

2015 FALL ASSEMBLY
DELEGATE'S REPORT

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

The 2015 Conference Reports have not arrived ☹ I will probably get the call for delivery this coming week. Which means that I hope to deliver them at the Fall Committee Meeting in October. I know that we would all like to have them today, but it just didn't work out that way. Of course, I'm starting this report on Wednesday evening, and it's always possible I will get a call and they will be delivered tomorrow, but since the last report I got was by September 21st, I'm not going to rush home on Thursday. Hopefully this means that the Inventory Reports will arrive at basically the same time and I can deliver them both. It will mean I'll be looking for a pick-up truck though if it happens.

I was able to attend the 2015 International Conference in Atlanta over the July 4th weekend. What an amazing event. Final reports are still being worked on for the event. If we can take a month or two to finalize all our reports for our local conferences, imagine what it takes to do the International. It's estimated that around 57,000 people attended. I don't know if we will break a record for attendance yet or not. One of the only complaints I heard was regarding the way the Old-Timers meeting was handled on Saturday night. There was a break in the speakers and what some perceived to be a tedious "count-down" of service people. I found out that this was basically done at the request of Atlanta's city officials. The request came because they did not want the fire works and our event to end at the same time. Apparently several 10's of thousand people come into the city for the 4th & the fire works. When you add our 50,000 trying to move at the same time, well, you can imagine what the traffic would have been like. While I personally wasn't thrilled with the way the program flowed, nor watching the fire works on the bog screen, I do appreciate that we tried to be friendly with our friends in Atlanta. I can attest that some of my pre-sober July 4th escapades probably allowed for amends to be made at this event.

I have been busy with General Service Conference reports (GSC), putting over 700 miles on my car in July and another 600+ in August. Regarding the you'll find on the table printed requests for sharing. A memo fro Mary Clare L., secretary to the trustees' Literature Committee stating submittals are requested for the three pieces of literature that are being updated as a result of Advisory Actions. If you have experience to share for the following topics, please consider sending them.

- The pamphlet AA for the Woman
- The pamphlet AA for the Gay and Lesbian Alcoholic
- Recovery experience form members with mental health issues and from those who sponsor such members

Deadline for contributions is October 15, 2015. The memo contains all the information on length of piece, format, etc. If they are all gone, please contact me and I will forward them electronically.

General Service Office (GSO)

Rotation has occurred at the General Service Office (GSO). I do not yet have the official list of who has rotated to which positions. I will forward that out as soon as I receive it. I do know that Mary Clare L. will be taking on the Conference Coordinator roll, Clement C. will be Literature and Mary C. will be rotating to International desk.

There are two new A.A. staff members; Jeffrey W. and Sandra W. Jeffrey will start work on October 5th on the Corrections Desk. Jeffrey has been active in service in his Area for many years and comes to us from a long-time career in advertisement and creative writing. Sandra will be assuming the responsibility for the Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities Desk starting November 2nd. During the last three years Sandra has been working at G.S.O. as the Executive Assistant to the General Manager. Prior to G.S.O., Sandra worked as a legal secretary and executive assistant in a large management corporation.

Greg T. has been named the new General Manager. This was finalized at board weekend. Greg was voted in by the Trustees with substantial unanimity and will begin that role on October 1st. He has been Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) Publishing Director since 2013, with 35 years experience in corporate publishing and non-profit management. He has also served on the AA Grapevine Editorial Advisory Board, AA Grapevine corporate board as director and chair and as a General Service Trustee on the General Service Board (GSB).

Jim M. announced that he would be leaving to seek new opportunities. His last day was August 31. Some may remember he was the GSO staffer who was at our 2014 Spring Conference.

Construction is underway at the office to bring the Grapevine offices down to the 11th floor from the 13th. Currently all large group tours have been suspended. Individuals may still visit the office, but will have limited access of touring.

Highlights from General Service Board (GSB) meeting August 3, 2015

Some highlights:

The Archives staff has completed the project of preserving Bill W.'s hand-written draft of the Twelve Traditions and created electronic files of the documents for future access and use.

The report indicates that most if not all Trustees Committees are taking action on the items that came out of the Conference. Some of these include:

- Literature: requests for sharings has been sent and subcommittees have been appointed to work on the efforts. Work is being done to develop a plan for systematic review of recovery literature.
- General Service Conference: a subcommittee was appointed to start the process of investigating how to translate all background material for the Conference into French and Spanish. This effort will also include consideration whether the deadline for agenda items will have to be moved to September. There has also been a subcommittee appointed to explore the potential role that the Conference Agenda Committee might play in the selection process of Agenda items in the future.
- Special Needs: consideration to publish a service piece of the Twelve Concepts for World Service for signing purposes has been reviewed by the Publishing Department and is filed as a pending project.
- Corrections: a review was done regarding how inmates were matched with outside volunteers; a problem was identified in the software that handles this and the issue was resolved.
- Cooperation With the Professional Community (CPC): on conference committee consideration the pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W" was reviewed as the language is dated and it's relevance is questionable. This pamphlet will be removed from the CPC kit. Forwarded to this committee from Literature was an additional consideration on developing a piece of service material on AA as a resource for the mental health profession.

The unaudited G.S.O. financial update for the period January 1, 2015 - June 2015 reflected:

Net sales (Literature)	\$6,446,929
Gross Profit (Literature)	\$4,235,549
Contributions	\$3,208,531
Total operating expenses	\$7,748,047
Net Income/(loss)	\$ (303,744)

Delegate's Sharing

I had several requests for Delegate's Sharing's these past couple months. This is where an e-mail is sent out to all the Delegates asking how each Area handles a particular subject.

Upcoming Events

The NIA Big Book Conference is on the horizon. Scheduled for October 25th in Glen Ellyn, it will be hosted by District 40. Please register now so they can plan accordingly.

The East Central Regional Forum will be held November 13-14 in Milwaukee. This is your chance to meet members of the General Service Office staff and General Service Board. It's also your opportunity to ask questions. This is one place where it doesn't matter if you are at the top of our inverted service triangle or down closer to the bottom where I currently sit. Any AA member can go to the microphone and say what they're thinking. Online registration for all of the 2015 Regional Forums is available at www.aa.org where the Regional Forum Flyers and Registration Forms can also be viewed and printed.

Planning is underway for the 2016 Panel 66 General Service Conference. They are looking for suggestions to list as potential ideas for the theme, presentation topics, and sharing sessions. I will forward out this memo to the Area Committee. These are needed by December 15th. I'd like to suggest that perhaps any District interested in participating add this to their agenda and give their GSRs the chance to participate in a small way with the conference. It appears that you can send your suggests in yourself, although if you wish to have me forward them I will be happy to.

We will be hosting the Illinois State Conference and East Central Regional Conference in August. I'm sure Carl will be having a report. Please consider volunteering to help plan.



Service? WooHoo!
Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl V
NIA 20 Panel 64 Delegate
Literature Committee