

Area 29, Panel 72

July 2023

Delegate Report



Welcome to our July Committee meeting, especially those new to Area Service. We need you! This is my first regular report since the General Service Conference in April. At our May Assembly I provided a comprehensive Report Back from the 73rd General Service Conference. The slides and other documents are posted for download on our website, marylandaa.org. If anyone has any questions or would like further information on any topic discussed there, please feel free to reach out.

In early June I also attended the Northeast Regional Forum in Burlington MA. Among other items on display was a collect of Big Books in a variety of languages, highlighting just one of the services provided by our General Service Office (GSO)



New & Exciting

The initial trial of the Young Peoples Video Project was a great success, and it has been made an ongoing effort. Look for the initial videos to be released on various platforms in the near future.

YOUNG PEOPLES VIDEO PROJECT

We want video submissions from A.A. members. WHY? To carry A.A.'s message to young people in high school and college settings.

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE!

Submissions should be 2-3 minutes in length and reflect and adhere to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, especially A.A.'s anonymity traditions. When filming A.A. members make sure no one is identifiable.

Focus on the experience of getting sober young and reflect the diversity of the Fellowship. Use members stories to help alcoholics identify. Share experiences that would relate to the "young" alcoholic who has yet to come to A.A.

BE CREATIVE AND HAVE FUN!

Individuals submitting videos must be at least 18 years of age and must reside within the boundaries of the U.S. and Canada A.A. General Service Structure. Submissions should be in English, Spanish or French.

For more information, contact the Public Information Coordinator at publicinfo@aa.org.

www.aa.org

Call for Stories – The trustees’ Literature Committee has opened a call for recovery stories for the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic.” The pamphlet update will include current stories of recovery and a new title that is respectful and inclusive. They are seeking stories of recovery from all Indigenous communities in the AA structure in the United States and Canada. Deadline is October 31, 2023. Submit via email to: pamphletstories@aa.org. Use the subject line: “A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic”

General Service Board (GSB) & General Service Office (GSO)

Saturday afternoon, following the 73rd General Service Conference (April 29th) our GSB met to ratify the actions taken at the conference. While much of the implementation will not begin in earnest until the July Board Meeting (July 28-31), action has started on some of the Advisory Actions.

At this year’s conference there was an Advisory Action requiring the GSB to undertake an inventory. The Advisory Action stated in part, “To assist the Board in this endeavor, the 73rd General Service Conference will establish a working group to aid the General Service Board in formulating possible inventory questions.” This working group has been developed. A questionnaire went out to all delegates asking about availability, noting that there would be two meetings scheduled to develop questions. I responded that if the meetings were outside of normal business hours, I’d make myself available. I was not selected. One Delegate from each of the 8 regions was chosen. Ken T. from Area 45 Southern NJ has reached out to all the regional Delegates seeking input.

Our GSO is trying to update the group database, thereby improving communications. 184 registered groups in our Area currently have their status noted as “Unknown”, meaning not contact information is available. A listing of the groups was sent to the District Committee Members (DCM’s) so we can try to turn these Unknowns into either Active or Inactive. If you are curious about the status of your group, contact your DCM, our Registrar Jeanine, or me.

A termite walks into a bar and asks “Is the bar tender here?”

A hamburger walks into a bar. The bartender says “We don’t serve food!” The hamburger says “That’s OK I just want a drink.”

A screwdriver goes into a bar. The bartender says, “Hey, we have a drink named after you!” The screwdriver asks, “You have a drink named Philip?”

Financial Update

This information (unaudited) is as of June 30, 2023:

- Contributions: \$4.79 million (101% of YTD budget)
- Literature Sales: \$7.92 million (111% of YTD budget)
- Literature Margin: \$4.77 million (130% of YTD budget)
- Expenses: Unavailable
- Prudent Reserve: 7.08 months



The mailing address for sending 7th Tradition Contributions:

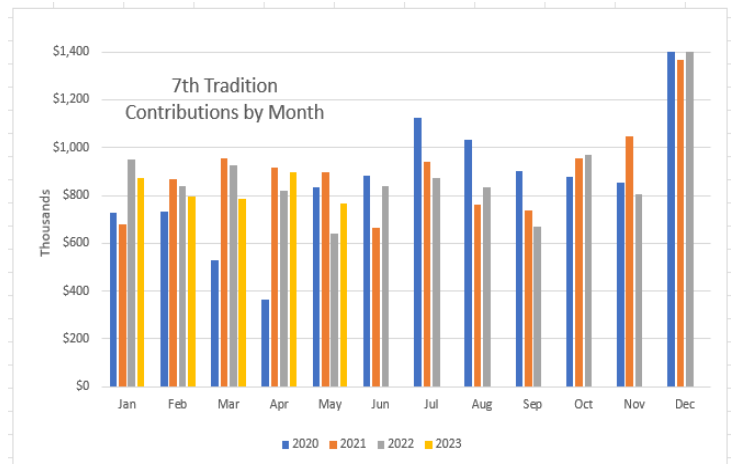
Post Office Box 2407
James A. Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

Online contributions at:
contribution.aa.org.

There have been several recent enhancements to the [contributions](#) pages on aa.org designed to improve functionality and the online experience.

The enhancements include:

- Faster processing
- Simplified navigation
- A more intuitive user interface
- Clearer directions
- Less cluttered web pages



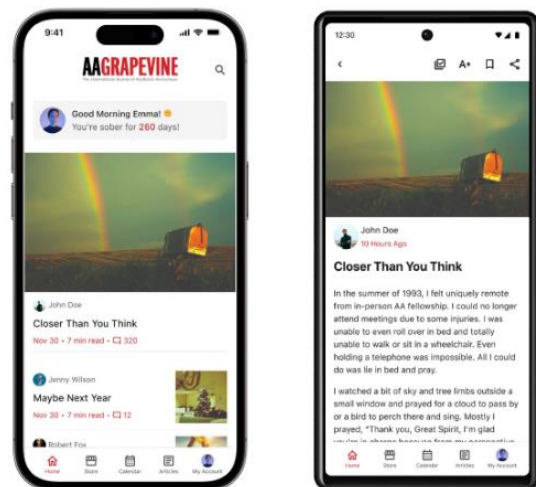
Publishing & Grapevine

On June 15th a communication went out regarding continuing supply chain disruptions. It is posted on AA.org in the “What’s New” section. It’s likely that periodic disruptions will continue for the foreseeable future, based on printing industry trends. Those seeking to purchase items will receive all discounts earned on items that they select – including those items on backorder.

There is also an opening for a Non-Trustee Director with the Grapevine. The notice was forwarded to our Area email list. The deadline for resumes is Sept. 15, 2023. Please use this link to a resume form www.aagrapevine.org/Vacancy-NTD-AAGV and return the completed form to resumes@aagrapevine.org,

Grapevine and LaVina Apps: With Grapevine printed magazine circulation projected to continue falling, to remain viable, Grapevine is in the process of developing an interactive App available for subscription (\$2.99 a month). This will require a significant initial investment of \$300,000 - \$400,000. Content will include:

- Access to Articles not available in printed magazine
- Ability to Comment on and Share Articles
- Personalization with Sobriety Date, Favorite Meetings and Spiritual Maintenance Checklist
- More Opportunities to Publish Your Stories



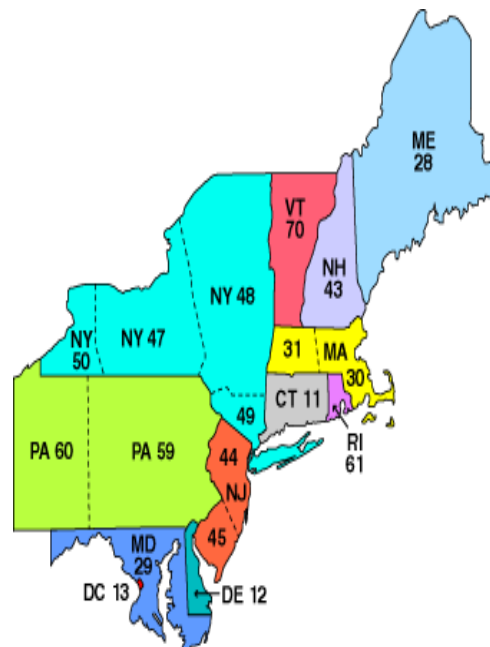
Beta testing has begun. App Release is scheduled for Sep. 15, 2023

Plain Language Big Book: The initial draft has been completed and is with the TABB Working Group for review.

Northeast Region Update

We have a new Northeast Regional Trustee (NERT), Ken T. from Area 31, Western Mass. At the upcoming General Service Board Weekend he will attend the new trustee orientation

The Northeast Region AA Service Assembly (NERAASA) committee, along with our trustee and regional delegates, have been discussing options for rebuilding the NERAASA prudent reserve. While the 2023 event was well attended, with 1,071 attendees, expenses were higher than budgeted for, resulting in a shortfall of \$4,325. This resulted in funds being withdrawn from the reserve. Options being considered include asking Areas to provide funds, raising registration fees, and reducing expenses.



Did You Know?

Beginning in 1969, and meeting biennially, the World Service Meeting (WSM) is an international forum for shared experience and ideas on carrying the A.A. message. It alternates between New York and other locations around the globe, and has convened in such diverse cities as Cartagena, Colombia; Auckland, New Zealand; Oviedo, Spain; Malahide, Ireland; Mexico City, Mexico; Warsaw, Poland; and Durban, South Africa. The final report from the most recent meeting is available at: aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/f-150_en_2022.pdf

NERAASA 2024 will be hosted by Area 59 Eastern PA in Hershey PA. Feb. 23-25, 2024 . Registration is now open at NERAASA.org/register.

The Maryland State Convention will be held Aug. 4-6 in Hunt Valley Maryland. Visit marylandaa.org for more information or to register

The Sunlight of the Spirit Conference will be held Aug. 11-13 in York PA. It will feature several speakers from Area 29. Visit sunlightyork.org for more details.

I encourage all to visit websites of neighboring Areas for more information on upcoming virtual and live events.

Outside our Region

The Ohio State A.A. Convention will be held Aug. 11-13, in Dayton, OH. For more information visit aaarea56.org/2023-state-convention/

Conference Agenda Review Committee's (CARC's)

CARC Reconvenes are underway. At these meetings we review in detail what happened with the conference agenda items discussed pre-conference. It is also an opportunity to bring up ideas for proposed agenda items for the next General Service Conference and talk through them to try and improve them.

CARC's 1, 3 and 4 have held their reconvene meetings already. CARC 2 will be meeting virtually on July 18th. All interested members are welcome to attend.

I am grateful for the efforts of all involved and participating. And much thanks to our Alternate Delegate, Terry, for coordinating this activity.

Travels & Activities

Apr 21-29 – General Service Conference
May 6 - DCM's and Alternate's Mtg
May 20 – Area Assembly GSC Report Back
May 21 – Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee
May 30 – NERF Planning Mtg
Jun 2-4 - Northeast Regional Forum (NERF)
Jun 5 – Intergroup Liaison Committee Mtg
Jun 10 - DCM's and Alternate's Mtg
Jun 11 – Over the Rainbow Report Back
Jun 14 – Area Service Sharing Session
Jun 21 – District 28 Report Back
Jun 24 – CARC 3 Reconvene
Jun 27 – Grapevine Committee Report Back
Jul 1 - DCM's and Alternate's Mtg
Jul 5 – CARC 4 Reconvene

Jul 6 – District 35 Report Back
Jul 7 – CARC 1 Reconvene
Jul 8 – Better Way of Life Group Report Back
Jul 13 – Delegates Only Mtg
Jul 15 – Area Committee
Jul 16 - Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee
Jul 18 – CARC 2 Reconvene
Jul 20 – Districts 40, 41 and WCI Report Back
Aug 2-6 – MGS State Convention
Aug 19 – Area Assembly
Aug 20 - Plain Language Big Book Workshop
Aug 20 - Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee

If you would like a visit to your Group, District or Intergroup please contact me at: delegate@marylandaa.org.

“To be vital, faith must be accompanied by self-sacrifice and unselfish, constructive action.”
– *Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. 93

Respectfully Submitted,

Kurt W.
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Conference Corrections Committee
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