



Delegate Report

Area 29 Panel 70

October 2020

It's 2020 and "Everything" is different, but the message of AA is timeless....and AA is responding so that our message is available to all of those reaching out for help in this unprecedented time.

Random Musings of your Delegate

This Saturday October 17th, Area 29 will be engaging in our biannual inventory. This is an opportunity to look back and take stock of how well we are doing the work that our groups have asked us to do. We will consider what are we doing well, what can we do better and what can we do that we haven't even considered as we continue to serve the members of Alcoholics Anonymous in our area. Our 12 & 12 reminds us that "Thoroughness ought to be the watchword when taking inventory....It will be an aid to clear thinking and honest appraisal". I hope that each of you will take advantage of the opportunity to share your thoughts. Your voice is critical in the process of helping us be the best that we are capable of being.

Just a reminder that the Final 70th General Service Conference Reports are still available. Please let me know if you would like a copy and get the word out to fellowship that I will be happy to supply any member with copies of the report. Send those requests to delegate@marylandaa.org. Digital copies are available on the Delegate page at Marylandaa.org.

General Service Board and GSO Updates

The recommendation to hold two Forums this year – the East and West U.S./Canada Forums respectively – was approved by the Board. To that end, planning for the December 5 East US/Canada and December 19 West US/Canada Forums are moving along. The one-day forums will include sharing by Delegates from the respective regions who have been invited to moderate themed workshops of their choice; a panel discussion with local Central Offices/Intergroups; an A.A. History tour with Sister Judith and Michelle Mirza; sharing by our Class A's (a segment titled "A Class Act"); "A.A. Around the World with our trustees' at large; past trustee sharing; a screening room, and much more! GSO is putting the finishing touches on the Registration form.

Please welcome our incoming CFO, Paul Konigstein, who joined our General Service Office on Monday, October 5. Paul, a non-alcoholic, comes to GSO with many years as a leader with non-profit finance experience. We all look forward to the benefit that this experience will bring to GSO.

Our friends on the Treatment desk at GSO have asked for our help. If you need more information please reach out to me or Frank Mc F, Area 29 Treatment Chair.

"In today's world, alcoholics from all walks of life participate in, or are confined to many types of Treatment, Correctional, Medical, Therapeutic, Crisis or Community settings. They all leave that place at some point, but some are looking for an A.A contact to help them get involved and become a part of the A.A. Fellowship to maintain their sobriety on the outside.

Would you please share your experiences with Bridging the Gap (BTG), or some type of Temporary A.A. Contacts, which might be included in the development of a BTG Workbook and AA Guidelines on BTG?

If you have experience and call the Temporary A.A. contacts by another name, then we want to hear from you too.

- Ways to pass on your experience to tf@aa.org:
 - Typing it up in an email
 - Recording a voice memo from your smart phone
 - Sharing the Audio portion from a videoconference recording of local sharing (such as zoom meeting)

Please send your sharing as soon as possible, or before December 15, 2020.”



Financial Update

The General Service Board has authorized a drawdown of \$1.5 million from the Reserve Fund by A.A. World Services, Inc. to cover cash flow requirements in the 4th quarter of 2020. This will put the Reserve Fund balance at approximately \$13.1 million, which reflects a level of approximately 7.8 months of office operating expenses. (The Reserve Fund calculation is based on recent actual operating expenses.) The full letter announcing this draw down from our GSO General Manager is attached to electronic version of this report. Much of the 4th quarter cash flow challenges were due to the VRIP payouts.

We also received a communication from our GSB that contained the Compiled Q & A from the “Special Virtual Finance Presentation to 70th G.S.C.” on August 15, 2020. I have attached the document for your review. There were answers to a total of 49 questions that were forwarded to the members of the GSC. Seven questions were removed, because the answers are still “pending”. These are:

- 2020 International Convention potential loss amount (Q17)
- Add salaries into 70th GSC expense recap (Q26)
- Request for information on drawdown and cashflow (Q48)
- Full ERP report including a project summary narrative since inception (Q7, Q11., Q11.5 & Q27)

If you have any questions after reviewing the document, please feel free to reach out.

We need to once again acknowledge and send a message of gratitude to all of you because the outreach to the membership for 7th Tradition support resulted in Sept. 2020 contributions that were once again in excess of \$800K. Total contributions from all sources year to date are over \$7 million.

The November Issue of Grapevine Is Here!



This month's Featured Section is “Our Twelve Traditions” with stories by AA members about AA's Traditions. Also included are powerful stories of hope by members during the current COVID-19 crisis.

Share your stories with Grapevine! GV is always looking for stories on special topics as well as for departments such as Emotional Sobriety, Sponsorship, Newcomers, Youth Enjoying Sobriety, Old-Timers and Home Group, and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

Please consider supporting the Area 29 Grapevine Committee's new project to bring Alcoholics Anonymous to those in need during the Covid-19 pandemic. Reach out to Meryl T. for more information on how you and your Districts and Homegroups can participate in this important 12 Step work.

Northeast Region Update & NERD Happening

A Virtual 2021 NERAASA has been scheduled for February and the committee, made of the Panel 69 Delegates, is hard at work planning for this first NE Regional Virtual event. I will forward more information as the planning unfolds. The 2021 NERAASA Platform Committee is asking for volunteers from the membership to supplement the production company hosting of the 2021 Virtual NERAASA.

The DCMs and Delegates of Areas 29 & 29 will be co-hosting a "Journey through the Service Manual" workshop series beginning in January 2021. More details on this series will be available next month.

Delegates and Alternate Delegates are continuing to meet virtually with our NE Regional Trustee Francis G. monthly and have the opportunity to ask questions, share happenings in our Areas and discuss concerns and share solutions to issues that we are all experiencing.

Take the time to visit the websites of our neighboring Areas for links to their virtual events. The North East Region (home of the NERDs) is comprised of 18 Areas in the US from New England to Washington DC. They are Area 11/ Connecticut, Area 12 /Delaware, Area 13/ Washington DC, Area 28/ Maine, Area 29/ Maryland, Area 30/ E. Massachusetts, Area 31/ W. Massachusetts, Area 43/ New Hampshire, Area 44/ N. New Jersey, Area 45/ S. New Jersey, Area 47/ Central New York, Area 48/ Hudson/Mohawk/Berkshire NY, Area 49/ SE New York, Area 50/ W. New York, Area 59/ E. Pennsylvania, Area 60/ W. Pennsylvania, Area 61/ Rhode Island, Area 70/ Vermont.

71st General Service Conference Agenda Item

A committee made up of members of all four CARCs, a past Delegate, and your Panel 70 Delegate and Alternate Delegate began meeting last month to consider a recommendation for an agenda item to the Area that addresses the procedural action by the GSC Chair person at the 70th GSC calling a Conference Committee report "Out of Order". The item was finalized this week and reads:

We request a procedure be drafted to appeal an "Out of Order" ruling by the Conference Chair. This procedure may include that the Chair may provide an explanation as to such ruling.

Background material will be distributed prior to our November Area 29 Committee meeting.

Delegate Virtual Travels

September 27 - HAIG/ Dist 20 GSB Financial Report
October 5 - IGLC GSB financial report
October 7 - Area 29 71 st GSC Agenda Item Meeting

Upcoming Delegate Virtual Travels

October 18 - Panel 69 & 70 NERD Monthly Meeting

October 19 - Area 29 Finance Committee Meeting

November 10 – District 42 Delegate Reportback

November 14 - DCM/Alt DCM/Delegate meeting

If you are interested in a Delegate visit to your District or Intergroup, please reach out and we can get it on the calendar.

Thank you each one for all that you do for this amazing fellowship that brought us from darkness to light and to ensure that AA is here for all of those who will reach out for help in relieving their alcoholism for generations to come....c....

Cynthia T.

Delegate

Area 29 Panel 70

Trustees Conference Committee

delegate@marylandaa.org

“Thank you for your life”

