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A. be developed.”

The working group, chaired by Manisha G., was formed in October 2025. The group currently consists of six A.A. members representing a broad spectrum of geographic, linguistic and age perspectives within the Fellowship. We are currently exploring the addition of two members, including a Black transgender member, to ensure our representation is as diverse as possible.

Since the October 2025 trustees' Literature Committee meeting, the working group has met via Zoom on three occasions: November 13, 2025; December 11, 2025; and January 8, 2026. These initial meetings have been dedicated to establishing a foundation of unity and transparency. To ground our work in established A.A. service experience, we heard presentations from a former member and the former chair of the “Black in A.A.” pamphlet working group. Learning from their process has been invaluable in helping us navigate group conscience and the sacred task of soliciting personal stories of recovery from our community.

Story submission status and evaluation

As of January 8, 2026, we have received 11 story submissions, including one in French. The group is using a collaborative digital whiteboard to define selection criteria for the stories we hope to include. While we seek a diverse range of voices, including non-binary, Two-Spirit and gender non-conforming members, our primary focus remains on the spiritual core of recovery. We have identified several key themes — which we expect to refine further in the next two meetings — that we hope to see reflected in the submissions:

1. *The Spiritual Journey*: Finding a “moment of grace” and developing a relationship with a Higher Power from various religious and secular backgrounds.
2. *The Newcomer Experience*: Navigating the specific barriers to recovery faced by the transgender community while finding a sense of belonging and safety in the rooms.
3. *Identity & Sobriety*: The experiences of transitioning, gender presentation, and coming out in sobriety, as well as the vital role of sponsorship and special interest meetings.
4. *Intersectionality*: Ensuring the pamphlet speaks to a broad membership, including diverse gender identities and varied ethnic, socio-economic and geographic backgrounds.

5. *Appeal to Reader*. Evaluating if the narrative is emotionally resonant, carries a clear message of hope and remains timeless for future members.

Outreach and writing workshops

The working group recognizes that we must go beyond the general service structure to reach the still-suffering transgender alcoholic. We have implemented a centralized tracker to coordinate an outreach strategy across the U.S. and Canada. Since our formation, we have successfully distributed flyers and shared information at various roundups and area events.

Our working group has helped create a unified presentation to facilitate personal story writing workshops for our pamphlet as well as the pamphlet for the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic. To date, workshops have been facilitated at:

1. *Regional Forums*: Southwest and Northeast.
2. *Area & Local Events*: Northern Florida Area Assembly, three local district/fellowship events in Northern California, and a virtual workshop.

Areas 5 and 6 have kindly developed a calendar to track these sessions, and we are collaborating closely with our sister pamphlet working group on facilitation and outreach.

Feedback from early workshop participants has highlighted additional themes for our criteria, such as cross-addiction and safety. Some participants were somewhat perplexed by our copyright transfer legalese, and we hope to clarify that in future workshops and flyers. However, workshop attendance by the trans community remains sparse and we have a lot of work ahead of us for outreach.

Looking ahead

Our schedule of planned workshops includes PRAASA, NERAASA, WACYPAA, ACYPAA, Area 30, Area 6, and local fellowships in Wisconsin, along with three virtual workshops. Members continue to explore opportunities in local areas, districts and LGBTQ forums. A Spanish virtual workshop is in development and we are seeking facilitators for a session in French. Additionally, we are discussing linguistic accessibility with GSO, including translated presentation decks and pre-recorded sessions translated by AI. We have agreed to utilize Zoom's AI functionality for captions in Spanish and French for our upcoming virtual workshops.

Conclusion

As we head toward our March 31, 2026, submission deadline, our focus will shift to intensive workshop facilitation and the finalization of our story vetting process. We are moved by the depth of sharing we have encountered thus far and are committed to

bringing a pamphlet to the Fellowship that carries a powerful message of hope and inclusion.

The working group expresses its gratitude to the trustees' Literature Committee for this opportunity to serve.

2026 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM C: Consider a request to update the pamphlet “The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs.”

Background note:

Excerpts from the trustees’ Literature Committee November 2, 2025, meeting report:

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-50), “General review supporting modifications to the story section of the P-11 ‘The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs’ pamphlet” and **agreed to forward** to the 76th General Service Conference.

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-56), “It is recommended that the pamphlet ‘The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs’ (P-11) be revised and expanded” and **agreed to forward** to the 76th General Service Conference.

Background:

1. PAI-50
2. PAI-56
3. [“The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs” \(Item P-11\)](#)

General Service Conference (GSC) Proposed Agenda Item Submission Form

Annual deadline for submissions for a General Service Conference is September 15.

What types of proposals, suggestions or ideas rise to the level of needing a General Service Conference “action” or “decision”?

Proposals that are important to the future of Alcoholics Anonymous, policy decisions or request for changes to Conference-approved literature and items that might require the collective conscience of the Fellowship. The trustees, corporate directors and staff bring together years of experience in A.A. service in making decisions about the appropriate process or disposition of proposed Conference agenda items. Warranty Six reminds us “that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government...” *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* (page VI).

The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service states on page 42 that:

The Conference considers matters of policy for A.A. as a whole, and there are tried-and-true procedures for placing an item on the agenda in the most effective way possible. For suggestions that do not concern overall policy, there are procedures to ensure they are routed to the most appropriate part of the service structure.

The final agenda for any Conference consists of items suggested by:

- Individual A.A. members
- Groups
- Delegates
- Trustees
- Area assemblies
- Area committee members
- Directors and staff members of AAWS and the Grapevine

GSRs may have ideas for an agenda item, including some brought to them by group members. Experience suggests that they may want to discuss them first with their groups, then at district or area meetings. A district or an area can then forward it to the staff member at G.S.O. who is currently serving as Conference coordinator.

The following is from a process overview document “FAQs on Group Conscience Consideration for Proposed Conference Agenda Items.”

Q. What happens when a proposed Conference agenda item arrives at the conference coordinator’s desk?

A. The conference coordinator acknowledges receipt of the proposed agenda item and lets the sender know which of the following options is most appropriate and, if necessary, an

explanation of why and how the proposed agenda item is being directed. Some of the possible routes are:

1. Forwarding to a trustees' committee via a GSO Staff member or Department Head.
2. Forwarding to GSO's Publishing Director or Group Services Staff person.
3. Forwarding to A.A. World Services, Inc.
4. Forwarding to chair of the General Service Board.
5. Forwarding to the AA Grapevine Corporate Board/AA Grapevine Publisher.

Q. What happens when it is unclear what committee should address a proposed item or where an item should be routed?

A. When it is unclear where a proposed item belongs, it is most frequently forwarded to the trustees' Committee on the Conference for direction.

If a proposed agenda item does not rise to the level of a Conference action, the topic could be programmed during the Conference in a different way like a presentation/discussion or workshop.

This overview is general and includes many but not necessarily all the possible routes a proposed agenda item follows in the trustee, GSO and Grapevine review process. There is no "one size fits all" procedure and, on a case-by-case basis over time, there may occasionally be inconsistencies.

(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.

General review supporting modifications to the story section of the P-11 "The A.A. Member- Medications & Other Drugs" pamphlet.

[The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs](#)

(2) What problem does this proposed item address?

This agenda item proposal addresses the problem of outdated and unrelatable stories consistent with the majority of medication literature that is updated frequently. In 2011, three new stories were added as a result of an ongoing Advisory Action from the 57th General Service Conference in 2007. This pamphlet received a new cover in 2018.

(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.

This proposal is respectfully submitted, after careful consideration, by District 32, Area 10. This proposal has been revised since the Area 10 Summer Assembly discussion with attention to Tradition Three and Ten.

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

Tradition Three

“The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.”

“Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.”

Tradition Ten

“Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.”

“No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.”

AA Comes of Age: *additional pages included

III, Four O'clock Sunday Afternoon (Page 232, 1st paragraph)

IV, Medicine Looks At Alcoholics Anonymous (Page 236 2 paragraph- 1st paragraph page 237)

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

The targeted outcome, if approved, is to address the need for relatable stories that demonstrate current language and terminology that are consistent with today's modalities while still honoring our primary purpose.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Gidget H.
District 32, Area 10

(7) Final comments:

"It has to do with our relations to the men of medicine. A.A. can be likened to a temple supported by three pillars: one is religion, another is medicine, and the third is our own experience as people who have suffered from alcoholism. Medicine in its broad aspects includes the science of the mind and its effect upon the body, as well as the effect of a physical malady upon the mind."-Bill W

"So let us modestly fill our role; let us make our link, the once-missing one, strong."- Bill W

Cooperation with the professional community has been an objective of Alcoholics Anonymous since its beginnings.

Submit completed forms to the GSO Staff Member on the Conference Desk: EMAIL:

Conference@aa.org

POSTAL MAIL: Attn: Conference Desk
General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

Updated 7/22

PAI Item 4. Reference:

AA Comes of Age

III, Four O'clock Sunday Afternoon,

(Page 232, 1st paragraph)

"Then, too, it would be a product of false pride to believe that Alcoholics Anonymous is a cure-all, even for alcoholism. Here we must remember our debt to the men of medicine. Here we must be friendly and, above all, open-minded toward every new development in the medical or psychiatric art that promises to be helpful to sick people. We should always be friendly to those in the fields of alcoholic research, rehabilitation, and education. We should endorse none especially but hold ourselves in readiness to co-operate so far as we can with them all. Let us constantly remind ourselves that the experts in religion are the clergymen; that the practice of medicine is for physicians; and that we, the recovered alcoholics, are their Assistants." - Bill W

IV, Medicine Looks At Alcoholics Anonymous,

(Page 236 2 paragraph- 1st paragraph page 237)

BILL: I know you all sense that this is a very significant meeting on a very significant occasion, because it has to do with our relations to the men of medicine. A.A. can be likened to a temple supported by three pillars: one is religion, another is medicine, and the third is our own experience as people who have suffered from alcoholism. Medicine in its broad aspects includes the science of the mind and its effect upon the body, as well as the effect of a physical malady upon the mind. In our two distinguished guests, Dr. Bauer and Dr. Tiebout, we have here people truly expert in each of these departments.

It would be a sorry day for A.A. if we ever came to think that we had a monopoly on fixing drunks. I think we ought to encourage every research in this area, whether it concerns the mind or the body. As individuals we often ought to associate ourselves with such enterprises. As excuse-makers and rationalizers, we drunks are champions. It is the business of the psychiatrist to get behind our excuses and to find the deeper causes for our conduct. Though uninstructed in psychiatry, we can, after a little time in A.A., see that our motives have not been what we thought they were and that we have been motivated by forces unknown to us. Therefore we ought to look, with the deepest respect, interest, and profit upon the findings of psychiatry, remembering that up to now the psychiatrists have been far more tolerant of us than we have been of them. So we thank them for the steadfast friendship and support which they have given us in nearly every quarter of the profession. When it comes to the general practitioner or specialist in the chemistry of the body, his findings too ought to be made use of by us as

Page 6 of 8

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

individuals. Of course as a movement we should never presume to intrude on the province of medicine. The practice of medicine is for doctors; the teaching of formal religion is for clergymen. So let us modestly fill our role; let us make our link, the once-missing one, strong. And let's thank God for folks like Dr. Bauer and Dr. Tiebout

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>It is recommended that the pamphlet "The A.A. Member - Medications & Other Drugs" (Item P-11) be revised and expanded.</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>Parts of the material in the pamphlet are out-of-date and redundant. The pamphlet currently addresses primarily issues related to treatment of concurrent mental health problems, and cross-addiction. It does not address use/abuse of pain medications in acute or chronic pain situations, nor use of legal marijuana and other OTC addictive medications. The text and member stories could be expanded to include additional more current topics and more up-to-date information.</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>The item was thoroughly discussed in Area 21, and it was given approval and endorsement by a unanimous vote in the September Assembly.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>"The content of this pamphlet was last update in 1984 and member's stories added in 2007. The areas of prescription, illegal and OTC medications has greatly expanded in the time since these updates.</p> <p>See attached sheet with the background material."</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

CX
ITEM C
DOC 2

That the pamphlet can be rewritten to be more useful for A.A. members in dealing with topics related to other drugs of abuse, correct use of prescription drugs, dangers of some OTC drugs, taking pain medications while in sobriety, cross addiction, etc.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Jodi B., Area 21 Delegate, Panel 75. Tom H., Area 21 Chair

(7) Final comments:

The topic of how A.A. members handle interactions with other drugs and medications has been of importance to the fellowship since before the first GSC when the existing pamphlet on "Sedatives" was getting revised. This continues to be a complicated topic, which is related to possible relapse and confusion. Updating this pamphlet would be helpful in dealing with this ever-changing area of concern for members.

###



Conference Committee on Finance

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and acceptance of trustees' Finance and Budgetary report.

A. Review Self-Support Packet.....	2
EN-FI-A0 Agenda Item A Cover Sheet.docx.....	2
B. Discuss motion to add wording to Item F-3, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.” - PAI 99.....	3
EN-FI-B0 Agenda Item B Cover Sheet.docx.....	3
EN-FI-B1 PAI 99 Form.docx.....	4
C. Consider a request to create a Twelve Step study guide or workbook. - PAI 70.....	6
EN-FI-C0 Cover Twelve Step Guide or Workbook.docx.....	6
EN-FI-C1 PAI-70- 12 step study guide or workbook.docx.....	7
D. Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (GSC) - PAI 22.....	9
EN-FI - D.0 - Cover Sheet PAI 22.docx.....	9
EN-FI-D.1 -PAI-22-GSC Relocation.docx.....	13
EN-FI-D.2 - 2023 General Service Conference Selection Report.docx.....	15

2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM A: Review Self-Support Packet.

Background: Self-Support Packet Contents

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. E.doc. 1 – Self-Support Card | Item F-42 |
| 2. E.doc. 2 – Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix | Item F-3 |
| 3. E.doc. 3 – The A.A. Group Treasurer | Item F-96 |
| 4. E.doc. 4 – A.A Guidelines on Finance | Item MG-15 |
| 5. E.doc. 5 – Your Seventh Tradition Contributions Flyer | Item F-203 |
| 6. E.doc. 6 – AAGV/La Vina Self-Support Flyer | Item F-230 |
| 7. E.doc. 7 – Birthday Contribution Envelope | Item FR-5 |

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM B: Discuss motion to add wording to Item F-3, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” (PAI 99).

Background notes:

Excerpt from the November 2025 trustees’ Finance and Budgetary committee meeting report:

*The committee considered a revision to “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” and **agreed to forward** to the 76th General Service Conference the proposed agenda item (PAI 99), which states: ‘Motion to add this wording to the pamphlet ‘Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix’ on page 13 immediately following the Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities pie charts:*

A.A. Grapevine and La Vina do not accept contributions. They are supported by sales of subscriptions, books and other specialty items. When your group is discussing how to distribute contributions to A.A. service entities, please consider how you may support Grapevine/La Vina. Purchasing subscriptions for your group, gift subscriptions, books or specialty items is a great way to support Grapevine/La Vina.”

Background:

1. PAI #99 submission form

(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.

Motion to add this wording to the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" on page 13 immediately following the Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities pie charts.

A.A. Grapevine and La Vina do not accept contributions. They are supported by sales of subscriptions, books and other specialty items. When your group is discussing how to distribute contributions to A.A. service entities, please consider how you may support Grapevine/La Vina. Purchasing subscriptions for your group, gift subscriptions, books or specialty items is a great way to support Grapevine/La Vina.

(2) What problem does this proposed item address?

While the Q & A on page 12 states that AA Grapevine, Inc. is not set up to take contributions, there is no suggestion to consider supporting Grapevine/La Vina when supporting other service entities.

AA Grapevine and La Vina have not been fully self supporting. Print subscriptions have consistently declined for Grapevine.

When making contributions to service entities, many AA Groups have never considered the spiritual nature of including Grapevine/La Vina.

(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.

This idea is an answer to a question Albin Z. posed during a Grapevine presentation at the 69th GSC. I'm paraphrasing but it seems to me the question was "what does the seventh tradition look like regarding A.A. Grapevine"? It came to me sometime later, but for several years now, at Grapevine events I have been making the suggestion that when your home group is deciding how much to contribute to service entities, please consider how to include Grapevine. Our Delegate heard me make this suggestion recently and said that I should submit the idea as a PAI for the next GSC.

A motion was composed and presented to the Not So Secret Service Manual Study Group of whom I am a member. After support, discussion and a vote it passed unanimously. The motion was then made at the following District 7 Business meeting. After support, discussion and a vote it passed unanimously. The motion was then made at the August 2025 Area 34 Assembly. It was supported and after discussion and an amendment the motion as currently written was voted on and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Richard P.
Supported by the Not So Secret Service Manual Study Group

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

F-3 Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix
A.A. Grapevine Inc. has been operating in the red for several years.
La Vina has never been self-supporting.
At the 2025 East Central Regional Forum, our GSB Chair stated that Grapevine received \$350,000 from the Reserve Fund this year. The Grapevine Publisher stated that if subscriptions could return to pre-pandemic levels, Grapevine would be self-supporting.

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

A greater awareness of how A.A. Grapevine and La Vina are supported.
A suggestion to include support for A.A. Grapevine and La Vina when seventh tradition contributions exceed expenses.
The intention of increasing A.A. Grapevine/La Vina subscriptions and sales of items produced.
The intention to move A.A. Grapevine and La Vina toward being fully self-supporting.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Richard P.

(7) Final comments:

2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM C: Consider a request to create a Twelve Steps study guide or workbook.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the December 10, 2025, interim meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-70), "For the General Service Office to create a service piece or workbook study guide to the Twelve Steps." The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-70 to 76th General Service Conference.

Advisory Action of the 35th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

The previous Conference actions regarding the Fourth and Fifth Step study guides be reaffirmed — i.e., there is no need for Fourth and Fifth Step study guides, as existing literature adequately covers these matters.

Advisory Action of the 24th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

The trustees' Literature Committee explore the need for a pamphlet guide to taking the Fourth and Fifth Steps.

Advisory Action of the 13th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

The need for a study guide to the Steps and Traditions or a condensed Twelve Steps book be explored and a report brought back to the 1964 Conference.

Staff note:

GSO's Legal, Licensing and Intellectual Property Department reports that from January 2024 to December 2025, the office received 24 requests from individuals seeking permission to create a workbook or study guide for *Alcoholics Anonymous*. All requests were denied, in keeping with the Advisory Actions noted above.

Background:

1. PAI-70

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>For the General Service Office to create a service piece or workbook study guide to the 12-steps.</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>"Currently, there is no Conference-approved 12-step guide specifically designed to work the steps. While there are many helpful books available that address the steps, none focus solely on them. A Conference-approved guide dedicated to the 12 steps would be a valuable resource for members seeking structured support in working the steps.</p> <p>Literature that is NOT A.A.-Conference approved, is not permitted behind the walls."</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>Following a pre-conference delegate report back, many incarcerated women expressed a desire for a 12-step guide from New York to help them work the steps. As a result, it was decided that Cari Z., Proxy GSR, would submit a motion to the Oregon Area 58 Assembly in May 2025. The motion was tabled, taken back to groups for discussion, and ultimately passed at the September 2025 Assembly.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>Our Delegate brought us a Pre-Conference presentation, and the women were thrilled to be included in the process. During the discussion, they shared how challenging it is to find sponsorship, as many women lack someone to guide them through the steps in a detailed and easy-to-understand way. This inspired the idea of submitting a motion to Oregon Area 58, encouraging all groups in Oregon to discuss the proposal and bring it back to the Assembly for a vote. The motion passed!</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p> <p>The intended outcome of this proposal is to create a 12-step Guide or service piece that provides a structured learning tool to help individuals, particularly those in challenging circumstances such as incarceration, work through the 12 steps effectively. This guide would address the expressed need for an outline to follow, as sponsorship is often difficult to access in such environments. By offering a practical and accessible resource, the guide aims to enhance the</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

ability of AA members to engage with the 12steps, fostering personal recovery and growth. Additionally, it would align with AAs mission to support alcoholics who still suffer, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all members.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

"Cari Z.

(7) Final comments:

"We recognize the value of the PLBB in reading and learning the program; however, many members still need additional support in actively working the steps. A Conference-approved study guide would be especially beneficial for individuals in remote communities and for sponsors seeking additional tools to guide others through the steps. This resource would provide structured assistance and enhance the ability of members to engage deeply with the program.

In 2023 the Literature Committee reviewed a proposal for a study guide focused on the BB or the 12x12 Steps and Traditions. The committee recommended prioritizing the completion of the currently approved projects before taking on new materials. We hope this proposal will be considered as the future project."

2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM D: Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (GSC) (PAI-22).

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee considered a proposal to “initiate a study to identify a less costly location for the General Service Conference” and agreed to forward to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy & Admissions. The committee noted that estimated costs, both for financial and human capital, would be beneficial information to share. The consideration and review of a similar topic at the 73rd General Service Conference and as estimate on the timeframe to recoup expenses would be important elements of informing a group conscience.

2025 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

In keeping with a request from the 74th General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions, the committee noted the February 11, 2025, memo update from the general manager to all Conference members on site selection and dates. The 77th and 78th General Service Conferences will be held at the New York Marriott Marquis hotel in New York City. The 77th General Service Conference will take place April 11-17, 2027. The 78th General Service Conference will take place April 23-29, 2028.

The committee reviewed the dates for the 2029 General Service Conference. In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select these proposed dates for the 79th General Service Conference, as follows (in order of preference): April 29 – May 5, 2029; April 15–21, 2029 and May 6–12, 2029. The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates are the best choices available for avoiding conflicts with significant holidays. The committee asked that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 79th General Service Conference as soon as they are finalized by GSO management.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

From the December 17, 2025, GM memo to Conference members:

“As requested by the 75th General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admission, I am notifying the committee and all Conference members that the site selection and dates for the 79th General Service Conference are finalized.

It is with great enthusiasm that I'd like to inform you that the 79th General Service Conference will take place April 15–21, 2029 at the New York Marriot Marquis hotel located in the heart of Times Square in New York City.”

2024 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the dates for the 2029 General Service Conference. In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select these proposed dates for the 79th General Service Conference, as follows (in order of preference): April 29 – May 5, 2029; April 15–21, 2029 and May 6–12, 2029; The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates are the best choices available for avoiding conflicts with significant holidays. The committee asked that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 79th General Service Conference as soon as they are finalized by GSO management.

2023 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection. The committee appreciated the detailed analysis of the costs and logistics of holding the Conference at sample facilities in four of the eight regions. The committee is not requesting a site selection report from the general manager in 2024, recognizing that contracts have been executed with hotels in the New York area for 2024, 2025 and 2026, and that site selection for the 2027 General Service Conference could be impacted by the results of the Location Plus Committee and possible relocation of the General Service Office. The committee is requesting that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee conduct a survey of current General Service Conference members regarding the spiritual implications of holding the Conference outside the New York area. An additional option to explore in the survey could be alternating between holding the Conference in the New York area and the Akron/Cleveland area. The committee looks forward to reviewing the survey results or a progress report at the 74th General Service Conference.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

2022 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection, noting with appreciation the level of detail regarding specific sites considered. The committee requested that the next site selection report provide detail on the financial, logistical and spiritual implications of holding the General Service Conference at other locations throughout the eight regions of the U.S./Canada service structure, perhaps in rotation with the New York City metropolitan area.

Conference Advisory Actions Regarding General Service Conference Site Selection:

- 2017** - General Service Office management submit a report on the process, implementation and status on the site selection of the General Service Conference for review by the 2018 Policy/Admissions Committee.
- 2008** - The responsibility for General Service Conference site selection be delegated to General Service Office management, subject to approval of the General Service Board; and that a report be forwarded to the 2009 General Service Conference.
- 1991** - The 1992 General Service Conference annual meeting be held in the city of New York. (Floor Action)
- 1970** - The General Service Office have the right to choose the hotel for the 1971 General Service Conference without conferring further with the delegates to the Conference. (delegates-only meeting)
- 1969** - In as much as GSO is now giving consideration to relocation of the office in New York, consideration might also be given to the relocation of the site of this annual meeting, with a view to returning to single-room accommodations, so that the advantages of private meditation, study, thought and rest might be restored. It was further suggested that the rising costs of the annual meeting might be controlled, or at least reduced, by a study of possible alternative hotel accommodations. (delegates-only meeting)
- 1956** - The proposal that meetings of the General Service Conference be "rotated" from New York City in even years to a different geographical section in odd years be tabled for consideration at some future date.

Current Conference Charter excerpt:

9. The General Service Conference Meetings: The Conference will meet yearly in the City of New York, unless otherwise agreed upon. Special meetings may be called should there be a grave emergency. The Conference may also render advisory opinions at any time by a mail or telephone poll in aid of the General Service Board or its related services.

Background:

1. PAI-22
2. 2023 GSC Site Selection Report
3. Link to 2023 Conference *Final Report* (See Location Plus presentation)
<https://www.aa.org/2023-general-service-conference-final-report>
4. Link to 2024 Conference *Final Report* (see Location Plus presentation)
<https://www.aa.org/2024-general-service-conference-final-report>

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>This motion is to initiate a study to identify a less costly location for the General Service Conference. This study should be of the depth and thoroughness of the Location+ study performed to determine the location of the General Service Office. An outside firm should be engaged for this purpose.</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>The ever-rising cost of the GSC. The rising cost is unsustainable and hard earned Seventh Tradition funds are being used to cover these costs. The resulting savings would free up Seventh Tradition funds for groups to better carry our life saving message.</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>The Beginners Group of District 82/Area 67 discussed and approved this item unanimously. The District 82 Committee of Area 67 and the District 40 Committee of Area 67 discussed and unanimously approved this motion. The Area 67 Assembly thoroughly discussed and approved this PAI unanimously.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>The estimated cost of the 75th General Service Conference is \$10,250/Area. The cost of the 74th GSC was \$9250. Note that the price for the 75th GSC is only an estimate. It is likely to be higher. Even if the forecast is accurate, it represents a 10.8% increase. This rate of increase year over year would result in a cost of more than \$17,000/Area for the 80th GSC.</p> <p>The cost of transportation to and from New York City airports is very high. The cost of hotel rooms and hotel services in New York City is very high. A hotel near a major airport hub would reduce airfare for many attendees Transportation costs to and from the airport would be negligible due to the availability of airport shuttles. Alcoholics Anonymous would also realize significant cost reductions for hotel rooms and services.</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p> <p>Curtailing the rapidly rising cost for the GSC would allow more of the fellowship's hard earned Seventh Tradition contributions to be used for carrying our lifesaving message.</p>
<p>(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Rick. M.

(7) Final comments:

Thank you for your consideration of this PAI. It is my sincere hope that the rapidly rising costs for the General Service Conference can be mitigated.

2026 Staff Note: This document contains minor edits to note corrected/outdated information.

2023 General Service Conference Site Selection Report
(Presented to the Policy and Admissions Committee)

The 2022 Policy and Admissions Conference Committee requested that the next site selection report provide detail on the **financial, logistical, and spiritual** implications of holding the General Service Conference (GSC) at other locations throughout the eight regions of the U.S./Canada service structure, perhaps in rotation every other year with the New York City metropolitan area.

GSO's Meeting, Events and Travel (METs) team randomly chose two locations within each of the eight regions. When possible, one was chosen in a more metropolitan area and the other in a more rural area to get a sense of cost comparison and balance with logistics.

Several facilities have either not responded or do not have the capacity to accommodate our specifications. However, we received data from facilities in four of the eight regions: West Central, East Central, Eastern Canada and the Northeast. Although the GSC is not particularly large, the number of breakout rooms necessary is a challenge for many venues to accommodate. Also challenging is that the hotel industry is experiencing severe staffing issues, making it difficult to obtain pricing and proposals. The data gathered within these four regions still provides a strong sample of financial and logistical details to draw conclusions as to the feasibility of hosting a GSC outside the New York City (NYC) metropolitan area.

Financial

Appendix A illustrates a comparison of actual expenses from the 2022 GSC to projected costs derived from proposals received. GSO's CFO, in collaboration with the MET's team, developed this comparison. Some points and assumptions worthy of mention are as follows:

- **Travel**

Conference members – Included in this line are 12 GSO Staff, director of Staff services, general manager, GV publisher and the Grapevine Committee secretary.

Commented [RJ1]: I change this from 11 to 12 from the original 2023 background

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

GSO support staff to Conference – 40 other support staff are included in this line, ranging from the full METs team, technology support, directors and department heads, and other logistical support from Office Services. This is the average number that have attended and supported the last three in-person Conferences.

GSO support staff site visits – Three site visits throughout the year: Two would include two members from the METs team and the Conference coordinator, the 3rd visit would include the general manager.

The trip to GSO/Stepping Stones was removed in the regional columns.

- **Meals**
Meals for site visits and early arrival during Conference week for support staff to set up. At least eight staff (METs, Technology & Office Services).
- **Lodging**
Additional lodging costs are added for site visits and the early arrival of support staff (8). You will also notice an increased amount in the regional columns for “Support Staff During Conference” (40).
- **Other**
Equipment rental would be necessary, as these locations are too far to ship our copier and printers. Postage and shipping also reflect increases due to the distance to ship items as well as shipping technical support equipment otherwise carried to hotels within NYC.

This comparison and summary represent our best estimates and assumptions that hosting a GSC within the eight regions would entail. Hosting an actual Conference would be the only way to understand and know the actual needs, so it is likely every assumption has not been considered.

Logistical

Planning the GSC is a yearlong process. Planning a Conference outside NYC from the GSO would present challenges due to unfamiliarity of the area and the need be on-site for set-up, planning and workflow. This would require multiple site visits; the financial projections estimate a need for at least three site visits but more may be necessary, particularly without experience to draw from. The METs team and several other staff support from Office Services would have to arrive early to set up the workroom and other areas of the facility.

Shipping from a distance would require more detailed arrangements compared to the services we use to transport our equipment and supplies to local hotels in NYC.

2 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Although the properties used in this report are for illustration purposes, it is plausible that an actual hotel could be situated on an airport property and would be easily accessible with little or no transportation needed. Transportation between the airport and hotel may be complimentary through shuttle service.

Many locations throughout our structure are not in proximity to major train routes which some participants annually choose as a means of transportation. This would exclude certain areas from the possibility of hosting. Bus service may pose a similar challenge.

Hosting outside NYC would demand all supporting office employees are onsite throughout the duration of the Conference. When held in NYC, many employees go back and forth from their homes and the office.

IT set up and support would lose the benefits of the close proximity of the office if certain supplies were needed for special circumstances, e.g., extra cables, equipment swaps, etc.

Spiritual

To address spiritual implications of holding a GSC outside NYC, I arranged a dedicated GSO Staff sharing session. The following is a summary of points from the sharing session:

- Planning is more nimble when it's close to the office, e.g., site visits, supplies, etc. Collaboration between Staff assignments and departments would likely be compromised.
- Concerns of the principle of participation being compromised, i.e. non-Conference member staff support from various departments not being allowed to travel to participate.
- If we found a less expensive location in our structure, we would have money to spend on other spiritual services.
- The decision to move shouldn't be related to a desire to move the office.
- If part of the motivation is for a better location than NYC, unity on alternate locations is unlikely. Rye, NY is a good example of this. Some liked it and some didn't.
- The Conference would miss out on Stepping Stones and GSO visits during Conference week. Visiting the office during Conference weeks was one of the reasons the early members chose to meet in NYC. **2026 Staff Note: Any attendee visiting Stepping Stones will do so at their own expense.**
- International observers would miss out on the Fellowships history tied to NYC.
- Similar to international observers, some area delegates would feel left out of the NYC experience and history of the Fellowship.

3 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- The history of the Conference being held in NYC has been a central part of a long history of unity and comradery among area delegates, trustees and Staff. I'm concerned that would be difficult to duplicate in other locations.
- Where money and spirituality mix melds financial, logistical and spiritual matters. If there are logistical or financial challenges due to hosting within the regions, it will create spiritual difficulties.
- Many past and present delegates share a sentiment that their Conference experience was enhanced by being in NYC and a move away from that would potentially bear a spiritual cost.
- Would the principle of inclusion be challenged? The idea of hosting the GSC within our regional structure in a rotation with NYC would not allow wide area involvement as the GSC specifications limit hotel availability to a limited number of geographic locations.

Archives Research

The Archives Department provided a sample of historical references to this topic:

"We are now trying to develop some fair method of regional representatives which could bring delegates to New York once a year to sit down in a joint session with our Headquarters people, following which, the Service Conference would make a report to the Groups on the state of the Headquarters and A.A. in general."

Letter from Bill W. to Fred C., December 1, 1947

"After a lot of thought, I am beginning to think we have an answer – at least a partial one. The conference can't be too big, it can't be too small. It can't ever be a political or governing body. Just a bunch of sane A.A.s who will sit down and see whether things are going all right in New York and make a report on it. I think that's all we shall ever need."

Letter from Bill W. to Jimmy B., December 11, 1947:

"Each Delegate will serve two-year term, will always be available for mail or phone consultation with A.A. Headquarters, and will twice attend the General Service Conference which will be held in New York City to coincide with the regular April meeting of the Foundation."

"Your Third Legacy" pamphlet, pages 7-8:

"They [Delegates] will become closely acquainted with each other and with our Headquarters people. They will visit the premises of the Foundation, Grapevine, and Service Headquarters. This should engender mutual confidence. Guesswork and rumor are to be replaced by first-hand knowledge."

4 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

"Your Third Legacy" pamphlet, page 8:

Conference Discussions:

In October 1955, the former GSB Policy Committee discussed a suggestion from two delegates, to pursue the "possibility of having alternating sessions of the General Service Conference in cities other than New York." Further, "this would be done in odd years, thereby giving each delegate a chance to visit Headquarters in even years."

Some of the "cons" expressed by the board were:

- "Bringing the necessary staff and personnel from Headquarters to these different cities."
- "Delegates would lose the benefit of going through the office."
- "This would mean changing the Charter of the Third Legacy."

The proposal was discussed at the 1956 General Service Conference but was tabled for consideration at "some future date."

In 1962 the GSC "rejected a proposal that the 1965 General Service Conference be held in Toronto, Canada." It was the sense of the meeting that the "proposal, in addition to placing a serious burden on GSO manpower and facilities, would deprive 1965 Conference delegates (particularly those of Panel 15) of the opportunity to become more familiar with GSO's world service operations."

Conference Booking (Catching Up)

In the 2022 report, I explained we would begin catching up on securing dates and venues for the Conference after the necessary pause due to the pandemic. With a pandemic no longer posing a risk to contracting hotels for the Conference, I have brought us up to date and alignment with the Advisory Actions pertaining to Conference booking and have executed contracts with the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge (Brooklyn Marriott) through 2026. RFPs were sent to several hotels in the NYC area. Similar to the challenges outlined in the regional RFP's, we experienced difficulty locally obtaining accommodation for our specs and receipt of proposals. The dates and locations are as follows:

April 14-20, 2024

April 27-May 3, 2025

April 26-May 2, 2026

2026 Staff Note: The GSC was held at the Brooklyn Marriot through 2024. The 2025 and 2026 GSC location: Midtown N.Y. Hilton. The 2027, 2028 & 2029 will be held at the Marriot Marquis, Manhattan

5 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Suitability of sleeping and meeting rooms

The Brooklyn Marriott meets our standards and needs to host the Conference in a manner that supports past practice, meeting formats and schedules. It has been assessed for safety, quality, and service.

Summary

The financial data gathered clearly shows it's possible to find venues within our structure that are more cost effective than NYC. That said, if there was a rotational schedule included with hosting a Conference outside NYC, a question to consider may be "would all areas have the option to be included and participate?" Also of note would be consideration of Bill's and others spiritual thoughts on this question to host a GSC outside NYC; "*Just a bunch of sane A.A.s who will sit down and see whether things are going all right in New York.*" Or this thought from "Your Third Legacy" pamphlet: "*They will visit the premises of the Foundation, Grapevine, and Service Headquarters. This should engender mutual confidence.*" Logistics certainly have pros and cons also. The pros of venues outside NYC offering the possibility of ease access from airports to hotels and the cons of planning from a distance, no access to office tools during Conference week, unfamiliarity of the area, considerable number of staff traveling and site visits throughout the year taking staff away from other work.

###

6 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

FINANCE
Item D
Doc.2

2026 Staff Note: Below reflects the expenses at the time of the 2022 site study and is being kept in the report for historical background and not a reflection of current costs.

Appendix A - GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE EXPENSES - GENERAL MANAGER SITE SELECTION REPORT

<u>TYPE OF EXPENSE</u>	<u>2022 BROOKLYN</u>	<u>WEST CENTRAL</u>	<u>EAST CENTRAL</u>	<u>EASTERN CANADA</u>	<u>NORTHEAST</u>
<u>EXPENSES WHICH VARY BY SITE</u>					
<u>Travel</u>					
<u>Conference Members</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>91,440</u>	<u>88,860</u>	<u>86,461</u>	<u>87,956</u>
<u>GSO support staff to Conference</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>27,260</u>	<u>19,880</u>	<u>24,480</u>
<u>GSO support staff site visits</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>6,500</u>
<u>Interpreters</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>
<u>Appointed Committee Members</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,900</u>
<u>Trustees Emeriti</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,100</u>
<u>Trip to GSO</u>	<u>2,100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Subtotal Travel</u>	<u>102,800</u>	<u>146,640</u>	<u>134,620</u>	<u>123,341</u>	<u>130,436</u>
<u>Meals</u>					
<u>GSO support staff site visits</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>750</u>
<u>GSO support staff setup</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,536</u>	<u>1,536</u>	<u>1,536</u>	<u>1,536</u>
<u>Opening Dinner</u>	<u>54,900</u>	<u>19,500</u>	<u>19,500</u>	<u>25,400</u>	<u>21,500</u>
<u>Coffee and Beverage Service</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>
<u>Continental Breakfasts</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>

7 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

<u>All Other Lunches, Dinners, and Breaks</u>	<u>310,900</u>	<u>244,800</u>	<u>190,100</u>	<u>282,200</u>	<u>241,900</u>
<u>Subtotal Meals</u>	<u>405,800</u>	<u>306,586</u>	<u>251,886</u>	<u>349,886</u>	<u>305,686</u>
 <u>Lodging</u>					
<u>GSO support staff site visits</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,590</u>	<u>1,750</u>	<u>2,670</u>	<u>1,890</u>
<u>GSO support staff setup</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,816</u>	<u>4,200</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>4,536</u>
<u>Conference Members</u>	<u>291,000</u>	<u>171,720</u>	<u>189,000</u>	<u>288,360</u>	<u>204,120</u>
<u>GSO support staff during Conference</u>	<u>15,300</u>	<u>50,880</u>	<u>56,000</u>	<u>85,440</u>	<u>60,480</u>
<u>Interpreters</u>	<u>10,200</u>	<u>7,632</u>	<u>8,400</u>	<u>12,816</u>	<u>9,072</u>
<u>Appointed Committee Members</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>3,816</u>	<u>4,200</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>4,536</u>
<u>Observer</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>1,272</u>	<u>1,400</u>	<u>2,136</u>	<u>1,512</u>
<u>Trustees Emeriti</u>	<u>3,800</u>	<u>2,544</u>	<u>2,800</u>	<u>4,272</u>	<u>3,024</u>
<u>Subtotal Lodging</u>	<u>324,900</u>	<u>243,270</u>	<u>267,750</u>	<u>408,510</u>	<u>289,170</u>
 <u>Other</u>					
<u>Audio Visual</u>	<u>150,700</u>	<u>150,700</u>	<u>150,700</u>	<u>150,700</u>	<u>150,700</u>
<u>Equipment Rental</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
<u>Postage and Shipping</u>	<u>15,300</u>	<u>17,800</u>	<u>18,300</u>	<u>27,300</u>	<u>17,800</u>
<u>Subtotal Other</u>	<u>166,000</u>	<u>172,500</u>	<u>173,000</u>	<u>182,000</u>	<u>172,500</u>
 <u>SUBTOTAL VARIABLE EXPENSE</u>	 <u>999,500</u>	 <u>868,996</u>	 <u>827,256</u>	 <u>1,063,737</u>	 <u>897,792</u>
 <u>CONSTANT REGARDLESS OF SITE</u>					
 <u>Professional Fees</u>					
<u>Editorial Services</u>	<u>6,900</u>	<u>6,900</u>	<u>6,900</u>	<u>6,900</u>	<u>6,900</u>
<u>Committee Assignment Software Support</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
<u>Photography</u>	<u>4,300</u>	<u>4,300</u>	<u>4,300</u>	<u>4,300</u>	<u>4,300</u>

8 of 9

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

<u>Two Past Staff to support Conference Assignment</u>	<u>9,800</u>	<u>9,800</u>	<u>9,800</u>	<u>9,800</u>	<u>9,800</u>
<u>Document Translation</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
<u>Interpretation</u>	<u>20,700</u>	<u>20,700</u>	<u>20,700</u>	<u>20,700</u>	<u>20,700</u>
<u>Subtotal Professional Fees</u>	<u>142,200</u>	<u>142,200</u>	<u>142,200</u>	<u>142,200</u>	<u>142,200</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Printing, Postage, and Supplies</u>					
<u>Supplies</u>	<u>19,200</u>	<u>19,200</u>	<u>19,200</u>	<u>19,200</u>	<u>19,200</u>
<u>Equipment</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>
<u>Printing Final Conference Report</u>	<u>36,300</u>	<u>36,300</u>	<u>36,300</u>	<u>36,300</u>	<u>36,300</u>
<u>Other Printing</u>	<u>5,800</u>	<u>5,800</u>	<u>5,800</u>	<u>5,800</u>	<u>5,800</u>
<u>Subtotal Printing and Supplies</u>	<u>63,000</u>	<u>63,000</u>	<u>63,000</u>	<u>63,000</u>	<u>63,000</u>
<u>SUBTOTAL CONSTANT EXPENSE</u>	<u>205,200</u>	<u>205,200</u>	<u>205,200</u>	<u>205,200</u>	<u>205,200</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL EXPENSE</u>	<u>1,204,700</u>	<u>1,074,196</u>	<u>1,032,456</u>	<u>1,268,937</u>	<u>1,102,992</u>
<u>Variance to 2022 Actuals</u>		<u>(130,504)</u>	<u>(172,244)</u>	<u>64,237</u>	<u>(101,708)</u>
<u>Conference Members</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>135</u>
<u>Cost Per Conference Member</u>	<u>9,058</u>	<u>7,957</u>	<u>7,648</u>	<u>9,400</u>	<u>8,170</u>
<u>Change from 2022 cost per member</u>		<u>(1,101)</u>	<u>(1,410)</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>(888)</u>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



V. EN-GV-76-GSC

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña agenda

A. Review AA Grapevine Workbook.....	2
GV-A0 - COVER WORKBOOK.docx.....	2
GV-A1- OFFICE REPORT WORKBOOK.docx.....	4
B. Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine and La Viña book topics for 2027 or after.....	5
GV - B0 - COVER BOOK TOPICS.docx.....	5
GV-B1- GVLV BOOKTOPICS REPORT TITLES.docx.....	6
GV-B2- GVLV BOOKTOPICS APPROVED.docx.....	7
C. Review the five-year plans for both Grapevine and La Viña.....	9
GV - C0 - COVER 5YRGVLVPLAN.docx.....	9
GV-C1 OFFICE REPORT 5YRGVLVPLAN.docx.....	10
D. Review the progress on the AA Grapevine survey of the membership to identify relevance, usefulness and financial viability of products and services provided by Grapevine, such as the magazines, books (print, digital, and audio), podcast and social media (Instagram and YouTube).	18
GV - D0 - COVER GV SURVEY PROGRESS.docx.....	18
GV-D1 GV SURVEY PROGRESS REPORT.docx.....	19
E. Review the AA Grapevine/La Viña Media Platforms report.....	26
GV - E0 - COVER GVLVMEDIA PLATFORMS.docx.....	26
GV-E1 Quarterly_Report_for_Q4_2025.docx.....	28
F. Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc., accept contributions.....	35
GV - F0 - COVER GVCONTRIBUTIONS.docx.....	35
GV-F1 GV CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT.docx.....	36
GV-F2 Pub memo to Conf Comm.docx.....	39

2026 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM A: Review AA Grapevine Workbook.

Background notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, Grapevine & La Viña, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' Committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The workbooks are available on the websites:

- www.aagrapevine.org/gvr-resources
- <https://www.aalavina.org/recursos>

From 2025 Additional Committee Considerations:

The committee reviewed the AA Grapevine Workbook and provided some editorial suggestions.

From 2023 Additional Committee Considerations:

The committee reviewed the AA Grapevine Workbook and provided some editorial suggestions and ways to access the workbook more easily.

From 2022 Additional Committee Considerations:

The committee reviewed the progress report on the AA Grapevine Workbook revisions and looks forward to having it available on the website, in English and Spanish. The committee also forwarded editorial suggestions to the workbook to the Grapevine office.

Background:

1. 2026 Office Report

Grapevine Workbook available to view at the link below:

- [AA Grapevine Workbook \(English\)](#)

La Viña workbook available to view at the link below:

- [AA La Viña Workbook \(Spanish adaptation\)](#)

**Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña
2026 Office Report: AA Grapevine Workbook**

The updated AA Grapevine Workbook was posted on the AA Grapevine website (www.aagrapevine.org) in January 2026. It can be found on the “Get Involved” page under “Rep Resources.” The workbook was streamlined recently to make it easier to use and more helpful for Grapevine reps. The content was updated to expand on shared experience and how to use Grapevine and La Viña as a recovery tool. Colorful illustrations have been added, as well as clickable links which take members directly to relevant sections of the Grapevine website for more detailed information. It has also been designed to make it easier for staff to update from time to time. The workbook was also translated into Spanish for La Viña reps and Spanish-speaking members. You can find it on the La Viña website (www.aalavina.org).

2026 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM B: Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine book topics for 2027 or after.

Background notes:

From 2002 Advisory Actions:

It was unanimously recommended that the Conference Committee on the Grapevine annually review a list of proposed related items at least one year in advance of possible production, so that the Conference might provide guidance, recognizing that the committee may request more than one year to review some proposed items.

From 1992 Advisory Actions:

The committee recommended acceptance of the following proposal from the Grapevine Corporate Board:

In order to achieve some uniformity of procedure and to gain desired Conference input on Grapevine special items, yet not to compromise the Grapevine Corporate Board's "right of decision" to manage the fiscal affairs of the Grapevine, let it be proposed that:

Based on the positive model of mutual Conference and board involvement in the production of The Language of the Heart, the Grapevine Corporate Board offer to the Conference Grapevine Committee on an ongoing basis, a general list of proposed special items at least two years in advance of possible production, in order that the Conference should offer any guidance or register any disapproval they might have. Having so presented the conceptual basis of these special Items to the Conference Committee, final approval for the completed items would rest with the Grapevine Corporate Board.

Background:

1. Book Topics Report
2. List of Conference approved titles for Grapevine and La Viña

AA Grapevine Catalog (mailed to committee members; online at www.aagrapevine.org)

**Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña
2025 Office Report AA Grapevine Items
Suggestions for production in the year 2027 or later**

Report: AAGV items are published for several reasons: first, to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous through stories from members and friends of the Fellowship; and second, to help GV maintain its self-supporting status. Furthermore, GV items provide a service to the Fellowship by making Grapevine and La Viña articles available in a wide range of formats: print, audio and digital. They also introduce both magazine titles, through these anthologies, to those who are unfamiliar with them; and help deepen member's interest and understanding of the Steps, Traditions and history of Alcoholics Anonymous.

1. Senior Members (working title)

Stories by AA members who got to AA late in life, including members who are dealing with issues related to older age in sobriety.

Softcover: Approx. 120-200 pages

Projected unit cost (printing and design): \$4.50 per book, 10,000-unit print run

Price: \$14.99

eBook estimated project cost: \$1,000

Price: \$11.99

2. Members Dealing with Mental Illness (working title)

Stories by AA members dealing with mental illness, sharing how they got sober, stay sober and work the program.

Softcover: Approx. 120-200 pages

Projected unit cost (printing and design): \$4.50 per book, 10,000-unit print run

Price: \$14.99

eBook estimated project cost: \$1,000

Price: \$11.99

3. Despertares Espirituales (Spiritual Awakenings) (LV book) (working title)

Stories by Spanish-speaking AA members about faith, prayer and finding a Higher Power.

Softcover: Approx. 120-200 pages

Projected unit cost (printing and design): \$4.50 per book, 10,000-unit print run

Price: \$14.99

eBook estimated project cost: \$1,000

Price: \$11.99

**Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña
2025 Office Report Approved Titles for Grapevine and La Viña**

Report:

Updated June 2025

Approved Grapevine Book Ideas

1. Voices of Long-Term Sobriety II
2. Accessibilities (formerly Special Needs)
3. Inclusiveness (Diversity) in AA
4. Mid-Sobriety Challenges
5. How I found My Higher Power
6. Steps 4 & 5
7. All About GV Reps (doing service with GV & LV)
8. AA & Families
9. The Early Days of AA (40s, 50s, 60s — AA's earliest days)
10. Getting Involved in General Service
11. AA's Twelve Concepts
12. Best of Dear Grapevine
13. Book for Newcomers
14. GV Cartoon Book III
15. Emotional Sobriety III
16. Sober Holiday Stories
17. Dating & Relationships
18. Prayer & Meditation II (working title)
19. Women's Book II (passed in 2025)
20. Best of "If Walls Could Talk" (passed in 2025)

Approved La Viña Book Ideas

1. Stories from LV Workshops
2. Carrying the Message into Institutions
3. Hispanic members Doing Service in AA
4. Surrender & Hope
5. How We Came to Believe
6. Voices of Oldtimers
7. Spiritual Awakenings (translated GV book)
8. Lo Mejor de La Viña III (Best of LV III)
9. En las prisiones (Jails and Institutions)
10. La derrota (Surrender)
11. Amor, Unidad y Servicio (Love, Unity and Service) (passed in 2025)

2026 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM C: Review the five-year plan for both Grapevine and La Viña.

Background notes:

From 2025 Advisory Actions:

The five-year plans for both Grapevine and La Viña be reviewed annually by the Conference Committee on the AA Grapevine and La Viña. The background materials for both plans should include at least five years of financial history and any relevant historical and/or strategic narrative that supports their projections.

From 2024 Advisory Actions:

The AA Grapevine Board develop a five-year financial plan for La Viña with the goal to reduce shortfalls and increase revenue to be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.

Background:

1. Grapevine and La Viña plan progress report

AA Grapevine Draft Five-Year Plan: 2026–2030

Purpose and Strategy

Our plan focuses on cross-attraction, digital growth, improved subscription and book sales campaigns, broader engagement with the Fellowship, and increased face-to-face and digital connections — so Grapevine can help more alcoholics. All Grapevine channels will reinforce one another through integrated campaigns and shared calls to service.

New initiatives such as local office sales of subscriptions, better incentives for offices and committees to purchase books in bulk, the global expansion of the Grapevine apps, creative targeted campaigns to increase circulation, an international Grapevine online meeting, an additional podcast, more efficient fulfillment with the new Darwin system, and Grapevine presence on new outreach tools and apps, will all help more alcoholics and attract more members to subscribe and purchase books — and increase revenue.

Goal: By 2030, Grapevine, Inc. will help roughly 20% more alcoholics by expanding reach and engagement across all Grapevine channels. As reach grows, subscription and book sales will increase, moving Grapevine toward self-support. Subscriptions will grow by 14% over the next five years. Book sales will increase by 10%.

This plan should be considered a living document to be revisited annually and adapted to market conditions, new products and services, new opportunities and feedback from the Fellowship. Some of our projects from strategic planning are included in this plan. A tremendous amount of work is still underway from strategic planning and new projects will be added as they are approved.

Current Baseline and 2030 Goal

Channel	Current Reach	2030 Goal
Grapevine total subscriptions	59,000	67,000
Grapevine Instagram	15,300	19,125
YouTube Grapevine Subscribers	16,400	20,500
Podcast (weekly listeners)	6,300	7,875
Book Sales	30,000/yr	33,200/yr
Grapevine Daily Quote	54,000/day	67,500/day

Subscription Baseline 2025

Category	Total	Price	Notes
Print Subscriptions	41,000	\$36	Trending down 5%/yr
Digital Subscriptions	17,500	\$30	Growing 22%/yr

Strategic Objectives by 2030

Objective	Metric	Goal
Grow total subscriptions	58,000 → 67,000	37,000 digital / 30,000 print
Achieve self-support	-\$300K → \$0	Or a modest profit
Expand CTM subscriptions	+40%	Strengthen digital gifting, increase awareness
Grow book sales	+2% annually	Bulk + local offices

Strategic Pillars & Key Actions

1. Digital Expansion & App Growth

Goal: Increase digital subscriptions from current 17,500 → 37,000 by 2030.

Actions

- Continually upgrade Grapevine app and website with games, themed archives, audio submissions and other interactive engagement features to increase participation and retention.
- Develop and implement an AI-powered assistant within the apps and website to help members easily locate stories, submit content, and navigate Grapevine and La Viña resources.
- Increase cooperation and exposure through other digital properties, such as the AAWS website, the Meeting Guide app, and new apps.
- Expand international subscriptions. Apps now available worldwide.
- Offer “Complete” subscription twice a year at a discounted rate (\$50/year).
- Expand to digital with gift subscriptions with easier sharing.
- QR codes at meetings, events, books, and on print materials.
- Attract through podcasts and online meetings.
- Actively upsell “Complete” subscription with eye toward members converting to digital.

App store subscriptions (through Apple or Google) grew by 35% in 2025, from 5,571 to 7,532. All digital subs grew by 22%, from 14,141 to 17,315. With international availability and new attraction opportunities we expect trends to continue.

Projected Outcome: By adding over 15,000 digital subs; related revenue will grow over \$500K annually by 2030.

2. Print Retention & Managed Decline

Goal: Gradual print decline **41,000** → **33,000**, while increasing yield per subscriber.

Actions

- Focus print on long-time members, groups, hospitals, and corrections.
- Modest price increases over time (\$36 → \$40 by 2029).
- Quarterly attraction emails highlighting app and digital benefits.
- Weekly Grapevine online meeting and new podcast will increase awareness of the benefits of app subscriptions and print as a Twelve-Step tool.
- While print subscriptions are declining, print revenues stay relatively consistent due to ongoing modest price increases.

Projected Outcome: 8,000 fewer print subs, with emphasis on converting to digital.

3. Carry the Message (CTM) Program

Goal: Increase CTM subscriptions by 12% per year.

Actions

- Encourage digital gift subscriptions for military members.
- Expand knowledge of CTM helping those in corrections and treatment centers.
- Launch optional monthly CTM contributions (\$10–\$20).
- Anonymous donor recognition in print on podcasts and online.
- Tie CTM giving to events and online meetings.

Projected Outcome: \$10K net annual support by 2030. Current income is \$5,958.

CTM subscriptions have grown 6% over the past year. With new attraction tools we expect that growth to continue.

4. Area, Central Office & Intergroup Partnerships

Goal: Generate subscriptions and book sales through local AA offices.

Actions

- Enable Area, Central Office, and Intergroup sales of subscriptions (print & digital). With a 10% commission on all first-year subscription sales.
- Launch a simple online portal to track sales and commissions.
- Provide optional GV/LV branded outreach merchandise aligned with AA Traditions to support visibility and engagement at local events.
- Encourage use of swag and digital tools together at Assemblies, Roundups, and Intergroup events.
- Provide display kits (sample issues, posters, QR codes) to offices.
- Feature high-service offices in Grapevine stories and podcasts.

Projected Outcome: +3,000 new subscriptions; +\$90K subscription revenue.

5. Books: Bulk Discounts, Local Sales, Online Store Expansion

Goal: Increase book sales 2% per year.

New Bulk Discount Structure

- 5+ books: \$0.50 off each
- 10+ books: \$1.00 off each
- 20+ books: \$2.00 off each
- 30+ books: \$3.00 off each

Actions

- Attract local offices, H&I and corrections committees to bulk discounts.
- Encourage local offices to sell books at meetings and events.
- Attract members to books through weekly A.A. meeting and podcasts.
- Discontinue trade sales through Ingram, open Grapevine shop on Amazon.

Projected Outcome: Book sales grow from 30,000 → 33,000 annually by 2030.

6. Email & Direct Engagement Campaigns

Goal: Increase open rates, conversions, and cross-sales.

Actions

- Improve email campaigns with short videos, quotes, affirmations, short jokes, and spiritual humor to increase opens.
- Clear, simple calls-to-action for subscriptions, books, CTM, and gifts.

Projected Outcome: Higher conversion rates across subscriptions and books.

7. Fellowship Ambassadors & Local Presence

Goal: Greater participation at local events to attract members to Grapevine as an everyday AA tool.

Actions

- Grapevine Staff, Board members, Area Grapevine Chairs, and Editorial Advisory Board members act as ambassadors.
- Utilize GV/LV outreach swag and digital engagement tools as supportive resources for ambassadors.
- Demonstrate digital features—including the AI Assistant and interactive tools.
- Attend more local events to reach a typical AA-member audience.
- Focus on sharing experience (“How Grapevine helps me”) not sales pitches.

Projected Outcome: Sustained organic growth through attraction. Greater awareness of benefits of Grapevine products and services. Greater subscriptions and book sales.

8. Online Grapevine Open Meeting

Goal: Provide a new recovery-based meeting. Build Grapevine awareness and community engagement.

Structure

- Weekly 1-hour meeting.
- Available internationally
- Readings from Grapevine, Big Book, 12 & 12.
- Host + two speakers.

- Brief attraction announcements. (Subscribe to magazines or apps, books, podcast, YouTube, Instagram, get the Daily Quote, etc.)
- Integrate demonstrations of new digital engagement features and the AI Assistant during meetings.

Projected Outcome: 200 new subscriptions annually using special offers to attendees, 1,000 by 2030.

9. Pricing Strategy

Product	2026	2027	2029	2030
Print Subscription	\$36	\$38	\$40	\$40
Digital Subscription	\$30	\$32	\$34	\$34
Avg. Book Price	\$15	\$17	\$19	\$19

Impact: +\$150K additional annual revenue by 2030.

10. Cost-Saving Actions (annual)

- Maintain minimal staff. We've reduced staff 28% since January 2025. Saving \$420K annually.
- Convert international subscriptions to digital with savings greater than \$10K.
- Expand digital subscribers and reduce print subscribers overall saving \$2K on mailing costs.
- Maintain rent reduction, down 75%, saving \$45K.
- Reduced renewal-mailings, increased email campaigns, saving \$25K per year.
- Controls on book and magazine warehouse inventories, saving \$8K per year
- Reduced print runs save approximately \$20K per year.

Financial Projection Summary (operating income before interest)

Note: In 2024, net operating loss was 867K

Year	Revenue	Expenses	Net
2025*	3,225	3,518	-293
2026	3,217	3,425	-208

2027	3,511	3,589	-78
2028	3,729	3,760	-31
2029	4,018	3,939	+79
2030	4,366	4,188	+178

*2025 financials subject to audit.

Outcome by 2030

- Expanded reach helps more alcoholics in and out of the rooms
- Subscriptions up 12% (60,000 → 67,000)
- Digital share grows from 28% → 55%
- Book sales grow steadily via bulk sales to local offices and committees
- Maintain cost-saving measures
- Grapevine becomes financially self-supporting
- Stronger connection with AA members

Grapevine 5-Year Financial Model — Draft

Mags & App	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Circulation (Avg Subscribers)					
Print	40,875	38,927	36,981	35,132	33,376
Complete	5,621	5,921	6,221	6,521	6,821
Online	4,615	5,565	6,515	7,465	8,415
App	8,825	11,325	13,825	16,325	18,825
Total Circulation	59,936	61,738	63,542	65,443	67,437
Revenue per Sub					
Print	\$2.61	\$2.72	\$2.86	\$3.00	\$3.14
Complete	\$3.98	\$4.45	\$4.52	\$4.69	\$4.69
Online	\$2.33	\$2.69	\$2.69	\$2.89	\$2.89
App	\$2.57	\$2.97	\$2.97	\$3.19	\$3.19
Circulation Revs					
Print	1,280,175	1,270,577	1,269,188	1,264,752	1,257,608
Complete	268,471	316,181	337,427	367,002	383,886
Online	128,863	179,812	210,507	259,074	292,044
App	271,652	403,623	492,723	624,921	720,621
Back Issues/Prison/Hospital	146,000	154,391	163,265	172,649	182,572
Total Circulation Revenues	\$2,095,161	\$2,324,585	\$2,473,110	\$2,688,398	\$2,836,731
Direct Cost					
Magazine Production	340,000	334,503	338,504	332,000	326,000
Audio Production	26,520	27,846	29,238	30,700	32,235
Warehousing	54,000	52,015	49,697	47,017	43,944
Postage	378,000	372,000	366,000	360,000	354,000
GV App	40,748	49,983	59,217	68,452	77,687
Total Direct Cost	\$839,268	\$821,453	\$798,936	\$771,316	\$738,161
Magazine & App GM	\$1,255,893	\$1,503,132	\$1,674,174	\$1,917,082	\$2,098,570
Content Related Income					
Books	1,046,700	1,109,502	1,176,072	1,246,636	1,321,435
Audio	37,200	37,800	39,690	41,675	43,758
Greeting Cards and other Special	38,400	39,100	39,690	41,675	43,758
International Convention	0	0	0	0	120,000
Total Content related Income	1,122,300	1,186,402	1,255,452	1,329,986	1,528,951
Content Related Direct Cost	373,409	399,548	427,516	457,442	549,463
Content Related Gross Margin	748,891	786,854	827,936	872,544	979,488
Total GM	\$2,004,784	\$2,289,986	\$2,502,110	\$2,789,626	\$3,078,058
Overhead	2,212,700	2,367,589	2,533,320	2,710,653	2,900,398
Net Operating Income	-207,916	-77,603	-31,210	78,973	177,659

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM D: Review the progress on the AA Grapevine survey of the membership to identify relevance, usefulness and financial viability of products and services provided by Grapevine, such as the magazines, books (print, digital, and audio), podcast and social media (Instagram and YouTube).

Background notes:

Excerpts from the 2025 Conference Committee on Grapevine & La Viña:

Review the progress on the AA Grapevine survey of the membership to identify relevance, usefulness and financial viability of products and services provided by Grapevine, such as the magazines, books (print, digital, and audio), podcast and social media (Instagram and YouTube).

Background:

1. 2026 Subcommittee on the AA Grapevine Survey Report

Development of the Fellowship Survey

AA Grapevine & La Viña — Fellowship Feedback Subcommittee

In response to the Conference committee Advisory Action directing the AA Grapevine Board to obtain feedback from the Fellowship, a Survey Subcommittee was convened to develop a survey of AA members. The Advisory Action called for a survey designed to identify the relevance, usefulness, and financial viability of Grapevine and La Viña products and services, including the magazines, books in print, digital, and audio formats, the podcast, and social media platforms such as Instagram and YouTube. The action further requested a progress report to the 2026 Conference Committee on AA Grapevine and La Viña, a final report to the 2027 committee, and a memo to the board within 60 days containing suggestions for the content of the survey.

The Survey Subcommittee was composed of Teddy B-W., Chris C., Kimberly L., David S., Molly O., Fredy M., and Nikki O., serving as subcommittee chair. The committee's work was guided throughout by the Conference directive, with careful attention given to Fellowship inclusion, clarity of purpose, and adherence to AA principles.

The subcommittee's initial meeting focused on developing a shared understanding of the Conference committee Advisory Action and translating that guidance into a survey framework that would be meaningful, accessible, and respectful of the Fellowship voice. During this meeting, members discussed the scope of the Advisory Action and identified the key objectives of the survey: to assess how Grapevine and La Viña products and services are experienced by members, how useful they are in personal recovery and AA as a whole, and how members view their financial viability and support. Considerable discussion centered on ensuring that the survey language would be neutral, non-leading, and understandable to members with varying levels of familiarity with Grapevine and La Viña offerings.

Based on this discussion, the subcommittee collaboratively drafted an initial set of survey questions. These questions were intentionally designed to balance structured, quantitative responses with opportunities for qualitative feedback, allowing members to both rate their experiences and share their perspectives in their own words. The committee was mindful of keeping the survey focused and aligned with the Conference charge, avoiding questions that extended beyond the scope of the Advisory Action.

A second subcommittee meeting was held to review, edit, and refine the draft survey. During this meeting, each question was examined for clarity, tone, relevance, and alignment with Conference intent. Members discussed how questions might be

interpreted across the Fellowship and made adjustments to improve flow, reduce redundancy, and strengthen the overall coherence of the survey. Following this meeting, the revised questionnaire was distributed to all subcommittee members for further consideration. Feedback from this review was incorporated, and the survey was updated accordingly, reflecting collective agreement among the subcommittee.

As part of the committee's due diligence, Chris C. reached out to the creators of the previous Grapevine survey to inquire about feasibility, lessons learned, and potential costs associated with survey deployment and analysis. This outreach was intended to inform the board and subcommittee about practical considerations while supporting responsible stewardship of resources.

The firm Chris C. consulted with expressed a willingness to assist and offered an outlined research project to gather member feedback on Grapevine and La Viña products and services to better understand awareness, usage, perceived value, and opportunities for improvement. The proposed project will potentially include development of a member survey, collection of responses through both digital and non-digital methods to ensure broad accessibility, and analysis of the results to support future planning and decision-making. Findings would be shared through an initial summary of results followed by a final report suitable for broader Fellowship use. The total cost of the proposed research is \$18,500, with payment structured in two installments — one upon approval and one upon completion of the final report.

Throughout the process, the subcommittee remained focused on ensuring full adherence to the Conference committee Advisory Action. The committee took care to confirm that the survey was clearly designed to obtain feedback from the Fellowship, that it addressed relevance, usefulness, and financial viability without promoting predetermined conclusions, and that it supported the required reporting timeline to the 2026 and 2027 Conference committees. The subcommittee's work reflects a deliberate, collaborative effort to faithfully carry out the Conference direction while creating a survey that meaningfully invites and honors the voice of the Fellowship.

Following are the survey questions we recommend.

Which of the following Grapevine and La Viña resources are you familiar with and how would you rate your satisfaction?

- Grapevine App & La Viña App
- Grapevine & La Viña Books
- YouTube

- Instagram
- Greeting Cards
- Podcast

Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

- Grapevine/La Viña is a valuable resource in my personal recovery
- Grapevine/La Viña plays an important role in AA as a whole
- I would miss Grapevine/La Viña if it were no longer available

Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

- I want to be able to send a voluntary contribution to Grapevine/La Viña.
- If Grapevine/La Viña were able to accept voluntary contributions, I would contribute annually.
- If Grapevine/La Viña were able to accept voluntary contributions, I would contribute monthly.

Do you have any other suggestions or ideas to support the future of Grapevine & La Viña

A standard 5-point Likert-type scale will be used to measure respondent agreement.

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Research Proposal

Submitted by Nikki O. Subcommittee Chair

January 25, 2026

Survey Proposal (via email):

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Chris C.
AA Grapevine, Inc.
475 Riverside
Drive 11th Floor
New York, New York

10115 Dear Chris:

This letter provides you with a research proposal to survey the membership about the products and services provided by Grapevine/La Viña. The purpose of the survey is to identify the relevance, usefulness, and financial viability of Grapevine/La Viña products and services including the magazine, app, books, podcast, and social media activities. The research will attempt to provide quantifiable and usable data in the following areas:

- Unaided and aided awareness of the Grapevine/La Viña brand
- Familiarity and perceived value of Grapevine/La Viña products and services with a focus on content that is most meaningful and useful
- Insights into how products and services are accessed and utilized
- Suggestions for improving the Grapevine/La Viña product and service offerings
- Reasons for non-use and for choosing not to subscribe or renew

Survey Development, Execution, and Analysis

Based on our previous engagement developing and executing a survey in 2023 for the Grapevine/La Viña online app, we are aware of how engaged and responsive the AA membership is when they are approached for feedback. Because the new research will address a broader set of topics than the previous app-focused survey, the study will use a mixed-methods design that incorporates both quantitative and qualitative data. The quantitative component will focus on measuring key perceptions and usage patterns across the membership. This will include structured questions assessing awareness of Grapevine and La Viña resources, familiarity with virtual and audio services, perceived value for personal recovery and service work, frequency and methods of accessing resources, reasons for non-use, and acceptable price points for various offerings. These items will be designed using closed-ended response formats (e.g., Likert scales, multiple-choice options) to ensure that the resulting data are quantifiable, comparable across subgroups, and aligned with the committee's emphasis on producing usable metrics.

To complement these structured measures, the survey will also include targeted open-ended questions. These qualitative items will allow respondents to describe, in their own words, aspects such as unaided awareness of Grapevine/La Viña resources, specific barriers to use, suggestions for improving content or delivery, and reflections on why former subscribers chose not to renew. These narrative responses will provide context and nuance that cannot be captured through fixed-choice formats alone. When analyzed alongside the quantitative findings, the qualitative data will help clarify how members experience Grapevine/La Viña services, illuminate the reasons behind observed patterns, and identify opportunities for improvement that may not emerge from closed-ended items.

The survey will be designed to balance depth with accessibility. It will remain concise enough to encourage participation, while still covering the priority topics identified by the Board. It will also be accessible to both digital and non-digital members, including those who are incarcerated, and will remain open long enough to maximize response rates. Together, the quantitative and qualitative components will provide a comprehensive and actionable understanding of member perceptions, usage behaviors, and unmet needs.

We understand that the project will require both a digital and a non-digital version of the survey. As with our previous engagement, we will work closely with you throughout the development process to ensure that all priority subject areas are fully represented. We will also provide guidance on administering the survey to the membership, including recommendations for a personal message from leadership and an appropriate incentive to encourage participation.

In addition, we will advise on the sample size to be contacted, the process for distributing the survey, and the timing needed to monitor response rates and ensure that the final dataset is both meaningful and projectable. You will be responsible for executing both distribution modes. For the digital survey, this includes sending an email invitation that contains the survey link to the selected members. For the non-digital version, this includes mailing printed surveys to members who cannot access the digital format and providing a means for them to return their completed forms. Once returned, those paper surveys can be scanned and forwarded to us so they can be incorporated into the overall dataset for analysis.

Given the approximately 2 million members, we anticipate inviting a sample large enough to yield a final dataset of roughly 500 completed surveys. In our previous engagement, we sent the survey to approximately 4,250 individuals and received close to 500 completed responses, providing a solid basis for estimating overall perceptions

and usage patterns with acceptable precision. For the current project, we expect to use a similar or slightly larger outreach volume, adjusted as needed based on early response rates, to ensure that the final sample is both statistically meaningful and projectable to the broader membership.

In our prior survey, response rates were strongest among members aged 45–54, 55–64, and 65–74, while relatively younger members were less likely to respond. We will closely monitor response patterns by age and other key characteristics during fieldwork and will provide recommendations—such as targeted reminders or tailored messaging—to help increase participation among underrepresented groups, particularly younger members.

We will provide you with two reports at the conclusion of the research. The first will be a simple topline analysis of the data. This topline report will be provided within a week or ten days of the completed research. It will include our initial analysis, and it will be accompanied by a meeting to present the results and receive your feedback for further analysis. The final research report suitable for the Fellowship will be completed within three to four weeks of the topline review.

We will also provide raw summary data so that the Fellowship could reproduce graphics of the results.

Expanding the Success of the Grapevine/La Viña Brand

At a time when many traditional magazines have gone out of business, it is a testament to the editorial quality and vibrancy of Grapevine/La Viña that the publications have over 70,000+ paying subscribers in print and digital. The app has been a success with over 8,000 subscribers and the Podcast has exceeded expectations with 1.3 million downloads.

Since there is always room for improvement, this research will not only identify general awareness and areas of success but also try to uncover from the membership specific products and service areas that can be even more successful. This may be uncovered by analyzing the data with an emphasis on demographics or lifestyle. When developing the survey, every effort will be made to be able to view the results from multiple angles such as key demographics like age and income as well as other areas like participation in AA events.

The goal of the research is to not only provide the Fellowship with a snapshot of Grapevine/La Viña products but also to offer concrete steps the brand can take to

better engage the membership. More actively engaging the moderate to light user of the magazine, app, podcast, books, and social media can only strengthen an already successful performance.

Potential Timetable and Research Process

We understand that you would like to conduct the research sometime this summer. As a result, may we recommend the following initial timetable:

1. Finalize research objectives, key audiences, and subject areas to be analyzed by end of May.
2. Develop and finalize the survey questionnaire by June 20
3. Determine membership names to be emailed, letter developed, and incentive determined by July 10
4. Email and mail questionnaire to membership and collect responses July 20 – 30
5. Analyze data and provide topline results August 7 (email responses only, traditional mail responses will take longer to receive and might be included in a report addendum)
6. Final Research Report with presentation August 25

Budget

The cost of this research project is \$18,500. Spider Insights will work with you in developing the survey for the Grapevine/La Viña outreach tools including the magazine, app, books, podcast, and social media. We will then coordinate with you to conduct the research both online and in the mail. We will then provide you with topline results of the data followed by a more extensive final report. As we have done with you in the past, our policy is to bill half of our fee upon approval of this proposal and the second half after delivery of the final report.

Next Steps

We think this research can be most helpful in expanding the successful Grapevine/La Viña brand with new insights about current products. After you have had a chance to review, let's arrange a Zoom call so we can answer any questions you might have. We look forward to hearing from you.

Cordially,

Bill Bergman & Jeff Carlson
Spider Insights, LLC

2026 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM E: Review the media platform report.

Background notes:

From an interim meeting of the Grapevine Corporate Board held on July 31, 2025:

The board reviewed the report on AA Grapevine/La Viña media platforms and approved the report. The committee suggested that this item be relocated from the Conference Committee on Public Information to the Conference Committee on Grapevine/La Viña in the future.

The Grapevine Corporate Board reviewed this consideration at their quarterly meeting on July 31, 2025, with great interest. The board determined that Grapevine would continue to provide its reporting to the Trustees Public Information Committee. In addition, the media platform report will be a standing agenda item for the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña and removed from the Conference Committee on Public Information agenda.

From an interim meeting of trustees' Committee on Public Information, held virtually on December 2, 2024:

The committee discussed revisions to the PI Media Platform reports. The revised reporting of a set of annual reports on each media platform reflects an update to the previous practice of forwarding four quarterly reports for each platform.

It was noted that the 2024 reports, covering the period Q4 2023 to Q3 2024, now also include additional narrative description to provide context for the analytics.

The committee suggested that the discussion of these revised reports, as well as the Comprehensive Media Plan might be useful for the ongoing General Service Board work on communications. It was also noted that at the November 2024 TPIC meeting, the committee had agreed to place a greater focus on matters related to their Comp, Scope and Procedure and that more discussion on the topic of reporting was needed so that feedback on reporting priorities could be shared with the Staff secretary, the GSO Communication Services Department and AAWS. The committee suggested that this matter be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

The committee **agreed to forward** to the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information the following reports:

- 2024 Report on Online Business Profiles

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

From the July 27, 2024, meeting of the trustees' Public Information Committee:

The committee reviewed and accepted the GSO 2024 first-quarter AAWS Online Business Profiles report

The committee also reviewed and discussed the 2024 Conference Committee on Public Information Committee Considerations related to Online Business Profiles.

The committee confirmed that the Communication Services Department is authorized to crosslink any AAWS platform with any other AAWS platform or other sites or pages managed by AAWS.

2024 Conference Committee on Public Information Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2023 Report on Online Business Profiles (OBP). The committee offered the following suggestions for Online Business Profiles and looks forward to a report to be brought to the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information.

- That Online Business Profile analytics reporting be more consistent with quarterly reporting of activity per quarter.
- That Online Business Profile responses be provided as background each year.
- That Online Business Profiles cross link with other sites managed by AAWS.

Staff note: The 2024 Online Business Profile report format was revised, taking into consideration the suggestions outlined in the 2024 Additional Committee Considerations.

In addition, it was noted that at the request of the AAWS Board, work had already begun to “cross link” various pages that AAWS has oversight of, including the Online Business Profile pages and those for YouTube and LinkedIn.

Background:

1. Online Business Profiles - 2025 Executive Summary

Executive Summary / Q4 2025

Search Engine Optimization

The North Studio team continues to work on technical SEO, decreasing the number of on-page errors flagged by the SEO audit, including lingering duplicate content issues, broken links, redirects, missing/un-optimized meta titles and descriptions, and more. Meta titles and descriptions continue to be written and implemented in a timely fashion for each new post added to the AAGV website.

Google Ads Grants

Google Ads have been running since July 2025 through their free Grants program for nonprofits, where we receive a budget of up to \$10k USD per month from Google on limited-capability ads to send people to the Grapevine website. Since then, all of the clicks and conversions have come from the Branded English campaign and search group: people searching for AAGV specifically in English. Nine of those clicks came from alcohol-related keywords, and five from sobriety-related keywords. The non-branded keywords are not generating any impressions (views) or clicks, so it is recommended that paid campaigns are set up to better reach people who are not searching for AA Grapevine specifically, as the free Grants budget takes lower priority if there is another paid advertiser who pays for a spot.

E-Commerce and Apps

This quarter, we saw a 25% increase in the number of units sold from the online bookstore compared to last quarter and an almost-15% increase (13.88%) in total revenue. Compared to last year, there were 14% more units sold and almost 25% higher revenue (23.74%). For the year 2025, the bookstore sold just over 65,000 units (65,119) and brought in revenue of \$900,000 (\$905,836.21). This quarter, digital subscriptions are down slightly compared to last quarter (-5.97% online, +1.47% complete, for a total of -2.82% total digital), however are up compared to this time last year (-7.25% online, +29.42% complete, for a total of +16.04%). In 2025, 6,662 total digital subscriptions were purchased, split 3,085 online and 2,857 complete.

Subscribers to the Grapevine and La Viña apps continue to rise between 4% and 5% per quarter. The Grapevine app saw a 32% increase in subscribers in 2025, with a total of 8.53k subscribers across Apple and Android. La Viña finished the year with 365 subscribers; a 42% increase year-over-year. The Grapevine app was downloaded 43k times in 2025 (43,217), and the La Viña app was downloaded 2.2k times (2,210).

Fellowship Services

Follower counts on Instagram continue to rise steadily between 3% and 5% each quarter on both the Grapevine and La Viña accounts, however both continue to see a decrease in the number of accounts reached and the total interactions both compared to last quarter and last year. It's likely there are Instagram algorithm changes at play here based on the consistency in the percentage drop for both accounts. Combined, the accounts reached 468k accounts in 2025 (468,677) and have almost 18k followers between the two (17,943). The podcast was downloaded 80,513 times in Q4 2025, a slight decrease from Q3 and a similar number of Q4 2024. In 2025, the podcast was downloaded a total of 321k times (321,595). On YouTube, the channel finished the year with 16.8k followers, up almost 15% from last year (14.29%), and had over 40k views. Statistics for Q3 of 2025 are unreliable, however, due to video content being removed or marked as "unlisted" — so it's likely that the view count is higher.

Digital Publishing

The Grapevine website had an influx in traffic in November with over 130k sessions to the site compared to

116-117k for October and December. In 2025, the site was accessed over 1.4 million times (1,417,439) by 470k

new users (469,832) and 76k returning users (76,216). The La Viña site saw 37k sessions (37,415) with steady traffic over the last six months from 10k new users (10,817) and 357 returning users. Notably this quarter, the Grapevine site's fourth-top referring site was ChatGPT, meaning that users are finding Grapevine's content through asking ChatGPT for alcoholism support and then taking the action to visit the site for more details. La Viña continues to see success with email marketing, as the Constant Contact tracking site was consistently in the top referrers for 2025.

E-Commerce

Online Book Store

The Online Book Store includes any non-subscription purchases, such as books, bundles, and back issues.

	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
Total Units Sold	19,927	15,920	+25.17%	17,465	+14.10%	65,119
Total Revenue	\$268,967.42	\$236,181	+13.88%	\$217,359.38	+23.74%	\$905,836.21

Digital Subscriptions

Digital Subscriptions purchased online through the Book Store

	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
Online	961	1,022	-5.97%	896	-7.25%	3,805
Complete	761	750	+1.47%	588	+29.42%	2,857
Total Digital	1,722	1,772	-2.82%	1,484	+16.04%	6,662

App Subscriptions (Active) – Grapevine

	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
In App iOS	7.23k	6.92k	+4.48%	5.4k	+33.89%	***
In-App Android	1,296	1,233	+5.11%	1,064	+21.80%	***
Total Active App Subscriptions	8.53k	8.15k	+4.66%	6.46k	+32.04%	***
Total App Downloads	9,912	13,320	-25.59%	9,781	+1.34%	43,217

App Subscriptions (Active) – La Viña

	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
In App iOS	296	280	+5.71%	209	+41.63%	***
In-App Android	69	66	+4.55%	48	+43.75%	***
Total Active App Subscriptions	365	346	+5.49%	257	+42.02%	***
Total App Downloads	572	554	+3.25%	404	+41.58%	2,210

Fellowship Services

Instagram

Instagram Follower numbers are taken as a snapshot at the end of each quarter.

Grapevine	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
Followers	15,701	15,243	+3.00%	13,334	+17.75%	15,701
Accounts Reached	72,436	112,662	-35.71%	99,884	-27.48%	394,951
Total Interactions (Likes, etc.)	11,907	17,929	-33.59%	18,870	-36.90%	69,031

La Viña	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
Followers	2,242	2,159	+3.84%	1,887	+18.81%	2,242
Accounts Reached	14,040	18,618	-25.59%	21,103	-33.47%	73,736
Total Interactions (Likes, etc.)	3,195	3,750	-14.80%	5,091	-37.24%	15,815

Podcast – AA Grapevine Half-Hour Variety Hour Downloads

	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
Downloads	80,513	83,760	-3.88%	80,181	+0.41%	321,595

YouTube – AA Grapevine and La Viña Channel

YouTube Subscriber numbers are taken as a snapshot at the end of each quarter.

	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	% Difference	Q4 2024	% Difference	YTD 2025
Subscribers	16.8k	16.3k	+3.067%	14.7k	+14.29%	16.8k
Views	14,040	-2432***	***	17,907	-21.59%	40,759***

*** This negative number seems likely due to a video getting removed or marked as “unlisted” as the channel lost around 10k views in July. Due to this drop, it is not fully accurate to properly compare these stats to last quarter, and the year-to-date number is likely also inaccurate.

Digital Publishing

Website Traffic & Engagement

Sessions: The number of visits to the website within the date range. New Users:

The number of new users during the reporting date range.

Page Views: The number of pages that have been viewed during the time range. Average Page Views

per Session: The average number of pages a visitor sees per visit.

Grapevine	Last Quarter			This Quarter			YTD 2025
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Sessions	123,701	123,487	112,550	116,014	130,929	117,565	1,417,439
New Users	43,593	42,806	38,304	37,838	39,527	39,230	469,832
Returning Users	17,932	18,628	17,509	15,474	20,316	15,931	76,216
Page Views	286,078	286,559	267,027	283,682	298,012	285,106	3,262,851
Avg. Page Views/Session	2.31	2.32	2.37	2.45	2.28	2.43	2.3

La Viña	Last Quarter			This Quarter			YTD 2025
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Sessions	3,260	3,314	3,683	3,082	3,046	2,957	37,415
New Users	931	917	1,387	804	875	769	10,817
Returning Users	263	316	297	317	319	279	357
Page Views	12,082	13,462	18,358	12,575	11,720	11,726	149,796
Avg. Page Views/Session	3.71	4.06	4.98	4.08	3.85	3.97	4.00

Top Pages

	Grapevine	La Viña
1.	/sobriety-calculator	/(home)
2.	/(home)	/tienda
3.	/archive	/cart
4.	/user/login	/tienda/libros
5.	/site-search	/usuario/inicio-sesion
6.	/store	/tienda/suscripciones
7.	/magazine	/archivo
8.	/store/grapevine-subscriptions	/tienda/suscripcion-revista-impresa-la-vina-1-ano
9.	/cart	/site-search
10.	/store/us-subscriptions	/US-suscripciones

Top Countries

	Grapevine	La Viña
1.	United States	United States
2.	Canada	Mexico
3.	United Kingdom	Colombia
4.	Brazil NEW	Costa Rica
5.	Italy NEW	Spain

Top Referrers

	Grapevine	La Viña
1.	aa.org	aagrapevine.org
2.	aalavina.org	app.constantcontact.com (email newsletter)
3.	aahappyhour.com	aa.org
4.	chatgpt.com NEW	statics.teams.cdn.office.net (links shared through Teams)
5.	ntp.msn.com (Outlook new tab page)	co.search.yahoo.com NEW

Google Ads Grants

Advertising Metrics

Impressions: Number of times an ad was viewed in Google Search Results

Clicks: Number of times a person clicked through to the website from the Google Ad

Conversions: Number of subscriptions/purchases/other key events that took place on the website that were attributed to someone clicking an ad

	Last Quarter			This Quarter			YTD 2025
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Impressions	25	1,600	3,396	3,446	2,692	3,179	14,345
Clicks	9	532	873	921	829	939	4,104
Conversions	0	46	109	134	107	141	537

Year to Date (Q3 & Q4 2025) statistics:

\$4,262.11 spent (out of \$10,000 monthly)

Average cost per conversion: \$7.93

2026 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM F: Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc. accept contributions.

Background notes:

From 2025 committee discussion:

The AA Grapevine Board discussed the Grapevine and La Viña Conference Committee's expressed interest in exploring various funding models for AA Grapevine, Inc. and agreed to send to the General Service Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña a proposed agenda item that the AA Grapevine, Inc. accept contributions, which was seconded and passed.

Background:

1. AA Grapevine, Inc. Contributions Report
2. Memo

Draft Memorandum

January 29, 2026

To: Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña
From: AA Grapevine Board of Directors
Subject: Consideration of AA Grapevine, Inc. accepting contributions

Prepared for discussion by the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña

AA Grapevine, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation under the umbrella of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. It publishes *Grapevine* and *La Viña* magazines and books and carries the AA message through print, digital, audio, and video formats.

Unlike any other AA entity, AA Grapevine, Inc. does not accept direct contributions from AA members, groups, or service bodies. Its operating income is derived from subscriptions, book sales, and other product-related revenue, as described in *The AA Grapevine Statement of Purpose*. For fiscal year 2025, AA Grapevine, Inc. is projected to end the year with an operating deficit of approximately \$300,000.

This memo presents relevant operational data and outlines considerations associated with whether AA Grapevine, Inc. might accept contributions from AA members and groups. It is intended to support informed discussion and evaluation by the Conference committee.

Current Reach and Usage

Grapevine and La Viña	
The number of times we carry the AA message each month	
Outlet	Monthly contact
Grapevine Magazine subscribers	60,000
La Viña Magazine subscribers	8,000
App GV non-subscriber users	21,000
App LV non-subscriber users	460
Podcast listens	24,000
Instagram GV views	97,000
Instagram LV views	34,000
YouTube Channel views	3,300
Book Sales GV units	6,000
Book Sales LV units	1,040
Website visits GV	120,000
Website visits LV	3,400
Prison Tablets GV and LV content	2,000
Daily Quote Grapevine	1,575,980
Daily Quote La Viña	126,420
WhatsApp La Viña	5,292
Number of times we carry AA message each month	2,087,892
Year	25,054,704

Current Financial Model

- Revenue sources: Subscriptions (print, online, and app), book sales, and other product revenue
- No acceptance of direct contributions from AA members, groups, or service bodies. Financial support from the General Service Board comes when Grapevine runs at a deficit.

Factors Impacting Viability of Current Financial Model:

- Increasing costs in areas such as paper, printing, mailing, shipping, and digital infrastructure
- Ongoing provision of services that generate no direct revenue, including prison tablet content, podcasts, video, social media, ASL videos, and complimentary or discounted materials

Considerations if Contributions Were Permitted

The following points describe potential operational and structural implications that have been identified for consideration:

1. **Relationship to Tradition Seven**
Acceptance of contributions would align Grapevine's funding sources more closely with other AA entities that rely on voluntary member and group support.
2. **Revenue Diversification**
Contributions would represent an additional revenue stream alongside product sales, reducing reliance on publishing and retail income alone.
3. **Financial Stability**
Contributions would improve the bottom line.
4. **Service Continuity**
Contribution revenue would provide an additional way for members to support services that have no income source associated with them, such as free or reduced-cost distribution, correctional facility access, and content such as podcasts, Instagram and YouTube.
5. **Administrative and Reporting Implications**
Acceptance of contributions would require policies, accounting processes, and reporting mechanisms comparable to those used by AAWS.
6. **Consistency Across AA Entities**
Allowing contributions would reduce the distinction between Grapevine and other AA entities regarding funding sources.

Considerations if Practice of Not Accepting Contributions Continues

The following points describe concerns and potential risks that have been identified:

1. **Departure from Longstanding Practice**

Grapevine has operated for more than seventy years without accepting contributions, relying instead on sales-based support.

2. **Conference Policy and Precedent**

In 1994, this Advisory Action came from the General Service Conference: *“All A.A. members be strongly urged to work toward the goal that the AA Grapevine magazine be self-supporting through the sale of magazine subscriptions.”*

3. **Financial Boundary Clarity**

Some may view contributions as complicating the financial and organizational distinctions between Grapevine and other AA entities.

4. **Impact on Other AA Contributions**

Contributions to Grapevine could affect giving patterns of individuals, groups, districts, areas, etc., to the General Service Board.

5. **Perception and Communication Risks**

Need to be clear that contributions to Grapevine, Inc. support Grapevine and La Viña efforts, and that contributions to other AA entities do not support Grapevine.

6. **Cultural and Administrative Shift**

Accepting contributions would require processes such as contribution management and contributor relations that are new to Grapevine operations and culture.

Policy and Governance Considerations

If the Fellowship were to consider allowing contributions, issues that may require definition include:

- Eligibility of contributors (e.g., AA members and AA entities only)
- Limits and safeguards consistent with AA Traditions/Conference Advisory Actions (e.g. contribution limits)
- Affirmation of Grapevine’s editorial independence
- Transparency and reporting requirements
- Measures to avoid unintended impact on other AA service entities

Closing

The question of whether AA Grapevine, Inc. should accept contributions involves financial, operational, and spiritual considerations. This memo is intended to present relevant information and identified considerations to assist the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña in its evaluation and discussion.

February 9, 2026

Memorandum

To: The Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña
From: Chris Cavanaugh, Publisher, AA Grapevine, Inc.
Subject: AA Grapevine, Inc. contributions and our 5-Year Plan

For more than eight decades, AA Grapevine has strived to be self-supporting through the sale of subscriptions and books. In recent years, however, the way AA members access Grapevine has changed significantly. Grapevine now provides a growing range of services that directly support AA's primary purpose but do not generate revenue: daily quotes, weekly podcasts, video and social media content, Grapevine recovery stories on correctional-facility tablets, and accessible videos for Deaf members. These services extend the AA message to alcoholics who may never encounter a print magazine or be able to purchase books, yet they require ongoing financial investment to produce and maintain.

While Grapevine's five-year plan includes measured price increases for subscriptions and books, those increases are intended to sustain core publishing operations while retaining customers and may not cover the full cost of these expanding, Fellowship-wide services. AA Grapevine accepting contributions will give the AA Fellowship an opportunity to directly support these efforts, ensuring that Grapevine can continue to carry the AA message as access methods evolve. Such support would not replace Grapevine's self-support efforts through sales but would recognize that today's Grapevine serves the Fellowship in broader ways that sales alone cannot sustain, helping reach alcoholics wherever and however they seek recovery. Members who use or support today's Grapevine will be able to help sustain and grow these services, just as they support local offices, districts, areas, and the General Service Board services.

With Gratitude,

Chris C.



VI. Literature - EN

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

2026-04-27 07:00 - 2026-04-28 12:00 EDT

Table of Contents

I. Discuss trustees' Literature Committee report to Conference

A. Annual review of recovery literature matrix.....	3
LIT-A0 Cover Sheet.docx.....	3
LIT-A1_Literature Matrix 2025.doc.....	4
LIT-A2 A.A.W.S Policy on Publication keeping A.A. literature current.docx.....	9
B. Review content and format of Literature Kit and Workbook.....	12
LIT-B.0 Cover Sheet, Literature workbook.docx.....	12
C. Review progress report on the development of the Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos – Spanish.....	13
LIT-C0 Cover Sheet Spanish 4E BB.docx.....	13
LIT-C1 Progress Report on Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos _ Spanish.docx.....	14
D. Review draft of the Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.....	15
LIT-D0 Cover Sheet_ Fifth Edition Alcoholics Anonymous.docx.....	15
LIT-D1 Final report on the development of the Fifth Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous.docx.....	17
LIT-D3 Memo to Comm regarding confidential background.docx.....	21
E. Review progress report on the update to the book Living Sober.....	22
LIT-E0 Cover Sheet Living Sober.docx.....	22
LIT-E1 Progress Report. Update to the book Living Sober.docx.....	24
LIT-E3 Memo to Comm regarding confidential background.docx.....	25
F. Review progress report on the development of a Plain Language Big Book amendment process.....	26
LIT-F0 Cover Sheet_ PLBB Amendment process report.docx.....	26
LIT-F1 Progress Report on the development of a Plain Language Big Book amendment process MQ_cd.docx.....	27

LIT-F2 Explanatory graphics for proposed Plain Language Big Book amendment process.docx.....	29
G. Review progress report of subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book.....	30
LIT-G0 Cover Sheet_ Spanish Language tools.docx.....	30
LIT-G1 Progress Report on efforts to evaluate the need for tools to read Spanish language lit.docx.....	31
LIT-G2 Draft questions for 2026 Survey of Spanish members.docx.....	32
H. Review progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian American alcoholic.....	35
LIT-H0 Cover Sheet, Asian Asian American pamphlet.docx.....	35
LIT-H1 Progress Report on pamphlet for Asian and Asian-American Alcoholic.docx.....	36
I. Consider publishing the personal stories from the Fourth Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous not included in the draft Fifth Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous.....	37
LIT-I0 Cover Sheet_ Consider publication of 4th Edition stories.docx.....	37

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM A: Annual review of the Recovery Literature Matrix.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed the annual Recovery Literature Matrix and **agreed to forward** the updated matrix to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

2025 Conference Committee on Literature Additional Committee Considerations:

The committee reviewed the Recovery Literature Matrix and requested that year-to-year information be collected and presented for cover page views, downloads, audio content, and other points of digital access.

The committee suggested that a sortable and malleable format of future Recovery Literature Matrices be shared with the Conference Committee on Literature as a document for committee eyes only.

2017 Conference Advisory Action:

Implementation of the revised plan for the annual review of recovery literature, with the first report to be delivered to the 2018 Conference Committee on Literature.

Staff note: The Communication Services Department is finalizing work on a new analytics dashboard project. Once this work is completed, we look forward to being able to update the Literature Matrix with the additional data points that have been requested.

Background:

1. 2025 Recovery Literature Matrix
2. AAWS Policy on Publication: Keeping Literature Current

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Title and Copyright Date	LANGUAGE	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2020	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2021	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2022	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2023	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2024	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2025	E*2017 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2018 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2019 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Alcoholics Anonymous (all print editions)	English	635,818	771,612	808,855	860,449	777,095	808,674	33,955 PV 117,788 DL	1,026,528 PV 0 DL	1,033,786 PV 0 DL	
Les Alcoooliques Anonymes (all print editions)	French	3,435	3,232	6,497	7,410	6,225	6,401	4,820 PV 0 DL	15,546 PV 0 DL	15,805 PV 0 DL	
Alcohólicos Anónimos (all print editions)	Spanish	18,117	24,503	28,120	29,817	32,852	30,416	17,942 PV 1637 DL	65,876 PV 0 DL	15,805 PV 0 DL	
Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous	English					71,988	151,207				Revisions input into the First Edition. Second Printing in 2024.
Twelve and Twelve (all print editions)	English	215,198	307,009	293,394	330,202	259,779	265,961	180,532 PV 64,609 DL	585,242 PV 0 DL	638,360 PV 0 DL	
12 Étapes et 12 Traditions (all print editions)	French	1,347	1,680	2,048	2,805	2,834	2,393	49,330 PV 0 DL	153,786 PV 0 DL	159,117 PV 0 DL	
Doce Pasos y Doce Tradiciones (all print edit	Spanish	11,810	17,960	21,062	28,701	26,930	25,484	45,299 PV 22,877 DL	13,584 PV 0DL	834 PV 0 DL	
As Bills Sees It (all print editions)	English	35,187	32,635	58,757	50,577	35,001	35,879				
Réflexions de Bill (all print editions)	French	835	964	1,267	1,738	1,533	1,351				
Como Lo Ve Bill (all print editions)	Spanish	1,858	2,798	4,485	4,046	4,204	4,191				
Came To Believe (all print editions)	English	16,367	19,473	25,422	26,465	22,652	20,532				
Nous en Sommes Venus à Croire (all print ed	French	407	384	850	658	708	748				
Llegamos a Creer (all print editions)	Spanish	2,857	2,594	5,253	6,140	6,234	5,025				
Daily Reflections (all print editions)	English	78,689	108,931	95,965	110,186	93,506	81,628				
Réflexions Quotidiennes (all print editions)	French	1,299	1,781	2,896	2,843	2,915	2,258				
Reflexiones Diarias (all print editions)	Spanish	4,646	6,366	7,489	9,161	9,721	11,776				
Living Sober (all print editions)	English	71,614	83,452	94,699	108,386	84,665	82,447				
Vivre... Sans Alcool (all print editions)	French	5,184	1,753	2,699	3,152	3,560	3,649				
Viviendo Sobrio (all print editions)	Spanish	976	8,493	10,499	12,967	13,406	12,642				
Dr. Bob & The Good Oldtimers	English	4,751	3,368	7,926	5,969	5,007	6,012				
Dr. Bob et Les Pionniers	French	103	79	225	276	245	258				
El Dr. Bob Y Los Buenos Veteranos	Spanish	1,020	1,766	1,784	2,871	1,604	2,921				
A.A. Comes of Age	English	5,122	7,436	6,100	7,002	5,181	5,907				
Le Mouvement des AA Devient Adulte	French	26	88	214	170	196	159				
AA Llega a su Mayoría de Edad	Spanish	1,267	2,523	2,318	2,652	2,515	2,735				
Pass It On ©1984	English	3,231	3,990	4,243	5,020	3,545	3,717				
Transmits-le	French	96	72	347	340	241	310				
Transmitelo	Spanish	1,408	2,046	3,194	2,926	2,596	3,449				
Experience, Strength and Hope ©2003	English	5,131	5,610	6,863	8,056	6,477	6,760				
Expérience, Force & Espoir	French	60	85	195	179	121	297				SB-20 published in 2023
Experiencia, Fortaleza y Esperanza	Spanish				3,015	2,959	2,848				

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Note valuable review criteria within the "AAWS Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current."

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Title and Copyright Date	LANGUAGE	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2020	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2021	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2022	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2023	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2024	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2025	*2017 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2018 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2019 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Twelve Traditions Illustrated ©1971	English	22,885	22,976	29,190	41,914	30,812	34,992	1,137 PV 0 DL	3,950 PV 1,184 DL	3,543 PV 1,093 DL	Updated illustrations in 2023.
Douze Traditions Illustrées	French	361	658	718	1,031	1,183	1,032	50 PV 0 DL	242 PV 74 DL	194 PV 82 DL	
Doce Tradiciones Ilustradas	Spanish	1,753	1,813	2,111	1,623	854	6,069	1,216 PV 0 DL	3,603 PV 1,189 DL	3,888 PV 945 DL	
Twelve Concepts Illustrated ©1986	English	10,712	13,914	16,281	20,466	18,292	17,721	3,172 PV 195 DL	11,600 PV 2,539 DL	6,767 PV 1,413 DL	
Douze Concepts de Service Mondial Illustrés	French	513	356	683	569	614	762	91 PV 0 DL	264 PV 83 DL	229 PV 66 DL	
Doce Conceptos Ilustrados	Spanish	1,133	1,181	1,773	1,985	1,115	1,691	1,325 PV 0 DL	3,496 PV 805 DL	2,062 PV 437 DL	
Is A.A. For Me? ©1989	English	30,832	37,451	47,031	59,365	50,397	44,982	1,695 PV 0 DL	5,469 PV 1,025 DL	5,512 PV 1,122 DL	Minor editorial updates in 2023 and 2024.
Les A.A. sont-ils Pour Moi?	French	326	307	2,207	1,205	806	527	101 PV 0 DL	275 PV 38 DL	361 PV 64 DL	
¿Es A.A. para Mí?	Spanish	6,032	3,975	9,376	9,953	13,264	9,807	101 PV 0 DL	351 PV 101 DL	513 PV 113 DL	
Twelve Steps Illustrated ©1971	English	21,495	18,892	26,425	31,286	32,810	31,969	1,020 PV 0 DL	3,564 PV 943 DL	3,713 PV 887 DL	Revised version with new illustrations approved and printed in 2025
Douze Étapes Illustrées	French	465	212	844	2,235	909	701	41 PV 0 DL	204 PV 69 DL	186 PV 61 DL	
Doce Pasos Ilustrados	Spanish	2,570	1,066	3,849	1,144	1,115	3,391	297 PV 0 DL	936 PV 220 DL	1,255 PV 204 DL	
A.A. for the Older Alcoholic ©2001	English	12,544	12,084	13,982	23,568	9,320	7,212	1,470 PV 0 DL	5,030 PV 725 DL	6,463 PV 872 DL	Revised and printed in new format in 2023.
Les A.A. pour l'alcoolique plus âgé	French	431	35	825	898	1,062	330	64 PV 0 DL	268 PV 72 DL	295 PV 56 DL	
A.A. para el Alcohólico de Edad Avanzada	Spanish	867	1,615	1,715	2,432	1,178	1,246	90 PV 0 DL	493 PV 99 DL	543 PV 117 DL	
Black in A.A.	English	6,542	7,355	9,591	15,850	16,028	17,063	837 PV 0 DL	2,678 PV 436 DL	2,992 PV 431 DL	Revised pamphlet in 2024.
Les Noirs chez les AA EXPERIENCE, FORCE ET ESPOIR	French					220	424				
Ser negro en AA EXPERIENCIA, FORTALEZA Y ESPERANZA	Spanish					163	472				
Your D.C.M. ©1988	English	4,258	5,155	5,716	7,106	7,303	4,929	533 PV 1 DL	1,830 PV 447 DL	1,768 PV 433 DL	Minor editorial updates in 2024.
What Happened To Joe? ©2003	English	5,755	5,969	6,767	10,082	7,670		71 PV 0 DL	607 PV 125 DL	647 PV 121 DL	Retired per 2024 GSC.
Jean... face à son problème d'alcool	French	100	54	416	104	470		6 PV 0 DL	52 PV 0 DL	37 PV 0 DL	
Lo que le Sucedió a José	Spanish	1,218	2,913	2,561	2,194	242		57 PV 0 DL	173 PV 39 DL	486 PV 46 DL	
The A.A. Group ©1965	English	28,428	36,363	28,214	81,763	43,835	40,476	5,559 PV 1,451 DL	17,719 PV 5,971 DL	19,270 PV 3,623	Editorial updates in 2023 and 2024.
Groupe des A.A.	French	828	568	1,308	1,377	1,092	1,256	242 PV 0 DL	542 PV 188 DL	313 PV 131 DL	
Grupo de A.A.	Spanish	3,213	4,677	2,695	9,277	3,609	9,572	990 PV 0 DL	3,037 PV 710 DL	2,293 PV 492 DL	
Too Young? ©1979	English	14006	13,118	19,550	13,471	0		508 PV 0 DL	1,487 PV 242 DL	1,729 PV 247 DL	Retired per 2023 GSC.
Trop jeune?	French	394	207	594	174	0		15 PV 0 DL	69 PV 0 DL	65 PV 0 DL	
¿Demasiado Joven?	Spanish	1639	2,079	2,727	1,232	0		107 PV 0 DL	313 PV 105 DL	364 PV 85 DL	
It Happened To Alice ©1985	English	6,070	7,365	7,061	10,218	7,668		131 PV 0 DL	625 PV 124 DL	586 PV 109 DL	Retired per 2024

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Note valuable review criteria within the "AAWS Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current."

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Title and Copyright Date	LANGUAGE	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2020	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2021	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2022	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2023	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2024	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2025	E*2017 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2018 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2019 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
L'histoire de Nicole	French	74	323	416	164	263		5 PV 0 DL	25 PV 0 DL	25 PV 0 DL	Retired per 2024 GSC.
¡Le Sucedió a Alicia!	Spanish	712	2,209	1,929	1,889	175		32 PV 0 DL	84 PV 29 DL	225 PV 36 DL	
Young People & A.A. ©2007	English	22785	25,894	36,161	46,744	39,134	34,472	6,045 PV 0 DL	19,185 PV 1,459 DL	16,172 PV 1,364 DL	Revised in 2023.
Les jeunes et les A.A.	French	143	407	1,095	693	1,470	695	155 PV 0 DL	500 PV 60 DL	308 PV 52 DL	
Los Jóvenes y A.A.	Spanish	1736	3,476	3,589	5,851	5,584	6,622	724 PV 0 DL	2,295 PV 386 DL	2,377 PV 327 DL	
Is A.A. for You? ©1973, 2008	English	128,427	143,965	197,697	197,338	177,800	190,838	3,320 PV 553 DL	8,974 PV 2,602 DL	7,471 PV 1,818 DL	
Les A.A. sont-ils pour vous ?	French	3,292	2,879	6,726	6,575	7,904	10,039	298 PV 0 DL	1030 PV 213 DL	1,151 PV 235 DL	
¿Es A.A. para Usted?	Spanish	22,161	24,128	40,805	34,394	39,216	37,790	186 PV 0 DL	629 PV 201 DL	642 PV 201 DL	
Indigenous People in A.A	English	5,199	4,813	7,021	9,353	8,529	12,260	394 PV 0 DL	1,685 PV 254 DL	1,472 PV 225 DL	Revised pamphlet approved and printed in 2025.
Les peuples autochtones chez les AA	French	20	83	415	312	119	602	10 PV 0 DL	61 PV 0 DL	60 PV 0 DL	
Miembros de AA indígenas	Spanish	NA	235	216	462	127	239	21 PV 0 DL	92 PV 26 DL	109 PV 33 DL	
Questions & Answers on Sponsorship ©1976,1983	English	87,330	100,568	149,876	161,025	137,883	134,276	4,615 PV 869 DL	17,795 PV 4,401 DL	14,727 PV 3,115 DL	Revised pamphlet approved and printed in 2025.
Questions & Réponses sur le Parrainage	French	735	734	1,381	1,355	1,180	1,433	87 PV 0 DL	243 PV 90 DL	190 PV 56 DL	
Preguntas y Respuestas Sobre el Apadrinamiento	Spanish	3,912	4,610	7,694	7,622	6,212	6,721	1,400 PV 0 DL	3,537 PV 611 DL	2,362 PV 416 DL	
A.A. Member - Medication & Other Drugs ©1984, 2011	English	26,251	23,014	31,437	41,434	31,020	27,629	532 PV 0 DL	1,517 PV 1,863 DL	13,433 PV 1,354 DL	Minor editorial updates in 2024.
Les membre des AA face à la Médication et Autres Drogues	French	373	238	767	915	960	236	6 PV 0 DL	15 PV 55 DL	350 PV 31 DL	
Miembro de A.A.—Los Medicamentos y Otras Drogas	Spanish	999	1,395	1,663	2,612	1,785	2,053	58 PV 0 DL	171 PV 148 DL	2416 PV 115 DL	
A.A. And The Armed Service ©2002,2007	English	4,545	4,255	6,295	8,388	5,920	4,992	407 PV 0 DL	1,276 PV 216 DL	1,140 PV 163 DL	Minor editorial updates in 2025.
Circles of Love and Service ©2014	English	13,224	14,288	18,234	21,927	22,029	18,976	687 PV 0 DL	2,427 PV 590 DL	2,309 PV 517 DL	Minor editorial updates in 2023.
Cercles d'amour et de Service	French	357	341	547	597	465	681	32 PV 0 DL	111 PV 37 DL	80 PV 23 DL	
Círculos de Amor y Servicio	Spanish	831	1,299	1,014	1,926	1,557	2,066	373 PV 0 DL	1,501 PV 238 DL	1,489 PV 173 DL	
Many Paths to Spirituality ©2014	English	18,031	19,613	27,777	38,517	31,044	26,941	769 PV 0 DL	3,180 PV 2,069 DL	2,152 PV 557 DL	Minor editorial updates in 2023 and 2024.
Différentes Avenues vers la Spritualité	French	2,268	3,522	3,863	3,371	4,662	4,987	32 PV 0 DL	361 PV 429 DL	86 PV 35 DL	
Muchas Sendas Hacia la Espiritualidad	Spanish	1,127	1,521	1,607	1,332	1,469	1,122	68 PV 0 DL	93 PV 43 DL	340 PV 91 DL	
G.S.R. General Service Representative: "Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole" ©2018	English	12,582	14,195	23,911	29,991	24,099	20,129	2,383 PV 0 DL	7,641 PV 0 DL	6,156 PV 1,377 D	Minor editorial updates in 2023 and 2024.
Le RSG représentant auprès des Services généraux – le lien de votre groupe aux AA dans leur ensemble	French	760	351	897	734	684	672	44 PV 0 DL	157 PV 0 DL	207 PV 66 DL	

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Note valuable review criteria within the "AAWS Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current."

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Title and Copyright Date	LANGUAGE	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2020	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2021	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2022	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2023	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2024	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2025	E*2017 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2018 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2019 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
RSG - Representante de servicios generales: El enlace de su grupo con la totalidad de A.A.	Spanish	1,189	1,283	1,669	2,571	1,838	2,030	449 PV 0 DL	1,830 PV 0 DL	2,054 PV 301 DL	
Women in A.A.	English	25,055	25,866	35,665	42,079	34,277	27,973	5976 PV 81 DL	Old: 18,992 PV 1,182 DL New: 860 PV 386 DL	5976 PV81 DL	Updated in 2018. Minor edit updates in 2023 and 2024.
AA por la femme	French	449	176	1,178	1,438	816	1,013	309 PV 0 DL	Old: 1,033 PV 131 DL New: 20 DL 0	309 PV0 DL	
Las Mujeres en A.A.	Spanish	2,553	4,293	6,085	5,687	835	6,042	680 PV 0 DL	Old: 2,261 PV 412 DL New: 0 PV 69 DL	680 PV0 DL	
Experience, Strength and Hope: LGBTQ Alcoholics in A.A. ©2018	English	9,353	12,899	18,756	24,570	19,147	16,199	1,791 PV 1 DL	Old: 6,906 PV 826 DL New: 0 PV 4 DL	981 PV331 DL	Revised in 2018. Minor edit updates in 2024.
Expérience, Force Et Espoir - Les alcooliques LGBTQ des AA	French	147	335	638	566	729	245	38 PV 0 DL	Old: 164 PV 24 DL New: 0 PV 2 DL	117 PV48 DL	
Experiencia, Fortaleza Y Esperanza – Los alcohólicos LGBTQ en A.A.	Spanish	901	1,186	1,581	1,141	2,472	1,713	217 PV 0 DL	Old: 890 PV 160 DL New: 0 PV 2 DL	206 PV90 DL	
Inside A.A. ©2018	English	14,644	15,565	18,746	23,946	12,918	8,780	658 PV 0 DL	5,606 PV 729 DL	2,857 PV 678 DL	Updated in 2018. Minor edit updates in 2023 and 2024.
La structure des AA	French	371	355	400	709	480	258	69 PV 0 DL	142 PV 30 DL	235 PV 37 DL	
Dentro de A.A.	Spanish	1,087	986	1,633	1,714	1,130	402	96 PV 0 DL	328 PV 109 DL	395 PV 115 DL	
Experience, Strength and Hope: A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues — and their sponsors ©2018	English	11653	13,974	19,122	25,151	20,314	16,348		41 PV 410 DL	396 PV 1,130 DL	Minor edit updates in 2023 and 2025.
Expérience, Force Et Espoir - Les aa pour les alcooliques atteints de maladie mentale — et ceux qui les parrainent	French	54	306	675	857	792	81		15 PV 0 DL	41 PV 0 DL	
Experiencia, Fortaleza, Esperanza: A.A. para los alcohólicos con problemas de salud mental — y sus padrinos	Spanish	267	755	603	1,061	1,458	1,025		3 PV 54 DL	20 PV 108 DL	
Experience, Strength and Hope: The "God" Word	English	9353	12,899	22,823	31,076	29,288	20,976	1,791 PV 1 DL	52 PV 342 DL	629 PV 1,538 D	
Expérience, Force Et Espoir – Le mot « Dieu » Membres agnostiques et athées chez les AA	French	147	335	2,567	3,771	1,223	1,270	38 PV 0 DL	0 PV 47 DL	274 PV 186 DL	
Experiencia, Fortaleza Y Esperanza – La palabra "Dios" Los miembros de A.A. agnósticos y ateos	Spanish	901	1,186	1,270	1,910	1,384	1,122	217 PV 0 DL	8 PV 64 DL	427 PV 243 D	
The Jack Alexander Article About A.A. *Reprinted by Special Permission of Saturday Evening Post ©1941	English	4382	4,191	6,029	7,619	5,213	5,577	397 PV 0 DL	1,272 PV 347 DL	883 PV205 DL	Archival
Article de Jack Alexander sur les A.A.	French	14	133	197	118	287	273	17 PV 0 DL	83 PV 46 DL	59 PV 0 DL	
Artículo de Jack Alexander Acerca de A.A.	Spanish	554	900	1,408	474	1,224	1,210	187 PV 0 DL	577 PV 191 DL	505 PV 122 DL	
A.A. Tradition-How It Developed By Bill W. ©1955	English	9007	7,611	13,584	15,674	10,349	8,022	568 PV 0 DL	1,991 PV 648 DL	1,436 PV 448 DL	Historical
La Tradition des A.A. et son Développement par Bill W.	French	94	32	306	188	77	290	11 PV 0 DL	94 PV 40 DL	91 PV 25 DL	

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Title and Copyright Date	LANGUAGE	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2020	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2021	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2022	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2023	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2024	PRINT DISTRIBUTION RATES 2025	*2017 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2018 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	*2019 PAGE VIEWS AND DOWNLOADS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
La Tradición de A.A.—Cómo se Desarrolló	Spanish	820	1,568	1,410	1,527	1,015	1,198	437 PV 0 DL	1,399 PV 419 DL	1,427 PV 251 DL	
A.A.'s Legacy of Service By Bill W. ©1969	English	3482	3,148	6,232	5,146	4,785	3,569	872 PV 0 DL	2,844 PV 685 DL	2,061 PV 427 DL	Historical
L'héritage des services des A.A.	French	257	3	231	172	198	90	21 PV 0 DL	93 PV 22 DL	67 PV 1 DL	
El Legado de Servicio de A.A.	Spanish	700	615	491	843	193	628	804 PV 0 DL	2,885 PV 614 DL	2,842 PV 444 DL	
The Co-founders of A.A. ©1973,1975	English	5058	6,093	4,246	6,733	4,083	3,542	436 PV 0 DL	2,314 PV 332 DL	1,403 PV 181 DL	Archival/ Biographical
Les Deux Fondateurs des A.A.	French	335	366	121	267	147	155	8 PV 0 DL	60 PV 15 DL	40 PV 0 DL	
Los Cofundadores de Alcohólicos Anónimos	Spanish	313	558	559	558	593	312	46 PV 0 DL	194 PV 60 DL	154 PV 30 DL	
Anonymity Display Card ©1993	English	373	943	1129	1186	1114	3044				
Affichette Sur L'anonymat	French	0	32	29	14	52	38				
Tarjeta de Declaración de Anonimato	Spanish	13	67	473	162	175	92				
Suggestions for Leading Beginners Meeting	English	241	254	0	414	505	262	1,995 PV 0 DL	7,952 PV 915 DL	352 PV 556 DL	
Suggestions pour réunions de débutants	French	1	0	9	0	0	0	39 PV 0 DL	108 PV 15 DL	1 PV 0 DL	
Sugerencias para Coordinar Reuniones de Principiantes	Spanish	44	23	20	1	0	210	1,834 PV 0 DL	8,272 PV 794 DL	402 PV 751 DL	
Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions	English	80, 1	66, 0	36, 0	76	63	27		N/A		
Bill's Own Story	English	1, 85	0, 82	0, 205	0, 129	137	64		N/A		
Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure	English	31	43	94	312	4	1521				
Votre BSG	French	1	1	0	0	0	100		N/A		
Su Oficina de Servicios Generales de A.A., el Grapevine, y la Estructura de Servicios Generales	Spanish	5	17	0	0	0	20				

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

1/6/2020
(rev. 7/28/22)

A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC., POLICY ON PUBLICATION: KEEPING A.A. LITERATURE CURRENT

This policy sets forth the standards for determining whether or not a new piece of literature, or changes to an existing piece of literature, needs consideration by the General Service Conference prior to publication by AAWS

Definitions

"Literature" means books and pamphlets published by A.A. World Services, Inc. and intended for public distribution. The term does not include Service Pieces.

"Service Pieces" are printed material produced by A.A. World Services, Inc. for the information of the Fellowship. They describe shared experience and current practice on matters of interest to the Fellowship and are a convenient method of providing answers to frequently asked questions concerning matters of practical concern or historical interest to members of the Fellowship. Examples include workbooks, guidelines, newsletters, bulletins and flyers.

"Editorial Changes" to an existing piece of Conference-approved Literature means (1) correction of typographical errors and errors of grammar or syntax, (2) correction of erroneous statements of fact, (3) updating of historical and statistical information, and (4) correction of cross references to other material necessitated by changes in such other material.

The "Format" of a piece of literature means the manner in which the content of the literature is arranged and presented to the reader. Examples include hard cover, soft cover, large print, standard size, pocket size, audio, Braille, video for ASL, digital and electronic (suitable for reading on electronic devices such as smart phones, tablets, and computers).

Submission of Literature to the General Service Conference

A new piece of Literature or any change to an existing piece of Conference-approved Literature other than Editorial Changes and new or changed Formats, will not be published by A.A. World Services, Inc. prior to approval of such literature by the General Service Conference.

The content of a piece of literature presented for final approval to the Conference will be in fully edited condition, with no expectation of further change being made prior to publication other than as may be specified by the Conference in granting its approval.

Unless otherwise specified in the Advisory Action of the Conference approving a new or amended piece of Literature, A.A. World Services, Inc. will have full authority, without need of further Conference action, to (a) select the Format or Formats in which the approved Literature will be produced, (b) make, from time to time, needed Editorial Changes; provided, however,

that no Editorial Change will be made to the Big Book's Preface, the Forewords, "The Doctor's Opinion," the first 164 pages (Chapters 1-11), "Dr. Bob's Nightmare," or the Appendices without prior Conference approval of such change, and (c) translate the approved Literature

into any language, and in connection therewith to modify or replace illustrations, photos, and other visual art in a manner reasonably designed to conform them to the culture of the expected readership.

Scope and Process for Editorial Updates of Conference-Approved Literature

When considering items for revision, the following criteria will guide the editorial process:

- Does the material use outdated language, jargon, or references?
- Does the material utilize the most current science about alcoholism?
- Does the material focus on inclusivity and represent A.A.'s broad diversity?
- Does the material draw on A.A. history in a way that is relevant and necessary?
- Does the material effectively address the audience to whom it is directed? (Target audience input will be sought in the review process)

In order to proactively update the broad inventory of Conference-approved pamphlets and other A.A. Literature in a timely fashion, A.A.W.S. will:

1. Regularly present to the Conference, through the Trustees' Literature Committee or other appropriate trustees' or Conference committee, a selection of pamphlets or other Conference-approved Literature items that have been edited or summarized for revision by the Publications Department. (This would either be part of or supplementary to the annual Recovery Literature Matrix provided to the Conference Literature Committee by the Trustees' Literature Committee - see note below.)

2. The appropriate trustees' or Conference committee, at its discretion, will consider the proposed revision and forward it on to either the appropriate Conference committee for their consideration or to the Conference as a whole for final approval.

3. If approved by the Conference, the Publishing Department will update each item without further change being made other than as may be specified by the Conference in granting its approval.

4. Once the item has been given Conference-approval, the items will be translated, and existing inventory of the prior version will be discontinued and replaced with the new material.*

NOTE: Any and all new literature will be proposed by the Conference as per current practice, and nothing herein will preclude guidance from the Conference regarding any additional titles or categories of literature to be reviewed and/or updated. [A procedure for literature review was requested by the 2016 General Service Conference, recommending that "the trustees' Literature Committee develop a plan that includes a systematic schedule for the annual review of recovery literature items, taking into consideration the following: content, relevance, and usefulness; and prioritized by time span since last review. The committee requested that the plan also include an annual report, to be forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee, reflecting the results of their review and any other items for proposed updates or revisions." The plan was accepted by the 2017 GSC.]

December 2019

*For all Conference-approved pamphlets, implementation will take place as soon as possible after conclusion of the Conference at which the changes are approved. In most cases, current inventory (in English, French and Spanish) will be written off or destroyed and replaced with the new, revised materials. For Conference-approved books, the inventory is often greater and the investment is more costly than pamphlets, so implementation of revisions will take place in consultation with the general manager (GM), the chief financial officer (CFO), and with the AAWS Board, as deemed necessary by the GM. All efforts will be made to post revised digital versions on aa.org as final approved PDFs are completed.

Acknowledged/Accepted by 2020 General Service Conference

rev. 7/2022 and
AAWS Adopted

A.A. World Services, Inc., Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current

1	<p>The AAWS Publishing Department reviews selected pamphlet, book, or other item for presentation to AAWS for revision according to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the material use outdated language, jargon, or references? • Does the material utilize the most current science about alcoholism? • Does the material focus on inclusivity and represent A.A.'s broad diversity? • Does the material draw on A.A. history in a way that is relevant and necessary? • Does the material effectively address the audience to whom it is directed? 	AAWS Editorial Staff, AAWS Board
2	<p>Proposed revisions are forwarded from AAWS to the relevant trustees' or Conference committee for review.</p>	Relevant Trustees' or Conference Committee
3	<p>The relevant Conference committee evaluates the proposed revision for presentation to the full Conference for final approval.</p>	Conference Committee
4	<p>The full Conference considers the proposed revisions. If approved, the revised item will be Conference-approved literature.</p>	General Service Conference
5	<p>Once approved, the Publishing Department will proceed with translation into French and Spanish and discontinue prior inventory.</p>	AAWS Publishing Dept.

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM B: Review content and format of Literature Kit and Workbook.

Background notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' Committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The Literature Workbook (Item M-52i) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Background:

1. Literature Workbook and A.A. Literature Catalog are available to view at the links below:

Literature Workbook:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

A.A. Literature Catalog:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM C: Review progress report on the development of the Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* (Spanish).

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of a Fourth Edition of *Alcohólicos Anónimos* and **agreed to forward** the report to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

2025 Conference Committee on Literature Additional Committee Consideration:

The committee had a robust discussion about the progress report and project timeline for the development of the Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* (Spanish). The committee requested that a manuscript or progress report be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

2021 Conference Advisory Action:

A Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature.

Secretary's note: Previous history and actions on this item are located in the History and Actions for the Conference committee and trustees' Committee on Literature.

Background:

1. 2025 Progress Report: Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* (Spanish)

2025-2026 trustees' Literature Committee

Working Group developing a Fourth Edition of *Alcohólicos Anónimos*

Progress Report February 2026

For the 2025-2026 year, the working group members were: Cesar F., chair (ACM); Paola A., Julio E., Juan Carlos L., Fredy M., nontrustee director of Grapevine/La Viña; Eladio M., Paz P., Zoraida R. and MaRosa W.

The working group has met 15 times since the 2025 General Service Conference. During this period, the working group continued to review stories submitted for the Fourth Edition of *Alcohólicos Anónimos*. Of the original 180 stories, the working group selected nine stories, identified an additional two stories that need editing and selected 10 stories that might be included.

The working group also began to consider which stories from the Third Edition should be retained.

The working group reviewed drafts of revised chapters, including the Forewords, The Doctor's Opinion, Bill's Story, There Is a Solution, More About Alcoholism, We Agnostics, How It Works, Working with Others, To Wives, The Family Afterward, To Employers and A Vision for You.

The working group continues to meet approximately every other week via Zoom to review new translations and discuss story selection. We anticipate providing a draft manuscript to the trustees' Literature Committee later in 2026, with the hope that the draft will be forwarded to the 77th General Service Conference.

We appreciate the assistance of the Language Services Department and our Staff secretary.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to continue to work on this wonderful project.

Service is a Legacy of Love,
Cesar F., Appointed Committee Member of the trustees' Literature Committee
Fourth Edition Big Book in Spanish Working Group Chair

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM D: Review draft of the Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed the final report of the Fifth Edition Big Book subcommittee along with a complete draft of the Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The committee **agreed to forward** the final report along with the draft manuscript of the Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

2025 Conference Committee on Literature Additional Committee Consideration:

The committee had a thoughtful discussion about the progress report and project timeline for the development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The committee requested that a manuscript or progress report be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

2021 Conference Advisory Actions:

A Fifth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that: "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion,' 'Dr. Bob's Nightmare,' and the Appendices remain as is," and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature.

Pending its development, the draft of the Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V.

Secretary's note: *Previous history and actions on this item are located in the History and Actions for the Conference Committee on Literature and trustees' Committee on Literature.*

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Background:

1. Fifth Edition *Alcoholics Anonymous* Final Report
2. Draft of the Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* (*Confidential, "For Committee Eyes Only"*)
 - Front matter: Foreword to the Fifth Edition and revised Preface
 - New Personal Stories: Part II, Experience, Strength and Hope
 - Revised Appendices III, V and VI.
3. Memo to Committee regarding confidential background

**2025-2026 trustees' Literature Committee
Fifth Edition Big Book Subcommittee Final Report**

The subcommittee was charged with implementing the following Advisory Actions of the 71st General Service Conference:

- That a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that: “The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Dr. Bob’s Nightmare,’ and the Appendices remain as is,”
- Pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new Foreword, an updated Preface and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V.

Members of the Fifth Edition subcommittees from 2021-2026, as well as those who have served on the trustees' Literature Committee in this time have expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the process of developing the draft Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

The subcommittee is especially grateful to the 2,393 members of the Fellowship who submitted their personal stories for consideration.

Updated stories to better reflect the current membership:

The Advisory Action stated that the new edition should include “an update of stories to better reflect current membership.”

To gather those stories, the trustees' Literature Committee created a subcommittee in 2021. They began their work by reviewing the processes that had led to the creation of the first four editions of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The subcommittee was careful to craft a process grounded in A.A. principles and history. Mindful of A.A. cofounder Bill W.'s observation that “the audience for the book is people who are coming to Alcoholics Anonymous now. Those who are here have already heard our stories.”

The “Call for Stories” was opened in April 2022 and closed October 31, 2022. Stories were accepted in English, Spanish and French. Members were able to submit stories electronically, as well as in hard copy through postal mail.

As the stories were coming in, the subcommittee began work on developing a process for evaluating stories.

Each story was first anonymized and given a number. Members were thanked for their submissions and the General Service Office (GSO) Staff followed up to make sure that each

member who submitted their story had also provided permission for their story to be edited and used (Assignment of Copyright).

Stories received in Spanish and French were translated into English so they could be read and reviewed by subcommittee members.

The subcommittee reviewed past practices and discussed the approach for the Fifth Edition. The subcommittee developed a grid where characteristics of each story and any comments could be noted, with emphasis on varied personal and A.A. experience.

For the Fourth Edition there were more than 1,200 stories submitted, and for the Fifth Edition there were 2,393 story submissions from grateful and enthusiastic A.A. members. It was awe inspiring and brought some challenges into the process regarding the ability of a subcommittee to effectively and carefully review every submission. In 2023-2024, members of the Fifth Edition Big Book subcommittee engaged additional volunteer readers who, along with the subcommittee, reviewed stories, noting unique elements of each story in the grid. This facilitated the subcommittee's selection of 159 stories for further consideration.

Additional volunteer readers proved to be an effective method to engage additional help to deal with a high volume of content. As a result, the subcommittee requested that the trustees' Literature Committee formalize a process for engagement of additional volunteers where needed for future projects.

By early 2025, the subcommittee was able to reduce the number of stories being considered down to 48. These were shared with the full trustees' Literature Committee and Conference Committee on Literature who were both provided the opportunity to provide input on which stories would be selected and express any concerns they had about any of the stories.

Throughout 2025, the subcommittee continued to meet and discuss the stories, frequently referring back to the Advisory Action. Emphasis was placed on selecting stories with depth and weight that would help a newcomer identify and find hope. In the end, a final set of 26 new stories were selected. These stories reflect A.A.'s geographic diversity and include stories of those who got sober as young people and those who got sober later in life. The stories also reflect different kinds of lived experiences, including those who identify as being part of remote communities, those who came to the U.S. or Canada as immigrants, members who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community and those who have served in the military. These new stories also include members who got sober during periods of incarceration and some who struggled with the notion of a Higher Power. All found sobriety, hope and a new way of life through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Personal Stories from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*:

The subcommittee invited members of the trustees' Literature Committee and the Conference Committee on Literature to help determine which stories from the Fourth Edition Big Book should be retained.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

After reviewing that feedback, the subcommittee recommended that of the 42 personal stories in the Fourth Edition *Alcoholics Anonymous*, twelve should be included in the Fifth Edition, including:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Bob's Nightmare • Alcoholics Anonymous Number Three • Gratitude in Action • Women Suffer Too • The Vicious Cycle • Jim's Story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Keys of The Kingdom • Crossing the River of Denial • Winner Takes All • Acceptance Was The Answer • Listening To The Wind • Freedom From Bondage
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Those that were not retained include the following 30 stories:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Southern Friend • The Man Who Mastered Fear • He Sold Himself Short • The Missing Link • Fear of Fear • The Housewife Who Drank at Home • Physician, Heal Thyself! • My Chance to Live • Student of Life • Because I'm an Alcoholic • It Might Have Been Worse • Tighrope • Flooded with Feeling • Me an Alcoholic? • The Perpetual Quest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Drunk, Like You • Window of Opportunity • My Bottle, My Resentments, and Me • He Lived Only to Drink • Safe Haven • Twice Gifted • Building a New Life • On The Move • A Vision of Recovery • Gutter Bravado • Empty On the Inside • Grounded • Another Chance • A Late Start • A.A. Taught Him to Handle Sobriety
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The subcommittee noted that there is no plan in place to continue to publish the 30 stories that have been removed, and that should the Conference wish for these to be published in a volume like *Experience, Strength, and Hope* or otherwise made available, an Advisory Action from the General Service Conference would be in order.

Updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V:

The subcommittee consulted with the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee in review of "The Medical View on A.A." (III) and "The Religious View on A.A." (V) appendices. Past and present Class A trustees were very helpful. The GSO Publishing Department incorporated the feedback and suggestions into drafts of each Appendix. Multiple drafts of each Appendix were reviewed by the subcommittee before they were finalized.

Updates to Appendix VI: How to Get in Touch with A.A.:

The subcommittee also requested that the Publishing Department review and make recommendations to Appendix VI, keeping in mind the diverse ways that people seek help and information, and to reflect current practices. In December 2025, a revised draft of Appendix VI was approved by the subcommittee.

Updated Preface and Foreword to the Fifth Edition:

The Foreword to the Fifth Edition and Preface are in the purview of the Publishing Department and were written after the stories had been selected and other content finalized. The Fifth Edition Subcommittee provided input and these were then shared with the trustees' Literature Committee.

General Service Office (GSO):

Both the GSO Staff on the literature assignment and the Publishing Department have gathered experience through this process that is being retained and applied to other projects where applicable. The subcommittee wishes to thank the Staff and employees for their tireless support throughout this process.

Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs):

The subcommittee received three PAIs from AAWS that pertained to the format and the cover of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The subcommittee noted that there have been also previous requests for a more anonymity conscience jacketless cover. The subcommittee requested that Publishing Department and AAWS consider this expressed need when formatting the Fifth Edition.

The subcommittee also received four PAIs from the trustees' Literature Committee, these were not forwarded to the Conference but pertained to the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, and were provided to the subcommittee for review. These were carefully considered and the subcommittee took no further action.

Conclusion:

The development of this draft of the Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* has been a real labor of love, and could not have been completed without the incredible work of hundreds of A.A. members, including the area delegates (especially those serving on the Conference Committee on Literature), dozens of board members (trustees, nontrustee directors and appointed committee members), GSO Staff, Staff associates, the Publishing Department and the many, many members who submitted their stories.

####

April 2026

To: Members of the 2026 General Service Conference

From: Misha Q., Secretary, trustees' Literature Committee and Conference Committee on Literature

Subject: **Confidential** draft literature

As a Conference committee reviews a new, or extensively revised literature item it is general practice that drafts are reviewed by **committee members only**. This means that the rest of the Conference members will not be getting copies of the pamphlet or book in their background materials for the Conference.

The Conference Committee on Literature will be reviewing the draft manuscript of the Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, primarily to determine whether or not the scope of changes presented meets the intended goals of the 2021 Advisory Action to develop a new edition.

Also, as with all Conference-approved A.A. literature, the Conference committee will be looking at the draft manuscript to see “that everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. principles” and that “Conference-approved material always deals with the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous or with information about the A.A. Fellowship.” (Concerns about routine grammar, punctuation, editing, etc., will be addressed by the Publishing Department.)

Once the Conference committee reviews the draft manuscript, several things may happen. Among them:

- The committee might approve the manuscript and recommend that the manuscript be approved by the Conference as a whole.
- The committee might send the manuscript back to the trustees' Literature Committee with any significant concerns about the proposed draft.

Until a book or pamphlet is “Conference-approved,” it is confidential and for committee eyes only. Prior to then, any number of changes might be made by the trustees' Literature Committee or the corresponding Conference committee. This confidential process ensures that the message that reaches the A.A. Fellowship is a reflection of A.A. as a whole, an assurance made by the Conference-approval process.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM E: Review progress report on the update to the book *Living Sober*.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed the progress report and three revised sample chapters from the subcommittee charged with revising *Living Sober* and **agreed to forward** to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature the progress report and sample chapter revisions with the request that the Conference Committee consider whether the revised chapters meet the goal of revising the language and content of the book *Living Sober*.

Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

The trustees' Literature Committee update the language and content of the book *Living Sober* with a progress report or draft manuscript to be delivered to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

Secretary's note: Previous history and actions on this item are located in the history and actions for the conference committee and trustees' committee.

Background:

1. Progress report, update to the book *Living Sober*
2. Draft chapters 10, 14, 16 for an update to the book *Living Sober**
3. Memo to Committee regarding confidential background

***For members of this Conference committee only and not available for duplication or distribution beyond the committee."**

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2025-2026 trustees' Literature Committee

***Living Sober* Subcommittee**

Progress Report February 2026

Following the 2025 General Service Conference, the trustees' Literature Committee appointed a subcommittee to begin work on revising the booklet *Living Sober*.

In consultation with the Publishing Department and GSO Staff, the subcommittee identified three *Living Sober* chapters on which to begin the revision process:

- Chapter 10: "Telephone Therapy"
- Chapter 14: "Fending off Loneliness"
- Chapter 16: "Being Good to Yourself"

Throughout the year, the subcommittee reviewed multiple drafts of each of the three chapters and made additional suggestions to the Publishing Department. The resulting three chapters are included here for review.

The subcommittee hopes to receive feedback about whether these updates meet the intended goal of the Advisory Action before proceeding with additional revisions and development of new content.

April 2026

To: Members of the 2026 General Service Conference

From: Misha Q., Secretary, trustees' and Conference Committees on Literature

Subject: **Confidential** draft literature

As a Conference committee reviews a new, or extensively revised literature item it is general practice that drafts are reviewed by **committee members only**. This means that the rest of the Conference members will not be getting copies of the pamphlet or book in their background materials for the Conference.

The Conference Committee on Literature will be reviewing the draft chapters of *Living Sober*, primarily to determine whether or not the scope of changes presented meets the intended goals of the 2025 Advisory Action recommending an update to the text.

Also, as with all Conference-approved A.A. literature, the Conference committee will be looking at the draft manuscript to see “that everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. principles. Conference-approved material always deals with the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous or with information about the A.A. Fellowship.” (Concerns about routine grammar, punctuation, editing, etc., will be addressed by the Publishing Department.)

Once the Conference committee reviews the draft chapters of *Living Sober* several things may happen. Among them:

- The committee might approve the direction of the edits and suggest trustees' Committee on Literature continue work on updating the text and provide a revised draft or progress report to the 2027 Conference committee.
- The committee might also send the draft chapters of *Living Sober* back to the trustees' Committee on Literature with any significant concerns about the proposed editorial approach.

Until a book or pamphlet is “Conference-approved,” it is confidential and for committee eyes only. Prior to then, any number of changes might be made by the trustees' Committee on Literature or the corresponding Conference committee. This confidential process ensures that the message that reaches the A.A. Fellowship is a reflection of A.A. as a whole, an assurance made by the Conference-approval process.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

ITEM F: Progress report on the development of a *Plain Language Big Book* amendment process.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of a *Plain Language Big Book* amendment process and **agreed to forward** the report to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

The proposals to rescind or revise the *Plain Language Big Book* be collected and deferred until the 77th General Service Conference to allow for a wider Fellowship experience.

The development of a process within the trustees' Literature Committee for receiving, assessing and forwarding proposed changes to the *Plain Language Big Book* to the Conference Committee on Literature.

Background:

1. Progress report of the *Plain Language Big Book* review process subcommittee.
2. Graphic representation of a process for receiving and reviewing suggestions related to the *Plain Language Big Book*.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

**2025-2026 trustees' Literature Committee
Plain Language Big Book Review Process Subcommittee
Progress Report, January 2026**

The subcommittee discussed and agreed upon expectations for how different types of requests and editorial suggestions related to the *Plain Language Big Book* (PLBB) might be routed.

Honoring A.A. spiritual principles and ensuring that perspectives from the A.A. membership are heard, particularly the minority opinion, are essential to the process.

The subcommittee identified six sets of key actors involved in the process of receiving, considering and responding to suggestions for changes to the *Plain Language Big Book*:

1. GSO Staff: Receive and route proposed agenda items (PAIs); respond to email and phone calls from A.A. members; assist with implementation of Advisory Actions and other directives.
2. Trustees' Literature Committee
3. *Plain Language Big Book* Review Process Subcommittee
4. Publishing Department
5. Consultant (external writer)
6. Conference Committee on Literature

In considering how each set of actors is engaged in the process, the subcommittee considered

- AAWS Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current
- Comp, Scope and Procedure of trustees' Literature Committee, the *Plain Language Big Book* Review Process Subcommittee and the Conference Committee on Literature
- The Twelve Concepts for World Service (with particular emphasis on Concept X.)

After considering these resources, the subcommittee agreed to draft a visual representation of the process for receiving, considering and routing suggestions related to the *Plain Language Big Book*.

The graphic representation of a workflow or “swim lanes” of responsibility and authority represent the subcommittee’s efforts to avoid confusion of “double-headed management.”

The focus of the work to date has been on the receipt, review, consideration, discussion and recommendations that arise from submitted PAIs. Future work of the subcommittee

may focus on a process for also receiving and considering other kinds of feedback related to the *Plain Language Big Book* from the Fellowship.

One principle underlying all of this work is that while responsibility for determining whether to forward a PAI to Conference does lie with the trustees' committee, there are other lines of collaboration and delegated authority. These include:

- The trustees' Literature Committee will continue to consult with the Conference Committee on Literature about PAIs each year, with the goal of ensuring a collaborative process.
- The trustees' Literature Committee may identify PAIs that suggest changes which are editorial in nature. These may be forwarded directly to the Publishing Department, which would have the responsibility of making editorial changes and forwarding them back to the trustees' Literature Committee.
- The trustees' Literature Committee may identify PAIs that suggest substantive changes to the PLBB. These would be forwarded to the *Plain Language Big Book* Review Process Subcommittee to evaluate whether to recommend that the proposed substantive change be forwarded to Conference. If the subcommittee agrees that that the proposed substantive change should be forwarded to Conference, it may also need to identify whether to route that suggestion to the consultant.
- If a substantive change with specific direction is forwarded to a consultant, that external writer will be tasked with drafting the proposed change and returning the draft to the PLBB Review Process Subcommittee.
- If the PLBB Review Process Subcommittee approves of the draft language, it may make a recommendation to the trustees' Literature Committee.
- The PLBB Review Process Subcommittee may also make a recommendation to "Take no action" to the trustees' Literature Committee.
- The trustees' Literature Committee will continue to have responsibility for reviewing recommendations and proposed changes. If the committee agrees with recommendations or accepts a draft revision, it may forward those to the Conference Committee on Literature.

PLBB Review/Revision Process

	10/1/2025	11/1/2025	11/10/2025	11/30/2025	12/15/2025	2/1/2026	3/15/2026	3/26/26	4/1/2026	8/1/2026	1/1/2027	1/29/2027
Trustees' Literature Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Get feedback on PAIs from the Conference Committee on Literature ❖ Review and discuss all PAIs related to PLBB in meeting of TLC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Identify If any PLBB-related PAIs are "Take No Action" - if yes, Staff to communicate with submitter ❖ Identify if any PLBB-related PAIs are Editorial Changes Only - If yes forward to Publishing ❖ Identify PAIs with Substantive Changes - Forward to PLBB Subcommittee ❖ Review recommendations from PLBB Subcommittee on Items with Substantive Changes but not specific language. If Committee agrees with Recommendation, add to GSC Agenda. if Committee disagrees, staff will communicate with submitter. ❖ Review Recommendations from PLBB Subcommittee for PAIs with Substantive and Specific suggestions. If committee agrees - Forward to Consultant ❖ If TLC Disagrees with Recommendations from PLBB subcommittee; PAIs to be forwarded to other bodies as appropriate ❖ Review additional Take No Action Recommendations from PLBB Subcommittee; If TLC agrees with Take No Action Items, Staff will communicate with Submitter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Accept revised drafts from Consultant, forward to PLBB Subcommittee ❖ Accept revised draft from Publishing Dept with Editorial Changes; Forward to PLBB Subcommittee ❖ Review draft with Editorial changes made by Publishing forwarded by PLBB Subcommittee and report to 2027 GSC ❖ Review draft by Consultant forwarded by PLBB Subcommittee; if recommendation is accepted, forward draft to 2027 GSC 											
PLBB Review Process Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Review PAIs with Substantive Changes ❖ Review PLBB PAIs with substantive changes; as warranted, make recommendations to TLC that PAIs with specific suggestions be forwarded to Consultant ❖ Review PLBB PAIs with substantive changes; as warranted, make recommendations to TLC that PAIs with substantive but non specific suggestions be forwarded to 2027 GSC as Agenda Items ❖ Review editorial changes made by Publishing Department. As appropriate forward recommendation that draft be accepted to TLC ❖ Review draft made by consultant with PAI suggested changes; if acceptable forward recommendation to TLC that draft be forwarded to GSC 											
GSC / CCL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provide Feedback on PAIs to the Chair of TLC ❖ 2026 GSC - Review reporting of Editorial Changes ❖ 2027 GSC - Consider reports, suggestions and/or revised draft 											
Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Begin work on implementation of substantive change suggested by PAIs ❖ Forward Revised Draft to TLC 											
Publishing Dept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Begin work on implementation of editorial changes from TLC submitted as PAIs ❖ Forward revised draft with completed Editorial changes to TLC 											

ITEM G: Review progress report of subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed a progress report from the subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members regarding tools to access the Big Book, as well as a draft survey. The committee agreed to provide feedback on the draft survey and moved that the revised survey be sent to members, as suggested by the subcommittee. The committee **agreed to forward** the progress report and draft survey to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference:

Begin a study to explore the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book. This study will include identifying specific needs within the Spanish-speaking community to determine whether a plain language translation of the Big Book is an appropriate tool or if other accessible materials would be more effective to support Spanish-speaking members who face barriers related to literacy or comprehension.

Background:

1. February 2026 progress report of the subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book
2. Draft survey of Spanish-speaking members (in English for committee review)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

**Trustees' Literature Committee
Subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking
members for tools to access the Big Book
Progress Report**

Since the November 2025 meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee, the subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book met twice.

In those meetings, the subcommittee reviewed its scope and began review of reports related to English-language tools to access the Big Book (TABB and RIPTAB).

The subcommittee agreed that some of the work to evaluate the need for Spanish-language tools would be best conducted after the publication of the Fourth Edition of *Alcohólicos Anónimos*.

The subcommittee also agreed to develop a draft survey of Spanish-speaking members to gauge interest in and need for tools for reading the Big Book (and other literature) in Spanish.

With approval from the trustees' Literature Committee, the subcommittee hopes to make the survey available to Spanish-speaking members in February 2026.

Service is a Legacy of Love
Cesar F.

Appointed Committee Member of the trustees' Literature Committee
Chair, subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish speaking members for tools to access the Big Book (*Alcoholics Anonymous*).

###

Trustees' Literature Committee

Draft Survey — Plain Language Tools for Spanish-Speaking A.A. Members

1. Are you a member of Alcoholics Anonymous? (Check one)
 - Yes
 - No

2. Do you live in the United States, Canada (or one of the other countries that are part of the U.S./Canada Service Structure (the Bahamas, U.S. Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands, Antigua, St Maarten & Cayman Islands). (Check one)
 - Yes
 - No

3. What is your primary language?
 - Spanish
 - English
 - Other

4. How do you interact with Spanish-speaking newcomers? (Check all that apply)
 - “Behind the walls” — in correctional facilities
 - As a sponsor
 - In A.A. meetings

5. What tools do you use when working with a Spanish-speaking newcomer (check all that apply)?
 - Books
 - *Alcoholics Anonymous*
 - *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*
 - *Living Sober*
 - *Came to Believe*
 - Books from AA Grapevine / La Viña
 - Pamphlets
 - “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship”
 - “The Twelve Steps Illustrated”
 - “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated”
 - “Frequently Asked Questions about A.A.”
 - “Is A.A. for You?”

- “Is A.A. for Me?”
 - “A Newcomer Asks”
 - “Hispanic Women in A.A.”
 - Other (Explain)
6. Have you worked with members who have struggled with reading A.A. materials in Spanish?
- Yes
 - No
7. When working with a Spanish-speaking newcomer who has literacy or reading challenges, please rank the usefulness of the following: (use a five-point scale from not useful (1) at all to extremely useful (5))
- Conference-approved books
 - Conference-approved pamphlets
 - Conference-approved audio or video
 - AA Grapevine or La Viña magazines
 - AA Grapevine or La Viña app
 - Other AA or La Viña tools
8. When working with a Spanish-speaking newcomer who has literacy or reading challenges, have you directed them to resources outside of Conference-approved literature or AA Grapevine and La Viña resources?
- Yes
 - No
 - Explain

Note: The English language *Plain Language Big Book — A tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* was produced after considerable research and consultation with the Fellowship. The result of that research and consultation was that there were many English-speaking A.A. members and problem drinkers who struggled with the old-fashioned language in the first 164 pages of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

9. Do you think that something similar would be helpful for the Spanish-speaking community?
- Yes

- No
- Maybe
- Explain

10. Do you think a plain language tool would be more helpful for a different piece of Spanish language Conference-approved literature?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe
- Explain

11. Do you think a tool for reading *Alcohólicos Anónimos* should be a book? Or would a differently formatted tool be more helpful?

- Book would be best
- I would prefer
 - Pamphlet
 - Workbook/ Study guide
 - Videos
 - Audio guide
 - Other (explain)

12. Is there any other experience you would like to share?

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM H: Review progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian-American Alcoholic and **agreed to forward** the report to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

2024 Advisory Action:

It was recommended that:

A pamphlet on the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic in A.A. be developed and that a draft or progress report be brought to the 2025 General Service Conference. (Floor Action)

Background:

1. Progress Report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic

2025-2026 trustees' Literature Committee**Working Group for the pamphlet "A.A. for the Asian and Asian-American Alcoholic"
Progress Report, February 2026**

In response to the 2024 Advisory Action requesting the development of a pamphlet, a working group was formed, chaired by Brian P., appointed committee member (ACM) serving on the trustees' Literature Committee.

Since we last reported in November 2025, the working group has been working very enthusiastically to support the open call for stories for the pamphlet "A.A. for the Asian and Asian-American Alcoholic" and has met twice — on December 15, 2025 and January 12, 2026.

Keeping in mind several factors of diversity for our working group, such as cultural heritage, gender, and geographical location within the Conference, we welcomed two new members to our working group: Eunice P. and Kerri K.

We were very excited to hear that several stories (representing a range of different cultures) have already been submitted.

At our last working group meeting, we began to develop a system for how we will review story submissions.

Writing workshops at various in-person A.A. events throughout the U.S/Canada service structure have been scheduled or are under way. Our group is incredibly grateful for the leadership and efforts made by the working group for the pamphlet "A.A. for the Transgender Alcoholic" to find many opportunities, and for their generosity in allowing us to share space with them in combined workshops to give attention to the call for stories for our pamphlet.

There was a general A.A. writing workshop that included writing for our pamphlet at the Southwest Regional Forum, and we held the first of four virtual writing workshops on January 4, 2026. There are workshops planned for WACYCAA, NERAASA, PRAASA and ACYPAA, as well as several other local events.

We are hoping to collaborate with the Transgender Working Group to create an informational video that groups and committees can play at self-hosted writing workshops, and our Staff secretary has offered to help us create French and Spanish versions of the video utilizing resources from the General Service Office.

As always, we cannot thank the trustees' Literature Committee chair and Staff secretary enough for their support and guidance, and we want to thank all other committee and board members for their help and support, as well.

Gratefully in Love and Service,

Brian P.

ACM and chair of the Working Group for the "A.A. for the Asian and Asian-American Alcoholic" Pamphlet

2026 Conference Committee on Literature

ITEM I: Consider publishing the personal stories from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* not included in the draft Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees' Literature Committee meeting:

The trustees' Literature Committee **agreed to forward** a committee suggestion to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature that consideration be given to the publication of the 30 stories not retained from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

2022 Conference Committee on Literature recommendation:

The committee recommended that a second volume of the book *Experience, Strength and Hope* be developed with the stories dropped from the Fourth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, and that a progress report be brought to the Conference Committee on Literature once development of the publication is in progress.

Note: This item failed to receive the votes necessary to become an Advisory Action on the Conference Floor.

Background:

1. *Experience, Strength & Hope* [EN](#), [SP](#), [FR](#)



VII. Policy & Admissions Committee - EN

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Policy & Admissions Committee

Introductions – Racy J., secretary

Review Conference Committee Composition, Scope, and Procedure – Michael R.,
Conference committee chairperson.

Review History of Conference committee – Racy J., secretary

A. Review GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection.....	3
PA-A.0 - Cover Sheet GM Report - ENG.docx.....	3
PA-A.1 - Memo to 2029 GSC Dates and Site Selection - ENG.docx.....	5
B. Review dates for the 2030 General Service Conference.....	6
PA-B.0 - Cover Sheet 2030 GSC dates - ENG.docx.....	6
PA-B.1 - List of Past GSC Dates - ENG.docx.....	8
PA-B.2 - 2030 Calendar - ENG.docx.....	9
C. Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW).....	11
PA-C.0 - Cover Sheet EDW - ENG.docx.....	11
PA-C.0 - Doc.1- TGSCC EDW Report 2026 - ENG.docx.....	12
1. Discuss the suggestion to discontinue the annual review of service kits and workbooks by Conference Committees.....	16
PA-C.1 - Cover Sheet EDW Kits - ENG.docx.....	16
PA-C.1 - Doc.1 - Committee Scopes with Kits - ENG.docx.....	17
2. Discuss the suggestion that a similar number of agenda items be assigned to each Conference Committee.....	19
PA-C.2 - Cover Sheet EDW equal distribution - ENG.docx.....	19
3. Discuss creating a "Conference Committee on Digital Communications.".....	20
PA-C.3 - Cover Sheet EDW Digital Committee - ENG.docx.....	20
PA-C.3 - Doc.1 - Conference Committees CSP - ENG.docx.....	21

2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM A: Review GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection.

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee discussed the general manager's report on Conference Site Selection and recommended to the General Service Board that the general manager proceed with contracting with the hotel for the General Service Conference in 2029.

2025 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

In keeping with a request from the 74th General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions, the committee noted the February 11, 2025, memo update from the general manager to all Conference members on site selection and dates. The 77th and 78th General Service Conferences will be held at the New York Marriott Marquis hotel in New York City. The 77th General Service Conference will take place April 11-17, 2027. The 78th General Service Conference will take place April 23-29, 2028.

2024 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

The committee reviewed the GSO general manager's memo regarding General Service Conference site selection. The committee asked that the general manager provide a progress report regarding site selection for the 77th and 78th General Service Conferences as soon as they are finalized.

2023 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

The committee reviewed the GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection. The committee appreciated the detailed analysis of the costs and logistics of holding the Conference at sample facilities in four of the eight regions. The committee is not requesting a site selection report from the general manager in 2024, recognizing that contracts have been executed with hotels in the New York area for 2024, 2025 and 2026, and that site selection for the 2027 General Service Conference could be impacted by the results of the Location Plus Committee and possible relocation of the

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

General Service Office. The committee is requesting that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee conduct a survey of current General Service Conference members regarding the spiritual implications of holding the Conference outside the New York area. An additional option to explore in the survey could be alternating between holding the Conference in the New York area and the Akron/Cleveland area. The committee looks forward to reviewing the survey results or a progress report at the 74th General Service Conference.

Current Conference Charter excerpt:

9. The General Service Conference Meetings: The Conference will meet yearly in the City of New York, unless otherwise agreed upon. Special meetings may be called should there be a grave emergency. The Conference may also render advisory opinions at any time by a mail or telephone poll in aid of the General Service Board or its related services.

Background:

1. General manager's report on General Service Conference site selection

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

POLICY/ADMISSIONS
Item A
Doc.1

MEMORANDUM

To: Conference Committee on Policy/Admission, All members of the 75th General Service Conference

From: Bob W., General Manager

Date: December 17, 2025

Re: Site Selection and Dates for the 79th General Service Conference

As requested by the 75th General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admission, I am notifying the committee and all Conference members that the site selection and dates for the 79th General Service Conference are finalized.

It is with great enthusiasm that I'd like to inform you that the 79th General Service Conference will take place April 15-21, 2029, at the New York Marriot Marquis hotel located in the heart of Times Square in New York City.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the internet, such as websites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM B: Review dates for the 2030 General Service Conference.

Background notes:

2025 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

The committee reviewed the dates for the 2029 General Service Conference. In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select these proposed dates for the 79th General Service Conference, as follows (in order of preference): April 29 – May 5, 2029; April 15–21, 2029 and May 6–12, 2029. The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates are the best choices available for avoiding conflicts with significant holidays. The committee asked that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 79th General Service Conference as soon as they are finalized by GSO management.

2024 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

The committee reviewed the dates for the 2028 General Service Conference. In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select these proposed dates for the 78th General Service Conference, as follows (in order of preference): April 23–29, 2028; May 7–13, 2028 and April 2–8, 2028. The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates are the best choices available for avoiding conflicts with significant holidays. The committee asked that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 77th and 78th General Service Conferences as soon as they are finalized by GSO management.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

2020 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

The review of Conference dates be changed to consider dates for the General Service Conference with timing and year(s) to review as requested by the general manager.

2018 Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

Starting at the 2018 General Service Conference, the proposed dates of future General Service Conferences be considered as an Additional Committee Consideration rather than requiring an Advisory Action.

Background:

1. List of past GSC dates
2. 2030 calendar with holidays and observances

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

List of Conference Dates from 1993 to 2025

April 18 – 24, 1993	April 21 – 27, 2013
April 17 – 23, 1994	April 27 – May 3, 2014
April 30 – May 6, 1995	April 19 – 25, 2015
April 21 – 27, 1996	April 17 – 23, 2016
April 13 – 19, 1997	April 23 – 29, 2017
April 19 – 25, 1998	April 22 – 28, 2018
April 18 – 24, 1999	May 19 – 25, 2019
April 30 – May 6, 2000	May 16 – 19, 2020
April 22 – 28, 2001	April 18 – 24, 2021
April 21 – 27, 2002	April 24 – 30, 2022
April 27 – May 3, 2003	April 23 – 29, 2023
April 18 – 24, 2004	April 14 – 20, 2024
April 17 – 23, 2005	April 27 – May 3, 2025
April 23 – 29, 2006	
April 22 – 28, 2007	
April 27 – May 3, 2008	
April 26 – May 2, 2009	
April 18 – 24, 2010	
May 1 – 7, 2011	
April 22 – 28, 2012	

2030

United States

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28			

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2030 Holidays and Observances — March through May

March 17	St. Patrick's Day
April 13–14	Eid al-Adha
April 14	Palm Sunday
April 17	Pesach First Night Sedar
April 19	Good Friday
April 19	Pesach Second Night Sedar
April 21	Easter Sunday
April 25	Last Day Pesach
April 29–30	Yom HaShoah
May 12	Mother's Day
May 27	Memorial Day

2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM C: Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW)

Background notes: Review Policy/Admissions considerations from the 2024 Conference *Final Report* and the 2025 Conference *Final Report*.

Background:

1. TGSCC EDW Report 2026
2. 2024 Conference *Final Report*
<https://www.aa.org/2024-general-service-conference-final-report>
3. 2025 Conference *Final Report*
<https://www.aa.org/2025-general-service-conference-final-report>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

POLICY/ADMISSIONS

Item C

Doc.1

Trustees' General Service Conference Committee (TGSCC) Subcommittee on Equitable Distribution of Work (EDW)

Progress Report

January 16, 2026

Teresa J. (chair); Ken T., Matt K., and Rainer L. (secretary)

Scope: The EDW Subcommittee will develop an EDW plan for the 2026 General Service Conference (GSC). The committee will review several suggestions from the 2025 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions.

Annual report: The EDW Subcommittee met four times between September 2025 and January 2026 by videoconference.

The subcommittee recommended to the trustees' GSC Committee:

1. That the topic of discontinuing standing agenda items where Conference committees review their kits/workbooks during the annual General Service Conference week be forwarded to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions for discussion.
2. That the topic of nonspecific Conference committees be forwarded to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to begin an initial discussion.
3. That the topic of adding a Conference Committee on Digital Communications be forwarded to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to begin an initial discussion.
4. That delegate chairpersons be invited to attend the October board weekend instead of the January board weekend, no sooner than October 2026. The intention is to include delegate chairpersons when PAIs are discussed at the board weekend, as preceded the EDW trial.
5. That an EDW Process Summary be included with the list of final GSC agenda items to clarify frequent questions about EDW and why agenda items are sometimes moved from one Conference committee to another.

Discussion highlights:

- Reviewed the history and purpose of the three-year pilot to better understand the evolution of the EDW process that is being used, and to help provide some clear proposals to improve committee workload.
- Discussed the review of service materials that are standing items on most Conference committee agendas. Three EDW subcommittee-defined categories of service materials to support a discussion: Kits/Workbooks, other service materials (guidelines, Seventh Tradition cards, etc.), and the AAWS Literature Policy. The Kits/Workbooks Advisory Action history revealed that reviewing them annually was a practice rather than a policy.
- Discussed other impacts to workload including the “year-round-Conference” process and what that means to Conference members. The year-round cycle creates variabilities for the roles and responsibilities which arise in different quarters; there is common confusion at multiple levels regarding service roles and responsibilities. Clear definition and communication of role, responsibility, and priority may simplify workload. This could be a potential discussion topic at a Conference.
- Began to discuss standout topics, including ways to have a comprehensive shift in CSPs and procedures on Conference committees, trustees’ committees, and related Staff assignments. This led to a broad discussion about reimaging nonspecific committees that would receive an even distribution of agenda items. Some examples in other service structures exist but agreed that careful analysis of our service structure processes would be needed, including the impact on corresponding trustees’ committees.
- The subcommittee discussed the value and challenges involved in redistributing standing and ongoing items. Redistribution of standing and ongoing items would benefit Conference workload while presenting complications to secretarial support and the continuity of care and reporting from board committees.
 - Example 1: The review of GV analytics reports moved from Conference Committee on PI to Conference Committee on Grapevine/La Viña. CCGV/LV asked for this to be a permanent move. This rebalances a portion of Conference committee workload without addressing the oversight, attention, and continuity provided by the trustees’ PI Committee.
 - Example 2: Redistributing ongoing literature projects would benefit the rebalancing of Conference committee agendas, but complicate efforts to provide adequate report through annual Joint Committee Meetings, trustee’ Committee reports, and quarterly calls between committee chairs.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

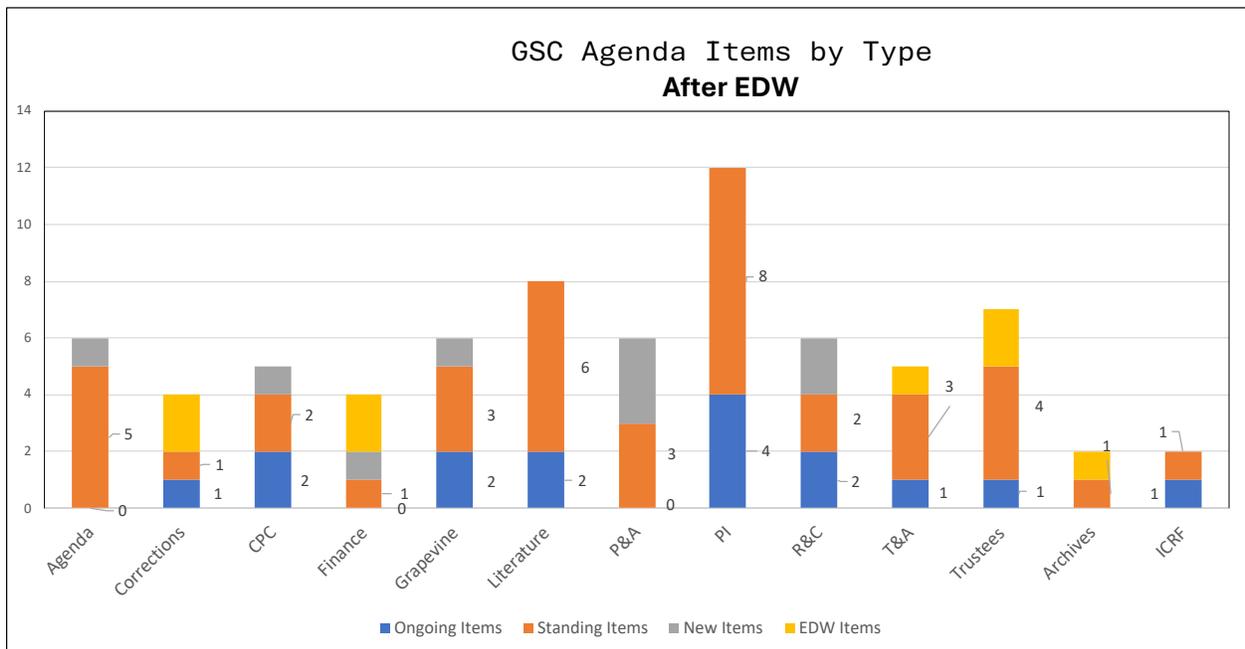
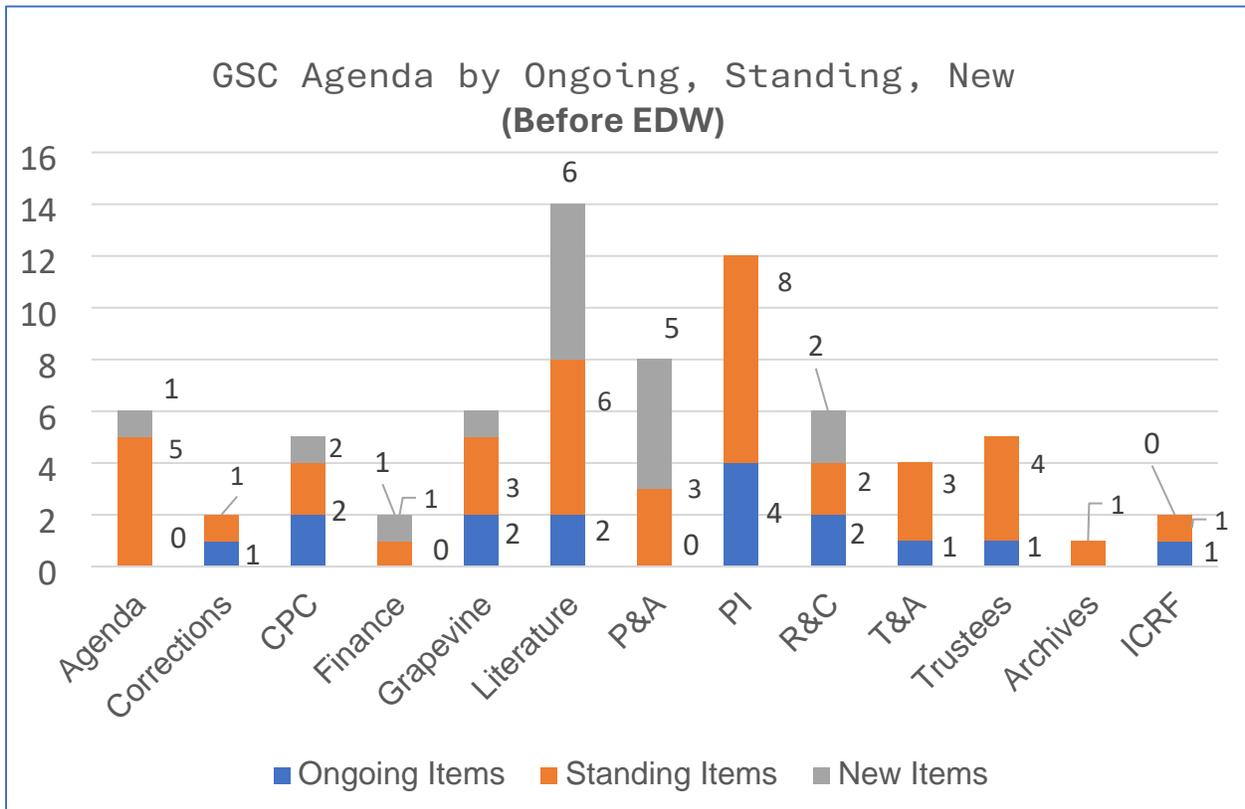
- Discussion on inviting delegate chairpersons to attend the October GSB weekend instead of January. The committee noted that this topic has been discussed by the GSB in the past without reaching a group conscience decision.

Redistribution of new agenda items: The subcommittee discussed its charge to balance new workload elements, noting a benefit in avoiding double-headed review by maintaining topic consistency in routing directions.

The subcommittee discussed the high number of standing items addressed by the Conference Committee on Public Information. The subcommittee recognized possible solutions, including the redistribution of reporting to other Conference committees or routing of reporting to the Conference Manual. The subcommittee felt that further guidance was needed relative to its scope and through the guidance of the trustees' General Service Conference Committee or the General Service Conference itself.

- Two new items were moved from the Conference Committee on Literature to the Conference Committee on Corrections.
- One item was moved from the Conference Committee on Literature to the Conference Committee on Finance.
- One item was moved from the Conference Committee on Literature to the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.
- Two new items were moved from the Conference Committee on Literature to the Conference Committee on Trustees.
- One new item was moved from the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to the Conference Committee on Finance.
- One new item was moved from the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to the Conference Committee on Archives.

A visual presentation of the reassigned workload has been included below.



###

2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM C.1: Discuss the suggestion to discontinue the annual review of service kits and workbooks by Conference committees.

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee discussed the subcommittee recommendation that the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions discuss discontinuing standing agenda items where Conference committees review their kits/workbooks during the General Service Conference and agreed to forward to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions. The committee acknowledged the value in communicating that suggestions for updates to the kits and workbooks can be presented to GSO Staff at any point during the year.

Note: Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' committee and/or respective GSO Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations.

Background:

1. Conference Committees' scopes with corresponding kit and workbooks.
2. Service Committee Kits and Workbooks on GSO website.
<https://www.aa.org/service-committees>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Conference committees' scopes with corresponding kits and workbooks

ARCHIVES

The function of this committee is to:

1. Discuss the report of the trustees' Archives Committee.
2. Make recommendations on archival policies.

COOPERTATION WITH THE PROFESIONAL COMMUNITY

The committee has the responsibility of suggesting to the Conference policies and activities that may help:

1. Further A.A.'s primary purpose of carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic through sharing information about the A.A. program with those professional groups and individuals who have contact with alcoholics.
2. Further mutual understanding and cooperation between the Fellowship and those concerned about the problem of alcoholism and seeking help for alcoholics.
3. Increase the awareness amongst members and outside groups and organizations on ways of cooperating with everyone while affiliating with no one, in adherence to A.A. Traditions.

CORRECTIONS

The purpose of the committee is to encourage A.A. members to assume the responsibility of carrying the message to alcoholics who cannot, of their own free will, seek A.A. help.

The committee will review all aspects of service to A.A. groups in correctional facilities and make recommendations for changes and/or improvements.

LITERATURE

- Review new recovery literature and audiovisual needs.
- Review existing recovery pamphlets.
- Review new recovery pamphlet drafts as they are prepared.
- Recommend specific action to the board's Literature Committee.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The function of this committee was enlarged by the 1966 Conference to include all "Public Information" activities rather than just A.A.'s relations with other alcoholism agencies, as it had been the case since its formation in April 1959. Since 1971, these responsibilities are covered by the Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community. The responsibilities of the PI Committee are to:

1. Create greater understanding of the Fellowship of A.A. by carrying the message through:
 - a. public media
 - b. electronic media
 - c. public information meetings
 - d. speaking to community groups
2. Prevent misunderstanding of the A.A. program.
3. Serve as an advisory board to help the trustees' Public Information Committee implement approved policies.

TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES

The purpose of a Treatment and Accessibilities Committee is to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in a wide variety of treatment settings, and to set up means of "bridging the gap" from the treatment setting to the A.A. Fellowship. In addition, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups serving those who experience barriers to accessing the A.A. message and participating in A.A.'s Three Legacies — Recovery, Unity, and Service. Finally, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups striving to ensure that A.A. members who live in underserved or remote communities — communities difficult to reach because of geography, language or culture — have access to the A.A. message.

The committee will review all aspects of service to A.A. groups/meetings in non-correctional in-patient and out-patient treatment settings, as well as to A.A.s who experience access barriers, and make recommendations for changes and/or improvements.

2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM C.2: Discuss the suggestion that a similar number of agenda items be assigned to each Conference committee.

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee discussed the subcommittee recommendation to forward the topic of nonspecific Conference Committees to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to begin an initial discussion and agreed to forward to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions. The committee considered this recommendation to consist of Conference committee agendas consisting of a similar number of items for review arranged for balanced workload and not specifically arranged by topic.

2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM C.3: Discuss creating a Conference Committee on Digital Communications.

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee discussed the subcommittee recommendation to forward the topic of adding a Conference Committee on Technology to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to begin an initial discussion. The committee amended the wording of the recommendation to read “a Conference Committee on Digital Communications” to better reflect the responsibilities and oversight roles performed within the General Service Office and AAWS Board. The committee agreed to forward the topic to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions.

Background:

1. Conference Committee Comp, Scope and Procedures.
2. AAWS Services and Technology Committee Comp, Scope and Procedures.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Conference Committees' CSP

Conference Committee on Agenda

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting Staff secretary.

Each December, near the time of the A.A. World Services (AAWS) Board meeting, the chairperson of the trustees' Committee on the Conference, or another trustee, and Staff secretary select the new panel members by lot, geographically.

The members of the committee will include not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel who continue to serve on this committee for their second year, and, not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

During the final committee meeting at the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference, the new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot from among the first-year panel members, and take office immediately following the Conference.

Scope

The agenda and admissions functions of the committee were separated by action of the 24th General Service Conference. The current functions of the Agenda Committee are to consider:

1. Various proposed themes for the next annual meeting of the General Service Conference, and to present one to the Conference for approval.
2. Ideas submitted for presentation/discussion topics during the next annual meeting of the General Service Conference, and to present several topics to the Conference for approval.
3. The Conference agenda and, where appropriate, to make suggestions for improvement to the trustees' Committee on the Conference.
4. The Conference Evaluation Questionnaire, and summary of responses on the previous year's Conference, and to make suggestions for improvement to the trustees' Committee on the Conference.

Procedure

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

2. To meet jointly with the trustees' Conference Committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
3. To make recommendations reached in committee by majority vote to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the annual meeting of the General Service Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with the committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed May 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

**CONFERENCE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
COMPOSITION, SCOPE AND PROCEDURE**

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and one non-voting secretary. Members of this committee will serve as a secondary committee assignment and not a primary committee assignment.

The members of this committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this panel for an additional year),

And

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

Scope

The function of this committee is to:

1. Discuss the report of the trustees' Archives Committee.
2. Make recommendations on archival policies.

Procedure

1. To meet jointly with the trustees' Archives Committee during the General Service Conference.
2. To make recommendations, if any, reached by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
3. To present recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
4. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.
5. To review the available archives literature.

Reviewed April 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new Panel members will be selected by lot geographically mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

Scope

The committee has the responsibility of suggesting to the Conference such policies and recommending such activities as may help:

1. Further A.A.'s primary purpose of carrying the message to the sick alcoholic through sharing information about the A.A. program with those professional groups and individuals who have contact with alcoholics.
2. Further mutual understanding and cooperation between Fellowship and others concerned about the problem of alcoholism and help for the alcoholic.
3. Increase awareness of members and outside groups and organizations on ways of cooperating with everyone while affiliating with no one, within A.A. Traditions.

Procedure

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment Facilities during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed May 2025

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a nonvoting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year),

And

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel

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

Scope

The purpose of the committee will be to encourage A.A. members to assume responsibility to carry the message to alcoholics who cannot, of their own free will, seek A.A. help.

The committee will review all aspects of service to A.A. groups in correctional facilities and make recommendations for changes and/or improvements.

Procedures

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Committee on Corrections during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain communication with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Revised June 2025

Conference Finance Committee

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

Scope

The committee was formed at the first General Service Conference in 1951; it has the following responsibilities:

1. Reviews A.A. World Service/General Service Board budget and financial reports.
2. Reviews the AA Grapevine budget and financial reports.
3. Reviews any recommendations that have arisen during the Conference that involves finances.
4. Reviews any recommendations directed specifically to the committee.
5. Initiates new recommendations if the need arises during the Conference presentations.

Procedures

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Finance Committee during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed April 2025

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a nonvoting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting), in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this Committee for their second year).

And

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

Scope

The Grapevine Committee was formed in 1954. It is responsible for reviewing the development and circulation of the Grapevine for the past year at the individual and group level. Its members are invited to make suggestions and recommendations in any area of the Grapevine, including material and format.

Procedure

1. Meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. Meet jointly at least once with the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board during the annual meeting.
3. When appropriate, make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. Present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval, or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. Maintain correspondence with the committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed April 2022

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year),

and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

Scope

To review new recovery literature and audiovisual needs.

To review existing recovery pamphlets.

To review new recovery pamphlet drafts as they are prepared.

To recommend specific action to the Board's Literature Committee.

Procedure

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Literature Committee during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed June 2025

**Committee on Conference Policy/Admissions
Composition, Scope and Procedure**

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in December (as close as possible to the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of one trustee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and,

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

Scope

Established by 1952 Conference: "That the Conference limit and define this committee's responsibilities to cover only matters of policy pertaining to the Conference itself"; enlarged in 1965 to include "and such other matters as may properly be placed before it." Further amended in 1974 as follows: "Accepted the recommendation of the Agenda/Admissions Committee that the 'admissions' function of that committee be transferred to the Committee on Conference Policy."

Admissions function: Is responsible for reviewing all requests for admissions to the annual meeting of the General Service Conference; and for approving routine requests for admissions from A.A. service structures outside of the U.S./Canada service structure to observe the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.

The Admissions Committee was formed in 1955 when the Conference Charter was accepted as permanent.

Procedure

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.

Reviewed June 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

2. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
3. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
4. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.
5. To approve routine requests from qualified representatives of other A.A. service structures to observe the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.

CONFERENCE PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Composition, Scope and Procedure

COMPOSITION

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December at the time of the AAWS Board meeting, in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel, who continue to serve on this committee for their second year,

and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

SCOPE

The function of this committee was enlarged by the 1966 Conference to include all "Public Information" activities rather than just A.A.'s relations with other alcoholism agencies, as it had done since its formation in April 1959. Since 1971, these responsibilities are covered by the Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community. The responsibilities of the PI Committee are to:

1. Create greater understanding of the Fellowship of A.A. by carrying the message through:
 - a. public media
 - b. electronic media
 - c. public information meetings
 - d. speaking to community groups
2. Prevent misunderstanding of the A.A. program.
3. Serve as an advisory board to help the trustees' Public Information Committee implement approved policies.

Reviewed May 2024

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

PROCEDURE

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Public Information Committee during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairpersons.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed May 2024

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS

Composition, Scope and Procedure

Composition:

There are eight voting members of this committee one from each region and two non-voting secretaries.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically, with each region represented, in mid-December at the time of the AAWS Board meeting, in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee. Members of this committee will serve on this as a secondary committee assignment and not a primary committee assignment.

The members of the committee will include:

Four delegates from the previous year's panel who continue to serve on this committee of their second year,

and

Not more than four delegates from the current year's panel.

The delegates of the International Convention host area will be invited to attend joint meetings for four years prior to their area's hosting the International Convention.

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

Scope:

The function of this committee is to:

1. Discuss the report of the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums.
2. Make recommendations on International Convention policies as requested by the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums.
3. Serve jointly with the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums on the Convention Site Selection Committee which meets on an ad hoc basis to recommend three or four possible sites for future International Conventions.
4. Offer input about the implementation of Regional Forums as well as participation among service workers at these events.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Procedure:

1. To meet jointly with the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums at a dinner meeting during the General Service Conference.
2. To make recommendations, if any, reached at the dinner meeting by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
3. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary, trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums and other committee members during the year.

Revised April 2025

CONFERENCE REPORT AND CHARTER COMMITTEE

Composition, Scope and Procedure

COMPOSITION

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year),

and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

SCOPE

This committee has the responsibility for:

1. Considering any proposal or recommendation for change in *The A.A. Service Manual* (which includes the Conference Charter) and in the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* and offering these recommendations to the Conference as a whole.
2. Proposing any change considered desirable for changing and improving the format, method of reporting, style or content of the Conference *Final Report*.
3. Reviewing the rough drafts of the Conference *Final Report* and tear sheets of all changes to *The A.A. Service Manual* with careful attention to accuracy, completeness of reporting, together with any other suggestion that may occur.
4. Establishing a deadline for examining the rough drafts of the Conference *Final Report* and *The A.A. Service Manual* and returning to GSO with corrections or suggestions, usually within 14 days of receipt.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

PROCEDURE

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
3. To present the recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
4. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Updated May 2022 and reviewed April 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TREATMENT and ACCESSIBILITIES

Composition, Scope and Procedure

COMPOSITION

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the Committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel
(They continue to serve on this committee for their second year),

and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

SCOPE

The purpose of a Treatment and Accessibilities committee is to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in a wide variety of treatment settings, and to set up means of "bridging the gap" from the treatment setting to the A.A. Fellowship. In addition, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups serving those who experience barriers to accessing the A.A. message and participating in A.A.'s Three Legacies – Recovery, Unity, and Service. Finally, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups striving to ensure that A.A. members who live in underserved or remote communities — communities difficult to reach because of geography, language or culture — have access to the A.A. message.

The committee will review all aspects of service to A.A. groups/meetings in non-correctional in-patient and out-patient treatment settings, as well as to A.A.s who experience access barriers, and make recommendations for changes and/or improvements.

PROCEDURE

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Reviewed May 2025

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

Composition, Scope and Procedure

COMPOSITION

There are at least nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the AAWS Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel
(they continue to serve on this committee for their second year),

and

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel.

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

SCOPE

1. Since the 1951 Conference, this committee has been mainly involved in the qualifications and procedures for election of Class B regional trustees and trustees-at-large. Members of this committee are part of the voting body and the chairperson of this committee co-chairs the election. The responsibility of this committee has evolved to include the qualifications and procedures for selection of Class A trustees, General Service trustees, corporate board directors, and appointed committee members.
2. The committee reviews the resumes of all newly nominated Class A and Class B trustees of the General Service Board and nontrustee directors of the corporate boards (AAWS and the AA Grapevine). The committee reviews the slates of members and officers of the General Service Board and the slates of corporate board directors, before the Conference meeting, and expresses disapproval, if any.
3. The chairperson of this committee presents the slate of members and officers of the General Service Board, and the slates of corporate board directors (AAWS and the AA Grapevine), to the entire Conference for disapproval, if any, before election at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board following the Conference.

(Continued)

Reviewed April 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

4. The committee reviews resumes of appointed committee members recommended to serve on trustees' committees, i.e., Cooperation With the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities, Corrections, Literature, and Public Information.
5. If any unexpired term of a Class A or General Service trustee must be filled between Conferences, the nominee's resume is sent to the committee members for review — prior to a mail poll of all Conference delegates for disapproval, if any.
6. The committee approves the geographical areas which constitute the present eight regions — six in the United States, two in Canada — and the procedures for electing trustee candidates submitted for an eligible region.

PROCEDURE

1. To meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Nominating Committee during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.
6. To have the Conference Committee chairperson maintain consistent contact with the chairperson of the trustees' Nominating Committee.

**AAWS Board Services and Technology Committee
*Composition, Scope, and Procedure***

COMPOSITION

The Services and Technology Committee is composed of three (3) to five (5) voting members.¹ The members of the committee are AAWS directors along with a non-voting Staff secretary. Additional non-voting support staff may be assigned.

The committee members and chair are selected by the AAWS Board chair from among the members of the AAWS Board and serve from April/May until the end of the following General Service Conference (April/May).

SCOPE

The Services and Technology Committee is responsible for:

1. Reviewing the technological infrastructure used to support AAWS operations, communications, and services.
2. Exploring innovative technologies to strategically carry the A.A. message.
3. Proposing substantive content changes to current AAWS digital assets and advising on potential emerging digital platforms.
4. Providing oversight for any indicated or requested service assignment needs.
5. Recommending strategies for system improvements, cybersecurity, and user accessibility.
6. Reporting on technology-related activities to trustees' committee(s) as needed.

PROCEDURE

1. To meet as a committee separately but in conjunction with each regularly scheduled meeting of the AAWS Board.
2. To make recommendations, reached in committee by substantial unanimity vote, to the AAWS Board.
3. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members throughout the year.

Adopted June 13, 2025

¹ Board chair and AAWS president (general manager) serve as ex-officio (non-voting) members of all committees.



VIII. Public Information: Monday-Tuesday - EN

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

2026-04-27 09:00 - 2026-04-28 13:00 EDT

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and acceptance of trustees' Committee report

A. Review progress report on PSA Development and Review Plan.....	3
PI-A0- Cover Public Service Announcements.docx.....	3
PI-A1-PSA Development and Review Plan.docx.....	5
B. Review report on the GSO Podcast, “Our Primary Purpose.”.....	8
PI-B0 - Cover GSO Podcast.docx.....	8
PI-B1 - 2025 Report GSO Podcast.docx.....	10
C. Review report on AAWS YouTube Channel.....	14
PI-C0 - Cover YouTube.docx.....	14
PI-C1- 2025 Report on YouTube .docx.....	16
D. Review report on Google Ads.....	20
PI-D0-Cover Google Ads.docx.....	20
PI-D1 - 2025 Report on Google Ads.docx.....	21
E. Review report on Meeting Guide app.....	27
PI-E0 - Cover Meeting Guide App.docx.....	27
PI-E1 - 2025 Report on Meeting Guide app.docx.....	29
PI-E1-Meeting Guide analytics.pdf.....	32
F. Review report on GSO’s A.A. website.....	33
PI-F0- Cover GSO’s A.A. website.docx.....	33
PI-F1 - 2025 Report on GSO’s A.A. website.docx.....	35
PI-F1- Website analytics.pdf.....	39
G. Review report for AAWS “Online Business Profiles.”.....	40
PI-G0 - Cover AAWS Online Business Profiles.docx.....	40
PI-G1 - 2025 Report on AAWS Online Business Profiles.docx.....	41
H. Review AAWS Social Media Policy.....	44
PI-H0- Cover AAWS Social Media Policy.docx.....	44

PI-H1- AAWS Social Media Policy.docx.....	45
I. Review proposed plan for 2026 Membership Survey.....	48
PI-I0- Cover 2026 Membership Survey.docx.....	48
PI-I1 - Membership Survey Methodology Progress report.docx.....	51
PI-I2_Membership Survey Content progress report.docx.....	67
J. Review draft revision of the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” (P-47).....	73
committee eyes' only	
PI-J0 _ Cover Progress report of pamphlet Understanding Anonymity.docx.....	73
K. Review content and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook.....	75
PI-K0 _ Cover P.I_ Kit and Workbook.docx.....	75

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM A: Review progress report on PSA Development and Review Plan.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the November 2025 trustees' Committee on Public Information meeting:

The PSA subcommittee chair provided an update on the subcommittee work including a proposed plan of creating Spanish and French PSAs that would be translated to English. The public information Staff secretary sent an RFI (request for information) to eight production companies and has received proposals. The subcommittee also outlined progress on a plan to create Hispanophone and Francophone working groups consisting of A.A. members to support the review of French and Spanish PSAs.

Excerpt from the August 2025 trustees' Committee on Public Information meeting:

The committee discussed two committee considerations which suggested developing a plan for new video content and that careful consideration be given to ensuring that new content appropriately reflects an awareness of, and respect for, the cultural and linguistic differences that exist between Canadian French-speaking members, Spanish-speaking members and those whose primary language is English.

Acknowledging the complexity of creating multimedia content that works across multiple languages and with different ages and audiences, the chair appointed a subcommittee to develop a plan for creating new video content. The subcommittee will include David S.(chair), Clinton M., Joyce S. and Teresa J. (ex-officio) with support from the Staff secretary.

The scope of the subcommittee is to develop a plan for developing new short video content that can be shared on AAWS platforms, on social media and as PSAs. The plan for new videos should address how to incorporate respect for linguistic and cultural differences. The subcommittee scope will also include a review of efforts to create a process for regular reviews of PSAs in Spanish and French.

The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2025 meeting.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Advisory Action of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee recommended that the trustees' PI Committee review of video Public Service Announcements (PSAs) be changed to a review cadence of five years from the release date of each video. The review of audio PSAs should follow a similar cadence.

Committee Considerations of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

- The committee reviewed the 2025 report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Audio and Video Public Service Announcements,” and offered the following suggestion:
 - That the trustee's Public Information Committee consider offering further clarification on the process of creating new Public Service Announcement (PSA) and for retiring or discontinuing PSAs.
- The committee suggested that when developing new video content, including Public Service Announcements, that careful consideration be given to ensuring that new content appropriately reflects an awareness of and respect for the cultural and linguistic differences that exist between Canadian French-speaking members, Spanish-speaking members and those who primarily speak English.
- The committee discussed the suggestions made by the trustees' Public Information Committee to have Francophone and Hispanophone delegates review Public Service Announcements in French and Spanish and suggested that the trustees' Public Information Committee begin implementing this plan. The committee requested that a progress report on these efforts be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

Secretary's Note:

PSA Distribution and Tracking – The Staff secretary is moving forward with a contract for the year 2026 with Connect360 to run a refresh campaign. A request for proposal (RFP) will be sent out in the late spring/early summer of 2026 to possible vendors for a 2027 contract.

Background:

1. Progress Report on PSA Development and Review Plan

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Trustees' Committee on Public Information

PSA Progress Report

At the August 2025 trustees' PI meeting, a subcommittee was formed to develop a plan for developing new short video content and PSAs with David S. as chair and Clint M. and Joyce S. as subcommittee members.

The subcommittee met four times since the August trustees' PI Committee (TPIC) meeting. At those meetings, the subcommittee discussed the 2025 Advisory Actions and Committee Considerations related to PSAs. In keeping with the committee consideration to reach diverse audiences, the committee focused on developing a strategy for creating new public service announcements. One approach considered is to begin development of new public service announcements in Spanish and in French that would later be translated to English.

The subcommittee drafted a request for information (RFI) that was translated to Spanish and sent to eight production companies. Responses to the RFI are being received and reviewed by the Staff secretary.

The subcommittee considered outstanding concerns about PSA translations that needed revision and suggested that the trustees' PI committee include PSA translation and editing in its annual budget.

The subcommittee recommended a draft PSA review cadence calendar that was created to reflect the 2025 GSC Advisory Action to review PSAs every five years. The committee noted the value of reviewing PSAs holistically and that this can be part of the review process. In keeping aligned with the advisory action, a PSA will be reviewed every five years, and part of that review process will include a comparison to other PSAs to better assess the need for retirement or revision.

Review of PSAs by Hispanophone and Francophone Members

It is recommend that a panel of past Hispanophone delegates or trustees and a panel of past Francophone delegates or trustees be solicited. Each panel would be comprised of between four and six members and would self-elect a leader. The panel would have a number of initial responsibilities, including:

- 1) Review existing PSA rubric (which was developed in English but has now been translated into French and Spanish) for suitability for Spanish and French language PSA review and suggest edits as needed for review by the PSA subcommittee and full PI committee.
- 2) Review all existing Spanish and French language PSAs against new PSA rubrics.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

- 3) Provide input/recommendations to the TPIC on the development of new Spanish and French PSAs at critical points in the development process.
- 4) Provide input/recommendations to the TPIC into any newly translated PSAs in Spanish and French.
- 5) The panel would meet virtually on an annual basis to review PSAs (open to suggestions on the best time of year) and meet as needed to provide input on new PSAs in development.
- 6) The panel would be a test for an initial three-year period so as to learn from experience and adapt processes as needed before becoming an ongoing effort.

The subcommittee has done outreach to Spanish and French-speaking A.A. members to form these working groups. The Staff secretary can provide a verbal report on that progress to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

**Draft Schedule for Trustees' Public Information Committee Review of
Public Service Announcements for Relevance and Usefulness**

Year Approved	PSA name (EN)	SP	FR	Proposed review year
2012/ 2016	Since getting sober, I have hope (Hope)	Tengo Esperanza	J'ai de l'espoir	2025
2019/ 2021	When Drinking is no longer a Party (Party)	Cuando beber deja de ser una fiesta	Quand la boisson n'est plus un plaisir	2025
2019/ 2021	My Drinking Built a Wall (Wall)	Mi forma de beber creó un muro a mi alrededor	Ma consommation formait un mur autour de moi	2026
	Radio PSAs			2027

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

2015	Opening doors to a life without drinking (Doors)	Abriendo las puertas a una vida sin beber	Ouvrir les portes vers une vie sans alcool	2028
2018	We made changes to stop drinking (Changes)	Hicimos los cambios para dejar de beber	Des changements pour arrêter de boire	2028

###

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM B: Review report on the GSO Podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*.

Background Notes:

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed the GSO Podcast, *Our Primary Purpose* first and second quarter 2025 reports.

The committee also discussed 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information Committee Considerations related to the podcast. The committee discussed the suggestion to develop a plan for French and Spanish podcasts and agreed that while this suggestion is of significant spiritual value, the additional resources, staffing, potential advisory committees and thoughtful planning are not available at this time. Noting that the current GSO podcast, *Our Primary Purpose* (available in English) is still in its infancy, more learning is needed in order to prepare for podcasts in other languages.

The committee also noted that future consideration of podcasts or other media content in Spanish and French would be well served by thoughtful collaboration and exploration of needs and preferences of the members who speak those languages.

Committee Consideration of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee reviewed and accepted a progress report for the GSO podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*. The committee noted appreciation for this audio service material and for many of the topics covered on the podcast. The committee looks forward to a report with analytics data for the podcast to be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information and offered the following suggestions:

- The committee suggested that A.A. World Services (AAWS) consider developing a plan to create Spanish and French versions of the GSO podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*, and suggested that pilot episodes in each language be created.
- The committee suggested that consideration be given to developing an episode of the GSO Podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*, focused on anonymity and social media.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- The committee requested that A.A. World Services consider a suggestion that when featuring individual experiences on the GSO Podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*, that multiple perspectives on the topics be included in the segment.

Secretary's note: Work on the GSO Podcast began with a 2020 Conference Committee on Public Information agenda item followed by an Advisory Action of the 71st General Service Conference. It was suggested that the podcast would serve as a new format for service material, similar to *Box 4-5-9*.

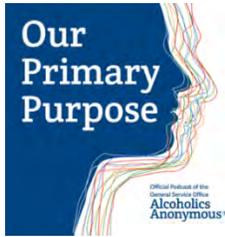
Background:

1. Report on GSO Podcast *Our Primary Purpose* Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

PI
ITEM B
DOC.1



Podcast: Annual summary
Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT: <https://www.aa.org/gso-podcast>

1. HISTORY OF THE GSO PODCAST, *Our Primary Purpose*

The podcast began with a 2021 General Service Conference Advisory Action, which recommended that the General Service Office begin work on a podcast that would serve “as a new format to produce ‘service material’ to communicate on topics with similar sharing that can be found in *Box 4-5-9, About AA, aa.org, and sharing from AA Grapevine and La Viña.*”

2. PLATFORM GOAL(S)

The primary goals of the GSO podcast are:

- To communicate to the Fellowship and external audience about the General Service Office and how it supports A.A. members to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- To inform A.A. members and the general public about A.A.’s service structure, its history and how the General Service Office supports the work of the General Service Conference.
- To improve GSO's connection to the Fellowship.
- To engage listeners and provide accurate, compelling stories about Alcoholics Anonymous.

3. INTENDED AUDIENCE(S)

- Members of Alcoholics Anonymous
- The non-A.A. public, including professionals who may encounter problem drinkers.

4. CURRENT STATUS

Season 1 of the podcast launched in January 2025 and consisted of eight episodes plus a bonus episode that previewed the 2025 International Convention. Season 1 episodes are as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- **Episode 1 – Flipping the Triangle:** Explored A.A.'s history, principles, and self-support model with rare audio of co-founder Bill W. and insights from members and staff.
 - **Episode 2 – Welcome to GSO:** A tour of GSO, with an introduction to departments, literature distribution, support of local and regional A.A., and commitment to A.A.'s mission.
 - **Episode 3 – Behind the Mic:** A look at Public Information, Bill W's insights, and the global reach of A.A., including the 2025 International Convention.
 - **Episode 4 – Plain Language, Big Impact:** The powerful impact of A.A. literature in making the message accessible to diverse communities in the U.S. and Canada and around the world.
 - **Episode 5 – Sobriety, Service and Second Chances:** How GSO helps support the work of bringing A.A. into jails and prisons.
 - **Episode 6 – Unlocking the Vault:** A tour of the GSO Archives, exploring A.A.'s history, growth, and impact — with insider stories.
 - **Episode 7 – Beyond the Rooms:** How A.A. works with professionals to help problem drinkers.
 - **Episode 8 – Leading with Service:** GSO General Manager Bob W. discusses servant-leadership, A.A. literature translation, and the global impact of the A.A. service structure.
 - **Bonus Episode – Countdown to Vancouver!**
-
- Season 1 was launched using Captivate hosting, which pushes content to multiple podcast streaming platforms, including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, Google Podcasts, and others.
 - The podcast was launched with an announcement that was emailed to 36,929 recipients, posted on What's New on aa.org, the News tab on Meeting Guide app, ads in *Box 4-5-9*, and inserts in literature orders.
 - The *Grapevine Podcast* also previewed the GSO podcast through an interview with the PI coordinator and posted a flyer on their Instagram page in March.
 - Posters with information about the podcast were also displayed at the 2025 International Convention, where the podcast team conducted interviews with Convention attendees and captured the sounds and spirit of the many Convention highlights. Before the Convention, short video clips of the International Convention bonus episode were produced and shared via YouTube and Grapevine's Instagram page.
 - The podcast team is exploring ways to expand publicizing the podcast throughout the Fellowship to increase reach and audience.

5. ANALYTICS (As of September 30, 2025)

Total downloads: 40,692

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Title/Episode #	Published date	Downloads
Trailer	1/4/2025	4738
Flipping the Triangle [Season 1, Episode 1]	1/14/2025	5754
Welcome to GSO [Season 1, Episode 2]	1/21/2025	3692
Behind the Mic [Season 1, Episode 3]	1/28/2025	3354
Plain Language, Big Impact [Season 1, Episode 4]	2/4/2025	3805
Sobriety, Service, and Second Chances [Season 1, Episode 5]	2/11/2025	3475
Unlocking the Vault [Season 1, Episode 6]	2/18/2025	3209
Beyond the Rooms [Season 1, Episode 7]	2/25/2025	3164
Leading with Service [Season 1, Episode 8]	3/4/2025	3849
Bonus Episode: Countdown to Vancouver! [Season 1]	3/25/2025	5652

Understanding the broader podcast landscape provides important context for evaluating the performance of a new show. As of Q1 2025, more than 2.6 million podcasts are available on Apple Podcasts and nearly seven million on Spotify. The number of podcasts focused on alcoholism and recovery also continues to grow each year. Within this increasingly crowded environment, *Our Primary Purpose* has established a strong early foundation from which to continue building its audience and expanding its reach. Its episodes have a long shelf life, as well — because the topics are not time-sensitive or tied to current events, the content remains relevant over time, and new listeners can engage at any point in the show's archives.

6. Q3 ACTIVITIES:

- Produced episode and segment recordings for Season 2 with weekly listening/editing meetings of the podcast team.
- Interviewed A.A. members visiting the GSO office.
- In-depth discussion of in Season 2 episode topics, segment ideas, and overall direction of the podcast. Continued planning for content for Season 2 to launch in 2026.
- Explored additional marketing strategies and outreach opportunities to expand awareness of the podcast within the Fellowship.
- Worked with the Legal, Licensing & IP department on trademarking name and logo.
- Analyzed analytics to improve attraction and increase listenership.
- Gathered feedback from the Fellowship, trustees, and Staff on future topics, including the following working topics:
 - International Convention
 - Getting involved in Service (including interviews at a GSR orientation)
 - The Tradition and Power of Self Support

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- The role of “Expressed Need” in the Fellowship
- The message stays the same: Finding new ways to carry the A.A. message and meeting people where they are
- 90 years of A.A./50 years of GSO Archives
- Social Media, Anonymity, and Traditions 11&12
- Twelve Traditions

Other topics will be covered as short “drop-in” segments throughout the season

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM C: Review report on the AAWS YouTube channel.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed the AAWS YouTube channel first and second quarter 2025 reports.

The committee also discussed the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information Committee Consideration to add shorter versions of the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to the AAWS YouTube Shorts channel. The committee discussed best practices related to YouTube Shorts channels and agreed that the AAWS channel might be better served by developing new content to encourage engagement with AAWS platforms and provide a more focused approach on key messaging.

The committee requested that the GSO Communication Services Department and the Public Information Staff secretary develop suggestions for what new and existing content will represent the best use of the AAWS YouTube Shorts channel as a tool for carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic and communicating with A.A. members and the public.

Committee Consideration of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2024 report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the AAWS YouTube account. The committee offered the following suggestions and looks forward to a report to be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

- The committee noted ongoing challenges with search engine optimization (SEO) for YouTube and expressed appreciation for work already being done to add new content to the platform on a regular basis.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- The committee suggested that consideration be given to posting short versions of video Public Service Announcements as YouTube Shorts.

Background:

1. Report on AAWS YouTube Channel Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



YouTube: Annual summary

Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT: <https://www.youtube.com/c/AlcoholicsAnonymousWorldServicesInc>

1. HISTORY

The current AAWS YouTube channel was launched in 2017.

2. PLATFORM GOAL(s)

The primary goals of the AAWS YouTube channel are:

- To share our video content more broadly in a contemporary medium while also meaningfully improving our search engine optimization (SEO).
- To create an online video channel for access to online videos developed by Alcoholics Anonymous with a clean, attractive design.
- To provide the public AAWS video content, offering local service structures and intergroups/central offices the ability to embed video content directly on their local websites.

3. INTENDED AUDIENCES & HOW WE SERVE THEM

Key message: There is a solution.

The key audiences for the AAWS YouTube channel are:

- A.A. members, particularly those who are more comfortable with social media. This may include members who prefer videos to written (text-based) content and others (like those in the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing community) who rely on video communications.
- Problem drinkers who may be interested in getting help.
- Professionals and other members of the public who may interact with those who need help with a drinking problem.

4. SUCCESSES AND MILESTONES

There are more than 12,000 subscribers to the channel as of October 2025. The videos include informational videos for members of the Fellowship and professionals, as well as all of the current video PSAs.

Between Q4 of 2024 and Q3 of 2025, we have posted 31 additional videos and five shorts. The new content published included the GSO podcast, ASL pamphlets, military

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

audio interviews, videos for young people and hype videos for the International Convention.

Watch time and total views both increased in the past year. We attribute this increase to the popularity of the International Convention shorts, the GSO podcast and the variety of other content shared.

5. PAGE IMPROVEMENTS

- Existing playlists were updated with new content. Traffic via playlists is increasing.
- Shorts were added as a format and they've been popular.
- To improve the user experience, hashtags continue to be added to all English and ASL videos. *Note:* The project to add hashtags to French and Spanish videos is on hold as we determine a process for research on French and Spanish hashtags.
- To improve SEO, we added new content on a regular basis.
- We have continued the effort to update the ASL *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Big Book), and ASL videos of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions were updated with timestamps to reference important moments that a sponsor may want to highlight.
- Retired videos were removed.

6. CHALLENGES

Closed Captioning: Some visitors continue to have issues switching the closed captioning from English to Spanish or French on videos that were produced in English and have Spanish or French captions as the translation element. This impacts the Archives video, Military audios, and new Young People videos. We have prepared guidance on how to change the caption language manually for any visitors. Affected videos were removed from French and Spanish playlists to avoid further confusion.

Copyright claims: YouTube has an automated algorithm that identifies any potential copyright issues. We had a number of videos flagged this year and were able to successfully dispute each one. These mostly relate to music or other elements we have licensed for video production.

7. NEXT STEPS/PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS:

- Continue posting videos as they are completed.
- Continue exploring the shorts format.

8. ANALYTICS:

- Channel statistics: Lifetime: August 25, 2017 – September 30, 2025:
 - Total views: 582,626
 - Total watch time: 22,364.9 hours
- Channel statistics: October 2024 – September 2025:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Total views: 84,018 (21% increase from last year: 69,205)
- Total watch time: 3,541.5 hours (10% increase from last year: 3,216.8)
- Total subscribers: 12,332 (19% increase from last year: 10,355)
- Top 20 videos:

Video title	Views	Watch time (hours)	Average percentage viewed (%)	Impressions	Impressions CTR (%)
Enjoy the International Convention – Virtually!	7196	46.18	102.31*	6874	6.2
Celebrating A.A.'s First 90 Years	6930	49.70	90.8	5275	3.13
Esperanza: Alcohólicos Anónimos	6847	445.95	23.38	15894	4.46
Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous	5435	479.95	31.57	26032	5.55
Alcohólicos Anónimos	3445	108.14	25	5591	3.08
Experience the 2025 International Convention!	3408	37.21	76.84	10388	6.02
Sobriety in AA: My Drinking Built A Wall	2988	34.89	62.75	5704	9.45
Celebrando los primeros 90 años de A.A.	2181	11.90	81.06	7369	3.66
Les Alcooliques anonymes: un espoir	1856	132.33	25.51	16327	5.98
Sobriety in A.A.: Opening doors to a life without drinking (Public Service Announcement)	1566	20.74	61.13	7590	4.98
Alcoholics Anonymous	1529	38.63	20.13	6600	3.39
Sobriety in A.A.: We made changes to stop drinking (Public Service Announcement)	1325	15.57	52.9	5049	7.29
Our Primary Purpose Podcast - Season 1: Episode 1 - Flipping the Triangle	1307	146.52	28.56	8865	5.6
Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure	1228	74.17	26.78	6475	5.41
Profitez du Congrès international - virtuellement !	1148	3.22	81.46	1255	0.88
Célébrons les 90 premières années des AA	1014	8.05	94.24	2045	1.52
A.A. Twelve and Twelve in ASL: Step One	819	53.2608	32.79	3281	7.65
A.A. Video for Employment/Human Resources Professionals	818	12.4931	15.66	1601	4.81
The International Convention is Coming Soon!	757	4.5629	77.75	3983	4.59

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

A New Freedom	754	81.4205	20.88	2816	7.24
---------------	-----	---------	-------	------	------

**A YouTube video's average watch percentage exceeding 100% generally indicates that viewers are rewatching parts of the video, causing the average to be higher than the video's total length. This can happen with short videos that loop or when viewers rewind to watch specific segments again.*

How did viewers find our content?

Traffic source Q4 2024 – Q3 2025	Views*	Traffic source Q4 2023 – Q3 2024	Views*
External	26314	External	42,765
Playlists	6693	YouTube search	6,748
YouTube search	6234	Channel pages	5,724
Channel pages	5289	Direct or unknown	3,889
Suggested videos	4677	Playlists	3,451
Direct or unknown	3846	Suggested videos	2,849
Browse features	2073	Browse features	1,872
Notifications	1208	Notifications	1,212
Other YouTube features	606	Other YouTube features	628
End screens	145	End screens	47
Related Shorts	18	Hashtag pages	20
Hashtag pages	16		

**Please note that the total views in this chart may not match the total views for the full channel. YouTube shared that there are a number of factors removed from the source report (bots, unverified accounts, etc.) which are not removed from the overall channel total that may cause this gap.*

GLOSSARY:

- **Views** – The number of times a video was started.
- **Impressions** – The number of times a video's thumbnail is shown to viewers on YouTube.
- **Impressions CTR (Click Through Rate)** – The percentage of times a thumbnail was shown to viewers on YouTube followed by them clicking to view the video.
- **Traffic source** – The platform or method that a viewer uses to find and watch a YouTube video.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM D: Review report on Google Ads.

Background Notes:

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' Committee on Public Information meeting:

The committee reviewed the Google Ads first and second quarter 2025 reports.

The committee discussed the Google Ad Grants spending and expressed gratitude for the ongoing participation and usage of the grant.

Committee Consideration of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2024 report on the usefulness and effectiveness of AAWS's use of Google Ads and looks forward to a report to be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information. The committee noted appreciation for the ongoing work with Google Ads and expressed support for maximizing use of the Google Ad Grants each month and for continuing to monitor changes to the Google Ads for nonprofits program for any changes that impact aa.org.

Excerpts from the February 2025 trustees' Committee on Public Information meeting:

The committee reviewed the fourth quarter Google Ads report and discussed current status of our participation in the Google for Ads for nonprofits program.

A committee member shared that the problems AAWS is facing with participation in the Google Ads for nonprofits program are much like those being experienced by other similar organizations. She recommended that the current practice of using Google Ads as much as the platform will allow is the best way to manage a difficult situation.

The committee also heard from the chair of the AAWS Technology, Communications and Services (TCS) Committee, who shared that the TCS Committee has reviewed the same reports and concluded that this tactic is their preferred approach.

Background:

1. Google Ads report Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



Google Ads: Annual summary

Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT:

1. About Google Ads

When a search engine (e.g. Google, Safari and Bing) is used, it produces:

1. **A ranked list** of web content (the ranking is determined using a combination of factors including location, relevance, quality of content, etc.)
2. **Ads**, which are often paid for and show up alongside the ranked list

When search engines started selling ads, companies quickly started driving traffic to their sites by purchasing keywords. Not surprisingly, for-profit companies and larger organizations had greater ability to spend large sums on these efforts. Ads are priced based on two variables: the click-through rate (CTR) and the cost per click (CPC).

In 2003, Google started providing some free search ads to nonprofit organizations. Today, the Google Ad Grants program offers nonprofits the opportunity to receive up to \$10,000 a month in “in-kind” media value (ad space). If the full amount is not used, there is no payment or credit, and the amount resets the following month.

The 69th General Service Conference approved the use of Google Ads and later emphasized, in 2021 and 2022 Committee Considerations, management of the Google Ads account by the General Service Office. All ads link back to aa.org to provide specific information on resources for alcoholics, finding a meeting or how to learn more about A.A.

Between Q4 2024 and Q3 2025, our ads brought visitors to aa.org more than 72,000 times. This visibility is the foundation of the opportunity offered by Google Ad Grants.

Each quarter, the Communication Services Department reports on how much of the Google Ad Grants allotment has been used, and specifically which ads and which search terms have generated the most clicks and impressions. In addition, there is regular maintenance and follow up on any content that gets flagged.

2. Primary goal for the platform:

The primary goal of GSO’s participation in the Google Ads program is to improve reach of aa.org by using Google Ads to better reach our intended audiences:

- Suffering alcoholics looking for help

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Family members and friends of alcoholics/potential A.A. members
- A.A. members, inside and outside the service structure
- The professional community
- The media

3. Use of Google Ad Grants:

We are utilizing nearly the entire \$10,000 monthly placement value with around \$300 unused each month on average. At the same time, the cost of each click has increased over the past few years so, every click is using a larger percentage of the grant than in the past.

The “Find a Meeting” ad group continues to receive greater engagement than any of our other content. This has been consistent for the life of the account.

In every quarter, keywords are adjusted as recommended by the keyword tool on the platform. The top 50 terms (by click volume) out of over 27,000 are included in this report. Nearly all the top 100 terms relate to finding meetings.

In the past year, our number of clicks decreased by almost 50%. This is partially an overall downward trend in traffic from the ads and partially because of a disruption in the flow of traffic from our ads between June 23 and September 29 for two reasons:

- An unintentional change in campaign strategy from “Maximize clicks” to “Maximize conversions” during a routine review of account settings, which took a while to identify.
- A Google Tag was not deployed correctly on aa.org.

Both issues have been resolved, and traffic has returned to expected levels.

Also in the past year, there was one major change that impacted our use of the grant. In February 2025, Google changed their policy to prohibit ads in our category showing in Canada. Now, our ads only show in the United States.

4. Status of flagged ads and disconnections:

Why would A.A. ads get flagged? Google prevents advertising on certain keywords or topics. Some of these are easy to avoid, such as those involving copyrighted terms or illegal activities. Since the flagging process is automated by Google, sometimes content that seems innocuous will get flagged.

Beginning in May 2023, GSO was informed that “Mutual Support Groups,” our category assigned in the grant program, were no longer eligible to participate. We were subsequently informed that Google would no longer allow certain kinds of ads, including those with content related to alcoholism and help for a drinking problem. Google categorizes these under the umbrella of “Addiction Services.”

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Although these policies had been in place since May 2018, they were not applied to our account until May 2023. Google gave no additional explanation for their action.

As of June 2024, two-thirds of our content is disapproved, paused or flagged for “Addiction Services” policy issues, limiting our engagement potential. Despite this, our account continues to use nearly the entire grant with the remaining one-third of active ads.

While regularly refreshing content is a best practice, without the “Addiction Services” certification, submitting new content or adjusting current content is not possible.

A no-cost consultation (in 2023) between members of the Communication Services Department and professional agencies explored options in managing the account and suggested that vendor management of the ad program is likely to be cost-prohibitive and unlikely to resolve the policy issues.

5. Next steps

Given the importance of making A.A. information available to those who might not otherwise find it in search results, the account will continue to be monitored and all relevant findings will be reported through the AAWS TCS Committee and the trustees’ Public Information Committee.

6. Analytics:

Clicks	Impressions	Avg CPC	Cost
72.5K (-48%)	551K (-23%)	\$1.26 (+52%)	\$91.7K (-21%)

For context, only highlighted rows in the Ad Group chart below are active as of September 30, 2025. All other ads are paused or disapproved due to policy issues.

Ad Group	Ad	Ad type	Clicks	Impressions	CTR	Avg CPC	Cost
FindMtg							\$88,559.81
	MeetingGuide	Expanded text	33097	312121	10.60%	1.43	47418.5
	AANearYou	Expanded text	16518	98216	16.82%	1.41	23342.1
	FindAA	Responsive	17411	84745	20.55%	0.88	15240.84
	MeetingGuide	Responsive	2301	19921	11.55%	0.84	1929.19
	MeetingGuide	Expanded text	568	5581	10.18%	1.11	629.19
	FindAA	Expanded text	-	-	-	-	-
GetHelp							\$3,084.89
	GetHelp	Expanded text	782	8860	8.83%	\$1.33	\$1041.08

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

	GetHelp	Expanded text	261	2885	9.05%	\$1.65	\$430.60
	GetHelp	Expanded text	376	6590	5.71%	\$1.50	\$564.18
	GetHelp	Responsive	1195	11381	10.50%	\$0.88	\$1049.03
CPCLegal							\$6.07
	Corrections	Responsive	3	62	4.84%	\$2.02	\$6.07
	ArmedForces	Responsive	-	17	-	-	-
	Legal	Responsive	-	-	-	-	-
CPCHealth							\$10.04
	Healthcare	Responsive	6	148	4.05%	\$1.67	\$10.04
	Treatment	Responsive	-	-	-	-	-
CPCCommunity							\$4.87
	HumanResources	Responsive	5	70	7.14%	\$0.97	\$4.87
	Education	Responsive	-	-	-	-	-
	Faith Leaders	Responsive	-	-	-	-	-
Total							\$91,665,69

Search term	Ad group	Cost	Clicks	Click Through Rate
aa meetings	FindMtg	\$7956.31	5,934	20.56%
aa meetings near me	FindMtg	\$7259.47	5,486	18.07%
online aa meetings	FindMtg	\$1905.94	1,604	15.31%
aa online meetings	FindMtg	\$1776.68	1,473	15.00%
aa meetings online	FindMtg	\$1518.64	1,239	13.56%
aa org	FindMtg	\$1156.68	3,836	39.49%
meeting guide	FindMtg	\$774.44	867	31.98%
aa zoom meetings	FindMtg	\$683.10	556	10.19%
aa	GetHelp	\$575.95	492	18.12%
aa near me	FindMtg	\$475.10	382	12.45%
online aa meetings zoom	FindMtg	\$465.46	371	17.98%
everything aa	FindMtg	\$455.63	317	12.87%
virtual aa meetings	FindMtg	\$448.83	390	19.23%
zoom aa meetings	FindMtg	\$440.89	374	15.21%
meeting guide app	FindMtg	\$408.83	343	30.22%
aa virtual meetings	FindMtg	\$293.17	250	23.95%
open aa meetings near me	FindMtg	\$272.95	197	20.85%

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

find aa meetings near me	FindMtg	\$244.00	187	32.08%
local aa meetings	FindMtg	\$229.67	175	24.07%
aa online	FindMtg	\$225.03	180	10.50%
aa meetings zoom	FindMtg	\$223.08	175	15.11%
aa zoom meetings now	FindMtg	\$216.69	164	12.36%
meeting guide aa	FindMtg	\$213.28	164	31.36%
aa website	GetHelp	\$212.31	200	25.48%
aa org	GetHelp	\$191.06	241	15.73%
aa meetings boston	FindMtg	\$190.45	135	16.69%
aa	FindMtg	\$182.69	147	22.21%
aa world service	FindMtg	\$181.27	177	31.33%
aa find a meeting	FindMtg	\$173.10	133	38.78%
aa groups near me	FindMtg	\$167.36	124	16.21%
find aa meetings	FindMtg	\$156.17	108	26.87%
aa meetings denver	FindMtg	\$151.30	97	15.40%
aa org meetings	FindMtg	\$148.31	160	34.26%
a a meetings near me	FindMtg	\$136.01	105	14.85%
aa meetings toronto	FindMtg	\$133.00	114	21.97%
am i an alcoholic quiz	GetHelp	\$123.28	132	14.60%
aa meetings calgary	FindMtg	\$121.00	107	19.81%
aa groups	FindMtg	\$118.16	94	13.15%
aa meetings online zoom	FindMtg	\$115.98	91	10.81%
aa meetings nyc	FindMtg	\$108.10	75	4.22%
meeting finder aa	FindMtg	\$105.33	81	27.09%
meeting finder	FindMtg	\$104.76	66	21.64%
aa intergroup	FindMtg	\$98.32	71	3.14%
aa org online meetings	FindMtg	\$97.33	80	29.41%
online aa	FindMtg	\$96.27	85	12.14%
aa meetings chicago	FindMtg	\$94.58	66	8.45%
aa online zoom meetings	FindMtg	\$92.64	67	10.01%
aa meetings st louis	FindMtg	\$92.21	67	25.38%
find a meeting aa	FindMtg	\$85.58	62	28.97%
aa meetings philadelphia	FindMtg	\$85.19	61	18.48%

Any duplicates in the above list can be attributed to the same keyword relating to different ads or ad groups. Not all of these terms are assigned in our profile (aa org, aa website, etc.), but Google recognizes they are related to us and serve our ads.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

GLOSSARY:

- **Impression** – Each time an ad appears on a search result page.
- **AVG CPC (average cost per click)** – Average amount charged for a click on an ad. Calculated by dividing the total cost of clicks by the total number of clicks.
- **CTR (click-through rate)** – A ratio that measures how often people click on a Google Ad after seeing it. Calculated as clicks divided by impressions.
- **Search term** – Can relate to the keywords we've assigned to our ads or other terms that people are searching for that also brought up our ads — determined by Google.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM E: Review report on Meeting Guide app.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee discussed a 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information Committee Consideration, which included a suggestion to have Meeting Guide sync with calendar applications.

The committee discussed the challenges of adding new features to Meeting Guide, given the goal of continuing to support an app that functions at a very high level.

The committee also noted that when evaluating requests for platform enhancements, the Communication Services Department tries to evaluate whether a given suggestion or request reflects a widely expressed need.

The director of the Communication Services Department shared that there is a path to receive technical feedback and suggestions for platform enhancements on aa.org.

The committee requested that the Communication Services Department explore the possibility of adding calendar functionality to the Meeting Guide app.

The committee also discussed the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information Committee Consideration to ensure that all updates to Conference-approved literature, including *Daily Reflections* are reflected on Meeting Guide app. The committee heard a verbal report from the director of the Communication Services Department who shared that the department has worked with the Publishing Department to clarify the process and that the changes to *Daily Reflections* have already been made on Meeting Guide. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2025 meeting.

Committee Considerations from the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2024 Report on the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) Meeting Guide. The committee expressed enthusiastic support for the Meeting Guide app and offered the following suggestions:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- The committee suggested that consideration be given to having the Meeting Guide app sync with calendar applications.
- The committee requested that the trustees' Public Information Committee ensure that all updates to Conference-approved literature, including *Daily Reflections* be reflected on the Meeting Guide app.

Excerpts from the February 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed the fourth quarter Meeting Guide app report.

The committee reviewed the report and discussed the in-progress app update which will provide Meeting Guide app users with an option to more easily search for virtual meetings.

There was a subsequent discussion of how best to encourage A.A. entities to keep their local meeting information updated.

Background:

1. Report on AAWS Meeting Guide app Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



Meeting Guide: Annual summary

Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT: www.aa.org/meeting-guide-app

1. HISTORY

The Meeting Guide app was acquired by AAWS and launched in August 2019.

Since then, Meeting Guide has shown a steady increase in users, entities, meetings listed and sessions. In the last year, Q4 (October) 2024 – Q3 (September) 2025, Meeting Guide had:

- More than 1.9 million active users
- More than 38 million user-initiated sessions
- 554 connected A.A. entities
- 153,543 meetings listed

2. PLATFORM GOALS

- To serve the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in the United States and Canada by providing accurate, easy-to-access information about A.A. meetings.
- To facilitate communication from GSO to the Fellowship using the “Meeting Guide News” feature.

3. SUCCESSES AND MILESTONES

- The new Online Meetings view was developed and released.

4. ANALYTICS:

Google Analytics are attached.

- The majority of data shows increases across the app. Sessions per user, and a few other points have decreased, but we see no cause for concern.

HelpDocs:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Serves as a critical resource for entities and users alike. This repository of knowledge ensures that the majority of questions or concerns have clear, standard answers and helps the app team to manage the volume of correspondence. (support analytics below)
- Support analytics held no surprises the last four quarters, showing spikes in expected areas when there were releases. The team’s average reply time remains in the range of one to two days.

HelpDocs Support Analytics	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Article Views	11,322	11,285	12,215	10,734
Searches	2,551	2,651	2,817	2,508
Top 3 tags				
Add/Update local entity	79	77	77	66
Education Needed	117	51	54	49
No Coverage/Nonparticipating	63	49	46	18
Top 3 articles				
How to Find an A.A. Meeting	4,100	3,293	2,507	2,928
What is Meeting Guide	909	1,480	1,991	2,404
How to Connect to Meeting Guide	804	782	796	828

5. GLOSSARY:

- **Total, active, and new Users:**
 - Total users** – Overall number of users who interacted with an app during a specific time period. Active and New users are a subset of total users.
 - Active users** – The number of users who interacted with an app by starting at least one session. Multiple sessions count as a single user.
 - New users** – Only counts the number of users who accessed your app for the very first time within that timeframe.
- **Sessions** – When a user either opens an app or views a page or screen and no session is currently active or their previous session has timed out. By default, a session ends or times out after 30 minutes of inactivity. There is no limit to how long a session can last.
- **%Δ (percentage change)** – The percentage difference between the number for the current time period and the number for the same time period prior.
- **Use of app features:**
 - (not set)*** – A placeholder that is used when the analytics software hasn't received any information for a dimension.
 - Blank*** – A data field where no information has been sent, appearing as an empty space in the analytics console
 - Duplicate names or slight difference in name*** – For example “MeetingList” vs. “MeetingsList”; “QuoteScreen” vs. “Quote” vs. “Quotes.”

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

**For these items in the analytics, we will bring the information to our vendor to understand if we can clean up the data labels to eliminate the confusing results.*

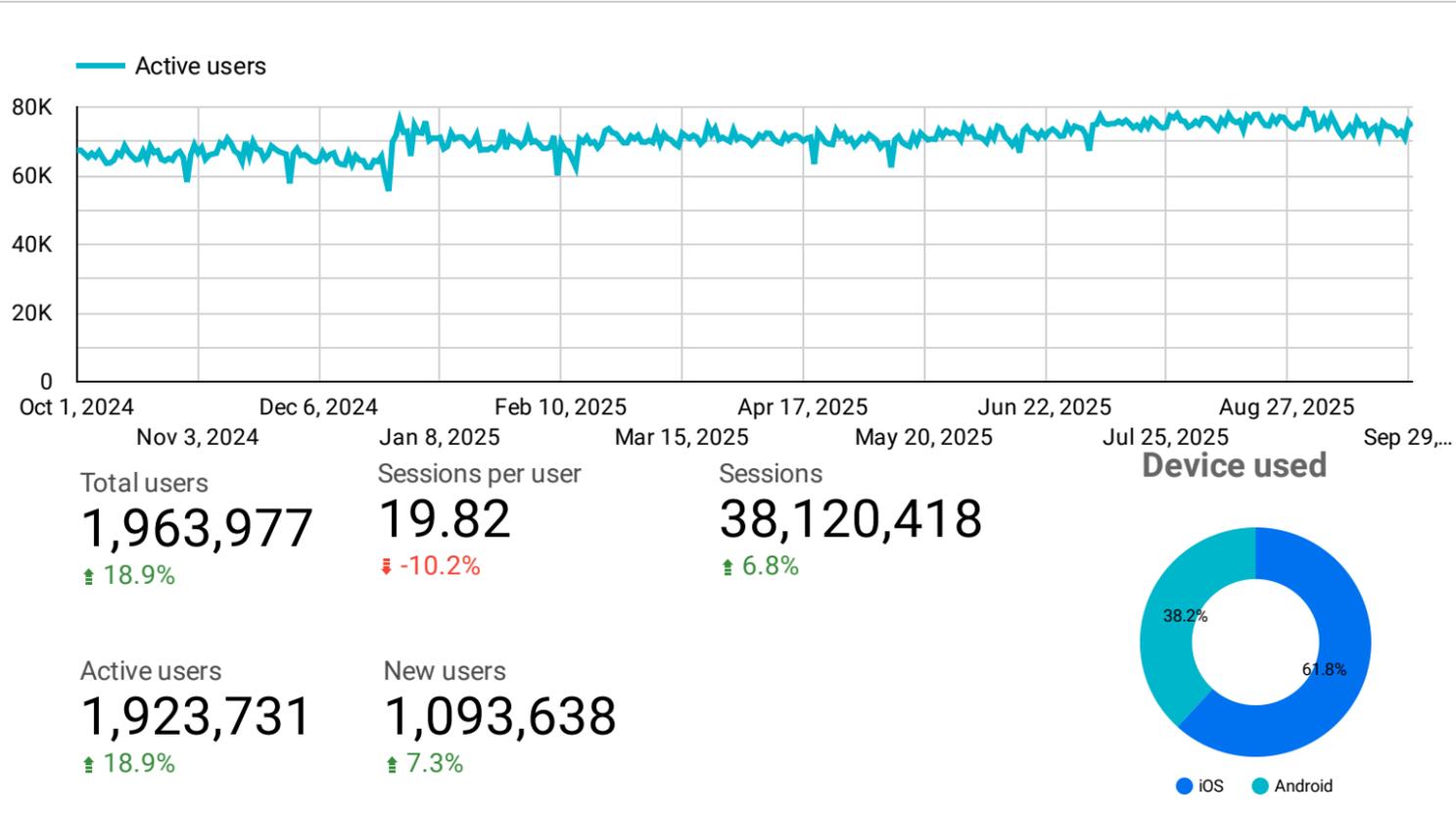
CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



Meeting Guide Annual Summary: Q4 2024 to Q3 2025

Oct 1, 2024 - Sep 30, 2025

Audience at a glance



Use of app features

Page title and scre...	Views	% Δ
(not set)	131,576,295	10.1% ↑
MeetingList	34,498,973	8.2% ↑
MeetingsDetail	33,987,997	8.8% ↑
MeetingsSearch	9,002,524	9.6% ↑
QuoteScreen	2,931,674	2.2% ↑
FavoritesScreen	2,288,885	21.0% ↑
NewsScreen	1,940,136	6.8% ↑
ContactScreen	1,104,558	4.9% ↑
FavoritesMeetingsDetail	790,341	32.9% ↑
MeetingsList	65,166	-51.9% ↓
ContactLocal	63,827	-3.7% ↓
ContactUpdate	59,118	-7.3% ↓
ContactLiterature	58,641	-5.5% ↓
AboutScreen	41,250	-12.1% ↓
MeetingsFilter	40,966	-48.0% ↓
ContactSuggestion	17,258	-7.8% ↓
ContactConnect	15,228	-4.7% ↓
MeetingListOnline	4,097	13,556.7% ↑
Quote	2,659	-41.4% ↓
MeetingsDetailOnline	1,448	-
News	611	-65.0% ↓
Contact	503	-55.0% ↓
Favorites	354	-67.8% ↓
FavoritesOnlineScreen	111	-
FavoritesScreenOnline	52	-

Language breakdown

Language	Views	% Δ	Total users	% Δ
English	212,826,165	9.5% ↑	1,908,405	19.3% ↑
French	4,044,870	6.9% ↑	36,389	7.7% ↑
Spanish	511,588	24.3% ↑	9,308	34.8% ↑
German	430,173	45.1% ↑	4,735	31.1% ↑
Polish	345,666	10.3% ↑	6,932	10.1% ↑
Japanese	90,799	36.7% ↑	754	12.7% ↑
Norwegian B...	81,664	11.3% ↑	1,129	17.4% ↑
Dutch	23,147	5.3% ↑	577	24.9% ↑
Russian	19,032	-6.6% ↓	364	13.0% ↑
Swedish	18,662	31.7% ↑	442	37.3% ↑

1 - 10 / 79

Top Countries

Country	Views	% Δ	Total users	% Δ
United States	200,514,925	9.5% ↑	1,795,514	20.0% ↑
Canada	12,439,632	6.3% ↑	125,658	12.9% ↑
Australia	1,478,449	20.5% ↑	12,329	23.8% ↑
United King...	994,087	8.9% ↑	16,914	-1.2% ↓
Germany	553,726	31.8% ↑	8,365	4.5% ↑
Poland	363,185	12.0% ↑	7,535	12.9% ↑
Mexico	219,245	40.0% ↑	10,497	33.0% ↑
France	215,921	18.4% ↑	6,072	11.5% ↑
New Zealand	209,196	8.7% ↑	2,650	2.3% ↑
Japan	171,986	72.0% ↑	4,609	142.8% ↑

1 - 10 / 226

City	Views	% Δ	Total us...	% Δ
New York	9,911,212	10.4% ↑	172,108	17.7% ↑
(not set)	8,340,108	-11.3% ↓	315,451	1.4% ↑
Los Angeles	6,959,853	0.4% ↑	126,986	9.4% ↑
Boston	4,751,146	25.5% ↑	101,574	35.1% ↑
Philadelphia	4,298,798	0.7% ↑	81,319	2.2% ↑
Chicago	4,266,011	2.6% ↑	104,610	11.8% ↑
Seattle	3,442,780	2.3% ↑	72,863	11.9% ↑
San Francisco	3,210,464	26.6% ↑	81,973	41.4% ↑
San Diego	2,759,776	10.9% ↑	62,156	9.5% ↑
Phoenix	2,493,583	5.9% ↑	56,837	18.3% ↑
Orlando	2,289,019	5.7% ↑	72,304	12.4% ↑
Atlanta	2,230,888	-5.8% ↓	70,913	10.7% ↑
Houston	2,196,712	24.2% ↑	65,120	30.5% ↑
Montreal	2,081,555	-2.0% ↓	33,034	-0.3% ↓
Dallas	2,055,264	-10.6% ↓	71,723	6.3% ↑
Charlotte	2,016,621	3.5% ↑	48,437	3.9% ↑
Sacramento	2,010,200	6.1% ↑	52,824	3.2% ↑
Denver	1,989,887	-5.0% ↓	55,963	-0.7% ↓
Washington	1,960,606	-5.6% ↓	56,681	14.9% ↑
Austin	1,890,437	11.6% ↑	50,232	13.9% ↑
Las Vegas	1,831,111	14.3% ↑	56,278	31.6% ↑
Tampa	1,803,971	-17.6% ↓	44,925	-12.6% ↓
Raleigh	1,801,604	-1.3% ↓	48,964	22.9% ↑
Portland	1,798,721	16.6% ↑	39,961	29.6% ↑
Miami	1,793,260	3.8% ↑	56,591	16.8% ↑

1 - 25 / 22044

1 - 25 / 29

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM F: Review report on GSO's A.A. website.

Background Notes:

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed the GSO A.A. website's 2025 first and second quarter reports.

The committee also discussed a Committee Consideration from the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information to add chat functionality to aa.org.

The committee discussed the process for evaluating suggestions for new features to the website and noted that expressed need, impact on budget, workload and impact on other A.A. entities need to be considered.

The committee suggested that chat functionality might be better managed by local A.A. service entities who are responsible for Twelfth Step work and suggested that the Staff secretary encourage local A.A. entities contact the PI desk to provide shared experience about local efforts to incorporate chat functionality into local A.A. websites.

The committee also heard a verbal update from the Communication Services Department on in-progress improvements to the search function on aa.org, including improvements for searches in Spanish and French.

The committee also discussed the Committee Consideration to explore whether a texting platform could be used for regular communications to the Fellowship to reach members who don't prefer email. The committee agreed that there is a need for a communications platform other than email for reaching some members of the Fellowship, particularly in the Spanish-speaking community.

The committee requested that the PI Staff secretary reach out to GSO Technology Services Department to conduct preliminary research on the process for developing a texting platform for GSO. This is a work in progress.

Committee Considerations from the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2024 annual report on Alcoholics

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Anonymous World Services (AAWS) website, aa.org and offered the following suggestions:

- The committee suggested that AAWS explore adding a chat feature to aa.org and looks forward to an update report being brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The committee suggested that AAWS explore ways to improve the aa.org search function in French and Spanish (including use of accent marks and diacritics).

Excerpt from the February 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee also received a verbal report on plans to make the website “mobile-device friendly” in 2025.

Background:

1. Report on aa.org: Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



aa.org: Annual summary

Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT: www.aa.org

1. HISTORY

The aa.org website was completely redesigned and relaunched in December 2021. The focus of the redesign included technical, visual and structural improvements.

2. PLATFORM GOALS

- To present Alcoholics Anonymous as a credible, relevant resource to new visitors and deliver value to existing members
- To share A.A.’s message of hope and recovery through literature, multimedia resources and information about how to find A.A. locally
- To serve as a repository and archive for A.A. content, including Conference-approved publications and service materials
- To serve as a communication hub for the Fellowship
- To serve as a repository of tools for service committees

3. INTENDED AUDIENCES AND HOW WE SERVE THEM

One way that aa.org serves its key audiences is through a series of landing pages designed to address the needs of each of these audiences. They are continuously evaluated and improved based on user feedback, current analytics, the needs of the audiences and the availability of new content.

Audience	Landing page(s)
Still-suffering alcoholic/problem drinker	Need help with a drinking problem? Self-assessment
A.A. members	Ready to get involved in A.A.? The A.A. Group Box 459 Newsletter
Service committees/trusted servants	Service Committees

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

	Information for New Trusted Servants
Professionals	A.A. can support professionals About A.A. Newsletter
Media/ Journalists	Press and Media
Students/researchers	Frequently Asked Questions History of A.A. Archives Access Membership Survey
Concerned family members and friends	Is there an alcoholic in your life?

Additional landing pages that serve those looking for specific resources:

- [What's New: News and Announcements](#)
- [Find A.A. Near You](#)
- [Daily Reflections](#)
- [The Big Book](#)
- [Literature Listing](#)
- [Media Library](#)
- [Meeting Guide](#)
- [A.A. and Anonymity](#)
- [Regional, Local and Special Forums](#)
- [International Convention](#)
- [Military Members in A.A.](#)
- [PSA downloads](#)
- [GSO Podcast](#)
- [Quarterly Reports](#)
- [AAWS Highlights](#)
- [Contributions and Self-Support](#)

4. KEY MESSAGE

There is a solution. If you or a loved one has a drinking problem, A.A. can help.

5. SUCCESSES AND MILESTONES

Efforts in the past year have been focused on modernization and dynamic content delivery. Along with an improved experience for visitors, these efforts have also led to improved processes and flexibility for maintaining the website.

Traffic levels remain relatively steady with slight increases overall (in part from 2025 International Convention) that began in September 2024. 98% of our traffic is from organic search and direct traffic. 78% of our traffic is from mobile devices. While Active User and New User numbers have decreased, the activity by each visitor has increased overall. In addition, the percentage of people coming from links on other websites and through emails has also increased.

The Daily Reflections page continues to be the top item for our visitors in English, Spanish, and French.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

The Communication Services team has focused on content enhancements, including:

- An [International Convention page](#) with numerous updates including a new countdown clock
- A dedicated [podcast page](#)
- A dedicated [AAWS Highlights page](#)
- A redesign and reorganization of the [Self-Support page](#)
- SEO improvements: Completed a description audit for all items in the literature and media libraries to identify where descriptive language needs to be added or developed. The more than 300 page level descriptions and meta descriptions (used in search results) added not only help visitors understand what they are looking at, but aid in searchability both on and off our website.
- An accessibility feature added to large image graphics. This feature allows a link to a page for full text description of an image and an on-page text caption for screen readers. (<https://www.aa.org/participating-in-aa> and <https://www.aa.org/participating-in-AA-images-descriptive-text>)
- Improved anti-spam and security solutions.

6. CHALLENGES

Please note a traffic spike indicated in the analytics in September 2025 that was a DDoS (distributed denial of service) attack. It was quickly contained and resolved.

Past issues with analytics dropping off after we deploy updates are resolved. Please note, there was one final drop in December 2024 before the problem was solved, which is indicated in the analytics.

7. NEXT STEPS/ PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS:

- Automated literature updates via the AAWS Digital Asset Management system (DAM) are in process. By early 2026, most literature PDFs and their images on aa.org will automatically synch with the master file in the DAM, solving version control issues as items are revised. This effort will also significantly reduce manual labor needed to maintain content.
- Discovery and preparation for migration/consolidation for hosting both video and audio on aa.org.
- An improved digital *Box 4-5-9* newsletter is nearly complete as we test the backend functionality. Specific attention is being paid to make this publication more mobile-friendly, sharable and searchable.
- Accessibility review and improvement is an ongoing project, as the team looks at ways to move forward while leveraging current resources.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Development in 2026 will continue to focus on improvements to existing features and bug fixes.

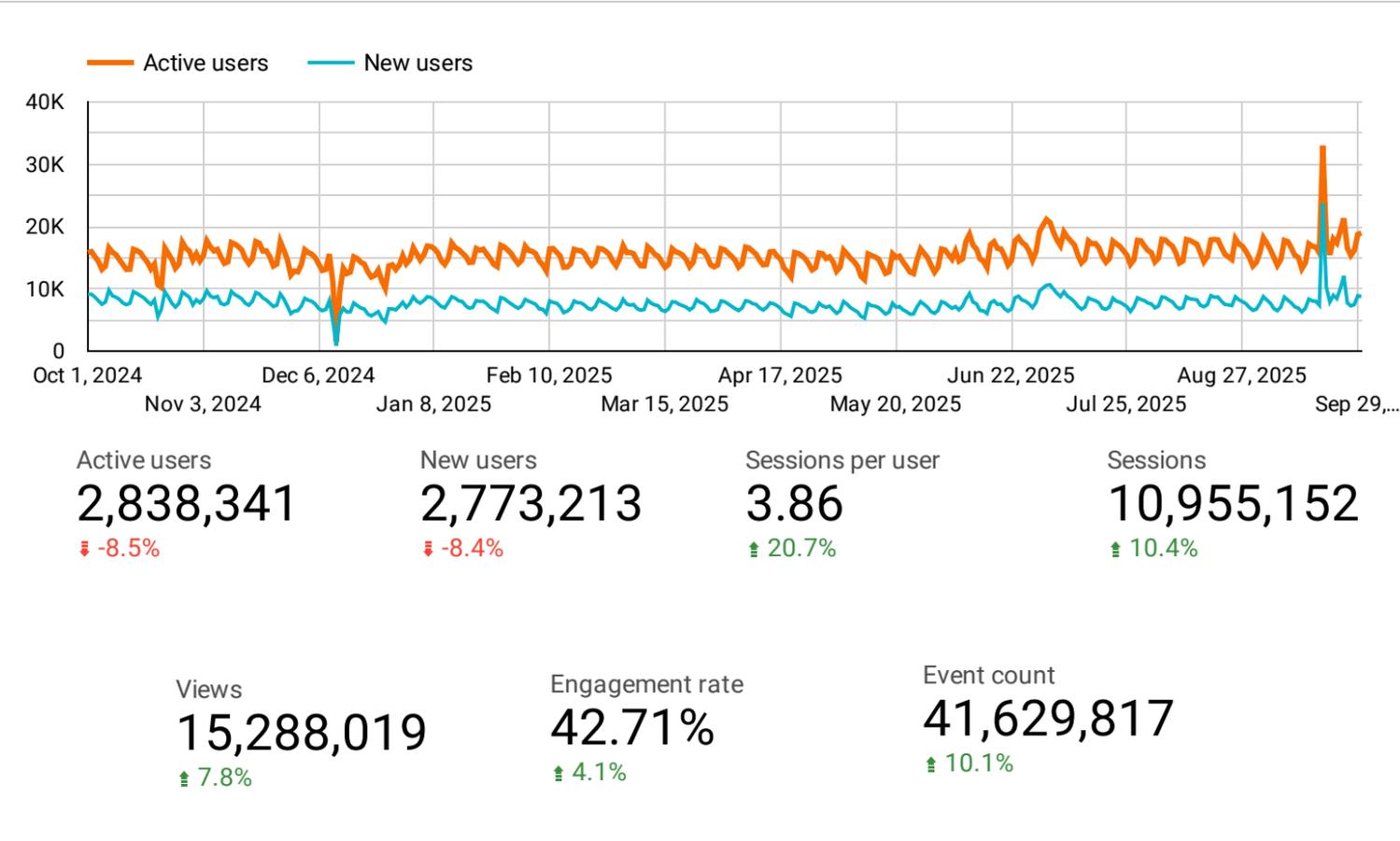
8. ANALYTICS: See attached report

9. ANALYTICS GLOSSARY:

- **Audience at a glance:**
 - **Active users** – Website visitors who have an engaged session or have been reported as a new user.
 - **New users** – The number of people who visit your website for the first time in the selected date range. Since most users are based on the Google Analytics tracking code and browser cookies, it's important to highlight that people who cleared their cookies or accessed your website using a different device will be reported as a new user.
 - **Sessions** – A single visit to your website, consisting of one or more events, including page views, purchases or other events.
 - **Views** – The total number of times events have been collected.
 - **Engagement rate** – Calculated by dividing the number of engaged sessions* by the total number of sessions.
 - ***Engaged session** – A visit that meets at least one of the following criteria: it lasts longer than 10 seconds, includes at least one conversion event, or involves two or more page or screen views.
 - **Event** – Includes page views and other automatically collected interactions.
 - **Event count** – Total number of times events have been collected.
- **How visitors find aa.org:**
 - **Session default channel** – The channels by which users arrived at your site/app when they initiated new sessions.
 - **Direct** – Direct traffic includes people who typed a website's URL into their browser or clicked a link in an email application (that didn't include campaign tags). Direct sessions also include other cases where Google Analytics cannot identify the source of the click.
 - **Referral** – When a user clicks through to your website from another website.
 - **Paid search** – Users arrive at your site via ads on search engines.
 - **Organic /organic social /organic video** – Organic refers to people clicking on a free link to your website. For example, people clicking through to your website from a free result on a Google search results page.
 - **Unassigned** – Traffic that is not attributed to any one of the other default channel groups.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

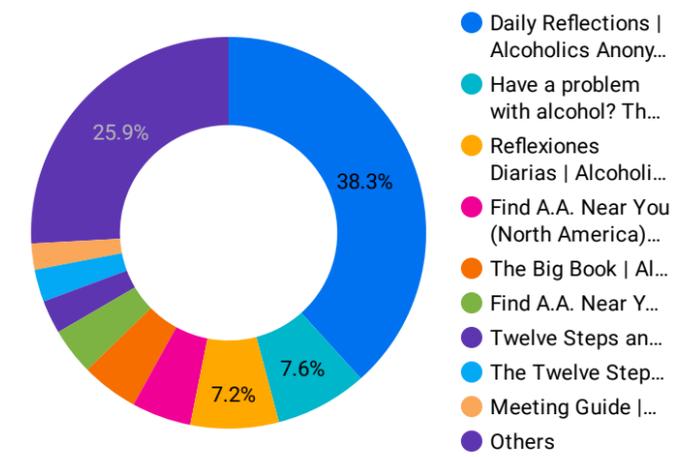
Audience at a glance



How do visitors find aa.org?

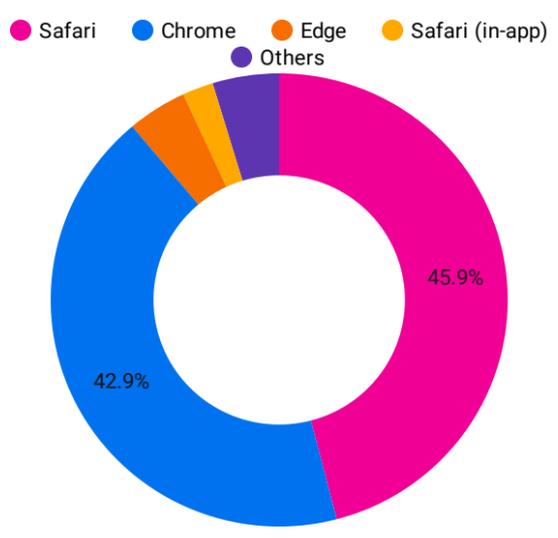
Session default cha...	Active users	% Δ
Organic Search	1,854,813	-3.3%
Direct	943,252	-15.6%
Referral	130,398	19.6%
Paid Search	25,020	-41.2%
Organic Social	23,148	-21.8%
Unassigned	18,762	27.2%
Email	513	92.9%
Organic Video	255	-19.8%

Top pages

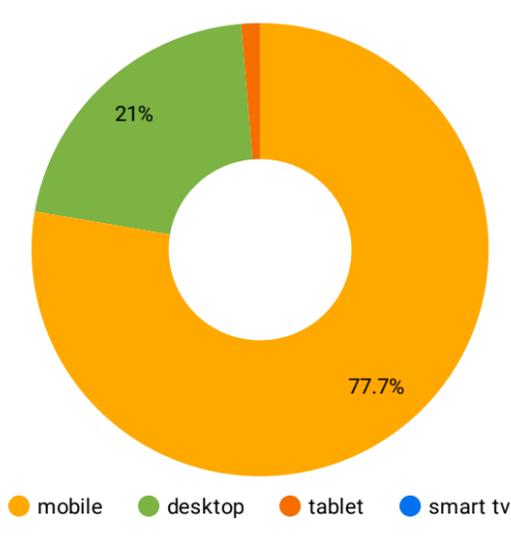


Page title	Views	% Δ
Daily Reflections Alcoholics Anonymo...	5,861,046	7.4%
Have a problem with alcohol? There is ...	1,155,270	4.2%
Reflexiones Diarias Alcoholics Anony...	1,104,722	35.8%
Find A.A. Near You (North America) A...	743,656	-4.9%
The Big Book Alcoholics Anonymous	718,448	7.5%
Find A.A. Near You Alcoholics Anony...	589,465	-5.6%
Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions Bo...	421,228	0.1%
The Twelve Steps Alcoholics Anonym...	407,496	0.2%
Meeting Guide Alcoholics Anonymous	331,144	12.6%
Search Results Alcoholics Anonymous	287,789	22.7%
Literature Listing Alcoholics Anonymo...	257,136	43.5%
International Convention Alcoholics A...	197,014	1.8%
Réflexions quotidiennes Alcoholics An...	172,691	27.3%
Is A.A. for You? A self-assessment Alc...	122,274	-
Doce Pasos y Doce Tradiciones Alcoh...	107,038	5.3%
Find A.A. Near You (World) Alcoholics...	106,282	2.0%
El Libro Grande de AA Alcoholics Ano...	89,513	34.9%
Los Doce Pasos Alcoholics Anonymo...	88,335	-11.3%
The Twelve Traditions Alcoholics Ano...	87,986	-2.9%
What is A.A.? Alcoholics Anonymous	75,126	-6.0%
What to Expect at an A.A. Meeting Alc...	68,824	6%
¿Tiene un problema con el alcohol? Ha...	58,514	-3%

What browser are visitors using?



What device are visitors using?



Country breakdown

Country	Active users	% Δ
United States	2,048,014	-11.5%
Canada	215,585	-1.1%
Mexico	189,618	5.7%
United Kingdom	96,665	-10.8%
Australia	25,545	-1.1%
India	25,132	2.1%
Spain	23,290	1.1%
France	21,959	4.2%
Colombia	18,937	-3.5%
Ireland	12,141	-5.7%

Language breakdown

Language	Active users	% Δ
English	2,445,668	-10.2%
Spanish	297,283	3.5%
French	59,888	8.4%
German	5,419	5.7%
Portuguese	3,883	43.6%
Dutch	3,811	2.0%
Russian	3,503	37.5%
Swedish	3,026	-2.8%
Polish	2,505	15.6%
Italian	2,059	31.5%

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM G: Review report on AAWS Online Business Profiles.

Background Notes:

Committee Consideration from the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2024 Report on Online Business Profiles. The committee expressed appreciation for the work and looks forward to a progress report being submitted to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

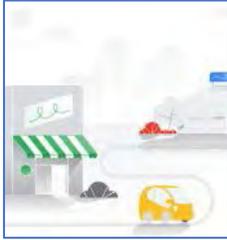
Secretary's note: The 2024 Online Business Profiles report format was revised, taking into consideration the suggestions outlined in the 2024 Additional Committee Considerations. The 2025 report follows suit.

In addition, it was noted that at the request of the AAWS Board, work had already begun to “cross link” various pages that AAWS has oversight of, including online business profiles and those for YouTube and LinkedIn.

Background:

1. Report on Online Business Profiles Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



Online Business Profiles: Annual summary

Q4 2024 (October) – Q3 2025 (September)

1. ABOUT ONLINE BUSINESS PROFILES

Online business profiles are pages that display an organization's information on directory websites, search engine result pages, social media and business reviews. We currently have business listings on Google, Bing, and [Yelp](#). The individual search platforms automatically generate these with our publicly available company contact information.

2. HISTORY

In 2019, the office began to actively manage business listings on Google, Bing and Yelp in order to correct inaccuracies and improve public relations.

In 2024, crosslinks were added to connect the online business profiles to the AAWS YouTube channel and LinkedIn profile.

3. PRIMARY GOAL(S) FOR THE PLATFORM

The primary goal for managing online business profiles is to ensure that accurate information about Alcoholics Anonymous, GSO, the General Service Board and Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. is provided online.

4. INTENDED AUDIENCE AND HOW WE SERVE THEM

- Anyone looking for accurate contact, operating hours and location information
- Online visitors who have posted questions or misinformation about GSO or AAWS on a search engine
- Anyone who might encounter that question or misinformation when they search for the General Service Office using a search engine.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

5. KEY MESSAGES

GSO’s online business profiles focus on providing factual information and communicating about how members of Alcoholic Anonymous stay sober and help other problem drinkers one day at a time.

6. CURRENT STATUS

The Communication Services Department and Public Information Staff have been monitoring comments and questions and continue to respond when appropriate. A total of 47 (+4 from last year) Google comments have been responded to and 93 (+3 from last year) Google questions have been answered since the project commenced. Our continued efforts to respond to all questions and comments increases not only ranking of accurate information in search engines, but also engagement with the public.

7. ANALYTICS

The analytics below show that our profile views have increased, but our overall interactions have decreased. The information is being presented to more people, but a smaller percentage of those that see our listing interact with it.

Analytics:

Google/Bing	Total 2024	Total 2025	Percentage change
Total views (majority from mobile search)	152,069	215,581	41% increase
Total interactions (next 3 lines combined)	13,343	12,174	9% decrease
Calls from profile	2,499	2,405	4% decrease
Direction requests	2,202	1,443	34% decrease
Website clicks	8,642	8,326	4% decrease

The Yelp profile received less than 200 visits between October 2024 and September 2025 and less than 25 interactions. This is in line with average traffic for the profile on Yelp.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

Sample of Questions and Comments from October 2024 to September 2025

Questions/Comments	Response
<p>Los visito desde México y una muy grata experiencia 😊😊 todos muy amables</p>	<p>(English version, was translated)</p> <p>Thank you so much for your visit and your kind words. One of the truly wonderful parts of being at the General Service Office in New York is being able to welcome visitors from all over the world.</p>
<p>Why is the main offices for Alcohol Anonymous in New York city? You know some of the most expensive real estate in the country, and as far way from most of the rest of the country.</p>	<p>Thank you for the question. The decision about the location for the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous is the responsibility of the General Service Board, in consultation with the A.A. General Service Conference.</p> <p>Approximately every ten years the board conducts a careful review of location, taking into consideration the price of rent, along with a great many other variables. A.A. members who want to know more about this process are encouraged to reach out to their GSRs (General Service Representatives).</p>
<p>Should addicts be allowed to join an AA groups</p>	<p>A.A. experience suggests that sobriety — freedom from alcohol — through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps, is the sole purpose of an A.A. group.</p> <p>One of Alcoholics Anonymous' Traditions (Tradition 3) says that the only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. At the same time, we know that many people have multiple “problem areas” in their lives. For instance, some people identify as both alcoholics and something else (addict, gambler, debtor, etc.).</p> <p>As long as they have a problem with drinking and want to stop, they are welcome in A.A.</p> <p>Individuals who are nonalcoholic addicts may attend open A.A. meetings, which are available to anyone interested in A.A.'s program of recovery.</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM H: Review the AAWS Social Media Policy.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the November 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee discussed the AAWS Social Media Policy and noted that, though informative, this document is under the purview of the A.A. World Services Board.

Secretary's note: Although the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information recommended that the A.A. World Services Social Media Policy currently under review be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information for approval prior to implementation, this recommendation **did not receive the two-thirds vote necessary to become a Conference Advisory Action.**

The AAWS Social Media Policy is included here for reference and for information purposes only.

Background:

1. AAWS Social Media Policy

AAWS Social Media Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and comprehensive guidelines for the AAWS Board to maintain effective oversight of the organization's social media presence. This will ensure that social media activities align with the mission, goals, and the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.), while fostering increased visibility, engagement, and outreach to members, suffering alcoholics, and other key audiences, including professional, media, and anyone looking for more information on A.A. The policy is designed to ensure accountability and strategic alignment in the management of AAWS social media channels.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all official social media accounts created or managed by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) and provides a framework for both current platforms and future social media initiatives. It establishes clear guidelines regarding who has the authority to create or manage an official AAWS social media account, as well as the process for making significant changes to the overall social media strategy.

- Authority and oversight: The board has the authority to oversee the creation, modification, and overall strategy of social media accounts. Social media strategy and significant changes must be approved by the appropriate AAWS leadership, ensuring consistent lines of authority and oversight across all channels. This policy and the actions of the board regarding social media will be guided by and adhere to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous and be consistent with Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference related to social media.

3. Responsibilities

- Oversight role: The board will provide oversight of social media strategy and content, which will be developed by the appropriate departments at GSO and following actions and recommendations of relevant board committees. The board will also review performance metrics to ensure alignment with organizational goals and the A.A. Traditions.

- Approval process: The board will establish and follow a formal approval process for launching a new AAWS social media account. The board will review and approve any major change to an account before implementation.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

- Monitoring: The board will periodically review social media performance, including audience engagement metrics, to assess the effectiveness of social media efforts, based on key performance indicators (KPIs). This includes tracking engagement levels (e.g., “likes” and “shares”) and reach (e.g., number of unique users who have seen an account’s content), and other KPIs. The board will receive updates on major social media campaigns and initiatives.

4. Guidelines for content oversight

- Brand consistency: All social media content must consistently reflect the A.A. brand identity. “Brand” refers the overall image, identity, and perception of Alcoholics Anonymous and includes name and logo, graphic standards, voice, core mission and values, and the Traditions. Content should be appropriate, respectful, and inclusive, upholding A.A.’s commitment to anonymity and AAWS privacy policies.

- Legal compliance: AAWS social media activities must comply with relevant legal and regulatory standards, including copyright, privacy, and intellectual property laws. It is critical that all content shared does not infringe upon third-party rights and that personal information is protected.

- Crisis management: The AAWS office will develop and maintain protocols to address any misuse of the platform or AAWS content, or if social media crises arise. A clear procedure will be in place in collaboration with the Office to handle situations where there is potential harm to the organization’s reputation or the anonymity of A.A. members.

5. Evaluation

- Annual review: The effectiveness of the AAWS social media strategy will be evaluated annually. This will include an assessment of audience engagement, content effectiveness, alignment with organizational goals, and overall strategic impact. The findings will be presented to the board for consideration and decision-making.

6. Reporting

- Periodic reporting: The AAWS Communications and Language Services Committee recommends to the AAWS Board that section 6 of the Social Media Policy be updated to read: “The Communications Services Department will provide periodic updates to the AAWS Board regarding social media performance, challenges, opportunities, and any significant developments. Any new social media initiatives will be communicated to the respective trustees’ committees and, when appropriate, to the corresponding General Service Conference committees for awareness and alignment with Advisory Actions.”

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

7. Policy Review

- Annual policy review: This policy will be reviewed annually by the board to ensure it remains up-to-date, effective, and aligned with the evolving needs of AAWS and its social media presence. Any necessary revisions or updates will be made to ensure continued strategic alignment and compliance with best practices.

By adhering to these guidelines, AAWS will strengthen its digital presence, ensuring responsible, effective, and consistent communication across its social media platforms, furthering the mission of Alcoholics Anonymous and providing valuable resources to members and the wider public.

Approved by AAWS Dec 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM I: Review proposed plan for the 2026 Membership Survey.

Background Notes:

Excerpts from the November 2025 trustees' Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee discussed the Membership Survey Content Subcommittee report, and the revised draft survey. The committee noted that too many additional questions have been added and may need further review. The committee looks forward to additional reporting from the subcommittee at the Q1 2026 meeting.

The Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee suggested to the committee that the following be added to their scope:

The scope of the Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee is to focus on sampling methodology; selection of groups/meetings; consideration of gender differences in meeting attendance or group preferences. **In addition, the scope of the subcommittee will include responsibility to review and suggest improvements to the process of communicating about the Membership Survey to the Fellowship and to area delegates who have responsibility for administering the survey.**

The trustees' Public Information Committee approved the revision to the subcommittee scope. The subcommittee acknowledged that further work is needed prior to a final report being provided to the committee.

Excerpts from the August 2025 trustees' Committee on Public Information meeting:

The committee discussed the Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference, "that the trustees' Public Information Committee develop a plan for a 2026 A.A. Membership Survey utilizing random sampling methodology." The committee agreed that given the large volume of work required to fulfill this Advisory Action, that two subcommittees would be required.

The chair appointed Dawn Klug (chair), Cheryl S., Joyce S. and Teresa J. (ex-officio) with support from the Staff secretary to serve on a Membership Survey Content Subcommittee. The scope of the subcommittee is to evaluate the questions and survey layout used in the 2022 Membership Survey and make suggestions for changes to the questionnaire for a 2026 Membership Survey.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

The chair appointed Jennifer B. (chair), Tom Ivester, David S. and Teresa J. (ex-officio), with support from the Staff secretary to serve on the Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee. The scope of the Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee is to focus on sampling methodology, the selection of groups/meetings and consideration of gender differences in meeting attendance or group preferences.

The committee requested that the Staff secretary forward related Advisory Actions and committee considerations to each of the two subcommittees.

The committee looks forward to a progress report from each committee at the November 2025 meeting.

Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference:

The trustees' Public Information Committee develop a plan for a 2026 A.A. Membership Survey utilizing random sampling methodology. The committee requested that the plan for the 2026 Membership Survey be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

Committee Considerations of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee discussed the report on the A.A. Membership Survey and expressed appreciation for the comprehensive work. The committee suggested that the planning for a 2026 A.A. Membership Survey include the following:

- Continued use of random sampling for the main Membership Survey.
- That any publications related to Membership Survey be based on the data generated by the random sample version of the Membership Survey.
- That an external survey methodologist be consulted as part of developing a plan for the next Membership Survey. The committee suggested that the survey methodologist be consulted about whether the convenience sample methodology could be adjusted to mitigate bias.
- A trial for utilizing four-year intervals between Membership Surveys be piloted, with plans to evaluate this shift after an appropriate interval.
- Taking into account staff workload, the committee requested that information about expense, including the costs for survey tabulation, analysis, report writing and development of communications to the Fellowship be detailed in the plan for the next Membership Survey.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Discussion of purpose/audience for the survey should be considered, with caution that revisions to the questions should be minimized in order to optimize the ability to consider changes in results over time.
- Careful consideration should be given to supporting the area delegates in the Membership Survey data collection process through workshops and discussion.
- Upon completion of the next Membership Survey, plan for a formal debrief from the trustees' Public Information Committee to the Conference Committee on Public Information about the results of the next Membership Survey.
- That consideration be given to developing multimedia tools to support discussions of future Membership Surveys.
- In the plan for the next Membership Survey, the trustees' Public Information Committee is encouraged to consider how to address additional concerns including:
 - Whether consideration should be given to surveying meetings as well as groups.
 - Whether counting the number of A.A. members is an appropriate goal.
 - Whether the Membership Survey infographics created in 2022 have been useful for local committees.
- The committee suggested that future Membership Survey planning should consider how the survey might address outstanding questions, including:
 - How do we make sense of ongoing gendered differences in meeting attendance?
 - Why has A.A. failed to make meaningful progress on attracting and retaining a more racially/ethnically diverse Fellowship?
 - The most recent survey indicated that the Fellowship is aging and not attracting as many young members. How should we understand and respond to this shift?

Background:

1. Survey Methodology Plan
2. Draft Membership Survey Questions

Trustees' Public Information Committee
Subcommittee on Membership Survey Methodology Progress Report
January 6, 2026

At the August 2025 trustees' PI committee meeting, a Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee was formed to work on the methodology part of the plan for a 2026 Membership Survey, with Jennifer B. as chair, and David S. and Tom I. as subcommittee members.

The scope of the Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee as assigned was "to focus on sampling methodology; selection of groups/meetings; consideration of gender differences in meeting attendance or group preferences." After meeting for the first time, and with the approval of the full PI committee, the subcommittee's scope was expanded as follows: "In addition, the scope of the subcommittee will include responsibility to review and suggest improvements to the process of communicating about the Membership Survey to the Fellowship and to area delegates who have responsibility for administering the survey."

The subcommittee met four times, including one meeting with Dr. Alexandra Cooper, the survey methodologist. The subcommittee reviewed Advisory Actions and Committee Considerations related to the Membership Survey. The subcommittee also reviewed past reports from Dr. Cooper from 2020–2024 and the "Report of the 2024 Membership Survey Working Group" of the trustees' PI Committee. The subcommittee gave particular attention to prior recommendations that were not implemented, along with questions raised in the analyses of the 2022 random sampling survey and the 2023 convenience sample pilot.

The subcommittee discussed at length the potential benefits and challenges of including non-registered meetings/groups in the Membership Survey, noting concerns that focusing only on registered groups may overlook parts of the Fellowship. They explored using Meeting Guide data for sampling, but the Staff secretary learned from AAWS's digital strategist that duplication and data overload would create issues. The digital strategist recommended a small pilot, working with 2–3 entities whose data feeds into Meeting Guide to assess feasibility. The subcommittee then asked the Staff secretary to consult with methodologist Dr. Cooper on how meetings that aren't already in the GSO database might be incorporated. Dr. Cooper's pilot proposals are included in the attached report.

In light of Dr. Cooper's preliminary report in October, the subcommittee questioned whether moving ahead with the 2026 Membership Survey before a pilot would be financially prudent, as it might produce similar results. Staff reached out to Dr. Cooper to ask if pausing the survey and conducting the pilot first to see what we can learn would be a better course of action.

Dr. Cooper's response:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL:

76th General Service Conference Background

“There are advantages and disadvantages to each, and no one clear ‘right’ answer to whether (a) proceeding with the survey or (b) delaying the survey until completion of the pilot is the better choice. With that said, I’ll note the following:

- 1. Although at times described as the triennial survey, and clearly often conducted historically on a three-year cycle, the spacing of the survey has varied.*
- 2. Generally speaking, the survey has found consistencies, rather than dramatic changes, in the membership from one iteration to the next.*

Given the clear interest in the pilot, for both reasons listed I’d recommend delaying the survey and focusing on completing the pilot in 2026 as a tool to expand the survey’s scope and increase its accuracy and value.”

While working separately on two aspects of the plan, the Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee notes with appreciation the Membership Survey Content Subcommittee’s efforts to propose new questions that could make the survey more useful to the Fellowship and to professionals. Our subcommittee had wide-ranging and thoughtful discussions about the Membership Survey, and wants to emphasize that this work requires significant time from all involved and relies on Seventh Tradition contributions. A broader Fellowship discussion about the survey’s purpose — who it is for and how we use it — could help guide our efforts moving forward.

A summary of the Methodology Subcommittee’s recommendations is below (with more detail following):

- Consideration of a pilot to see what we could learn by incorporating meetings listed with other entities, in addition to groups registered with GSO.
- Implementing the following suggestions to minimize and understand non-response:
 1. Early communication with areas — starting with reminders to clean up group records and possibly a sharing session with delegates to hear what would be useful to them in planning their participation.
 2. Selection of a better survey platform for the questionnaires (still utilizing digital and paper).
 3. Production of a how-to video, FAQ, and other resources.
 4. Asking data collectors to complete a form (“cover sheet”) with additional context about the meetings surveyed.

Pilot proposal:

Pilot and Survey Timeline: Based on methodologist Dr. Cooper’s proposal, the trustees’ PI Committee would like to provide **two** possible tracks for moving forward with the 2026 Membership Survey:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL:

76th General Service Conference Background

1. Continue with producing the survey per usual and run a pilot in 2027 to potentially inform the next Membership Survey.
2. Pause production of the Membership Survey to conduct a pilot which would be informed with guidance by methodologist Dr. Cooper.

Dr. Cooper proposed two possible methods (see pp. 8–9) to pilot inclusion of non-registered meetings in the survey:

- a) Surveying all the entities on Meeting Guide app about their data and willingness to share.
- b) A pilot survey of a selection of unlisted groups from 3–5 areas to see if there are significant differences compared to past Membership Surveys.

While the subcommittee is leaning toward options 2 and b), broader input is desired from the Conference.

Suggestions for Survey Cover Sheet: To be completed by the data collector (area delegate or trusted servant) for each meeting where questionnaires are completed. The purpose is to provide additional context to help interpret the non-response rate and offer a snapshot of the meetings selected. It will be important to determine how the data will be coded to support meaningful reporting before we request it.

Possible topics (note to Conference committee — please let us know if you have any suggested additions/cuts):

1. How many people were in attendance on the day of the survey?
2. Is the meeting open or closed?
3. Is the meeting in person, online, or hybrid?
4. How is the meeting tailored? Does it focus on particular topics? Target particular audiences (e.g. women, Spanish speakers)?
5. Can the meeting document attendance for those who have been referred to A.A. by a treatment program or through a court?
6. Approximately how many typically attend this meeting? Do many of those who attend regularly share particular qualities, for example, is it made up mostly of men? Of young people? Of retirees?
7. At a typical meeting, how many in attendance are typically newcomers (may need to define what that means: first-timers? People there who have been attending meetings for three months or less? Whatever would be most useful to know)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

76th General Service Conference Background

How do we provide a compelling reason to take the survey?

The way we present the survey when asking members to fill it out likely has impact on response rate. The subcommittee suggested using a more engaging tone and connecting it to our primary purpose.

Some proposed language:

Your group has been selected to respond to the A.A. membership survey. This survey has been conducted since 1968. It provides a valuable snapshot of the experiences and attributes of A.A. members and helps with outreach to those suffering from alcoholism who may want to stop drinking — thus fulfilling our primary purpose.

The snapshot of the A.A. membership that the survey provides can:

1. Provide someone considering attending an A.A. meeting for the first time with a sense that A.A. has helped other people like them and can help them.
2. Provide professionals with the data needed to consider the A.A. program a viable option for their clients.
3. Demystify A.A. and bust myths about the program for anyone interested in learning more.
4. Paint a picture of the A.A. program for what we know it is — a roomy, inclusive, welcoming program.

Cover page — Addition of QR Code to Introduction/How-to video, FAQ section on aa.org, and link to 2022 Membership Survey results.

Draft Outline of Introduction/How-to Video:

1. Explanation of the value of probability sampling in layman terms
2. Step by step instructions
3. Delegating responsibilities
4. Timeline
5. Shared experience from 2–3 past delegates
6. Questions? Check out the FAQ on aa.org

Utilization of Meeting Guide app for communication: The subcommittee noted that the Meeting Guide app can be utilized to inform members what the survey is, why we do it, and that they might be selected to participate, based on clear and objective methodology. This can include

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

76th General Service Conference Background

links to the introduction video and an FAQ page on aa.org.

The Meeting Guide app could also be used in communication to groups before the survey. We could let groups know if they want to be considered for the survey to please make sure they are registered and that their information is up to date with GSO by emailing memberservices@aa.org

Review of the A.A. Membership Survey Research Methodology

Report to the Trustees Public Information Committee

prepared by Alexandra Cooper

submitted January 15, 2026

Executive Summary

This report responds to a request by the General Services Board (GSB) of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.), Inc., for expert advice regarding key steps in planning its next survey of its membership (“the Survey”). These steps include its sampling strategy, adding non-registered groups to the population it seeks to survey, questions about the gender distribution of the A.A. membership that different sampling approaches have identified, ensuring that the questionnaire used for the Survey is up-to-date and focused on the topics most relevant to the purpose of the Survey and A.A. itself, and plans for administering the Survey using online tools as well as the paper questionnaires that it has traditionally used.

The report begins with brief overview of the two most recent membership surveys that A.A. has conducted – a 2022 administration of the Survey using a probability sample and a 2023 survey that relied on a convenience sample recruited through the Meeting Guide App and related outreach. Although the datasets produced from these two surveys resemble each other in many ways, a gender gap between the two did emerge, with a much higher proportion of women responding to the convenience sample than to the probability sample. The report briefly discusses ways in which non-response errors might lead to underrepresentation of women in the probability sample, and/or that women may have been disproportionately willing to respond to the Meeting App request and therefore overrepresented in the convenience sample. In its discussion of sampling strategies and resulting datasets, the report next turns to a question that A.A. has raised, of adding non-registered groups to the population surveyed. It provides an overview of what has been learned regarding the data available about such groups, stresses the importance of their inclusion in the Survey if the resulting data are to be truly able to characterize and report on the entire A.A. membership, and recommends prioritizing including such groups in the Survey.

The report next turns to an overview of the 2022 Survey and of recommendations I made regarding its administration. It lists various sources of error that the Survey may involve. It notes A.A. already has strategies in place to address a number of these, but that non-response, which is among the problems listed, is particularly difficult to navigate. It therefore focuses particularly on strategies that can be used to reduce non-response and assess its severity. In this context, the report again notes the value of including non-registered as well as registered groups in the Survey

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL:

76th General Service Conference Background

sample to ensure that all A.A. members are included in the Survey.

Proceeding to the questionnaire and the wording of its questions, the report notes that this is an area to which the Membership Survey Content Subcommittee has devoted considerable time and effort. It briefly discusses the pros and cons of changing question wording and questionnaire layout and design, and the value of Subcommittee's focus on the relevance of question items to A.A.'s goals for the survey. It also highlights the importance of keeping the questionnaire brief, something A.A. should continue to prioritize.

Before concluding, the report addresses A.A.'s interest in identifying and adopting a suitable online survey tool for use in data collection. It lists the benefits of online survey software offers and notes that, as with so much contemporary technology, this is an area where change occurs rapidly and can have significant effects. Given the likely delay in conducting the Survey that may result from efforts to add non-registered groups to the sample and the likelihood of rapid change in the tools available, costs associated with acquiring and using them, and related issues, this report does not make a specific recommendation regarding which online survey software will best meet A.A.'s needs, but instead recommends that A.A. revisit this question in the near future, before conducting the next Survey. The report then concludes with a very brief summary of what it has covered.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

**Review of the A.A. Membership Survey Research Methodology
Report to the Trustees Public Information Committee**

prepared by Alexandra Cooper
submitted January 15, 2026

1. Overview

As the General Services Board (GSB) of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. develops plans to administer its next Membership Survey (“The Survey”), it has sought expert assistance in assessing the tools and strategies it uses to collect and analyze data in order to understand the attributes of its membership. The GSB seeks to ensure that the data collected accurately characterize the organization’s members and address topics relevant to the organization’s purpose. To achieve these goals, it is evaluating a number of aspects of The Survey, including the following:

1. It is reviewing the sampling strategy employed in 2022 to identify opportunities for improvement, including assessment of its methods for selecting alternative groups and adding meetings in addition to groups to the survey population.
2. It is examining whether results from The Survey accurately reflect the gender distribution of the A.A. membership. This question arises both from a general sense that prior iterations of The Survey may – for whatever reason – have undercounted the participation of women in A.A. and on a discrepancy in gender balance between the findings of the probability-sample based Survey and a convenience-sample based survey conducted in 2023. A.A. is therefore particularly interested in evaluating the measurement and interpretation of data regarding the gender distribution of its membership.
3. It is reviewing its questionnaire and the wording of its question items to ensure they are kept updated and that those included on the questionnaire are relevant to the organization’s goals.
4. It is seeking information about and developing plans to use online tools, rather than relying exclusively on paper questionnaires, in conducting the next iteration of The Survey.

This evaluative process incorporates several objectives, including keeping the questionnaire and the systems used to administer them up-to-date, accurately portraying the A.A. membership, and reporting The Survey findings in a way that best serves its membership and the still-suffering alcoholics whom A.A. seeks to reach and serve.

This report addresses these topics. It begins by providing an overview of the 2022 probability sampling strategy and the 2023 survey conducted using convenience sampling. As part of this overview, it considers the gender imbalance generally identified through The Survey, the different pattern that emerged from the 2023 convenience sample, and the possibility that women are underrepresented as respondents to The Survey, relative to their participation in A.A. The report next describes the goal of adding meetings to the population studied – and from which the sample is drawn – and the challenges that adding meetings may involve.

Proceeding from this overview of the key issues relating to the sampling strategy A.A. uses for the survey and the ways in which the Survey does or may mis-represent the population on which it seeks to report, the report reviews the recommendations made in 2020 for the planning of the 2022 survey and examines the actual approaches used in 2022 – considering which recommendations were implemented and which were not. It focuses particularly on non-response and the ways in which non-response may bias the results of the Survey, including the possibility that it leads to the underrepresentation of women. It makes recommendations regarding sampling strategy and survey administration focused on maximizing the representativeness of the survey data collected, assessing to what extent biases in the data are being

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

introduced by non-response and evaluating the severity of those biases. The report also considers A.A.'s interest in adding non-registered groups to its sample and thus, to the population studied. It makes recommendations for next steps in implementing this objective, which it considers important but at present, infeasible.

The report next discusses questionnaire design and makes recommendations focused on ensuring the questionnaire is kept current and relevant. It touches briefly on the issues involved in incorporating online survey tools into the survey administration process. It concludes with a brief summary of its contents.

2. Administration of The Survey: Learning from and Building on the 2022 Protocol and 2023 Convenience Sample

In 2022, A.A. conducted its most recent iteration of The Survey, basing its protocol both on longstanding practices and on recommendations made in a 2020 report I prepared for the organization. Consistent with its existing practice and recommendations from the 2020 report, it relied on a stratified probability sample, using its 93 Areas as strata and sampling 1.3% of groups that meet in-person within each stratum. These groups served as clusters, and for each group sampled a census of all members present at an individual meeting was solicited. For the first time, the organization also conducted a sample of virtual groups using a similar but distinct stratified sample. A.A. has far fewer virtual meetings than in-person meetings – about 680 of the former compared to 54,000 of the latter were listed in 2022. To ensure (a) inclusion of all Areas that include virtual meetings and (b) a sufficiently large sample, it sampled one virtual meeting per Area for all Areas that had at least one virtual meeting listed. This provided a robust data set for the organization's first study of virtual meetings; the data sets from both virtual and in-person meetings were also combined using weights to ensure the results accurately reflected the overall proportion of each type of group in the organization as a whole.¹ Thus – although a greater amount of time had passed since the prior Survey than is typical – in 2022 A.A. both continued and improved its study of and reporting on the attributes and experiences of its membership, a practice that has been in place for over 50 years.

In 2023, A.A. again surveyed its membership, employing for the first time a convenience sampling strategy that relied on the Meeting Guide App and related outreach efforts to invite members to complete its questionnaire. It received slightly over 7,000 responses from members of 476 distinct groups, both listed and unlisted. The results from the convenience sample in many ways resembled those found through the probability sample or reflected comparatively small differences between the probability sample and convenience sample. However, there was one striking exception – 52% of convenience sample respondents were female, compared to only 35% of probability sample respondents. Interpreting what caused this discrepancy is difficult. It is possible that women are inaccurately *under*represented among probability sample respondents perhaps because they are more likely to depart meetings promptly due to childcare or other responsibilities. It is also possible that women are *over*represented among

¹ For a full discussion of sampling strategy and A.A.'s commendable reliance on probability sampling, please refer to my 2020 report, *Sampling Methodology of the A. A. Membership Survey: A Report to the Trustees Public Information Committee*. In that report, I stress that probability samples are unparalleled in their ability to accurately represent the population from which they are selected, and that the effort they require is worthwhile. Probability sampling is a cornerstone of scientific research, and it makes it possible both to estimate population characteristics with mathematical precision and to quantify the uncertainty associated with those estimates.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

convenience sample respondents because women, generally, are more willing to respond to surveys than are men (Green, 1996: 176; Becker & Glauser, 2018). Disentangling the source of this discrepancy between the probability and convenience sample results is an important – but challenging – goal for the next iteration of survey that will be best addressed by minimizing and understanding non-response.

Administration of the next survey will, as with prior such administrations, employ a probability sample. However, recognizing that a subset of participants have been systematically excluded from its probability sample in the past, A.A. is interested in modifying the population list it uses to draw its sample in order to add previously excluded members to the Survey. This is important, as it will increase the accuracy with which the Survey captures the qualities, experiences, and needs of all its members.

Specifically, to date, the Survey has included groups but not non-registered meetings in its sample. The exclusion of meetings arises from understandable logistical challenges. Nonetheless, limiting the Survey's focus to registered groups clearly omits portions of the Fellowship, and may introduce bias into the sample – and thus, the survey results. A.A. seeks to include such meetings in the next iteration of the survey, thereby improving the Survey by making its sample more inclusive and more representative. This is important and worth the effort it will involve.

Roughly 550 entities provide data to the database used for the App, and each of these provides between 25 and 500 meetings, some of which are listed and some of which are not. Only by including unlisted meetings in the sample is it possible accurately to claim that the Survey fully represents the A.A. membership. As A.A. has not previously collected data from non-registered meetings it is impossible to know how much or how little their members differ from the members of registered groups, and thus, how much error their exclusion introduces into the survey results, but their exclusion (and a lack of information about just how many such meetings are being excluded) is problematic.

To summarize the current situation, as embodied in the 2022 administration of the Survey, the sampling strategy A.A. employs is in many ways excellent. However, its exclusion of non-registered meetings is problematic – just how problematic it is currently impossible to know, but ending this exclusion is an essential to ensuring that the Survey truly captures information that accurately reflects the entire A.A. membership. However, even the best sampling strategy cannot prevent other sources of error, such as non-response, from introducing inaccuracies into the resulting data. To examine these sources of error, this report next reviews the recommendations made in 2020 to reduce sources of error in the 2022 survey and briefly considers additional sources of error not discussed in the 2020 report. It also examines which of the recommendations the report included were implemented and which were not. Though the implementation of these recommendations will differ somewhat across in-person and virtual groups they are in many ways the same and offer the same benefit, and the discussion below does not distinguish between the two. Following that discussion, the report also provides recommendations regarding the addition of non-registered groups to the sample.

3. Overview of 2020 Recommendations and their Implementation, and Recommendations for the 2026 Administration of The Survey

This report now examines potential shortcomings within the existing survey protocol that provide opportunities for improvement. Although most are distinct from sampling strategy, these shortcomings relate to the quality of the *actual* sample obtained, and thus to the extent to which it is possible accurately to estimate the attributes of the A.A. membership from that sample.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Possible sources of error addressed in the 2020 report and used to shape planning for the 2022 survey include the following:

1. Members who attend multiple meetings will on average be overcounted;
2. Members who attend meetings less frequently will on average be undercounted, as their less frequent attendance does not make them “less” important or relevant as members;
3. Listed groups excluded from the sampling list will not be included in the sample;
4. There exists no mechanism for assessing systematically the error introduced into the sample because of non-response, that is, for assessing the following:
 - o what proportion of members present at a meeting actually completed the survey;
 - o whether those who decided against completing it are different from those who completed it;
 - o why those who did not complete it decided against doing so.

Two additional and related sources of error not on the list included in the 2020 report, but also worth considering, are (5) non-response at the cluster (meeting) level and (6) the exclusion of unlisted meetings which, because of their unlisted nature have – to date – been omitted from the sample.

Examining this list of possible sources of error, A.A. already collects data useful for addressing items 1 and 2 – the Survey asks members about how often they typically attend meetings, information that the data analysis team uses to craft weights so that the frequency of attendance does not shape the impact a member’s responses have on survey results. The problem of there being Groups excluded from the sampling list (item 3 on the list above) is clearly a real one and can be minimized by detailed attention to using the most accurate and up-to-date version of the list available. Not participating in the survey – whether at the individual level (item 4) or at the Group level (item 5) is a problem the 2020 report focused on only at the individual level, but both warrant attention as non-response clearly detracts – potentially significantly – from the ability of the data collected from a sample to estimate accurately the qualities of the population it is intended to represent.

As noted, non-response can occur at either the cluster (meeting) or respondent (member) level. Unfortunately, at both levels non-response is almost certainly not random. For this reason, it is a source of bias. At the group level, some groups are less willing than others to participate in The Survey, and differ systematically – for reasons that may relate, for example, to their type or their membership – from those groups that are willing to participate. The same applies to sample respondents (i.e., attenders of a sampled meeting), where those less committed to A.A., more concerned about privacy and anonymity, or simply in a hurry to get to their next commitment are less willing to fill out a survey form than are other members. Taking members being too much “in a hurry” to participate as an example of a source of bias, it is not difficult to imagine that members who are employed, as well those with child-care responsibilities, may be less likely to participate in the survey than are retired members without responsibility for dependent children. If this is true, then the data collected through The Survey will underestimate the proportion of employed members, and of members with childcare responsibilities – the latter are probably more likely than those without such responsibilities to be female (and may also be more likely to fall within a certain age range, say 20-40).

Non-response is difficult or impossible to eliminate. At the cluster level, substitution appears to be a solution – if one meeting declines to participate, select another meeting – but this is problematic since as exhibited by their behavior meetings that decline to participate in the survey differ on a least one, but likely also other, metrics as compared to meetings that do respond. For this reason, substituting a different meeting for one that declines to respond shifts the sample away from it being a probability sample and toward being a convenience sample, one that includes only or primarily those units most interested in and willing to participate in The Survey. More generally, the basic problem with non-

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

response is that *we know nothing about non-respondents*. Whether at the cluster or the unit level, because they decline to provide survey answers we do not know in what ways non-respondents differ from and in what ways they are the same as respondents.

The first and best strategy for managing non-response is to minimize it. Providing compelling explanations of the survey purpose to administrators selected to distribute the questionnaire within a meeting, together with a clear and easy-to-implement protocol, is an important first step. Making surveys appealing to respondents by such means as clearly explaining their purpose, providing reassurance about the privacy (or anonymity) of their answers, using attractive and easy-to-read formatting, making questions easy to answer (for example by using straightforward language and providing a succinct yet complete list of answer options), and providing incentives such as a gift card for completing a survey can all increase the likelihood of response. So can making a survey available in multiple formats, including a respondent's preferred language and source – e.g. online as well as paper. The more accessible a survey is (for example, the provision of an online version that can be accessed later, after a sampled meeting has concluded), the more likely individuals will respond (though conversely, accessibility can increase the risk of response by non-sample members, e.g. if a targeted respondent makes copies of a paper survey or shares the link to an online survey).

This list of tasks clearly involves effort at both the organization and the survey administrator level. A.A. must ensure that it maximizes the quality, appeal, and clarity of its survey and of the protocol used to administer it. This includes but will not be limited to making it available in multiple languages – something A.A. typically does – and likely providing it in both paper and online forms. It must also strive to obtain the buy-in of all sampled meetings and ensure that they are willing to distribute the survey. In its Progress Report dated January 6th, 2026, the Subcommittee on Membership Survey Methodology has provided helpful proposed language for communications with administrators regarding the purpose and value of the Survey. The Subcommittee also recommends creation of a how-to/introduction video and notes that the Meeting Guide App can be used to inform members about the survey – both valuable recommendations.² Administrators will also need to work to communicate to the members of selected meetings the importance and value of the survey, as this will increase the likelihood that those present at each such meeting will take the time to complete it.

Even with all these tasks optimized, not every Group included in the survey sample will participate in the survey and not every member present at a sampled meeting will fill out a questionnaire. Returning to the challenge presented by non-respondents mentioned above – that we know nothing about them – this is, in the context of A.A. meetings, a problem with some, albeit partial, solutions. The 2020 report recommended many of these, however, they were not employed in administration of the 2022 survey. What would they entail?

Examining the process of data collection itself, those charged with the data collection effort could, if they decline to participate, be asked to provide an explanation for their decision. It is possible that this information could shed light on ways to improve administration of the Survey, as understanding groups' reasons for non-participation could help refine the protocol in ways that might reduce the number of groups that decline to participate. Similarly, among participating groups, survey administrators might be able to request that non-respondents tick off a short list of reasons

² Alerting the entire membership to the Survey may raise – or increase the frequency of – questions from members of groups that are not in the probability sample selected for the Survey, including questions about why they are not included. One possible approach to this situation is to repeat the convenience-sample survey, offering those not selected but interested in completing the survey the opportunity to do so through a separate sample offered via the Meeting Guide App.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

for not completing the survey (this list could be provided on the questionnaire itself or as a separate sheet). This could help provide some basic information about non-respondents, or at least the challenges they face and the reasons for their unwillingness to respond to the survey which, again, might be useful in reducing non-response in the future.

Among participating groups, administrators themselves could also provide some information about the meeting at which the data are being collected, and about the survey experience itself. Data-gatherers could report on how closely they did (or did not) adhere to the protocol A.A. requested that they administer, providing insight on the consistency with which that protocol is employed. Such a request can and should be framed neutrally, for example by asking, “How did the protocol for administering the survey we provided work for you, and did you find you needed to make any changes to it? Please describe any changes you made.” A neutral tone (rather than one that might be perceived as critical or even accusatory) would encourage honest and complete responses, which could yield useful information, as understanding administrators’ concerns might make it possible to improve the administrative process by allowing A.A. to address those concerns, if not in the moment then in subsequent years when the Survey is re-administered.

Survey administrators could also be asked to provide basic information about the meeting in which the survey took place. Some such questions might be about the meeting itself; the Subcommittee on Membership Survey Methodology has reviewed a list of suggestions for such items that I provided and using those and their own experience and expertise offers the following list of potentially useful items:

1. Is the meeting open or closed?
2. Is the meeting in person, online, or hybrid?
3. How is the meeting tailored? Does it focus on particular topics? Target particular audiences (e.g. women, Spanish speakers)?
4. Can the meeting document attendance for those who have been referred to A.A. by a treatment program or through a court?
5. Approximately how many typically attend this meeting? Do many of those who attend regularly share particular qualities, for example, is it made up mostly of men? Of young people? Of retirees?
6. At a typical meeting, how many in attendance are typically newcomers?³

A simple but very valuable additional piece of information would be how many members were present at the meeting where the survey was conducted, and asking “How many people were in attendance on the day of the survey?” would (as the Subcommittee also noted) be an appropriate question to include with those listed above – getting this information would make possible calculation of a response rate. To add nuance, administrators *might* also be able to provide estimates of the gender, age, and possibly even racial and ethnic breakdown of those in attendance – certainly this information would be helpful in understanding the gender discrepancy between the results of the 2022 Survey and the 2023 convenience sample (as will minimizing non-response generally). Whether asking any of these questions would be appropriate in the context of an A.A. meeting is of course a judgment call, but each of them could add

³ The Subcommittee noted that it may be necessary to define what is meant by “newcomers,” which could refer for example to first-timers, or to people who have been attending meetings for 3 months or less? Whatever would be most useful to know!

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

useful information to understand what the survey can and cannot tell us, and how accurately it represents the organization's membership overall.

Considering the goal of understanding the entire A.A. membership ties into the final source of error listed above, item 6, the exclusion of unlisted meetings from the sample. For its next administration of The Survey, A.A. is interested in taking a step that should appreciably reduce this source of error, adding meetings that appear in the Meeting App, but that are not listed by the General Service Office (GSO), to the survey. This task is clearly worthwhile, as A.A. knows much less about its unlisted meetings and their members than it does about registered groups. Yet having explored the steps involved in adding this component to the survey effort, it is clear that doing so will involve a number of steps that have not yet been completed and that will be difficult to complete in time to add such meetings to the population sampled for a 2026 administration of The Survey.

As noted above (see p. 4), approximately 550 entities provide data to the database used for the App, with each providing as few as 25 or as many as 500 meetings, some of which are listed and some of which are not. A.A. does not at this point know how different types of entities structure their data, whether any would hesitate to share their data, nor what commitment will be required to clean, structure, and sample from these data once they have been compiled.

Moreover, some entities do not populate the App but do use their own websites to provide information about meetings; unsurprisingly, these entities may differ in systematic ways from those that use the App – for example, Spanish-speaking meetings may be particularly likely to rely on their websites rather than the App to communicate with members and prospective members.

For these reasons, adding the unlisted meetings included in the Meeting Guide App and indeed, other types of unlisted meetings, will be challenging. Still, doing so is important – really, it is essential – to the organization's goals for the Survey. Given each of these facts, I recommend that A.A. consider one or both of the following two tasks prior to conducting the next Survey.

First, it would be useful to survey all of the 550 entities themselves in order to gather information about them and the data they house which feed information to Meeting Guide App, their willingness to participate by providing their data to A.A. for use in sampling for The Survey, and the tools and strategies they use to organize and manage their data. Second, a pilot survey of selected unlisted groups sampled from data provided by a small number of entities willing to provide that information in usable (or readily cleanable) form might also be helpful in planning next steps for including unlisted groups in The Survey.

In prioritizing these tasks, the second one – a pilot survey of unlisted groups – would make it possible to begin to assess whether unregistered meetings differ significantly from the findings generated from surveying (exclusively) registered groups as has been done in prior Membership Surveys. However, the (presumably) small size of the sample for such a pilot, and its likely focus on entities that are willing to participate and have their data more readily available and better structured risks leading to a sample for the pilot that is not fully representative of the nature of unlisted groups and their members. For this reason, if possible I recommend that A.A. reach out to all 550 groups prior to the selection of the pilot sample to assess their willingness to participate and to gather information about the data they have and are willing to make available, as completing these tasks will make it possible to select a more inclusive and representative sample for the subsequent pilot.

These tasks could be completed in tandem with, or even after, administration of the next Survey, but if A.A. wants the Survey to involve a sample representative of all its members – and it does – it must include unlisted meetings in proportions appropriate to their number. As it is not currently

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

able to do that, I recommend delaying the Survey in order to make the sample fully inclusive of the membership.

As it prepares to conduct the Survey – and whether or not it delays survey administration in order to accommodate piloting and incorporating inclusion of unlisted groups – A.A. is also working to maximize the quality and relevance of its questionnaire. This report now turns to that process, another important step in planning the Survey.

4. Questionnaire Design and Question Wording

In 2021, A.A. solicited an assessment of its extant survey questionnaire, including evaluating the appropriateness of its question items and, where needed, updating them. At that time, it had been relying on the same questionnaire and question wording for many iterations of the survey and recognized that updates might be needed. Noting that since the questionnaire was crafted, important changes had occurred regarding some of its questions and their answer options, and that best practices in survey research had identified important design aspects useful in encouraging participation, I reviewed the questionnaire, conducted interviews with a small sample of members about their perception of The Survey and its contents, and in early 2022 provided a report recommending updates, many of which A.A. implemented for the 2022 Survey.

As noted in my 2022 report, the existing questionnaire possessed many good features worth keeping and prioritizing in the 2022 (and any subsequent) revisions to the questionnaire. The questionnaire was succinct and focused on key characteristics of the A.A. membership and aspects of members' experience in finding A.A., attending meetings, and achieving sobriety – topics central to the organization's purpose. At the same time, there were opportunities to improve the questionnaire, including ensuring that the preliminary items that appeared on the questionnaire appealed to members' interests and drew them in to completing the survey, and making the language consistent, shorter, simpler, and more colloquial to increase its accessibility to a wide range of reading levels. In addition, I did recommend wording changes to a subset of the individual question items, including those about marital status (changed to "relationship status,"), gender, racial and ethnic background, and employment. I also recommended several additions to the questionnaire, including an item about attending virtual meetings, and one about meeting attributes. I based my recommendations for these changes and additions on changing social norms, current understanding of best practices in survey research, and input from the A.A. members I interviewed.

As A.A. prepares for the next iteration of The Survey, its Membership Survey Content Subcommittee has worked to review the existing questionnaire (in its updated 2022 form), consider the appropriateness of its item wordings, and evaluate each item's relevance to the organization's goals for The Survey, including considering both deleting and adding items.

These tasks are important and worthwhile, and the Subcommittee members deserve to be commended for the thoughtful effort they have put into these processes. As A.A. considers the recommendations the Subcommittee has made, it should bear in mind the importance of keeping the questionnaire short, appealing, and easy to read and understand. The Subcommittee's focus on the relevance of each item (both existing and new) will be particularly valuable; asking the questions, "How will we use these data?" or "What of value will these data tell us?" is a very useful step in evaluating a survey instrument – in conducting survey research it is regrettably easy to add or keep items without considering those issues, and neglecting them creates unproductive work for survey researchers and survey respondents alike.

As it updates the survey questionnaire, A.A. will also want to remember that modifying survey items can affect how respondents perceive and answer questions (as can modifications to survey

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

design and layout), even when the underlying facts have not changed. That is, changing question wording changes the data that result (possibly in ways we cannot readily predict or detect), even when underlying facts remain unchanged. Because of this, when change does arise following an update to a questionnaire, it is impossible to know whether the change reflects real changes, or simply changes in respondent behavior

that result from the modified questionnaire. In the case of The Survey, this may not be a major problem. Though the Survey has been conducted and reported for many years, its results are generally used to provide a snapshot of A.A. “in the moment,” rather than to track changes over time. This focus makes knowing how much of a set of changes resulted from changes to the questionnaire, and how much from real changes in the membership, less important than it might otherwise be.

5. Online Survey Software

Noting the prevalence of online survey software, A.A. seeks to identify and adopt a suitable online survey tool for use in the Survey. This makes sense; most people are familiar with completing surveys online and routinely carry devices – smart phones – that make it easy for them to do so. And online surveys offer many advantages over paper questionnaires. They eliminate the need to convert completed surveys into machine-readable data, which, even allowing for the up-front costs involved in accessing and using good survey software often makes them more cost-effective than paper surveys. They can be easier for respondents to use, can provide a tailored survey experience and can offer interactive guidance that can reduce errors in survey responses.

At the same time, administration of the Survey is sufficiently complex that selecting an appropriate software tool warrants careful assessment and decision-making. Such software can be expensive, so consideration of costs is one issue. But beyond this, A.A. will (and should) continue to offer its questionnaire in paper format, so a system that facilitates paper as well as electronic administration is preferred. It must make the questionnaire available in multiple languages, will benefit from survey logic tools (e.g. branching tools that show respondents tailor a follow-on question contingent on their answer to an earlier one), and should consider how difficult the software is to use and the tech support and reporting tools it provides. And it of course needs software that protects respondent anonymity.

Like other contemporary technology, survey software changes rapidly – providers add and remove formats and functions, change pricing packages, and may merge with other firms or go out of business. For this reason, rather than make a recommendation regarding the pros and cons of different survey tools at this stage, I will defer to the GSB’s decision about how to proceed with incorporating non-registered groups into the survey sample. The impact that has on the timing of the next Survey will shape when an evaluation of survey software will be most valuable, and if desired I would be pleased to provide one.

6. Conclusion

This report has been prepared for the Trustees Public Information Committee as it works to develop and finalize plans to administer the Survey. The report examines A.A.’s extant survey protocol, the organization’s concerns regarding key components that it may be able to improve, and challenges involved in making those improvements. It includes information about recommendations made in 2020, and their implementation (or non-implementation) in the 2022 Survey, and provides recommendations for the next Survey. A.A. is to be commended for its efforts to understand the composition and needs of its membership – and to serve both existing and prospective members – and I hope that the information contained in this report will be useful to the members of the Committee as they work to achieve those goals.

Bibliography

Becker, R., & Glauser, D. (2018). Are prepaid monetary incentives sufficient for reducing panel attrition and optimizing the response rate? An experiment in the context of a multi-wave panel with a sequential mixed-mode design. *Bulletin of Sociological Methodology*, 137, 74–95.

Green, K.E. (1996). Sociodemographic factors and mail survey response. *Psychology & Marketing*, 13(2), 171–184.

###

**2026 A.A. MEMBERSHIP SURVEY — draft from the General Service Office of
Alcoholics Anonymous**

(THIS SURVEY IS ANONYMOUS • PLEASE DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME)

Meeting Name:

Town/City: Province/State: Date:

A.A. USES THIS SURVEY TO:

- **Tell A.A. members about their Fellowship.**
- **To gain a better understanding of the current A.A. membership.**
- **Provide information about A.A. to the professional community.**
- **Inform the public about what A.A. does.**

Questions in Bold – Inward facing

Questions in Italic – Outward facing

Questions
<p>1. <i>Where did you first hear about A.A. before you came to meetings?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Internet, or social media○ Newspaper, magazine, radio or TV○ From a friend or family member○ In school○ In a correctional facility○ From a counselor or mental health professional○ From a member of clergy○ Court ordered or through the judicial system○ Medical professional○ A TV or radio commercial (public service announcement)○ A.A. literature
<p>2. <i>Please note which best describes how you first came to A.A.:</i></p>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- I came on my own
- I came as a requirement from a judge or other judicial/ correctional facilities requirement
- I came to satisfy a work requirement
- I came to satisfy a requirement of social services/ child protective services or similar institution
- I came as a requirement of my educational facility
- I came as a result of some health concerns
- Pressure from friends and/or family
- Other (please specify)

3. *Have you received any treatment or counseling (such as medical, psychological or spiritual, etc.) related to your drinking? (Please check all that apply. If yes, answer 3a)*

- Yes, before coming to A.A.
- Yes, after coming to A.A.
- No

3a. *Did that play an important part in your participation in A.A.?*

- Yes
- No

4. **What date did you first come to A.A.?**

Month/Year /

5. *What is the date of your last drink?*

Month/Year /

6. *How long did it take you to get your first sponsor?*

_ Days _Months

7. **Do you have a sponsor now?**

- Yes
- No

8. ***Please check all of the following activities you have done with your current and/or past sponsors:***

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Read A.A. literature together
- Work 12 Steps together
- Attend A.A. meetings together
- Introduce me to service
- Participate in A.A. service together
- Go on 12 step calls together
- Regularly meet on-on-one
- Regular phone calls and/or texts
- Phone calls when challenging circumstances arise

9. ***Have you worked the 12 Steps?*** If no, answer 9a.

- Yes
- No

9a. ***If you have not completed all 12 Steps, which step are you currently on?***

10. ***Do you have a home group?***

- Yes
- No

11. ***Does your doctor know you are in A.A.?***

- Yes
- No

12. ***How have you attended A.A. meetings? (Check all that apply)***

- Online
- Telephone
- In Person

13. ***Which do you attend more frequently?***

- In-person
- Online/telephone
- Both equally

14. ***When you came to A.A., what made you feel welcome?***

- Kindness of A.A. members

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Accessibility (such as no stairs, or served by public transportation)
- Held in a particular language (please list language under additional characteristics)
- Refreshments (coffee or cookies)
- The AA message
- The meeting place
- Seeing people like myself
- Finding a sponsor right away
- Seeing people I already knew in the rooms
- Not seeing anyone I knew/ Being anonymous
- Being able to participate in Fellowship
- Additional characteristics (please describe)

15. **Do you consider yourself:** (Choose all that apply)

- Spiritual
- Religious
- Atheist
- Agnostic
- Other

16. **What is your age?**

__years

17. **Which best describes you:**

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Prefer to describe

18. **Current Relationship status:** (Check one only)

- Single, never married
- Married or Life partner
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed
- Nontraditional
- Prefer to describe

19. **Racial and ethnic background:** (Check all that apply)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

- Asian
- Black American or Black Canadian
- Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Native American, Alaska Native, First Nations, Indigenous, Métis or Inuk (Inuit)
- Pacific Islander or Hawaiian Native
- White, Caucasian, or European American
- Prefer not to answer
- Prefer to describe

20. *What is your employment status now? (Please pick the one option that best applies to you)*

- Employed full time
- Employed part time
- Unemployed and looking for work
- Unemployed, not currently looking for work
- Not working due to disability
- Student
- Retired
- Homemaker or stay-at-home parent
- Gig worker
- Self-employed
- My situation is more complicated (for instance, I am a student and also work, or I am a homemaker and participate in the gig economy)

21. *What is the nature of your employment status now? (Check one only)*

- Manager/Administrator
- Clerical worker
- Educator
- Transportation and material moving occupations
- Non-profit professional
- Project Manager
- Artist
- Health professional
- Retired
- Service worker
- Unemployed
- Professional/Tech.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Disabled (not working)
- Homemaker
- Student
- Sales worker
- Skilled trade
- Craft worker
- Laborer
- Other (including self-employed)

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM J: Review progress report or draft revision of the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” (Item P-47).

Background notes:

Excerpt from the November 2025 trustees’ Public Information Committee meeting:

The committee reviewed a progress report and the revised draft of the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” (Item P-47). The committee looks forward to a draft or progress report at the Q1 2026 meeting.

Excerpt from the August 2025 trustees’ Committee on Public Information meeting:

The committee discussed the Advisory Action of the 75th General Service Conference, “that the pamphlet ‘Understanding Anonymity’ (Item P-47) be revised to address anonymity and social media.”

The scope of the subcommittee formed to address the Advisory Action is to review the pamphlet and other A.A. publications related to anonymity and social media and to make suggestions for how the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” might best be revised to address these concerns.

Advisory Action of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” (Item P-47) be revised to address anonymity and social media and looks forward to a draft or an update report to be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

Additional Committee Considerations of the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The committee suggested that if revised, the trustees’ Literature Committee consider adding a QR code to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” (Item P-47). The committee observed that for literature that typically sits in a literature rack, QR codes may be more useful on the front of pamphlets rather than the back.

The committee reviewed and accepted the progress report on developing communications to address anonymity and social media.

Background:

1. Draft Revision of “Understanding Anonymity” (Item P-47) **Committee Eyes Only**
2. [Current version of “Understanding Anonymity” on aa.org](#) (Item P-47)

2026 Conference Committee on Public Information

ITEM K: Review content and format of PI Kit and Workbook.

Background Notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

Alternatively, the trustees' committee may choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The Public Information Workbook (Item M-27i) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Background:

1. The Public Information Workbook and Kit Content Lists available to view at the links below:

Workbook:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

Kit content lists:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)



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

Table of Contents

I. Report & Charter Committee

A. Discuss the A.A. Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition.....	2
RC-A0. Cover - AA Service Manual.docx.....	2
B. Discuss the General Service Conference Final Report.....	9
RC-B0. Cover - Discuss Conference Final Report.docx.....	9
C. Discuss workflow and anonymizing practices for the Final Conference Report.....	10
RC-C0. Cover Workflow and anonymizing practices for Final Conference Report.docx.....	10
D. Discuss progress on classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine Literature.....	11
RC-D0 Cover - Discuss progress on classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine Literature.docx.....	11

2026 Conference Committee on Report and Charter

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

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.***

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*

***For members of this Conference committee only and not available for duplication or distribution beyond the committee.**

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

(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."

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

(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.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

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.

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*

***For members of this Conference committee only and not available for duplication or distribution beyond the committee.**

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.

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.

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](#)



X. Treatment and Accessibilities: Monday-Tuesday - EN

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and acceptance of trustees' Committee report.

A. Review progress report on the Military/Veteran Interview Project.....	2
TX-AC-A0 Cover Review progress report on Military Outreach Project.docx.....	2
TX-AC-A1 Progress report on Military Outreach Project.docx.....	4
B. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.....	5
TX-AC-B0 Cover Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.docx.....	5
C. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.....	6
TX-AC-C0 Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.docx.....	6
D. Review the A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility.....	7
TX-AC-D0 Cover Review A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility.docx.....	7
E. Consider a request to review locally produced safety-related video service material and provide input on the potential for this video service material to be adapted for use by GSO.....	8
TX-AC-E0 Cover Consider request to adapt safety videos.docx.....	8
TX-AC-E1 PAI-84- form-Adapt District safety videos.docx.....	10
TX-AC-E1.1 Add-Backgrd PAI-84- Backgrd Story_ Safety in A.A..docx.....	13
TX-AC-E2 PAI-90 Adapt District safety videos.docx.....	16
TX-AC-E3 PAI 107 Support to adapt District Videos.docx.....	18

2026 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities

Item A: Review progress report on Military Outreach Project.

Background notes:

Excerpt from the November 1, 2025, trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed the progress report on the military veteran interview project and provided suggestions to the Staff secretary, including a request to add the interview with the Canadian Armed Forces officer to the recordings made available on aa.org. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the committee's Q1 2026 meeting.

Excerpt from the August 2, 2025, trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed and accepted the progress report on the military veteran interview project and approved the next candidates for interviews proposed by the appointed committee members working on the project.

Committee Consideration of the 2025 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities:

The committee reviewed and accepted the progress report on the Military Outreach Project. The committee looks forward to all the veteran and active-duty interviews being made available on aa.org and A.A.'s YouTube page.

The committee requested updates to the language on aa.org/military to be more inviting and engaging to inspire veteran A.A. members to volunteer for audio interviews. The committee suggested including the contact email militaryoutreach@aa.org on the website. The committee asked that the Staff secretary work with the Communication Services Department (CSD) to make the landing page more accessible and searchable. The committee requested that the term "military" be added to the filter function of the Media Library on aa.org.

The committee suggested repurposing existing content to develop a 10-second audio highlight to be included on the aa.org/military webpage to attract people to listen to the full interviews. The committee suggested posting the outreach communication requesting participation in veteran audio interviews to the AAWS LinkedIn page, along with any new military member audio interviews.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

The committee suggested that the Communication Services Department consider the use of the following additional social media hashtags for aa.org/military:

- #MilitaryCommunity
- #VeteranSupport
- #VeteranVoices
- #RecoveryJourney
- #LifeInRecovery
- #PeerSupport
- #GivingBack
- #AccessibilityMatters

Secretary's note: The current iteration of the Military Outreach Project (the military audio interviews) began in 2021 and has been guided by the Advisory Action of the 2023 General Service Conference, requesting “*The 22 interviews recorded to date as part of the military audio project be approved, giving the General Service Office (GSO) the latitude to distribute the audio interviews in various formats and on various platforms, and that an update report be provided to the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.*”

Background:

1. Progress report on the Military Outreach Project

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Progress Report: Military Outreach Project

Since the 75th General Service Conference in 2025, the following progress has been made on the Military Outreach Project:

- The General Service Office has continued posting recordings to the Military Members/Veterans in A.A. landing page on aa.org: <https://www.aa.org/military-members-in-aa>
- The General Service Office has continued adding interviews to the Military Audios YouTube playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6Ke-nL58u6kCSr6e1ljV-dd7_YhSoKaT

The Staff secretary received an interview with a nonalcoholic general in the Canadian Armed Forces and will coordinate with the Communication Services Department to upload this “friend of A.A.” recording and work with the Public Information desk to create potential short-form content from this interview. As an appointed committee member (ACM) who assisted in developing this project shared, “Supportive words from professionals in carrying our message is common in our work, all the way back to ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ and these are keeping with that theme.”

The projected completion of the uploading of all transcribed recordings from the project is Q2 2026.

###

2026 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities

ITEM B: Review content and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.

Background notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The Treatment Workbook (Item M-40i) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Background:

1. Treatment Workbook and Kit content lists available to view at the links below:

Workbook:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

Kit content lists:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities

ITEM C: Review content and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

Background notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' Committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The Accessibilities Workbook (Item M-48i) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Background:

1. Accessibilities Workbook and Kit content lists available to view at the links below:

Workbook:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

Kit content lists:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities

ITEM D: Review the A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility.

Background notes:

A.A. Guidelines are published by the General Service Office (GSO) and represent the shared experience of A.A. members and groups throughout the United States and Canada. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference (U.S. and Canada). In keeping with our tradition of autonomy except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of the A.A. Guidelines is to assist members in reaching an “informed group conscience.”

GSO Staff review A.A. Guidelines periodically to ensure that the most current shared experience from the Fellowship is included.

The A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility (Item MG-16) were reviewed and updated by the Staff secretary in 2025 and the name was changed to align with other A.A. Guidelines.

Note: Guidelines are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations.

Background:

1. A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities

ITEM E: Consider a request to review locally produced safety-related video service material and provide input on the potential for this video service material to be adapted for use by GSO.

Background note:

Excerpts from the December 10, 2025, interim meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee:

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-84), "Consider adapting video animations of the flyer (F-228) "Safety and A.A." and "The Safety Card for A.A. Groups" developed by District 22 in Area 93, for approval, use, sale, and distribution by AAWS. Preview links are available for review prior to consideration:

English:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFohozwCPc6BjqHFoCGwtNc9SSs30D1Dp&si=OpfJIB11uBseN2jm>

Spanish:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFohozwCPc6AfHV1OBebFNauk1epmUHgj&si=v3JV9g1orTKAY-Pc>

The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-84 to the 76th General Service Conference (Note: It is suggested that PAIs 84, 90 and 107 be grouped together into one agenda item.)

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-90), "Consider adapting three videos produced by Area 93, District 22 ('Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter One: A.A.'s Safety Story,' 'Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter Two: The Safety Solution,' and 'Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter Three: More About Safety') for use on A.A. media platforms in the U.S. and Canada." The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-90 to the 76th General Service Conference (Note: It is suggested that PAIs 84, 90 and 107 be grouped together into one agenda item.)

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-107), "Mid-Southern California Area 09 Assembly moves to support Area 93's Proposed Agenda Item, requesting that the Alcoholics Anonymous Safety Training Video created by District 22 area 93 be made available in both English and Spanish, with a French version to be developed if not already completed by the submission date, for

Page 1 of 2

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

consideration by the General Service Board.” The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-107 to the 76th General Service Conference (Note: It is suggested that PAIs 84, 90 and 107 be grouped together into one agenda item.)

Background:

1. PAI-84
 - a. Additional background PAI-84 – Background story
2. PAI-90
3. PAI-107
4. [Safety and A.A. Flyer \(Item F-228\)](#)
5. [Safety Card for A.A. Groups \(Item F-211\)](#)
6. [A.A. Guidelines on Safety and A.A. Groups \(Item MG-25\)](#)
7. [Conference-Approved Literature \(Item SMF-29\)](#)

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>"Consider adapting video animations of the flyer (F-228) "Safety and A.A. Flyer" and "The Safety Card for A.A. Groups" developed by District 22 in Area 93, for approval, use, sale, and distribution by AAWS. Preview links are available for review prior to consideration:</p> <p>English: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFohozwCPc6BjqHFoCGwtNc9SSs30D1Dp&si=OpfJlB11uBseN2jm</p> <p>Spanish: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFohozwCPc6AfHV1OBebFNauk1epmUHgj&si=v3JV9g1orTKAY-Pc</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>"Although the 'A.A. Safety Card' and 'Safety and A.A. Flyer' offer clear written guidance, many groups remain unsure how to apply this material when safety challenges arise. Verbal aggression, disruptive conduct, and predatory behavior still occur, leaving trusted servants uncertain about their rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>There is both a spiritual and practical need for digestible, literature-based tools that show how groups can preserve unity during difficult moments. Short-form video resources—modeled in the spirit of "laying out the kit of spiritual tools for inspection" (<i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, p. 95)—can provide examples, not directives, to support the conscience of each group."</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>This proposed agenda item was approved by substantial unanimity on the floor of the Area 93 Assembly on August 17, 2025, in Santa Maria California. It originated at the group level in District 22, where General Service Representatives and trusted servants collaborated with the District Committee Member to create a workshop format and video resources rooted in A.A. principles. These were adopted at the district level and then shared with our area delegate who assisted with and encouraged wider distribution to benefit the Fellowship.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p>
<p>"Between 2023–2024, several groups in District 22 experienced ongoing threats to safety—including racial slurs, intimidation, and targeted harassment. These incidents disrupted meetings, our group conscience and group safety, and endangered unity.</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

In response, District 22 formed a subcommittee that turned to the Twelve Traditions, the A.A. Safety Card, the Twelve and Twelve, and The A.A. Service Manual. Guided by the principle that “anonymity is not a cloak for unsafe behavior,” the subcommittee developed a format for in-person workshops on safety, and video resources to demonstrate how to uphold Tradition One while remaining grounded in love and tolerance, and with responsibility to our primary purpose.

The video animations provided are intended to require only minor editorial adjustments to conform with U.S./Canada English usage (e.g., narration or spelling). This allows AAWS to review and, if approved, adapt the resources efficiently without the need for major redevelopment, supporting both fiscal responsibility and timely availability to the Fellowship."

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

"A.A. World Services may consider making short video-based safety resources available as optional service tools, alongside existing materials such as the A.A. Safety Card.

Trusted servants and members across all levels of experience will have access to spiritually informed examples—not policies—on how to respond when group safety is threatened.

Because these resources have already been developed and tested at the group, district, and area levels, they can be adapted with minimal editorial effort. This supports fiscal responsibility and timely availability while ensuring consistency with U.S./Canada usage.

This may encourage other districts and groups to share their own experience, strengthening our Fellowship-wide response to safety challenges.

Most importantly, it will help activate Concept I—that final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. World Services resides in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship. By elevating these tools to broader awareness, we engage the entire Fellowship in a shared conversation rooted in recovery, unity, and service."

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

"Primary Contact for Submission
Sean G.

Additional Contact (Spanish & English Fluent)
Rudy M.
Panel 75 Delegate, Area 93

(7) Final comments:

"This effort is not about governance—it is about service. As Bill W. wrote in Concept I, “The A.A. groups are to be the final authority; their leaders are to be entrusted with delegated responsibilities only.” Our aim is to offer tools that reflect this model of trusted, principled leadership—resources that support each group in fulfilling its primary purpose.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

TREATMENT/ ACCESSIBILITIES

Item E

Doc. 1

Concept IX reminds us that “Our leaders do not drive by mandate; they lead by example.” Our hope is that these examples may be of service to the Fellowship. Already, these resources have reached members in their moment of need—and spiritual tools gained through experience are best shared, not reserved.

We remain mindful of the balance within our Responsibility Statement: “When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.” At the same time, we do not wish to mandate solutions or appear as safety crusaders.

As the Big Book reminds us in Working With Others, “Never talk down to an alcoholic from any moral or spiritual hilltop; simply lay out the kit of spiritual tools for their inspection.”

That is our aim—to lay out the kit of tools, clearly and with love.”

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

DISTRICT 22

Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Avila Beach, Cambria, Cayucos, Carrisa Plains, Creston, Grover Beach, Los Osos, Morro Bay, Nipomo, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, San Miguel, Templeton



District 22 meets the 2nd Sunday of the month @ 10:15am

In-Person:
Alano Club of SLO County
3075 Broad St
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Online:
ZOOM ID: 893 0392 6186
Passcode: 121212



Background Story: Safety in A.A. (Area 93, District 22)

When One Group Suffers, We All Feel It: Safety in District 22

In early 2024, our district members began receiving repeated concerns from several groups about an individual who was consistently disrupting meetings. His behavior included aggressive verbal tirades, racial slurs, threatening behavior and posture, and deliberate targeting of marginalized members. The presence of this individual created an atmosphere of fear and members were unsure how to proceed.

Group secretaries and trusted servants reached out for support, not out of a desire to control or expel, but out of a genuine need to protect the primary purpose of the group: to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Challenges with Safety: Tradition, Tension, and the Need for Discernment

As the disturbances escalated, many members found themselves torn between adherence to **Tradition Three** ("The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking") and **Tradition One** ("Our common welfare should come first"). The dilemma was not theoretical—it was real, emotional, and happening in multiple meeting rooms in District 22. There was uncertainty about how far the group could go to protect itself while practicing the principles of the Steps and Traditions.

As one group member reflected, "I kept thinking 'we don't throw people out,' but I also knew that if this continues, we're going to lose people who are trying to stay sober."

General Service: There Is a Solution

District 22 took action by creating a subcommittee of members, General Service Representatives, and the District 22 District Committee Member, to discuss our existing service literature, including the **A.A. Safety Card**, the flyer *Safety and A.A.*, and any information we could find in the Twelve and Twelve and *The A.A. Service Manual* on safety. We rallied on the original title of the Twelve Traditions: "Twelve Points to Assure Our Future" and Bill's primary purpose in bringing them to the fellowship based on all the original challenges he helped solve among early groups: *The Traditions are not in conflict with protecting the group—they call us to it.*

We realized that while many groups had added safety language to their meeting formats, there was still uncertainty about what actions to take in the face of real disruption.

So, in service to the groups, District 22 developed:

- A **Safety Workshop Training Format**, rooted in A.A.'s spiritual principles and designed to help members navigate real-world disturbances.
- A **Video Training Resource** created using accessible visual tools to carry the message in a digestible, non-authoritative tone. "Never talk down to an alcoholic from any moral or spiritual hilltop; simply lay out the kit of spiritual tools for their inspection." —*Working With Others*, p.95
- An open offer of **district support** for group inventories, safety format additions, and presentations tailored to group needs.

These materials center on the idea that:

"Anonymity in A.A. is not a cloak for unsafe or illegal behavior. Addressing such behavior and/or contacting the proper authorities, when appropriate, does not go against any A.A. Traditions and is meant to ensure the safety of all in attendance."

We are guided not by control or exclusion, but by **compassion, clarity, and the courage to uphold the Traditions** that allow A.A. to function safely and with purpose.

Principles in Practice: Some Anchoring Quotes

Tradition One:

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity."

Tradition Five:

"Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Bill W., 1969 Letter:

"This amount of charity does not mean that we cannot exclude those who disturb meetings or seriously interfere with the functioning of the group."

Carrying the Message Forward

In District 22, we remember: *“We know only a little.”*

We’re sharing our experience, strength, and hope in a general way—to pass on what was so freely given to us. Our fellows in service, especially our Area 93 Delegate, have all been valued collaborators in this effort.

Our Delegate, in particular, has been a steady and supportive presence. When we reached out, he answered. He took our call, offered guidance, and helped us recognize that this wasn’t just a District 22 concern—this was a need beyond our district. He shared our efforts with others in the Area, and his encouragement gave us hope. **His support ensured this work could reach groups like ours—some we may meet one day—walking the Broad Highway, hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe.**

What we’ve found—and why we feel this service work is vital—is that when our groups do not feel safe, that lack of safety interferes with their ability to carry the message. It interferes with the work of their *primary purpose*.

We invite you, our fellow trusted servants, to join us in this conversation—whether your groups, district, or area are facing similar challenges, or simply wish to be prepared for when they arise.

Our hope is simply to make sure that safety, like recovery, is something we practice one day at a time—together.

Together, we can uphold our great responsibility:

“We are responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, we want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that, we are responsible.”

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Treatment / Accessibilities

Item E

Doc. 2

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>Consider adapting three videos produced by Area 93, District 22 ('Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter One: A.A.'s Safety Story,' 'Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter Two: The Safety Solution,' and 'Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter Three: More About Safety') for use on A.A. media platforms in the U.S. and Canada.</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>Safety in Alcoholics Anonymous</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>This item is being submitted by Area 49, Southeastern New York. Members of Area 49, District 618, reviewed the videos together, discussed their potential benefits, and expressed their support for adapting the videos for broader use. Through its group conscience, District 618 submitted the item for consideration by the Area. At the September 2025 Hybrid Southeastern New York Area 49 Assembly, the Area body reviewed the videos, considered the item, and the item passed with substantial unanimity.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>District 618 in Area 49 has been addressing the topic of Safety in A.A. The District held discussions during its meetings and invited a speaker with experience to share on this subject. While considering whether to submit their own Proposed Agenda Item regarding Safety, they became aware of the motion from Area 93. After reviewing the videos related to that motion and discussing them at the District level, District 618 chose to support the Area 93 proposal and present the videos for consideration by Area 49.</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p> <p>Increased awareness and availability of safety resources for groups across Alcoholics Anonymous</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Treatment / Accessibilities

Item E

Doc. 2

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Nisaa A., Delegate, Area 49, Panel 75

(7) Final comments:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Treatment / Accessibilities

Item E

Doc. 3

(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.

Mid-Southern California Area 09 Assembly moves to support Area 93's Proposed Agenda Item, requesting that the Alcoholics Anonymous Safety Training Video created by District 22 area 93 be made available in both English and Spanish, with a French version to be developed if not already completed by the submission date, for consideration by the General Service Board.

(2) What problem does this proposed item address?

This item addresses the desire among A.A. members to better understand their responsibility in helping ensure that anyone who attends an A.A.-related function and does not feel safe is supported in a spirit of service.

(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.

This item is being submitted by the Mid-Southern California Area 09 Assembly, where it was unanimously approved to move forward.

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

Please refer to the video submission by District 22 Area 93.

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

Our area's hope is that the full General Service Conference body, alongside the entire Fellowship through the PAI (Proposed Agenda Item) process; will have the opportunity to review, edit, and ensure that the video content aligns with the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts. If finalized and made available by Advisory Action, we envision it being widely distributed to all A.A. members who may benefit from this tool. In addition, we hope it could serve as a valuable resource for Public Information, CPC, and Treatment committees working with non-members, and or professionals who seek to understand what A.A. does—and does not do—and to provide their clients or patients with a potential solution or understanding to the challenges they may or may not face.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Treatment / Accessibilities

Item E

Doc. 3

Alex W.
Panel 74 Area 09 delegate

(7) Final comments:

Thank you all for your service and consideration.
God speed.

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.



XI. Trustees

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

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

Table of Contents

I. Discussion and acceptance of the trustees' Nominating Committee report

A. Review resumes of candidates for Pacific and Eastern Canada Regional Trustee.....	3
TR - A.0 - Cover Sheet - Review resumes of candidates for prt and ecrt.docx.....	3
1. Pacific Regional Trustee.....	4
TR - A.1.0 - Cover Sheet - Pacific Region.docx.....	4
TR - A.1.1- Voting Sheet - Pacific Region.docx.....	5
TR - A.1.2 - Voting Members - Pacific Region.docx.....	6
2. Eastern Canada Regional Trustee.....	7
TR - A.2.0 - Cover Sheet - Eastern Canada Region.docx.....	7
TR - A.2.1- Voting Sheet - Eastern Canada Region.docx.....	8
TR - A.2.2 - Voting Members - Eastern Canada Region.docx.....	9
B. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.....	10
TR - B.0 - Cover Sheet - Review slate of trustees and officers GSB.docx.....	10
TR - B.1 - Slate of trustees and officers of GSB.docx.....	11
C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.....	13
TR - C.0 - Cover Sheet - Review slate of directors AAWS.docx.....	13
TR - C.1 - Slate of directors AAWS.docx.....	14
D. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.....	15
TR - D.0 - Cover Sheet - Review slate of directors AAGV.docx.....	15
TR - D.1 - Slate of directors AAGV.docx.....	16
E. Review Progress Report on process for Receiving Motions to Censure.....	17
TR - E.0 - Cover Sheet - Review Process for Receiving Motions to Censure.docx...	17
TR - E.1 - Report from Ensuring Harmony Effectiveness Subcommittee.docx.....	18
TR - E.2 - Historical Summary - Motions to Censure the General Service Board.docx.....	20

F. Review progress report on the revision to the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?"28

TR - F.0 - Cover Sheet - DTYTD.docx.....28

TR - F.1 - DTYTD Progress Report.docx.....29

G. Consider a request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated."30

TR - G.0 - Cover Sheet - Consider a request to produce a video based on 12 Steps Illustrated.docx.....30

TR - G.1 - PAI 103 Animated 12 Steps Video.docx.....31

H. Consider a request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated."33

TR - H.0 - Cover Sheet - Consider a request to produce a video based on 12 Traditions Illustrated.docx.....33

TR - H.1 - PAI 104 Animated 12 Traditions Video.docx.....34

2026 Conference Committee on Committee on Trustees

ITEM A: Review resumes of Pacific and Eastern Canada Regional Trustee candidates

Background:

1. Pacific Regional Trustee
2. Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM A.1: Review resumes of candidates for Pacific Regional Trustee

Background:

1. Voting Sheet – Pacific Regional Trustee
2. Voting Members – Pacific Regional Trustee
3. Resumes of Candidates – Pacific Regional Trustee (*distributed to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees only*)

Voting Sheet

PACIFIC REGIONAL TRUSTEE

April 2026

	<u>Votes</u>
Trustees' Nominating Committee	7
Conference Committee on Trustees	8
Delegates from Region	15
TOTAL:	30
2/3 Needed	20
1/3 of Total	10
1/5 of Total	6

Trustee Candidates (Four Successive Annual Terms)

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Area Name</u>	<u>Name of Candidate</u>
2	Alaska	Eden L
3	Arizona	Dee P.
5	California (Southern)	Lauren A.
6	California (Northern Coastal)	Eric L.
7	California (Northern Interior)	Tom A.
8	California (San Diego/Imperial)	Roxane R.
9	California (Mid-Southern)	Cesar F.
17	Hawaii	Bob H.
18	Idaho	Candice C.
42	Nevada	Rhonda F.
58	Oregon	Amber N.
69	Utah	Matt D.
72	Western Washington	Crystal J.
92	Washington State East	Allen Den A.
93	California (Central)	[No Candidate]

Voting Members
PACIFIC REGIONAL TRUSTEE
April 2026

Area Delegates (15 votes)

All 15 delegates from the Pacific Region will vote in this election.

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Area Name</u>	<u>Name of Delegate</u>
2	Alaska	Wayne H.
3	Arizona	Larry S.
5	California (Southern)	Nikki U.
6	California (Northern Coastal)	Chitra S.
7	California (Northern Interior)	Claudio B.
8	California (San Diego/Imperial)	Adrian O.
9	California (Mid-Southern)	Debra L
17	Hawaii	Deborah S.
18	Idaho	Heather N.
42	Nevada	Lyle C.
58	Oregon	Chris H.
69	Utah	Mike F.
72	Western Washington	Courtney S.
92	Washington State East	Dan M.
93	California (Central)	Rudy M.

Trustees' Nominating Committee (7 votes)

Seven (7) members of this committee to be randomly drawn to vote in this election.

Teddy B.W.	Hon. Kerry Meyer ⁺	Ken T.
Reilly K.	Molly Oliver ⁺	Carolyn W.
Robert L.	Gail P.	John W.

⁺nonalcoholic

Conference Committee on Trustees (8 votes)

Eight (8) members of this committee will vote in this election. Lyle C. from Area 42 is automatically a voter as a delegate from the Pacific Region.

Bill A.	Lyle C.	Al M.
Nisaa A.	Christina S.	Anne M.
Cheryl B.	Garry L.	Lisa S.

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM A.2: Review resumes of candidates for Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

Background:

1. Voting Sheet – Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
2. Voting Members – Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
3. Resumes of Candidates – Eastern Canada Regional Trustee (*distributed to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees only*)

Voting Sheet
EASTERN CANADA REGIONAL TRUSTEE
April 2026

	<u>Votes</u>
Trustees' Nominating Committee	5
Conference Committee on Trustees	5
Delegates from Region	10
TOTAL:	20
2/3 Needed	14
1/3 of Total	7
1/5 of Total	4

Trustee Candidates (Four Successive Annual Terms)

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Area Name</u>	<u>Name of Candidate</u>
81	New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island	J.J. S.
82	Nova Scotia/Newfoundland/Labrador	Kirk S.
83	Eastern Ontario	Robb W.
84	Northeast Ontario	[No Candidate]
85	Northwest Ontario	Lorraine P.
86	Western Ontario	Jeff S.
87	Southwest Québec	Lucien J.
88	Southeast Québec	[No Candidate]
89	Northeast Québec	[No Candidate]
90	Northwest Québec	Michael C.

Voting Members
EASTERN CANADA REGIONAL TRUSTEE
April 2026

Area Delegates (10 votes)

All 10 delegates from the Eastern Canada Region will vote in this election.

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Area Name</u>	<u>Name of Delegate</u>
81	New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island	Garry L.
82	Nova Scotia/Newfoundland/Labrador	Dwayne M.
83	Eastern Ontario	Amy L.
84	Northeast Ontario	Jim P.
85	Northwest Ontario	Joel C.
86	Western Ontario	Tammy S.
87	Southwest Québec	Sylvie B.
88	Southeast Québec	Jean-Yves M.
89	Northeast Québec	Jocelyne C.
90	Northwest Québec	Melanie C.

Trustees' Nominating Committee (9 votes)

Five (5) members of this committee will vote in this election.

Teddy B.W.	Hon. Kerry Meyer ⁺	Ken T.
Reilly K.	Molly Oliver ⁺	Carolyn W.
Robert L.	Gail P.	John W.
⁺ nonalcoholic		

Conference Committee on Trustees (5 votes)

Five (5) members of this committee will vote in this election. Garry L. from Area 81 is automatically a voter as a Delegate from the Eastern Canada Region.

Bill A.	Lyle C.	Al M.
Nisaa A.	Christina S.	Anne M.
Cheryl B.	Garry L.	Lisa S.

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM B: Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

Background:

1. Slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
2. Resume of General Service Trustee, Clinton M. (*distributed to Conference Committee on Trustees members only*)
3. Resume of Class A Trustee, Tim Marx (*distributed to Conference Committee on Trustees members only*)

**Slate of trustees and officers of the
General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.**

Background notes:

Excerpt from the minutes of January 30, 2026, meeting on the trustees' Nominating Committee:

The trustees' Nominating Committee reviewed and recommended to the General Service Board the following slate of trustees for election at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2026, following presentation at the 2026 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.

Class A Trustees⁺

Thomas "Tom" Ivester, MD, MPH
Dawn Klug
Tim Marx
Hon. Kerry Meyer
Molly Oliver
Kelly Parsley
Veronica Ramirez

Class B Trustees (See "Note" below)

Teddy B.W.
Jennifer B.
Charles "Charlie" H.
Scott H.
Teresa J.
Robert L.
Clinton M.
Cheryl "Sherry" S.
Gail P.
David S.
Ken T.
Susan V.
John W.

Pacific regional trustee-elect
Eastern Canada regional trustee-elect

⁺nonalcoholic

Note: Pacific and Eastern Canada regional trustees to be elected at April 2026 Conference

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

Chairperson:	Scott H.
First Vice-Chairperson:	David S.
Second Vice-Chairperson:	Ken T.
Treasurer:	Hon. Kerry Meyer ⁺
Secretary:	Kelly Parsley ⁺
Assistant Treasurer:	Paul Konigstein ⁺⁺
Assistant Secretary:	Racy J.*

*GSO employees

⁺nonalcoholic

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM C: Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Background:

1. Slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
2. Resume of A.A. World Service Director Grace F. (*distributed to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees only*)

Slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Background:

Excerpt from minutes of January 30, 2026, meeting on the trustees' Nominating Committee:

The committee reviewed and recommended to the General Service Board the following slate of Directors of A.A. World Services, Inc., for election in April 2026, following presentation at the 2026 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Julie C.
Charles "Charlie" H.
Grace F.
Matthew K.

Clinton M.
Racy J.*
Susan V.
John W.
Bob W.*

*GSO employee

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM D: Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.

Background:

1. Slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
2. Resume of AA Grapevine Director David S. (*distributed to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees only*)

Slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.

Background:

Excerpt from the minutes of the January 30, 2026, meeting on the trustees' Nominating Committee:

The trustees' Nominating Committee reviewed and recommended to the General Service Board the following slate of Directors of AA Grapevine, Inc., for election in April 2026, following presentation at the 2026 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Teddy B. W.
Chris C.*
Fredy M.
Daniel S.
Veronica Ramirez⁺

Nikki O.
Gail P.
Cheryl "Sherry" S.
David S.

**Grapevine employee*

+Nonalcoholic

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM E: Review Process for Receiving Motions to Censure

Background notes:

Excerpt from 75th General Service Conference Committee on Trustees:

New Business

The committee recommended that proposed agenda items (PAIs) to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only.

Excerpt from the 75th General Service Conference Final Report:

Recommendations recommitted to Conference committees

Trustees

The committee recommends that motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only.

Note from the trustees' Nominating Committee August 2025 meeting report:

The committee noted that the recommendation that motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only, was recommitted to the 2026 General Service Conference. The chair noted recent conversations with the chair of the 2026 Conference Committee on Trustees to ascertain how the trustees' Nominating Committee can support the Conference Committee on Trustees with background materials. Goals include objectivity, trust, building bridges, clarity and proposed solutions.

Trustees' Nominating Committee
Ensuring Harmony & Effectiveness Subcommittee
Report
January 31, 2026

The subcommittee — John W., chairperson, Robert L., Kerry M., Gail P., and Carolyn W. (ex-officio) — met on August 6, 2025, and again on December 22, 2025.

At its August 6 meeting, the subcommittee reviewed a summary report of the work of the previous subcommittee. The identified work included the following responsibilities:

- Create a new name: The committee agreed to rename the subcommittee to “Ensuring Harmony and Effectiveness Subcommittee.”
- Review the recommitted motion from the 75th Conference Committee on Trustees: “Motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only.”

The chair of the trustees' Nominating Committee (TNC) provided a summary of the conversation had with the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT). The intent was to create a space where censure proposals can be vetted before they go out to the full Conference body. There is misinformation that some censure motions are not being forwarded to the full Conference. After the painful and lengthy censure floor action discussion, the CCT had thought about how their committee work might have looked different to possibly create solutions on how to make this process better. The CCT was interested in the TNC gathering background to help shape their discussion at the 76th GSC.

- Review the GSC Inventory reports and survey: The subcommittee's work is to compile relevant feedback, consider any ideas that the subcommittee may wish to be recommended for implementation or further consideration. A request was sent to the Inventory Implementation Committee for a complete document with all inventory answers, along with summaries of the floor discussions for this subcommittee to use to inform its discussions.
- Review feedback from 75th Agenda Committee: The subcommittee discussed the feedback from the 75th Agenda Committee to include Harmony and Effectiveness topics in the all-Conference members virtual sessions. It was reported that the GSB chair is planning to include this topic in the all-Conference members virtual sessions and is discussing this with the GSC delegate chair who is responsible for creating the agendas for this meeting. This subcommittee will review the feedback and be sure to communicate with the GSB chair to make sure what was captured by the committee is

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

addressed in the most effective way. The subcommittee will provide an update at the next subcommittee meeting.

At its December 22 meeting, the subcommittee:

- Reviewed the history of censure motions: The subcommittee reviewed and discussed an updated GSB research document that was created by Archives with censure motions through 2023 and updated by the Staff secretary with motions through 2025. The document will be reviewed and updated by Archives for accuracy and clarity to be shared with the trustees' committee at the Q1 meeting.
- Discussed including Harmony and Effectiveness topics in the all-Conference members virtual sessions: The chair reported that he reached out to the General Service Board chair and the delegate chair. They reported that there is no formal mechanism to request a topic to be discussed. There was a suggestion to recommend the topic in a positive way such as "How can we support each other." It was also suggested that the board could ask for feedback at the all-Conference member meeting to encourage discussion of any issues before we receive a complaint if time permits.
- Reviewed the recommitted motion from the 75th Conference Committee on Trustees: "Motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only." The subcommittee continued its discussion with the recommitted item that the CCT receive all censure motions directly bypassing the trustees committee.

Significant concerns were raised since this mechanism could allow for a potential confidentiality breach of the submitter and, perhaps more importantly, it ignores the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the General Service Board as outlined in the Conference Charter.

Additionally, not all censure motions necessarily come as PAIs, so we need to look at why they are being handled as such. Gathering background on the rigidity of how PAIs are treated might be helpful.

Documents that might be helpful to review are the Conference Charter, Composition, Scope and Procedures (CSP) of the TNC and the CCT. Archives has provided additional history that provides background on this topic for the Conference Committee on Trustees to have a fully informed discussion at the 76th GSC.

###

Motion to Censure the General Service Board — History

Historically, the General Service Conference, through its group conscience decision, has never voted to censure the General Service Board.

1994/1995

August 1994, a Statement of Censure was sent to all members of the 44th General Service Conference from a panel 43 delegate.

The statement of censure was referred to the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference for discussion at the committee's October 1994 meeting. The minutes noted, "The statement of censure excluding that section which refers to the Services Director at GSO, New York" was forwarded to the Conference Committee on Trustees. The minutes further read, "The General Service Board will reply to any requests for information from the Conference Committee on Trustees."

The motion to "censure" was reported to the General Service Board meeting by then chair, Jim Estelle, at the October 1994 meeting. The minutes of that discussion read:

Jim also reported that the letter of censure which has been received by all Board members was discussed in long, thorough debate. This grievance has been referred to the Trustees' Committee on the Conference. (Note: In action from the Trustees' Committee on the Conference, the Board approved forwarding the item to the Conference Committee on Trustees.)

The 1995 General Service Conference considered the proposal to censure the General Service Board. However, the censure was dismissed. See the 1995 Advisory Action below (Recommendation from Conference Committee on Trustees):

After a thorough examination of the issues and information available and acknowledging that there may have been problems with communication at many service levels in the past, it was the sense of the committee that there has been improvements and, therefore, in the interest of maintain A.A. unity and finding there was not sufficient cause, the committee unanimously *recommended* that the proposal to censure the General Service Board be dismissed.

2017/2018

In October 2017, the trustees' Nominating Committee discussed a motion to censure the General Service Board. The committee took the following action, "The committee agreed to forward to the Conference Committee on Trustees a motion from an area to censure the General Service Board."

The item was discussed by the corresponding Conference Committee on Trustees in 2018, which resulted in the following committee consideration:

The committee thoughtfully reviewed a proposal to censure the General Service Board and after seeking extensive additional input from the general manager of GSO, the chair of the General Service Board, and additional General Service Board trustees, agreed to take no action. The committee recognized that the litigation regarding the Printer's Copy Manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous* has caused many in the Fellowship to have strong feelings on all sides of this issue. The committee believes that the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most important treasure we have as a Fellowship. The committee also recognizes that the General Service Board and the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Board have many legal responsibilities and must sometimes make use of the right of decision, but in the spirit of A.A. unity, the committee asks the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc. that:

- All major decisions made by A.A. World Services, Inc., AA Grapevine, Inc., the General Service Office or AA Grapevine management be promptly and fully reported to the General Service Board, as appropriate.
- If the General Service Board, the A.A. World Services or AA Grapevine boards need to initiate a legal proceeding as a plaintiff, that whenever possible, they will consult the members of the General Service Conference before starting such a proceeding, being ever mindful of A.A. unity and A.A.'s financial prudence. However, the committee understands that sometimes this might not be possible.

The committee recognizes that the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., and AA Grapevine, Inc. could be brought into litigation by other parties and in no way wants to limit their actions required to protect these corporations.

Note: In October 2018, the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference discussed a proposed agenda item regarding the processing of future "censures." The committee considered the proposal, which read, "All agenda items for censure or reorganization be forwarded directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees" and took no action. It was agreed that it is important to "follow our proposed agenda item process."

2020/2021

A proposed agenda item was received to censure the General Service Board on December 15, 2020. "Statement of Concern and motion to censure, from a group of delegates, to the 71st General Service Conference. We move to censure the General Service Board for the behavior observed as described in the submitted letter." This agenda item was forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Nominating.

At the January 30, 2021, trustees' Nominating Committee meeting, the committee "carefully considered the Statement of Concern and Motion to Censure the General Service Board and took no action. The committee cherishes the process to have an informed group conscience produced by a full discussion of the whole picture. The committee felt that the mechanism and the information contained in the submission did not reflect a complete picture and prevents all the current work and resolutions from being shared and from redacting any confidential personnel excerpts.

While the committee understands the challenges noted as observations in the submission, there were misgivings about not having had an opportunity sooner to reveal some of the resolutions that have taken place. Some of the committee members have volunteered to draft a memo to the 2021 Conference Committee on Trustees highlighting the progress made on some of the observations raised in the submission.

The committee suggested that adding a discussion section during the General Service Conference to address this issue would allow for all Conference members to share on the submission's reflections, speak to build trust, ask questions and talk about the progress made."

At the February 1, 2021, General Service Board meeting, a Floor Motion was made: "To forward the Statement of Concern and Motion to Censure the General Service Board to the Conference Committee on Trustees after legal review and the preparation of additional background." The motion was seconded and approved.

An ad hoc committee was appointed to assist in gathering background materials for the item.

Following the motion and vote by the board, the following minority opinion was submitted:

From February 2021 General Service Board minutes:

Following approval of the motion, the following minority opinion was submitted.

"I serve at the pleasure of the General service Conference. I very much want to discuss the topics brought up in this request and would enjoy a discussion of solutions and healing at the Conference, it would have been ideal if this recommendation requested a conversation and reporting of progress on these items rather than moving directly to censure. It would have also been ideal if the submitters had brought this appropriately through the Conference process and even allowed the Groups in their Areas to contribute to that conversation. Make no mistake, I stand ready to be censured if that is the will of the Conference.

By moving this recommendation forward from a handful of A.A. members we are dignifying and validating that it is appropriate to shop and lobby opinions outside of the General Service Conference process as a means of forcing their item into the Conference. This is a form of outside pressure and influence on the members of the Conference conducted by current and previous members of Conference, members that know better. By entertaining this approach, we dilute all the efforts of those Conference members working within the Conference process and we allow the good Twelfth Step work of the Conference and office staff to be derailed by politicking and emotions. We have a Conference process in place for good reason and by moving this item forward we cross a line that disrespects our own process and boundaries."

The Chair of the General Service Board appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to assist in gathering background materials for the item "Statement of Concern and Motion to Censure the General Service Board" to include David N., chair; Cathy B.; Beau B.; Jimmy D.; Stephanie L.; Michele G., ex-officio, Staff support to include Ames S., Executive Editor; Sandra W., Director of Staff Services; Jeff W., Staff Coordinator; Diana L., Secretary

The agenda item was reviewed at the 2021 General Service Conference, and the Conference Committee on Trustees discussed it at their meetings.

The Conference Committee on Trustees recommended that:

“Regarding the Statement of Concern and motion to censure the General Service Board,

The committee recommended that the General Service Conference charge the General Service Board with the setup of quarterly virtual meetings of Conference Members, to begin following the October 2021 General Service Board Weekend. These meetings would follow several weeks after each Quarterly Board Meeting, to allow Conference Members the opportunity to request additional information, ask clarifying questions, and to secure a greater sense of transparency.

Note: The presiding co-chair of the Conference ruled to move the following paragraphs of the recommendation to the Committee Considerations section in the *Final Conference Report*.

The committee agreed that the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most important treasure we have as a Fellowship. The committee also agreed that A.A.’s service structure is equally valuable.

The committee appreciated the extensive additional input provided by the interim general manager of GSO and the chair of the AAWS Board. The committee noted that the General Service Board and AAWS Board have a good understanding on finances and organizational strategy and expressed appreciation for the progress being made related to bringing modern communication formats and financial reporting to the General Service Office.

The committee also discussed the authority delegated to the General Service Board and legal responsibilities involving communication, financial prudence, and transparency. The committee noted that several major decisions previously made by the General Service Board and corporate affiliate, AAWS Inc., were not fully or promptly reported out to the Fellowship. The committee recognized that the lack of providing clear, comprehensible answers in a timely manner has caused many in the Fellowship to have strong feelings on all sides of this issue.

Note: The motion failed with a simple majority in favor of the recommendation.

2023

Conference Committee on Trustees, Committee Consideration:

The committee thoroughly discussed the General Service Board’s actions at the January 29, 2023, Board Planning and Sharing session that led to the resignation of the board chair. The

committee agreed that the board's failure to fully utilize the spiritual principles of Alcoholics Anonymous to address leadership problems was deeply concerning. The committee also agreed that failure to expedite communication to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous about the board chair's resignation and lack of transparency regarding the board's decision resulted in widespread mistrust and disunity. After lengthy and prayerful discussion, the committee took a vote to censure the General Service Board, failing to achieve substantial unanimity.

Floor Action (Failed)

2023 General Service Conference Floor Action: "The 73rd General Service Conference censure the General Service Board due to poor communication to the Fellowship regarding the resignation of the former chair of the General Service Board and for the process that was followed regarding the acceptance of her resignation. This motion failed.

Trustees' Nominating Committee, October 2023 Meeting Report:

PAI-7: The committee discussed the request to censure the General Service Board for actions taken on January 29, 2023, and took no action.

The committee agreed that the 73rd General Service Conference thoroughly discussed this issue; consistent with the 73rd GSC Committee on Trustees experience expressed in their feedback call with the chair of the trustees' Nominating Committee.

2024

Trustees' Nominating Committee, November 2024 Meeting Report:

Subcommittees:

The "Addressing Grievances about Board Actions" subcommittee examined historical censure and reorganization motions, explored paths for the Fellowship to express concerns about board actions, and considered possible outcomes. The subcommittee's goal is to provide a full report at the January 2025 meeting.

Discuss Proposed Agenda Items for 75th General Service Conference

Proposed agenda items (PAIs) were discussed, with sharing provided by the current members of the Conference Committee on Trustees carefully considered by the TNC.

PAI-37: The committee discussed the motion to censure the General Service Board for lack of transparency and agreed to take no action.

A General Service Board ad hoc committee is actively working on communication methods to ensure timely and full responses to concerns raised by the Fellowship.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

PAI-133: The committee discussed the request to censure the Board for how floor actions were handled at the 74th General Service Conference and agreed to take no action.

The committee did not agree with the proposal to have the Conference censure the General Service Board for Conference actions. It was noted that a 1986 Advisory Action indicates that all unfinished Conference business should be forwarded to the next Conference. The committee respectfully noted the desire for increased, early communication around logistical time limits and procedures for unheard business.

PAI-83: The committee discussed the request to release all documents to the Fellowship related to board censure, letters of concerns, rights of appeal, and motions to reorganize the board and agreed to take no action.

The committee discussed several potential unintended consequences of releasing confidential information to the Fellowship every time a complaint is filed, including that it may alter how individuals share with the GSB if their communication is widely shared.

(Note: PAI-83 was assigned to the trustees' Nominating Committee after the October feedback call with the Conference Committee on Trustees)

2024 General Service Conference Report

Floor Actions Not Resulting in Conference Advisory Actions

PAIs requesting censure and reorganization have no submission deadline and be forwarded directly to Conference Committee on Trustees. (Not Approved)

2025

2025 Agenda Committee Consideration

The committee reviewed and discussed a pilot proposal for a Harmony and Effectiveness Session and agreed to take no action. The committee discussed the 2024 Advisory Action related to meeting outside of the annual meeting for general sharing sessions at least two times per year utilizing virtual meeting technology. The committee noted that the General Service Board chair works with the delegate chair to set the date and time as well as determine what issues currently facing the Fellowship would be chosen as topics. The committee requested that more input from delegates, trustees, directors and Staff members be obtained by the General Service Board chair and the delegate chair, to support the development of each session's agenda. The committee requested that the agenda could be distributed in advance to Conference members. The committee agreed that these current opportunities, such as biannually sharing sessions and the "What's on Your Mind" sessions held during each Conference week, provide ample opportunity for Conference members to discuss harmony and effectiveness.

2025 General Service Conference *Final Report*

“By Friday at 7:21 p.m., the final Conference committee report and discussions were completed to applause. Next, a Floor Action to censure the board was considered. This led to more than two hours of discussion at the three microphones by dozens of attendees. At 9:52 p.m. there was a call to vote, and the motion failed by a majority.” (page 4)

2025 Conference Committee on Trustees, Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the sub-committee Grievances about General Service Board Actions report and the Proposed Methods to Censure the General Service Board and, after a thoughtful and robust discussion, took no action. The committee discussed how one of four possible paths to censure was linked to a separate conference proposed agenda item. If the proposed General Service Conference Harmony and Effectiveness sharing session was not adopted, then the remaining three methods did not offer sufficient change.

Floor Actions not resulting in Advisory Actions

The 75th General Service Conference issues a censure, expressing formal disapproval for past behavior of the General Service Board for the following reasons:

- » Contributing to an environment that led to the resignation of experienced and trusted board members;
- » Ineffective, inconsistent, and non-transparent communication to the Conference;
- » Unacceptable behavior by trustees including harassment, intimidation, and bullying;
- » Undermining the spiritual handshake with the Conference, as described in Concept VI, by not following a Conference Advisory Action.

Accordingly, the Conference directs the General Service Board to:

- » Continue to take its inventory, with specific focus on improving accountability to the Conference;
- » Report to the Conference on inventory findings and the specific actions taken to address these concerns. **(Not Approved)**

Recommendations recommitted to conference committees

TRUSTEES

The committee recommended that motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only.

GSO Archives/December 2020, updated December 2025 by Staff secretary

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM F: Review progress report on the revision to the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?”⁺

Background:

Excerpt from the February 1, 2026, trustees’ Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the update to the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?” and **agreed to forward** it to the to the 2026 Conference Committee on Trustees.

2025 Recommendation by the Conference Committee on Trustees:

The committee recommended the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?” be retired.

The committee considered the lack of story submissions over a period of time as evidence that the Fellowship has placed emphasis on other pamphlets to answer the question “do I belong in A.A.?” (*Note: As a result of the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) plan, this item was on the agenda of the Conference Committee on Trustees.*)

Note: This recommendation was presented on the Conference floor but did not receive the two-thirds majority necessary to become a Conference Advisory Action.

⁺Carryover from a previous EDW plan

Background:

1. Progress report on updating the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?”

2025-2026 trustees' Literature Committee

Subcommittee revising the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different"

Progress Report January 2026

Following a 2022 Conference Advisory Action to "revise the pamphlet 'Do You think You're Different?' to update the stories to represent greater diversity," a call for stories was opened on October 1, 2023, with a submission deadline of April 30, 2024.

The call for stories was redistributed in January 2024, after the initial call resulted in seven story submissions. The call for stories was distributed widely through, but not limited to, *Box 4-5-9*, *aa.org*, *What's New*, *AAGV website*, *Meeting Guide app* and direct distribution. Writing workshops were held by service committees and at service-related events such as *PRAASA*, *NERAASA* and *WCRAASC*. The call for stories was featured in the *AA Grapevine* and on the *Grapevine* podcast and later redistributed to ensure that newly rotated trusted servants were informed and included.

In 2025, the trustees' Literature Committee invited five committee members to reform the subcommittee charged with selecting stories for the revised pamphlet. The subcommittee agreed to consider the 13 stories that are part of the existing pamphlet along with the 33 stories submitted in response to the "Call for Stories."

Through the process of reading, ranking and discussing the stories, the subcommittee concluded that an effective way to carry the message in this pamphlet would be to include both complete stories as well as short excerpts reflecting the varied experiences members shared.

Subcommittee members were provided with batches of stories to read, review and select excerpts from, and then came together to identify a set of stories and quotes to forward to the trustees' Literature Committee.

Following the conclusion of story selection, the subcommittee intends to rework the introductory section of the pamphlet before considering possible title changes and new cover art.

####

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM G: Consider a request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet *The Twelve Steps Illustrated*

Background note:

Excerpt from the December 10, 2025, interim meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-103), "On 9/25/2025 Area 73 approved a Proposed Agenda Item to be submitted to the 2026 General Service Conference to produce an animated video of the pamphlet 'The 12 Steps Illustrated' (P-55)." The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-103 to the 76th General Service Conference.

Background:

1. PAI-103
2. ["Twelve Steps Illustrated" \(Item P-55\)](#)

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>On 9/25/2025 Area 73 approved a Proposed Agenda Item to be submitted to the 2026 General Service Conference to produce an animated video of the pamphlet "The 12 Steps" (P-55).</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>In keeping with today's trend of people engaging with short videos it may help connect with some people who either cannot read or simply prefer videos. In addition, The 72nd General Service Conference Advisory Action passed to create a comparable video animation of the 12 Concepts so doing a similar thing with the 12 Steps seems appropriate.</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>This item was voted on and approved by the Area 73 voting body at their 2025 Fall Assembly Business meeting on 9/25/2025.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>As listed above the 72nd General Service Conference approved a similar item with the 12 Concepts.</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p> <p>It is hoped that this video will be used/seen by people who really have no idea what the Program of Alcoholics Anonymous is all about. In addition, it could be used by sponsors when working with a new person or at First Step Meetings as a jumping off point.</p>
<p>(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

William A., Area 73 Delegate Panel 75

(7) Final comments:

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on Trustees

ITEM H: Consider a request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet *The Twelve Traditions Illustrated*

Background note:

Excerpt from the December 10, 2025, interim meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee:

The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-104), "Area 73 approved a Proposed Agenda Item to present to the 2026 General Service Conference to produce an animated video of the pamphlet '12 Traditions Illustrated' (P-43)." The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-104 to the 76th General Service Conference.

Background:

1. PAI-104
2. ["The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" \(Item P-43\)](#)

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>Area 73 approved a Proposed Agenda Item to present to the 2026 General Service Conference to produce an animated video of the pamphlet “12 Traditions Illustrated” (P-43).</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>As some people are visual learners or cannot read this could help to convey the information in the pamphlet. In addition, today’s trends are toward people viewing short videos to obtain information.</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>This item was voted on and approved at the Area 73 Fall Assembly on 9/25/2025 by the voting body of Area 73.</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>The 72nd GSC approved an Advisory Action to create a comparable video for the pamphlet “The 12 Concepts Illustrated.”</p>
<p>(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?</p> <p>It offers another way to get the 12 Traditions out to more people who otherwise might not take the time to read about them. It could also be used by Sponsors or even Groups to initiate discussion about the Traditions.</p>
<p>(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.</p> <p>William A., Area 73 Delegate Panel 75</p>
<p>(7) Final comments:</p>



Joint Meeting of Conference Committee on Archives and Trustees' Archives Committee

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

2026-04-29 17:30 - 19:30 EDT

Table of Contents

I. Introductions - Reilly K., trustees' committee chairperson.

II. Review Conference committee Composition, Scope, and Procedure - Nikki U.,

Conference committee chairperson.....2

2025_ArchivesCompScopeProcedure_Eng.pdf.....2

III. Review history of Conference committee - Michelle Mirza, secretary.....3

2025_HistoryandActions_ConferenceArchives.pdf.....3

IV. Report of trustees' committee - Reilly K., trustees' committee chairperson.

V. Discussion of trustees' committee report.

A. Review content and format of Archives Workbook.....16

AR-A-Coverpage-ArchivesWorkbook.pdf.....16

B. Consider a request to define eligibility for area-level service for members

residing outside of the geographic area they want to serve. (PAI 46).....17

AR-B.0-Cover Sheet PAI 46.pdf.....17

AR-B.-Doc.1-PAI-46-service outside area.pdf.....18

VI. Election of chairperson.*

*Election of chairperson

1. All Panel 76 members are eligible except for the 2027 delegate chairperson and 2027 Conference committee chairpersons.

2. All committee members vote by written ballot (no verbal nominations).

3. Election by plurality. Second place becomes alternate chairperson.

4. New chairperson serves one year beginning at the close of the Conference.

2026 Conference Committee on Archives

ITEM A: Review content and format of Archives Workbook.

Background notes:

Workbooks (and applicable service kits) for Archives, CPC, Corrections, Literature, Public Information, and Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a workbook may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' committee and/or respective Staff assignment and implemented as directed.

The trustees' committee may also choose to forward an idea to the Conference committee for review. Members of the Conference committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a workbook during the next General Service Conference.

Note: Workbooks and kits are service pieces. Any suggested changes to their content from the Conference committee are put forth as Committee Considerations rather than recommendations. The Archives Workbook (Item M-44I) is available on GSO's A.A. website (www.aa.org).

Excerpt from the trustees' Archives Committee November 1, 2025, meeting report:

The committee discussed draft updates to the Archives Workbook and following a thorough discussion, approved all the changes as presented. In summary, the changes include:

- Recent revisions to policies and procedures such as the Deed of Gift Form, Categorization of "Archival Materials for Access and Use" and similar updates.
 - Sections reordered to enhance the overall flow of content in the workbook and inclusion of appropriate images to enhance the content, where applicable.
-

Background:

1. Archives Workbook available to view at the links below:

- [ENG](#)
- [FR](#)
- [SP](#)

2026 Conference Committee on Archives

ITEM B: Consider a request to define eligibility for area-level service for members residing outside of the geographic area they want to serve. (PAI-46)

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee considered a proposal to “discuss who can serve as an area trusted servant if they live outside the area they are serving” and agreed to forward to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions.

Background:

1. PAI-46
2. *The A.A. Service Manual* (See sharing on the area delegate role.):
<https://www.aa.org/aa-service-manualtwelve-concepts-world-services>

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

<p>(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.</p> <p>"That the Policy and Administration Committee of the GSC discuss issues of who can serve as an area trusted servant if they live outside the area they are serving. Does geography limit the ability to carry a group conscience? On the other side, please clarify where past delegates can stand for trustee if they have relocated."</p>
<p>(2) What problem does this proposed item address?</p> <p>"The pandemic has shed light on this question, which has always bubbled below the surface - both when a past delegate has relocated and when someone in a Zoom group in one area is from another, sometimes very far away, and has then become an area or district trusted servant. A related problem is wider representation of Hispanic groups with a linguistic area in each region, possibly with a national Hispanic trustee. The perception would then arise whether this closes the pathway for Hispanic trusted servants to "earn a spot" as delegates or area officers."</p>
<p>(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.).</p> <p><u>Note:</u> 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.</p> <p>"This item was discussed by Area 13 policy and procedures committee including the Area Chair. It was withdrawn at the Area assembly to specify that the discussions occur in the Policy and Procedures Committee of the GSC."</p>
<p>(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:</p> <p>In Area 13, a debate over linguistic areas invited comments from a Hispanic trusted servant about earning a spot rather than having one set aside (although in a Hispanic area, there will be as much of a need to do so to become delegate. In Area 13, we had a DCM representing northern Montgomery County who lived in Rhode Island - and whose internet skills were not up to par. That district is now part of a combined county district - where the county has over one million people. Concept XI implies that the fellowship seeks the best possible staff. Is this true for delegate selection, and does this stop the fellowship from considering important issues or having views represented from linguistic minorities that need to be heard. This debate also arises within an area, where some hold the belief that someone who lives within the suburbs or the city, but who is a member of a home group in another area or district, can represent their home group in area</p>

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

service. In Area 13, we have had a chair who was also chair of Area 71 and had been active in both. This engendered resentment among some other trusted servants.

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

"The purpose of this PAI is to engender a fellowship wide discussion of representation in AA, including its relationship to the concepts. At this time, no advisory action would be required."

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Michael B.

(7) Final comments:

"This agenda item is necessary to clarify future agenda items relating to possible regional linguistic and online areas and an online or linguistic trustee(s) to make sure that members of each community can contribute as needed to the conscience of the fellowship while not excluding participation of trusted servants from these communities in local area affairs and leadership."



XIII. International Conventions / Regional Forums

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

2026-04-29 17:30 - 19:30 EDT

Table of Contents

I. Agenda Items

A. Review progress report from Subcommittee on Inclusion of Sovereign State

Flags in the IC Flag Ceremony.....2

IC-RF-A0-Review progress report on the Sovereign States flags to be a part of the
Flag Ceremony at an International Convention.docx.....2

1. Progress report on the Sovereign State Flag Ceremony at IC.....3

IC-RF-A1-progress report on the Sovereign State Flag Ceremony at IC.docx.....3

2. IC-RF-A2-Historical-Summary-flag-IC-ceremony.....6

IC-RF-A2-Historical-Summary-flag-IC-ceremony.docx.....6

B. Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.....7

IC-RF-B0-Interest-participation-at-RFs-Cover.docx.....7

1. Summary-of-suggestions-2021-2025.....8

IC-RF-B1-summary-of-suggestions-2021-2025.docx.....8

2. 2025-ECRF-Evaluation-Summary.....10

IC-RF-B2-2025-ECRF-Evaluation-Summary.docx.....10

3. 2025-WCRF-evaluation-summary.....17

IC-RF-B3-2025-WCRF-evaluation-summary.docx.....17

4. 2025-SWRF-Evaluation-Summary.....24

IC-RF-B4-2025-SWRF-Evaluation-Summary.docx.....24

5. 2025-NERF Evaluation-Summary.....30

IC-RF-B5-2025-NERF Evaluation-Summary.docx.....30

2026 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

ITEM A: Review a progress report on the flags of sovereign states being a part of the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention.

Background note:

Committee Consideration from 2025 ICRF Conference Committee:

The committee considered the request that all sovereign states' flags be a part of the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention. The consensus of the committee members is that it is important to explore this option to understand any impacts (e.g., cultural, timing) such inclusion may create. The committee requested that the trustees' IC/RF Committee begin exploration regarding the inclusion of sovereign states to the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention, including reaching out to gather sharing from Indigenous populations. The committee also suggested including a question in any post-Convention surveying of attendees that would help obtain information on how many members in attendance at the 2025 International Convention were from First Nations sovereign states, helping to gain an understanding of the total numbers we might be considering adding to the Flag Ceremony. The committee looks forward to a plan or progress report being brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on IC/RF.

Background:

1. Update Report
2. Historical Summary of the International Convention Flag Ceremony

Sovereign Flag Subcommittee
January 2026 Progress Report

At the 75th General Service Conference, the Conference Committee on IC/RF considered the request that all sovereign states' flags be a part of the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention. The consensus of the committee members is that it is important to explore this option to understand any impact such inclusion may create (e.g., cultural, timing).

The committee requested that the trustees' IC/RF Committee begin exploration regarding the inclusion of sovereign states to the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention, including reaching out to gather sharing from Indigenous populations. The committee also suggested including a question in any post-Convention survey of attendees that would help obtain information on how many members in attendance at the 2025 International Convention were from First Nations sovereign states, helping to gain an understanding of the total number we might be considering adding to a Flag Ceremony. The committee requested that a plan or progress report be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on IC/RF.

At the 2025 Q3 trustees' International Convention/Regional Forums Committee, the chair appointed a subcommittee to begin exploration regarding the inclusion of sovereign states in the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention.

The Subcommittee on the Inclusion of Sovereign State Flags in the Flag Ceremony at International Conventions met twice, on September 25, 2025, and December 3, 2025.

At the first meeting, the subcommittee reviewed its initial scope of including sovereign state flags in the Flag Ceremony at the 2030 IC. After some initial discussion, the subcommittee decided to expand its scope to include discussing the format of the Flag Ceremony to determine whether there is interest in potential changes.

The rationale to expand the scope is that there have been repeated concerns across past International Conventions that the Flag Ceremony is more about nationalism instead of A.A. unity throughout the world. Over the years, attendees have expressed that it would be more appropriate to have a native from each country carry their respective flag instead of a member of the A.A. community. Another problem is that there is a production cut-off time on that has led to countries being left out of the ceremony which has led to hurt feelings. Another issue is that the criteria for being considered to carry a country's flag is based on the member's physical address. This

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

has often led to a member carrying a flag of a country they do not consider to be their home country.

To determine if this was something that the trustees on the General Service Board and the GSO Staff were interested in discussing, the subcommittee asked the Staff secretary to send out a survey.

The survey was sent to the trustees on the GSB, nontrustee directors, current ACMs and GSO Staff to ask if there was a desire to discuss changing the Flag Ceremony's format.

Here are the results of the survey, which was distributed to 53 recipients:

- 44 recipients opened the email (83% open rate)
- 28 individuals completed the survey (64% of recipients who opened the email)
- 25 of the 28 respondents indicated they would like to see changes to the International Convention Flag Ceremony (89%)

The subcommittee noted that the feedback provided strongly suggests a desire to discuss the following:

- Clearer vision of unity
- Focusing on showcasing the A.A. presence throughout the world and getting away from nationalism
- A more uniform approach to attire and/or the possibility of incorporating traditional attire reflective of each participating country

The subcommittee agreed that the charge from the Conference committee — to consider the inclusion of sovereign state flags in the Flag Ceremony at the International Convention — cannot be meaningfully addressed without considering the broader structure and purpose of the entire Flag Ceremony. Based on survey feedback and internal discussion, the subcommittee recognized:

- The ceremony requires comprehensive re-evaluation, not incremental adjustments.
- Any future proposal should include tight, consistent guidelines to ensure clarity and unity in presentation.
- A clear understanding of the intention and historical purpose of the Flag Ceremony is essential before developing recommendations.

Next Steps

To move forward responsibly, the group identified several areas of necessary inquiry.

1. Gaining clarity on the trustee's perspectives
2. Reviewing the historical background on the creation, evolution, and intended purpose of the Flag Ceremony. This context will help determine what elements may be preserved, revised, or reimagined.
3. Analyzing the poll responses to extract themes, concerns, and actionable insights to inform future options.
4. Given the scope of the charge and the early stage of analysis, the subcommittee agreed that it would be in the best interest of the agenda item for the subcommittee to be reconstituted at the 2026 Q3 trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee meeting.

The subcommittee reaffirmed that the questions surrounding inclusion of sovereign state flags are inseparable from broader discussion of the Flag Ceremony. The subcommittee will continue to gather information including clarifying the ceremony's intention and building the necessary support for a potential redesign.

Additional research, analysis, and stakeholder engagement will guide the next phase of this work.

###

Historical Summary of the International Convention Flag Ceremony

The origins of the A.A. International Convention Flag Ceremony are not clearly documented.

[A 1980 Box 4-5-9 article](#) describes the ceremony as a colorful procession in which representatives carry their national flags to the speaker platform, highlighting the global reach of A.A. and showing where attendees have traveled from. The first Flag Ceremony took place in 1975 at A.A.'s 40th anniversary celebration in Denver, Colorado. It was not a Conference-approved event, and no subsequent Conference approval has occurred.

Country participation is determined by the home locations of registered attendees. There is no formal written policy, request process, or selection form used. Consistent with A.A.'s principle of having no opinion on outside issues, all countries represented by attendees are included without political exceptions. There is no additional cost to participate; the only requirement is that the individual be a registered Convention attendee. The ceremony is coordinated by the Alternate International Convention Coordinator in consultation with staff and attendees, and no formal approval process involving the board, a committee, or the Conference exists.

Documentation of how the ceremony has changed over time is limited. However, since 1990, local Native or Indigenous people have typically opened the ceremony as lead flag bearers.

###

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2026 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

ITEM B: Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.

Secretary's note:

There were two virtual Forum events in 2021. In 2022, the Regional Forums returned to on-site events. The summary of suggestions from 2021 to 2025 is provided as an overview for the committee's convenience. The 2025 Evaluation Summaries provide a summary of the feedback from attendees at the four 2025 Regional Forums for review.

Background:

1. Summary of Suggestions 2021 to 2025
2. 2025 East Central Regional Forum Evaluation Summary
3. 2025 West Central Regional Forum Evaluation Summary
4. 2025 Southwest Regional Forum Evaluation Summary
5. 2025 Northeast Regional Forum Evaluation Summary

**Summary of Suggestions on Ways to Encourage Interest in Forums from the
Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums
(2021-2025)**

The committee discussed ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees, and suggested:

2025

- That the General Service Office record a GSO Podcast episode showcasing Regional Forums.
- Budget considerations, the live broadcast option pilot and the plan to better serve interpretation needs.

2024

- Continue to announce Regional Forums at all local A.A. events within the region.
- That the Staff coordinator on the Regional Forum assignment communicate with the area contact and volunteer committee earlier in the Regional Forum planning process.
- That the Staff coordinator on the Regional Forum assignment continues to disseminate Regional Forum information early and often using all modes of communication including email, aa.org, Meeting Guide app, *Box 4-5-9*, and *Grapevine* and *La Viña*.
- Consider creating short, current anonymity protected videos about Regional Forums that can be shared on our communication channels.
- That the General Service Board consider adding the use of current technology including streaming and virtual/hybrid components to the Regional Forum, and the possibility of using local A.A. resources.
- Consider adding an additional full virtual forum.

2023

- That the General Service Board add virtual elements to Regional Forums or even add a virtual fifth forum to the annual calendar.
- Disseminate advance information about events using flyers, posters, announcements in *Grapevine* and *La Viña*, podcasts, Instagram messages, invitations in ASL, QR codes, and *Box 4-5-9* articles.

2022

- Consider options to the title “Regional Forum” utilizing more current language.
- Continue utilizing digital communication options; however, also continue non-digital options to ensure full accessibility and participation by members who may not have access to technology.

2021

- Consider using the Meeting Guide app to further convey Regional Forum information.
- Continue using videoconferencing technology to broadcast portions of future in-person forum programs allowing members who may not have resources or time to travel to participate.
- Ensure future host regions are well informed about dates, locations, programs, and ways the local membership can participate.
- Extend outreach materials to invite the Spanish-speaking and LGBTQ communities to attend Regional Forums.
- Conduct at least one presentation or workshop in Spanish and/or French at each Regional Forum.

###

2025 EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL FORUM – (August 22 - 24, 2025)

Feedback on On-Site Experiences

A total of 133 (132 English/1 Spanish) participants responded to the evaluation, from a total of 383 attendees. Below is a summary of the responses.

1. Please indicate whether this was your first Forum:

	English	Spanish
Yes	55 (41.7%)	1
No	77 (58.3%)	0

2. How did you hear about the Forum?

	English	Spanish
Area	60 (46.2%)	1
District	14 (10.8%)	0
GSO Flyer	15 (11.5%)	0
Local Intergroup/Central Office	7 (5.4%)	0
Homegroup	3 (2.3%)	0
www.aa.org	12 (9.2%)	0
Friend	9 (6.9%)	0
Other	10 (7.7%)	0

3. Did you pre-register online at: www.aa.org?

	English	Spanish
Yes	120 (90.2%)	0
No	13 (9.8%)	1

4. Suggestions to Improve Online Pre-Registration

Summary: Many found the registration process smooth and praised the Cvent platform’s usability and customer service. Key concerns included:

- Clarify livestream and in-person options such as registering with different emails so attendees have flexibility within their schedules.
- Many attendees who did not stay at the hotel were surprised by hidden costs (e.g., parking at \$59/night, paid Wi-Fi).
- Some had difficulty locating the registration page or pre-Forum information on the website.

Suggestions for improvement:

- Earlier notice of registration opening and a welcome email with practical tips (e.g., parking, meals, agenda).
- Frequent registration reminders.
- Distribute the page for specific region instead of the general information page.

5. Please indicate your current service position:

	English	Spanish
GSR	23 (17.4%)	0
DCM	10 (7.6%)	0
District Officer	6 (4.5%)	0
Area Officer	18 (13.6%)	0
Delegate	8 (6.1%)	1
Past Delegate	24 (18.2%)	0
Past Trustee	2 (1.5%)	0
Friend of A.A.	1 (0.8%)	0
A.A. Member	24 (18.2%)	0
Other	16 (12.1%)	0

Summary: Respondents represented a diverse range of service roles, with the largest groups being:

- A.A. Members and Past Delegates (18.2% each)
- GSRs (17.4%)
- Area Officers (13.6%)
- Delegates (6.1%)
- DCMs (7.6%).
- One Spanish-speaking respondent (Delegate)

6A. Improvements to Presentations

Summary: Attendees praised the presentations for their authenticity, clarity, and being informative. Improvements to address audience fatigue such as shorter sessions, more visual aids, and pre-session materials were suggested. They also emphasized the importance of enhancing connection and trust across all presenter roles. Seeing newer trusted servants navigate their roles was seen as relatable and encouraging.

- Delegates: Value heartfelt sharing over scripted reading; more insights into committee work and how delegates balance service with personal life; visuals were appreciated.
- AAWS Board & GSO: Providing slides or outlines in advance would help attendees absorb dense content. Clarity of Staff roles was especially helpful for

newcomers. Slower pacing and direct answers to questions were emphasized as trust-building practices.

- AA Grapevine Board & Office: The subscription challenge and summary video were well received. Showing how the app works on a phone could encourage adoption among less tech-savvy members. An interactive session with audience participation was valued; A video introducing Grapevine/La Viña staff would enhance connection to the magazine.
- Trustee-at-large/U.S.: Appreciated hearing about A.A.'s global reach, growth, and challenges, which helped contextualize local service efforts; and suggested trustees continue to contribute their reflections in *Box 4-5-9*.
- Treasurer: Attendees valued the process explanation and financial data. A consistent call for handouts or summaries — either printed or via QR codes — to bring back to home groups. Enhance presentation by inviting additional financial staff. Short breaks for questions would improve comprehension.
- Class A Trustee Presentation: Praised as meaningful and inspiring, with strong emotional resonance. Schedule this earlier to allow for deeper engagement. More stories on how their professional backgrounds inform board decisions.
- Past Trustees: Strong and inspiring. Include an Ask-It-Basket panel instead. A deeper dive into a typical day as a trustee. Limit personal stories and focus on service experience.
- First-Time Attendees: Occasionally misused for airing grievances; Give specific prompts or questions to guide sharing; and split the session across two days.

6B. Improvements to Workshops

Summary: Workshops overall were appreciated for the strong participation, but clearer format expectations would enhance the experience. Suggestions included:

- Tips on helping the discussions transition to solutions.
- Delegates to present on their committees, linking Conference work to local relevance.
- Acknowledge inconsistency in workshop structures due to broad cross section of service areas.
- Attendees wanted more panelist-led discussion, background context, and structured presentations.

6C. Improvements to Sharing Sessions

Summary: Sharing sessions were seen as valuable learning opportunities, especially for understanding trusted servants' humility and clarifying member concerns. Suggestions included:

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- Attendees appreciated time limits and respectful facilitation.
- Add one more session on Saturday, limiting repetitive speakers, and providing guidance on session purpose.
- While many shares were uplifting, some were viewed as off-topic or in poor taste, reinforcing the need for light structure.

7. Suggested Future Presentation Topics

Summary: Attendees wanted to know more about practical topics.

- Service Understanding: Deep dives into A.A.'s structure, history of GSO/GSC/GSB, and financial transparency.
- Recovery in the Digital Age: Exploring social media's impact, virtual sobriety, and safety.
- Unity and Tradition: Topics like chairing meetings, balancing the Three Legacies, and generational and other dynamics ("Elder Statesman vs. Bleeding Deacon vs. YPAA vs. underrepresented newcomers").
- Practical Tools: How to use pamphlets, Grapevine, and technology in service work to support carrying A.A.'s message.

8. Suggested Future Workshop Topics

Summary: Attendees enjoyed workshops and wanted more variety and options to attend more throughout the weekend. There is a clear desire to address how A.A. adapts to the digital age. Attendees want workshops that reflect diversity and practical tools for communication — using history to preserve the core message and methods of the A.A. program. Key ideas included:

- Real-life examples of applying the Traditions in modern service work.
- Crash courses and deeper dives into A.A.'s Twelve Concepts.
- Service Sponsorship: Emphasizing guidance for newcomers.
- Plain Language Service: Making service roles more accessible to new members.
- A.A. and Technology: Navigating digital tools, Fellowship Connection, and aa.org resources.
- Anonymity in the Tech World: Preserving anonymity in social media and how A.A. principles coexist with AI.
- Mental Health and Minority Representation in A.A.: Carrying the message inclusively.
- Supporting spiritual diversity in A.A.
- Safety in A.A.: Covering all aspects of safety in meetings and online.
- Committee and Business Meetings: Using A.A.'s guiding principles or "Roberts Rules."

- Proposed Agenda Items: How to write and submit them effectively.
- Communication Across Service Levels: What works and what doesn't between areas, districts, and groups.
- Self-Support: Understanding financial responsibility at all levels.

9. Suggestions to Improve the Overall Forum Experience

Summary: Feedback focused on interactive opportunities, venue and cost considerations, programming, and the importance of open communication, especially when addressing difficult or controversial topics. Key suggestions included:

- Roundtables with GSO staff.
- A "How the Forum Operates" session for newcomers.
- Icebreakers encouraging mingling beyond familiar travel groups.
- Affordability: Strong concern over high hotel, parking, and meal costs.
Suggestions for future venues:
 - Choosing venues with free or lower-cost parking.
 - Providing water and coffee stations outside meeting rooms.
 - Offering more food in hospitality rooms to offset expenses.
 - Sharing local restaurant guides with dietary and accessibility info.
- Attendees preferred speakers using notes over scripted remarks.
- Shorter speaking limits (one-minute shares and responses)
- Start earlier or a day sooner to reduce late evening sessions.
- Handouts and printed materials would help attendees follow along and retain information.
- Add a GSO Support Session focused on how GSO can assist with specific service areas (e.g., Corrections, CPC).
- Provide clear details during pre-registration, not just at check-in.

10. Likelihood of Attending Another Regional Forum

Summary: 130 of English-speaking respondents and 1 of Spanish-speaking respondent indicated they would attend another Regional Forum.

Reasons for attending:

- The opportunity to receive direct updates from GSO and the boards.
- A way to stay current with A.A.'s national and international developments.
- A personal commitment to understanding A.A.'s structure and giving back.
- Bringing first-time attendees is a common goal among seasoned members.
- Q&A sessions are valued for ongoing learning and service development.

Reasons for not attending:

- One attendee expressed discomfort with how a sensitive question was handled during the forum, suggesting that lack of direct answers may impact trust in leadership.

Feedback on Livestream Pilot

A total of 15 respondent (14 English, 1 Spanish) participants responded to the evaluation, from a total of 73 Livestream attendees.

First-Time Attendees – Motivation to Join:

- A growing interest in service, curiosity about A.A.'s structure, and to explore the webinar format.
- A desire to learn the “language” of general service and become more involved.

Returning Attendees – Reasons for Coming Back

- Value of direct communication with GSO Staff and trustees.
- Stay informed about A.A.'s evolving structure.
- Accessibility online due to budget constraints.

How Attendees Heard About the Forum

- Equal amounts hear from their area, GSO flyers, intergroups, friends, and home groups.

Suggestions to Improve Online Pre-Registration

- The process was described as easy and clear.
- One suggestion was to integrate the GSO mobile app to streamline future registrations.

Current Service Positions

- 6 A.A. Members, 2 GSRs, 1 Delegate, and 6 DCMs

Presentation Feedback

- Attendees appreciated the diplomatic tone and responsiveness to questions.
- Highlight digital resources.
- Clarify multiple service offices.
- Praise for its strong emotional connection and relevance.
- Valuable experience and inspiration.

Workshop Feedback

- The session on Agnostics and Atheists in A.A. was highlighted as informative, especially the pamphlet “The ‘God’ Word.”

Suggested Future Presentation Topics

- Online meetings, digital tools, and safety differences between in-person and online meetings.
- Involving young people at the board and Grapevine levels.
- Promoting AA-Intergroup.org and Grapevine’s role in service.

Suggested Future Workshop Topics

- Safety and anonymity guidelines, privacy tools, and social media strategy.
- Effective group conscience practices.

Overall Feedback of the Livestream Experience

- Slides were essential for understanding presentations.
- Livestream format was simple and accessible.

Interpretation Tool Feedback

Rating Usefulness:

- 9 Satisfied, 4 Very Satisfied; No dissatisfaction was reported.

###

2025 WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL FORUM – (September 19-21, 2025)

Feedback on On-Site Experiences

A total of 87 (86 English/1 Spanish) participants responded to the evaluation, from a total of 241 on-site attendees. Below is a summary of the responses.

1. Please indicate whether this was your first Forum:

English Spanish

Yes	31 (36.0%)	1
No	55 (64.0%)	0

2. How did you hear about the Forum?

	English	Spanish
Area	34 (40.5%)	1
District	11 (13.1%)	0
GSO Flyer	4 (4.8%)	0
Local Intergroup/Central Office	0	0
Homegroup	9 (10.7%)	0
www.aa.org	4 (4.8%)	0
Friend	8 (9.5%)	0
Other	14 (16.7%)	0

3. Did you pre-register online at: www.aa.org?

	English	Spanish
Yes	70 (82.4%)	0
No	15 (17.6%)	1

4. Please list any suggestions to improve the online pre-registration process

- Open pre-registration sooner.
- Clarify when the online option is available.
- Having the actual program embedded as a link in the registration confirmation email would be splendid!
- My confirmation email stated an incorrect location for the Forum.
- Don't use a website that has ads.
- It is not always easy to find registration. Additionally, while I attended in person, I could not find the audio-only option.

CONFIDENTIAL:
76th General Service Conference Background

- It was easy but I was a little confused about when to scroll down and when I needed to go to the next page.

5. Please indicate your current service position:

	English	Spanish
G.S.R.	14 (16.3%)	0
D.C.M.	10 (11.6%)	0
District Officer	4 (4.7%)	0
Area Officer	14 (16.3%)	0
Delegate	6 (7.0%)	1
Past Delegate	6 (7.0%)	0
Past Trustee	0	0
Friend of A.A.	0	0
A.A. Member	15 (17.4%)	0
Other	17 (19.8%)	0

6. Suggestions to Improve Online Pre-Registration

Summary: Participants expressed a need for clearer communication and easier navigation during the online registration process. Key concerns included:

- Opening registration earlier.
- Clarifying when online registration is available.
- Including the program link in confirmation emails.
- Improving visibility of registration and livestream options.
- Simplifying navigation between pages.

Suggestions for improvement:

- Launch registration earlier and clarify when livestream option will be available
- Embed the program link in confirmation emails.

7. Current Service Positions of Respondents

Summary: Respondents represented a diverse range of service roles, with the largest groups being:

- A.A. members (17.4%)
- Other roles (19.8%)
- GSR and area officers (each 16.3%)
- DCM (11.6%) Spanish-speaking participation was minimal, with only one delegate responding.

CONFIDENTIAL:
76th General Service Conference Background

8A. Improvements to Presentations

Summary: Feedback emphasized the need for more engaging, transparent, and informative presentations across all categories:

- Delegates: Avoid reading scripts; focus on local service topics, background context, and allow more Q&A.
- AAWS Board & GSO: Provide detailed updates and address financial concerns openly.
- Grapevine Board: Reduce sales tone, focus on operational accomplishments, impacts, and challenges. Increase Q&A time.
- Trustee-at-large/U.S.: Share current challenges
- Treasurer: Present clear, easily readable financial data without viewpoint; offer printed reports and define terms clearly.
- Class A Trustee Presentation: Praised for authenticity and engagement.
- Past Trustees: Encourage their involvement in Q&A and emphasize their own experiences as a trustee and with rotation.
- First-Time Attendees: Sharing sessions were appreciated for their fresh perspectives.

8B. Improvements to Workshops

Summary: Workshops were generally well-received, with appreciation for interactive formats and shared experiences. Suggestions included:

- Offering multiple sessions per topic.
- Providing structured agendas and introductory information.
- Reducing simultaneous offerings to avoid choice overload.
- Clarifying expectations (e.g., discussion vs. lecture).
- Moderators include outlines or guidance for deeper learning or participation.

8C. Improvements to Sharing Sessions

Summary: Sharing sessions were valued but seen as insufficient in time and scope. Concerns included:

- Reduced time for sharing, especially after key presentations.
- Unequal treatment of speakers (e.g., unrestricted time for leadership).
- Frustration over unanswered questions and perceived avoidance.
- Desire for more sessions focused on specific topics like finances and Grapevine challenges.

9. Suggested Future Presentation Topics

Summary: Attendees proposed a wide range of topics that reflect a desire for deeper understanding, transparency, and relevance in presentations. Key themes include:

- Warranties and Service Structure: Concepts, traditions, and flexible leadership.

CONFIDENTIAL:
76th General Service Conference Background

- Financial Responsibility: Decision-making, financial future, self-support, and group conscience.
- Broad and Inclusive: Supporting linguistic districts and bridging cultural gaps.
- Safety and Trust: Addressing safety in A.A. to open dialogue to build trust.
- Attraction and Example: Making presentations more engaging by using storytelling and explaining how service events fit into A.A.'s primary purpose.
- Grapevine and Archives: Better utilization of Grapevine services locally and archival history locally.

10. Suggested Future Workshop Topics

Summary: Workshop suggestions emphasized practical guidance, inclusivity, and relevance to current challenges. Key ideas include:

- Anonymity at the Foundation: The significance of “principles before personalities.”
- Modern Challenges: Required attendance at A.A. meetings; integration of online meetings within our local service structure.
- Safety and Inclusion: “Working with Others” to ensure safety for all members and reaching younger generations.
- Archives and Service: Greater focus on local A.A. history can help with involvement in the service structure.
- Format Preferences: Creating clear, interactive, and informative workshops for local A.A. events.

11. Suggestions to Improve the Overall Forum Experience

Summary: Feedback highlighted both appreciation and areas for improvement in the Forum experience:

- Communication and Trust: Clear answers to questions with context are essential.
- Logistics and Accessibility: Clarify details for parking, meals, and hospitality room.
- Online Experience: Praise for livestreaming and translation services, but some missed out due to lack of knowledge of how to combine in-person with livestream into their schedules. Increase number of follow-up emails about the event.
- Forum Content: Greater focus on communicating that the benefits of reducing time spent on repetitive grievances increases time for questions and sharing.
- Authority and Responsibility: Encourage more involvement from areas to reduce financial strain on first-time attendees and foster greater involvement.
- Scheduling and Participation: Consider offering workshops on Friday to reduce overlap and improve attendees’ accessibility to more topics.

12. Likelihood of Attending Another Regional Forum

Summary: 78 (94%) of English-speaking respondents and 1 (100%) of Spanish-speaking respondents indicated they would attend another Forum.

Reasons for attending:

- Staying informed and connected to A.A. as a whole.
- Learning from GSO Staff, trustees, and delegates.
- Enjoying the fellowship and service structure.
- Personal growth and continued engagement.

Reasons for not attending:

- Cost concerns.
- Location-dependent decisions.
- Stepping away from general service.

Feedback on Livestream Pilot

A total of 18 respondents (17 English, 1 Spanish) responded to the evaluation, from a total of 80 livestream attendees. Below is a summary of the responses.

First-Time Attendees – Motivation to Join

Summary: New attendees were drawn to the Forum by a growing interest in service, curiosity about A.A.'s structure, and the opportunity to deepen their involvement. Many appreciated the chance to learn, connect, and explore A.A.'s broader service language and operations.

Returning Attendees – Reasons for Coming Back

Summary: Returning participants cited a strong desire to stay informed, engage with A.A. leadership, and continue their personal growth in service. Forums were seen as essential to recovery, connection, and understanding A.A.'s evolving processes. Budget constraints and regional relevance also influenced attendance.

How Attendees Heard About the Livestream Option

Summary: Awareness came from a mix of sources, but area (4) was the most common.

- Other sources included GSO flyers, intergroups, friends, and home groups. This suggests a need for broader and more consistent promotion across all service levels.

Suggestions to Improve Online Pre-Registration

Summary: Feedback was minimal but constructive.

- Consider integrating the GSO mobile app for registration.

CONFIDENTIAL:
76th General Service Conference Background

- Overall, the process was described as easy and clear.

Current Service Positions

Summary: Respondents represented a mix of service roles: A.A. Members, GSRs, DCMs, delegates (1 Spanish, 6 English); and past delegates.

Presentation Feedback

Summary: Presentations were generally well-received, with appreciation for diplomacy, transparency, and digital resources. Suggestions included:

- Sharing more about the 2024 inventory and linking resources via QR codes.
- Highlighting multiple service offices and Grapevine materials.
- Praise for trustees, treasurer, and Class A presentations, with no major criticisms.

Workshop Feedback

Summary: Workshops were positively received, especially those addressing inclusivity:

- Agnostics and Atheists in A.A. was highlighted as informative.
- No major format suggestions were offered, indicating satisfaction with structure.

Suggested Future Presentation Topics

Summary: Attendees proposed topics that reflect current challenges and opportunities:

- Registration of meetings: Meeting Guide app, GSO, intergroup, and area.
- Final Conference Report
- Online groups and district participation.
- How each area attempts to get a consensus on agenda items from groups.

Suggested Future Workshop Topics

- Technology in A.A. and OIAA
- Developing local public service announcements.

Sharing Sessions Feedback

- Allow interaction from online attendees.
- More time for sharing sessions.

Overall Feedback of the Livestream Experience

Summary: Feedback was largely positive, with appreciation for:

- Clear audio, accurate scheduling, and slide presentations.
- Requests included:
 - Adding a video option with appropriate settings.
 - Continuing to offer live broadcast-only options for flexibility.

CONFIDENTIAL:
76th General Service Conference Background

Interpretation Tool Feedback

Rating Usefulness: 0 responses.

###

2025 Southwest Regional Forum Evaluation Summary

In-person Feedback

1. If this is your first Forum what attracted, you to attend? (Responses: 76)

Summary: First-time attendees were primarily motivated by a desire to learn and participate in the service structure, including understanding GSO/GSB functions, roles (e.g., GSR/DCM), and how A.A. service operates. A secondary set of motivations included curiosity about the Forum format, opportunities to meet/engage with trusted servants, and practical considerations like location/convenience. A smaller but notable thread referenced accessibility/interpretation tools as an attraction.

2. If this is NOT your first Forum, what brought you back? (Responses: 69)

Summary: Returning attendees most often described the Forum as a way to stay informed and engaged in A.A. service, fulfill service responsibilities (bringing concerns and returning with reports), and maintain connection with the wider Fellowship. Many specifically valued hearing directly from GSO/GSB/trustees and the Q&A opportunities, with a smaller cluster referencing accessibility/translation tools and participation constraints (e.g., budget).

3. Please list any suggestions to improve the online pre-registration process.

(Responses: 53)

Summary: Most comments indicated registration was easy/smooth, but improvement requests concentrated on logistics and clarity, including making the registration link easier to find, improving information about start/end times, strengthening visibility and instructions for virtual/streaming options, and simplifying steps (e.g., reducing “page jumping”). Several also asked for practical enhancements such as allowing preferred name on badges and reducing duplicate steps when attending in more than one mode.

4. Forum Presentations

Delegates (Responses: 66)

Summary: Delegate feedback leaned strongly positive — many appreciated the quality of talks, and autonomy in topic choice. The most repeated improvement themes were more time for Q&A, stronger topic alignment/cohesion (clearer connection to stated topics or a unifying theme), and better support materials (e.g., accompanying slides/handouts/recordings).

AAWS Board and Your General Service Office (Responses: 64)

Summary: Attendees valued the session’s informational role and cited elements like clear explanations and engaging components (e.g., Staff/office context). The strongest improvement signal was the desire for more Q&A time and more direct, concrete answers, especially on complex or uncomfortable topics. Several asked for more referenceable resources (links/QR codes/handouts), clearer updates about what leadership is focusing on, and more readable/usable materials (slides and takeaways) to help them report back accurately.

AA Grapevine Board and the Grapevine Office (Responses: 59)

Summary: Feedback was generally appreciative and engaged, with repeated praise for the presenters and the “freshness” of information. A consistent improvement theme was to acknowledge challenges candidly and pair updates with clearer problem/solution framing, particularly where respondents referenced Grapevine realities and sustainability. Additional recurring requests included more Q&A time, content that emphasizes “why/how it helps recovery” (practical application stories), and strengthened accessibility/communication features (e.g., ensuring translation support works smoothly for all audiences).

Trustee-at-large (Responses: 56)

Summary: This session’s feedback clustered heavily around language/translation experience. Many respondents highlighted the interpretation tool (Wordly) as a major enabler, while others found real-time phone-based translation distracting or felt that using a non-dominant language without a fully effective translation experience reduced engagement. Overall, attendees still expressed appreciation for learning about worldwide service impacts.

Treasurer (Responses: 59)

Summary: Treasurer feedback concentrated on three primary issues:

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

1. Representation/availability: multiple respondents noted the absence of a treasurer and wanted that role present for credibility and questions.
2. Clarity and usability of financial content: requests for more current numbers, clearer explanations for non-financial audiences, and visuals that are readable (larger fonts, better charts).
3. Interaction: repeated asks for more Q&A time and more direct handling of financial questions. Several explicitly suggested printed or table-available materials to support accurate understanding and reporting back.

It's "A" Class Act (Responses: 60)

Summary: This presentation was overwhelmingly received as a highlight, described repeatedly as inspiring and emotionally resonant.

5. Sharing from Past Trustees (Responses: 60)

Summary: Many respondents found the past trustee sharing impactful, especially for framing the weekend around primary purpose, unity, and perspective. The most common improvement request was structural: more than one past trustee (e.g., a panel) to broaden viewpoints.

6. First-time Attendees (Responses: 48)

Summary: Feedback strongly supported this segment as affirming and future-facing — attendees valued hearing newcomers' enthusiasm and observations.

7. Workshop Topics (Responses: 54)

Summary: Workshop topics were broadly seen as relevant and helpful, with many noting difficulties choosing among simultaneous options. Improvement suggestions focused on making topic titles/descriptions less vague, clarifying whether a workshop is best for newcomers vs. experienced trusted servants, and ensuring the content aligns more clearly with service-structure learning when that is the expectation.

8. Sharing Sessions (Responses: 50)

Summary: Sharing sessions were repeatedly described as central to the Forum's purpose, with the strongest, most consistent request being more time for member questions and sharing. Several respondents also pointed to operational improvements: keeping presenters on time so Q&A isn't cut, ensuring fairness and order at microphones, and keeping shares more on topic. Overall sentiment suggests these

sessions are viewed as the primary channel for trust-building and clarity, provided adequate time is protected.

9. Suggested future presentation topics (Responses: 41)

Summary: Suggested topics emphasized service education and clarity, including deeper understanding of concepts/traditions/warranties, leadership and communication, and how decisions and processes work at higher levels. Several also requested content on trust/transparency, financial realities and planning, and more visibility for archives and outreach (including younger people and linguistic accessibility). Technology and anonymity in modern contexts also appeared as forward-looking areas of interest.

10. Suggested future workshop topics (Responses: 39)

Summary: Workshop topic suggestions leaned practical and skill-building: how to run group conscience effectively, “how-to” understanding of finances/7th Tradition stewardship at a basic level, and applied learning on concepts/traditions tied to current fellowship concerns. Engagement of young people/YPAA, improving communication up/down the service triangle, and creating accessible, targeted sessions for newer trusted servants were recurring priorities.

11. Will you likely return to another Forum? (Responses: Y=112; N=7)

“Yes” Summary: The dominant reasons for returning were to stay informed, deepen involvement in service, and remain connected to the broader AA fellowship. Many respondents highlighted the value of hearing directly from GSO/GSB/trustees, being able to ask questions, and bringing learning back to groups/districts/areas. A secondary reason was the community dimension — fellowship, connection, and service motivation.

“No” Summary: The reasons were primarily practical constraints, including travel-related difficulty/cost and personal capacity for continued participation.

12. Any additional feedback below. (Responses: 73)

Summary: Additional feedback most heavily reinforced the importance of accessibility and interpretation/translation tools, which many described as impactful and worth continuing. Beyond that, the most consistent operational improvement request was again more protected time for Q&A/sharing, along with practical enhancements that help attendees retain and relay information (e.g., clearer materials, scheduling clarity, workshop access). Many comments also expressed broad gratitude for the event and the opportunity to connect across the service structure.

Livestream Pilot Feedback

1. If this is your first Forum what attracted you to attend? (Responses: 15)

Summary: First-time livestream attendees were primarily motivated by access and practicality — being able to participate virtually when travel, cost, or scheduling made in-person attendance difficult. Many also cited a desire to learn more about A.A.’s service structure, stay informed, and bring accurate updates back to their groups (including online-only groups).

If this is NOT your first Forum, what brought you back? (Responses: 20)

Summary: Returning livestream participants most often came back to stay connected to General Service and hear direct updates from GSO/GSB/AAWS/Grapevine. Several emphasized that Forums help them “keep a pulse” on A.A. beyond local reporting and appreciate hearing questions and answers raised during the event. A secondary theme was access (choosing audio due to travel cost, health, or obligations).

2. Please list any suggestions to improve the online pre-registration process:

(Responses: 19)

Summary: Registration feedback focused less on form mechanics and more on communication clarity — especially knowing how and when livestream access details would be sent and ensuring the agenda/schedule and join instructions arrive earlier. Some also flagged that registration should be easier to find on the site and clearer when switching between in-person vs. live-audio registrations, including edge cases where attendees might need both (e.g., in person but listening online while traveling/resting).

3. Please list any suggestions to improve the live only broadcast option Forum experience. (Responses: 20)

Summary: This section delivered the strongest, most consistent feedback. The top improvement themes were:

- Audio reliability and clarity (cutting in/out, choppy feed, clicking noise, mic technique, hotel internet readiness).
- Adding video/visual presence (even podium-only, blurred, or anonymity-preserving options) to reduce disconnection — especially for first timers.

- Improving interaction (chat monitoring during Q&A, ability to use chat, ways to follow schedule in real time).
- Keeping translation access visible and easy (e.g., QR link displayed consistently; extra time to switch tools).

4. Would you return to another Forum in the future? (Responses: Y=31; N=4)

“Yes” Summary: The primary driver for “yes” was practical accessibility: participants would return when travel is too costly, health limits attendance, schedules conflict, or distance is prohibitive (including international). Many also cited the ability to stay informed and bring learning back to their group/district. Several framed audio-only as “better than no Forum,” while still expressing a preference for in-person if feasible.

“No” Summary: Reasons for “no” centered on engagement challenges (difficulty maintaining attention in audio-only/Zoom formats), technical failures (audio not working), and a clear preference to attend in person when possible. One response also referenced schedule issues and cost constraints that affect in-person attendance.

5. Please provide any additional feedback below. (Responses: 18)

Summary: Additional feedback combined appreciation with actionable improvements. Many expressed gratitude that audio access made participation possible and encouraged continuing the option. Operationally, respondents reinforced the need for reliable audio, correct schedules, and simpler translation access. Some also raised broader service-structure reflections — emphasizing listening, trust, connection between boards/offices and the fellowship, and the value of better engagement tools (more slides, schedule cues, and potentially anonymity-safe visuals).

###

2025 Northeast Regional Forum Evaluation Summary

In-person Feedback

1. If this is your first Forum what attracted you to attend? (Responses: 54)

Summary: First-time attendees were mainly motivated by curiosity and service learning — wanting to understand how A.A. functions “beyond the group level,” how districts/areas connect to the broader structure, and to hear directly from trustees and GSO. Practical factors also mattered: local/close location, free registration, and service role expectations (GSR/DCM/area roles). A smaller but important thread reflected hybrid/streaming access as an enabler, along with at least one report of a technical barrier that prevented participation despite registration.

2. If this is NOT your first Forum, what brought you back? (Responses: 51)

Summary: Returning attendees most often cited Forums as a unique way to get direct status updates from trustees/Staff and stay current on AAWS/GSO/Grapevine. Many also emphasized responsibility to report back to their area/district, the value of real-time Q&A, and the fellowship/networking aspects. Several described Forums as inspirational and reinforcing commitment to service, while a few referenced accessibility (including internet/streaming) as a practical reason for returning.

3. Please list any suggestions to improve the online pre-registration process.

(Responses: 42)

Summary: Most respondents said registration was smooth/easy, but improvement suggestions clustered around:

- **Findability & navigation:** Registration link/tab was difficult to locate; request for a direct QR code on the flyer and more prominent placement.
- **Clarity & communications:** Earlier availability of the presentations list, better distribution to Areas/groups, and clearer instructions — especially for Spanish-language access.

- **Mode-switching/virtual access:** Issues such as receiving confirmation for “voice only” but not receiving the link, or difficulty changing registration type without re-registering.
- **Logistics tied to booking:** One respondent described a problematic hotel booking experience and suggested better handling of contracted-rate links.
- **Accessibility & remote experience:** A strong note that ASL access stopped abruptly (impacting an attendee), and that an online option that includes screen-shared slides (audio/visuals without showing people) would improve the remote experience.

4. Presentations

Delegates (Responses: 32)

Summary: Delegate feedback was largely positive, but the most common improvement request was more time per delegate and/or fewer items so talks aren’t so brief. Additional suggestions included: providing more context on delegate responsibilities/prior service, improving cohesion and breadth of perspectives, addressing rumors directly, giving presenters more advance notice, and increasing representation/participation (e.g., more seated delegates and/or alternates, and more Class A participation). A small subset expressed dissatisfaction with tone/content balance, particularly around who should be speaking and how.

AAWS Board and Your General Service Office (Responses: 37)

Summary: Feedback showed a mix of appreciation and pointed suggestions. Key themes included:

- **Timing & pacing:** Financial reporting late in the schedule felt hard to absorb (“burned out” timing).
- **Depth & specificity:** Some wanted more “real info,” clearer explanations of major operational decisions (e.g., office changes and related expenses), and future-looking planning (multi-year vision).
- **Representation & inclusion:** Multiple comments asked for more gender balance and minority representation at the head table/dais.
- **Tone & equity in participation:** Concerns about “folksy” time use, fairness at microphones, and how Q&A time is allocated.

CONFIDENTIAL: 76th General Service Conference Background

- **Content expectations:** Desire to hear about upcoming/anticipated topics (e.g., Big Book edition timing), and concerns about how some issues were characterized.

Overall, many respondents still described the session as informative, accessible, and well-delivered.

AA Grapevine Board and the Grapevine Office (Responses: 35)

Summary: Grapevine feedback ranged from enthusiastic praise (videos, props, energy) to calls for sharper strategy and transparency:

- Several preferred less marketing tone and more mission/work clarity. Multiple respondents wanted clearer numbers and specific guidance on what is needed to become self-supporting, including questions about how costs/income are accounted for across entities. Some urged a stronger move toward digital-first to reduce printing costs.

Trustee-at-large (Responses: 29)

Summary: The defining theme was interpretation reliability and readiness. Some attendees praised the use of Wordly and the value of hearing international perspectives; others found the session difficult to follow due to slow/inconsistent translation, lack of clear guidance (e.g., earbuds/devices), or tool interruptions. Several comments effectively point to the need for clearer instructions and more stable interpretation support throughout the session to avoid audience drop-off.

Finance Talk (Responses: 27)

Summary: Treasurer feedback emphasized clarity, readability, and credibility:

- **Readability:** Repeated requests for larger fonts and more legible graphs.
- **Clarity for non-finance audiences:** Suggestions for a glossary and “lay terms,” plus more direct presentation of numbers.
- **Presence & accountability:** Multiple respondents noted the treasurer didn’t appear to be present and wanted the designated treasurer to deliver the report.
- **Content depth:** Requests for more detail on major expenses (including international convention), reserve/self-support framing, and a list of deferred projects due to budget constraints.

- **Timing:** Like the AAWS/GSO feedback, some felt the financial segment should not occur when attendees are exhausted.

It's "A" Class Act (Responses: 24)

Summary: This segment was consistently described as a highlight — impactful, inspiring, and helpful for service newcomers to understand the value and role of Class A trustees. A small number of comments focused on accessibility/flow when interpretation was involved (e.g., making it smoother for the presenter to follow Spanish via Wordly), but overall sentiment was strongly positive.

5. Sharing from Past Trustees (Responses: 27)

Summary: Many appreciated the message and tone, but the biggest improvement request was structural: more than one past trustee (panel-style) to broaden perspective. Several comments noted the downside of having only one person, including suggestions to either expand the panel or reconsider the segment if it can't be adequately staffed. A few responses also indicated preference for a less "meeting-share" feel and more time or more varied perspectives.

6. First-time Attendees (Responses: 23)

Summary: Attendees generally valued the enthusiasm and reflection from first-timers and called it a strong closing element. Improvement suggestions included time management (enforcing short limits so more people can share) and ensuring the session is positioned when most attendees can still be present (some noted many had already left by Sunday). One comment expressed concern that first-timers seemed uneasy and needed more overt support or reassurance.

7. General Sharing Sessions (Responses: 21)

Summary: Sharing sessions were seen as important but with competing views on execution. Key improvement themes included:

- **Time and inclusion:** Concern that the same few voices dominate microphones; suggestions to better enable broader participation and enforce time limits.
- **Equity of agenda protection:** Frustration when presenter overtime reduces member sharing time.
- **Closing the loop:** Requests for more visible workshop report-backs and capturing notable themes for discussion, not only in the final report.

- A specific suggestion asked to allow virtual attendees to comment.

8. Please provide suggested future topics.

Presentations (Responses: 27)

Summary: Suggested future presentation topics emphasized modern relevance and service clarity, including:

- **Outreach & public information**, including misinformation and A.A. accessibility/safety/secular questions.
- **Technology, AI, anonymity, online groups**, and digital communication across service.
- **Youth/YPAA and membership trends**, plus gender and racial experience topics.
- **Finance transparency (“follow the dollar”)** and practical process topics (printing process, office tours).
- **Unity, singleness of purpose, media relations**, and what unites/fractures A.A.

Workshops (Responses: 54)

Summary: Workshop suggestions leaned heavily toward practical skill-building and service fundamentals:

- **Home group basics, GSR/DCM roles, reporting back**, and service effectiveness/trust repair.
- **PI/misinformation and accessibility/safety**, plus diversity topics (women/children, “diversity attraction”).
- **Understanding finances and self-support**, and how 12th-step work functions across service levels.
- **Online groups’ place in service**, navigating information access, and “how-to find” key resources.
- **Writing workshops and local engagement** ideas also appeared.

9. Return to another Forum? If yes, why? (Responses: 77)

Summary: The “yes” reasons strongly emphasized: staying informed, continued learning, fellowship and connection, and gaining direct understanding of the service structure. Many valued the event’s ability to humanize trustees/staff, strengthen unity, and provide actionable information to take back to groups and service bodies. Several

explicitly mentioned the value of live streaming/hybrid options as a reason they would attend again.

If no, why? (Responses: 10)

Summary: Reasons for “no” included perceptions of redundancy after attending once, the event feeling **too long** or **boring**, difficulty understanding content due to health reasons, preference for in-person formats only, and practical barriers such as travel distance/age. One response explicitly cited too little time for member input relative to cost/time invested.

10. Please provide any additional feedback below. Responses: (Responses: 56)

Summary: Additional feedback concentrated on **accessibility + logistics**, along with overall appreciation:

- **Interpretation/Wordly:** widely viewed as helpful, but users reported intermittent failures, difficulty navigating the app, and desire to project transcription/interpretation more consistently on screens so phones aren't required.
- **ASL accommodation:** strong concern that ASL ended early and calls for uninterrupted coverage and contingency planning.
- **Cost/friction:** multiple comments about hotel/parking costs and lack of hospitality/coffee; also requests for better online access timing (late Zoom info delivery) and the ability to save/scroll back or access recordings.
- **Event operations:** suggestions for better host committee displays/booths and more proactive engagement, plus gratitude for presenters and perceived professionalism/humility.

Livestream Pilot

1. If this is your first Forum, what attracted you to attend? (Responses: 15)

Summary: First-time livestream attendees were primarily motivated by **access and practicality** — being able to participate **virtually when travel, cost, or scheduling made in-person attendance difficult**. Many also cited a desire to **learn more about**

Page 6 of 8

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names

AA's service structure, stay informed, and bring accurate updates back to their groups (including online-only groups).

2. If this is NOT your first Forum, what brought you back? (Responses: 20)

Summary: Returning livestream participants most often came back to **stay connected to General Service** and hear **direct updates** from GSO/GSB/AAWS/Grapevine. Several emphasized that Forums help them “keep a pulse” on AA beyond local reporting and appreciate **hearing questions and answers** raised during the event. A secondary theme was **access** (choosing audio due to travel cost, health, or obligations).

3. Please list any suggestions to improve the online pre-registration process.

(Responses: 19)

Summary: Registration feedback focused less on form mechanics and more on **communication clarity**, especially knowing **how and when livestream access details would be sent**, and ensuring the **agenda/schedule and join instructions** arrive earlier. Some also flagged that registration should be **easier to find** on the site and clearer when switching between **in-person vs. live-audio registrations**, including edge cases where attendees might need both (e.g., in person but listening online while traveling/resting).

4. Please list any suggestions to improve the live only broadcast option Forum experience. (Responses: 20)

Summary: This section delivered the strongest, most consistent feedback. The top improvement themes were:

- **Audio reliability and clarity** (cutting in/out, choppy feed, clicking noise, mic technique, hotel internet readiness).
- Adding **video/visual presence** (even podium-only, blurred, or anonymity-preserving options) to reduce disconnection — especially for first-timers.
- Improving **interaction** (chat monitoring during Q&A, ability to use chat, ways to follow schedule in real time).
- Keeping **translation access visible and easy** (e.g., QR link displayed consistently; extra time to switch tools).

5. Return to another Forum? If yes, why? (Responses: 31)

Summary: The primary driver for “yes” was **practical accessibility**: participants would return when **travel is too costly, health limits attendance, schedules conflict, or distance is prohibitive** (including international). Many also cited the ability to **stay informed** and bring learning back to their group/district. Several framed audio-only as “better than no Forum,” while still expressing a preference for in-person if feasible.

If no, why? (Responses: 4)

Summary: Reasons for “no” centered on **engagement challenges** (difficulty maintaining attention in audio-only/Zoom formats), **technical failures** (audio not working), and a clear preference to attend **in person** when possible. One response also referenced schedule issues and cost constraints that affect in-person attendance.

6. Please provide any additional feedback below. (Responses: 18)

Summary: Additional feedback combined appreciation with actionable improvements. Many expressed gratitude that audio access made participation possible and encouraged continuing the option. Operationally, respondents reinforced the need for **reliable audio, correct schedules, and simpler translation access**. Some also raised broader service-structure reflections — emphasizing listening, trust, connection between boards/offices and the fellowship, and the value of better engagement tools (more slides, schedule cues, and potentially anonymity-safe visuals).



XIV Inventory Implementation

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

2026-04-28 15:00 - 2026-04-29 16:00 EDT

Table of Contents

2026 Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation

ITEM A: Review Inventory Implementation Report.

Background notes:

75th General Service Conference Advisory Action:

A Conference Inventory Implementation Committee with a composition similar to the makeup of the General Service Conference (delegates, trustees, nontrustee directors, and Staff members from the General Service Office and AA Grapevine) be established by the General Service Board to identify and implement actionable items, based on the inventory report-back sessions held at the 2025 General Service Conference. The committee requested that an implementation committee report be brought back to the 2026 General Service Conference.

74th General Service Conference Advisory Action:

The General Service Conference Inventory Plan be approved.

73rd General Service Conference Advisory Action:

The General Service Conference conduct a thorough inventory of itself during the 2025 General Service Conference and that a Conference Inventory Planning Committee be established by the General Service Board to develop a comprehensive inventory plan, timeline and cost estimate, to bring forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Agenda for consideration.

72nd General Service Conference Advisory Action:

A draft plan for another Conference inventory with consideration of its value, timeline and approach to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Agenda.

Background:

1. Inventory Questions
2. Inventory Summary
3. Inventory Implementation Report

Working Together, Increasing Trust

1. Are we practicing the 36 principles of the A.A. program as we consider, discuss and make decisions affecting the entire Fellowship?
2. Reflecting on Concept Two, a) How can we better serve as the actual voice and be an effective conscience for our whole society? b) How are we hearing the voices from the back of the room?
3. How is the Conference fulfilling its purpose as stated in Article 1 of the Conference Charter?
4. What matters affecting the Fellowship as a whole, now and in the future, merit greater focus from the Conference?
5. Reflecting on Concepts One and Two, does the current process for submission of proposed agenda items and the subsequent process for selection of final agenda items result in the Conference addressing the most widely expressed needs within the Fellowship?
6. Reflecting on Warranty Six, how do we foster a spirit of mutual trust and respect within the Fellowship regarding Conference matters? What can be done to educate one another on the negative impact that lobbying or the politicization of Conference matters may have?
7. Reflecting on Tradition Two and Concept Nine, how do we navigate the use of social media as a tool for accurate and well-informed communication between Conference members and the Fellowship of A.A.?
8. Does the Conference committee system function in accordance with our principles? If not, what changes should we consider regarding: a) structure, b) composition, c) effectiveness and d) timing?

Leadership in A.A.

9. Reflecting on Concept Nine and the essay "Leadership in A.A.: ever a vital need," does the current method of identifying and nominating Class A trustees, Class B general service trustees, and directors: a) allow the Fellowship sufficient input in choosing our leaders, b) ensure the deliberations of our boards are always informed by the widest range of perspectives and c) result in trustees and directors that are representative of our Fellowship?
10. Is our structure encouraging each individual in the Fellowship to feel and act as a member of a "society of alcoholics in action"? Have we identified the issues with

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

communicating up and down the triangle? How can we continue to ensure the entire Fellowship feels included in the Conference process?

11. What more could be done to ensure broad diversity of representation in our A.A. leaders?
12. Reflecting on Concept Six, how can the Conference ensure that the authority we delegate to the General Service Board is commensurate with the responsibility we have entrusted to them?
13. What actions do we take to ensure the final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. World Services always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship? What could we do better?
14. Are we asking too much of our trusted servants, particularly their time? Is the work being done focused on a balance of quantity and quality?

Self-Support and use of A.A. Contributions

15. Prudent use of our Seventh Tradition contributions and literature revenue is an integral factor in our budget process. How can we improve understanding of and communication about this process?
16. How does the Conference effectively communicate its finite resources to the Fellowship, such as monetary limitations and time limitations?

Communication

17. Keeping a balance between ultimate authority and responsibility and the active, day-to-day functioning of world services means there must be consistent communication among all elements of the structure, groups, district, area, delegate, Conference and GSB. Where is the greatest need for improvement in this communication? How can we improve it?
18. Reflecting on Concept Three, is communication from the General Service Board to the delegates and Fellowship clear, consistent and timely? How can this be improved?
19. How can we better communicate that the Conference process is more than one week in New York? How do the delegates and regional trustees support the yearlong process effectiveness, and how can we improve?

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

Conference Inventory Process

The Conference members conducted an extensive inventory with divided into working groups to address multiple comprehensive questions about A.A.'s leadership, service structure, and operational effectiveness. This inventory represented the most thorough self-examination undertaken by the Conference in over a decade. In line with the 2024 recommendation, a summary (not to exceed 8 pages) of the Conference inventory will appear in the 2025 Final Conference Report. A full inventory summary will follow, available only in electronic form.

Voting members of the 2025 General Service Conference had an opportunity to respond to the 19 questions online, and 15 working groups had the anonymous responses available as support materials to aid in their deliberations. The inventory process involved 19 different questions examined by fifteen working groups comprising delegates, trustees, and Staff members. On Sunday, the working groups broke into their respective groups and spent two hours discussing four pre-assigned inventory questions.

Comprehensive Inventory Questions and Findings

The usual Conference Workshops were replaced with Inventory Report Back Sessions. There were five of these sessions throughout the week, the first on Sunday, then two on Monday, and one each on Tuesday and Wednesday, all lasting 90 minutes, which included a presentation and then discussion from the body via the microphone.

PRACTICING AA'S 36 PRINCIPLES (QUESTION 1)

Are we practicing the 36 principles of the A.A. program as we consider, discuss, and make decisions affecting the entire Fellowship?

- **Overwhelming Consensus:** Two-thirds of respondents felt the Conference mostly follows the 36 principles, with room for individual improvement
- **Sponsorship Importance:** Recognition that good sponsorship at all levels is crucial for maintaining spiritual principles
- **Outside Influence:** Concern about outside influence trying to control internal AA processes
- **Unity Opposed to Conformity:** Need to distinguish between unity and conformity in decision-making

SERVING AS VOICE FOR WHOLE SOCIETY (QUESTION 2)

Reflecting on Concept Two, a) How can we better serve as the actual voice and be an effective conscience for our whole society? b) How are we hearing the voices from the back of the room?

- **Prompt Communication:** Need for timely, transparent communication
- **Education as Solution:** emerges as a critical solution — providing primers and roadmaps for general service
- **New Format Challenges:** Online and virtual formats create communication challenges
- **Hearing from All:** Importance of hearing from all groups, especially those not physically present

**FULFILLING CONFERENCE PURPOSE STATED IN ARTICLE 1
(QUESTION 3)**

There were two groups that considered questions 3

Questions 3, Report back from TUESDAY.

How is the Conference fulfilling its purpose as stated in Article 1 of the Conference Charter?

- **Group Conscience:** Delegates and trustees are not bosses and decisions are made through group conscience
- **Trusted Servants:** System is a service structure, not a government, and accurate information can be used to counter false perceptions
- **Countering Misconceptions:** There is a perception, a significant feeling that voices are not being heard, and we have to aim to demonstrate representation and not governance
- **Clarity of Rationale:** Conference members need clarity on motives and intentions
- **Consistent Messaging:** Unifying speech and language is required both inside and outside the Conference

Question 3, Report back from WEDNESDAY.

Proposed Solutions and Action Items Based on inventory findings, several concrete proposals emerged:

- *Two-year agenda setting process* to allow thorough area discussion of proposed items
- *Elimination of PAI submission deadlines* with year-round submission capability
- *Reworded PAI forms* focusing on solutions rather than problems
- *Enhanced financial reporting* with narrative explanations and clearer breakdowns
- *Social media guidelines* rather than restrictive policies
- *Virtual group integration* guidelines for service structure participation
- *Translation process overhaul* to reduce bottlenecks and delays
- *Extended delegate orientation* and education programs
- *Regular inventory processes* rather than crisis-driven reviews

**AREAS MERITING GREATER FOCUS OF CONFERENCE
(QUESTION 4)**

What matters affecting the Fellowship as a whole, now and into the future, merit greater focus from the Conference?

- **Younger Members:** Concern that outdated language makes it harder to attract younger members
- **Needed Outreach:** Need to increase public awareness, reach out to treatment centers and cooperate with professionals
- **A.A. History:** Continuing importance of preserving the founder's writings and AA history
- **Greater Communication:** Two-way communication is needed throughout the triangle by hearing voices from all sectors

**PAI (PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM) PROCESS EFFICACY
(QUESTION 5)**

Reflecting on Concepts One and Two, does the current process for submission of proposed agenda items and the subsequent process for selection of final agenda items result in the

Conference addressing the most widely expressed needs within the Fellowship?

- **Broad Agreement:** Strong consensus that current PAI process encourages complaints rather than solutions
- **Proposed Change:** Recommendation to reword PAI forms from “what problem does this address?” to “how does this help carry the message?”
- **Winnowing Process:** Delegates feel excluded from the winnowing process of agenda items
- **Formulaic Responses:** Detailed Response letters to rejected PAIs are seen as inadequate and cookie-cutter
- **Two-Year Agenda:** Suggestion for two-year agenda setting process to allow more thorough area discussion

TRUST AND RESPECT (QUESTION 6)

Reflecting on Warranty Six: How do we foster a spirit of mutual trust and respect within the Fellowship regarding Conference matters? What can be done to educate one another on the negative impact that lobbying or the politicization of Conference matters may have?

- **Key Finding:** “We can offer a spirit of mutual trust and respect simply by giving it”
- **Transparency Needs:** Open sharing of factual information, upfront acknowledgment when answers are unknown
- **Spiritual Sobriety:** Maintaining personal spiritual balance, avoiding fear-driven actions, demonstrating kindness in disagreements
- **Anti-Politics:** Social media has no place in Conference matters; issues should be discussed collaboratively, not through campaigns
- **Communication Style:** How information is communicated is as important as what is communicated; direct, respectful dialogue prevents escalation

SOCIAL MEDIA NAVIGATION (QUESTION 7)

Reflecting on Tradition Two and Concept Nine, how do we navigate the use of social media as a tool for accurate and well-informed communication between Conference members and the Fellowship of A.A.?

- **Mixed Impact:** Recognition that social media can be both beneficial and harmful to fellowship unity
- **Misinformation Concern:** Concern about misinformation spreading faster than accurate information
- **Straightforward Timelines:** Need for clear timeline for release of accurate information
- **Fake Profile Issue:** Members hiding behind fake profiles to engage in disrespectful behavior
- **Guidelines Not Bans:** Recommendation for guidelines rather than prohibitive policies

ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINCIPLES (QUESTION 8)

Does the Conference committee system function in accordance with our principles? If not, what changes should we consider regarding: a) structure, b) composition, c) effectiveness, and d) timing?

- **Massive Workload:** Concerns about the workload we are placing on delegates and staff, especially in the two and a half months from February to May

- ***Inequitable Work Distribution***: Some committees have a heavier lift than others, leading to a need for more equitable distribution of workload
- ***Committee Imbalances***: There appear to be imbalances in the assignment of delegates to a committee, with some areas seeming to repeat the same assignment year after year
- ***Work-Life Balance***: Heavy workload before the Conference leads to work-life balance issues

LEADERSHIP SELECTION AND REPRESENTATION (QUESTION 9)

Reflecting on Concept Nine and the essay “Leadership in A.A.: ever a vital need,” does the current method of identifying and nominating Class A trustees, Class B general service trustees, and directors: a) allow the Fellowship sufficient input in choosing our leaders, b) ensure the deliberations of our boards are always informed by the widest range of perspectives, and c) result in trustees and directors that are representative of our Fellowship?

- ***Sufficient Consultation***: Fellowship has adequate input on regional trustee selection
- ***Expanding Applicant Pool***: Class A trustee selection process works well but applicant pool could be expanded
- ***Geographic Imbalance***: Concern about geographic imbalance in trustee-at-large selection favoring coastal regions
- ***Improving Preparation***: Need for better preparation program for board-level service

FELLOWSHIP INCLUSION AND COMMUNICATION (QUESTION 10)

Is our structure encouraging each individual in the Fellowship to feel and act as a member of a “society of alcoholics in action”? Have we identified the issues with communicating up and down the triangle? How can we continue to ensure the entire Fellowship feels included in the Conference process?

- ***Communication Issues***: Communication gaps identified at all levels of service structure
- ***Virtual Group Integration***: Need for better integration of virtual groups into service structure
- ***Translation and Timeliness***: Translation bottlenecks creating delays in information dissemination
- ***Virtual Group Representation***: Growing population of virtual groups may need dedicated representation

DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP (QUESTION 11)

What more could be done to ensure broad diversity of representation in our A.A. leaders?

- ***Leadership Demographics***: Leadership reflects current fellowship demographics (predominantly white, male, older)
- ***Eliminate Obstacles***: Need to remove barriers to service: time demands, financial constraints, language barriers
- ***Reaching Underrepresented Groups***: Emphasis on reaching underrepresented communities rather than just recruiting diverse leaders
- ***Service Sponsorship Importance***: Service sponsorship crucial for developing future leaders

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY BALANCE (QUESTION 12)

Reflecting on Concept Six, how can the Conference ensure that the authority we delegate to the General Service Board is commensurate with the responsibility we have entrusted to them?

- **Reduction of Micromanaging:** Conference sometimes micromanages board decisions
- **Role Clarity:** Need for clearer role definitions and boundaries
- **Confusion Among Fellowship:** 40% of GSO staff time spent responding to fellowship confusion about advisory actions
- **Trust But Verify:** Importance of “trust but verify” approach rather than constant oversight

ULTIMATE AUTHORITY AND COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE (QUESTION 13)

What actions do we take to ensure the final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship? What could we do better?

- **Inclusive Participation:** Process works when everyone participates and communicates effectively
- **Longer Lead Times:** Need for extended lead times (two years) for agenda setting
- **Improving Transparency:** Better reporting and transparency at all levels required
- **We Not Us:** “We” program, not “us and them” mentality is essential

EXCESSIVE WORKLOAD (QUESTION 14)

Are we asking too much of our trusted servants, particularly their time? Is the work being done focused on a balance of quantity and quality?

- **Overwhelming Consensus:** Trusted servants at all levels are overworked, affecting work-life balance and service quality
- **Cultural Issues:** Reluctance to say “stop”; hesitation to acknowledge when workload becomes unmanageable
- **Post-Pandemic Impact:** Addition of virtual meetings to existing in-person commitments significantly increased trustee workload
- **Diversity Impact:** Heavy workload limits participation to mostly retirees or those with significant flexibility and resources
- **Root Causes:** Culture of excess meetings, poor prioritization, tendency to pass decisions up triangle instead of empowering trustees

FINANCIAL COMMUNICATION AND SELF-SUPPORT (QUESTION 15)

Prudent use of our Seventh Tradition contributions and literature revenue is an integral factor in our budget process. How can we improve understanding of and communication about this process?

- **Clearer Financial Reporting:** Need for clearer, more digestible financial reporting
- **Better Explanations:** Members don’t understand where money goes or costs of services
- **Narrative Reporting:** Recommendation for narrative reports showing spiritual significance of expenditures
- **Literature Income:** Literature revenue should support rather than replace group contributions

COMMUNICATION OF RESOURCE LIMITATIONS

(QUESTION 16)

How does the Conference effectively communicate its finite resources to the Fellowship, such as monetary limitations and time limitations?

- **Consistent Communication:** Communication about finite resources needs to be consistent
- **Dispelling Mistrust:** Better explanation about the heavy workload and costs could help dispel mistrust among fellowship
- **Cost Projections:** In addition to asking for contributions there should be better communication about cost projections
- **Possible Pamphlet:** Maybe a pamphlet that explains how advisory actions get implemented

COMMUNICATION BALANCE

(QUESTION 17)

Keeping a balance between ultimate authority and responsibility and the active, day-to-day functioning of world services means there must be consistent communication among all elements of the structure: groups, districts, areas, delegates, Conference and GSB. Where is the greatest need for improvement in this communication? How can we improve it?

- **Need For Consistency:** Need for consistency between GSB, regional trustees and delegates
- **Alternative Delegate Access:** Extension of onboarding access to alternative delegates
- **Establishing Credibility:** Trust building through transparency
- **Practical Improvements:** Faster reporting, clear communication guidelines and regular inventory processes.

COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPARENCY

(QUESTION 18)

Reflecting on Concept Three, is communication from the General Service Board to the delegates and Fellowship clear, consistent, and timely? How can this be improved?

- **Timing and Translation Issues:** Simultaneous translation into all three languages sometimes delays communication, creating the perception that information is being withheld
- **Consistency Problems:** Different regions receive information at different times, leading to word-of-mouth transmission and incorrect relay of details
- **Tone and Sensitivity:** Communications from GSB and GSO sometimes perceived as “tone deaf” with the loss of thoughtful filtering
- **Solutions Proposed:** Virtual town halls, simplified language, WhatsApp connections, centralized roadmaps, fellowship sign-up for preferred updates

YEAR-ROUND PROCESS

(QUESTION 19)

How can we better communicate that the Conference process is more than one week in New York? How do the delegates and regional trustees support the yearlong process effectiveness, and how can we improve?

- **Gap Recognition:** Although Conference is 12-month process, “it feels like a two-month process too many times”
- **Technology Solutions:** Virtual platforms could address housekeeping agenda items, reserving Conference week for critical message-carrying items
- **Advisory Action Accumulation:** Conference procedures tend to add solutions without

removing outdated ones, creating complexity and potential conflicts

- **Timing Challenges:** Delegate rotation timing and PAI cycle need attention; outgoing delegates still need consistent communication

CHARACTER DEFECTS IDENTIFIED

Inventory groups identified several character defects affecting Conference effectiveness:

- Mistrust between different levels of service structure
- Impatience and intolerance in discussions
- Difficulty communicating up and down the triangle
- Excessive workload creating barriers to participation
- Justified egos and self-centeredness
- Inability to recognize personal defects in service

KEY THEMES AND CONCLUSIONS:

TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

The Conference emphasized that trust must be demonstrated through actions rather than words. Multiple delegates stressed the importance of:

- Looking at “our side of the street” in conflicts
- Assuming good intentions while maintaining accountability
- Moving from discussion about trust to demonstration of trust
- Recognizing that “we” language instead of “us vs. them” thinking is essential

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Based on inventory findings, several concrete proposals emerged:

- *Two-year agenda setting process* to allow thorough area discussion of proposed items
- *Elimination of PAI submission deadlines* with year-round submission capability
- *Reworded PAI forms* focusing on solutions rather than problems
- *Enhanced financial reporting* with narrative explanations and clearer breakdowns
- *Social media guidelines* rather than restrictive policies
- *Virtual group integration guidelines* for service structure participation
- *Translation process overhaul* to reduce bottlenecks and delays
- *Extended delegate orientation* and education programs
- *Regular inventory processes* rather than crisis-driven reviews

ACTION ITEMS AND FUTURE FOCUS

Immediate Priorities Identified Through Inventory

1. *Governance and Trust Repair Implementation of board conduct standards with clear consequences*
 - Cross-functional working group to address communication breakdown
 - Regular board training on communication styles and conflict resolution
2. *PAI Process Reform Revision of proposal forms to emphasize solutions over problems*
 - Extended timeline for area consideration of agenda items
 - Enhanced feedback mechanisms for rejected proposals
3. *Communication Infrastructure Development of social media guidelines*
 - Translation process improvement to reduce delays
 - Enhanced financial reporting for better fellowship understanding
4. *Virtual Integration Guidelines for virtual group participation in service structure*

- Technology upgrades to support hybrid assemblies and conferences
- Training for trusted servants on digital communication tools

Long-term Strategic Considerations

Reserve fund management to ensure sustainable operations

1. *International expansion support* through literature fund and translation services
2. *Accessibility improvements* for diverse populations and abilities
3. *Leadership development* to maintain service continuity

Inventory Follow-Up Process

The Conference established a structured follow-up process for inventory findings:

- **Year-round implementation:** Areas encouraged to discuss inventory questions throughout the year
- **Next year's sharing session:** Planned report-back on area-level discussions and implementations
- **Trustees committee review:** Conference Committee on Agenda monitoring progress on inventory recommendations
- **Cross-functional working group:** Ongoing collaboration between trustees, staff, and delegates on communication improvements

The inventory process represents step one of a multi-year commitment to structural and cultural improvements within A.A.'s service framework.

2025 Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation

The following Advisory Action resulted from a recommendation by the Conference Committee on Agenda at the 2025 General Service Conference:

“A Conference Inventory Implementation Committee with a composition similar to the makeup of the General Service Conference (delegates, trustees, nontrustee directors and Staff members from the General Service Office and AA Grapevine) be established by the General Service Board to identify and implement actionable items, based on the inventory report-back sessions held at the 2025 General Service Conference. The committee requested that an implementation committee report be brought back to the 2026 General Service Conference.”

The Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation met nine times by videoconference following its inception in accordance with the 2025 Conference Advisory Action. The committee recognized its novel composition designed to reflect the makeup of the Conference and the importance of a delicate approach, as many actionable items from the Conference Inventory are located within the purview of corporate boards, GSB, or GSO departments. The committee also acknowledged the need to conclude its work prior to the end of the year, based on the rotation of Panel 74 members and the preparation timeline for the 2026 General Service Conference.

The Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation reviewed the “Proposed Solutions and Action Items” contained within the “Conference Inventory Process” reporting from the [2025 General Service Conference Final Report](#). The committee also reviewed a summary of inventory survey responses and the 15 Inventory Group reports that were delivered at the 75th General Service Conference.

The committee considered the Advisory Action and identified actionable items based on the inventory report-back sessions held at the 2025 General Service Conference:

The committee recommended that:

- Conference committees be made aware of all Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs) as they come in through the quarterly PAI Status Grid.
- The Conference members communicate more effectively to the Fellowship that the PAI submission cut-off deadline is only for the immediately upcoming General Service Conference and that year-round submissions are encouraged to promote ongoing discussion.

- The October feedback call be replaced with a Joint Committee meeting between trustees' and Conference committees, with all members to have a voice and vote on the disposition of Proposed Agenda Items for the next General Service Conference. Background to facilitate informed discussion should be shared with both committees.
- The PAI Status Grid be a living, curated list of items that will remain on the grid until dispositioned by policy or Joint Committee.
- Working committee agenda should be shared prior to the Joint Committee meeting for awareness of ongoing projects and annual review items.
- The General Service Conference acknowledge the authority of Conference committees to bring items forward which have not been placed on their agenda or to defer consideration of an item to a future Conference.

The committee recommended that a Conference inventory process be implemented at a regular five-year cadence, beginning in 2031; that the inventory process include an implementation committee to review and recommend actionable items following each Conference inventory.

The committee recommended that the General Service Board schedule a sharing session dedicated to discussing the roles and responsibilities of trustees, directors, delegates and Staff, to develop a more unified understanding of the scope and authority of each of these service roles.

The committee recommended that a brief report from the trustees' Nominating Committee to the Conference Committee on Trustees be delivered in addition to the proposed slate summarizing the selection process of Class A trustees, general service trustees, and nontrustee directors in regard to current board needs.

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation acknowledged the efforts already underway within the General Service Office, the General Service Board, and the corporate boards to address workload concerns. The committee noted that a workload working group, project trackers, ongoing inventory review and leadership retreats represent some of these efforts and suggested that workload-specific updates be provided through the ongoing GSB, AAWS, and AAGV reporting to the General Service Conference.

- The Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation acknowledged concerns shared during the Conference inventory related to communication and expressed appreciation for the efforts made thus far, noting the increased reporting through the updated Quarterly Financial Report, the quarterly PAI Status Grid, and the trial distribution of GSB Board and Committee Reports. The committee looks forward to further efforts to refine the reporting content and consistency for a better understanding of our financial, PAI, and board activities among the Fellowship.
- The Conference Committee on Inventory Implementation suggested that small group A.A. discussion meetings be considered in future Conference scheduling. These might begin following Saturday night's meet-and-greet and could be reconvened with a similar session mid- to late- week. Within a Fellowship of love and tolerance, we should aspire to approach each other with the same grace and understanding that we gladly show new members first approaching A.A. Participation, characterized by mutual respect and personal responsibility, is the key to harmony; regardless of titles, we stand shoulder to shoulder as members in A.A.

###