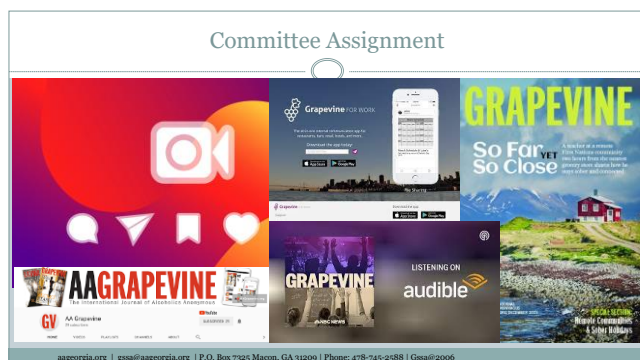


## Delegates Report January 2024



- I would like to thank Tamera for all her help preparing paperwork, setting up the room, taking care of registration, selling literature, and printing out all of the directories for us. This is not an easy task, and she does it, and she makes it seem effortless.
- We have a new part-time person working with Tamera. Please welcome Ashley. If you visit or call the office, I am sure you will have the chance to meet her or talk to her. She is doing a fabulous job, and we are fortunate to have her with us.
- We will be electing a new alternate Delegate this morning, but until we do that, I have asked Debi K. to step in and take care of all the duties of the Alt Delegate. She has been gracious and willing to serve us during our time of transition, and I want to say how much I appreciate all of the work she has put in for us.
- I also want to say how much we all appreciate how much effort Damon and the Web committee have put in to see to it that we have this assembly recorded.
- Let's all thank Debi, Tamera, Ashley, and Damon for their service.



I received my committee assignment in mid-December. I am so excited to be a part of the Conference Committee for Grapevine/LaVina. There are so many fabulous new things happening with the Grapevine. It has branched out to be so much more than the monthly magazine that I was introduced to when I was newly sober in 1997. I have spent the last month getting acquainted with the AA Grapevine website, the new Grapevine app, the podcasts, the YouTube Channel, and the Instagram page.

The Grapevine Committee was formed in 1954. It is responsible for reviewing the development

and circulation of the Grapevine at the individual and group level. Its members are invited to make suggestions and recommendations in any area of the Grapevine, including material and format.

The Grapevine App is doing very well. As of October 30<sup>th</sup>, there were 16,538 downloads, and 2327 subscriptions generating a net income of \$43,484.

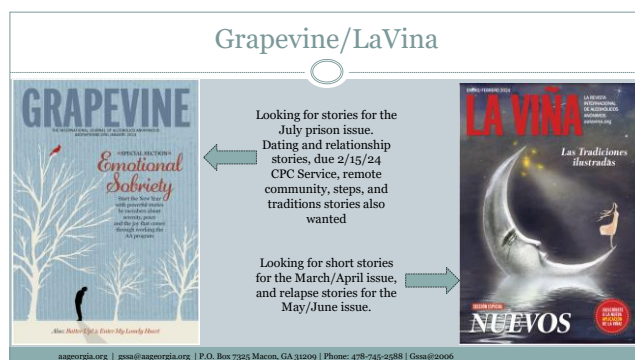
The LaVina App had 596 downloads, and 70 subscriptions with a net income of \$831.

This App launched on September 1, so I will be interested to see where it stands after 6 months or a year. Already, Grapevine sits at #2 on the Apple top 200 list of Newspaper and Magazine App Charts.

Grapevine podcasts have had over 577,000 downloads.

Grapevine Instagram account has 10,900 followers, and LaVina has 1413 followers.

The YouTube channel has 11,900 subscribers, and 109 videos with 163,456 views.



### Submit Your Story! Upcoming Topics...

**1. Annual Prison Issue** — Looking for stories of hope about AA in prisons and jails by incarcerated members and by those who bring meetings to them. Did you find AA in prison? What is sobriety like inside? Are you involved in correspondence service or prison sponsorship?

**2. Dating & Relationships** — Learning how to date in sobriety? How did it go? What were the challenges? Any sober tips? (Believe me, we all want to know!). Share what you've learned about having sober relationships. How is your marriage or relationship different now than when you were drinking? (stories due Feb. 15, 2024)

**More upcoming topics:** CPC Service stories & Remote Community stories.

**Important:** We're looking for stories of experience with each Step and each Tradition! (Pick a particular Step or Tradition and share your experience!) We also need your jokes!

### La Viña: Current Issue Spotlight:

This month's special section is **"Nuevos en AA"** (Newcomers in AA.)

### Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:

1. March/April 2024: **Cortos de La Viña** (La Viña short stories.)
2. May/June: **Recaidas** (Relapse.)

A new book is expected out this April called "Our Twelve Steps" - a brand-new collection of stories from AA members about the joys and challenges of working the program's Twelve Steps of recovery.

La Vina has a new book scheduled to be out this Fall called: "Prayer and Meditation" —

featuring powerful stories by members of Alcoholics Anonymous about the many ways they pray and meditate in their daily lives.

## Grapevine/LaVina



### 2024 Carry The Message Project

Want to help another alcoholic?  
Give a Gift Subscription to an alcoholic who needs it. To learn more visit

[www.aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message](http://www.aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message)

aagrapevine.org | gsa@aagrapevine.org | P.O. Box 7325 Macon, GA 31209 | Phone: 478-745-2588 | Gsa@2006

Please consider gifting a subscription to the grapevine. There are those who cannot get to meetings, those who may be incarcerated and have limited or no meetings available, or those who cannot afford their own subscription. This simple service could make all the difference to someone still sick and suffering from alcoholism. As of October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1437 Carry the Message certificates have been processed.



[https://youtu.be/8RxMX\\_327c8](https://youtu.be/8RxMX_327c8)

## 90<sup>th</sup> International Convention in Vancouver



July 3-6, 2025  
Information on [aa.org](http://aa.org)  
Inside A.A. tab, International Convention  
FAQ

aagrapevine.org | gsa@aagrapevine.org | P.O. Box 7325 Macon, GA 31209 | Phone: 478-745-2588 | Gsa@2006

Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention scheduled in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention.

This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding.

The International Convention will take place from July 3 - 6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium.

As the Convention approaches, you will find updates to the aa.org website with registration information.

There is an FAQ section in the middle of the page if you have questions or concerns about traveling to Canada.

Let's celebrate sobriety together in Vancouver in 2025!



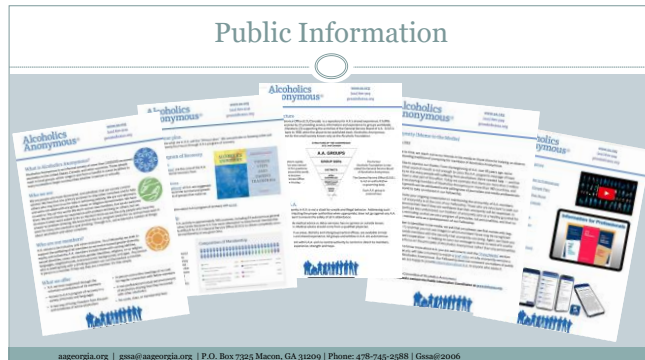
The International conventions and regional forums committee recommended that a digital option be added to the 2025 international convention, providing anonymity protected, encrypted, digital access to the Friday night meeting (including the flag ceremony), and the Saturday and Sunday big meetings, at a fee to be determined. The flag ceremony itself will continue to be offered at no charge.

The committee encourages those from outside of Canada who may have issues from the past that could prevent them from crossing the border begin the process of taking care of those issues as soon as possible. The FAQ section on the web page will address some of these issues.



Public Information

The PI Committee got a progress report on the Mesmerize Point PSA Distribution channel. They are playing 6 different 30-second PSAs, in both English and Spanish in Doctor's offices and pharmacies. This gives us about 11 million viewings monthly.



### Digital Press Kit

Includes information about Alcoholics Anonymous is the U.S./Canada Service Structure. The goal of the press kit is to answer questions and provide information about Alcoholics Anonymous for the media, professionals, and the general public.

This kit includes the anonymity memo to the media, an overview of the membership survey results, an outline of our service structure, and one click connectivity to a variety of digital resources. Some of these resources include the meeting guide app, AAWS LinkedIn page, and the AA Grapevine YouTube channel, just to name a few. It will be a great resource in the Public Information outreach effort.



### Digital Literature Behind the Walls

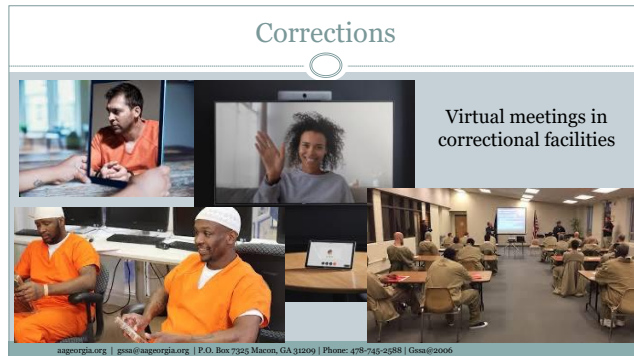
Conference-approved AAWS and Grapevine copyrighted eBooks and audiobooks are available on tablets and desktops in the various correctional settings in the U.S. and can now be accessed by people who are incarcerated and by the professionals who serve them. Thanks to the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions of members, we have contracts with several vendors so we can provide literature at no cost to persons behind the walls. The Daily Reflections audiobook has been added to the available literature.



The publishing department is organizing a tablet demonstration so that staff members can better assist the fellowship and corrections professionals when they are confronted with issues trying to access the literature.

What can you do? Let correctional professionals know that we have contracts with many major tablet vendors. Literature is available in the “Recovery” section of the tablet.

Please contact [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org) for additional information.



## Corrections

The committee reviewed recently collected shared experience on virtual meetings in correctional facilities and requested that staff develop a service piece for inclusion in the Corrections Kit. The committee requested that a staff member attend the American Correctional Association Conference in January 2024. A subcommittee was appointed to explore additional opportunities to share information about A.A. with corrections professionals.

| AAWS FINANCIAL<br><u>As of October 27, 2023</u>                                   |   |
|---|---|
| Actual contributions<br>\$6,559,954   | 2% less than this time last year  |
| Gross literature sales<br>\$9,997,774   | 23% more than this time last year<br>(Due to higher purchases preceding price increase in April 2023) |
| Total Operating Expenses<br>\$11,682,381<br>(This does not include depreciation.) | 10% more than this time last year   |

## AAWS FINANCIAL

As of October 27, 2023

Literature gross margin is \$4,964,088 which is 3% more than last year. Cost of goods sold is \$5,107,384 which is up 5.1% over last year.

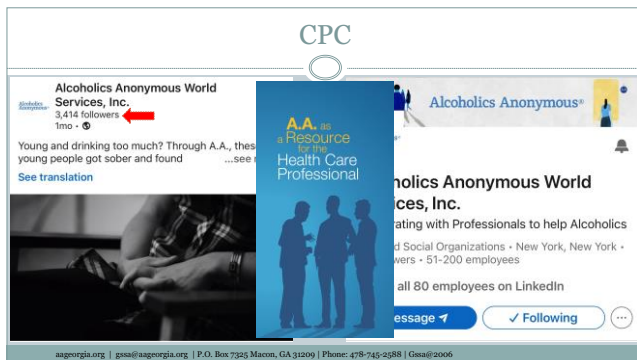
After depreciation, and including non-operating revenue and expense, the overall deficit is \$608,142.

This is better than the budgeted deficit of \$958,342

### Reserve Fund

As of October 27, the net reserve fund balance is \$12,562,214, or 7.26 months of operating expenses.

## Financials



## Cooperation with the Professional Community

Work continues on the pamphlet for mental health professionals. The LinkedIn page continues to inform professionals about A.A. and has seen a 50% increase in followers since July 2022 (over 3400 followers to date). The committee looks forward to the CPC Service Cards being made available to the Fellowship in a digital format, with physical cards to be printed later this year.





The trustees Literature Committee is seeking stories from AA members with diverse backgrounds. This is in response to the 2022 Conference Advisory Action that the trustees, Literature Committee revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?” to update the stories to represent greater diversity.

The suggested format for typed manuscripts is 500-800 words, double spaced, in 12-point font. Handwritten manuscripts should be approximately 5-6 pages.

These are due before April 30, 2024. There is a QR code on the screen that will take you to a digital submission form. The email and link are also on the slide. I will include the email, the QR code, and the link in the delegate’s report that will be available on our website by the end of the month.

## Literature





*The Trustees Committee on Literature  
Seeks input from the  
fellowship*

**HOW WOULD YOU FEEL AS A FOUNDER WRITING  
HOMEBODIES AND/OR FOR OURS?**

1. Do you think that A.A. Founders could expect to or evidence evidence to their writing? (Yes/No/Not sure)
2. Do you think the Founders writing are effective in helping you understand if the information is true and that the information is true?
3. What reasons would you consider for changing a Founders writing?
4. How do you feel about changing A.A. Founders writing to make it more relevant?
5. How important do you think the experience of the Founders' writing, along with the experience with our current A.A. Founders and its history?
6. How often do you think the Founders' writing is relevant to you as a member of the Fellowship? (Yes/No/Not sure)
7. What additional ideas, thoughts or suggestions do you have about changing or not changing the Founders writing?

(Sigs: Please do not consider it as your response to the questions)

[aa.georgia.org](http://aa.georgia.org) | [gssa@aa.georgia.org](mailto:gssa@aa.georgia.org) | P.O. Box 7325 Macon, GA 31209 | Phone: 478-745-2588 | Gssa@2006

In response to a Committee Consideration from the 73rd General Service Conference (2023) suggesting that trustees’ Literature Committee *seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.’s Founders*, the trustees’ Literature committee agreed it would be beneficial to gather shared experience from the Fellowship regarding this topic. We would like to hear from you – the top of the triangle! While we hope that the suggested questions will help to spark thoughtful sharing and discussion, please feel free to add questions that we may not have thought of that you feel may best inform the discussion. Most of all, we are grateful for and thank you for your participation.





The AAWS Highlights are back in print.

One of the challenges of the COVID pandemic was the suspension of printing the AAWS Highlights newsletter. But it is now back in production and will be distributed after each board meeting. The Highlights can also be accessed on the aa.org website under the Inside AA, "what's new" section.

The Highlights offer consistent communication between the General Service Board and the Fellowship.



Regional Forum events allow members throughout the service structure to exchange information. They bring together:

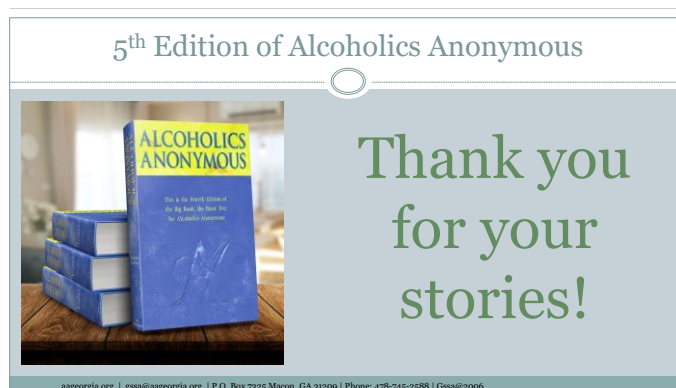
- The General Service Board
- A.A. World Services, Inc.
- A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- The General Service Office and Grapevine staff
- A.A. members
- Newcomers to service
- Trusted servants

Started in 1975, these unique gatherings happen four times a year. Each forum occurs in one of the eight regions of the U.S. or Canada. The regional trustee, area delegates and GSO decide on the location and agenda for Regional Forums. Together, the forums coordinator at GSO, the local A.A. host contact, and the regional trustee coordinate the details of the Forum.

This year we will have the Southeast Regional Forum in Biloxi, MS, December 6-8. I will let you know when registration opens.




We've taken more than 100 of your most frequently asked questions and developed a central resource where you can access them, their answers, and links to related information. Over time this list will grow to include even more helpful, searchable information. You can find the link to the FAQ page at the bottom of every web page on the aa.org site.



The literature committee reviewed a progress report regarding the development of a fifth edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous. The committee discussed concerns related to the management of the substantial number of stories submitted by the fellowship and the involvement of additional readers to streamline the reading process. The committee agreed to establish a reading working group composed of members of the fellowship selected by the committee and that working group members be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement to protect the integrity of the publishing process.

Box 4-5-9

Available in print again!  
 \$3.50 yearly for an individual  
 \$6.00 yearly for 10 copies per  
 group  
 Digital copies are available on  
 the website aa.org under  
 “What’s New”



aa.org | gsa@aa.org | P.O. Box 7325 Macon, GA 31209 | Phone: 478-745-2588 | Gsa@2006

Box 4-5-9 is published quarterly by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous.  
*Subscriptions:* Individual, \$3.50 per year; group, \$6.00 for each unit of 10 per year.  
 Check—made payable to A.A.W.S., Inc.—should accompany order.  
 To have issues delivered directly to your inbox, register your email on the A.A. Digital  
 Subscription Service on GSO’s Website.  
 I will attach a copy of the subscription form to the Delegates report for you.

Food Carts!!!



aa.org | gsa@aa.org | P.O. Box 7325 Macon, GA 31209 | Phone: 478-745-2588 | Gsa@2006

I would like to propose something new at the May assembly. I was looking forward to getting to know you as your alternate delegate. However, that opportunity will be given to whomever you elect as your new alternate delegate later this morning. In an effort to get to know you all better, I would like to implement a new segment to the assembly weekend from 11:30 to 12:30 on Saturday’s called “Lunch with the Delegate”. I have asked Debi to look into options for food trucks, and she has been able to make those arrangements for us. We just need your input to see if this is something the body would support. This is not a motion; it is just a sense of the room to see if we should proceed with it. By a show of hands, how many of you would be interested in, and willing to support our efforts to bring in food trucks on Saturday for lunch at the assembly in May? If this works, it will be something we will continue to pursue as long as you are willing to support it.

DCM Meeting – January 2024



*Liz Wilson*  
[delegate@aageorgia.org](mailto:delegate@aageorgia.org)  
912-308-5037

aageorgia.org | gssa@aageorgia.org | P.O. Box 73225 Macon, GA 31209 | Phone: 478-745-2588 | Gssa@2006

- Again, I appreciate this opportunity to serve you as your Delegate
- Please feel free to contact me any time at the email or phone number provided.

■ News and Notes –  
From Your General Service Office

■ A.A. Around the World

■ Sharing from  
the Fellowship

■ Bulletin Board –  
A.A. Events



box  
459

**Individual:**

Single one-year subscriptions (\$3.50). . . . . Please send \_\_\_\_\_ individual subscriptions \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Group Rates:**

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