

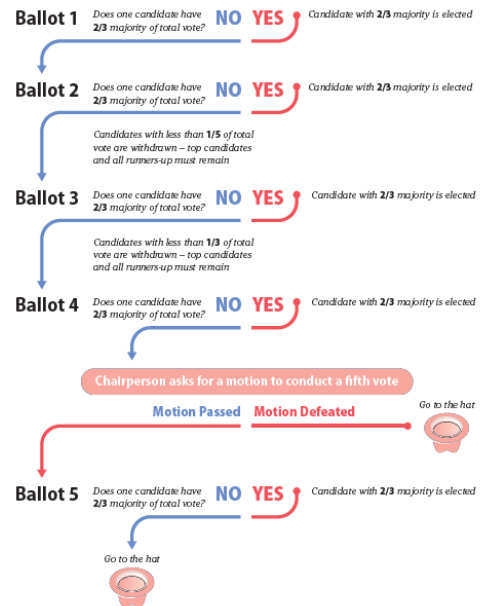
Area 29, Panel 72

October 2023

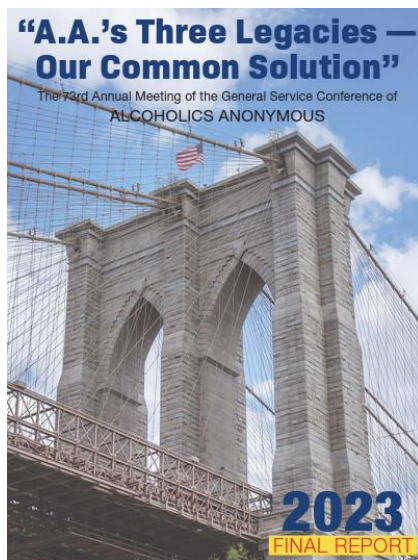
Delegate Report



Welcome to our October Assembly, especially those new to Area Service. We need you! Signaling that Panel 72 will soon be ending, today we hold elections for our Panel 74 Officers. Let me once again take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Delegate. And I look forward to working with our next Delegate to ensure a smooth rotation. In recent years I've been blessed with the opportunity to serve in three of our elected officer positions, Treasurer, Alternate Delegate and Delegate. All have had their challenges. But the rewards have far exceeded those challenges. I hope many here will make themselves available to receive those same rewards.



New & Exciting



Conference Final Reports are now available. Digital copies are at marylandaa.org or, for the first time, aa.org. Printed copies are also available here today. A typographical error appeared in the print version that produced the wrong addresses for Panel 73 delegates in the listing of delegates in the section on Conference Members (pages 152-153). The addresses printed are those of the prior Panel 71 delegates. It is correct in the digital version.

A digital option is being added to the 2025 International Convention, providing anonymity-protected, encrypted, digital access to the Friday night meeting (including the flag ceremony), and the Saturday and Sunday Big meetings, at a fee to be determined. A "flag ceremony only" option will continue to be available online for free.

The Conference Agenda Committee is looking for ideas for a Theme, Presentation topics and Workshop topics for the 2025 (75th) General Service Conference. Suggestions are due in by Nov. 1, 2023. Let me know of any suggestions and I will forward them. If you'd like listing of previous topics email me at delegate@marylandaa.org. I will reply with them.

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

The old dashboard (Hyperoffice) is being retired and replaced with a system by OnBoard Meetings. This is a significant upgrade which includes a more intuitive interface, a calendar tool, annotation tools for documents, the ability to share notes and messages, and much more. There are also mobile apps for Android and Apple platforms.

A new GSO Staff Assignment Sheet (F-15) is available. Several positions are being filled on an interim basis. An updated sheet will be provided when they are permanently filled.



CartoonStock.com

Volunteers are needed for the Corrections Correspondence Service. To sign up please visit aa.org/corrections-correspondent-sign-form. There is a particular need for Spanish speaking men in the eastern US.

Our General Service Board will meet the final weekend in October. Among other tasks they will begin reviewing the Proposed Agenda Items submitted for the 74th General Service Conference. Our Area (Area 29) submitted one item this year. We should hear about it's disposition in the next few weeks.

During the General Service Board meeting in-person interviews of the three candidates under consideration for the vacant Board Chair position

will be held. One of the remaining candidates is a past Class A Trustee.

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 and input received from the selected Delegates. Further input is being gathered from non-Delegate members of the working group.

Our GSO is updating the group database, thereby improving communications. If you are curious about the status of your group, contact your DCM, our Registrar Jeanine, or me.

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) are now live on aa.org at aa.org/faqs. There are 102 FAQs in 3 languages. A link is posted in the footer of every page on the website.

A.A. In the News

Psychology Today has begun an interesting series of blog posts regarding A.A.'s 12 Steps. The posting on Step 1 can be found at: psychologytoday.com/us/blog/healing-from-addiction/202308/aas-step-one-confrontation-with-reality

The new online Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission form is now in use. I used it to submit the item our area proposed for 74th GSC and it worked flawlessly.

The timeline regarding 74th General Service Conference agenda item notifications is:

- Early October – Standing items for committees and those carried over (Received)
- October - List of all Proposed Agenda Items submitted (Received)
- November – Updates following October Board Mtg., along with new items
- Early February – Final list of Conference Agenda Items, along with Committee
- February 16-23 – Background (likely to come out in pieces)

Financial Update

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

- Contributions: \$7.31 million (96% of YTD budget)
- Literature Sales: \$11.21 million (100% of YTD budget)
- Literature Margin: \$5.62 million (98% of YTD budget)
- Expenses: \$13.06 million (98% of YTD budget)
- Prudent Reserve: 7.27 months

Quarterly Contributions Reports have been received for the quarter ending in June and forwarded to our District Committee Members. If you haven't gotten it, please reach out to me.

The mailing address for sending 7th Tradition Contributions:

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

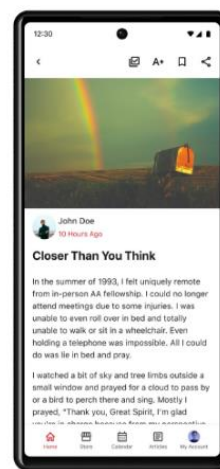
Online contributions at:
contribution.aa.org.



Publishing & Grapevine

The Grapevine and La Viña apps have been launched. They can be found in your App Store. To date there have been over 7,000 downloads, making it one of the most downloaded apps for the month of September. Contents include:

- Access to Articles not available in the 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
- And much more



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”

A working group consisting of A.A. members is being formed to assist with the challenge of reading and selecting stories to be included in the 5th edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Working group members will be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement.

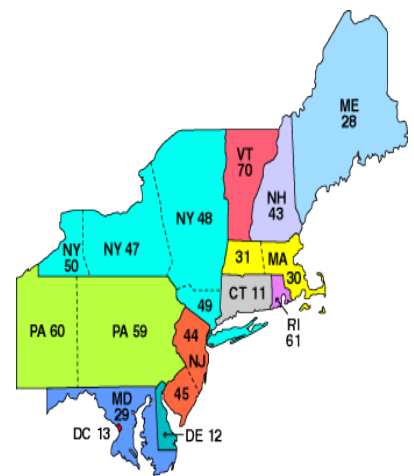
The completely revised and redesigned pamphlet "[*Young People in A.A.*](#)" is now available for purchase or download. It contains new stories and was created with input and feedback received from recent YPAA meetings.

The new *Membership Survey* pamphlet has been completed and the website is being worked on. The graphical components in English and French are complete. A few of the Spanish language components are yet to be finalized. Once they are all ready, the website can be completed. After the website launches, the pamphlet will go to the AAWS board meeting for final approval and pricing. We should see these in the first quarter of 2024.

Service Manuals are temporarily out of stock. They should be back in stock in the next few weeks. PDF versions remain available for download.

Northeast Region Update

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 \$4,324.83. This resulted in funds being withdrawn from the reserve. Options being considered included asking Areas to provide funds, raising registration fees, and reducing expenses. At our Delegates meeting with our Trustee in September it was decided that NERAASA needs to be self-supporting and will have to find ways to reduce expenses. Registration fees have also been slightly increased.



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](https://neraasa.org/register).

Area 48, North East New York (NENY), will be hosting their 2023 Convention in Utica NY November 3-5. For more information, or to register, visit <https://nenyaa.org/2023-neny-convention/>.

Area 11, Connecticut, will be hosting the 38th Connecticut State Convention of Young People in AA in Windsor Locks CT November 24-26. For more info visit cscypaa.org.

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

Outside our Region

The National Corrections Conference will be in Oklahoma City OK on Nov. 10-12, 2023. Details can be found at nationalcorrectionsconference.org/

The Southern States AA Service Assembly (SSAASA) will be held Nov. 17-19 in Orlando FL. For more information visit ssaasa7.org.

Conference Agenda Review Committee's (CARC's)

CARC Reconvenes have been completed. There I was able to provide detailed reports on the disposition of conference agenda items discussed pre-conference. Additionally, there was robust discussion regarding potential agenda items to be submitted for the 74th General Service Conference. Many thanks to all of those involved in this process.

And, as a reminder, our CARC process is a year-round process. As coordinator, immediately after the upcoming election, our new Alternate Delegate will be working to make sure we have CARC Leaders, Recording Secretaries and Mentors in place for 2024

Travels & Activities

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 14 – Finance Committee
Aug 16 – Conf. Members Sharing Session
Aug 19 – Area Assembly
Aug 20 - Plain Language Big Book Workshop
Aug 20 - Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee
Sep 2 - DCM's and Alternate's Mtg
Sep 5 – Mtg with Area 13 Chair and Delegate
Sep 17 - Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee
Sep 23 – Phelps Luck Group Conscience
Oct 2 – Conf. Corrections Committee Mtg

Oct 4 – OnBoard (dashboard) Training
Oct 7 – DCM's and Alternate's Mtg
Oct 15 – District 10 Picnic
Oct 15 – Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee
Oct 21 – Area Assembly – Elections
Nov 4 – DCM's and Alternate's Mtg
Nov 10-12 – National Corrections Conf.
Nov 15 – GSC Sharing Session
Nov 18 – Area Committee
Nov 19 – Delegates and Alts. w/Trustee
Dec 16 – Area Assembly – Rotation
Dec 17 - 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.
Delegate, Area 29 Panel 72
Conference Corrections Committee
delegate@marylandaa.org

