



72nd General Service Conference

A.A. Comes of Age 2.0:
Unified in Love and Service

Area 29 Delegate Report Back

May 21, 2022



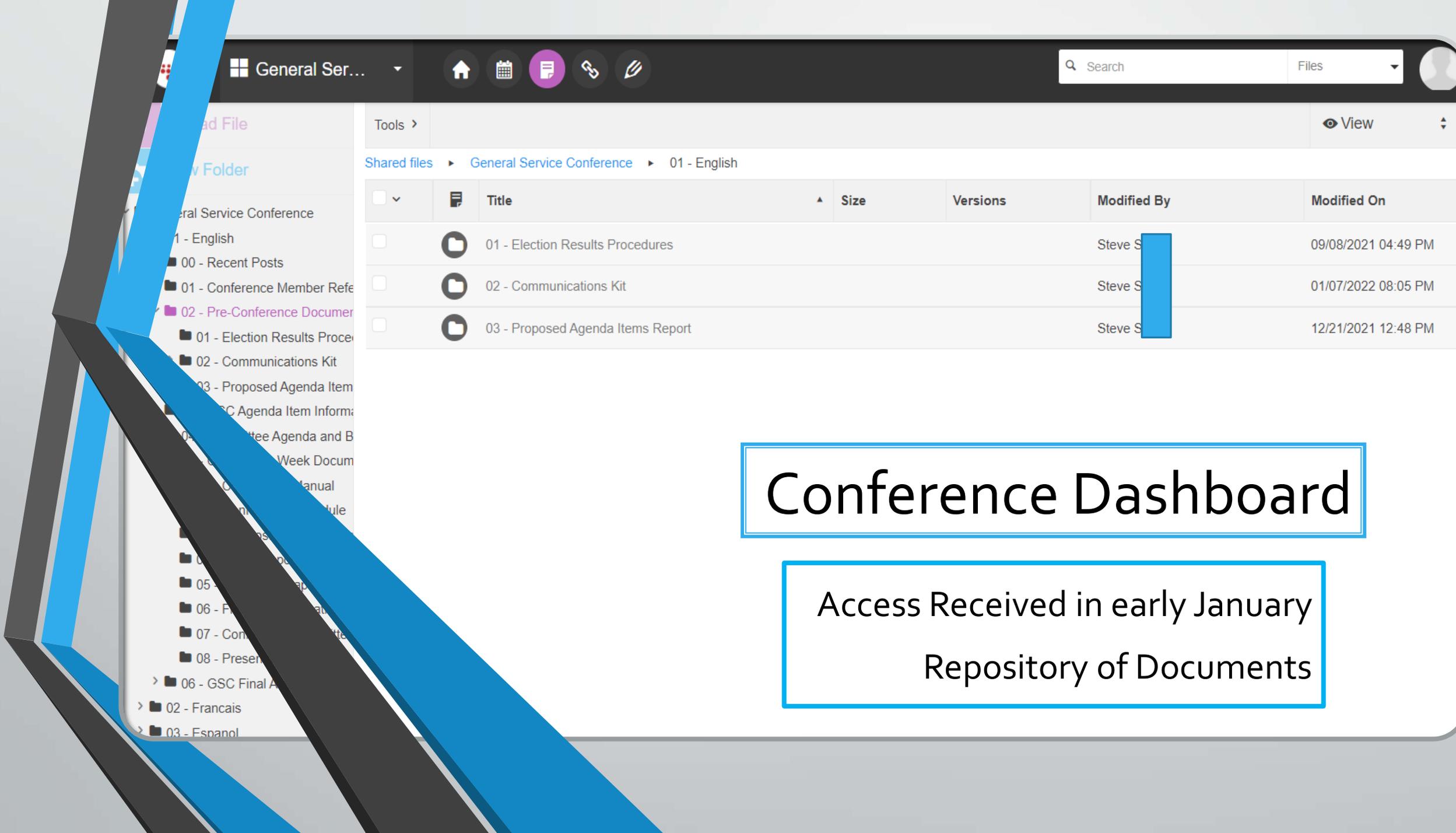
Brooklyn Bridge Marriott

April 24-30, 2022

First Things First!

Cigar Shops





Conference Dashboard

Access Received in early January
Repository of Documents

Getting Organized

Tech instead
of paper





Conference Buddy

Karla Y.

Area 93 – Central California



Packing for the Adventure

ns St Parking, 333 Adams St, Br

ination

w ▾ Options

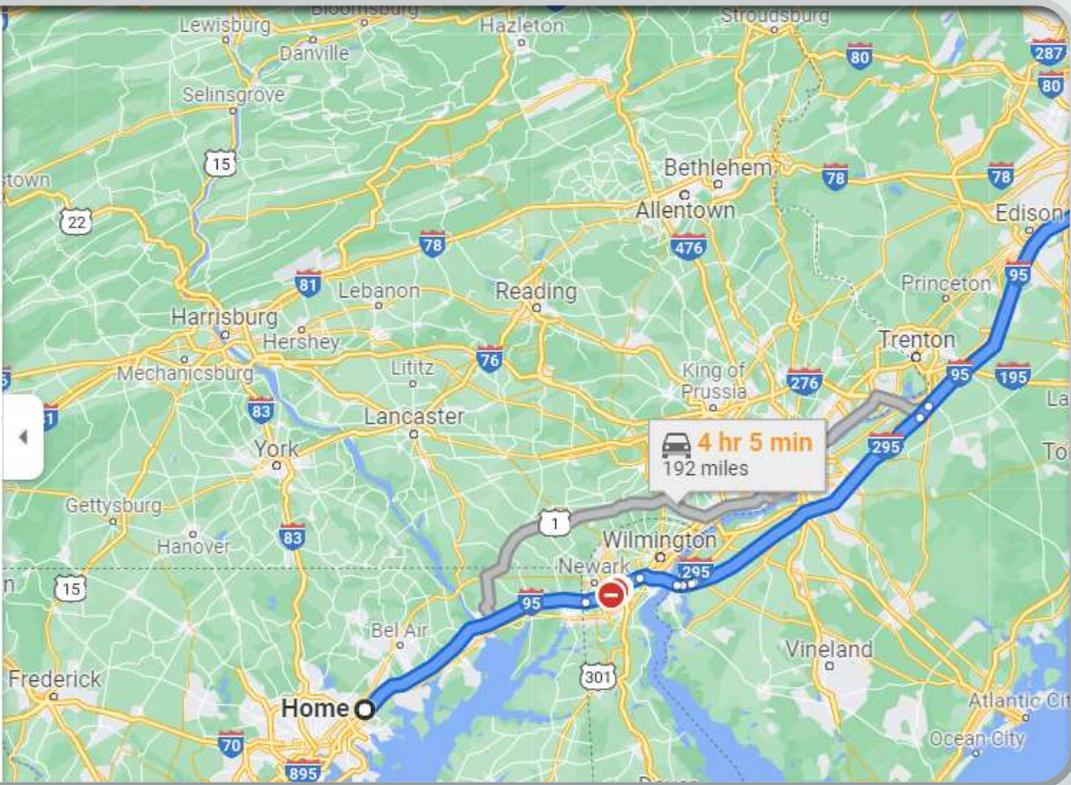
ections to your phone

pike and I-95 N **3 hr 34 min**

oute now, avoids road 179 miles

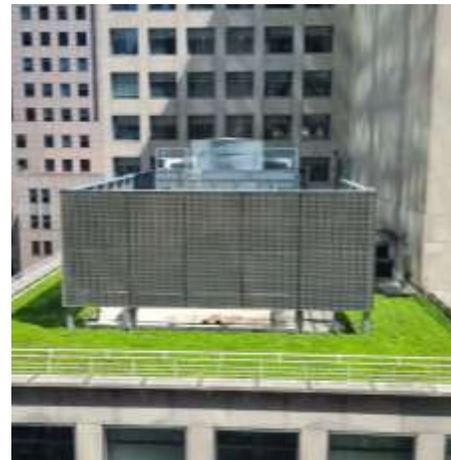
oute has tolls.

N **4 hr 5 min**



Road Trip!

Arrival



Snacks Arrived!



Opening Dinner



Conference Week Schedule

72^e RÉUNION ANNUELLE CONFÉRENCE DES SERVICES GÉNÉRAUX

**Thème: « Le Mouvement des AA devient adulte 2.0:
Unis dans l'Amour et le Service »**

**Horaire de la semaine de la Conférence
Du 24 au 30 avril 2022**

*New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge
333 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201*

Conference Week Schedule

72nd ANNUAL MEETING GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

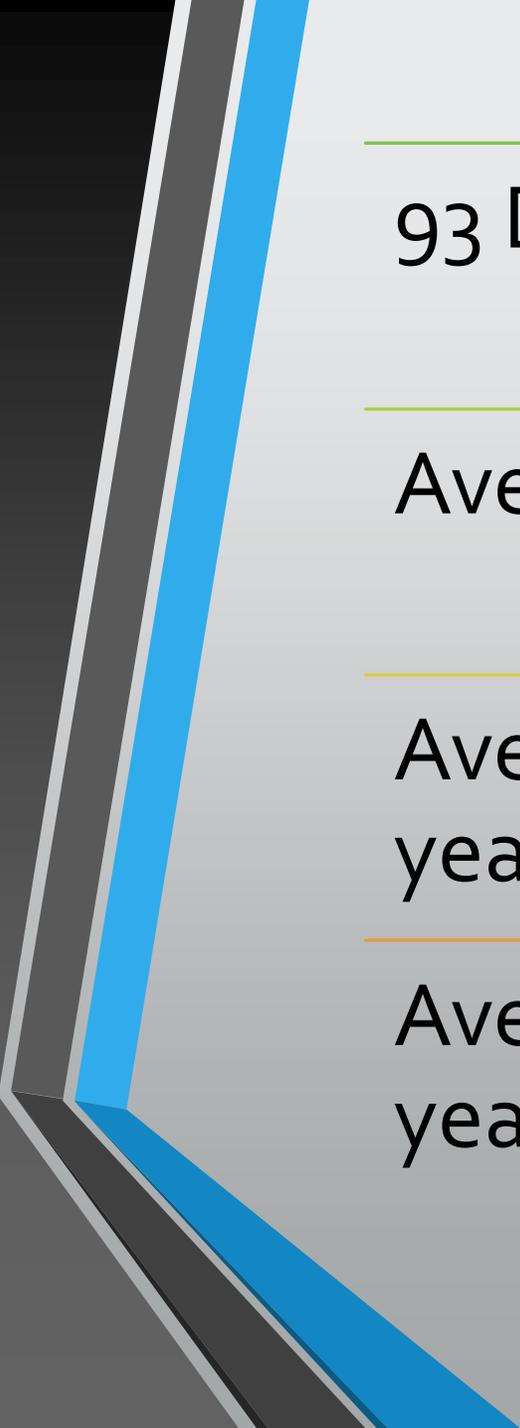
Theme: "A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service"

**Conference Week Schedule
April 24 - 30, 2022**

*New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge
333 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201*

Agenda for the Week

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	General Service Conference						
	General Service Conference						
		AWS day					Closing Brunch, Grand Ballroom
9a		Corrections Conf. Comm. Mtg	Corrections Conf. Comm. Mtg	Committee Reports and Discussion Grand Ballroom	Committee Reports and Discussion Grand Ballroom	Committee Reports and Discussion Grand Ballroom	Farewell Talks by Rotating Trustees Grand Ballroom
10a	Opening Session; Grand Ballroom						
11a	Your Third Legacy Workshop					Pres: Publishing Highlights: Grand Ballroom	
12p	Lunch and Delegate Orientation by Region Greenpoint	Lunch Salons GHI	Lunch Salons GHI	Regional Delegates Luncheon Greenpoint	Lunch Salons GHI	Lunch Salons GHI	
1p	Mechanics of the Conference - Questions from						GSO Tour
2p	Presentation:AA World Service Mtg	Opening and GSB Report Summary Grand Ballroom	Presentations/Discussion	Elections: Eastern Canada Regional Trustee; Pacific Regional Trustee Grand Ballroom	General Sharing Session - What's On Your Mind	Committee Reports and Discussion	
3p	EDW Mtg with Literature Trustees Grand Ballroom	AAWS Board Report Summary Grand Ballroom	Announce V	The Warranties - Our Promise to the Fellowship and the Wor	Committee Reports and Discussion Grand Ballroom		
4p		Grapevine Board Rpt Summary					
5p	Corrections Mtg with Trustees Sunset Park	Dinner Salons GHI		Dinner Salons GHI	Dinner Salons GHI		
6p			Delegates Dinner and Delegates Only Mtg Salons GHI			Dinner Salons GHI	
7p	Opening Dinner and AA Mtg Grand Ballroom	Finance Report Grand Ballroom		Committee Reports and Discussion Grand Ballroom	General Sharing Session - What's On Your Mind Grand Ballroom	Final Sharing Session Grand Ballroom	
8p				General Sharing Session -	Committee Reports and	Farewells by Rotating Delegates	



72nd GSC Delegate Data

93 Delegates

Average Age: 57

Average Sobriety Length: 22
years

Average Length in Service: 17
years

Corrections Conference Committee

Pre-Conference

- Initial Meeting via Video Conference Jan. 20th
- 4 Additional Meetings prior to Conference

Members:

- Monica F., Chair, Area 19 Chicago, Panel 71
- Glenn N. Alt. Chair, Area 91 Saskatchewan, Panel 71
- Mario L., Area 88 Southeast Quebec, Panel 71
- Candace C., Area 18 Idaho, Panel 72
- Sheila D., Area 66 Northwest Texas, Panel 72
- Cara G., Area 41 Nebraska, Panel 72
- Jennifer S., Area 26 Kentucky, Panel 72
- Kurt W., Area 29 Maryland, Panel 72
- Sandra W, Secretary (fill-in), Non-Voting



Covid

- First reported positive test results on Monday.
- First Members reported positive Wednesday.
- By Friday we'd lost 20 Attendees, Including 10 Delegates.
- At least 40 attendees positive within a few days.
- Request from a Delegate that we all mask up.
- Quorum Maintained.
- Expenses for those quarantined covered by GSO.
- GSO personnel in hotel to help with meals, supplies, etc.
- Skipped Bus Trip and Tour of G.S.O.



Workshops and Sharing Sessions

- **Your Third Legacy**

- Can we have full discussion of reports when they are provided without adequate time to study them all?
- Quality and accuracy of background information. “For Committee Eyes Only” creates challenges prepping for Conference.
- We are not immune from human affairs.
- Lateness of getting list of Agenda Items and Background. Little time for distribution and review.
- Timeliness of translation huge problem in some Areas. Delays contribute to gathering input and getting people involved.
- EDW creates issues with Areas’ schedules for Assemblies regarding items for upcoming Agenda. Timing creates real challenges.
- Lots of discussion from Panel 71’s regarding pushback from some in Areas. However, majority were in favor of changes made. But members want to be heard, and pandemic did exacerbate ongoing communication issues in some ways, while openness to tech helped in others.
- AA is a spiritual program....managed by human beings.
- “Adaptation” instead of “Change”

Workshops and Sharing Sessions

- **The Warranties – Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World**

- The Conference:

1. Shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power.
2. That sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle.
3. That it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others.
4. That it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity.
5. That its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy.
6. That it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

- Changes to the Warranties same process as Steps and Traditions, indicating how important they are
- Book profits vs. Contributions
- Conference members provide instructions to AAWS and Grapevine through the Trustees; not to AA members or groups



Unofficial Themes

- Communications
 - Lack of information to Groups and Members
 - Mis-Information
- Translation
 - Fairness
 - Accuracy

NERAASA 2025



Board Reports

General Service Board

A.A. World Services, Inc.

A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

General Service Board Report Highlights

- The board formed two more ad hoc committees for special issues and concerns. They are:
 1. Process for Development of Criteria, Design, and Initiation of the next GSO Location Study
 2. Trustees' Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the General Service Structure
- “To be blunt, maybe we need to rethink how we use the resource so freely offered by those who do general service work. Those servants of A.A. bring their time, talent, and treasure to be used to help carry the message. Do we misuse that most precious resource of all – time – by having meaningless meetings? Is that committee meeting necessary? Is it efficient and time appropriate? Are the meetings more social and recreational than we want to admit? But we make a grave mistake if we are misusing time and discouraging people we need and want from participating in general service.”

A.A. World Services, Inc. Report Highlights

- A.A.W.S. has continued to endeavor to meet or exceed expectations in performing its four main functions:
 - Services (to groups and members, professionals and the general public, and international structures and emerging AA efforts)
 - Publishing (creating/editing/translating/distributing Conference-approved literature and service material communicating the message of AA and its purpose and mission within our US/Canada service structure and around the globe)
 - Archives (maintaining for A.A.'s future the vast and rich repository of the collective experience of our past, responding to hundreds of annual requests for research/documentation/information, keeping all permanent records of all board and committee meetings/GSC records, and constantly responding to internal requests from trustees, directors, and Staff to help inform ongoing work in service to the Fellowship)
 - Finance (ensuring that the 7th Tradition contributions from the Fellowship to the General Service Board are prudently employed to support and advance A.A.'s service efforts through detailed budgeting/reporting and fiscal accountability to the membership).

A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Report Highlights

- In 2017 Grapevine presented to the Conference a vision of what might be the future. We asked the seated delegates to imagine if Grapevine:
 1. Had a podcast;
 2. Had a blog;
 3. Had accounts on Instagram or Twitter;
 4. Revamped aagrapevine.org;
 5. Had more audio and video content;
 6. Increased our share-ability.
- In 2022 we have them all, with room for improvement



BE YOUR LOVE...

BECOME A GRAPEVINE REP!

IN THIS ROLE, YOU WILL:

- Announce the latest issue at your meeting
- Talk about the magazine's content – the stories make great topics for discussion
- Encourage your group to participate by sending in stories, art work or jokes
- Spread the word about Grapevine's new services and products

HOW TO GET STARTED:

- Offer to be of service - let your home group know that you are interested.
- Sign up on our website at www.aagrapevine.org/GVR
- You will receive a complete information kit from the Grapevine office.

IT'S A GREAT WAY TO CARRY THE MESSAGE OF AA AND TO STAY SOBER!

Meet Chuck!

Skinny-Tailed Squirrel native
to the New York area.

Unofficial Conference Mascot.



Trustee's Committees and Staff Reports

- Archives
- Audit
- Compensation
- Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee
- Corrections
- Finance and Budget
- General Service Conference
- General Sharing Session
- International
- International Conventions/Regional Forums
- Literature
- Nominating
- Public Information

Email: delegate@marylandaa.org for a copy



Publishing Highlights

- Words matter – Accuracy of translation. Don't want message garbled.
- Digital Content - In addition to, not replacing, print material.
 - Digital divide remains, some don't have access. Improving, but not gone.
- Enhanced Ebook distribution.
- Correctional facilities. Materials now on Edovo and Japay tablets.
 - 36 Areas, 112 Venues, over 1,000 pieces have been read.
 - Arkansas leading the way with 102.
- Print sales up year over year.
 - Demise of print not happening at rate predicted.
- “Herculean efforts” regarding supply chain issues.
 - Priority when shortages present is for Big Book.

Finance Report 2021

AROUND THE PICNIC TABLE



Kevin Prior, CFA, CPA
Class A (nonalcoholic) Trustee
General Service Board Treasurer

Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

AUDIT RESULTS



- Completed on schedule
- Unmodified or “clean” audit opinion
 - The financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects
- No material weaknesses
- No significant deficiencies
- Five recommendations (compared to one in 2020 and seven in 2019)



Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

Highlights

- 7th Tradition – \$10.78 million another record, up 5.07% from 2020
- Operating Expense -\$15.28 million, down 31.6% from 2020
- Self-Support - covered 70.5% of operating expense
- AAWS publishing gross profits –\$6.30 million, down 4.3% from 2020
- Operating surplus of \$1,697,141 but operating cash increase of only \$53,177

Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

Reconciliation of Surplus to Cash

Operating Surplus	1,697,141
Increase in inventory – uses cash but does not affect expenses	(321,805)
Literature sales made in 2021 but paid for in 2022	(108,959)
Amount GV pays AAWS in 2022 for shared services AAWS purchased in 2021	(222,205)
Payment in 2021 of Social Security tax on 2020 salaries	(278,227)
Amount transferred by GSB from operating fund to prudent reserve	(250,000)
Contributions deposited in 2022 but counted as revenue in 2021	(321,653)
International Convention outlays – uses cash but does not affect expenses	(57,314)
Prepaid expenses (ex. employee medical insurance, hotel deposits, software)	(53,174)
Other	(30,627)
Increase in cash	53,177



Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

GSO Savings 2021 vs. 2020

COMPARED TO 2021 BUDGET

- Salaries and Benefits \$223,000
- Professional Fees \$345,000
- Operating Expenses \$207,000
- Lockbox saves 3 Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)

COMPARED TO 2020 ACTUAL

- Salaries and Benefits \$1.7 million
- Operating Expenses \$1.6 million



Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

Grapevine and La Vina Highlights

- Grapevine paid print subscriptions decreased 11.5% in 2021. Subscriptions for the online and mobile app magazine increased 73.3%.
- 2021 Grapevine showed a gross profit of \$1.091M on the magazine and a gross profit of \$411K on other published items.
- Operating expenses of \$1.808M resulted in an operating loss of \$112,618 compared to a loss of \$298,699 in 2020.
- General Fund support of La Viña service activity was \$388,646 in 2021, almost the same as \$385,771 in 2020.
- La Viña magazine circulation decreased by 12.4% in 2021 compared to a 36.6% decrease in 2020 after several prior years of growth.

Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

GSO Budget 2022



Total revenue
\$16,761,400
compared to
\$17,377,021 in
2021.

Contributions
\$10,000,000
compared to
\$10,775,871 in
2021.



Literature
gross profit
\$6,534,000
compared to
\$6,297,678 in
2021.



Total operating
expense
\$18,111,969
compared to
\$15,282,198 in
2021.



Operating
deficit of
\$1,350,569
compared to
\$1,697,141
surplus in 2021.



2022 deficit to
be paid for with
2021 surplus.

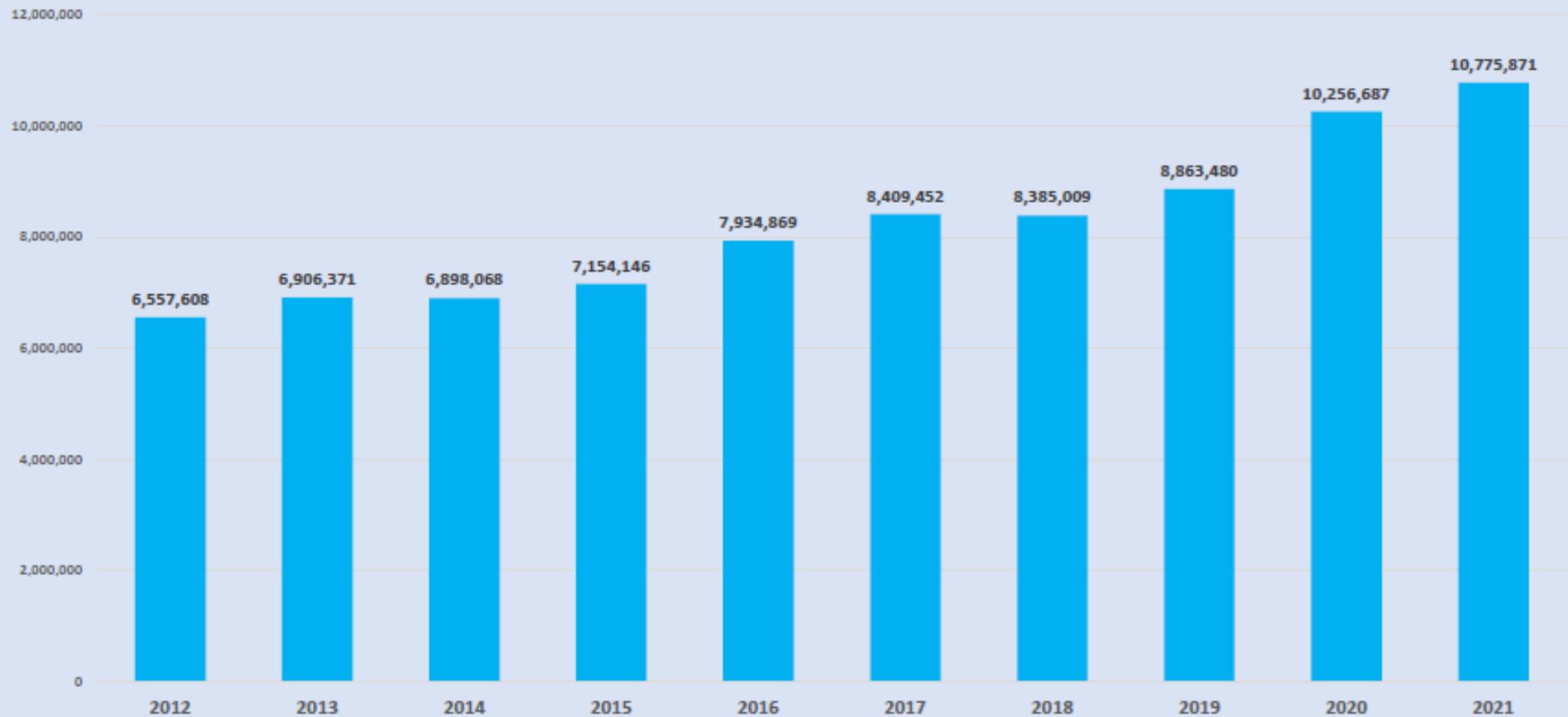


Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

Grapevine and La Vina 2022 Budget

- Print magazine circulation to increase to 62,000 from 56,081 in 2021.
- Online and e-Pub circulation to decrease to 8,842 from 8,972 in 2021.
- Gross profit on subscriptions \$1,236,434 compared to \$1,091,404 in 2021.
- Grapevine operating **surplus of \$19,234** compared to \$112,618 deficit in 2021.
- La Viña magazine circulation to increase to 7,500 compared to 6,312 in 2021.
- General Fund La Viña support of \$402,067 compared to \$388,646 in 2021.

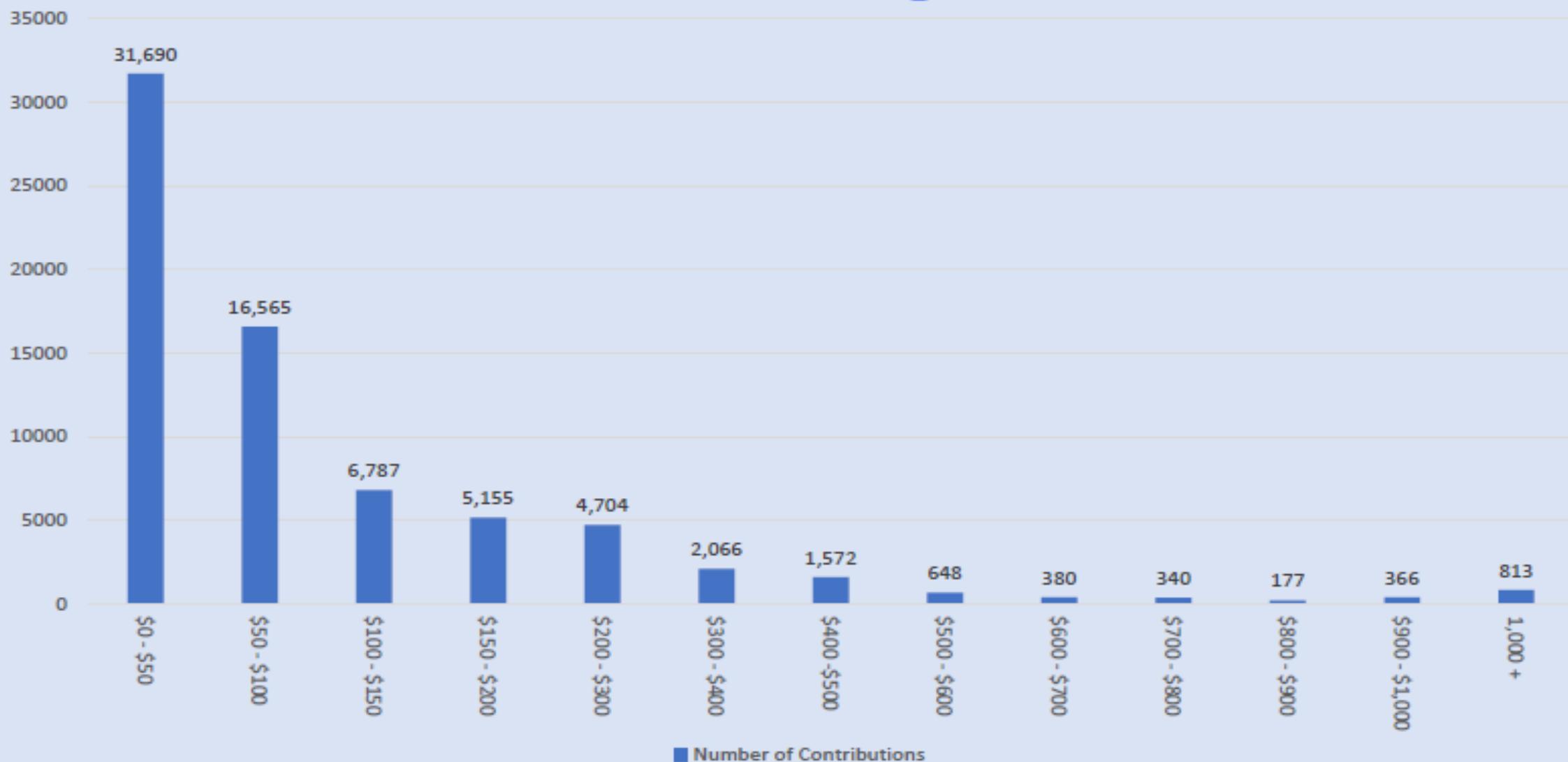
7TH TRADITION SELF-SUPPORT – 2012 – 2021



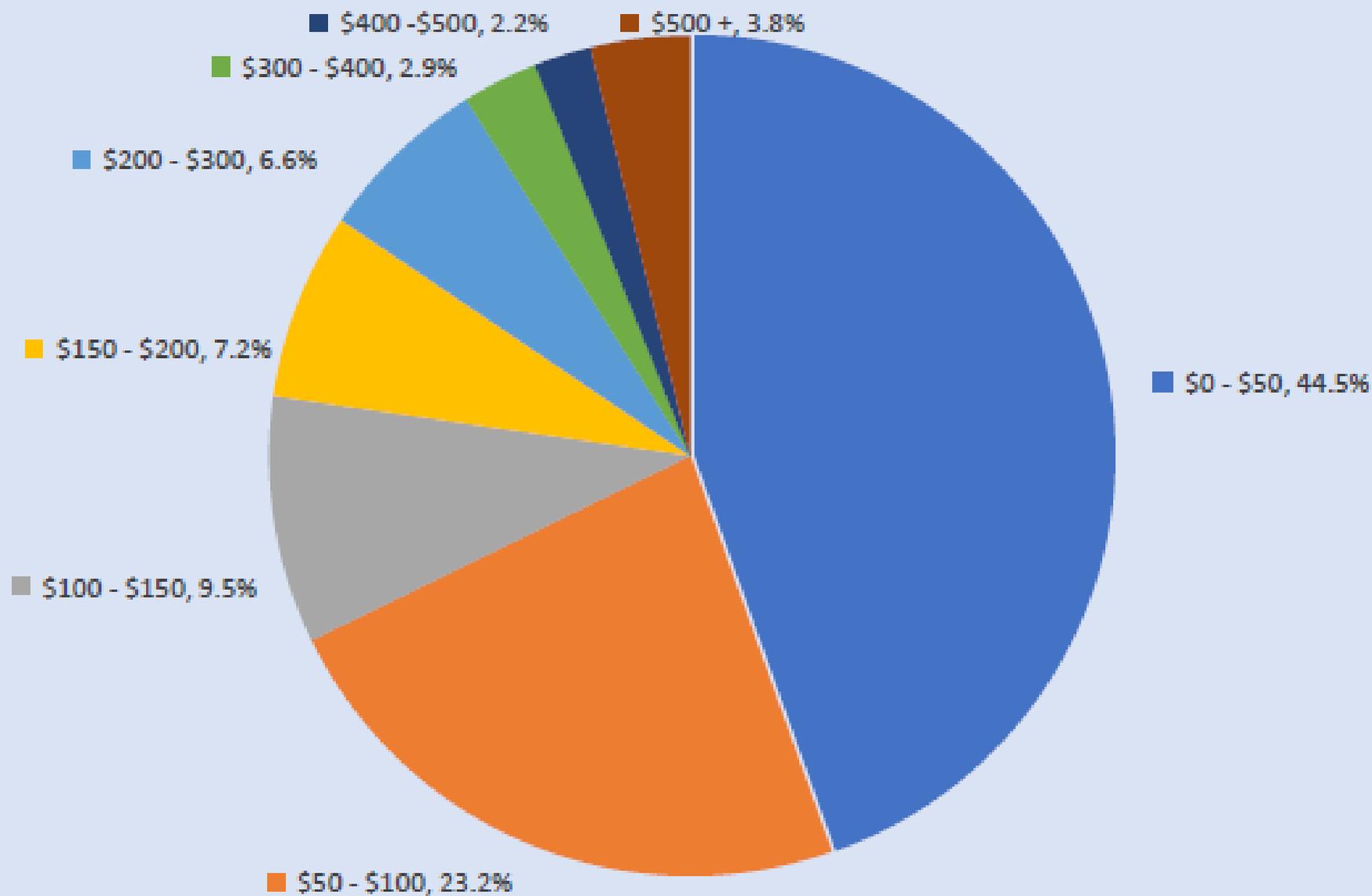
GROWTH OF ON-LINE CONTRIBUTIONS 2012 – 2021



2021 Contributions by Dollar Value



2021 Contributions by Dollar Value





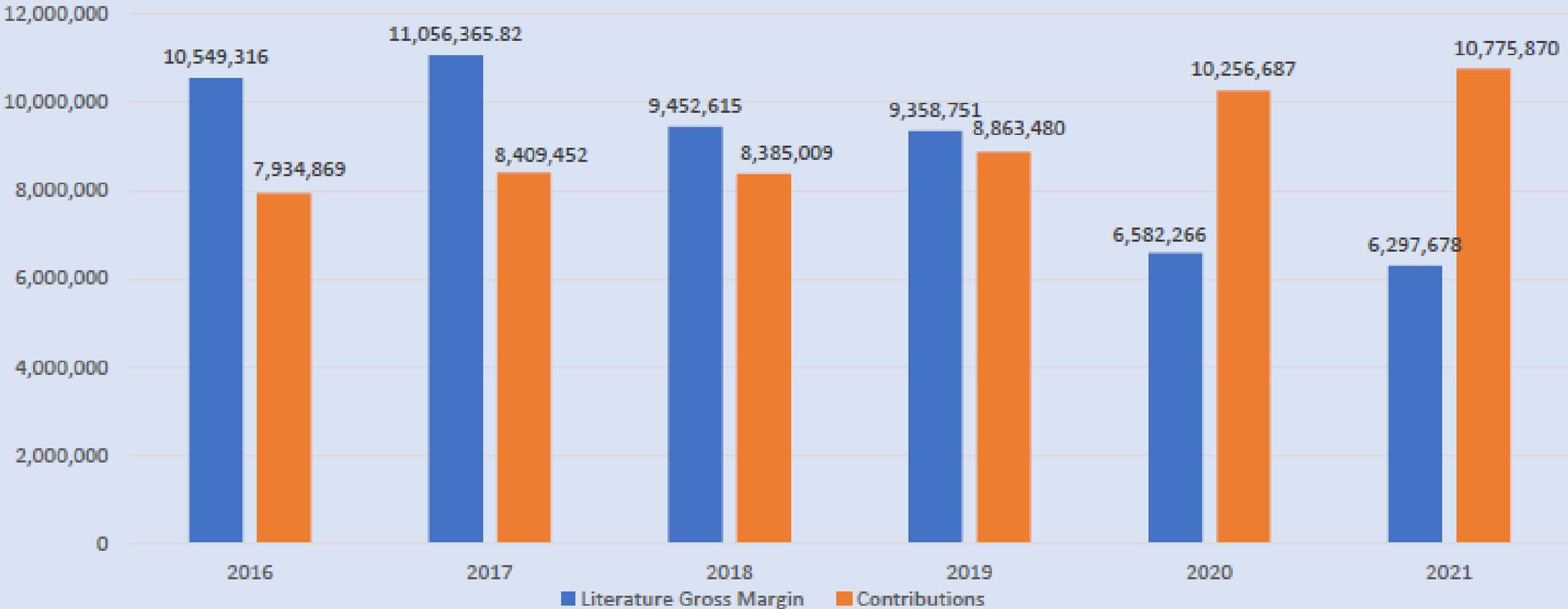
Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

Member Services and Statistics 2021

Members	
7thTradition Self-Support Contributions	\$10,775,871
Number of Members	1,475,520
Contributions per Member 2021	\$7.30
Contributions per Member 2020	\$6.81

Groups	
7thTradition Self-Support Contributions	\$10,775,871
Number of Groups	72,136
Contributions per Group 2021	\$149.38
Contributions per Group 2020	\$144.12

IMPACT OF PANDEMIC ON GSO REVENUE DISTRIBUTION





Finance Report 2021 (Cont'd)

Grass Roots Challenge Contributions

- 2021 Challenge Amount \$7.34
- 213 Challenge contributions received in 2021 for a total of \$10,367
 - Compares to \$24,030 received in 2020
- 2022 Challenge Amount \$6.06
 - Reduced due to use of 2021 Surplus in 2022 Budget

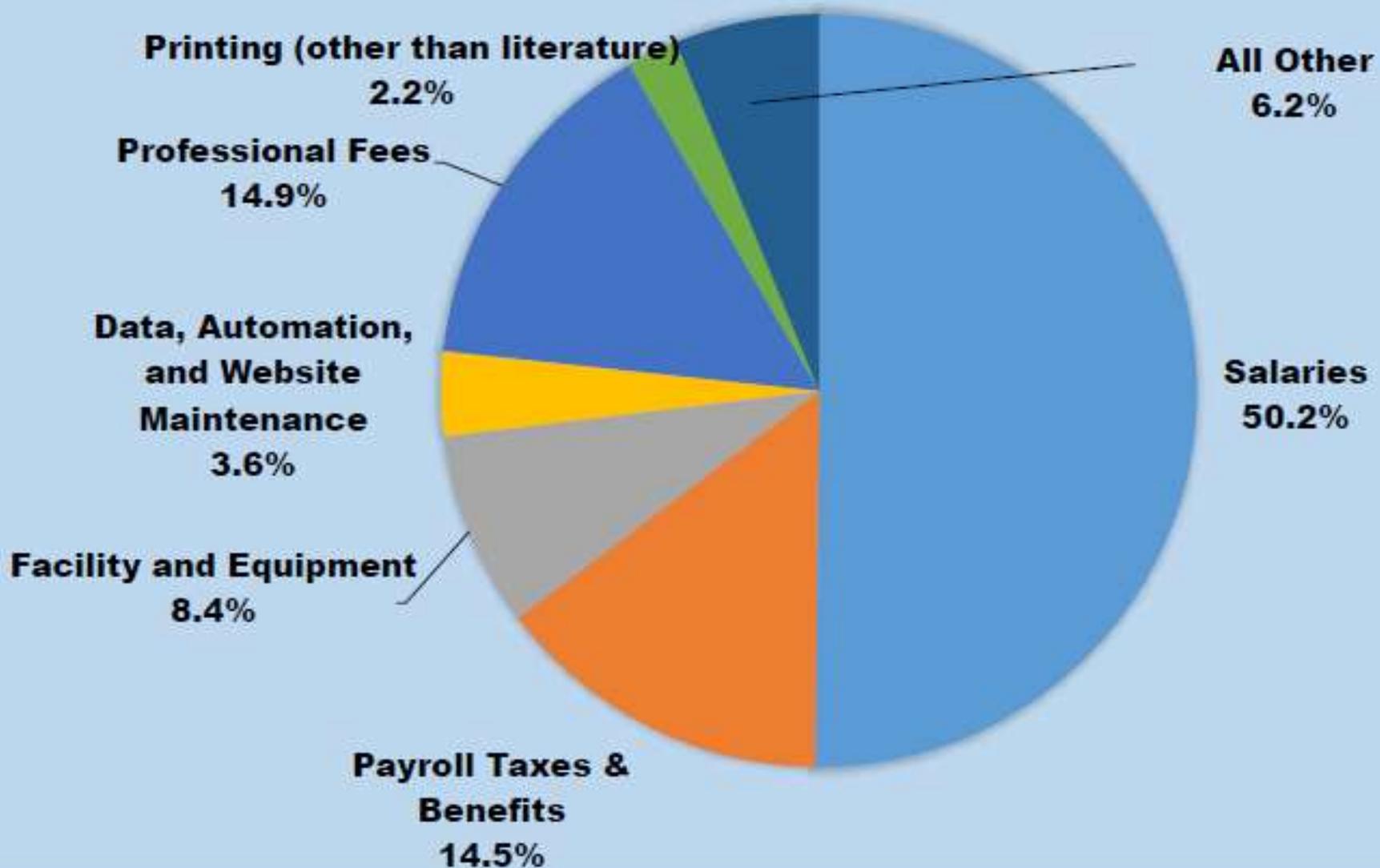
AAWS – PUBLISHING – 2021 ACTUAL vs 2021 BUDGET

\$ in Thousands	2021 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
Gross Sales – Literature	11,712	11,400	312
Discounts	(759)	(342)	417
Shipping Charges	399	0	N/A
Net Sales - Literature	11,352	11,058	294
Cost of Literature Sold - Printing	5,054	4,218	836
Gross Profit	6,298	6,840	(542)
Gross Profit Percentage	55.5%	61.9%	(6.4%)

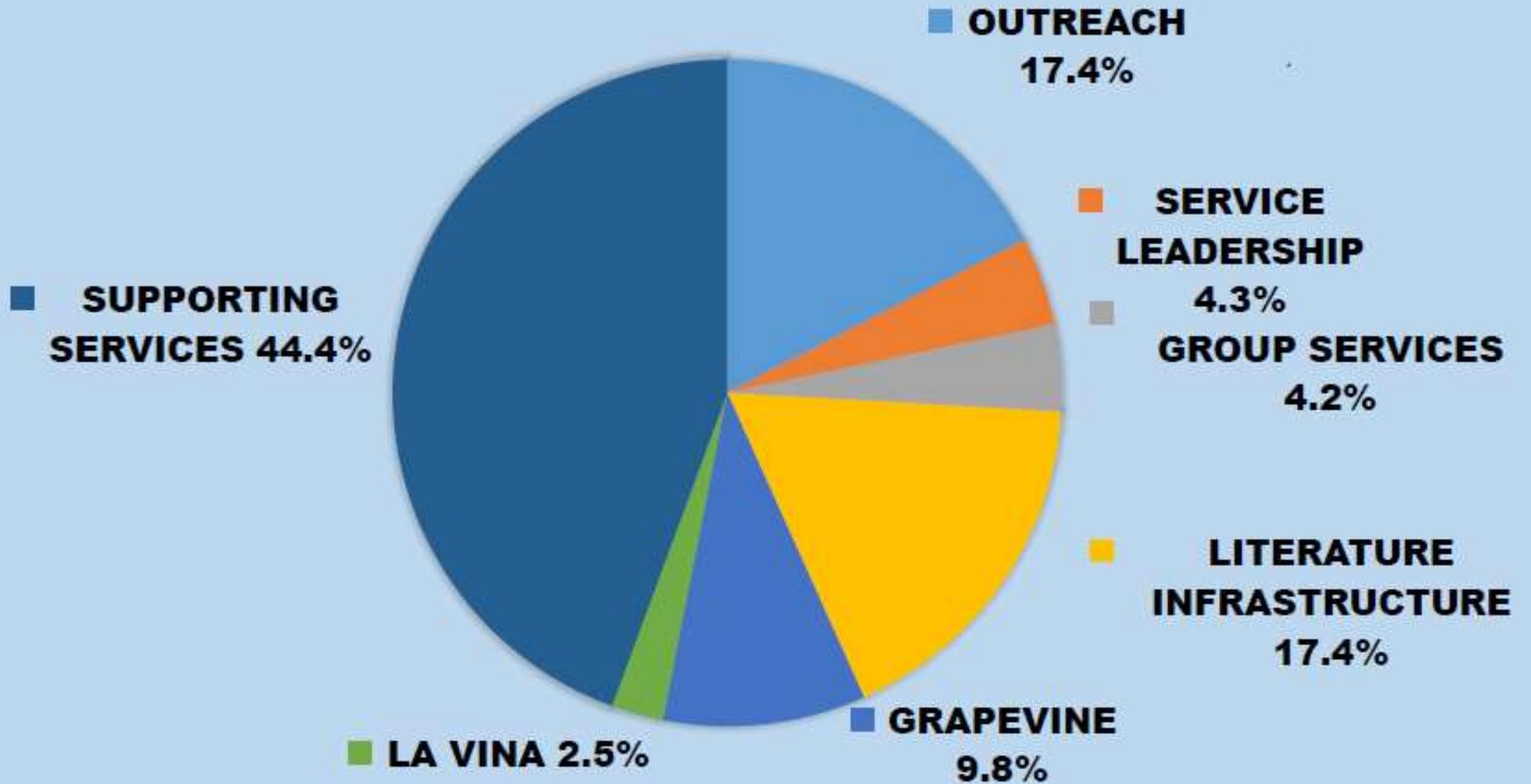
GRAPEVINE OPERATING RESULTS – 2012 – 2021



CONSOLIDATED OPERATING EXPENSES – 2021 – \$17.52 M
FINANCIAL STATEMENT EXPENSE CATEGORIES
CORRECTED PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN

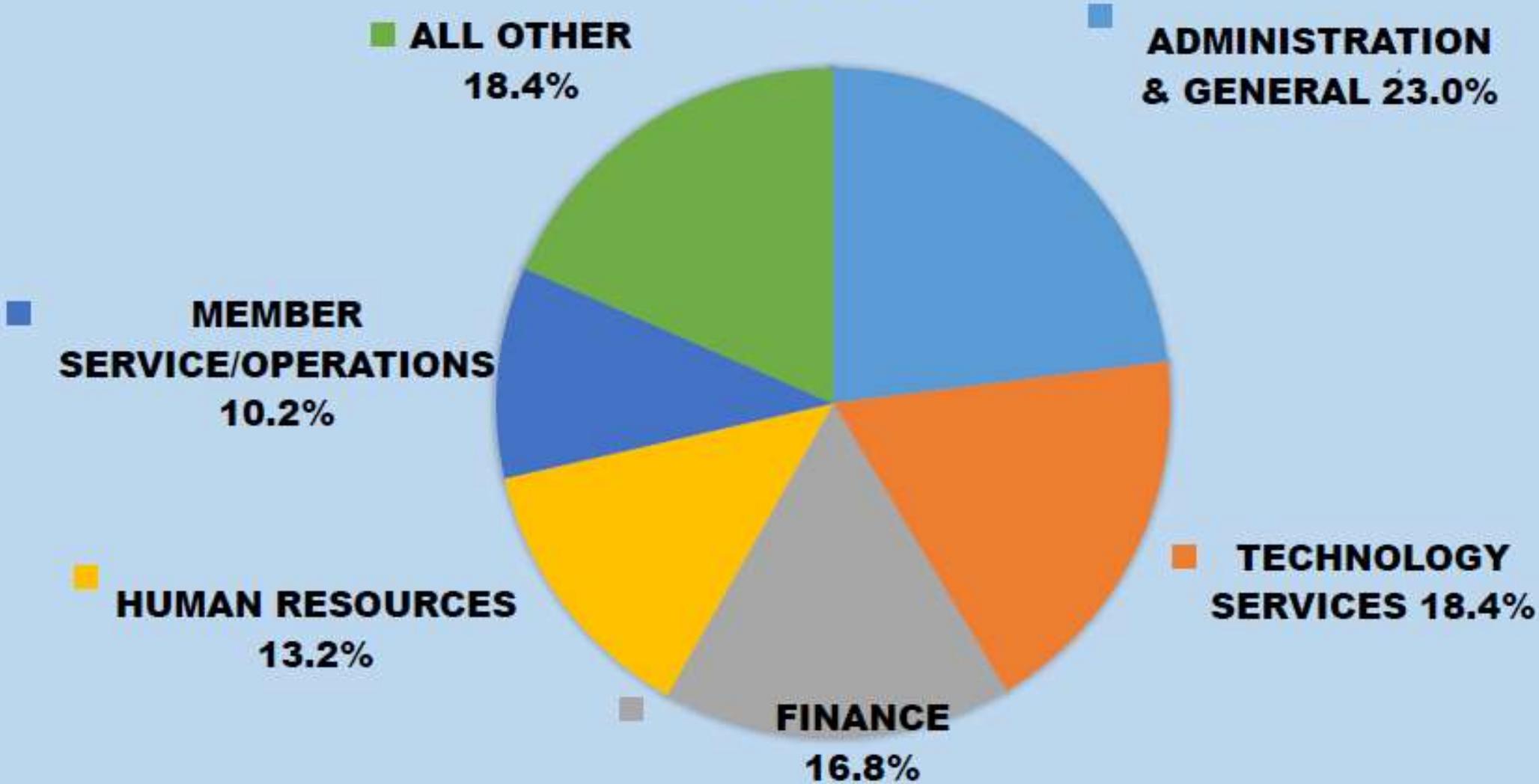


CONSOLIDATED COST OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE FELLOWSHIP 2021- \$17.52 M



CONSOLIDATED SUPPORTING SERVICES

\$7.78 M



2021 PRUDENT RESERVE

Beginning Balance January 1, 2021	12,449,464
Investment Earnings	152,822
Drawdowns	0
Additions	250,000
Ending Balance December 31, 2021	12,852,286

Composition of Ending Balance	
Cash	6,096,553
Certificates of Deposit (CDARs)	8,197,138
Accrued Interest	2,095
Less Grapevine subscription liability	(1,443,500)
Ending Balance	12,852,286

Number of Months Expenses Held	Based on 2021 expenses	Based on 2022 expenses
January 1, 2021	7.90	7.59
December 31, 2021	8.50	7.84



GSO Finance Report 2022

- First Quarter Results
 - Contributions \$2.7 million +
 - 27% of budget and \$214,656 ahead of last year
 - Literature Sales just under \$3.1 million
 - 28% of budget and \$172,711 ahead of last year
 - Margin \$1.44 million – 22% of budget and \$334.661 behind last year
 - Operating Expenses just under \$3.8 million
 - 21% of budget and \$53,546 more than last year
- Prudent Reserve - 7.64 months
 - Drop from 7.85 months EOY 2021
 - Increase in budgeted expenses 2022 over 2021
 - Conservative Management – Rebuilding Slowly



Grapevine Finance Report 2022

- First Quarter Activity
 - Grapevine paid print subscriptions decreased 12.2%
 - Subscriptions for online and mobile app magazine decreased 20.73%
 - 2022 Grapevine results were a gross profit of \$218K on the magazine and a gross profit of \$182K on other published items. Operating expenses of \$493K resulted in an operating loss of \$85.7K compared to an income of \$32K (Excluding the \$180K insurance payment) in 2021.
 - General Fund support of La Viña service activity was \$120K, compared to \$96K (invoiced in early April 2021).
 - La Viña magazine circulation increased by 3.4% in compared to a 33.9% decrease in 2021.

Friends and Fellowship



Presentations

- “How do A.A.’s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify and Serve?”
 - Tom W., Area 15, South Florida/Bahamas/VI/Antigua
 - Pandemic Actions – Meeting in park “Homeless”
 - Meeting virtually
 - Hopefully we can remain willing to change without emergency requiring it
- “Going Beyond Fear”
 - Sheryl T., Area 69, Utah
 - Move from fear to faith
 - No time for fear when unity is at stake
- “How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere”
 - Gordon N., Area 21, Southern Illinois
 - Responsibility Statement
 - Am I willing to go anywhere?
 - Public Information

Special Board Presentation

- “Participation of Online Groups in the US/Canada Service Structure”
 - Progress Report – Work ongoing
 - Has AA outgrown geographic structure?
 - Advisory Action last year for GSB to form a committee to explore future possibilities
 - Virtual Area request first in 1961
 - Al-Anon has virtual Area
 - Overeaters Anonymous has virtual Region with its own Trustee
 - 700 Groups – changing frequently – 450 with GSR’s – 300 Groups with no address that need to be contacted to see what Area and District to assign to
 - Average number of groups per geographic Area is 765
 - Still researching

Let's Talk Food!



Elections

Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
Joyce S. - Area 83

Pacific Regional Trustee
Reilly K. – Area 58



Advisory Actions - When a recommendation, whether from a committee or through a floor action, is approved in full session with substantial unanimity it becomes an Advisory Action. At the conclusion of the Conference, the Advisory Actions are referred to the trustees and are then sent to either the appropriate trustees' committee, G.S.O., or the corporate boards for implementation.



Suggestion - When a recommendation, whether from a committee or floor action, is approved by a majority of the body but falls short of substantial unanimity, it is considered to be a "suggestion" referred to the General Service Board for consideration and possible action.



Committee Considerations – Items discussed but no action is taken and/or no recommendation made, as well as committee recommendations which are not adopted but included in a separate section of the Final Report, listed by committee.

Conference Actions

Committee Report Highlights (Wed. – Fri.)

72nd General Service Conference Committee Report Sequence

Each year, we alternate the sequence of committee reports.
This year, reports will be given in this order which is subject to change:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Approved by Chairperson</u>
1. Agenda	Beth P [redacted]
2. Cooperation with the Professional Community	Tom B [redacted]
3. Literature	Kunane D [redacted]
4. Finance	Sharon S [redacted]
5. Public Information	Lauren A [redacted]
6. Trustees	Jennifer B [redacted]
7. Grapevine and La Viña	Kris H [redacted]
8. Policy/Admissions	Caroline N [redacted]
9. Report and Charter	Geene D [redacted]
10. Treatment and Accessibilities	Jim A [redacted]
11. Corrections	Monica F [redacted]
12. International Conventions/ Regional Forums	Anne S [redacted]
13. Archives	Russ R [redacted]

Agenda

73rd General Service Conference (GSC) Theme:

A.A.'s Three Legacies – Our Common Solution



73rd GSC Presentation/Discussion Topics:

Our Common Perils and
Our Common Solution

Using A.A.'s Literature in
Carrying the Message

Fostering a Thriving
Three Legacy Culture



73rd GSC Workshop Topic:

Practicing Our Twelve Traditions Across All Group Settings.

Agenda (Cont'd)

- **Progress Report on Conference Improvement** – Recommended that the General Service Board develop a status report on progress and outcomes from the 2013-15 Conference inventory and include a draft plan for another Conference Inventory with considerations of its value, timeline and approach to be brought back to the 73rd GSC. *Recommendation Passed*
- **Online Groups and Conference Service Structure** - The committee appreciated the special presentation related to Online Group Participation in our service structure. An interactive sharing session may be helpful. Requested that one be considered for the 73rd GSC.

- **LinkedIn Progress Report Review:** Reviewed the progress report and obtained an update from the Senior Digital Communications Analyst. Requested a progress report at the 73rd GSC and suggested that it include the following content:
 - An additional cadence strategy that increases the number of posts per month developed over the year.
 - A strategy of posting often, to increase the search result ranking.
 - Posts targeted to professionals on topics such as A.A. anonymity, Self-Support, cooperation without affiliation, and our public relations policy.



Cooperation
with the
Professional
Community
(CPC)

- **Review of draft pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community”** - Offered additional suggestions and requested a progress report or final draft at the 73rd GSC
- **Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals** – Made suggestions and asked for a progress report or draft at the 73rd GSC
- **Consider creating a new pamphlet designed to help C.P.C. committees reach as many doctors as possible** – Took no action



CPC (Cont'd)

- Discussed a comprehensive approach in exploring and optimizing digital resources. Several suggestions made regarding the Comprehensive Media Plan (CMP):
 - Explore effective ways to post videos and documents on non-A.A. platforms.
 - Noting the multiple committee and Board discussions on the use of QR codes, identify where and how to approach QR code usage in A.A. materials at C.P.C./P.I. events.

CPC (Cont'd)

Literature

- **Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in Living Sober and the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."** - Recommended that the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be revised to add the following text regarding safety and A.A.:
 - In the section "For the person wanting to be a sponsor" (p. 14) under the heading "What does a sponsor do and not do?":

Stresses the importance of A.A. being a safe place for all members and encourages members to become familiar with service material available from the General Service Office such as "Safety in A.A. – Our Common Welfare."
 - In the section "For groups planning sponsorship activity" (p. 23), under the heading "How does sponsorship help a group?" add a fourth paragraph:

Sponsorship can also help a group to create a welcoming and secure environment. Safety is an issue affecting all members and it is important for groups to remain accessible to all who are seeking recovery. Sponsorship can help keep the group focused on the common welfare.

Recommendation Approved

Literature (Cont'd)

- **Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in Living Sober and the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”** – Recommended Living Sober Chapter 29, page 76
 - Add: “Of course, AA is a reflection of the larger society around us and problems found in the outside world can also make their way into the rooms of AA. But by keeping the focus on our common welfare and primary purpose, groups can help provide a safe and secure environment for all their members.”
Recommendation Passed
- **Review draft pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies** - Offered additional suggestions. Requested a draft pamphlet or progress report for the 73rd GSC
- **Review draft pamphlet “Twelve Steps Illustrated.”** - Recommendation that the draft pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated” be approved with minor editorial revisions.
Recommendation did not pass
 - Minor editorial revisions included color scheme and illustrations themselves
 - Led to Floor Action later

Literature (Cont'd)

- **Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.”** - Recommended that the video animation of the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated” (currently published by the AA General Service Board of AA, Great Britain) be adapted and produced by the Publishing department. *Recommendation approved after Amendment to clarify that a draft be brought back to the 73rd GSC*
- **Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “Too Young?”** - Requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2023 GSC
- **Review draft of the revised pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”** - Recommended draft of the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” be approved. *Recommendation approved*
- **Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”** - Requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 73rd GSC
 - Still looking for more stories

Literature (Cont'd)

- **Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”** - Requested a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 73rd GSC
- **Review progress report regarding development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book, Alcohólicos Anónimos.** - Requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 73rd GSC
- **Review progress report regarding the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language** - Requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 73rd GSC
 - Expectation is that there will be Draft ready

Literature (Cont'd)

- **Progress Report Study Guide for Big Book** - reviewed the Report on Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) and several requests for development of study guides from the Fellowship. It was noted that additional information is needed in order to provide direction on the requests. Requested that the trustee's Literature Committee provide further information regarding the purpose of the proposals and examples of what Big Book or Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions study guides would look like.
- **Review progress report regarding development of a draft Fifth Edition of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous** - Requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 73rd GSC
 - Manuscript not likely
 - Related Floor Action later

Literature (Cont'd)

- **Discuss the existing version of the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated -** Recommended that the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated” be updated with non-offensive, contemporary text and illustrations.
 - Recommendation Amended to require that a progress report or draft be brought to the 73rd GSC. *Amended motion passed*
- **Discuss G.S.O. Publishing updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy:**
 1. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Is A.A. for You?”
 2. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?”
 3. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
 4. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “This Is A.A.”

Recommended that all be approved. *Motions all passed*



Literature (Cont'd)

- **Consider an update of the book Experience, Strength and Hope** – 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.
Recommendation failed to pass



Finance

- **Review Self-Support Packet** - Requested a full review of the service items in the packet. A list of suggestions was provided for the service material to provide language that is clear and consistent for the U.S. and Canada
- **Review Self-Support Packet** - Requested a review of the service materials and the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" to clarify that although contributions are sent to the General Service Office, contributions are made to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. Asked that an update report or draft pamphlet reflecting the changes be brought to the 73rd GSC



Finance (Cont'd)

- **Consider request to add a disclaimer to the front of the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* - Discussed and *took no action*.**
 - Agreed that the current introduction in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* already addresses concerns regarding the language in the book
- **Consider request that all proposed changes to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* be handled in footnotes - Discussed and *took no action*.**
 - Agreed that they did not want to mandate a specific format for possible changes to a future Conference. The committee noted that future proposals for changes should be considered by group conscience of each Conference

Public Information (PI)

- **Review the 2022 P.I. Comprehensive Media Plan** – The report was reviewed, and a list of suggestions provided.
- **Review Distribution and Tracking Two Videos** - Reviewed and accepted the distribution and tracking information for the video PSAs:
 1. Sobriety in A.A.: My Drinking Built a Wall
 2. Sobriety in A.A.: When Drinking is no longer a Party.

The committee encourages enhancing our future tracking and distribution to include comparison analytics to other non-profits with public service announcement distribution.
- **Review Report on the Relevance and Use of Video PSA's** - Reviewed and accepted the report on the "Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements." Found Conference-approved PSAs to be relevant and useful. Did not see the need for a new Video PSA at this time.

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Progress Report G.S.O. Podcast Plan** – Reviewed Report and offered suggestions. Asked for an updated plan to be brought to the 73rd GSC.
- **Report You-Tube Performance** - Reviewed Report and offered suggestions. Asked for an updated plan to be brought to the 73rd GSC.
- **Review Report on Google Ads Performance** - Reviewed Report and offered suggestions. Asked for an updated plan to be brought to the 73rd GSC.
- **Review Report Meeting Guide Performance** - Reviewed Report and suggested the Meeting Guide App keep its focus on locating meetings. Asked for an updated plan to be brought to the 73rd GSC.
- **Review the "2021 Fourth Quarter Report on A.A.W.S. Board Oversight of G.S.O.'s A.A. website."** - Reviewed the 2021 annual reports regarding aa.org. Finds the website is easier to navigate and user-friendly. Suggested that G.S.O. continue to improve our search engine optimization, setting priorities and reasonable goals to move forward.

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Review report on “AAGV/La Viña Website, Marketing and Podcast.”** - Reviewed the report. Finds recent modernization of the Grapevine website to be effective and inviting. Finds the AA Grapevine Podcast is well received by many A.A. members and an effective method for sharing the collected voices of A.A. members. Noted that the current hosts might limit attraction to all members, potential members, or professionals and to consider the full intended audience regarding diversity, attraction, and belonging.
- **Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms** - Reviewed feasibility research and requested further research be conducted. Offered several suggestions and asked for a report to be brought back to the 73rd GSC

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Consider suggestion to revise the flyer "A.A. At a Glance."** - Requested improvements based on several suggestions made. Looks forward to a progress report or draft flyer to be brought to the 73rd GSC.
- **Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings."** - Asked to move forward with the update. Requested a progress report or draft pamphlet for the 73rd GSC.

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."** - Recommended the following revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity." The question that currently reads:

Anonymity in the digital age

Q. I maintain an Internet website and a personal page on a social media site. I also belong to an online meeting. At what level should I protect my anonymity on the internet

A. Publicly accessible aspects of the Internet such as websites featuring text, graphics, audio, and video can be considered the same as publishing or broadcasting. Unless password-protected, a website requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio, and film. Simply put, this means that A.A.s do not identify themselves as A.A. members using their full names and/or full-face photos.

Be changed to:

Q. I maintain a website and social media pages. At what level should I protect my anonymity on the Internet?

A. Publicly accessible aspects of the Internet such as websites featuring text, graphics, audio, and video can be considered the same as publishing or broadcasting. Unless password-protected, a website requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio, and film/video. Simply put, this means that A.A.s do not identify themselves as A.A. members using their full names and/or full-face photos.

It is suggested that when AA's gather as AA's or as an AA Group on social media pages and other similar platforms that these pages are set to "private" rather than "public"

Recommendation Approved

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.”** - The following text addition to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” *was approved*

Q. Are virtual A.A. meetings considered “Public”?

A. These online gatherings are not streamed to the general public; however, information about the meeting is provided to A.A. members, potential members, and the general public similar to in-person meetings.

While some members feel comfortable using their full names and faces, other members feel it is more aligned with Tradition 11 to use only their first name and last initial or turning their camera off.

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Consider request to retire and replace the "A.A. Fact File."** - Recommended that the outdated "A.A. Fact File" be retired. *Passed*
 - Reviewed the new digital P.I. Press Media Kit and offered suggestions to the "Who are A.A. members" and the "24-hour plan" sections
- **Review request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media** - Reviewed a draft survey developed to gather shared experience from the Fellowship. The committee requested a focus on distributing the survey to all age demographics, particularly the young population, obtaining results that will inform decisions on any future new form of communication. The committee looks forward to a progress report to be brought to the 73rd GSC

Public Information (PI) (Cont'd)

- **Discuss 2022 Analysis Report on the A.A. Membership Survey** – Recommended that format changes, 2 new questions, and 6 changed questions be approved. Also recommended that the survey proceed, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. *Both recommendations were approved*
 - Resulted in Floor Action



Trustees

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Sr. Judith Ann Karam, C.S.A.
Hon. Kerry Meyer
Al Mooney, M.D. FAAFP, FASAM
Andie Moss
Kevin Prior, MBA, CFA, CPA

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Francis G.
Tom H.
Deborah K.
Trish L.
Mike L.
Paz P.
Marita R.
Irma B.
Carolyn W.
Joyce S.
Reilly K.



Trustees (Cont'd)

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First Vice-Chairperson:	Jimmy D.
Second Vice-Chairperson:	Francis G.
Treasurer:	Kevin Prior, MBA, CFA, CPA
Secretary:	Cathi C.
Assistant Treasurer:	Paul Konigstein *
Assistant Secretary:	Jeff W. *

** G.S.O employees*



Trustees
(Cont'd)

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** G.S.O. employees*



Trustees
(Cont'd)

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Coree H.

Chris C. *

Mike L.

Josh E.

Paz P.

Cindy F.

David S.

Tom H.

** AA Grapevine employee*

Trustees (Cont'd)

- **Discuss the revised “Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or AA Grapevine Boards.”** - Recommended the Procedure be approved as one acceptable pathway to a whole or partial reorganization of the Boards, understanding that, as provided by the Conference Charter, the final process will be determined by whichever General Service Conference might be considering reorganization. *Recommendation approved*
- **Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You're Different?” to include stories reflecting greater diversity**– Recommended revising to update stories for greater diversity. Requested draft pamphlet or progress report at the 73rd GSC. *Recommendation approved*
 - Consideration that AA Grapevine consider this as a recurring theme

Award for Most Comfortable Shoes

Rainer L., Area 51 North Carolina





Grapevine and La Vina

- **Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions** - Reviewed the report and looks forward to having it available on the website, in English and Spanish. Forwarded editorial suggestions for the workbook to the Grapevine office.
- **Review progress report on the Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts** - Reviewed report on the Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts and requested a progress report be brought back to the 73rd GSC. Also forwarded suggestions to the Grapevine office to encourage members to submit anonymity-protected content to Instagram pages.

Grapevine and La Vina (Cont'd)

- **Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine and La Vina book topics for 2023 or later –**
 1. Best of Dear Grapevine (working title)
 2. Book for Newcomers (working title)
 3. Best of La Viña II (working title) (La Viña book)
 4. Prayer & Meditation (working title) (La Viña Book)
- **Discuss the Wide-Ranging Impact of Preamble Change** - Discussed the wide-ranging impact the AA Preamble change has had on the Fellowship. Felt that after careful consideration of Fellowship feedback, it would be premature to quantify the impact when many A.A. members are still either uninformed or ambivalent about the change. Emphasized that at every level of our Conference process there is a reciprocal responsibility of all A.A. members and trusted servants, of participation and communication, to embrace the guiding principles of trust and transparency.

Policy/Admissions

- **Review G.S.O. General Manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection** - Reviewed the report. Requested 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
- **Review dates for the 2026 General Service Conference** – Three proposed dates approved. April 26-May 2, 2026; April 19-25, 2026; and May 3-9, 2026.

Policy/Admissions

- **Discuss the procedure: “Process for Approving Observers to the Conference”** – Two Recommendations:
 - Allow the Policy/Admissions committee to approve routine admissions from structures outside the U.S. and Canada without having to poll the full Conference.
 - Revise Scope and Procedure of Committee to implement change.

Recommendations Approved

- **Review progress report on the development of a process using virtual meeting technologies for polling the G.S.C. between meetings** - Reviewed report and looks forward to continued development of the process

Policy/Admissions

- **Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process** - Recommended that the compilation of all Conference committee background be made available simultaneously in English, French, and Spanish.
Recommendation was approved.
- **Consider request to restore paragraph in the story “Freedom from Bondage” in the Fifth Edition of the Big Book and future printings of the Fourth Edition** - Recommended that the paragraph be restored in all future printings and publications in which the story is included.
Recommendation did not pass
- **Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” to reflect shared experience on service sponsorship** – *Took no action.*

Report and Charter

- **Discuss General Service Conference Final Report -**
Discussed the *GSC Final Report* and suggested Areas make digital version (anonymity protected) accessible on websites
- **Review The A.A. Service Manual, 2021-2023 Edition -**
Recommended chapters 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 be revised to correct inaccuracies *Recommendation passed*
- **Review progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled "Amendments." –**
Reviewed report and requested a draft be brought to the 73rd GSC

Report and Charter (Cont'd)

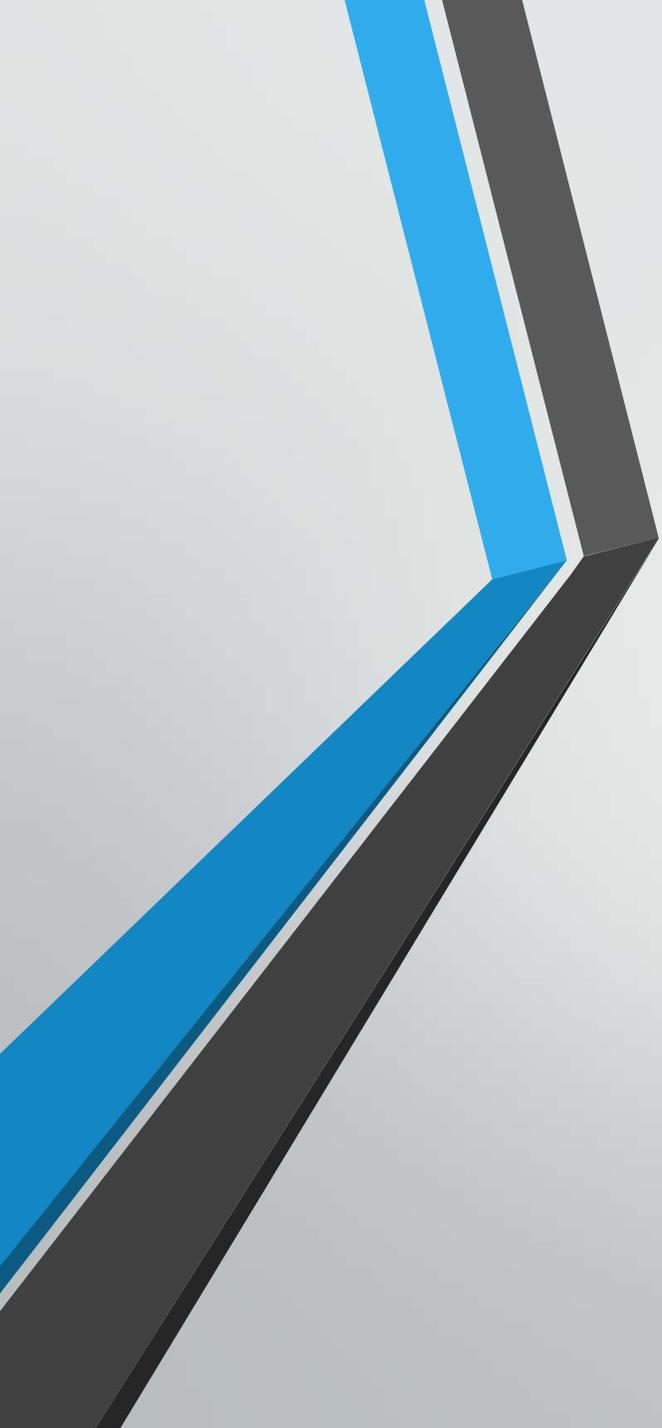
- **Consider a request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet "G.S.R.: Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole"** - Discussed and *took no action*. Agreed the pamphlet adequately describes the role of GSR's. This statement is better left to local group autonomy
 - Floor Action later
- **Consider requests that the chapter titled "The Doctor's Opinion" in the book Alcoholics Anonymous be returned to page one, as it was in the First Edition** - Discussed and *took no action*.
 - Bill W. was involved in the repagination
 - Impact on other A.A. literature that reference pages

Treatment and Accessibilities

- **Review progress report on pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic”** – Reviewed report and offered suggestions. Asked for a report or draft pamphlet at the 73rd GSC.
- **Review progress report on Military Audio Interviews** – Reviewed report and made suggestions.
- **Discuss draft version of A.A. Guidelines on “A.A. for the Remote Community”** - Discussed the draft and offered suggestions. Asked for an updated draft when ready.
- **Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook** - Encourages G.S.O. to continue developing digital approaches to publishing so changes can be updated more quickly and efficiently. Also noted the importance that print versions be made available to those who prefer them.

Treatment and Accessibilities

- **Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook** - Encourages G.S.O. to continue developing digital approaches to publishing so changes can be updated more quickly and efficiently. Also noted the importance that print versions be made available to those who prefer them.
- **Consider request to revise the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five** - Recommended the Long Form of Tradition Five be added in the section “What is an A.A. Group?” at next printing. *Recommendation Approved*
- **Consider request to remove language in Living Sober** - Considered request to remove sentence “Nobody has ever died of lack of sleep” in the booklet Living Sober and *took no action*. Noted that the section includes this comment later in the chapter: “If the condition persists, it may be advisable to check with a good physician who understands alcoholism well.”



Corrections

- **Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook** - Provided detailed list of revisions for consideration. Noted the increased use of online A.A. meetings in correctional facilities and suggested that G.S.O. staff gather shared experience for addition to the Workbook.
- **Review literature/service material to determine need for revised terminology (i.e., person in custody)** - Discussed the request and *took no action*. Affirmed need for language that is inclusive and non-stigmatizing, as expressed by the 71st GSC. Noted that implementation of the advisory action was already in place and that it would be premature at this time to reconsider the action.

Corrections (Cont'd)

- **Consider requests to limit changes to the book “Alcoholics Anonymous”**
- Discussed and *took no action*. While the committee discussed concerns expressed by the Fellowship, it was noted that we operate on a system of trust and checks and balances, and A.A.’s Twelve Concepts adequately provide guidance to our trusted servants to make decisions that reflect the informed group conscience of the Fellowship as a whole.
 - Suggested that for the 5th Edition Big Book consideration be given to including a reference in Appendices III and V that additional/current information is available on www.aa.org.
 - Floor Action later.
- **Discuss requests to make A.A. literature changes slowly and with A.A.’s primary purpose in mind** - Discussed and *took no action*. The cadence and role of the annual GSC already provides appropriate guidance. Through Concept Four, “The Right of Participation,” all AA members are invited to participate in the year-long process of the GSC.

Corrections (Cont'd)

- Elected as Committee Chair for 73rd General Service Conference
- Candice C., Area 18 Idaho, Alternate Chair



- **Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention -**
Reviewed report regarding surveying the Fellowship. A survey has been developed to gather information from the Fellowship regarding aspects of the 2025 International Convention; including a question regarding the use of the Lord's Prayer. A progress report will be brought back to the 73rd GSC.
- **Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees -**
Suggested:
 - 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.



International Conventions Regional Forums

(Secondary Committee)

Archives

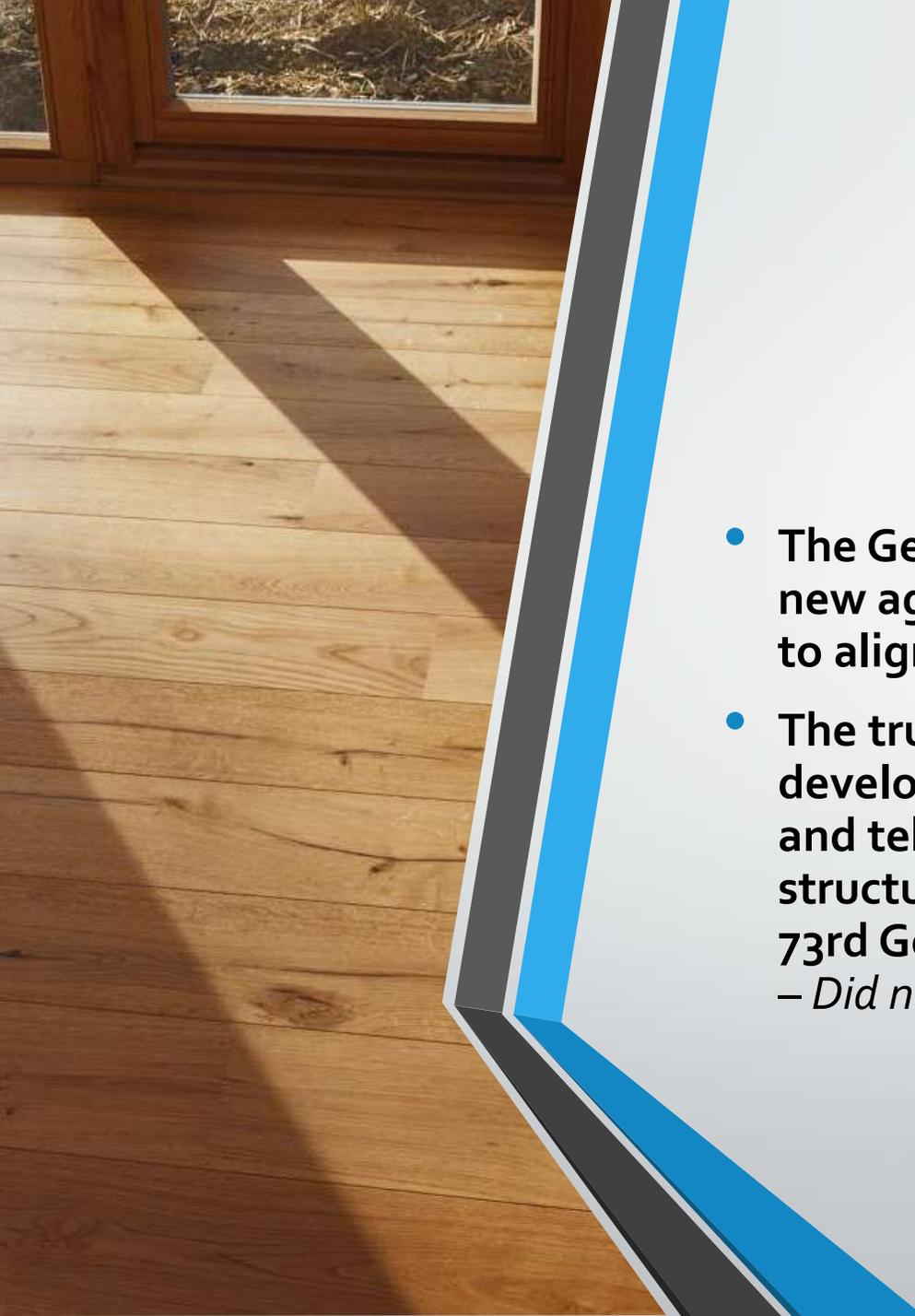
(Secondary Committee)

- **Review Kit and Workbook** - reviewed and received a verbal report on some of the revisions, including:
 - New shared experiences and a new subsection from local archivists;
 - Revised Guidelines for Collecting Oral Histories;
 - Updated Archives policies; and other minor editorial updates.



Floor Actions

- **With the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (4th Edition) into plain and simple language, that the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts, not be translated into plain language in any way; that these remain in the existing form in English as in previous editions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous. – *Declined to consider***
- **The trustee's Committee on Literature continue to make edits to the draft pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated" with a new draft or progress report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature, keeping in mind: color, diverse expressions of spirituality and accessible interpretation of meaning in the illustrations. – *Approved***
- **The 2022 Membership Survey questionnaire receive final editorial review by the trustees' Public Information Committee after consulting with our professional survey methodologist, to address concerns raised by the 72nd General Service Conference related to the survey questions about Racial, and Ethnic Background, and Employment Status. - *Approved***



Floor Actions

- **The General Service Conference impose a 1-year moratorium on any new agenda items received through Sept. 15, 2022 to allow GSO time to align processes for simultaneous translation. – *Declined to consider***
- **The trustees' Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups develop a plan to create one or more non-geographic Areas for online and telephone groups in the U.S./Canada General Service Conference structure, with a progress report on the plan to be presented to the 73rd General Service Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions. – *Did not pass***

Floor Actions

- **That the following GSR Preamble be added to the pamphlet “Your Group’s Link to A.A. as a Whole”:**

The GSR Preamble

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.

We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship.

Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.

Declined to consider



Floor Actions

- **The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference evaluate the current process of developing Conference background material and bring back to the 2023 General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions a plan that describes the process of developing background material, keeping in mind the Conference desire for background material to be targeted, balanced and with relevant historical content.**

Did not pass



Floor Actions

- That changes to the book **Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions** made at the **71st General Service Conference** be returned to their original text. – *Declined to consider*
- The **1995 Conference Advisory Action** be reaffirmed that the first **164 pages** of the **Big Book**, the **Forewards**, “**The Doctor’s Opinion**”, “**Dr. Bobs Nightmare**” and the **Appendices** remain as is. – *Motion not approved*

Business Complete Friday Evening at 8:50

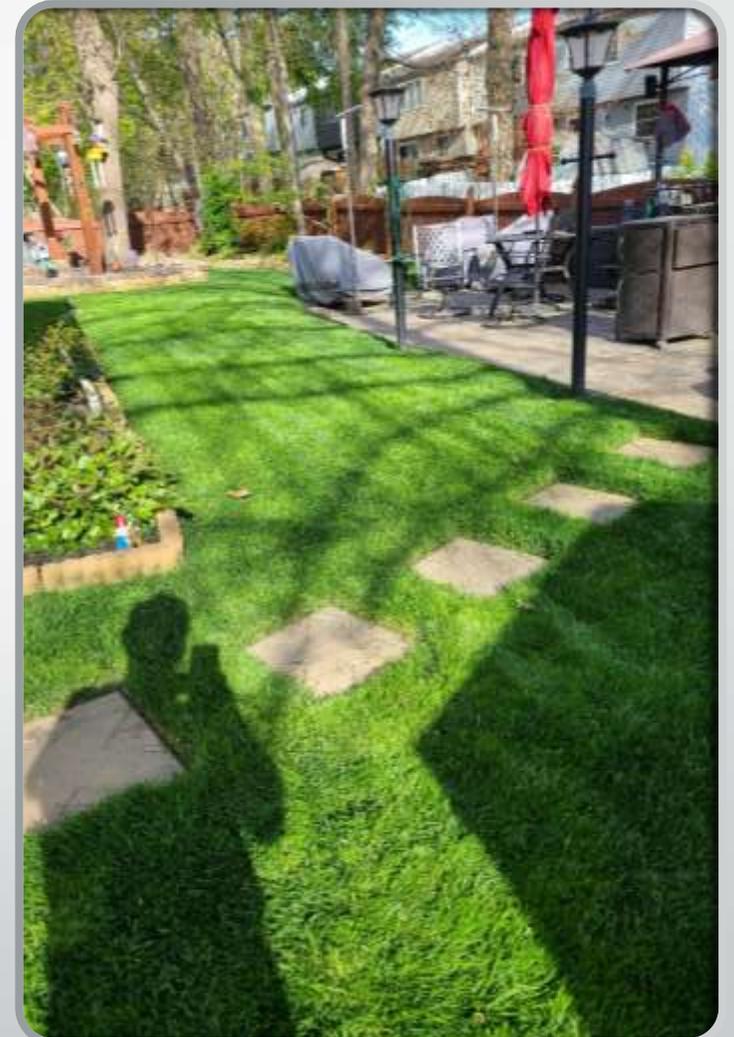
Final Events

- Farewells by Rotating Delegates
- Saturday Morning Breakfast
- Farewells by Rotating Trustees



Return Home - Saturday

- Skipped GSO Trip due to Covid Situation
- Cut Grass
- Collapsed onto Couch





My Grill Missed Me!

Reflections

- Too Much use of Minority Opinion
- Too Many Floor Actions
 - Total: 9
 - Voted not to consider: 4
 - Approved: 2
- Much Good Work Accomplished
 - Trust future Conferences to correct any mistakes
- Tremendous Spiritual Experience!



Respectfully Submitted,

Kurt W.
Delegate
Area 29, Panel 72
Corrections Conference Committee



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



Questions?



- Carry this message back to your Districts, Groups, Intergroups, AA Friends, etc.
 - Then start thinking about potential agenda items for next year