

## **Delegate Report May 2015**

***It is my privilege to serve as your Panel 64/ Area 16 Georgia Delegate. During writing this report it occurred to me I get to relive the experience of conference week again with you which was long and exciting. It still amazes the foresight Bill W. had in creating the Conference which still works today.***

***Once again this year my Valentine's Day present was the back ground material. Once the information was downloaded and additional information obtained the information was sent to the DCM's to prepare for the DCM Pre-Conference meeting.***

***This year Debi K. was my guest. If you need a travel buddy, Debi is a great one because she made sure I had everything I needed. We went in on Friday and took time to see some of the sites. We started out on the Staten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty. On the way back we have a great view of New York and several of the bridges. Once back on land we headed towards the 911 Memorial and through Wall Street. It was neat being in the part of New York which Bill W. wondered around in his drinking career.***

***Saturday morning we joined a group who had arranged a tour of the A.A historical sites with George D., past General Manager of GSO and archivist Michelle. Our journey took us to:***

- + 30 Rockefeller Plaza where Bill met Rockefeller in 1937***
- + Roosevelt Hotel Manhattan where the General Service Conference met for 35 years***

- + 38 Livingston St.; Brooklyn, NY Bill and Lois's home from 1926 – 1929.**
- + 182 Clinton St.; Brooklyn, NY Bill and Lois's apartment from 1930 – 1936.**
- + Calvary Episcopal Church where Bill attended Oxford Group meetings from 1934 to 1936.**
- + Towns Hospital where Bill was treated by Dr. Silkworth.**

***The afternoon started off with a meet and greet Hospitality of all Conference members. I met my 2 buddies – 1 from Indiana and the other from Canada. The buddy system is similar to sponsorship where the Panel 64 Delegates are there for Panel 65 Delegates to share their experience. It was great to be reunited with Panel 64 and all of the Southeast Region Delegates. We are blessed in the Southeast with our region get together and region buddies. Following the Hospitality, we attended the 1728 Meeting; which comes from 12x12x12, representing our Steps, Traditions and Concepts. The meeting was started to help Class A trustees and other interested non-alcoholics learn more about the A.A. program of recovery from alcoholism. The evening ended with a Delegates only meeting which included a couple of presentations and it is a great place for new Delegates to ask questions about the upcoming conference week.***

***Sunday morning the Conference begins with roll call and welcoming everyone to the 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference. Wow, what an experience! We had a couple of presentations about The 23<sup>rd</sup> World Services Meeting and A.A. Around the World.***

***Highlights from The World Services Meeting:***

- + The Meeting is held every 2 years and every other the meeting is outside of New York. This year the meeting was in Warsaw, Poland, with 61 Delegates representing 41 countries.**
- + The meeting is split into four committees where they review items related to their respective scopes that ultimately increase participation, ensure the integrity of the translation of our literature, and share experience on effectively carrying the A.A. message.**
- + At the meeting they admitted four new countries – Czechoslovakia, Hong Kong, Iran and Romania. Iran struggles to have meetings because they have to meet in secret. Despite the difficulties, A.A. in Iran has managed to translate The Big Book into Farsi.**
- + The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer in 28 languages.**

### **Highlights from “A.A. Around the World”**

- + Currently there are 62 General Service Offices around the world. On years when there isn’t the A.A. World Services Meeting the person working the International desk will attend Zone meetings. International trips are intended to help us carry the message and to further our relations with A.A. structures that express a need for shared experience and see how A.A. is developing in other countries.**
- + The Big Book is available now in 69 languages and A.A. pamphlets in more than 90.**
- + Japan is celebrating 40 years of A.A. in their country.**

**+ Rick told a shorten version of a story of how in 2013 A.A. started in Liberia. Through someone reaching out and then another going on a mission trip, took literature to Albania. Along with the literature, the person uses Skype to communicate. Another member from Hong Kong was headed to the area in time to hear the man's fifth step. It is amazing the lengths people will go to help others to have this wonderful program.**

**The afternoon session began with presentations on: "Our Common Welfare Through Gratitude in Action." I am pleased our Area has the Cluster Forums and the Assembly where we share on the same Conference topics.**

**Following the afternoon session we split up into our conference committees to have our joint meeting with the Trustees' committee. I am serving on the Finance committee. The purpose of the meeting is for the Trustees' committee to report their activities and actions over the past year directly to the corresponding Conference committee. Along with the Trustees' committee we had a representative from the independent audit firm, Kevin Sunkel. GSO continues to review ways to save cost on providing services.**

**The evening ended with the opening dinner, which Debi and the other guests could attend. There were 5 - 10 minute speakers ranging from delegates, trustees, directors and staff.**

**Monday & Tuesday morning we started with our committee meetings. In addition the delegates in the room, we had Don Meurer, CFO and Frankie, staff as our secretaries. As we discussed our agenda items and formed a recommendation for**

***the Conference and additional consideration for the Trustees' committee, Don would write and re-write the recommendation until we have consensus of what we wanted to present to the conference body. Tuesday we worked through lunch and met back at 5pm before dinner to finish up. It is an exciting process to see an Advisory Action from last year, take the next step this year.***

***Monday afternoon session included reports from General Service Board, AAWS and Grapevine Board, as well as, the finance report.***

***Highlights from the General Service Board:***

- + A Search Committee has been formed and the position opening announced for general manager with resumes to be received by April 15<sup>th</sup> and a targeted date of August 1<sup>st</sup> for the new general manager to be named.***
- + At the February board weekend the Conference delegate chairs attended. Different from years past the Chairs were asked to participate in sessions of corresponding trustees' committees.***
- + In 2013, the General Service Board shared with the Conference a list of initiatives designed strengthen the function and cooperation of our three boards. To oversee the implementation of those initiatives, a trustee task force was appointed with representation from all three boards. To provide accountability to the Conference a summarized final task force report was provided.***
  - Meeting minutes are freely exchanged between boards.***
  - Based upon a relocation study commissioned by the General Service Office – the office will remain in New***

**York. Furthermore, by the end of 2015, both Grapevine and G.S.O. space will be consolidated on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor which will reduce overhead and streamline the use of space. Estimated cost savings will be about \$40,000 per year.**

- **A.A.GV and A.A.W.S. are now invited to send an employee to meetings of the other affiliated board.**
- **Grapevine continues to inform the General Service Board on potential distribution models to enhance the engagement of the areas, intergroup/central offices and to expand subscriptions, circulation and readership.**
- **To assure that licensing and translations of Grapevine literature are maintained for the benefit of A.A. The G.S.O.'s licensing manager will also manage A.A. Grapevine translations and licensing functions.**
- **To enhance the effectiveness of information technology for G.S.O. and Grapevine offices, the G.S.B. chair will appoint an ad hoc committee to consider the composition, scope, and procedures for a standing I.T. committee of the General Service Board.**
- **The trustees unanimously adopted a mission statement: "The mission of the General Service Board is to serve the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous." The trustees have also launched a comprehensive feasibility study of the current business model, corporate structure, and long-term sustainability of the General Service Board and both operation corporations, keeping in mind the spiritual basis of Alcoholics Anonymous.**

- + At the close of this Conference there will be 5 trustee's rotating off of the board.**
- + Our charter says "The Conference will replace the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous..." Each of us has an obligation, to those not yet here, of keeping the meeting doors open to those who need A.A. so desperately – no matter whom they are or what their background is. This week our sharing will enable us to reach decisions based on the informed group conscience. Our resolve to communicate within our principles and bring forth what is best for the future of A.A. should be our guide post and a measure of our success this week.**

#### **Highlights from A.A.W.S. report:**

- + A.A.W.S. has two main purposes – A.A. publishing and group services. Both services were requested from the Fellowship to support members' and groups' to carry out Twelfth Step efforts to reach the still-suffering alcoholic.**
- + Group Services – 1937 G.S.O. was created by Dr. Bob & Bill W. to create overall services. A net total of 1,387 new A.A. groups in the U.S. and Canada were listed at G.S.O. last year. Each new group's G.S.R. or contact receives A.A. literature and basic information. G.S.O. ships 8 million books, handled 85,000 pieces of mail, 90,000 e-mails/phone calls last year. All of this communication is done with 81 employees! The Corrections desk handled 6,500 letters. Archives staff responded to 1,480 requests for information and research. The Currently G.S.O. is reviewing the current service piece "Services Provided by G.S.O. /A.A.W.S.," to make a more condense version.**

- + G.S.O.'s Website – The redesigned was deployed on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. Currently averaging 30,000 visitors a day, reaching 40,000 on a few occasions. June – Aug 2014 200 countries visited the website. The new designed site provides users with an overall greater ease in navigating the site. Popular new features include an enhanced “A.A. Near You” page, and an updated Archives portal. Currently we are achieving about 54% of our total literature sales online.**
- + Publishing – G.S.O. ended 2014 with \$17,128,000 in total gross sales (including digital book sales) which was \$2,152,100 (14.37%) over budget of the year. For the year of 2014 61,927 e-book units were sold for a total income of \$235,200. There are 68 translations of the Big Book with 13 new translations pending. A.A.W.S. prints the Big Book in 52 languages with 35 printed by local service structures. 53 countries are licensed to print and/or distribute 1,710 publications in 53 languages. A license for digital publishing rights has been issued to Germany for the first international e-book version of the Big Book. Approximately 178,000 copies of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Alcoholics Anonymous were distributed in 2014. The response to the special edition Big Book was overwhelmingly positive and it was one of the main contributors to the overall level of sales for the year; however an early reorder of the book created an overstock situation – resulting in a significant write-off, 125,000 copies were written off, at a loss of \$823,152.00. The book will be on sale during the International.**
- + G.S.O. visitors: in 2014 G.S.O. welcomed 2,213 visitors. It is not unusual to see visitors standing quietly in front of**



***the multiple translations of the Serenity Prayer in the entrance hallway.***

### **Highlights from A.A.GV Board:**

- + Since last Conference A.A. Grapevine has produced 12 issues of Grapevine; 6 issues of La Viña; three new books in both print and e-book format; and wall calendar; and a pocket planner. Each Grapevine book is published with a 12 – 18 month deprecation value. Each book produced is profitable.***
- + 2014 celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grapevine magazine. Celebrations were held throughout the U.S. 2015 brings a Grapevine initiative with a Fellowship-side subscription challenge. The state or province with the largest number of new subscriptions for each magazine, expressed as percentage growth by late December 2015 will receive a special section in Grapevine and/or La Viña devoted to A.A. in that state or province.***
- + A.A. Grapevine website continues to grow and in 2014 received an average 43,598 unique visitors each month. A.A. Grapevine created landing pages to improve the user experience for the purchase of subscriptions or books, such as *The Language of the Heart*, which is now available in audio/MP3 format.***
- + In 2014, Grapevine and La Viña commenced a communication effort to the Fellowship to inform members and groups about an option to purchase subscription gift certificates to give to local committees for distribution to members in need.***

## **Highlights from the financial report:**

- + Self-support contributions – \$6,898,068**
- + G.S.O. general fund total expenses – \$9,725,210**
- + G.S.O. general fund loss - \$2,827,107**
- + AAWS total revenue – \$16,872,671**
- + AAWS net income – \$4,203,763**
- + Grapevine net sales – \$3,012,463**
- + Grapevine net income – \$325,827**
- + La Viña net sales – \$134,809**
- + General Fund support of La Viña – \$132,026**
- + Reserve Fund – \$14,094,966**
- + Coverage ratio – 9.8 months**
- + Contribution History- little or no growth in our contributions over the last several years.**
- + Percentage of groups contributing – 41.6% of the groups contributed in 2014, specifically 27,103 out of 65,222 groups contributed. The bad news is the proportion of contributing groups is at an all-time low of 41.6%.**
- + A dollar from 1945 is the same as \$13.00 dollars today.**
- + Percentage of Services supported by Contributions. The shortfall is covered by literature sales.**
- + Member Services & Statistics – Cost of Services per Member \$7.08; Cost covered by Contributions \$5.02; short fall \$2.06 – which is covered by literature profit.**
- + October 1, 2014 price increase of the Big Book from \$8.00 to \$9.50. The decision for the price increase was fully vetted at both the A.A.W.S. and G.S.B. board meetings. In both cases, it was agreed that for the long-term viability of A.A. additional revenue is needed to maintain the level of service that the Fellowship has come**

***to expect and is continuing to seek. As you can see that even at \$9.50 the Big Book today is still a bargain compared to what it has sold for during the past 75 years.***

***✚ Switching over to the Grapevine – The contribution percentage of other publishing revenue to total Grapevine revenue has remained relatively flat over the last several years and has not grown like some in the Fellowship have contended.***

***✚ To summarize the various trends that have been noted. For GSO/AAWS, membership, contributions and literature sales are flat or show little growth, but expenses continue to slowly increase. For Grapevine, magazine circulation continues to decline and expense are slowly increasing. When these trends are considered over the long-term, the General Service Board voted in November 2014 to establish a Feasibility Study Subcommittee to examine the future. We have no agenda and no direction yet and are still trying to determine how best to reach out to General Service Conference and the Fellowship to get direction and guidance on what to do with these trends.***

***I will have the full reports from all 3 boards and the final report put up on the website.***

***Late Monday afternoon and into the evening we heard Delegate highlights from 3 regions.***

***Tuesday morning began with our conference committees and each committee was finalizing their committee work and recommendations to the Conference.***

***Tuesday afternoon began with 2 more regional highlights which followed by a trip to G.S.O. Can you imagine gathering a***

***bunch of alcoholics to ride the subway to G.S.O.? Not knowing much about New York City I paid close attention to the leader of my group. The experience was incredible. It is amazing the amount of work which comes out of G.S.O. to make twelfth step work possible. The short subway ride and walk we arrived at 475 Riverside Dr. which is The Interchurch Center. The entire building is home to non-profit organizations. Behind the reception desk for the building is the saying, "Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God". When you get off the elevator is the wall of the Serenity prayer in several different languages. When you walk down the hall the circle and triangle is on the wall where you can turn right to go into the offices or left into archives. Behind the reception desk at G.S.O. is a wall of U.S. and Canada and pin markings with groups. Everyone wanted to see their Area on the map. View from one of the offices. One of Bill W.'s desk on display in the archives and the typewriter used to type the Big Book. It was great afternoon and a nice break before the committees started reporting back. Tuesday evening we had dinner and then another Delegates only meeting. It was fun after the meeting to go searching for cheese cake and run into 3 other delegates. We went together and ended the evening in the photo booth at the M&M store.***

***Wednesday Morning we broke into a total of 15 groups for the last of the inventory questions. There were 5 groups which all had the same 5 questions and this configuration was repeated 3 times. The reasoning was to get different perspectives on the same questions. Each group had a mixture of Panel 64 & 65 Delegates, Trustees and staff. There were some of the***

**same people in my group from last year. Later this year we will receive the full report of the 3 year Conference inventory.**

**Before lunch we heard the last of the region highlights and had another lunch with our region. I enjoy spending time with our region buddies.**

**The afternoon session began with the election of 2 regional trustees and a trustee at large for Canada.**

**After dinner the committee reports started and ran to until late Friday afternoon. Each year there is a committee which we seems to spend a lot of time. This year was the finance committee revolving around translation which took us about 6 hours.**

**The advisory actions from the 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference are as follows:**

### **Agenda**

**It was recommended that:**

- 1. The theme for the 2016 General Service Conference be: “Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts.”**
- 2. The following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2016 General Service Conference with sub topics under each one:**
  - a. Connecting With the Newcomer**
  - b. Connecting With Each Other**
  - c. Connecting With A.A. as a Whole**
- 3. The following be the workshop topic for the 2016 General Service Conference: “Anonymity – The Spiritual Foundation.”**

**Archive<sup>1</sup>**

***No recommendations.***

**Cooperation with the Professional Community**

***No recommendations.***

**Corrections**

***No recommendations.***

**Finance**

***It was recommended that:***

- 4. Phase 1 of the G.S.O. proposed plan (February 5, 2015) to translate pre-Conference and Conference material into Spanish and French be implemented beginning with the 2016, 66th General Service Conference. This initial phase of translations would be coordinated by G.S.O. departments, including staff and Publishing department personnel. Costs currently estimated by G.S.O. for the initial phase would be included in the G.S.O. /A.A.W.S. budget at approximately \$80-120,000 for the year. Actual cost may be higher or lower upon receiving competitive bids.***
  
- 5. The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference create a plan to translate all Conference material with a progress report given to the 2016 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions that describes the process and costs, including options using third party translators and a proposal to change agenda submission deadlines.***

***The discussion on the topic which took so long with time line involved and the cost. Another point is for the recommendation to be carried out, it would also need to go the Policy and Admissions committee. Also, the final recommendation had 5 amendments which passed.***

### **Grapevine**

***It was recommended that:***

- 6. The revised pamphlet “A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meetings in Print” be approved.***

### **International Conventions/Regional Forums<sup>1</sup>**

***No recommendations.***

### **Literature**

- 7. The revised draft pamphlet “Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Service Agencies,” with the revised title “Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services,” be approved with minor corrections.***
- 8. A comprehensive revision to the retitled pamphlet “Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services,” be undertaken by the trustees’ Literature Committee, to better reflect the full range of A.A. services, and that a fully revised draft pamphlet or progress report be brought back to the 2016 General Service Conference.***
- 9. The revised pamphlet “Your A.A. General Service Office” be approved with minor corrections.***

- 10. The trustees' Literature Committee update the pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic" to include a wider range of A.A. recovery experience from members who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and gender nonconforming, especially regarding being a newcomer and sponsorship. The committee requested that the title of the pamphlet be revised to reflect this broader scope and that a draft revised pamphlet or progress report be brought to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature.**
- 11. The trustees' Literature Committee develop literature for the alcoholic with mental health issues. The committee requested that a wide range of A.A. recovery experience be gathered from members with mental health issues, and from those who sponsor such members for inclusion in literature on this topic. The committee requested that a progress report be brought to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature.**
- 12. The pamphlet "A.A. for the Woman" be revised by gathering current sharing from women in A.A., and suggested inclusion of stories from women in the military, single mothers, and women of diverse backgrounds. The committee requested that a draft revised pamphlet or a progress report be brought back to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature.**

### **Policy/Admissions**

- 13. The 68th General Service Conference be held April 22-28, 2018, since these dates do not conflict with any significant holidays or hotel availability.**



**14. The policy regarding General Service Conference audio recordings, be revised as follows:**

**Audio recordings of General Service Conference presentations published in the General Service Conference Final Report and audio recordings of the trustees' farewell talks given at the closing brunch be made available in accordance with Archives' Policies. Access to all other General Service Conference sessions will continue to be prohibited.**

### **Public Information**

**15. The video public service announcement, "Doors," developed by the trustees' Public Information Committee, be approved with the following change:**

- **Rerecord the dialog voice-overs using professional voice actors in English, Spanish and French, removing any sense that the voices are recorded phone calls, at a cost not to exceed \$24,000.**

**16. The video public service announcement, "Doors" be centrally distributed, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$40,000 in addition to the work of local committees, and that the information gathered from the process be forwarded to the 2016 Conference Public Information Committee for their review.**

**17. The video public service announcements "A Force of Nature" and "Testimonials" be discontinued.**

**18. The Membership Survey pamphlet and the one-way**

**Membership Survey display be updated to reflect the findings from the 2014 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey, with minor edits.**

**19. In light of the potential for continuing to improve the relevance and usefulness of the aa.org website on a timely basis, the A.A.W.S. Board be authorized to produce and post audio/video service material on the aa.org website provided the following conditions are met:**

- Audio/video service material produced via this process provides information already available on aa.org;**
- Proposed audio/video service material is for posting on aa.org only (audio/video items produced for distribution beyond the aa.org website will continue to require Conference review and approval);**
- Proposed audio/video service material is reviewed for content by an appropriate trustees' committee prior to posting - with the prerogative to request input from the appropriate Conference committee prior to forwarding to the A.A.W.S. Board;**
- Proposed audio/video service material is reviewed and approved for posting by the A.A.W.S. Board - with the prerogative to request input from the appropriate Conference committee prior to posting.**

**Report and Charter**

**20. The following paragraph be edited for stylistic consistency and incorporated into Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The A.A. Service Manual.**

***“The Trustees’ Nominating Committee is responsible for recommending to the General Service Board candidates for General Service Trustee, Class A Trustee, and nontrustee director. The candidates approved by the General Service Board are subject to the approval of the General Service Conference. The Trustees Nominating Committee receives advice from and consults with the A.A.W.S. and the A.A. Grapevine boards with respect to potential General Service Trustees, nontrustee directors, and Regional Trustees to serve on the respective boards. The Trustees Nominating Committee also recommends a slate of trustees to serve as officers of the General Service Board.”***

**21. Under NOMINATION PROCEDURE in Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The A.A. Service Manual, the first paragraph, be revised to read:**

***“General Service trustees are chosen from among current or past nontrustee directors of the two corporate boards, A.A. World Services and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Since nontrustee directors are already serving (or have served) on one of the corporate boards, their qualifications are well known to the members of the respective boards.”***

**22. Under *NOMINATING* in Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The A.A. Service Manual, the following sentence be inserted to begin the description of the trustees' Nominating Committee:**

***“Reviews procedures for selection of candidates.”***

**23. Under *Choosing Nontrustee Directors* in Chapter 10 (The Board's Operating Corporations) of The A.A. Service Manual, the second paragraph, be revised to read:**

***“Working in concert with the trustees' Nominating Committee, the nominating committee of the corporate board reviews all of the resumes received.”***

**24. In the section *Group Information* in Chapter 2 (The Group and Its G.S.R.) of The A.A. Service Manual, the following text be added to the end of the second paragraph:**

***“The group information provided on these two forms is stored in G.S.O.'s database, which is accessible to the area registrar.”***

**25. In the section *Group Information* in Chapter 2 (The Group and Its G.S.R.) of The A.A. Service Manual, the following text be added to the beginning of the third paragraph:**

***“G.S.O. also uses this database to generate mailing lists for A.A. newsletters. Group information included in***

***G.S.O.'s database may be used by areas and districts for various purposes: the delegate may use it to communicate with groups; some areas use it for their meeting locators or to generate mailing lists."***

- 26. *The following text be added at the end of the section District Information in Chapter 3 (The District and the D.C.M.) of The A.A. Service Manual:***

***"The information provided on this form is stored in G.S.O.'s database, which is accessible to the area registrar. G.S.O.'s database also provides the capability for the area registrar to identify district officers and service chairs with local or specific information that then can be used to facilitate communication."***

- 27. *In Chapter 5 (The Area Committee) of The A.A. Service Manual, a new section be added after Financial Support with the following text:***

***"Area Information - The outgoing delegate provides G.S.O. with contact information for all incoming area officers and committee chairs. This information is stored in G.S.O.'s database, which is also accessible to the area registrar, and is used to communicate with these officers and committee chairs throughout their rotation."***

- 28. *A new subsection of the section STIMULATING INTEREST IN GENERAL SERVICE be added to Chapter 1 (Introduction***

**to General Service) in The A.A. Service Manual with the following text:**

***Reactivating districts: Frequently, there is a need within an Area to attempt to reactivate districts or groups that have become inactive or are unrepresented. Areas encourage participation in general service in many ways, especially by direct contact with groups by district/area officers to provide information about service events and opportunities to carry the message beyond the group level. Sometimes there is district-to-district sponsorship in which an active district shares its experience and suggestions to “jump start” activity among groups within the inactive neighboring district.***

- 29. A new section on “Regional Forums” be added to Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The A.A. Service Manual before the “World Service Meeting” section with the following text:**

***“Regional Forums***

***Regional Forums, which originated in 1975, are weekend-long sharing and informational sessions which provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas. They are also designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, and A.A. Grapevine; and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants and newcomers throughout the A.A. service structure. G.S.O.’s staff member on the Regional Forums assignment coordinates details for the Forum and works closely with the volunteer host chair***

***who recruits volunteers to assist staff with hospitality, set-up and registration during the Forum. Forums are held on a rotating basis, at the request of each region. There is no registration fee for Regional Forums. The General Service Board covers the expenses of meeting rooms. As all Forums are intended to be sharing sessions, no formal actions result. Sharing is captured in Forum Final Reports, which are distributed to all attendees, and are available on G.S.O.'s website. Regional Forums carry A.A.'s message of love and service by improving communication at all levels of our Fellowship."***

- 30. A new section on "Local Forums" be added to Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The A.A. Service Manual and requested that draft language be brought back to the 2016 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.***
  
- 31. The Twelve Concepts for World Service and the Twelve Concepts section of The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service include the following pages in the same order as published in the 1990-1991 Edition:***
  - a. Title page;***
  - b. Copyright page;***
  - c. Preface;***
  - d. The Twelve Concepts (Short Form);***
  - e. The Twelve Concepts (Long Form);***
  - f. Contents page with short descriptions of the Twelve Concepts and page numbers;***
  - g. Introduction.***

- 32. A limited run of the A.A. Regional Directories (Canadian, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.) be printed annually for purchase upon request.**

**Treatment Facilities/Special Needs/Accessibilities**

**No recommendations.**

**Trustees**

**It was recommended that:**

- 33. The slate of trustees be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2015. The slate included Class A trustee Leslie Backus who is from Savannah.**
- 34. The appointment of the slate of officers of the General Service Board be approved at the Second Quarterly Meeting of the General Service Board in April 2015.**
- 35. The March 2015 appointment of the 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 2015.**
- 36. The slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board in April 2015.**



**37. The slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board in April 2015.**

**38. The Bylaws of The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc., as amended to comply with the New York State nonprofit law, be approved at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April 2015.**

**I will have the list of Advisory Actions, additional considerations and no action taken added to our website under Delegate reports.**

**Now what happens with the Advisory Actions? The Trustees will start to put into action the items which passed. It still amazes me that the thoughts and ideas to improve our Fellowship come from the Fellowship.**

**Friday into the evening when we had completed all of the floor actions and the reports from the Inventory we closed the 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference with the Serenity Prayer in 3 languages – English, French, and Spanish.**

**On Saturday morning we had a brunch with farewell talks from the Trustees who are rotating. We did have Phyllis share a few words since this was her last conference as general manager. It was so moving and the Class A Trustee who give of themselves and love us so much. The regional trustees who have supported their Area's as Delegate and then another 4 years as trustee is a service of love and sacrifice. I booked a**

***late flight back, so another delegate and I went to Central Park. We had a chance to go on a little tour and he pointed out who lived where and where different movies were shot. Afterward we found a little hole in the wall pizza place for my last meal in New York!***

***I would be remiss to leave out sharing with you the love and support I received through this process. During the week of Conference besides Debi being there, I heard from several of you including my sponsor. Also, each morning my “word” buddies would send loving texts. Modern technology can have good benefit.***

***My family continues to be very supportive. From the time I received the Conference back ground material in February until the May Assembly, my family doesn't ask much from me. My mom will call and check in, but will quickly get off the phone because she knows I need to study the back ground material. I did take time out for the annual Easter egg hunt with my great nieces. I am so blessed to be part of a loving supportive family. You have taught me how to be a daughter, sister and awesome aunt. The blessings which God continues to give are amazing. May God bless you and keep you as we embark on this journey together. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Panel 64 Delegate to the General Service Conference.***