

## **2023 Spring Committee Meeting Minutes – Northern Illinois Area (NIA) 20**

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**

**Hybrid Meeting (In-person at Lord of Life Church in Elburn, IL and Online Audio / Video Meeting via Zoom)**

**Zoom ID: 822 6638 5147**

**Passcode: Freedom**

**\*\* The quality of some parts of the Zoom recording of this meeting were poor, however, I did my best to capture the information. Thank you for your kind understanding. – Kate D. \*\***

### **Meeting Opening**

Area 20 Chair, Rob M., called the meeting to order at 9:00am. The group participated in a quiet time followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Area Chair welcomed attendees and meeting announcements were made.

### **First Time Attendees:**

Steve

### **Anniversaries since January 21<sup>st</sup> Winter Committee Meeting:**

|          |                        |          |
|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Chris E. | April 27 <sup>th</sup> | 4 years  |
| Chris    | April 20 <sup>th</sup> | 5 years  |
| Jeff L.  | April 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 24 years |
| Mel      |                        |          |
| Sarah    | March 29 <sup>th</sup> | 17 years |
| Steve O. |                        | 5 years  |
| Rob M.   | April 27 <sup>th</sup> | 34 years |

### **Approval of 2023 Winter Committee Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were not ready at the time of this meeting; minutes will be presented for approval at a later date.

### **Meeting Business**

#### **Officer Reports:**

**Delegate – Chris D.**

# Northern Illinois Area 20

Unity - Service - Recovery

April 19,2023

## **2023 Spring Committee Meeting**

### **Delegate's Report**

#### **Welcome to the 2023 Spring Committee Meeting!!**

Greetings Area 20! The major news for today's report will center around my recent experience at the 73rd General Service Conference. I was in New York from April 20 – April 29 and have much information to report back! Today however will be a high-level overview with my detailed report happening at the Summer Assembly.

I will be giving a full report at the Summer Assembly on June 17 in LaFox and also already have commitments to do shortened reports as shown below.

- Thurs. Jun 1 D11 - Woodstock / Crystal Lake
- Tues. Jun 20 D21 - Palatine

To the DCM's - Please let me know if you would like to schedule a date and time when I can visit your District (or event) to give a report, and keep in mind I will be on vacation around the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday from July 1 – July 10 so will not be available on those days.

I have already begun writing the report for June 17 and am surprised at just how much detail there is! I anticipate the full report and presentation lasting between 2-3 hours so hopefully our Area Chair can accommodate me on time that day! As we did last year, I have asked our General Service Board Treasurer Kevin Prior to attend and present the finance portion of the slide deck and then be available for questions and have also invited General Service Trustee Carolyn Walsh to also be available should there be questions, I cannot address. I'd guess she would be available for 60-90 minutes as well.

Earlier this week GSO posted the final advisory actions and committee considerations on the dashboard which are linked below. Once again, advisory actions are recommendations that came out of a conference committee which were voted on and PASSED on the floor of the General Service Conference and committee considerations are more or less "suggestions" from the committee which although can be discussed on the floor; have no vote, but are taken into serious consideration by the General Service Board.

- [Conference Advisory Actions 73rd](#)
- [Committee Considerations 73rd](#) (Show Google)

As for the overall experience and especially with regard to activities early in the week, the conference was very different than last year and had within it a somewhat anxious element regarding what would happen when the "Trustee Issue" was addressed, but as it turned out that wasn't discussed until Thursday so there was plenty of time to reflect amongst ourselves and let the presence of our Higher power reveal himself in our daily meetings. More on the "Trustee Issue" later. In the meantime, for this report, I'll try and simply summarize what I saw as the big takeaways from the conference this year.

## **Plain and Simple language Big Book-**

Although the "official" presentation and discussion didn't happen until later in the week, all the Delegates were assigned specific times when they were able to review the available chapters (which was the first 6 chapters) so we could form our own opinions. My assigned time was Thursday morning (at 6:45) and I took notes on the chapters I read and will share all of those in the full report. Below are two committee considerations on the subject.

- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth Edition) into **plain and simple language** and agreed with the general direction of the project. The committee requested that the project continue to move forward and that a draft or progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature
- The committee discussed **new proposed agenda items (PAI's) related to the plain language Big Book translation** and **took no action**. The committee acknowledged the concerns of members, groups and areas in the Fellowship regarding the oversight of the process of a translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth edition) into plain and simple language. The committee noted that these concerns will be addressed at a **special session during the 2023 General Service Conference**

## **Grapevine App**

There was great anticipation and several questions regarding the development of the new GV app, as well as questions regarding the funding mechanisms that allowed the development to proceed. Those instruments included the reductions in the subscription liability fund as well as an approved \$500,000 draw from the reserve fund. This discussion (in my opinion) was one of those things where it was more about the money and less about the need for the service. Full details will be in my final report in June.

## **Finance**

### **2022 Actual Results vs. 2022 Budget**

The audit of 2022 financial statements was completed on April 10, 2023, and accepted by the GSB Audit Committee on April 12. All 2022 numbers cited in this report are audited.

For the year 2022, the GSO had an operating deficit of \$1,579,305 compared to a budgeted operating deficit of \$855,032. The cause of the deficit was the increased cost of printing and shipping literature. Cost of goods sold was \$6,901,151, 28% greater than the budgeted amount of \$5,390,000.

Operating expenses were \$17,489,639, almost exactly the same as the budget of \$17,569,432. The GSO's largest expense, salaries and benefits, was \$9,701,831, slightly less than the budget of \$9,849,446. Professional fees were \$1,756,363, about 6% less than the budget of \$1,868,458.

Gross literature sales were \$11,999,441, about 9% more than the budget of \$11,000,000. Additionally, due to increased costs caused by supply chain disruptions, the expense of printing, shipping, and storing literature was \$6,901,151, compared to a budget of \$5,390,000.

Contributions were \$10,548,525, about 4% less than the budget of \$11,000,000. Operating revenue (after subtracting cost of literature sold) was \$15,910,334, 5% less than the budget of \$16,714,000.

| <b>GSO ACTUAL VS. BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2022 BUDGET</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Surplus/(Deficit)  | (1,579,305)        | (855,032)          | (724,273)         |
| Operating Expenses           | 17,489,639         | 17,569,432         | (79,793)          |
| Salaries and Benefits        | 9,701,831          | 9,849,446          | (147,615)         |
| Professional Fees            | 1,756,363          | 1,868,458          | (112,095)         |
| Gross Literature Sales       | 11,999,441         | 11,000,000         | 999,441           |
| Cost of Literature Sold      | 6,901,151          | 5,390,000          | 1,511,151         |
| Contributions                | 10,548,525         | 11,000,000         | (451,475)         |
| Operating Revenue            | 15,910,334         | 16,714,400         | (804,066)         |

### 2023 Budget

The 2023 budget has an operating surplus of **\$505,841** compared to an operating deficit of \$1,579,305 in 2022. 2023 operating expenses are budgeted at \$18,285,749 compared to \$17,489,639 in 2022. The increased operating expense is due to fully staffing the translation, licensing and intellectual property department, the language services department, and the staff services department.

2023 operating revenue is budgeted at \$18,791,320 compared to \$15,910,334 in 2022. This increase is expected to come from literature sales via an increase in items sold and a price increase which went into effect on April 3, 2023. Gross literature sales are budgeted at \$15,900,000 in 2023 compared to \$11,999,441 in 2022. Contributions are budgeted at \$10,500,000 for 2023 compared to \$10,548,525 in 2021.

| <b>GSO 23 BUDGET VS. 22 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2023 BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Surplus/(Deficit)        | 505,841            | (1,579,305)        | 2,085,146         |
| Operating Expenses                 | 18,285,749         | 17,489,639         | 796,110           |
| Operating Revenue                  | 18,791,320         | 15,910,334         | 2,880,986         |
| Gross Literature Sales             | 15,900,000         | 11,999,441         | 3,900,559         |
| Contributions                      | 10,500,000         | 10,548,525         | (48,525)          |

### Trustees Committee discussions-

The Conference Trustee's Committee approved all the slates as submitted and recommended they all be approved. Discussion went on for hours. Most initially appeared supportive, with a sizable minority opposed. Some thought that as individuals all the trustees were all ok, but that they couldn't seem to work together as a team. This was reinforced by the explanation as to why the vacancy for the Chair was still there.

Regarding the position as Chair of the GSB three "Highly Qualified" candidates were interviewed, but the board could not coalesce around one. Much of the discussion around the approval of the slate was very emotional, some angry, some highly supportive. Question was asked, "What happens if we don't approve?", with the answer being that we would have to vote on each candidate individually. A delegate mentioned "I know Trustees normally try to remain silent at Conference, listening, but we need to hear from you now. Tell us you can work together, that you can come together as a team." Two did, one Class A and one Class B, and both apologized for the dysfunction, promising to do better. Vote was shortly after that. The slate was approved with a vote of **107 to 25**. I voted in favor. The next three votes to approve the GSB officers, AAWS board and Grapevine board were all approved (103-28, 107-23 and 114-19 respectively.) with me voting in the affirmative in each case.

There was also a floor action that was made to censure the GSB.

- The 73rd General Service Conference censure the GSB due to *poor communication* to the Fellowship regarding the resignation of the former Chair of the GSB and for the process that was followed regarding the acceptance of her resignation.
  - *Motion to Decline received majority but not substantial unanimity 76-55. Much heartfelt discussion followed-*
- Some of the comments during that discussion are shown below-
  - Conference Trustees Committee did not recommend censure.
  - We don't approve of this behavior, make a statement.
  - Spiritual principle of forgiveness and healing
  - Feel bad for those who've been lobbied and lobbied hard.
  - This impacted me. But it wasn't done to me.
  - Intent behind censure is to create change. Change is already happening.
- *In the end the motion to censure the GSB was Not Approved. Final Vote 25 to 104. I voted against.*

## **Trust**

There were several references throughout the week regarding "trust" (or a lack of it) which according to several delegates had been wanning because of the actions of January 29 which resulted in the GSB deciding to accept the resignation of the then Board Chair Linda Chezum. To that end, I thought I would include the 2 decisions below. The first is a recommendation from the Conference Agenda Committee and the second was a floor action.

- The Conference Committee on Agenda recommended that the **General Service Conference conduct a thorough inventory** of itself during the 2025 General Service Conference and that a Conference Inventory Planning Committee be established by the General Service Board to develop a comprehensive inventory plan, timeline and cost estimate, to bring forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Agenda for consideration.
  - **Approved** – *A lot of Discussion. How to fit in? Workshop time used last time.; Logistics to be worked out by Committee. Vote 99 to 32*
- In an effort to improve communication, ensure Board policies are reflective of our principles, and reestablish a relationship of trust between the General Service Conference, the GSB and the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, the GSB is asked to undertake an inventory prior to the 74th General Service Conference. To assist the Board in this endeavor, the 73rd General Service Conference will establish a working group to aid the General Service Board in formulating possible inventory questions – **Approved**

The inventory motion was a fascinating process, watching minds be changed through discussion. Initial Motion to Decline to Consider. Vote **79-52** (majority but not substantial unanimity). Discussion began with some of the following points made-

- 73rd to establish a working group. How? Select a few people representative of the body.
- Trustee "We need some time".
- Process - GSB ratifies actions after conference and meets in July to start implementing?
- Cumbersome to have the body assist. Board has its own identity.

- Don't feel it's necessary.
- Need a professional trained in that regard - A Trustee
- Another trustee supports.
- Motion to Amend: Conference take an Inventory as Well - Already an Advisory Action to begin that process. Motion out of order.
- Professionals on inventory are in this room.
- How will working group be established?

Question Called and Vote in favor was **74 to 51**. A significant change from the Motion to Decline (almost the exact opposite), but not substantial unanimity. Minority opinion was heard-

Minority Opinion:

- Agreed with Interim Chair that this would send a message to the fellowship. (Me)
- Board needs an inventory and doesn't want to do one.
- What are we afraid of?
- Have to go back to Area's and say the Conference is doing an inventory but the board isn't.
- We often don't want to shine the spotlight into those dark areas.
- Members up in arms are serious. This is meeting them halfway.
- Opportunity to move forward and we say no.

There was then a vote to Reconsider – Reconsider Vote was 112 to 19.

No more discussion, I called the question and then we voted. Vote on the Motion **118 to 14**. From a position of less than majority support we went to an overwhelming majority. And the math says at least some of the trustees voted in favor! Finally, there seemed to be a sense of relief in the room with the mood lifting.

For the most part, the trustee discussions did not happen until Thursday and Friday, so these were mainly end of conference discussions. Prior to that though, the entire week was one of constant surprise, coupled with an enormous sense of responsibility, humility, and gratitude. I will be forever grateful to Area 20 for their support and confidence in allowing me to serve their as Delegate to the General Service Conference. As a final reminder, I'm more than willing to visit any district at pretty much any time so do feel free to let me know if you would like me to visit. In the meantime, if there are any questions, I'd be happy to try and address them.

Respectfully submitted-

Chris D.  
Delegate  
Area 20 / Northern Illinois  
Panel 72

April 2023

**Trustees' Report: Finance and Budgetary Committee**  
Kevin Prior, Treasurer

**2022 Actual Results vs. 2022 Budget**

**General Service Office:**

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For the year 2022, the GSO had an operating deficit of \$1,579,305 compared to a budgeted operating deficit of \$855,032. The cause of the deficit was the increased cost of printing and shipping literature. Cost of goods sold was \$6,901,151, 28% greater than the budgeted amount of \$5,390,000. Non-operating revenue of \$3,325,712 and non-operating expense of \$2,742,025 resulted in a bottom-line deficit of \$995,618. Most non-operating transactions are non-cash transactions such as changes in the market value of the assets in the defined benefit pension plan and post-retirement medical fund and changes in expected future contributions to these plans. Appendix 1 details the non-operating revenue and expense.

Although the deficit was \$995,618, net cash outflow (the difference between cash spent and cash received) in 2022 was \$2,064,135. Cash outflow was greater than the deficit because cash spent on printing, shipping, and warehousing publications does not count as an expense (cost of goods sold) until the items are sold. Until then, the expenditure is on the balance sheet as inventory, which was \$3,976,263 as of December 31, 2022. Operating cash at year end was \$514,337, which represents 0.35 months of operating expenses. Appendix 2 details 2022 cash expenditures.

Operating expenses were \$17,489,639, almost exactly the same as the budget of \$17,569,432. The GSO's largest expense, salaries and benefits, was \$9,701,831, slightly less than the budget of \$9,849,446. Professional fees were \$1,756,363, about 6% less than the budget of \$1,868,458. Please see Appendix 3 for a detailed listing of professional fees.

Gross literature sales were \$11,999,441, about 9% more than the budget of \$11,000,000. However, 2022 sales remained significantly below the \$14,405,491 recorded in 2019. Additionally, due to increased costs caused by supply chain disruptions, the expense of printing, shipping, and storing literature was \$6,901,151, compared to a budget of \$5,390,000.

Contributions were \$10,548,525, about 4% less than the budget of \$11,000,000. Operating revenue (after subtracting cost of literature sold) was \$15,910,334, 5% less than the budget of \$16,714,000.



| <b>GSO ACTUAL VS. BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2022 BUDGET</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
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| Contributions                | 10,548,525         | 11,000,000         | (451,475)         |
| Operating Revenue            | 15,910,334         | 16,714,400         | (804,066)         |

#### **AA Grapevine:**

The 2022 Grapevine budget anticipated a net deficit of \$305,608 (based on decreasing subscriptions and increasing costs for paper, printing, shipping, and services to the Fellowship). The actual results fared worse than anticipated, with a net deficit of \$404,940.

| <b>GV ACTUAL VS. BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2022 BUDGET</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Net Deficit                 | (404,940)          | (305,068)          | (99,872)          |

#### **2022 Actual Results vs. 2021 Actual Results**

##### **General Service Office:**

The operating deficit of \$1,579,305 compares to a surplus of \$1,697,141 in 2021. An almost \$1 million increase in literature sales and an almost \$500,000 reduction in professional fees was not enough to offset a decrease in contributions of about \$225,000, an over \$1.8 million increase in cost of goods sold, an almost \$1.6 million increase in travel and meetings, and a \$400,000 increase in payroll and benefits. These variances combined to make 2022 a more financially challenging year than 2021. Overall, 2022 operating revenue of \$15,910,334 compares to \$17,377,021 in 2021 and 2022 operating expenses of \$17,489,639 compares to \$15,679,880 in 2021.

Including non-operating transactions, the deficit of \$995,618 compares to a surplus of \$9,803,470 in 2021. Non-operating revenue of \$3,325,712 compares to \$1,728,394 in 2021. Gross literature sales increased slightly from \$11,712,193 in 2021 to \$11,999,441 in 2022. However, contributions decreased slightly from \$10,775,871 in 2021 to \$10,548,525 in 2022.

Operating expenses increased to \$17,489,639 in 2022 from \$15,679,880 in 2021, primarily due to increased travel expenses associated with the return to in-person meetings. Salaries and benefits increased to \$9,701,831 in 2022 from \$9,295,443 in 2021 due to the creation of new positions such as legal administrator and language services manager and the filling of vacant positions. Non-operating expenses were \$2,742,025 in 2022 compared to \$(6,377,935) in 2021. The negative expense in 2021 was an increase in the market value of the assets in the defined benefit pension plan and post-retirement medical fund.



| <b>GSO ACTUAL VS. LAST YEAR</b>                        | <b>2022<br/>ACTUAL</b> | <b>2021<br/>ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Surplus/(Deficit)                            | (1,579,305)            | 1,697,141              | (3,276,446)       |
| Surplus/(Deficit) including non-operating transactions | (995,618)              | 9,803,470              | (10,799,088)      |
| Operating Revenue                                      | 15,910,334             | 17,377,021             | (1,466,687)       |
| Non-operating Revenue                                  | 3,325,712              | 1,728,394              | 1,597,318         |
| Gross Literature Sales                                 | 11,999,441             | 11,712,193             | 287,248           |
| Contributions  | 10,548,525             | 10,775,871             | (227,346)         |
| Operating Expenses                                     | 17,489,639             | 15,679,880             | 1,809,759         |
| Non-operating Expenses                                 | 2,742,025              | (6,377,935)            | 9,119,960         |
| Salaries and Benefits                                  | 9,701,831              | 9,295,443              | 406,388           |

#### **AA Grapevine:**

##### The AA Grapevine Magazine Operations and Content-Related Items:

Net income from subscriptions, for 2022, was \$1,762,907. Income from subscriptions includes the print magazine, single copies, back issues, GV Complete, and e-Pub (the digital version of the print magazine). The average paid circulation for print magazines in 2022 was 52,321 (down from 56,081 in 2021). The 2022 subscriptions for GV Complete combined with the e-Pub magazine averaged 6,492, down from 8,972 in 2021.

The 2022 gross margin on the magazine and content-related items (books, audio, etc.) of \$1,463,761 was \$38,538 less than 2021, and \$56,542 below budget. Included in 2022 gross income was net profit from other published items of \$674,515 which was \$17,454 under budget, but \$263,619 more than 2021. Net loss in 2022, including interest earned and miscellaneous income was \$404,940, which is \$292,322 under 2021 and \$99,322 under budget.

Costs and expenses for editorial, circulation and business, and general and administration in 2022 were \$1,882,701. Cost and expenses were \$73,773 more than in 2021 and \$42,789 over budget. Overall, Grapevine reported a deficit of \$404,940 (which included accrued expenses, depreciation write-offs, and allowance for bad-debt accounts).

The Grapevine reported loss of \$404,940 was higher than the 2022 budgeted loss of \$305,608.

| <b>GV ACTUAL VS. LAST YEAR</b>        | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2021 ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Print Circulation                     | 52,321             | 56,081             | (3,760)           |
| Digital Circulation                   | 6,492              | 8,972              | (2,480)           |
| Gross Margin on Subscriptions         | 789,246            | 1,091,404          | (302,158)         |
| Net Profit from other Published Items | 674,515            | 410,896            | 263,619           |
| Total Gross Margin                    | 1,463,761          | 1,502,300          | (38,538)          |
| Total Expenses                        | 1,882,701          | 1,808,929          | 73,773            |
| Net Income (Loss)                     | (404,940)          | (112,618)          | (292,322)         |

### La Viña Magazine Operations:

In 2022, La Viña, the Spanish-language magazine (approved by the 1995 General Service Conference) experienced an average circulation of 6,685 – as compared with the 2021 average circulation of 6,411. After several years of La Viña circulation growth reaching the 10,000 range, both 2022 and 2021 circulation incurred a significant drop-off, which is attributable to the covid-induced lack of live events in the Spanish-speaking community, where many subscriptions and renewals originate.

During 2022, subscription income was \$96,151 against \$76,694 of direct publishing costs. La Viña also realized approximately \$59,710 from the sale of other content-related items (books, audio, etc.) against direct costs of \$2,686. Total operating expenses (i.e., editorial, circulation and administrative costs) associated with these publication activities were \$714,086. The shortfall between revenues earned from publishing activities versus the cost to produce and distribute was \$636,604.

This shortfall of \$636,604 was covered by the General Service Board as a service activity to the Spanish-speaking members of our Fellowship. The 2022 shortfall increased from the 2021 shortfall of \$388,646.

| <b>LV ACTUAL VS. LAST YEAR</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2021 ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Average Circulation            | 6,685              | 6,411              | 274               |
| Net Operating Service Cost     | 636,604            | 388,646            | (274,958)         |

### 2023 Budget

#### **General Service Office:**

The 2023 budget has an operating surplus of \$505,841 compared to an operating deficit of \$1,579,305 in 2022. 2023 operating expenses are budgeted at \$18,285,749 compared to \$17,489,639 in 2022. The increased operating expense is due to fully staffing the translation, licensing and intellectual property department, the language services department, and the staff services department.

2023 operating revenue is budgeted at \$18,791,320 compared to \$15,910,334 in 2022. This increase is expected to come from literature sales via an increase in items sold and a price increase which went into effect on April 3, 2023. Gross literature sales are budgeted at \$15,900,000 in 2023 compared to \$11,999,441 in 2022. Contributions are budgeted at \$10,500,000 for 2023 compared to \$10,548,525 in 2021.

| <b>GSO 23 BUDGET VS. 22 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2023 BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Surplus/(Deficit)        | 505,841            | (1,579,305)        | 2,085,146         |
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| Operating Revenue                  | 18,791,320         | 15,910,334         | 2,880,986         |
| Gross Literature Sales             | 15,900,000         | 11,999,441         | 3,900,559         |
| Contributions                      | 10,500,000         | 10,548,525         | (48,525)          |

## **AA Grapevine:**

### The Grapevine:

2023 will be a rebuilding year for AA Grapevine, Inc. With the increasing in-person events, the growth of the podcast, the increase in Grapevine awareness brought about by the Instagram account, attraction efforts by mail and digital means, and the introduction of the Grapevine and La Viña apps, we project that subscriptions will begin to rebound. By carefully monitoring expenses combined with raising the awareness of the magazine and content-related items as recovery tools, and the offsets provided by a reduction in the subscription liability and a capital investment from the General Service Board for the apps, we anticipate that AA Grapevine will break even, or do slightly better in 2023. Budgeted overall circulation (print and digital) is projected to decrease from 2022's 59,070 paid average to 53,696. Gross margin on subscriptions in 2023 is budgeted at \$547,709, down from \$783,303 in 2022. Content-related income (books, audio, etc.) will increase to \$1,014,207 which is up from 2022's \$883,952. If all goes according to plan, in 2023 Grapevine will achieve a net surplus of \$68,414.

| <b>GV 23 BUDGET VS. 22 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2023 BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Print and Digital Circulation     | 53,969             | 59,070             | (5,101)           |
| Gross Margin on Subscriptions     | 547,709            | 789,246            | (241,537)         |
| Content Related Income            | 1,014,207          | 883,952            | 130,255           |
| Offsets                           | 1,170,488          | 0                  | 1,170,488         |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit)             | 68,414             | (404,940)          | 473,354           |

### La Viña:

Ideally, in 2023, with increasing large-scale in-person events, La Viña subscriptions will rebound. Print magazine circulation is projected to increase from 6,415 in 2022 to 6,769 in 2023. Total subscription income is expected to decrease from \$96,151 in 2022 to \$90,288 in 2023. La Viña's net operating service cost covered by the General Service Board in 2023 is expected to be \$653,579, compared to \$636,604 in 2022.

| <b>LV 23 BUDGET VS. 22 ACTUAL</b> | <b>2023 BUDGET</b> | <b>2022 ACTUAL</b> | <b>DIFFERENCE</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Print Circulation                 | 6,769              | 6,415              | 354               |
| Subscription Income               | 90,288             | 96,151             | (5,863)           |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit)             | (653,579)          | (636,604)          | (16,975)          |

**APPENDIX 1****2022 GSO NON-OPERATING REVENUE**

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Dividends and Interest on Reserve Fund and Post-Retirement Medical Fund  | 233,876          |
| Decrease in the market value of Post-Retirement Medical Fund investments   | (1,431,213)      |
| Decrease in expected future contributions to Defined Benefit retirement plan primarily due to increase in interest rates | 1,228,698        |
| Decrease in expected future contributions to Post-Retirement Medical Plan due to increase in interest rates              | 3,294,351        |
| <b>TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUE</b>   | <b>3,325,712</b> |

**2022 GSO NON-OPERATING EXPENSE**

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Inventory audit adjustment (\$656K cost of goods sold incorrectly classified as inventory in 2021 and \$165.9K correction to unit cost calculations) | 821,900          |
| Disbursements from International Literature Fund   | 29,296           |
| Bad debt expense (write off of literature sales receivables)   | 77,747           |
| Credit card and bank transaction fees  | 115,130          |
| GSB Support of La Viña   | 636,604          |
| Penalties and interest   | 17,448           |
| Loss on currency exchange between US dollar and Canadian dollar  | 17,802           |
| Increase in expected future contributions to the Defined Benefit retirement plan and Post-Retirement Medical Plan                                    | 995,201          |
| Fees paid to investment advisor for Defined benefit retirement plan and post-retirement medical plan   | 30,897           |
| <b>TOTAL NON-OPERATING EXPENSE</b>   | <b>2,742,025</b> |

## GSO CASH EXPENDITURES

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Payroll and Benefits                           | 10,098,410        |
| Professional Fees                              | 1,779,735         |
| Printing, Postage, Supplies, and Subscriptions | 412,396           |
| Data, Automation, and Website                  | 583,697           |
| Insurance                                      | 77,329            |
| Facility and Equipment <sup>1</sup>            | 1,260,745         |
| Travel and Meetings                            | 1,315,484         |
| Expenditures on behalf of Grapevine            | 407,599           |
| Publications Inventory                         | 3,394,368         |
| Shipping and Warehousing Publications          | 4,069,178         |
| Equipment and Software <sup>2</sup>            | 382,804           |
| Office Improvements                            | 6,576             |
| Website Enhancements                           | 139,604           |
| Sales Tax Remittances                          | 471,767           |
| Other <sup>3</sup>                             | 767,328           |
|  |                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                   | <b>25,167,020</b> |

## Notes

- 1 Equipment costing up to \$1,000 is included in this category.
- 2 Equipment costing \$1,000 or more is included in this category.
- 3 Other includes:
  - Disbursements from International Literature Fund
  - Bank and credit card processing transaction fees
  - GSB support of La Viña

## APPENDIX 3

### GSO PROFESSIONAL FEES

|                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Accounting and Audit             | 293,160          |
| Legal                            | 190,568          |
| Human Resources                  | 109,835          |
| Editorial                        | 96,065           |
| Information Technology           | 202,886          |
| Temporary Help                   | 246,019          |
| Payroll Processing               | 29,696           |
| Document Translation             | 229,631          |
| Simultaneous Interpretation      | 70,317           |
| Virtual Meeting Support          | 45,449           |
| Project Management               | 55,000           |
| Operational/Structure Consulting | 74,043           |
| Other*                           | 113,694          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>1,756,363</b> |

\*Other includes

- Production of Daily Reflections Audiobook
- Public Service Announcements
- Membership Survey
- World Service Meeting consulting
- World Service Meeting final report editing



# AROUND THE PICNIC TABLE



Kevin Prior, CFA, CPA  
Class A (nonalcoholic) Trustee  
General Service Board Treasurer

# AUDIT RESULTS



- Completed on schedule
- Unmodified or "clean" audit opinion
  - The financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects
- No material weaknesses
- No significant deficiencies
- 5 recommendations (3 AAWS and 2 GV) compared to 5 in 2021

## 2022 GSO FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition of Self-Support – \$10.55 million down 2.1% from \$10.78 million in 2021
- ❖ Operating Expense - \$17.82 million up 19.9% from \$14.86 million in 2021
  - ❖ Program Service Expense - \$7.17 million down 2.7% from \$7.37 million in 2021
  - ❖ Supporting Services Expense - \$10.65 million up 42.2% from \$7.49 million in 2021
- ❖ Self-Support - covered 59% of operating expense
- ❖ AAWS publishing gross profits – \$4.89 million down 22.3% from \$6.29 million in 2021
- ❖ Operating deficit of \$1,579,305; operating cash decrease of \$2,064,135

## LARGEST CATEGORIES OF GSO CASH EXPENDITURE

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Salaries, Employee Benefits, and Payroll Taxes | 10,098,410 |
| Shipping and Warehousing Publications          | 4,069,178  |
| Publications Inventory                         | 3,394,368  |
| Professional Fees                              | 1,779,735  |
| Travel and Meetings                            | 1,315,484  |
| Facility and Equipment                         | 1,260,745  |
| Data, Automation, and Website                  | 583,697    |
| Sales tax remittances                          | 471,767    |
| Printing, Postage, Supplies, and Subscriptions | 412,396    |
| Expenditures on behalf of Grapevine            | 407,599    |
| Equipment and Software                         | 382,804    |

## GSO EXPENSES UNDER BUDGET IN 2022

- ❖ Under Budget Categories represent 72% of total operating expense

| EXPENSE                        | ACTUAL     | BUDGET     | DIFFERENCE |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Payroll and Benefits           | 9,701,831  | 9,849,446  | (147,615)  |
| Payroll Taxes                  | 601,997    | 630,283    | (28,286)   |
| Professional Fees              | 1,756,363  | 1,868,458  | (112,095)  |
| Printing, Postage and Supplies | 451,413    | 565,511    | (114,098)  |
| Insurance                      | 69,575     | 102,339    | (32,764)   |
| Total Operating Expense        | 17,489,639 | 17,569,432 | (79,793)   |

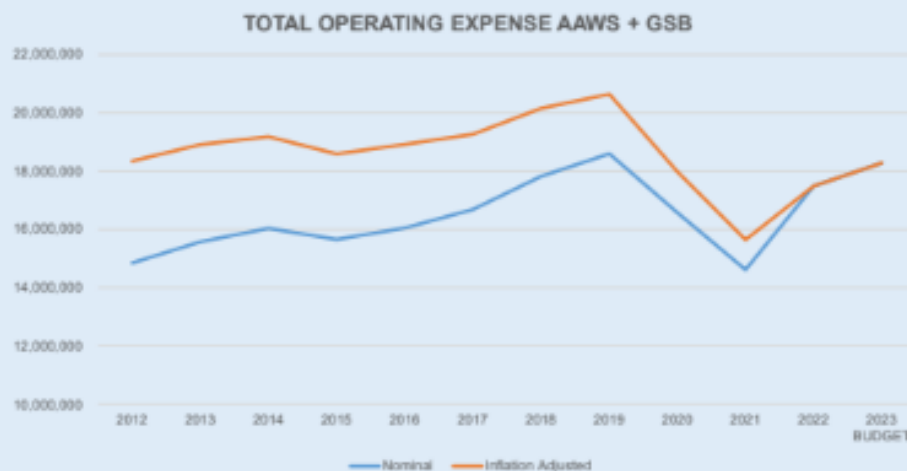
## GSO EXPENSES OVER BUDGET IN 2022

- ❖ Over Budget Categories represent 28% of total operating expense

| EXPENSE  | ACTUAL    | BUDGET    | DIFFERENCE |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Data, Automation and Website                                       | 611,490   | 582,125   | 29,365     |
| Facility and Equipment including depreciation (a non-cash expense) | 2,442,689 | 2,238,063 | 204,626    |
| Facility and Equipment excluding depreciation                      | 1,258,295 | 1,174,945 | 83,350     |
| Travel and Meetings  | 1,854,281 | 1,733,207 | 121,074    |

## INFLATION ADJUSTED GSO EXPENSE HISTORY

- ❖ In 2022, operating expense was lower than inflation adjusted operating expense in 9 of the past 10 years.



## 2022 GRAPEVINE FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Grapevine paid print subscriptions decreased 6.7% in 2022. Subscriptions for the online and mobile app magazine decreased 27.6%
- ❖ 2022 Grapevine results were a gross margin on subscriptions of \$789,246 and a net profit of \$674,515 on other published items. Operating expenses of 1,882,701 resulted in an operating loss of \$404,940 compared to a loss of \$112,618 in 2021.
- ❖ General Fund support of La Viña service activity was \$636,604 in 2022, compared to \$388,646 in 2021.
- ❖ **La Viña** magazine circulation increased by 4.3% in 2022 compared to a 12.4% decrease in 2021 after several prior years of pre-pandemic growth.

## **2023 GSO BUDGET**

- ❖ Operating revenue \$18,791,320 compared to \$15,910,334 in 2022.
  - ❖ Contributions \$10,500,000 compared to \$10,548,525 in 2022.
  - ❖ Literature gross margin \$7,950,000 compared to \$4,894,113 in 2022.
- ❖ Total operating expense \$17,085,479 before \$1.2M depreciation compared to \$17,821,142 in 2022.
- ❖ Operating surplus of \$505,841 after depreciation compared to \$1,579,305 deficit in 2022.

## **2023 GRAPEVINE BUDGET**

- ❖ Print magazine circulation to decrease to 47,751 from 52,321 in 2022.
- ❖ Online and e-Pub circulation to decrease to 4,719 from 6,492 in 2022.
- ❖ 1,500 new app subscribers.
- ❖ Gross margin on subscriptions \$547,709 compared to \$789,246 in 2022.
- ❖ Grapevine net surplus of \$68,414 compared to a deficit of \$404,940 in 2022.
- ❖ La Viña magazine circulation to decrease to 6,415 compared to 6,685 in 2022.
- ❖ General Fund La Viña support of \$653,579 compared to \$636,604 in 2022.

## GRATITUDE – 7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION

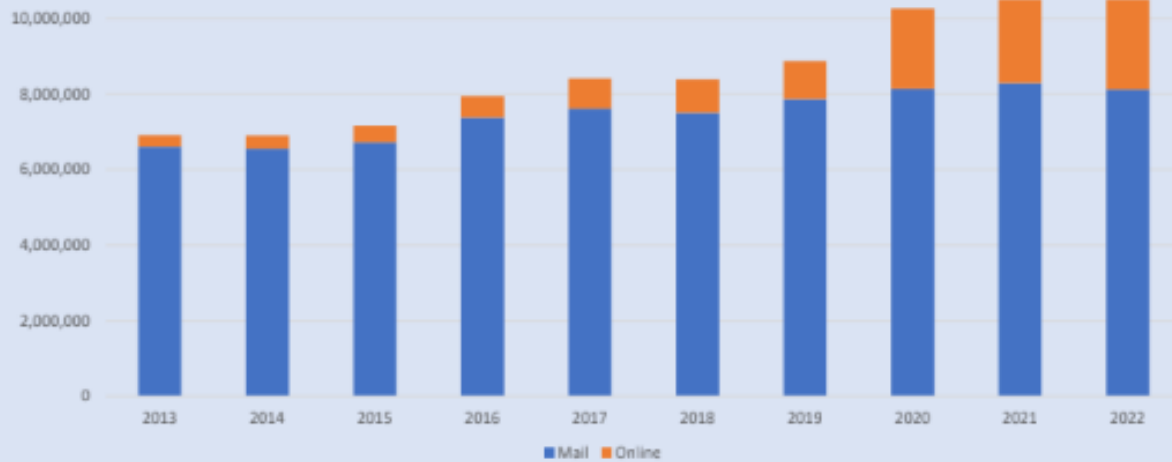


## 7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION SELF-SUPPORT – 2013 – 2022





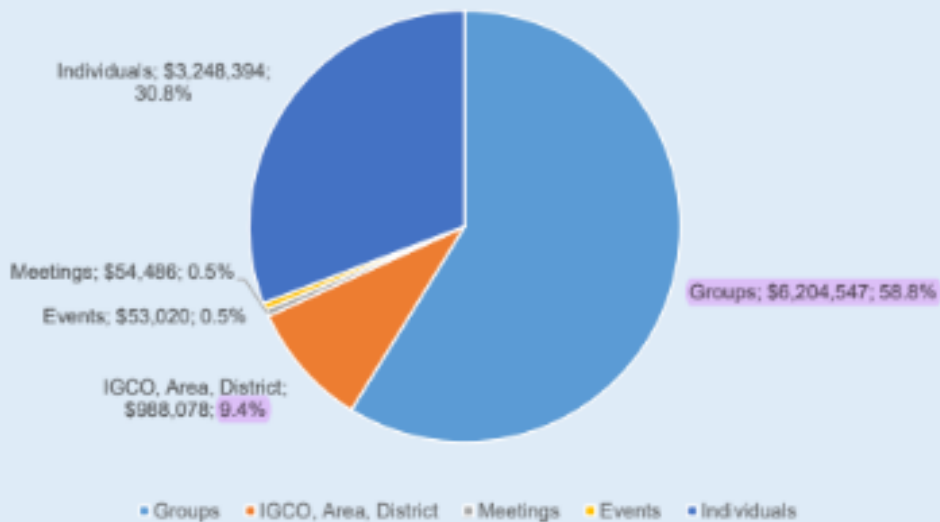
## GROWTH OF ON-LINE CONTRIBUTIONS 2013 – 2022



A mail contribution costs \$5.60 to process. An online contribution costs \$2.93 to process, a \$2.67 savings.

12

## CONTRIBUTIONS BY TYPE OF CONTRIBUTOR



# CONTRIBUTIONS STATISTICS 2022

## INDIVIDUALS

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition Self-Support Contributions | \$3,248,394 |
| Average Contribution                                 | \$121.79    |
| Most Common Contribution                             | \$50.00     |
| Number of Contributions                              | 26,671      |

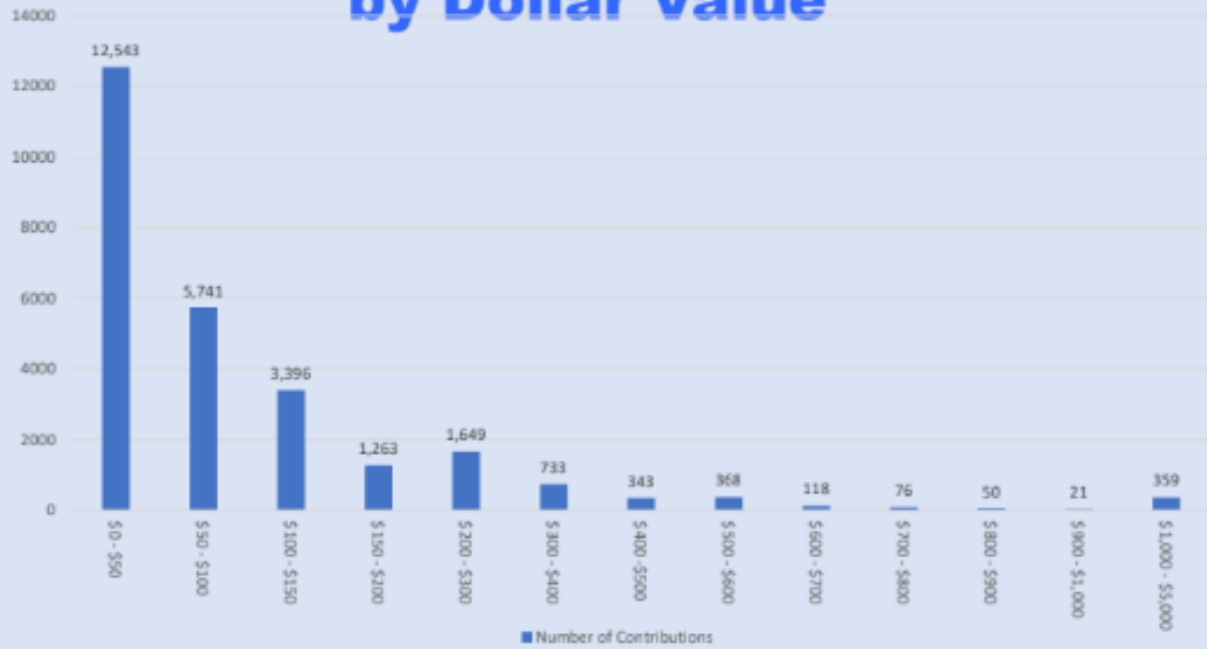
## GROUPS

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition Self-Support Contributions | \$6,204,547 |
| Number of Active Groups                              | 58,455      |
| Number of Groups Contributing                        | 19,572      |
| Percentage of Groups Contributing                    | 33.48%      |
| Average Contributed by a Group During the Year       | \$317.01    |

## Number of Group Contributions by Dollar Value



## Number of Individual Contributions by Dollar Value



## THROUGH OUR OWN SELF-SUPPORT



# G.S.O.'s TWO BASIC FUNCTIONS

## • Publishing



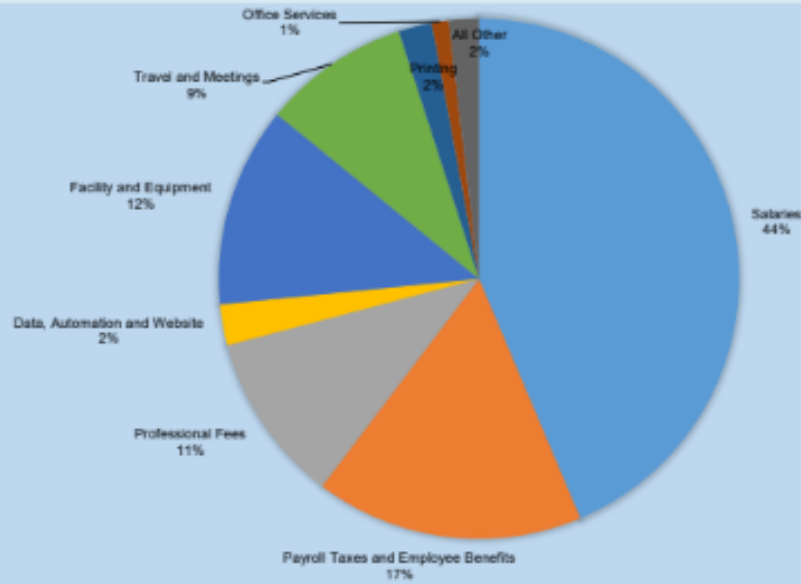
## • Services on Behalf of the G.S.B.



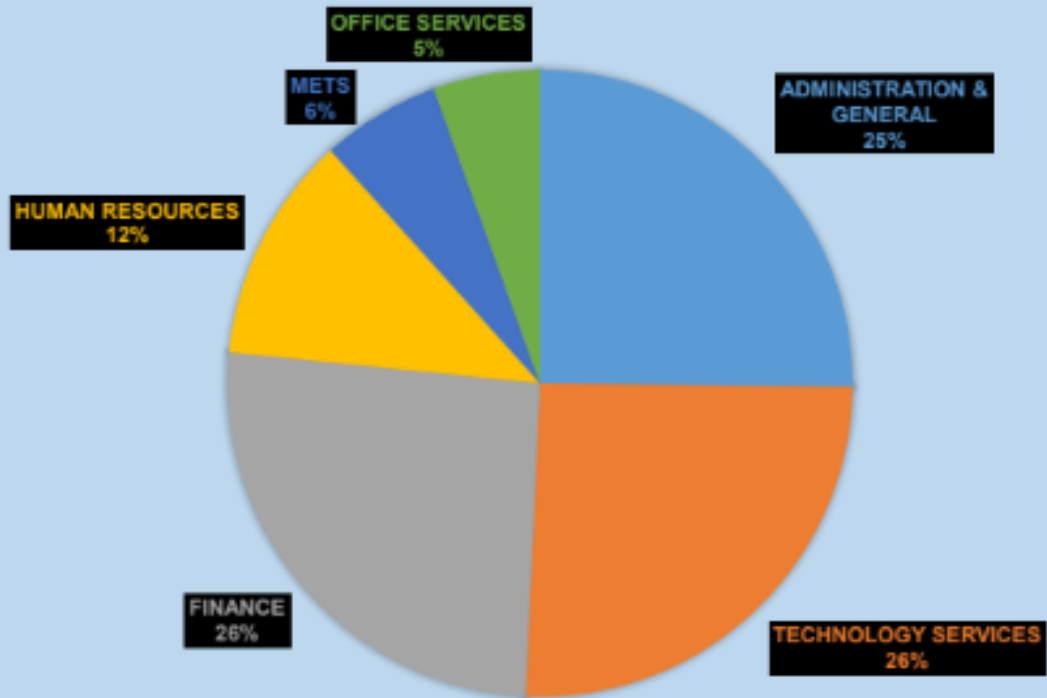
## AAWS – PUBLISHING – 2022 ACTUAL vs 2022 BUDGET

|                                    | 2022<br>ACTUAL | 2022<br>BUDGET | INCREASE<br>(DECREASE) |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Gross Sales – Literature           | 11,999,441     | 11,000,000     | 999,441                |
| Discounts                          | (479,173)      | (550,000)      | (70,827)               |
| Shipping Charges                   | 277,893        | 330,000        | (52,107)               |
| Net Sales - Literature             | 11,795,265     | 10,780,000     | 1,015,265              |
| Cost of Literature Sold - Printing | 6,901,151      | 5,390,000      | 1,511,151              |
| Gross Profit                       | 4,894,113      | 5,390,000      | (495,887)              |
| Gross Profit Percentage            | 41.5%          | 50.0%          | (8.5%)                 |

**CONSOLIDATED (GSO + GV) OPERATING EXPENSES – 2022 – \$20.3 M**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT EXPENSE CATEGORIES**  
**PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN**



**CONSOLIDATED (GSO + GV) SUPPORTING SERVICES**  
**\$7.57 M**



## 2022 PRUDENT RESERVE

|                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance January 1, 2022   | 12,852,286 |
| Investment Earnings                 | 96,774     |
| Change in GV subscription liability | 200,000    |
| Drawdowns                           | (200,000)  |
| Additions                           | 0          |
| Ending Balance December 31, 2022    | 12,949,060 |

| Composition of Ending Balance         |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Cash                                  | 2,727,969   |
| Certificates of Deposit (CDARs)       | 11,444,990  |
| Accrued Interest                      | 19,601      |
| Less Grapevine subscription liability | (1,243,500) |
| Ending Balance                        | 12,949,060  |

| Number of Months Expenses Held | Based on 2022 expenses | Based on 2023 expenses |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| January 1, 2022                | 8.32                   | 7.29                   |
| December 31, 2022              | 8.38                   | 7.35                   |

## RESERVE FUND – 2023 Activity

|                              | Gross Reserve Balance | Funding for GV Subscription Liability | GV % of Subscription Liability Funded | Net Reserve Balance |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| December 31, 2022            | 14,192,559            | (1,243,500)                           | 72%                                   | 12,949,059          |
| Grapevine App Funding (A)    | (500,000)             |                                       |                                       | (500,000)           |
| Grapevine App Withdrawal (A) | (670,488)             |                                       |                                       | (670,488)           |
| Reduce GV Funding % (A)      |                       | 670,488                               | (38%)                                 | 670,488             |
| Ending Balance 2/1/23        | 13,022,071            | (573,012)                             | 34%                                   | 12,449,059          |

The Reserve Balance as of 2/1/23 covers just over 7 months of 2023 GSB, AAWS, GV and LaViña Expenses

(A) These actions were approved by Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee on January 29, 2023 and the General Service Board on January 30, 2023.



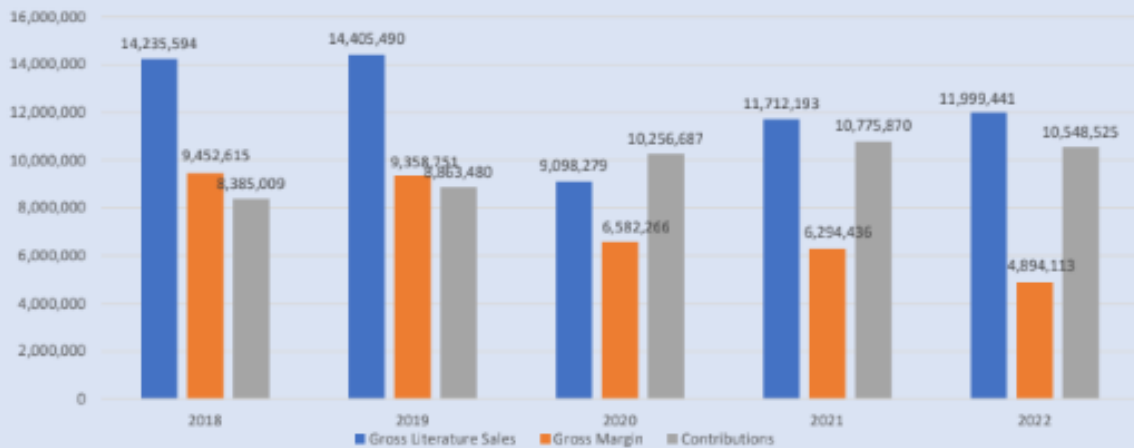
## **USES OF GSB's RESERVE FUND**

- ❖ Concept of GSB's Prudent Reserve – not same as in your Home Group's reserve
- ❖ GSB's Reserve Fund covers much more
- ❖ In 1967, the General Service Conference Issued the Advisory Action that "The GSB make use of the Reserve Fund for whatever purpose the Board may authorize".
- ❖ Broadly, this could include, whether planned or unplanned:
  - ❖ Operating Deficits of AAWS or Grapevine
  - ❖ Periodic expenditures such as an office renovation or major technical upgrade
  - ❖ Extraordinary expenses outside of "normal" operations

## **RESERVE FUND POLICY**

- ❖ 1977 Advisory Action established the upper limit of the reserve fund as 12 months of operating expense of GSB, AAWS, and GV combined
- ❖ A 1981 Advisory Action specified that a lower limit not be provided. However, a 9 month lower limit appears in Conference Finance Committee reports throughout the history of the reserve.
- ❖ Policy adopted by GSB in 2022 includes:
  - ❖ a 9 to 12 month goal range
  - ❖ At least 50% of the portfolio available within one year
  - ❖ GSB must authorize transfers into and withdrawals from the Reserve Fund
  - ❖ In the event of emergencies such as a bank failure or inability to meet payroll, Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee may authorize a withdrawal. If the Committee is unable to be gathered within the needed timeframe, two officers of the GSB may authorize.

## IMPACT OF PANDEMIC ON GSO REVENUE DISTRIBUTION



## LITERATURE PRICE INCREASE

- ❖ Generally 20% on Books
- ❖ Generally 30% on Pamphlets
- ❖ Generally 20% on Miscellaneous Items
- ❖ Some items may have a different % increase due to rounding
- ❖ Some items not increased to maintain accessibility
- ❖ Applies only to English, French, and Spanish titles

## THANK YOU

- ❖ Paul Konigstein, Chief Financial Officer
- ❖ Zenaida Medina, Controller
- ❖ Diana L, Conference Coordinator, for her patience
- ❖ All of the employees of both A.A.W.S. and Grapevine
- ❖ Members of Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, along with members of the Finance Committees of A.A.W.S. and Grapevine and the Conference Finance Committee
- ❖ Our Independent Auditors – CBIZ Marks Paneth, LLP
- ❖ Our outsourced accounting support – Your Part-time Controller

\*\*\*\*\*

Any questions – Please feel free to contact me at – [kevin@kevinjprior.com](mailto:kevin@kevinjprior.com)

## Treasurer – Allen J.

Northern Illinois Area, Ltd.  
PO Box 808  
Streamwood, IL 60107-2971

Northern Illinois Area 20  
Unity - Service - Recovery

### 2023 Report from the Panel 72 NIA Treasurer NIA 2023 NIA Spring Committee Meeting, May 20, 2023

Attached is of the usual Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statements from QuickBooks, and the 2023 PPR. Below is a brief summary of the main accounts.

| Account                | 2023 Amount                       | 2023 Amount  |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Checking               |                                   | \$ 45,409.42 |
| Green Can (restricted) | \$ 1,339.62                       |              |
| Pink Can (restricted)  | \$ 6,365.92                       |              |
| Total restricted       |                                   | \$ 7,705.54  |
| Net Checking           |                                   | \$ 53,114.96 |
| Prudent Reserve        | (0.3 X \$70,565.00)<br>+ interest | \$ 21,169.22 |
| Total                  |                                   | \$ 74,284.18 |
|                        | Sum Contribution                  | \$ 27,680.26 |
| Interest               |                                   |              |
| Net Income (YTD)       | Sum Income                        | \$ 27,680.26 |
|                        |                                   |              |
| Net Expenses (YTD)     | Sum Expenses<br>(per PPR)         | \$ 23,124.39 |
|                        |                                   |              |
| Net (YTD)              |                                   | \$ 4,555.87  |

#### Notes:

- The contribution spreadsheet has been updated to use the 9-digit "Fellowship Connect" ID. The thank you letters will include both the FC ID# and the older 6-digit FNV #. However, the contributions report will only have the FC ID#. I also found out that districts have FC ID# so the contributions report and thank you letters will have those numbers.
- After getting permission from the area committee, we opened an additional NIA checking account for the 2024 Spring Assembly Conference so they can get up and running without the 2022 conference closing their books right away. So, NIA has three conference checking accounts, two for Spring Assembly Conferences and one for Big Book Conferences.
- The \$3,000 ISC seed money was forwarded to Area 19 and the \$3,000 ECRC seed money was forwarded to the Area 22 in December last year. We have received checks from 5 areas and 2 areas did PayPal contributions. A total of \$1,561.95 was deposited from six of areas. One check was returned (bounced) due to the account being closed, our area chair said he would contact that area about this.
- We did make a \$10,000.00 contribution to the 2023 GSC (73<sup>rd</sup>). The breakdown is \$1,800 (GSC) + \$8,200 (extra GSC). With \$7,400 of the extra GSC was to make up for not fully funding our Delegate in 2022.
- Please turn in your reimbursement requests in a timely fashion. Thank you who do turn in your request right away.
- I have updated the Reimbursement Form to reflect the mileage increase from 40¢/mile to 65.5¢/mile (2023\_Reimbursement\_Form\_Panel\_72).

#### Miscellaneous

- If you are making a PayPal contributions please clarify if this is a Personal, Group, District, Pink Can, or Green Can contribution in the "memo area". If the contribution is from a group, please clarify group number or group name and location in the "memo area" so that we may credit the correct group. You can also follow up with an email to [treasurer@aa-nia.org](mailto:treasurer@aa-nia.org) if you missed putting in the group information. I have been reaching out via email to make sure the correct entity gets credit for the contribution.
- Clubs, please remember we cannot accept contributions from you. We WILL accept contributions from groups meeting at your clubs.
- The Crystal Lake P.O. Box has been closed with the Streamwood P.O. Box as the forwarding address.
- 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions forms can be found on the NIA website ([www.aa-nia.org](http://www.aa-nia.org)). It's on the home page or on the "Forms for Group Use" page. Please note that there is no check boxes on this form for "Pink Can" or "Green Can" contributions so you must identify them as such.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen J., NIA Treasurer – Panel 72 [treasurer@aa-nia.org](mailto:treasurer@aa-nia.org)

**NIA, Ltd.**  
**Profit and Loss**  
January 1 - May 18, 2023

|  | TOTAL              |
|--|--------------------|
| Income   |                    |
| 7th Tradition Contributions  |                    |
| Contributions - District   | 6,930.13           |
| Contributions - Group  | 18,739.94          |
| Contributions - Other  | 1,506.88           |
| Contributions - Personal   | 503.31             |
| <b>Total 7th Tradition Contributions</b>                                 | <b>27,680.26</b>   |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>\$27,680.26</b> |
| <b>GROSS PROFIT</b>  | <b>\$27,680.26</b> |
| Expenses   |                    |
| Primary Purpose Basic  |                    |
| B01-22 2022 General Service Conference                                   | 32.00              |
| B01-23 2023 General Service Conference                                   | 985.89             |
| B02-23 2023 General Service Conference Contribution                      | 10,000.00          |
| B03-22 2022 Area Assemblies  | 216.24             |
| B03-23 2023 Area Assemblies  | 594.36             |
| B04-23 2023 Area Committee Meetings                                      | 183.80             |
| B07-23 2023 Concepts Newsletter  | 585.95             |
| B08-22 2022 Area Committee Participation in District Committee Functions | 20.16              |
| B09-23 2023 ECR Conference of Delegates Past and Present                 | 270.71             |
| B10-22 2022 Area Operations  | 24.24              |
| B10-23 2023 Area Operations  | 3,327.57           |
| B12-23 2023 Spring Conference, Area Committee participation              | 3,696.21           |
| B13-22 2022 Big Book Conference, hosting                                 | 187.26             |
| B14-24 2024 Spring Conference, Hosting                                   | 3,000.00           |
| <b>Total Primary Purpose Basic</b>                                       | <b>23,124.39</b>   |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>  | <b>\$23,124.39</b> |
| <b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>  | <b>\$4,555.87</b>  |
| <b>NET INCOME</b>  | <b>\$4,555.87</b>  |

**NIA, Ltd.**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of May 18, 2023

|  | TOTAL              |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                              |                    |
| Current Assets                             |                    |
| Bank Accounts                              |                    |
| Cash                                       | 1,794.83           |
| Checking                                   | 45,409.42          |
| Restricted Funds                           |                    |
| ECRC Delegates Past and Present Seed Money | 0.00               |
| ECRC Seed Money                            | -3,419.28          |
| Green Can                                  | 1,339.62           |
| GSO Birthday Plan                          | 0.00               |
| Illinois State Conference Seed Money       | -2,000.00          |
| Pink Can                                   | 6,365.92           |
| <b>Total Restricted Funds</b>              | <b>2,286.26</b>    |
| <b>Total Checking</b>                      | <b>47,695.68</b>   |
| <b>Total Cash</b>                          | <b>49,490.51</b>   |
| Prudent Reserve                            | 21,169.22          |
| <b>Total Bank Accounts</b>                 | <b>\$70,659.73</b> |
| Accounts Receivable                        |                    |
| Do not use - Accounts Receivable (A/R)     | 0.00               |
| <b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>           | <b>\$0.00</b>      |
| Other Current Assets                       |                    |
| Do not use - Uncategorized Asset           | 1.00               |
| Do not use - Undeposited Funds             | 0.00               |
| <b>Total Other Current Assets</b>          | <b>\$1.00</b>      |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                | <b>\$70,660.73</b> |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                        | <b>\$70,660.73</b> |

**Alternate Treasurer: Jeff L.**

I will have a year-to-date contribution report at the next meeting.

**Allen J. then passed the baskets for 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition.**

**Alternate Delegate: Erik L.**

- Thank you to all who participated in and scribed for the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop.
- PGSCW was well attended in Woodstock.
- I will be attending the East Central Regional Conference in South Bend, Indiana next month. All 14 Areas / 5 states will participate. All are invited to attend.
- I participated in several District meetings.
- Thank you, Chris, for all your trusted service on behalf of our Area as our delegate.

**Area Chair: Rob M.**

(I could not hear what Rob said on the recording. –Kate)

**Alternate Area Chair – Dawn B.**

- Thank you to Hugo and District 64 and the whole team today; they did a great job, thank you.
- The work for the 2023 Big Book Conference, planned for November 4, 2023 at Lord of Life Church, has begun. The planning is well underway and I look forward to working with this to project completion.
- Work is ongoing for the 3 districts hosting the 2024 Spring Conference. Everything is signed and we're waiting on food prices.
- The last GSR meeting on Zoom went very well and was well attended. Our special guest, Carl, talked about his role as GSR Coordinator in his district. I've asked him to speak to the GSRs at the Summer Assembly breakout. The next GSR Committee meeting will be held on Zoom in July. I will be sending out the flyers to the DCMs in June. And it will also be posted on the Area website.
- I plan on visiting the Rockford District for a workshop on hosting the Big Book Conference next month.
- Let me know if I can help you.

**Area Registrar – Chris E.:**



Area Registrar  
PO Box 1511  
Palatine, IL 60078



## **Report from the Panel 72 NIA Registrar Spring Committee Meeting – May 20, 2023**

Good morning and welcome to the Northern IL Area 20 Spring Committee Meeting! My name is Chris E, your Area Registrar.

Here's what I have been up to since the Spring Assembly:

- Met with Kim D, our new Alternate Registrar, to do some training and started working together.
- Attended the district meeting for District 20 on April 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Hosted a workshop on using Fellowship Connection and the group forms on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Attended the quarterly GSO hosted sharing session for Area Registrars
- Attended the monthly sharing sessions for Area Registrars that we hold for ourselves.

GSR Kits have started to go out from GSO! Some items are on backorder, and GSO decided to send out partial kits with QR codes to access the missing materials. If you are a newer DCM or Committee Chair, and you have received your kit, please let me know so I can share the news with others. I haven't been told when they will all go out, but they should start arriving soon. All kits, workbooks, and other resources are available from GSO. See my report from the Spring Assembly for direct links.

DCM's, if you would like me attend your District meeting, please ask! I love road trips, so I will gladly go the four corners of our Area. Summer is the best time for me too!

All group forms are downloadable from the NIA website. <http://aa-nia.org/group-forms/>.  
Submit forms and requests for information to [registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org) or to the mailing address:

NIA, Ltd.  
Attn: Registrar  
PO Box 1511  
Palatine, IL 60078

### **2023 Expenses to date: \$606.20**

Expenses since last report:

- Spring Conference \$373.92

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris E  
NIA 20 Registrar – Panel 72  
[registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org)

Area Registrar  
PO Box 1511  
Palatine, IL 60078

## Northern Illinois Area 20

Unity - Service - Recovery

### Informe del Registrador NIA del Panel 72 Reunión del Comité de Primavera - 20 de mayo de 2023

¡Buenos días y bienvenidos a la Reunión del Comité de Primavera del Área 20 del Norte de IL! Mi nombre es Chris E, su registrador de área.

Esto es lo que he estado haciendo desde la Asamblea de primavera:

- Me reuní con Kim D, nuestra nueva registradora alterna, para recibir capacitación y comenzamos a trabajar juntos.
- Asistió a la reunión de distrito para el Distrito 20 el 20 de abril.
- Organicé un taller sobre el uso de Fellowship Connection y los formularios de grupo el 22 de abril.
- Asistió a la sesión de intercambio organizada trimestralmente por la OSG para registradores de área
- Asistí a las sesiones de intercambio mensuales para Registradores de Área que organizamos para nosotros.

¡Los kits de RSG han comenzado a salir de la OSG! Algunos artículos están en espera y la OSG decidió enviar kits parciales con códigos QR para acceder a los materiales faltantes. Si usted es un nuevo MCD o presidente de comité y ha recibido su kit, hágamelo saber para que pueda compartir las noticias con otros. No me han dicho cuándo saldrán todos, pero deberían comenzar a llegar pronto. Todos los kits, libros de trabajo y otros recursos están disponibles en la OSG. Consulte mi informe de la Asamblea de primavera para obtener enlaces directos.

MCD, si desean que asista a la reunión de su distrito, ¡pregunten! Me encantan los viajes por carretera, así que con gusto recorreré los cuatro rincones de nuestra Área. ¡El verano es el mejor momento para mí también!

Todos los formularios de grupo se pueden descargar desde el sitio web de NIA.

<http://aa-nia.org/group-forms/>.

Envíe formularios y solicitudes de información a [registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org) o a la dirección postal:

NIA, Ltd.  
Attn: Registrar  
PO Box 1511  
Palatine, IL 60078

#### 2023 Gastos a la fecha: \$606.20

Gastos desde el último reporte:

- Conferencia de Primavera \$373.92

Gracias por permitirme ser de servicio.

Presentado respetuosamente,

Chris E  
Registrador NIA 20 – Panel 72  
[registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org)

#### Alternate Area Registrar – Kim D.

- Met with Chris E. (Registrar) to train and start working together

- Completed Fellowship Connection training with GSO
- Ran registration for Pre-General Service Conference Workshop
- Attended monthly meeting for secretaries
- Expenses to date \$85.15 for mileage reimbursement

### **Area Secretary – Kate D. – No report**

### **Alternate Area Secretary – Sue M.**

- There are a limited number of copies of the updated Districts' GSR meeting lists on the table; I will continue to periodically email as updates come in. Please remember that this information is confidential.
- Attended the April and May monthly meetings for District Secretaries and record keepers. Our next meeting is on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, and I send out email reminders.
- Attended the Registrars workshop that Chris presented on April 22<sup>nd</sup>
- If anyone needs a nametag, just let me know.
- Expenses to date: \$750.40
- Any reports can be placed in front of my computer or email them to me.

### **CONFERENCE REPORTS:**

#### **2022 Big Book Conference Report – Christy B.**

- Per Christy B., Chair of 2022 Big Book Conference: Conference was held on October 29, 2022 at Parkview Community Church in Glen Ellyn and was very successful; 296 people attended, 169 registered online, 96 were walk-ins, and 31 registered by mail; gross income was \$8,923.00, expenses were \$4,955.96, net income of \$3,967.04, returning \$2,500.00 in seed money, net income of \$1,476.04 is being returned to the Area.

#### **2023 Spring Conference and Assembly – Dave**

#### **2023 Al-Anon Illinois Conference - Allen**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Open Elected Positions:**

- Answering Service Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Accessibilities Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Archives Chair and Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Bridge the Gap Chair and Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- CPC Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Grapevine Chair and Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Literature Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Registrar Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations
- Treatment Alternate – No one expressed interest / No nominations

If interested in serving in any of these open roles through the end of 2025, please attend the Summer Assembly.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

## **MOTIONS:**

### **Motion #1:**

#### **Motion to amend the list of the Area Assembly and Area Committee**

##### **Motion**

The Area Registrar moves to amend the following lists for clarification and consistent ordering:

- The list of members of the Area Assembly on pages 17 of The N.I.A. Service Manual.
- The list of members of the Area Committee on page 26.
- The list of officers under *Responsibilities of Area Officers and Alternates* on page 30.
- The order of the D&R of the Secretary, Alt Secretary, Treasurer, and Alt Treasurer on pg 33-37.

##### **The Area Assembly – Page 17 – Add, clarify, and reorder:**

- 1 • All current G.S.R.s or Alternate, when G.S.R. is absent
- 2 • All current D.C.M.s or Alternate, when D.C.M. is absent
- 4 • The Area Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson
- 3 • The Area Delegate and Alternate Delegate
- 7 • The Area Registrar and Alternate Registrar
- 14 • All Past Area Delegates
- 5 • The Area Secretary and Alternate Secretary
- 8 • All Area Service Standing Committee Chairpersons or Alternate, when Chairperson is absent
- 6 • The Area Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer
- 10 • The Area Archivist
- 11 • The Concepts Editor or Co-Editor, when Editor is absent
- 12 • The Area Web Administrator or Alternate Web Administrator, when Web Administrator is absent
- 9 • All Area Administrative Committee Chairpersons
- 13 • The N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian

##### **The Area Committee – Page 26 – Add, clarify, and reorder:**

- 1 • All current D.C.M.s and all current Alternate D.C.M.s
- 2 • The Area Delegate and the Alternate Delegate
- 3 • The Area Chairperson and the Alternate Chairperson
- 5 • The Area Treasurer and the Alternate Treasurer
- 4 • The Area Secretary and the Alternate Secretary
- 6 • The Area Registrar and the Alternate Registrar
- 7 • All Area Service Standing Committee Chairpersons and their Alternates
- 13 • All Past Area Delegates
- 8 • All Area Administrative Committee Chairpersons
- 9 • The Area Archivist
- 10 • The Concepts Editor and Co-Editor
- 11 • The Area Web Administrator and Alternate Web Administrator
- 12 • The N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian

##### **Responsibilities of Area Officers and Alternates – Page 30**

Move: *Secretary and Alternate Secretary* before *Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer*

##### **Responsibilities of Secretary, Alt Secretary, Treasurer, and Alt Treasurer – P 33-37**

Move the sections on Duties & Responsibilities of the Secretary and Alternate Secretary before the sections of the Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer

## **Motion to amend the list of the Area Assembly and Area Committee**

### **Background**

I have noticed the phrases *Standing Committee* and *Service Committee* used interchangeably in the N.I.A. Service Manual, and in discussion at Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies. On page 39 of the N.I.A. Service Manual, it says, "N.I.A. has two types of standing committees. Service Committees and Administrative Committees." They are not interchangeable, and it should be clarified. I feel it is best to only use the term Standing Committee as a section header in the Service Manual on page 39.

The membership of the Area Assembly currently includes "All Area Standing Committee Chairpersons..." but also includes the Archivist, Concepts Editor, Co-Editor, the Web Administrator, and Alternate Web Administrator. All of these positions are Standing Committee Chairs (although they are appointed and not elected). The N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian falls into the same category but is not listed in the membership of the Area Assembly.

The best thing for clarity is to finish listing all the positions in the Area Assembly in detail, including the Service Manual Custodian and Administrative Committee Chairpersons. Then, both lists for the Area Assembly and Committee should match in their level of detail.

Reordering the positions in all four locations will allow them to match the N.I.A. Ltd Bylaws and Certificate of Incorporation first and foremost, which list Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, and then Treasurer, and also the order that standing committee positions are listed throughout the N.I.A. Service Manual.

It is hard for new G.S.R.'s and other new trusted servants to understand everything they need to know about service. We often say that you learn your service position by the time you rotate out to your next position. Keeping our documents consistent and clear will help all trusted servants to understand better, feel less overwhelmed, and have a better grasp of the service structure. Not being confused goes a long way towards wanting to take on a next position.

### **References**

NIA 20 Service Manual

<http://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-202209.pdf>

### **Follow Up Action Required**

Update the NIA 20 Service Manual with the approved changes; reorder the Table of Contents.

### **Respectfully submitted**

Chris E                      &                      secondary  
NIA 20 Registrar                      secondary  
[registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org)                      secondary

**It was agreed to allow the Report and Charter Committee to consider these changes and make recommendations/approvals.**

**Motion #2:**

## Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

### Motion

The Area Registrar moves to amend the voting procedures for Area elections on pages 23-25 of The N.I.A. Service Manual for clarification and easier reading, as follows:

- Additions are underlined and bolded, deletions are struck through.
- The Third Legacy Procedure should be copied from the current A.A. Service Manual to be certain it is accurate, and the current diagram should be kept.
- The paragraph on page 25 should be removed entirely.

### *Area Elections*

Area officers, service standing committee chairpersons, and all their alternates are elected to two-year terms of service that begin in even numbered years. Elections are held during the Fall Assembly of odd numbered years, immediately preceding the end of the current service rotation.

The Area Chair Chairperson shall read the portion of The A.A. Service Manual that is applicable to balloting before balloting begins. The rest of the election proceedings are to be facilitated by the most recent past Delegate. As chairperson of the election proceedings, the past Delegate should review the qualifications for each position before the nomination procedure and election for that position.

Election of the Delegate and Alternate Delegate shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure as described in the A.A. Service Manual. Election of all other officers (Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, and their Alternates), shall also be by the Third Legacy procedure, but by show of hands. Election of officers, namely the Delegate, Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, and their Alternates, except as noted below, shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure as described in The A.A. Service Manual. The order of elections shall be: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and then Alternate Registrar. ~~Those eligible to stand for Delegate are: Area Officers (except Delegate); Chairpersons of standing service committees, and D.C.M.s. The elected Delegate shall have only one term of service and shall never again be a candidate for the position.~~

- ~~• Candidates who are eligible and willing to stand are asked to identify themselves.~~
- ~~• Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are accepted.~~
- ~~• Candidates present two minutes service histories.~~

Following officer elections, ~~standing~~ service committee chairpersons and their alternates shall be elected, either by the Third Legacy procedure or by any other means chosen by the Assembly during the election proceedings. Voting for service committee chairpersons and their alternates is by simple majority. ~~Nominations from the floor shall be accepted.~~

### Nomination Procedure for Delegate and Alternate Delegate

Those eligible to stand for Delegate and Alternate Delegate are: Area Officers (except Delegate), Area Service Committee Chairpersons, and D.C.M.s.

- The chairperson asks those eligible to stand up giving everyone in attendance an opportunity to see eligible candidates.
- Then the chairperson asks that anyone standing who is unable or unwilling to serve as Delegate be seated.
- The remaining names are posted on a board.
- Candidates present two minutes service histories.

## Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

### Nomination Procedure for all other positions

- Those interested are asked to stand and nominations are accepted from the floor.
- Names of nominees are posted on a board.
- Candidates present two minutes service histories.
- Candidates are asked to leave the room when voting is not by written ballot.

### *The Third Legacy Election Procedure*

#### *Nomination Procedure*

- ~~All members of the Area Committee are eligible to become Delegate.~~
- ~~The chairperson asks those eligible to stand up giving everyone in attendance an opportunity to see eligible candidates.~~
- ~~Then the chairperson asks that anyone standing who is unable or unwilling to serve as Delegate be seated.~~
- ~~The remaining names are posted on a blackboard.~~
- ~~The chairperson then asks for nominations from the floor.~~

#### *Voting Procedure*

1. The names of eligible candidates are posted on a board. All voting members of the Area Assembly cast written ballots, one choice to a ballot. The tally for each candidate is posted on the board.
  - The first candidate to receive TWO-THIRDS of the total vote is elected.
2. Withdrawals start after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than *one-fifth* of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn — except that the top two candidates must remain. (In case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
3. After the third ballot, candidates with less than *one-third* of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
4. After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the *smallest* total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied second-place candidates remain.)
  - At this point, the chairperson asks for a motion, second, and a simple majority of hands on conducting a fifth and final ballot.
  - If this motion is defeated, balloting is over and the choice is made by lot — “going to the hat” — immediately.
  - If the motion carries, a fifth and final ballot is conducted.
5. If after the fifth ballot no election occurs, the chairperson announces that the choice will be made by lot (from the hat). At this point, the top two candidates remain. In case there are ties for first place, all tied first place candidates remain. In case there are no ties for first place, the top candidate and any tied second-place candidates remain.
6. Lots are then drawn by the teller, and the first one “out of the hat” is the delegate (or other officer).



## Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

### Background

1. Clarify in paragraph one and four that “standing committee chairpersons” is “service committee chairpersons.” In our Service Manual, standing committees include both service committees and administrative committees, the latter of which are appointed not elected.
2. Clarify at the start of the second paragraph that “Chairperson” is “Area Chair.”
3. Add a sentence to the end of the second paragraph reading: “As chairperson of the election proceedings, the past Delegate should review the qualifications for each position before the nomination procedure and election for that position.”
4. Paragraph three states that “election of officers [...], except as noted below, shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure...” On page 25, after the third legacy voting diagram, there is a paragraph that finally lists the exception. This paragraph gets lost. There is also only one exception: “for election of officers and alternates, [...] voting is by Third Legacy but by a show of hands.”

We should replace paragraph three on page 23 to state clearly that:

“Election of the Delegate and Alternate Delegate shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure as described in the A.A. Service Manual. Election of all other officers (Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, and their Alternates), shall also be by the Third Legacy procedure, but by show of hands. The order of elections shall be: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and then Alternate Registrar.”

5. Move the following sentence from the end of paragraph three to the Delegate qualifications on page 30: “The elected Delegate shall have only one term of service and shall never again be a candidate for the position.”
6. Paragraph four covers the elections of service committee chairs, being “either by the Third Legacy procedure or by any other means chosen by the Assembly...” The procedure for committee chairs is listed in the paragraph on page 25. It states that “the procedure for committee chairs and alternates is the same except voting is simple majority,” but the phrase “is the same” refers to Third Legacy only prior in the paragraph. These two statements contradict each other, and the explanation of simple majority is lost on page 25.

We should add the following to paragraph four and eliminate entirely the paragraph on p.25:

“Voting for service committee chairpersons and their alternates is by simple majority.

7. There are two statements regarding those eligible to stand for Delegate. One says “Area Officers (except Delegate), Chairpersons of standing service committees, and D.C.M.s.” and the other says, “All members of the Area Committee are eligible to become Delegate.” The second statement would include service committee chair alternates, appointed committee chairs, and alternate DCMs. There are also two different nominating procedures lists. One list says, “Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are accepted,” and the other list says that all eligible able, and willing candidates are to be considered.

## Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

We should combine all statements regarding nominations and eligibility into the following:

### ***Nomination Procedure for Delegate and Alternate Delegate***

Those eligible to stand for Delegate and Alternate Delegate are: Area Officers (except Delegate), Area Service Committee Chairpersons, and D.C.M.s.

- The chairperson asks those eligible to stand up giving everyone in attendance an opportunity to see eligible candidates.
- Then the chairperson asks that anyone standing who is unable or unwilling to serve as Delegate be seated.
- The remaining names are posted on a board.
- Candidates present two minutes service histories.

8. The nomination procedure for all other positions is not clearly stated. Some if it has to be inferred from the procedures for Delegate, and some of it is spelled out in that paragraph on page 25 that gets lost.

We should spell it out clearly with the following list:

### ***Nomination Procedure for all other positions***

- Those interested are asked to stand and nominations are accepted from the floor.
- Names of nominees are posted on a board.
- Candidates present two minutes service histories.
- Candidates are asked to leave the room when voting is not by written ballot.

9. The *Third Legacy Election Procedure* is copied from page 119 of the current A.A. Service Manual to ensure that it is accurate. The flow chart should remain intact.
10. The paragraph on page 25 should be removed entirely, as it has been incorporated elsewhere.

## **References**

NIA 20 Service Manual

<http://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-202209.pdf>, pages 23-25

The A.A. Service Manual

[https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/en\\_bm-31\\_3.pdf](https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/en_bm-31_3.pdf), page 119 (page 110 in print)

## **Follow Up Action Required**

Update the NIA 20 Service Manual on pages 23-25 with the approved changes.

Move the following sentence to the Delegate qualifications on page 30: "The elected Delegate shall have only one term of service and shall never again be a candidate for the position."

## **Respectfully submitted**

|  |   |           |
|--|---|-----------|
| Chris E  | & | secondary |
| NIA 20 Registrar   |   | secondary |
| <a href="mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org">registrar@aa-nia.org</a> |   | secondary |

**It was agreed to allow the Report and Charter Committee to consider these changes and make recommendations/approvals.**

**Motion #3:**

## Motion to fund AREA participation at the 2023 East Central Regional Forum

### Motion

With the exception of the Delegate & Alternate Delegate (whose attendance at the East Central Regional Forum is already reimbursed under our Area guidelines) it is moved that a maximum of \$400 be reimbursed to each of the NIA Area Trusted Servants (shown below), to help offset costs to attend the East Central Regional Forum on November 17-19, 2023 in Independence, OH.

| Activity Number | Service Activity            | Expectations Outcome Guidelines   | Allowable expenses  | Reimbursed Authority  | Projected Cost   | Expected Amount |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|---|---|------------------|-----------------|
| PPMxx           | East Central Regional Forum | Provide funding for Area trusted servants, excluding the Delegate and Alternate Delegate, to attend the East Central Regional Forum November 17-19, 2023 in Independence, OH. The amount shall not exceed \$400 per person. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> </ul> | • Groups I, II and III, excluding the Delegate and Alternate Delegate | \$400.00<br>X 40 | \$16,000.00     |

### Background

Regional Forums are weekend sharing and informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, and The General Service Office Staff stay in touch with AA members, trusted servants and newcomers to service throughout the AA service structure. Attendance at the forum also offers the attendee an opportunity to meet with and to share experience with trusted servants from the other thirteen areas of the East Central Region.

There have been many past discussions on how much money we as an Area forward to GSO and why we do not spend more here. GSO holds Forums to stay in contact with the Fellowship as a whole. This is a way to spend funds on GSO related activities and helps the Area servants. ***This is a partial reimbursement only; this covers less than half of the cost of mileage and lodging.***

The list of who can be reimbursed includes:

|                                      |                                     |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Area Chair                           | **Archives Comm Chair               | Public Information Comm Chair        |
| Area Chair – Alt                     | **Archives Comm Chair – Alt         | Public Information Comm Chair – Alt  |
| Area Registrar                       | Bridging the Gap Comm Chair         | +Service Handbook Custodian          |
| Area Registrar – Alt                 | **Bridging the Gap Comm Chair – Alt | **Treatment Comm Chair               |
| Area Secretary                       | Concepts Editor                     | **Treatment Comm Chair – Alt         |
| Area Secretary – Alt                 | **Concepts Co-Editor                | Web Administrator – Area             |
| Area Treasurer                       | Corrections Comm Chair              | **Web Administrator – Alt            |
| Area Treasurer – Alt                 | Corrections Comm Chair – Alt        | +Conference Advisory Committee Chair |
| **Accessibilities Comm Chair         | CPC Comm Chair                      | Electronic Equipment Committee Chair |
| **Accessibilities Comm Chair - Alt   | **CPC Comm Chair – Alt              | **Finance Committee Chair            |
| Answering Service Comm Chair         | **Grapevine Chair                   | **Operating Committee Chair          |
| **Answering Service Comm Chair - Alt | **Grapevine Chair – Alt             | **Report and Charter Committee Chair |
| Archivist                            | Literature Comm Chair               | +Technology Committee Chair          |
|                                      | **Literature Comm Chair – Alt       |                                      |

**\*\*position is currently vacant/not selected**

**+grey boxes are someone already listed**

### Respectfully submitted

Chris E  
NIA 20 Registrar  
[registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org)

Kate D  
NIA 20 Secretary  
[secretary@aa-nia.org](mailto:secretary@aa-nia.org)

& Sue M  
NIA 20 Alternate Secretary  
[alt-secretary@aa-nia.org](mailto:alt-secretary@aa-nia.org)

- Allen asked if we would be considering incoming trusted servants to attend.

- Christy mentioned that when the ECRF was held in Springfield in 2017, she was an incoming trusted servant, and her attendance was partially reimbursed and it was extremely helpful to her to attend this conference.

This motion will be amended to include incoming trusted servants and will be voted on at the Summer Area Assembly in June 2023.

#### Motion #4:

### Motion to fund DISTRICT participation at the 2023 East Central Regional Forum

#### Motion

It is moved that the Area provide limited funding to offset costs for Districts to participate in the East Central Regional Forum on November 17-19, 2023 in Independence, OH. A maximum of \$400 shall be reimbursed to each of the twenty-six districts.

| Activity Number* | Service Activity  | Expectations Outcome Guidelines  | Allowable expenses  | Reimbursed Authority  | Projected Cost   | Expected Amount |
|------------------|---|--|---|---|------------------|-----------------|
| PPMxx            | Promote District Participation in the East Central Regional Forum | Provide funding for Trusted Servants from each of the twenty-six Districts to attend the East Central Regional Forum November 17-19, 2023 in Independence, OH. The amount shall not exceed \$400 per District. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Officers</li> <li>• Committee Chairs</li> <li>• GSRs</li> </ul> | \$400.00<br>X 26 | \$10,400.00     |

#### Background

Regional Forums are weekend sharing and informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, and The General Service Office Staff stay in touch with AA members, trusted servants and newcomers to service throughout the AA service structure.

Attendance at the forum also offers the attendee an opportunity to meet with and to share experience with trusted servants from the other thirteen areas of the East Central Region.

Past funding opportunities have allowed Districts to send Trusted Servants to the ECRF. If we want to encourage people to get involved in general service, we need to attract them into attending an event that is enjoyable and educational. The forums are that.

*This is a partial reimbursement only; this covers less than half of the cost of mileage and lodging based on two people driving together and sharing a double room.*

#### Respectfully submitted

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Chris E  | Kate D   | & | Sue M  |
| NIA 20 Registrar   | NIA 20 Secretary   |   | NIA 20 Alternate Secretary   |
| <a href="mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org">registrar@aa-nia.org</a> | <a href="mailto:secretary@aa-nia.org">secretary@aa-nia.org</a> |   | <a href="mailto:alt-secretary@aa-nia.org">alt-secretary@aa-nia.org</a> |

This motion will be amended to include incoming trusted servants and will be voted on at the Summer Area Assembly in June 2023.

## Motion #5:

### **Motion to Amend NIA Service Manual for the Archives Chairperson and the Archivist**

#### **Motion**

The Archivist moves to amend the Responsibilities for the Archivist and the Archives Chairperson in the NIA Service Guidelines (Archives Chairperson: at page 58 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, printed version 09/2022, and page 41 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 09/2022; Archivist: at page 64 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, printed version 09/2022, and page 45 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 09/2022) with the addition of the below bulleted point to both:

- It is recommended that either the Archivist or the Archives Chairperson attend the annual National AA Archives Workshop on a yearly basis.

#### **Background**

It is the intent of this motion to provide the coordinated opportunity of the NIA Archives Chairperson or the Archivist to attend this event on an annual basis. Information will be shared at subsequent opportunities to those in the Area interested in learning more about archives.

From the NAAAW web site: *"Prior to the birth of the National AA Archives Workshop, most Alcoholics Anonymous archivists had little or no information on how to fulfill their service commitment. Often boxes were passed down from the previous archivist to the newly appointed or elected Archivist. Sometimes these boxes had been in the trunks of cars or stashed in homes. The advice was to take classes or work with a conservator in a museum.*

*The National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop ("NAAAW") began in 1996 with a Workshop held in Akron, Ohio at the Mayflower Hotel. The Workshop grew out of the desire of a group of Archivists to have a Workshop for the Archivists operating within the General Service, Intergroup, and Institutions structures. These Archivists are found all across North America as well as the rest of the world. We take our inspiration from the first General Service Archivist, Nell Wing (a non-alcoholic), and all of the subsequent General Service Office Archivists.*

*The founders of our workshop saw the need and took the initiative. Now we have our annual workshop dedicated to the instruction of archival techniques such as: restoration, preservation and de-acidification. There are hands-on workshops, historical presentations, long-timer panels and key-note speakers who share their experiences on not only our history, but history in general. We have training and sharing that offers a variety of insights into all areas of archives service. With the development of new technology there are new methods of record keeping, cataloging, and preserving. We are evolving."*

**This motion will be voted on at the Summer Area Assembly in June 2023.**

## Motion #6:

## **Motion to Amend NIA Service Manual for the Delegate**

### **Motion**

The Delegate and the Area Chair moves to amend the Responsibilities for the Delegate in the NIA Service Guidelines (at pages 41-43 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, printed version 09/2022, and pages 30-31 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 09/2022) with the addition of the below bulleted point to both:

- Provide a Spanish translation of reports and presentations to be posted on the NIA web site. Translation to be done by third party vendor.

### **Background**

As stated in The A.A. Service Manual: "The areas hold an important position in the U.S./Canada General Service Conference structure. The areas are directly connected to the A.A. groups and their members through DCMs and GSRs. At the same time, they participate in the decision-making of A.A. through area delegates."

Northern Illinois Area 20 currently has three Spanish Linguistic Districts. Translation of our Delegate's reports and presentations would be a step in the right direction to provide better information to our Spanish speaking members in NIA 20.

**We would use the same vendor that is used for the Concepts newsletter.**

**We should add what the anticipated cost will be.**

**This motion will be voted on at the Summer Area Assembly in June 2023.**

**Motion #7:**



## **Motion to Amend NIA Service Manual for the NIA Service Manual Custodian**

### **Motion**

The Service Manual Custodian moves to amend the Responsibilities for the NIA Service Manual Custodian in the NIA Service Guidelines (at pages 65-66 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, printed version 09/2022, and page 45 of the NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 09/2022) to read as follows:

N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian Responsibilities

The N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian maintains the N.I.A. Area Service Manual.

#### Qualifications

- Proficient knowledge of MS Office applications.
- Sufficient time available to prepare documents to hand over to the Concepts Editor Area Chair for publishing by third party vendor.

#### Responsibilities

- Format and maintain the documents that together make up the N.I.A. Service Manual, along with Northern Illinois Planning Procedures.
- Maintain records of all Assembly-approved changes to the Manual and prepares the Manual documents for publishing.
- Coordinate the translation into Spanish of the documents that together make up the N.I.A. Service Manual, along with Northern Illinois Planning Procedures by third party vendor if necessary.
- Forward updated documents to the Web Administrator for posting on the Area website.
- This position works closely with the Report and Charter Committee.

(NOTE: For convenience, additions to the current text of the section are indicated by underscoring and italicization; deletions are indicated by crossing out current text.)

### **Background**

The changes proposed by this motion are intended to more clearly define the responsibility of the Service Manual Custodian to include the Northern Illinois Planning Procedures and to ensure that translation into Spanish happens.

**This motion will be voted on at the Summer Area Assembly in June 2023.**

### **DCM Reports:**

**Dave, D22: Picnic scheduled for August 27<sup>th</sup>; spirited discussion; D22 website has been down for 3+ weeks; switched from TAS answering service; saw advertisement for AA / CASO on a bus**

**Hugo, D64: WordPress optimized then website went down; had Archives Workshop, over 50 people in attendance; working through Answering Service provider, want to move from TAS to SAS portal; Pig Roast on July 15<sup>th</sup>**



**Lori, D10: D12 is with us working on a lot of projects; Tri-County (Lake, Racine and Kenosha counties); fall breakfast being planned; happy with volunteers; Treatment meetings are very active and we're getting more literature for them; local detox centers list is being distributed**

#### **SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Bridging the Gap** – Jim T. reported that he started in his position on March 11, 2023, the position was previously vacant for 16 months; database info is 6-7 years old and full of old information; intend to use breakout session at next assembly to discuss the database and future direction of BTG

#### **Archivist Report:**

May 20, 2023 - Area Committee Meeting, Archivist report

As a portion of the responsibilities of the Area Archivist, I have been updating the Assembly Actions which are kept on the NIA 20 web site. This document lists all actions that have been voted on at Assemblies. One of the items that I've been attempting to complete is to clean-up verbiage for consistency, along with reviewing minutes to verify that the notation accurately reflects the motion.

Of note, this document has not been updated on the web since 2021. I have sent this on to our Web Administrator with the hopes of having it updated.

While doing the above I found a discrepancy from the 2016 Winter Assembly, which was not captured in the Service Manual. At that Assembly it was approved that the Web Administrator would be "expected to attend the annual National AA Technology Workshop."

At this same time, the Report and Charter Committee was doing a complete review of the Service Manual. Their changes were approved at the 2017 Winter Assembly.

Unfortunately, the motion from 2016 was lost during this review. I believe the change needs to be inserted into Service Manual.

Given the motions that will be presented and voted on at our Summer Assembly, this 2016 motion will be added to the Service Manual at that time.

In other areas, Ray has turned over the key to the storage location for our archives. I will now be able to get in and start organizing items. Between Ray and I, and Covid, things have gotten a little disorganized.

I understand that NIA has a new OneDrive. I am looking forward to moving all the digital archives to that. If anyone has experience with OneDrive, I'm sure Rob would love to have help with defining how we can utilize this to bring better communication within NIA. I would also like to learn ideas on how to set-up our archives and the needed permissions on how to control access.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,  
Cheryl V. NIA20 Archivist

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

### **Electronic Equipment: Joey B.**

Joey will not be available for the 2023 Big Book Conference; looking for volunteers for the November 4<sup>th</sup> event, as well as reliable volunteers for the next 2 years (2024-2025) for Assemblies, Committee Meetings, Pre-General Service Conference Workshop and Big Book Conference.

**Rob added that he had a request from the local ISCYPAs who are putting in a bid to host a future conference; they are requesting a letter from the Area.**

**Meeting closed with The Responsibility Statement.**

Respectfully submitted by Kate D., former Northern Illinois Area 20 Secretary