

DELEGATE REPORT WINTER ASSEMBLY DECEMBER 14th, 2013

Hello Area 20,

Good morning everybody.

Been having a difficult time getting started writing my final report as your Delegate. Of all my responsibilities from the last two years, writing my reports to all of you has always been my most difficult.

But I will miss the most is getting out and communicating with all of you FACE TO FACE, here at our Assemblies or where ever the journey has taken me. These last two years have been an experience I will never forget. Of course being at and voting at the General Service Conference two times ranks high, but, I have to say standing there in unity based on our principles with a few special individuals that I may never see again, I promise never to forget. Being able to share with you, all of the correspondence coming from our three Corporate Boards, (General Service Board, AAWS Board and Grapevine Board) and from our two offices, (GSO and Grapevine).

Information that I am sure you will all agree should be available to all members, not just a chosen few. And I am very sure that not everybody reads everything that I send out, but it is obvious that people are reading it because I get thank yous, comments and questions from most everything I send.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM FALL BOARD WEEKEND MEETING:

All literature from AAWS can now be purchased on-line.

E-books are now available, a total of 11 titles in three languages will be available through Barnes and Noble, Amazon and Apple iTunes. Our Big Book (English) would have been available around December 1st, to be followed by Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (English) to be followed by all of our book titles in all three languages on an approximate one-title-per-week scheduled over the next several months. The Big Book is estimated to be priced at \$5.99. And all e-books to be less expensive than their hard copy counterpart.

Our Pocket Big Book (Abridged Version) will be available in Large Print sometime after the first of the year.

You can now place your orders for the 75th Anniversary Big Book, to be delivered to you around April 2014.

I had reported to all of you that after what I felt from the Conference and from communications with our GSO Publications Director that I was unhappy with a \$12.00 price tag on the 75th Anniversary Big Book. Well, I had written a letter to our General Service Board, and it was read at the AAWS board meeting.

Now of course nothing I said would have changed anything, but my voice was heard. It is important for all of you to be sure that you know that your voice should always be heard in Alcoholics Anonymous. And I also learned some stuff about the mechanics of our literature pricing.

There are 70 Big Book Translations with 18 new translations pending.

GSO Financial Report: Through September 30th. Gross Profit from Literature sales is \$6.1 million and ahead of budget. Contributions are \$4.9 million and ahead of budget. Combined Gross profit of \$11 million. With total operating expenses of \$11.2 million, which is less than budgeted. And all in all doing very good considering the year started with a \$600,000 negative budget.

Grapevine Financial Report: Through September 30th a net income of \$254,241 and is far ahead of budget.

LaVina Financial Report: Through September 30th a net loss of \$103,650.

But LaVina Subscriptions are on the rise. And have passed the 10,000 mark.

MY ACTIVITIES SINCE OUR LAST ASSEMBLY:

Sept. 21- Flying Geese Service Workshop in Crystal Lake

Oct. 19- Area Committee Meeting

Nov. 2- District 23 Grapevine Workshop in Hanover Park

Nov. 10- Illinois State Conference Hotel Walk Thru, Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare

Nov. 13- Delegate Report, Districts 62 and 64 in Montgomery

Nov. 15-17, East Central Regional Forum in Fort Wayne Indiana

Nov. 23- Traditions Panel at Soberfest and sit in on ISCYPAA Panel and encourage involvement in AA Service Structure

Dec. 6-8, Concepts Weekend Retreat Workshop, in Westfield, WI

Dec. 11- Conference Call with our Trustee and Delegates and Delegates Elect from our Region

You can now submit your articles or stories to Grapevine via your phone and a 7 minute audio recording. Visit www.aagrapevine.org and click on AUDIO GV

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY,

Rich

Rich H.

Panel 62/Area 20

Delegate

Northern Illinois