

2014 FALL COMMITTEE MEETING
DELEGATE'S REPORT

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Life as Delegate continues to be full and rich. Between interesting e-mails and visits to Districts, I'm a very busy and happy camper.

It's rotation time for some of the Districts. If you are having elections in your Districts, please make sure you get updated information to Dawn for Fellowship New Vision (FNV) so that everyone is on the mailing list after the first of the year for the General Service Office (GSO) and the Area. I'd like to request new DCM and their Alternate's get me their e-mail addresses as soon as they are elected to so I can get them on my list right away. I'm guessing other officers such as Robert would be happy to start including you now in communication also.

Speaking of rotation, I'm getting lots of e-mails from all the Areas that are rotating. What a pleasure to be able to reach out to newly elected Delegates and welcome them to this adventure. I was so amazed at the number of Delegates who reached out to me when I was elected.

I've been trying to place the order for the DVDs and pamphlets with limited success. My hope had been to be able to place the order for all at once so that I could save on the shipping. Hope being the operative word. First the pamphlet Many Paths to Spirituality was on back order; plus the Spanish version will not be available until later this month. Then it was available but the DVD was on back order. Fortunately I found that my Home Group needed to place an order and I am hoping that I can combine the orders so I can at least save some money on a partial order.

I've had the opportunity to do two more Conference reports since our last Assembly. District 11 had me do about 20 minutes at their monthly meeting. Districts 90 & 91 hosted a joint service workshop where I presented my full report and Kelly and Marilyn talked about General Service. It was a very well attended event and as always I am grateful for the opportunity to share my experience.

An interesting correspondence that I'm participating in right now is between GSO's Group Records, Area 19 and myself. It seems that some border groups have somehow "migrated" from Area 20's records to Area 19's. We are trying to verify which Area they "belong" to. As with all things AA, there is no hard and fast rules on this subject. A Group that resides on the border of a District or an Area can basically decide for itself where they are best served. So in this case Mark M., Area 19 Delegate, and myself will be contacting the Groups to see if this change was intentional on their part, or a mix-up in paperwork at some point.

I've had multiple e-mails from our sister Area to the south thanking us for our donation of literature for Corrections.

Highlights from AAWS (AA World Services, Inc.); September 12, 2014

Membership surveys are being returned to the General Service Office (GSO) and are in the process

of being tallied. The report will be delivered to the trustees' Public Information committee at their November meeting.

There is discussion with the General Service Board (GSB) regarding *La Vigne* and the General Service Conference structure. You may recall from my report that *La Vigne* is a French monthly magazine model on the Grapevine. It is published in Quebec and subscriptions are worldwide.

The inaugural National A.A. Technology Workshop was held August 8-10, 2014 in St. Louis, Missouri.

The unaudited G.S.O. financial update for the period January 1, 2014 – July 31, 2014 reflected:

Net sales	\$9,347,800
Gross Profit (Literature)	\$5,691,100
Contributions	\$3,880,800
Total operating expenses	\$8,804,100

AAWS (AA World Services, Inc.) outreach

I received a communication from the AAWS board chair, Billy N. The board is taking time to focus on their role in supporting the fellowship. They are also discussing how to best address the long-term business model where they rely on our literature purchases to offset contribution shortfalls. They are looking to enhance communication about money from just dollars and cents to how the money is spent in reaching the alcoholic who still suffers. To this end they are looking for submission of stories on how 7th Tradition money is spent. These will be used in various ways such as in Box 459, the Grapevine, on aa.org, etc. The e-mail also included a sample story from a board member. While the story this person shared may be something beyond where each of us sees our dollars spent, I think many of us can find an example we can share. Please consider writing your thoughts on self-support and sending them to AAWS. The address is 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1100, NY, NY 10115. Contact me if you would like the name of the person to send it to or their e-mail address.

General Service Office (GSO) outreach

Surveys have been sent out to all Area Delegates regarding translation of background material for the General Service Conference (GSC). You may recall from my report, or you've read in the Conference Report, that an Advisory Action came out of the Finance Committee stating: "Because all Conference members are considered equal, all members should have equal access to Conference material and that a plan be created by the General Service Office to translate Conference Material (background material, Conference Manual etc.) into French and Spanish for use during the Conference, with a report being presented to the 2015 General Service Conference. This plan may include coordinating the use of the volunteer network throughout the Fellowship, hiring professional translators or any other facilities that the office deems necessary. The report should include costs and any other considerations deemed necessary to allow timely translations to occur." This survey is the start of that process. It will be interesting to see what is presented at the Conference next year. My hope is that something is presented that will allow translation to begin for the 2016 Conference.

International Convention: July 2-5, 2015, Atlanta, Georgia

Registration for the Convention opened on September 3rd at 9am. Shortly after that time the website

was overwhelmed. I have to say that it sounds like they were back up and running much faster than other instances I have heard about in the “real world.” To give you an idea of the number of people who were on-line, by midnight there were over 10,000 people registered.

I am serving on an East Central Region ad-hoc committee regarding a hospitality suite for us at the International. If I understand the communication to date, we have a hotel and a suite. However, we have been unable to coordinate a conference call as of yet. So I do not have any information to really relay yet on what hotel it is at or what the terms are for the hotel regarding food and beverages. Regarding this, my hope is that I have information soon so that I may present a motion to the Area for some funds to help provide coffee and/or snacks. My thought is to also see about providing a large number of our “*How to Find AA in Illinois*” flyers. In this way we can help visitors to NIA a way to find a meeting, along with perhaps give someone an idea on something they could use in their own Areas.

Some of you responded to my e-mail regarding attendance at the Convention. I received a request from Eva for potential leads at meetings. I was asked to submit at least four names of people who I thought might be willing to speak in front of large crowds and who would speak to the message of Alcoholics Anonymous and recovery from alcoholism. I will be contacting each of you whose name I am submitting so that you will be prepared in case you are contacted.



Service? WooHoo!

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl V.
NIA 20 Panel 64 Delegate
Literature Committee