

Budget Assembly, October 3 – 4, 2015

Delegate Report

Aloha all,

It's been a very long time since we met in April on Maui for the Inform the Delegate Assembly and my plate has been very full. I attended my first General Service Conference in New York April 19 – 25, 2015. Thank you to all the districts who welcomed me for the report back of the conference. Some districts joined together so I had two report backs on Oahu, two on the Big Island and one on Maui and Kauai. All but one was completed prior to the International Convention. I have a separate report for the International but want to again express my gratitude for the honor of representing Hawaii, Area 17 at the International. There's lots of news, so here we go!!!

Report from July/August GSB weekend

- Phyllis H., GSO general manager is retiring this month (October) and a great deal of time and deliberation was spent selecting the new general manager. Their goal was to ensure all board members were fully satisfied with the final decision.
- **AAWS report**
 - Ongoing construction at GSO. Grapevine is joining AAWA/GSO offices on the 11th floor and all offices are being remodeled and upgraded. November is the target date for completion. Until that time, tours will be limited.
 - New archives content on aa.org, including a digital exhibit on “AA’s 10th Anniversary,” updates to the AA Timeline and audio of a talk by Sister Ignatia on the Audio Archives Library.
 - Navajo translation project is back up and running thanks to a strong Navajo-speaking effort.
 - Re finances – Net revenues for the first 6 months were 8.5% below budget and expenses were 5% below budget.
- **AA Grapevine report**
 - *The Language of the Heart* is now available as an MP3 download and as an MP3 CD. Great listening in the car on the way to meetings!
 - GV circulation is 77,734 and LV circulation is 10, 310. While GV income was slightly under budget (\$5,000) for the first six months, total expenses was significantly under budget (\$138,000). LV shortfall is lower than expected. Overall there is a net profit of \$92,000 compared to a project loss of \$42,000.
 - The Carry the Message effort has almost 600 subscription requests that have been forward to areas for possible fulfillment at the local level.
 - Subscription challenge numbers are in the Final Conference Report. It's not too late to donate a new subscription to GV or LV to a library, institution or newcomer.
- **Trustees Committees** – Main focus was review and follow-up on Conference advisory actions and additional committee considerations as the board continues their role in the yearlong Conference process.
 - **International Convention** – Registration was approximately 57,000 with 784 registered attendees designated ASL. This represents a huge increase from prior conventions reflecting the growth of AA in the deaf community.
 - **Literature** - Subcommittees formed to begin work on three literature projects:
 - Revision of pamphlet, *AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic* to include the entire LGBT community
 - Update of *AA for the Woman* to include current stories, women in military, single moms, etc.

- Development of literature for the alcoholic with mental health issues.
 - Nominating – Subcommittee formed to review option for filling an unexpected vacancy of a regional trustee with a full-term replacement.
 - Public Information
 - New PSA, *Doors*, has been well received and is on the website, www.aa.org.
- General Manager Search – Greg T. has been appointed to serve as next General Manager. He currently serves as AAWS Publishing Director and is a past General Service Trustee of General Service Board.

The result of this Board weekend was to move projects forward and to maintain a strong connection between committees and efforts of the Fellowship to reach out to the still suffering alcoholic.

Call for Stories

In April, the General Service Conference voted to:

- Revise ‘AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic.’
 - To include wider range of AA recovery
 - To include bisexual, transgendered and gender non-conforming
- Revise and update ‘AA for the Woman.’
 - To include women in military, single women and women from diverse backgrounds.

GSO is now requesting stories to be included in the new pamphlets. More information available by emailing literature@aa.org, or calling GSO at (212) 870-3400.

Male Correspondents needed for Corrections Correspondence Service

The Corrections Correspondence Service is a Twelfth Step opportunity which links A.A. members on the “outside” with A.A. members in correctional facilities to provide a source of experience as it relates to problems with alcohol. Men are linked with men and women with women.

NOTE: Most of the inmates who want an outside correspondent are men, so women who volunteer may have a very long wait for an inmate. More info at www.aa.org or http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/nopage/f-26-corrections-correspondence-a-special-kind-of-aa-service

GSO Staff assignments rotate every two years. The rotation occurred September 14. I have a list if anyone is interested.

The percentage of groups in Area 17 contributing to GSO fell from 51.25% in 2014 to 44.69% for the first seven months of 2015. I would encourage all of us to be that *link-in-the-chain*, carrying word to our districts and groups of the work of GSO.

PRAASA 2016

Will be held in Spokane, WA, March 4 – 6, at the Spokane Convention Center. Website is up and running at www.PRAASA.org. Link to lodging at Double Tree Hilton is http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SPCC-DT-PRA-20160303/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG. Registration is \$25 and can be done online or by snail mail.

The AAWS Board considered Areas 17’s request to ask GSO to investigate the possibility of holding the GSC on the West Coast every other year and forward it to the Trustees’ Committee as it requires Conference action. Stay tuned.

Mahalo for the opportunity to serve. Please contact me via phone, text or email with any questions or if I can help in any way.

Cheryl N., Delegate
Area 17, Panel 65