

October 8, 2022

2022 Fall Committee Meeting

Delegate's Report

The most recent GSO Quarterly report was released yesterday. Some highlights are shown below, and the entire report can be viewed [here](#).

FINANCE

		% of budget	Inc. / Dec from last year	Comments
YTD Literature Gross Sales	\$ 5,764,906.00	52%	\$ 29,201.00	
YTD Literature Gross Margin	\$ 2,744,100.00	51%	\$ (643,294.00)	COG is up
YTD Contributions	\$ 5,011,648.00	46%	\$ 35,332.00	22% received online
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 8,106,647.00	49%	\$ (493,877.00)	
Total Operating Expense	\$ 8,221,046.00	45%	\$ 610,758.00	The increase from last year is primarily due to travel and meetings resuming after pandemic-related cancellations last year.
Total Operating Deficit	\$ (114,399.00)		\$ 1,104,635.00	

G.S.O.	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2021 Actual
Contributions from A.A. groups and members	\$5,011,648	\$11,000,000	\$10,775,870
Sales less cost of production, warehousing, and shipping	2,744,100	5,390,000	6,301,350
General Service Conference	287,207	294,400	233,965
International	64,049	30,000	72,750
Total Operating Revenue	8,107,004	16,714,400	17,225,329

Total operating revenue is projected to be \$16,714,400 and total operating expense is budgeted at \$18,091,497, resulting in a deficit of \$1,377,097.

Reserve Fund-

As of June 30, the reserve fund balance net of Grapevine subscription liability is \$12,892,600, which represents 7.57 months of 2022 G.S.O., Grapevine, and La Viña reforecast expenses.

Grapevine-

		% of budget	Change from Last Year	Comments
Average paid circulation	52661	95%		58544 last year
Total GV Revenue	\$ 799,585.00	100%	\$ (205,396.00)	Last years revenue was almost 1M at this time
Total Cost of Magazine	\$ 980,631.00		\$ 194,779.00	Last year's cost was \$785,852
Net Loss	\$ 181,046.00		\$ 400,176.00	Surplus of \$219,130 the prior year

AA GRAPEVINE, INC.

Sales less costs of products	\$ 799,585	\$ 1,534,521	\$ 1,696,310
Interest earned — Reserve Fund	4,570	0	14,000
Total Income	804,155	1,534,521	1,710,310
Expenses	980,631	1,796,739	1,808,929
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(176,476)	(262,218)	(98,619)
General Service Board Support of La Viña shortfall	231,061	557,723	388,646

Total revenue for the year is estimated to be \$1,534,521 compared with \$1,696,310 in 2021. Total expenses which include editorial, circulation, and general and management costs are budgeted at \$1,796,739 compared with \$1,808,929 last year. After adding interest earned there is a budgeted deficit of \$262,218 compared with a deficit of \$112,618 the previous year.

La Viña –

Total expense is estimated to be \$561,456, compared with \$429,809 the previous year. This creates a budgeted bottom-line deficit of \$557,723, compared with a deficit of \$388,646 in 2021. The shortfall for the La Viña service activity will be funded by a transfer from the General Fund of the GSB.

LITERATURE

The committee reviewed progress reports on several ongoing projects including the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic,” the development of a Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos*, and the development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Remember the deadline to submit stories for the 5th edition is October 31, 2022. More information can be found at www.aa.org/submit-bigbook-English-5th or you can also email your story to 5bbstory@aa.org.

Implementation has begun on the new jacket-less format for the next printings of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, in efforts to reduce backorders, streamline turnaround time, and bring the book to the Fellowship in a timely manner. This format will help us better navigate supply-chain disruptions, saving in off-press delivery time as well as expense. The first printing is scheduled to start in mid-October, to be completed November/December 2022.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The committee approved the revised 2022 Membership Survey questionnaire amended by the survey methodologist according to the 2022 Advisory Action. The committee reviewed and agreed that the project plan to administer the 2022 Membership Survey is comprehensive and will accomplish the goal of producing effective results.

To date I have conducted 3 group surveys and have plans to attend 5 more groups next week. I will be reaching out to DCM's later today to ask for assistance in coordinating the surveys. I appreciate all the support from everyone in Area regarding the surveys!

GSO OFFICE

On March 14, after two years of remote work, another significant step was taken: all GSO and Grapevine employees returned to the office according to their hybrid work schedules.

Additionally, I am excited to share the news that the General Service Office will begin welcoming visitors again beginning Wednesday, October 5. This also includes reinstating the Friday 11:00 a.m. A.A. meeting. There are a few new policies in place such as registering in advance, when possible, along with reduced visitor hours being Wednesday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. For additional details and guidance, please click [here](#).

GSO STAFF CHANGES

There have also been some recent changes with the staff at GSO. In addition to Karina C. who joined the fold earlier this month and is currently on the Group Services Desk, we are delighted to welcome two new A.A. staff members, Michael R., and Misha Q. Michael started on September 26 and will be assigned on the CPC Desk; Misha's start date is October 17 at which time she will "shadow" each of the staff assignments at a 90-day cadence before being assigned to a desk. There will be more about Karina, Michael, and Misha in a future Box 4-5-9 article.

CONFERENCE

Work is underway in preparing for the 73rd General Service Conference next April 23-29. To date approximately 184 agenda items have been received by the Conference Coordinator. You can review the entire preliminary list [here](#).

I currently serve on the Conference Finance Committee as also serve as Chair of the Conference Archives Committee. In my role as Archives Chair, I will be invited to attend the January Board meeting in New York (all conference committee chairs are invited) so I have begun to prepare for that. Additionally, the Conference Finance Committee has a call scheduled for next week where the Delegates are asked for their input on agenda items relative to their committee assignment. I will report more on that at the Winter Assembly.

IN OTHER NEWS

- The 14 East Central region Delegates meet monthly to keep abreast of issues happening throughout the region. The call is led by Cathi C. Cathi C who is currently serving on the following Trustees' Committees: Archives, Finance, International Conventions, Forums, Literature, and she is the Trustees GSB Secretary and serves on AAWS Board, Finance, Audit, Nominating, and is our AAWS Treasurer. Our last call was last week, and topics discussed were (ironically) Area funding of Delegates fees (we just passed a motion on that), as well as the possibility of the "Region" covering the seed money expense for the East Central Regional Conference. The latter item will be addressed at the next CDPF and then likely voted on the following year (February 2024).

- Upcoming Regional Events

2022 National Corrections Conference Hosted by Area 19.20.21 November 11-13 at Hyatt Regency – 1800 E Golf Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60173

2023 – ECR Conference of Delegates Past & Present – Columbus, OH Feb 10-12th
2023 – hosted by Area 53

2023 – ECR Forum November 17-19, 2023 - Double Tree – 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence, OH 44131

2025 - The 90th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous will be celebrated at the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver, BC, Canada, July 3 – 6, 2025

2025 International Convention, Alcoholics Anonymous will be in Vancouver, BC, Canada July 3-6, 2025.

We will be celebrating 90 years of A.A. and the theme is "90 Years – Language of the Heart." Please make sure to review restrictions and regulation when traveling to Canada. Registration will be available in early 2024 The Convention Center hosting the event is on the water and called BC Place, the large meetings will be in BC Stadium. The basement of the convention center is a train station for easy access and Vancouver is a walking city. There is time to save and to plan for International Travel. Email 2025ic@aa.org if you have any questions. Theme is 90 Year - Language of the Heart will be the theme for the 2025 International Convention.

- Open Positions

Two new Class B (alcoholic) regional trustees, from the Northeast and Southwest regions as well as the trustee at-large/Canada will be elected at the General Service Conference in April 2023.

Respectfully submitted-

Chris D.
Delegate Panel 72/Area 20