

**Georgia Area Assembly
Business Meeting
Sunday, May 22, 2016
Minutes Pending Approval at September 2016 GSSA**

DELEGATE'S REPORT- Ernie M

It is truly an honor and pleasure to serve as your Panel 66, Area 16 Georgia Delegate. My name is Ernie and I am an Alcoholic. First, I would like to welcome any new trusted servants to this weekend in Macon. Some statistics from General Service Conference: Average age of delegates-57, oldest-78, youngest-33; average length of sobriety-22 years, longest amount-50 years, shortest amount-9years; average length of service-27 years, longest service-49 years, shortest 6-years.

I would like to thank the Area Officers, DCMs and their Alternates for the many hours of reading and research that was put into the Pre-Conference meeting allowing me to be informed of the Area's thoughts in preparing me for The General Service Conference. Last, but not least by any means, is Rebecca and the Past Delegates of Area 16 who were so helpful in their knowledge of Conference and helped me feel more at ease when I got there.

The 66th General Service Conference was held in New York City last month. We stayed at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Times Square. I want to thank Mike C. for accompanying me to the Conference. He helped me immensely and was a great traveling buddy.

We flew to New York on Friday, departing Savannah at "zero dark thirty" a day earlier to get settled. After leaving the LaGuardia Airport, we traveled through the bustling traffic and arrived at the Crowne Plaza. We had gotten there early morning and our room was not ready. We were able to check our baggage and began to walk down Broadway and get a sight of the city. The sidewalk vendors were all out in full force and the smell of food was everywhere. We walked Broadway and lots of side streets wearing my bad knees to the fullest. Mike took a lot of pictures. Some will be seen during this presentation. We were finely able to check into our room, unpacked and walked around the corner to a small Irish Pub and had a wonderful meal. Friday night was busy on Times Square and it had been a long time since I have been around all that type of activity.

Unlike previous Conferences, Saturday morning began with the tour of Stepping Stones. It was held this year the day before Conference instead of afterwards. I am glad it was first as I was able to feel the calm and majesty of the countryside from New York. (1-1/2hr drive) We had to travel in small buses as the community surrounding Stepping Stones which did not cater to the larger busses. I had never been to Stepping Stones and it was an emotional experience to sit at the table in the kitchen where Ebby brought the message to Bill and to sit at Bill's desk at "Wits End" where he did most of his writing. Several of the Panel 65 Delegates felt that the trip to Stepping Stones after the Conference gave them a greater feeling of accomplishment of work following conference. In either case, it was very rewarding for me.

Later during the afternoon, I attended the “1728” meeting – (12x12x12). Joel C. and Pas P., Regional trustees rotating out gave, an excellent talk on the 3rd Step, 3rd Tradition, and 3rd Concept in dealing with the decisions we all have to make during our lifetime.

What was left of Saturday afternoon let us prepare for the Southeast Delegate’s dinner at Hurley’s Restaurant. A great opportunity for us all to laugh and enjoy everyone’s company. One Delegate nicknamed our guests as “Delanons”.

The “Delegate’s only” meeting was held at 7:30 PM Saturday night with Delegate Chair Barb C., Panel 65, West Virginia. Barb along with Tom M., Alt Delegate Chair went through the schedule for the week with numerous pieces of advice for us. I think the best ones I heard are: “Everything needs to be said, but not everyone needs to say it” and “It’s not about us, it about AA.”

Sunday, April 17th, 2016 – 10 AM Opening Meeting – Our Spiritual Way of Life- Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.

Terry Bedient, GSB Chair; Mary Claire Lynch, GSO staff; Greg Tobin, General Manager GSO, conducted the roll call.

WHOA - Floor Motion – Motion to restore the 2016 GSC agenda to include the workshops Approved by the 2015 GSC as Conference Advisory Actions. Seconded. Much discussion. Question called. I opposed as I didn’t know what was going on. The workshop scheduled was on Anonymity. I’m getting it. They, Panel 65 Delegates didn’t like the way the workshop on Feasibility was presented and apparently voted on to be part of the workshops. The email sent to the Panel 64 & 65 Delegates asked that the 2015 advisory action on anonymity workshop be deferred to 2017 and Feasibility Study will take its place. No minority opinion offered or received. Much discussion. Motion did not pass. Minority opinion – we should have stuck to agenda. Failed action; no one changed their vote. There was no ill will – spiritual handshake.

The GSB and the Conference. My first view of floor actions. This floor action/discussion was to take a while. Finally lunch. We were behind schedule already.

Sunday Afternoon Session – FINANCE Presentation – David Morris –Class A Trustee and Treasurer of the GSB.

November gratitude month. What cost \$1 in 1935 is now \$13. Cost of drink for Bill W. \$.15 now \$2.16. \$21/square foot renovations and rent for GSO building is very cheap. 10 Mo operating expenses -2015 now 9.6 months in 2016, projected 7 months 2018. Projected \$1.5 mil loss in 2018 - thus feasibility study.

Note: GSO shows only 40.3% of groups contributed in 2015 (26,500 of 65,741 groups), Georgia had 60.2% of its groups contributing.

C.P.C. Trustees Meeting- Joel C-CPC/Grapevine Trustee and Committee presented the committee’s Report and received any questions asked. Made my CPC committee meeting make more sense.

SUNDAY Evening- Opening dinner which Mike and the other guests who were allowed to attend. There were 5- ten minute speakers- included were Delegates, A.A.W.S., Grapevine, & G.S.O. Staff.

Monday Afternoon- General Service Board Report – Terry Bedient

Highlights-

- GSC has welcomed two new Class A Trustees – Peter Luongo and Leslie Backus (Savannah, GA), along with two Class B Trustees- Yolanda Flores and Scott Huyghebaert.
- GSO welcomed a new General Manager Greg Tobin.
- January the G.S.O/Grapevine construction project finished and the Grapevine has moved into its new area on the 11th floor, reducing overhead and streamlining the use of space.
- Since the 65th Conference, the GSB has hosted Regional Forums in New York; Wyoming; Yukon; Missouri; and Wisconsin. On the international front, trustees and GSO staff attended A.A. events in Poland, Italy, and Ukraine. Our trustees-at-large attended the 19th REDELA (Meeting of the Americas) in Mexico City. Staff members and trustees attended service meetings in Dubai, England, and South Africa. These zonal meetings are designed to provide a forum for A.A. representatives in far-flung places to discuss the challenges for creating service structures, literature distribution and practicing A.A. principles in all their affairs.
- Another highlight of the past year was celebrating A.A.'s 80th birthday at the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta, GA. With 56,900 registrants, this was the largest International Convention yet. Although attendance was a record high – revenues of \$5.9 million, convention expenses were \$6.1 million, resulting in an estimated loss of \$210,000. The higher than anticipated number of attendees necessitated reserving more hotels located further away from downtown Atlanta, thereby increasing transportation costs to connect hotels and the convention center. Other higher than expected expenses, including stadium production and security, were also related to larger number of attendees with special needs.
- The board also agreed to forward to the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions a request for two persons from the Ukraine to attend the 66th General Conference.

A.A.W.S. Board Report – Chet Parker – Chair (also SE regional trustee)

The AAWS Board utilizes the committee system to address extensive agendas, to gather background material, and to thoroughly consider requests. Committees of the AAWS Board are:

- Technology/Communications/Services- addresses the needs of service assignments, reviews GSO communications with the Fellowship, and overseas GSO's A.A. website. Publishing reviews format requests, reprints, international translations of literature and other publishing matters. Finance oversees budgeting and financial results; and Nominating recommends candidates for AAWS nontrustee director and general service trustee.

- Group Services – net total of 1,195 new AA groups in the US and Canada were listed at GSO last year. Each new group's GSR or contact receives AA literature and basic information to encourage the group to link with their local structure and support Twelfth Step activities.
- GSO's AA Website – Oversight is the responsibility of the AAWS Board of Directors. The Website received a total of 12,793,449 visits for the year 2015, an increase of 35% from the previous year. New Features include a "What's New" page to highlight new content on the website. Representatives from GSO attended the National AA Technology workshop held in St Louis. The purpose was to share the message of AA through technology to help the next alcoholic.
- Forums and Other Events- Besides those already mentioned, AAWS directors and staff have attended the National AA Archives Workshop in Ohio and the Intergroup/Central Office/AAS/AAGV will be held in Ft Lauderdale, FL this coming September.
- Financial overview –
 - Total contributions for the year ending December 31, 2015 - \$7,154,156; \$154,156 (2%) greater than budget and \$256,077 (3.71%) greater than last year.
 - Literature Net Sales for the year 2015 were \$12,489,433.
 - Gross margin from literature sales were \$9,732,441.
 - For the Year 2015, net revenues were \$15,324,964.
 - For the Year 2015, total operating expenses were 15,119,339.
 - 2016 Budget: The AAWS Board approved the 2016 budget for the General Service Office with a net loss of \$26,691; after review by the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, the budget was approved by the Gen Svc Board.
- Publishing –
 - Sales: For 2015, sales were below the estimate: \$12,706,249 actual sales vs. estimate of \$14,820,000, which is a \$2,113,751 (14%) negative variance. Total Ebook gross sales for January-December 2015 stand at \$244,132 with 52,409 units distributed.
 - *International licensing and translation*: Jan-Dec 2015 saw a noticeable surge in international requests, submissions and licensing. Translations shepherded through the review process reached an all-time-high record of 58 (up 45% from the previous year) across 28 languages (up 47% from 2014).
- Employees: At year end 2015 –GSO had 79 full-time employees, 4 part-time employees, and 5 temporary employees.
- GSO Visitors: In 2015 GSO welcomed 1,196 visitors, many of whom travelled great distances to visit and express gratitude for their sobriety.
- Archives: Last year the Archives staff responded to approximately 1300 requests for information and research.
- Reprint Requests: In 2015, AAWS granted permission/did not object to 65 requests to reprint for AA literature and denied permission to 81 requests.
- LAWSUITS – Question from floor – In California, the trial court dismissed the allegation of liability for wrongful death. In Toronto- an action for violation of the Human Right's code remains pending (Agnostic group removed from Toronto Intergroup meeting and structure).
- Safety in AA rooms will be topic beginning in July 2016.

Grapevine Report – Albin Zezula, Chair of Grapevine Board

Since the last Conference, 12 issues of the *Grapevine* and six issues of *LaVina* have been produced, four books and E-Books (*Happy Joyous & Free*, special Conference editions in English, Spanish and French, and *Forming True Partnerships*, (about relationships in sobriety), an audiobook version of *The Language of the Heart*, a wall calendar, and a pocket planner.

- AA Grapevine initiated a Fellowship-wide 2015 Subscription Challenge – Missouri won and Delaware won for *LaVina*.
- In 2015 GV continued the collection phase for audio story submissions from the Fellowship. As of January 2016, GV had collected 230 audio stories. Nine stories are available free on www.aagrapevine.org as examples for members who wish to record a story.
- GV Financials:
 - Net Sales: \$2,955,353 Expenses: \$2,722,642 Net Income: \$240,811
- LV Financials
 - Net Sales: \$ 134,095 Expenses: \$ 280,473 Net Loss: (-\$145,378)

Regional Presentations- Monday began the Regional Presentations by the Panel 66 Delegates. I was able to do mine early and stayed under my two minutes. To my surprise and amazement at dinner that night, an older gentleman came to the table where I was sitting, placed his hand on my shoulder, and asked if he might join us. Of course I said yes. It was Leonard B., Trustee Emeritus, and began commenting on my presentation and spoke of his times in Georgia (not only of Assembly, but also attending our State Convention). He inquired of several Past Delegates – especially of David S, and his wife Lucille who had escorted his wife on their visits to Georgia. Of course I had to have a picture taken with him.

Conference Committee Meetings – (my committee) - C.P.C. met in the mornings on Monday and Tuesday to go over the agenda items. Tracy O. was our committee secretary and helped tremendously in wording and rewording our recommendations/suggestions. We were at liberty to ask for a trustee to answer any questions which she could answer. Tracy was not allowed to voice any opinions in our final recommendations. We even asked for the Archivist early on Tuesday AM and she arrived and answered all questions.

Visit to GSO- Tuesday afternoon was a trip to GSO Headquarters. Most all went by subway, but our Committee Chair, Tracy, drove 3 of us so we wouldn't have to climb stairs. Tracy gave us an in-depth tour of the city driving by Towns Hospital on the way to 475 Riverside, which is the Interchurch Center. The entire building is home to non-profit organizations. I was able to spend some time with our Class A trustee – Leslie Backus, from Savannah and got to know her better. She will be coming to our Assembly. The renovations were completed on the 11th floor and the tour of the office was incredible. Each committee has its office and a lot more space now.

Delegate's Only Dinner – As usual with all meals at Conference, there was plenty of food and desserts. After dinner there was a lot of information passed on for the Panel 66 Delegates getting us ready for the remainder of the week. We are in for the ride of a lifetime! Tom M. (Delegate Co-Chair) has been the central point of all communication prior to Conference. We will receive a list from each committee with their “recommendations” (GSO Recommendations that do not require a 2nd) and considerations. After voting on recommendations, we may ask questions on their considerations. Be sure not to talk against your committee when it comes up on the floor, but you may vote any way you want. “Trust the Process”. We had the election of the 67th Conference Delegate Chair and Alternate –Each region pulls from hat a nominee from 66’s. All nominees placed in hat. Delegate Chair pulled from hat was Bob, M., South Dakota and Alternate Chair will be Ian R., from Manitoba, Canada.

Wednesday – Workshop – Sessions – Brainstorming ideas. Our purpose in this Workshop is to share our experience, strength and hope on the brainstorming questions assigned to our section. Report back Thursday AM.

- Brainstorming ideas on improving internal and external communications
 - Sponsorship improvement, technology, upgrade website, social networking, YouTube, reach out to medical and legal systems, Domestic relations, parole officers.
 - Technology, sharing the message, member to member, sponsorship,
 - Talk about money. GSO invited to conventions, information overload
- Brainstorming ideas for increasing revenues
 - Birthday plan, automated donations on line, workshops on the 7th tradition, communicate the services GSO provides, sell “Drunk Junk” (does this take away from our need to grow up and sacrifice for unity instead of getting something back for our money.)
 - 12 points, new literature, history book from Archives, audio books, BB Dictionaries, early access of purchasing of books and brochures.
 - Missing communication outside of the service structure, overcome the \$1 syndrome, credit card/electronic payments, sell literature at Regional Forums. Grapevine –no spiritual parody required (number of pages, etc.)
 - Fund Raisers: Walk/Run morning –concert at night, Spaghetti Dinner
- Brainstorming ideas for reducing expenses
 - Grapevine renewals via emails, combining printing services,
 - Conference every other year, (Joe-Trustee has great concerns because he needs to interact with his body), share rooms, other location.
 - Expectations of services is higher than revenue, decrease duplicate mailings, Area pays for new GSR/DCM packets, contribution box at NERFs, cut down travel of staff, cut invitations at dinner.
 - Too many pamphlets, behind in mailings and technology, opt in on the forms, Service manuals every 4 or 5 years, localizing costs would help Areas “step up”, donation link of free GSO literature.

Brainstorming ideas on structure

- Grapevine & Box 459 combined (magazine & information), Both Boards meet at same time and then have a joint meeting, lack of communication in the silos of service.
- Combined publishing, does change Charter, developing a marketing presence, more modern structure -1 CFO. Literature profits are like smoking- being removed by on-line sales.
- Comments- Structure as presented in the concepts is just fine. GSB needs to take control of both entities. Phase out Class A's. Look at other Fellowships and see what they are doing. (OA bought their own headquarters.)

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BEGAN COMMITTEE REPORTS –

HERE WE GO – HANG ON!!!! The following recommendations were approved by the 66th General Service Conference.

The following recommendations (motions) were approved by the 66th General Service Conference:

Agenda : It was recommended that:

1. The theme for the 2017 General Service Conference be:

“Supporting Our Future”

2. The following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2017 General Service Conference:

a. Growth:

1. Diversity -- Outreach and Attraction
2. Safety – An Important Consideration
3. Communication – Today and Tomorrow

b. Participation:

1. Fellowship vs. Membership
2. Leadership: “I am Responsible...”
3. Is Your Voice Heard?

c. Contributions:

1. Spirituality and Money
2. Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations
3. Apathy and Power of the Purse

3. The Conference Agenda Committee reviewed the summary of the previous year's Conference evaluations and, where appropriate, made suggestions for improvement to the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

4. The General Service Office post to the Conference dashboard regularly update information concerning the status of all proposed Conference agenda items.

Archives: No recommendations.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: It was recommended that

5. A new section on A.A. and medications be added to the pamphlet “If You are a Professional...” with the following text:

A.A. Members and Medications

A.A. does not provide medical advice; all medical advice and treatment should come from a qualified health care professional. The suggestions provided in the pamphlet “The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs” may help A.A. members minimize the risk of relapse.

6. Text be added to the last paragraph of the first page of the pamphlet “Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?” to read:

A.A. can help organizations, corporations and businesses, regardless of size, contact men and women who have achieved sobriety, and are willing to share their experience freely with anyone who seeks help.

7. Several minor revisions to the pamphlet “How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals” Approved.

8. An introductory paragraph for professionals be added to the pamphlet “Problems Other Than Alcohol” addressing the notion that while some language in the 1958 pamphlet is dated, the issues are prevalent today, and asked that a draft introductory paragraph be brought back to the 2017 Conference Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee for review.

Considerations Included:(I am only including these considerations in this report as the C.P.C. was the committee that I served on. All other committee considerations will follow with the Delegate’s report on the website.)

- The committee considered a request to discontinue the pamphlet “Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.” and took no action. This pamphlet will no longer be part of the C.P.C. Kit. The committee noted that the information in the pamphlet was outdated and did not accurately or appropriately describe the A.A. program of recovery for C.P.C. use, but agreed that the pamphlet may have value to A.A. members as a marker of historic A.A. moments. In light of this, the committee suggested the trustees’ C.P.C./Treatment/Accessibilities committee continue to discuss the value of keeping this pamphlet available to the Fellowship. I voted not to retire the pamphlet as over 13,000 were distributed in 2015 and we did not know how many were in the PCP packets.
- The committee discussed the manner in which we exhibit at professional conferences and suggested that the trustees’ Committee on C.P.C./Treatment/Accessibilities explore ways to integrate technology into C.P.C. exhibits, such as:
 - Adding a digital response or *QR code* to the back cover of C.P.C. pamphlets,

- Adding a digital response or *QR code* to a tabletop display,
- Developing an audiovisual presentation for continuous screening at professional conferences.
- The committee reviewed the contents of the C.P.C. Kit and Workbook and made the following suggestions:
 - That the flyer “A.A. at a Glance” be added to the CPC kit.
 - That a section on “Staffing an A.A. Booth,” similar to the section in the A.A. Guidelines on Public Information be added to the A.A. Guidelines on C.P.C.
 - That shared experience on Al-Anon’s presence at the A.A. International Convention be added to the A.A. Guidelines on the Relationship between A.A. and Al-Anon.
 - That the following five pamphlets be added as resources to the list of publications on the back cover of the pamphlet “If You are a Professional...”: “A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional”, “The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs”, “Many Paths to Spirituality”, “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship”, and “Understanding Anonymity”.
 - The committee reviewed a “Matrix of Individual Comments” from the Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing C.P.C. Pamphlets, and asked the trustees’ C.P.C./Treatment/Accessibilities Committee to forward the changes suggested in this matrix for pamphlets not under the purview of the C.P.C. trustees’ and Conference committees to the appropriate trustees’ committees.

Corrections: It was recommended that:

9. The video to replace “It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell” with the title “A New Freedom” be approved.

Finance: No Recommendations

Many areas still cannot afford the current \$1600 fee to attend General Service Conference. With that in mind, the committee did not recommend raising the fee to \$2000. Georgia gave an extra \$4000 to support a scholarship fund for those Areas who cannot afford to attend.

Grapevine: It was recommended that:

10. The delegate chair for the Grapevine Conference Committee be allowed the same participation at the January A.A. Grapevine Board Meeting as all other delegate chairs at their corresponding trustees’ committees.

International Conventions/Regional Forums: No recommendations.

Literature: It was recommended that:

11. The trustees’ Literature Committee develop a plan that includes a systematic schedule for the annual review of recovery literature items, taking into consideration the following: content, relevance, and usefulness, and prioritized by time span since last review. The committee requested that the plan

also include an annual report, to be forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee, reflecting the results of their review and any other items for proposed updates or revisions.

12. The trustees' Literature Committee revise the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." to include information about young people's conferences and that the proposed text be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee for review.

13. The trustees' Literature Committee update the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." to better reflect the experiences of young people in A.A. today. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee.

14. The trustees' Literature Committee undertake a comprehensive revision of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" with a modernized presentation of both text and illustrations to reflect contemporary A.A. experience. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee.

Policy/Admissions: It was recommended that:

15. Mykhailo Araslanov, past World Service Meeting delegate, and Yury Tarnavskyy from Ukraine be admitted to the 66th General Service Conference as observers.

16. Implementation of Phase 1 of the Conference Translation Project to translate pre-Conference and Conference material into Spanish and French, as described in the 2015 Advisory Action, continue with an estimated cost of \$50,000 - \$100,000.

17. The 69th General Service Conference be held April 28-May 4, 2019 since these dates do not conflict with any significant holiday or hotel availability.

Public Information: It was recommended that:

18. A proposal for implementing a Google-for-Non-Profits account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for review.

19. A proposal for the implementation of a Twitter account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for review.

20. The English- and French-language versions of the video public service announcement "Tengo Esperanza," be centrally distributed, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, in addition to distribution by local committees, and that the information gathered from the process be forwarded to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for their review.

21. The video public service announcement "I Thought" be discontinued.

Report and Charter: It was recommended that:

22. A new section on “Local Forums” be added to Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The A.A. Service Manual, after the “Regional Forums” section with the following text:

Local Forums

In October 2006, the concept of Local Forums was approved by the General Service Board. The purpose of Local Forums is to bring Forum information to A.A. members in remote, sparsely populated areas, urban neighborhoods or underserved A.A. communities. Any A.A. community or service entity may request a one-and-a-half or two day Local Forum. Unlike Regional Forums, the responsibility for Forum expenses such as meeting room rental and miscellaneous expenses are assumed by the Local Forum Committee. The General Service Board will send two participants, one from the Board and one from the General Service Office or Grapevine office, and display literature at Board expense. Like Regional Forums, Board participation in Local Forums requires the approval of the trustees’ Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. The Regional Forums coordinator works closely with the Local Forum organizing committee to create an agenda that is responsive to local needs.

23. The following text in endnote 4 be removed from Concept XII on page 73 of the Twelve Concepts for World Service:

4. Bill here, apparently inadvertently, used the phrase “in action and spirit,” instead of “in thought and action,” that appears elsewhere in both the Conference Charter and the statement of Concept XII.

24. The following text be removed from the Concept XI essay on page 58 of Twelve Concepts for World Service: (As you recall this brought up a lot of comments/discussion during our pre-conference meeting.)

Women workers present still another problem. Our Headquarters is pretty much a man’s world. Some men are apt to feel, unconsciously, that they are women’s superiors, thus producing a reflex reaction in the gals. Then, too, some of us — of both sexes — have been emotionally damaged in the area of man-woman relations. Our drinking has made us wrongly dependent on our marriage partners. We have turned them into our “moms” and “pops,” and then we have deeply resented that situation. Perhaps maladjustment has taken still other turns which leave us with a hangover of hostility that we are apt to project into any man-woman relatedness that we undertake. It is

possible for these forces to defeat the good working partnerships we would like to have. But if we are fully aware of these tendencies they can be the more easily overcome, and forgiven. We can be aware also that any sound working relation between adult men and women must be in the character of a partnership, a non-competitive one in which each partner complements the other. It is not a question of superiority or inferiority at all. Men, for example, because they are men, are apt to be better at business. But suppose we replaced our six women staff members with six men? In these positions could the men possibly relate themselves so uniquely and so effectively to our Fellowship as the women? Of course not. The women can handle this assignment far better, just because they are women. (10)

25. Endnote 10, on page 59 in Twelve Concepts for World Service in the Concept XI essay be revised by the Publishing Department with language noting that two paragraphs have been removed from the Concept XI essay and are available upon request from the G.S.O. Archives Department as a reference to A.A. history.

26. *The A.A. Service Manual* be revised per existing schedule after the 2016 General Service Conference and that a new edition be published biannually (i.e., every two years), beginning in 2017 at a savings of approximately \$45,000 - 50,000 in alternate years when a new edition is not published. The next edition of *The A.A. Service Manual* is to be published in 2018 (after the Conference), the subsequent edition in 2020 (after the Conference), etc.

27. The category title "Online Meetings" be changed to "Online Meetings/Online Groups" on page vi and vii in the A.A. Directories.

Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities It was recommended that:

28. The term "Special Needs" be removed from the name of the Conference Committee on Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities and throughout the committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure. The new name of the committee will be the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

Trustees: It was recommended that:

29. The following slate of trustees be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Class A Trustees

Leslie S. Backus, B.A.

Terrance M. Bedient, FACHE

Class B Trustees

Thomas Ardolf

Richard Boisvert

Hon. Christine Carpenter
Hon. Ivan L.R. Lemelle
Peter Luongo, Ph.D., LCSW-C
Nancy J. McCarthy
David M. Morris, C.P.A.
Scott Huyghebaert

Carole Boerner
Joel Castellaw
Joe Downey
Bill Farnsworth
Yolanda Flores
William Noonan
Chet Parker
Richard Purtell
Bob Wilcox
Cate Wittig
Albin Zezula

30. The appointment of the following slate of officers of the General Service Board be approved at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any:

Chairperson	Terrance M. Bedient, FACHE
First vice-chairperson	Bob Wilcox
Second vice-chairperson	Chet Parker
Treasurer	David M. Morris, C.P.A.
Secretary	Bill Farnsworth

31. The February 2016 appointment of the following officers by the chair of the General Service Board be approved at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2016:

Assistant Treasurer	Donald W. Meurer
Assistant Secretary	Eva Sanchez

This appointment process is in accordance with the General Service Board Bylaws.

32. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any: all approved

Richard Boisver	William Noonan
Beau B	Richard Purtell
Joe Downe	Eva Sanchez
Homer Moeller	Greg Tobin
David Noll	

33. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board in April 2016, following presentation at the 2016 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any: all approved

Lynda Bergeron	Yolanda Flores
Carole Boerner	Ivan Lemelle
Ami Brophy	Paz Preciado
Joel Castellaw	Albin Zezula
Josh Eggleston	

34. If a vacancy for a regional trustee occurs prior to September 1 in the first year, then an election for a three-year term would occur at the following General Service Conference (GSC) for the affected region. If a vacancy for a regional trustee occurs between September 1 in the first year and August 31 of the third year then the delegates from the affected region would be given an option to hold an election for a six-year or five-year term, or leave the position vacant, depending on when the vacancy occurs. Regardless of whether the term was for three, five or six years, the regional trustee would be expected to serve two years on one of the two operating corporation boards.

Floor Actions— Nine floor actions were introduced and of those nine the following three passed.

1. The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference creates a plan to translate Conference background material, considering all possible methods, with a progress report to be forwarded to the 2017 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions that describes the process and costs.
2. General Service Conference delegates be provided a copy of the final approved annual General Service Office and A.A. Grapevine budgets with the pre-Conference material for all future Conferences.
3. The General Service Board develop a new policy and a plan that enhances the General Service Conference Agenda Review and Selection Process, providing the area delegate members of the Conference a role in the vetting and selection of proposed agenda items through the Conference process to be brought to the 2017 General Service Conference.

I will have all the Advisory Actions, additional considerations, and no action taken added to our website with this Delegate's Report.

Beginning on Wednesday several individuals became ill. Not knowing if a virus had presented itself, we all began using "Purell" when leaving the Conference area or returning to it. The advice came from one of our Class A trustees – a doctor. What a joke it became as all you could smell at the doors was alcohol. As Friday evening came to a close around 7:00 pm (we worked through supper), we heard the farewell remarks from the Rotating Delegates. "Grace got us here." "Everything will be OK." "My life has changed forever." "We made history this week." "It takes a little bit of ego to get into service, but a lot of humility to stay." "Our co-founders would be pleased - we were the voice of AA this week, and we

shared something magic together.” They sang “Panel 66” to the tune of Route 66. It was really bad, but we loved it.

Saturday morning was full of farewells and goodbyes to Panel 65 and as Terry Bedient, GSB Chair, said in his closing remarks – “We were a Fellowship in motion”. Nowhere else could we agree to disagree and love each other afterwards. We were done. Mike and I wandered Broadway for a couple of hours before our ride arrived to take us to the airport. A little breezy, cloudy, and a rejuvenation of the spirit I haven’t had for a long time. Thank you Area 16, and most of all “THANK YOU GOD.”

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Panel 66 Delegate to the General Service Conference!



Recognition of Past Officers- Rebecca T: David M., Past Delegate; Patty L, Past Delegate; Joycie W., Past Delegate; Glenda M, Past Area Office Manager & Past Area Secretary; Gene T, Past Treasurer; Billy N, trustee to General Service Board, Director on AAWS Board. I also want to thank Tamara and her team of volunteers.

Approval of Minutes from January 2016 Business Meeting- (as published on aageorgia.org and in March/April 2016 Georgia Message)

Mark GSR 16 D Solutions Group- Motion to Approve
2nd Buddy Alt GSR Friday Night Fellowship Group
All in Favor- No oppositions. Minutes approved

63rd PrePaid Convention (Augusta) Report- Jimmy H

Contact us:

Website- www.aageorgia.org/prepaid.htm

Email- 63rdPrepaid@aageorgia.org

Lodging

Host Hotel – Marriott of Augusta Convention Center
(\$125 per night, \$7 per day parking, free in parking deck)

Overflow Hotel – Holiday Inn
(\$91 per night, free parking)

Both hotels are Handicapped Accessible (per ADA).

As of today, there are ~500 people registered to attend.

- Registration Forms are Bilingual (English and Spanish)
- We are on track to come in under budget, less than \$40K.
- Coffee will cost \$32 per gallon. We encourage visitors and guests to the Hospitality Rooms for Coffee, so our costs remain manageable.

Meeting Schedule

Thursday Night – 8 PM

Friday – 2 PM (Local Speaker) and 8 PM (Peter M.)

Saturday Night - 6 PM – 7:30 PM (63rd Prepaid Convention Dinner, \$20 Buffet)

8 PM (Main Meeting - Introduction of State Officers, and Mayor Presents Proclamation and Message)

10 PM (Dance and Band)

10 PM/11 PM/12 PM (AA Meetings)

Sunday Morning - 10 AM (Closing Speaker Meeting)

Planning to add Meeting Schedule Link to the Convention Website ASAP

Events

Displays – Archives and Grapevine

Invitees – Spanish Translator, American Sign Language (ASL), and Alternate Delegate (Rick)

Plan to have Augusta, GA Information from the Convention & Visitors Bureau at the September 2016 Assembly.

Fun Activities for visitors to Augusta, GA

Saturday Events

- 9:00 – Golf Tournament, Disk Golf (SC), and Nature Walk (SC)
- 10:00 – Motorcycle Poker Run and Kayaking

Museum Tours and Riverwalk Events

- Possibility of Canal Tours (Historic) and OutSpokin' (Bicycle Rides)

Lessons Learned

- Good support from GSSA (Ernie)
- On many items especially the Contract did not come until after contract was initially signed. GSSA Office must sign the Contract with the Convention Committee.
- Need After-Action-Report (AAR) from previous Conventions 3 years prior to Event.

The 63rd Prepaid Convention Committee is meeting and working very hard to ensure we have a successful!

AREA OFFICER REPORTS:

ALT DELEGATE: Rick M- Calendar Updates-Upcoming Events:

May 28, 2016	8:00-1:00	Corrections Certification Training	GSSA Office Macon
May 27-29, 2016		12 th Spanish State Convention	Doraville
June 2-5, 2016		SERCYPAA	Cobb Galleria Marriott
June 25, 2016		Treatment/Special Needs/Accessibilities Workshop	Rome
June 25, 2016		West Central Cluster Forum	Perry
August 12-14, 2016		Al-Anon State Convention	Savannah
August 19-21, 2016		GYCPAA	Savannah
August 13, 2016		Northeast Cluster Forum	
Sept. 1-4, 2016		58 th ICYPAA	Tennessee
Sept. 11, 2016	8:30-1:00	Metro Service Breakfast (Meet those standing for Area Service positions)	NABA Atlanta
Sept. 24, 2016	8:00-1:00	Corrections Certification Training	GSSA Office Macon
Oct. 20-23, 2016		63 rd Georgia Prepaid Convention Registration open	Augusta Marriott
Nov. 5, 2016		Metro Cluster Forum	Sandy Springs, ATL
Nov, 12, 2016	1:00-3:00	DCM Planning Meeting	GSSA Office Macon

SECRETARY- Debi K

Attendance at May 2016 Assembly:

DCMs	43
Alt DCMs	24
District Secretary/Treasurer	9
GSRs	224
Alt GSRs	49
Group Secretary/Treasurer	18

- YTD Contributions for 2016 was \$61,600 which is \$6,800 more than budget and \$5,100 more than 2015. We will look at the contributions in more detail shortly

2. Total Operating Expenses

- This slide shows how our contributions were used while the next slide will show the expenses by Committee.
- 2016 total operating expenses were \$56.3 k which is \$3k lower than budget and \$7.5k higher than 2015; most of which pertains to the additional \$5k sent to GSO, which was voted on the DCM's at the January Assembly and higher General & Administrative costs.
- To help ensure we stay within budget in 2016 we ask that each group be updated for the number of GA Messages they require. If you are receiving more messages than needed, please adjust this number to help us save on printing costs.

3. Income from Operations

- The \$5.3k 2016 Income from Operations is \$9.6k over budget and is \$2k less than 2015.
- The increase in contributions helped offset the contribution to GSO and the increase in General & Administrative expenses.

4. Literature & Grapevine Income

- Literature sales were \$33.4k, a \$10k increase over 2015 and a \$3k increase over budget.

5. Literature & Grapevine Expense

- Literature expenses were \$32.5k against a budget of \$27.5 and \$6.9k higher than 2015

6. Gross Margin

- Gross margin, which is the percentage of the sales price that is income, was 3% compared to a budgeted 10%

7. Net Income/Loss

2016 Net Income was \$6.5k which is \$7,400 higher than budget and \$600 higher than 2015.

	BUDGET YTD 2016	ACTUAL YTD 2016	ACTUAL YTD 2015
OPERATIONS			
CONTRIBUTIONS	34,700	61,600	56,500
EXPENSES			
Office Committee	1,000	1,000	1,000
Admin	200	200	200
Travel	200	200	200
Insurance	1,100	1,100	1,100
Utilities	1,200	1,200	1,200
Depreciation	1,100	1,100	1,100
Telephone	100	100	100
Postage	500	500	500
Repairs	500	500	500
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000
Advertising (see General & Admin)	2,000	2,000	2,000
General & Administrative	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total Operating Expenses	23,800	32,500	25,000
Income from Operations	10,900	29,100	31,500
Other Income			
Literature & Grapevine Income	10,000	10,000	10,000
Literature & Grapevine Expense	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)
Total Other Income	0	0	0
Net Income	10,900	29,100	31,500

The Income Statement by Committee slide contains the same information as the Income Statement by Category with the exception of how the Operating Expenses are displayed. This slide shows the expenses by Committee or Service area while the previous slide showed those expenses by expense type. While the Contributions, Total Expenses, Net Income etc. are the same, it is beneficial to see the breakdown by Committee to know how our contributions are being used to carrying the message.

Balance Sheet Year to Date 04/30/16				
Assets				
Current Assets:				
Operating Cash	\$6,362			
Prudent Reserve	\$77,930			
Accounts Receivable	3,707			
Total Current Assets	\$88,000			
Other Assets:				
Net Other Assets	\$94,400			
Inventory	\$6,407			
Total Other Assets	\$100,807			
Total Assets	\$188,807			
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities:				
Accounts Payable	3,774			
We Share Books	\$8,356			
Total Current Liabilities	\$12,130			
Equity:				
Retained Earnings	\$16,670			
Surplus	\$4,400			
Total Equity	\$21,070			
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$188,807			
RESERVE FUND:				
	04-Apr-16	01-Dec-15	01-Dec-14	
Reserve Fund Balance available	\$77,930	\$700,112	\$1,254	
Operating Expenses	\$67,168	\$457,276	\$64,187	
Number of months Operating Expenses	8.76	8.74	5.91	

On the Balance Sheet there are four values I want to highlight

- Total Current Assets – primarily our Prudent Reserve, was \$130.1k
- Total Assets were \$182.4k
- Total Current Liabilities, mostly from the We Share Books, was \$11.6
- Total Liabilities & Equity – equals Total Assets of \$182.4

Reserve Fund

- The reserve fund is affected by two factors: total operating expenses and contributions in excess of our operating account. As you can see we are currently at 8.76 months which is only slightly higher than the 8.74 months at year end however we are still heading in the right direction compared to the 5.91 months from the 2014-year end.

Georgia Prepaid Convention Financial Trend						
	000 - Calvary	000 - Atlanta	000 - Jekyll	000 - Columbia	000 - Aquatic	
CONTRIBUTIONS						
Group Contributions	\$5,478	\$5,176	\$4,042	\$4,200	\$1,000	
Individuals	88	309	178	100	307	
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$5,566	\$5,485	\$4,220	\$4,300	\$1,307	
EXPENSES						
Facilities	\$7,004	\$6,407	\$6,017	\$6,000	0	
Services and Program	\$2,004	\$2,004	\$2,018	\$2,017	0	
Entertainment	\$4,018	\$4,009	\$3,017	\$3,017	0	
Outreach	721	701	\$2,000	\$2,000	0	
Registration	\$1,012	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	0	
Other Expenses	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	0	
Georgia Prepaid Convention Expenses	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	0	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$19,769	\$19,721	\$19,721	\$19,721	0	
NET RESERVE AVAILABLE	\$14,100	\$14,100	\$14,100	\$14,100	\$1,307	
RESERVE FUND						
Reserve Fund Balance at December 31 available to cover	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	
For Paid Expenses	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	
Number of Months per Reserve	8.89	8.89	8.89	8.89	8.89	

To help us better understand the costs associated with producing the Pre-Paid State Convention and be able to compare expenses by geographical areas we analyzed the expense details for the conventions since 2012 and created both a detailed and summarized financial trend. This slide shows the summary of this trend and has 4 values highlighted.

- Contributions – we have received \$13.7k earmarked for the PrePaid convention this year. Last year's contributions of \$42.5k was the largest amount received through the periods presented.
- Total expenses have fluctuated over the periods presented based upon their geographical areas. The bulk of the expenses are incurred in September and October so we do not have much to report for 2016 as yet.
- Net Income so far in 2016 affecting the reserve balance was \$13.7
- Reserve Balance- as of April 30th was 3.33 conventions keeping in mind we have not yet incurred expenses for 2016

The prepaid financial trend, including both the details and summary information, is available on line at aageorgia.org under Prepaid Reports

We have talked about our financial condition and we are in much better shape than we have been in historical years but our expenses are dependent upon contributions. The 7th Tradition Contributions affect what we can provide to Area 16 in Services. So let's look at our 7th tradition contributions in more detail.

	7th Tradition 2015	7th Assembly 2016	7th Special 2014
Group Contributions	\$62,767	\$57,147	\$55,079
Cash Contributions Assembly	2,000	2,213	4,163
Cash Contributions Convention	5,000	500	7,000
Board Member Contributions	500	270	400
Special Contributions	400	123	540
Convention Contributions	307	770	0
Total	\$71,974	\$60,920	\$66,182

*Special Contributions are cash contributions from any number of G.A. members that typically represent the production of a resolution.

**Convention Cash Contributions represent monies received for the Convention expenses stated in the report for the year 2014 as cash contributions. This amount may represent the reimbursement of expenses.

As you can see, 2016 Group contributions are higher than 2015 by \$5.2k and 2014 by \$5.9k Assembly and Special Contributions are still trending downward compared to 2014.

To help encourage the submission of expense reports so that we know the true cost of Services in Area 16 we created a process where members of the Office & Service Committees can donate their expense reimbursement back to GSSA in lieu of payment. This helps us better understand our true expenses and provides an easy method for the Committee members to contribute. As you can see Committee members opted to donate \$641 back to GSSA in contributions rather than receiving reimbursement.

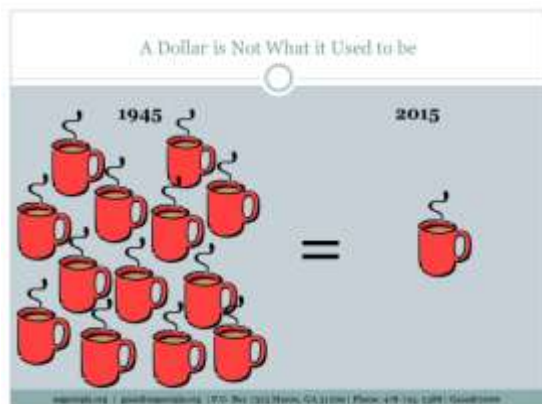
Let's make sure we have plenty of anniversary envelopes at our meetings and educate our group consciences on the purpose of those envelopes which is to send a monetary value of our gratitude for

the program. Talk to your group conscience about automatically handing the recipients of anniversary chips the anniversary contribution envelopes which is just one method that is being done in a group. Think about other creative ways to communicate the anniversary donations within your groups and share them with me and others.

Regarding the Assembly contributions, the average cost to hold the assembly is \$13.4k. The Assembly basket contributions were \$3k. Another way to look at this is to say each assembly costs us approximately \$28.20 per person to attend and we collected in the basket is \$6.20 per person. Think about how your sobriety is enhanced by the Assembly or about how much coffee you drink during the Assembly weekend and let's put into the basket our gratitude contribution for our sobriety and/or a couple of dollars for each cup of coffee we drink.



I would be remiss if I didn't include information regarding inflation. In 1945 we put a dollar in the basket as gratitude for our sobriety. That dollar today is equivalent to 8 cents but many of us still put a dollar in the basket.



A good way to look at this that most of us can relate to is the cost of one cup of coffee today is equivalent to a pot of coffee in 1945.

I think we demonstrated that we are being good stewards of the contributions received but for us to continue to stay viable in the years to come, ensuring AA is here for the next suffering alcoholic we have to stay focused on contributions, more specifically the spiritual nature of our monetary gift of gratitude.

OLD BUSINESS-

Rebecca T, Assembly Chair Reviewed “How the Assembly Operates” from Robert’s Rules. Hard copies available at the Registration Desk

Approval of Athens bid for 2018 Prepaid, Jim T-Get report from Jim T, 65th Prepaid Chair

District 16, Zone B is pleased to present the following confirmed prices as part of the bid process for Athens to host the 65th Prepaid Convention from October 26-28, 2018. We currently have contracts in hand for the following rates for the three host hotels:

The Hilton Garden Inn, which is directly across Thomas Street from The Classic Center, is offering rooms for \$139.00 per night plus tax, with parking for \$9.95 per day.

The Holiday Inn Athens, which is one quarter mile from The Classic Center in downtown Athens, is offering rooms for \$109 per night plus tax, with free Wi-Fi and parking.

The Holiday Inn Express Athens, which is 0.4 miles from The Classic Center in downtown Athens, is offering rooms for \$99.00 per night plus tax, with free Wi-Fi, parking, and breakfast.

Each hotel is offering one complimentary room night for every 40 room nights booked. The contracts for all three hotels need to be executed by June 30, 2016 to be valid.

Final arrangements with The Classic Center are as follows:

The facility package for the 65th Prepaid Convention will cost \$16,100.00. This includes meeting space, tables and standard banquet chairs for guest seating, set-up and clean-up of the equipment and space, Classic Center Event Planners and event staff, and coffee from Jittery Joe’s, up to a maximum of 1,000 gallons. The price for coffee works out to \$1.61 per gallon, which represents The Classic Center and Jittery Joe’s providing coffee for us at cost. We were extremely pleased to receive this very cost effective offer from The Classic Center. It is amazing what a brief description of our Seventh Tradition will do!

Levy Restaurants, The Classic Center’s exclusive in house caterer, has agreed to supply food, snacks, and service for the Hospitality Suite for the entire Convention for an additional \$6,420.00, bringing the total cost for facilities, food, and coffee to \$22,520.00. This should allow our attendees to experience state of the art facilities and enjoy a relatively inexpensive stay in Athens for the 65th Prepaid Convention.

The Host Committee is currently exploring various activities to make attendance at the 65th Prepaid Convention even more enjoyable for our guests. In addition, our Speaker Subcommittee has been busily reviewing candidates since January to provide a wonderful example of the power of recovery from

alcoholism in Alcoholics Anonymous. District 16B is looking forward to the opportunity to host the 65th Prepaid Convention in Athens and is very grateful for your consideration.

Rebecca T, Assembly Chair read procedure from Page 34 of Georgia Service Manual

Show of hands for approval of Prepaid Bid from GSRs- Unanimous no oppositions

Ad Hoc Committee Reports on Motions from January 2016 Assembly

Motion 1: *A policy be created to move funds between the PrePaid and GSSA prudent reserves such that PrePaid reserve balance does not exceed 200% or fall below 150% of the most three-year average convention cost. GSSA cannot move more funds to the PrePaid reserve account than was previously received from the PrePaid.*

Ad Hoc Committee Report: Tracy M DCM 7a, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

Our Delegate, Ernie, asked me after our January 2016 Assembly, to chair the Ad-Hoc committee of 5 DCMs: Don B., DCM 12A; Mark G., DCM 11C; Sandra B., DCM 13J; Ron S., DCM 3B; and myself to make a recommendation on the following motion:

A policy be created to move funds between the Pre-Paid and GSSA prudent reserves such that the Pre-Paid reserve balance does not exceed 200% or fall below 150% of the most recent three-year average convention cost. GSSA cannot move more funds to the Pre-Paid reserve account than was previously received from the Pre-Paid.

As a committee, we were asked to study the motion as written and suggest changes as our group conscience saw fit. In February, we had a conference call where all but one of our committee members discussed our thoughts and concerns about the motion. I later talked with one member who was unable to make the conference call to hear his/her thoughts.

Next I asked that each of our committee, including myself, do some research from AA Literature in line with our individual recommendation and compose a brief report or outline accordingly and e-mail it to me.

There are many sources of information available that were helpful. Our pamphlet “*Self-Support Where Money and Spirituality Mix*” and *AA Guidelines on Finance* are good source documents.

There was minority opinion to consider as well. The Committee Members’ concern was whether or not the Ga Prepaid Convention Prudent Reserve account is in excess enough to warrant creating policy to move money. The Seventh Tradition Long Form was referenced and this Committee Member definitely felt something needed to be done about the excess.

Our majority opinion in summary was that we focus on continuing to suggest the groups adjust their contributions and that as DCMs we work to increase awareness of the financial needs of each of the

separate service entities. The groups are capable of redirecting their contributions. The majority felt we should not redirect earmarked funds.

We agreed as a committee to meet before the DCM Planning Meeting to take a group conscience for our recommendation. **The substantial majority recommends that the motion as written not pass.**

Thank you for allowing us to serve.

Mics open for questions:

Pam C- Lakeland GSR- What is the dollar amount for the Prudent Reserve for the Prepaid that would be moved? Diane M- Area 16 Treasurer: The dollar amount is about \$48,000 at the present time

Rebecca T- Read procedure from page 13 of *Georgia Service Manual*- Motion will be tabled, meet with your GSRs and bring back their votes for the next Assembly.

Motion 2: *To eliminate the Area Workshops after the Speaker Saturday night of the Assembly.*

Ad Hoc Committee Report: Liz C -DCM 5c

First of all, I'd like to thank the other DCM's that participated on the ad-hoc committee:

Joel D. District 10 D

Dale B. District 14A

Charles L. District 1B

Marilyn P. District 12B

We were charged with studying the motion to eliminate the Saturday night 9:30 workshops at the Georgia State Service Assembly. In order to obtain information to have an informed group conscience, we each polled our districts to get a sense of the larger whole. I also polled the chair people of the standing area committees and shared their input with the other members of the ah-hoc committee.

As a result, the committee unanimously makes the recommendation:

NOT to support the motion to eliminate the 9:30 pm Saturday GSSA workshops for the following reasons:

1. Some members are unable to arrive in time to attend the morning meeting, and would still like to participate with a committee.
2. Some members would like to have the opportunity to participate in more than one committee. The evening workshops offered make that possible.
3. The morning session is listed as a meeting, and the evening session is listed as a workshop on the assembly agenda. This suggests that the content between the two is different.
4. There are only 4 Cluster Forums for service throughout the year. Each district is served by service

workshops every other year instead of annually. Information on how to carry the message is in greater need as a result.

5. If there is only one person who needs a service meeting, the door should be open.

6. The assembly agenda is not the responsibility of the assembly body. In our service manual, pages 19-21, it states that the first duty of the delegate, the area chairperson, with the assistance of the area secretary, is to prepare the assembly agenda. On page 20, item 2, it states "Assembly agenda should be planned carefully to make FULL USE of time available. Set a time schedule for each meeting." Also, on page 14 of the manual it states the content of the assembly, then adds "Other meetings or sessions, found desirable by the Delegate, shall be scheduled during the weekend provided they are within these guidelines." We do not wish to limit our trusted servants from doing the job they were elected to do.

We realize that Saturday at GSSA can be long and exhausting for everyone, but we all made the commitment to be of service, and it's only 3 times a year. The ad-hoc committee has made suggestions to the Delegate and the Area Chair persons to consider that may help revitalize participation in the evening workshops.

Mics open for comment:

Tom B- GSR Sober at the Summit Group-What are some of the recommendations the Ad Hoc committee made to enhance the Saturday night workshops?

Ernie M, Area Delegate- The chair from the Ad Hoc Committee will share the recommendations with the Area Committee Chairs and Co-chairs. I would like to leave for the Committees to decide.

Jennifer S- GSR Primary Purpose Group- Idea for workshops is to create interest in service work and to tell people who might be interested what a Corrections committee person for their group would need. The committee meetings in the morning are more of a business thing. I would suggest putting the workshops during the day when people are awake and more likely to want to participate. Put the business meetings at the 9:30 time. If there's any workshops that are really popular and you need them twice, then you can do it again at 9:30. But have the ones where we're trying to get people to participate in service during the day.

Lee M -GSR Northwest Group- utilizing an earlier time might improve attendance - maybe a 6:45 PM time between 5 and the speaker meeting at 8 as 9:30 PM is awfully late.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Nominations for Area 16 Secretary and Treasurer

Debi K, Current Area 16 Secretary read qualifications from page 20 of the *Georgia A.A. Service Manual*

Steve K- GSR Baldwin County Group -Nominates John L for Secretary

Alan C- GSR Wrightsville Serenity Group-2nd Nomination

Jan S- GSR There is a Solution Group-Nominates Joan M for Secretary

2nd- Phillip S- GSR John's Creek Group -2nd Nomination

John L Accepts Nomination

Joan M Accepts Nomination

Debi K, Area 16 Secretary read the qualifications for Area Treasurer from page 21 of the *Georgia A.A. Service Manual*

Ford N-GSR Savannah Group-Nominates Rusty L for Treasurer

Beth D- GSR -2nd Nomination

Rusty L- Accepts nomination

Britt - GSR Happy, Joyous, and Free Group-Nominates Christy Graves for Treasurer

Frank S- GSR White Bluff Group- 2nd Nomination

Christy G-Accepts nomination

Stacy T- GSR, Henry County Group-Nominates Emmet Pharr for Treasurer

Robin S- GSR District 11c -2nd Nomination

Emmet Pharr- Accepts nomination

2. Candidates for SE Trustee and U.S Trustee-at-Large

Ernie M., Area 16 Delegate, reached out to all our past delegates to see if any were interested in standing. Both trustee service positions accept a four-year commitment.

Tom H-Office Committee Chair- Past Delegate-Willing and available to stand for SE Trustee

No past Delegates put in their name for US trustee-at-large

3. General Sharing

Pam C -GSR Lakeland Group-asked two questions concerning Prudent Reserve only one answered previously so let's ask Pam to come up and repeat her question: As it stands, what is the current prudent reserve? Diane M. Area Treasurer-no established prudent reserve. This motion is to establish

a prudent reserve and what to do with that excess. Motion to establish a prudent reserve has to come from the body.

Tom B- GSR Sober at the Summit 16 D requested candidates come to the front so the Assembly body could match names and faces.

Candidates stood in front and were recognized.

Amy S- GSR Greenhouse Group- Motion to Close
2nd Brit S -GSR Abbeville Recovery Group

4. Adjourn-Lord's Prayer (Spanish & English)