

67th General Service Conference

Quick Reference Guide

AAWS / GV Reports

- **Membership** levels remain flat at approximately 1.3 M (US/CAN)
- **Contributions** were \$7,934,869, a 10.91% increase over 2015, but still a \$1.9+ million shortfall in covering expenses.
- **Groups participating** was 41.5% (and just 39.2% of groups in SENY)
- **Literature sales** show slight increase
- **Grapevine/La Viña**: GV posted \$165K surplus, LV posted a \$152K shortfall.
- *It now takes \$7.27 (currently \$1.45 shortfall) per member in the basket and \$149.34 per group (currently \$29.72 shortfall).*
- **In 2016 GSO:**
 - With **73 full time employees**, welcomed **2,520 visitors**
 - Responded to **more than 90,000 emails and letters**.
 - **Corrections** answered over **6,400 letters** (17 letters per day, every day).
 - **Archives** received over **1,450** requests for information and research.
 - **7.6 million books, pamphlets & audio materials** were shipped.
 - Listed **1,020 new groups** in US and Canada
 - **Over 13 million visits to aa.org** (4% increase). That's 36,000 a day!
 - **Big Books sold: 861,000**—up from 792,768 in 2015 (all 70 languages)
 - **Total eBook Gross Sales: \$227,611. (58,277 units sold)**
 - **Publishing Sales \$13 million** (\$204,579 below estimate)

AGENDA

- **68th GSC Theme** will be “A.A. – A Solution for All Generations”.
- **Presentation / Discussion Topics:**
 - *Today's Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion*
 - *Participation in All of A.A. – Is My Triangle Balanced?*
 - *A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions*
 - *Attraction Not Promotion: A.A.'s Relation to the World*
 - *Group Conscience: The Guiding Force*

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

- **The pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W. be retired.**

- **Problems Other Than Alcohol** have a footnote added: *This pamphlet is derived from an article written by A.A. co-founder Bill W. in 1958. Therefore, some of the language may be dated, but the issues addressed are prevalent today.*
- Pamphlet **Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace?** title be changed to **Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace?**
- The Trustees Committee on CPC review **Members of the Clergy Ask about Alcoholics Anonymous** and develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans.
- The Trustees Committee on CPC review **A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional** and develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans.

CORRECTIONS

- NONE

FINANCE

- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be increased from \$1,600 to \$1,800.
- Review every other year the suggested (1) **Area Contribution for delegates' expenses to the Conference**, (2) Conference-approved level for **bequests** to the General Service Board, and (3) Conference-**approved maximum annual contribution** to the General Service Board from an individual member.
- Add text to Self-Support: Where Money & Spirituality Mix: Q: Can recurring contributions be made online? A: Yes, online at aa.org

GRAPEVINE

- NONE

LITERATURE

- **Questions and Answers on Sponsorship** pamphlet be revised to remove two bullet points regarding maintaining a file of members' information.
- The revised plan for annual review of recovery literature be implemented.

- Pamphlet **Young People and A.A.** have text added: Young people's conferences are held in the United States and Canada and around the world. For information, consult your local A.A. area, intergroup office, or search online for YPAA.
- **The A.A. Group** pamphlet, Group Inventory, Question 10, be revised to read "Are we doing all we can to provide a safe, attractive and accessible meeting place?" "(added word "safe")"
- **The A.A. Group** pamphlet, *Principles Before Personalities* section, be revised to add text from the "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" service piece (SMF-209).
- The Trustees' Literature Committee develop language regarding safety to incorporate in recovery literature, and a plan for implementation.

POLICY/ ADMISSIONS

- The 2018 GSC move ahead with **electronic voting** for all voting, except for regional trustees and trustees-at-large, which are conducted by ballot.
- The trustees' Committee on the GSC develop a plan for equitable distribution of workload.
- Starting with the 67th GSC, an anonymity-protected, digital *Final Conference Report* be published in addition to the current print version.
- The **70th GSC** be held April 19-25, 2020.
- Future proposed date of GSC be considered as an additional Committee Consideration rather than requiring an Advisory Action.
- GSO Management submit a report on the site selection process for review by the 2018 General Service Conference.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- A new **video public service announcement** be developed for a cost not to exceed \$40,000.
- Pamphlet **Understanding Anonymity** be rewritten to include material from GSO Tradition Eleven literature.
- A.A.W.S., Inc. create a Google for Nonprofits account, limited to use of YouTube Nonprofit

program, and no comments to be show on the page.

REPORT AND CHARTER

- Text be added to Chapter Four of **The A.A. Service Manual** regarding the use of websites by Areas.
- The by-laws of A.A. World Services and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. be included in **The A.A. Service Manual** as appendices.
- A new section on the General Service Boards' "Mission-Vision-Action Statement" be added to Chapter 9 of **The A.A. Service Manual**.
- The G.S.O. Department Reports which are shared at Conference be included in the *Final Conference Report*.
- Brief bios for non-trustee directors, similar to those for trustees, be included in the *Final Conference Reports*.

TREATMENT and ACCESSIBILITIES

- The pamphlet **A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs** be retitled **Accessibility for All Alcoholics** and suggested editorial changes approved.

TRUSTEES

- Slates of Trustees, Directors, and Officers were approved for G.S.B., A.A.W.S., and G.V.

ARCHIVES

- A draft or progress report on **Unity in Action: Bill W.s General Service Talks, 1951 – 1970** (working title) be brought back to the 2018 GSC Committee on Archives for review.

FLOOR ACTIONS

- GSO strive to provide background material in English by February 15 and Spanish and French by the first week of March, beginning with the 68th GSC.
- Pamphlet **Too Young?** be revised to reflect more current collective experiences of young alcoholics and their welcome to A.A.
- A.A. Grapevine create a Google for Non-Profits account, limiting use to **YouTube Non-Profit Program**, and comments not be shown on A.A. Grapevine YouTube pages.