

Area 29, Panel 72

October 2022

Delegate Report



Welcome to our October Area Assembly, our Area Inventory. I'd like to welcome all. Particularly those new to Area Service. At our Chair's request, to save time on the agenda I won't be delivering this report verbally today. As much as I love interacting with all my fellow service workers in Area 29, I also am a strong believer in inventories. I hope everyone shares freely, while remembering to keep principles before personalities. And we do have some personalities in our Area!

New & Exciting

While our General Service Board (GSB) and General Service Office (GSO) continue to implement the advisory actions from recent conferences, planning for the 73rd General Service Conference is well underway. There will likely be three international observers at the 73rd, from Peru, Central Mexico, and Poland.

The digital, anonymity protected, Conference Report has been issued. Copies were sent out to our mailing list. I ordered 400 copies of printed reports, which will be distributed around the Area. Printed copies are now projected to be available sometime this month, although due to a paper shortage they will be printed on different paper than usual.

At our Area Assembly Area 29 approved three proposed agenda items for the 73rd General Service Conference. They have been submitted and acknowledgements of receipt have been received.

The 2022 A.A. Membership Survey has been extended until Oct. 24, 2022. Here in Area 29, we are nearly done our part. There are two groups yet to be visited. Visits were rescheduled after the extension so as not to conflict with work. Groups visited to date are:

- A. Bel Air Women's Big Book Group - Bel Air
- B. Brooklyn Keep Coming Back Grp - Brooklyn
- C. Sunday Morning Agape Group - Pasadena
- D. Young Dumb & Full of AA Group - Frederick
- E. As Bill Sees It Group - Pasadena
- F. Riviera Beach Group - Pasadena
- G. Safe Haven Women's Online Group - Online
- H. Awake And Ready Group - Halethorpe
- I. Hopkins Group - Baltimore
- J. Saturday Nite Mountain Group - Frederick
- K. Saturday Morn Free Time Group - Pasadena



Much thanks to our DCM's and our Area Registrar for helping contact groups and updating Fellowship Connection. And more thanks to our Area Chair, Brigitte, and our District 28 DCM, Joanne, for taking care of the Women's groups.

General Service Board & GSO

On Oct. 5, 2022, the General Service Office reopened for visitors Wednesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., marking the first phase of the reopening process. This also includes reinstating the Friday 11:00am AA meeting. Visitors must wear face coverings and building policy requires signing in. Please call before planning a trip there. The phone number is (212) 870-3430.



Over 100,000 weekly meetings are currently listed on the Meeting Guide App, and information is refreshed twice daily.

The Public Information Desk is looking for videos for their Young People's Video Project. They are looking to carry the message of recovery to those in high school and of college age. Submissions should be 2-3 minutes long. Details can be found at [Young People's Project](#) or by visiting the [What's New](#) page at AA.org. Deadline is Nov. 7, 2022.

The International Convention Member Engagement Survey is still open. More information, including how to participate, can be found at [Convention Survey](#).

AA In the News

The Daily Mining Gazette, a Michigan newspaper, recently published an article asking the question: [Is A.A. Effective?](#)

(Spoiler: It is)

Our General Service Board last met the final weekend of July. This meeting was focused on strategic planning, including reviewing financial data for the first six months of the year, reviewing direction provided by the General Service Conference, and determining any need to reforecast the budget. Several changes were made to the 2022 budget, which are detailed in the Financial Update section below.

The Trustees' General Service Conference Committee has agreed to form a subcommittee on Conference Improvements (SCI) with the scope of continuing review of Conference evaluations and suggesting possible ways to improve the Conference. The committee requested within its scope that the subcommittee give particular attention to developing an approach to accommodate Conference member participation in light of circumstances of a Covid breakout and other situations that may result in a member not being present in meeting rooms during Conference week.

Calls for Stories:

1. Fifth edition of our Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Deadline for submission is October 31, 2022. For more information please see the [announcement](#) on AA.org. (I submitted my story and hope many others in our Area have also done so or are putting on their finishing touches.)

2. Fourth edition of the Spanish language version of our Big Book, *Alcohólicos Anónimos*. The submission deadline is December 15, 2022. Details can be found [here](#).
3. Upcoming revision to “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic”. Deadline for submission is October 31, 2022 and details can be found [here](#).

GSO is looking for ideas for Theme, Workshop Topics and Presentation Topics for the 74th Conference in 2024. Please send me your suggestions at delegate@marylandaa.org and I will compile them and send along. Due date is December 2, 2022.

Financial Update

At the July GSB Meeting the Board approved a recommendation from the Trustees’ Finance and Budgetary Committee reforecasting the budget, which reflects:

- Total Revenue of \$16,714,400 (Original \$16, 761,400)
- Contributions of \$11,000,000 (Original 10,000,000)
 - Historically 44% - 46% are received in the first half of the year, 54% - 56% in the second half
- Literature Profit of \$5,500,000 (Original \$6,534,000)
- Total Expenses of \$18,089,497 (Original \$18,111,969)
- Deficit of \$1,375,097 (Original \$1,350,569)



Note: In 2021 there was a surplus of \$1,697,141. \$250,000 was moved into our Prudent Reserve, with \$1,447,141 used to prepay 2022 expenses. Thus, they are expecting a surplus of \$72,044 for the year.

Grapevine is now projecting:

- Total Revenues of \$1,534,521,
- Total Expenses of \$1,796,739
- Deficit of \$262,218 (Original surplus of \$19,234)

La Viña is now projecting a Deficit of \$557,723 (Original \$402,067) to be covered by the General Service Board.

This information (unaudited) is as of June 30, 2022:

- Contributions: \$5.0+ million (50%+ of budget) - 22% online
- Literature Sales: \$5.8 million (52% of budget)
- Literature Profits: \$2,744,100 (42% of budget)
- Cost of Goods Sold: \$2.8 million (64% of budget)
- Payroll & Benefits: \$4.7 million (47% of budget)
- Overall Expenses: \$8.2 million (47% of budget)
- Deficit YTD: \$114,000
- Prudent Reserve: Approx. 7.65 months

The mailing address for sending 7th Tradition Contributions to GSO:

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

Online contributions can be made [here](#).

Publishing & Grapevine

Grapevine will be adding a \$2.49 increase to all books. The top 10 selling books' prices will increase on January 1, 2023, and other books' prices will increase as they go to reprint. Other ancillary items prices will increase on January 1, 2023 as well.

AA Grapevine Upcoming Magazine Topics:

- November Gratitude and Fun in Sobriety

Upcoming Grapevine Books, Planned for 2023:

1. *Best of Dear Grapevine.*
2. *Book for Newcomers*

AA La Viña Upcoming Magazine Topics:

1. Sep – Oct: No Matter What
2. Nov – Dec: La Viña Short Stories

New La Viña Book, Now Available:

1. *Sobriedad emocional: Más allá del horizonte*

Upcoming La Viña Books, Planned for 2023 (or later)

1. *Best of La Viña*
2. *Prayer and Meditation*

New and Updated Materials Now Available:

1. P-9 Behind the Walls: A Message of Hope
2. P-42 A Brief Guide to A.A.
3. P-25 Faith Leaders Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous
4. B-14 Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (Large Print)
5. P-43 Twelve Traditions Illustrated
6. DV-07 Your A.A. G.S.O., the Grapevine, and the General Service Structure

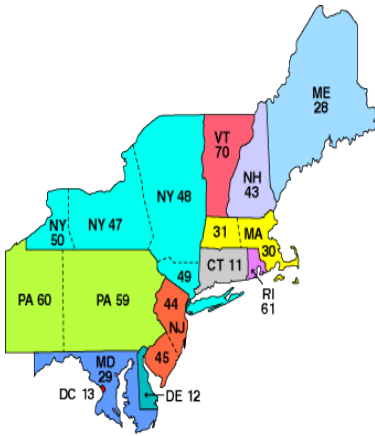
Grapevine Podcast: Episodes of the AA Grapevine Half-Hour Variety Hour have now been downloaded over 180,000 times. They are available on many podcast platforms or can be accessed at aagrapevine.org/podcast. This month they are celebrating their one-year anniversary with a special episode released on Oct. 4th. It features Don and Sam talking with the gang at Grapevine about the creation of the podcast, as well as some hilarious bloopers that didn't make it onto the weekly podcast.

Mixed-Title Volume Discount Test Pilot – A six-month test pilot was running through September 15, 2022. It has been extended until Dec. 31, 2022. Orders will receive a quantity discount based on the quantity ordered for all titles combined, as opposed to purchasing a quantity of one specific title.

Supply Chain Disruptions – Supply chain disruptions continue to be a challenge. An updated AA communication has been sent to the Fellowship via email blast and posted on "What's New" on www.aa.org.

A drunk goes into a bar. The bartender tosses him out as he is too drunk. The drunk walks back into the bar. Again, the bartender throws him out for being too drunk. For the third time, the drunk walks into the bar. The bartender is just about to throw him out when the drunk looks at him and says, "How many bars do you own, anyway?"

Northeast Region Update & NERD Happenings



NERAASA 2023 will be hosted by Area 48 Northeast New York (NENY) in Albany NY, Feb. 24-26, 2023. I hope to see many of you there. Registration is now open at: neraasa.org/register/2023

NERAASA 2024 will be hosted by Area 59 Eastern Pennsylvania in Hershey PA. Feb. 23-25, 2024

NERD Get-Together 2023 will be hosted by Area 12 Delaware in Wilmington DE Mar. 10-12, 2023

NERF 2023 will be hosted by Area 30 Eastern MA in Burlington MA June 2-4, 2023

NERAASA Inventory - Several years ago NERAASA voted to implement a biennial inventory process. 2023 will be our first opportunity to have an in-person inventory discussion. However, because the Inventory Guidelines state "All past and current attendees of NERAASA should be eligible to participate in the Inventory." a wider net is being cast. To include people who may have attended in the past but will not be attending this year, as well as people who have never attended, part of the inventory is being conducted at the Area level. There are a forms on the table that can be filled out and given to me or you can go to Survey Monkey to answer these questions online here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6YY7GCG> (English), or <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T8WJMSJ> (Spanish). The survey data collection runs through Dec. 31, 2022

The 36th Annual Gratitude Breakfast hosted by Area 13 District of Columbia, will be on Nov. 13, 2022. For tickets contact Tickets@area13aa.org.

The 58th Annual Massachusetts State Convention jointly hosted by Area 30 Eastern MA and Area 31 Western MA, will be held Nov. 11-13, 2022 in Sturbridge MA. For mor information visit aamastateconvention.org.

The Cape Atlantic Annual Waves Roundup will be Dec. 2-4 in Atlantic City NJ. For more information visit roundup.capeatlanticaa.org.

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

Outside our Region

The 6th National Corrections Conference will be held Nov. 11-13, 2022 in Schaumburg, IL. All A.A. Members are welcome. Visit nationalcorrectionsconference.org for details. I will be attending, and Sharon, our Corrections Committee Co-Chair is also planning on attending.

The Southeast Regional Forum will be held live in New Orleans, LA Dec. 2-4, 2022. For more information, contact James H., Regional Forums Staff Coordinator, at regionalforums@aa.org or call (212) 870-3120. **Note:** Recent Regional Forum Reports are available as free downloads on AA.org

Travels & Activities

Aug 13 - Area Assembly
Aug 21 – Delegates Meeting w/Trustee
Aug 23 – NEMDAA IG
Sep 11 – International Corrections Mtg
Sep 13 – Delegates Q&A Membership Survey
Sep 18 – District 18 Picnic
Sep 24 – Area Committee
Sep 25 - Riviera Beach Group
Sep 30 - Hopkins Group
Oct 1 – DCM's and Alternates Mtg
Oct 1 – Big Book Story Writing Workshop
Oct 2 - Sunday Morning Agape Group
Oct 2 - Young Dumb and Full Group
Oct 5 - Brooklyn Keep Coming Back Group
Oct 6 - Awake and Ready Group
Oct 8 - Saturday Morning Free Time Group

Oct 8 - Saturday Nite Mountain Group
Oct 13 - As Bill Sees It Group
Oct 15 – Area Assembly
Oct 16 – NEMDAA Gratitude Breakfast
Oct 16 – Delegates Meeting w/Trustee
Oct 18 – Conf. Corr. Cmte meet w/Trustee
Oct 22 – Corrections Workshop
Nov 5 – DCM's and Alternates Mtg
Nov 11 -13 – Corrections Conference
Nov 12 – Area Committee (Remote)
Nov 20 – Delegates Meeting w/Trustee
Dec 3 – DCM's and Alternates Mtg
Dec 18 – Delegates Meeting 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.
Delegate
Area 29 Panel 72
Corrections Conference Committee
delegate@marylandaa.org

