



March 1, 2025

Delegates Report – Spring Assembly

Hello Area 20:

Greetings Area 20

I look forward to seeing you all at the Spring Assembly.

We will spend a little time at the Assembly reviewing the Pre-General Service Conference meeting schedule, which includes a series of 10 zoom breakout meetings and our PGSC Workshop on April 5 in Dixon. I'd like to thank Lisa S., our Alternate Delegate for organizing, scheduling and communicating the process. We are lucky to have her serving as our Alternate Delegate. The background material is nearly all out as of my writing this report (Tues. Feb 24). The delay is still largely due to the effort to have all of the background material released after it had been fully translated into Spanish and French.

It will be my goal once again this year to hear from as many people as possible and gain as much input as I can from the fellowship in Area 20. I will try to be as accessible as possible and can always be reached by phone or email – please don't hesitate to contact me.

Included in the overall schedule at the General Service Conference in April, will be a Conference inventory. I have already completed my on-line survey and we will review and discuss all the responses at the Conference. I look forward to reporting on this process after the conference. You may recall that last year the Board conducted their inventory and shared the results at the 74th GSC. This year the conference will do the same.

Since my last report...

On January 31 – Feb. 3, I attended the General Service Board weekend in New York. It was a real pleasure to be there along with the other 12 Delegate Chairs. I attended several Trustees Committee meetings through the weekend, and the Board Meeting which concluded on Monday. I was impressed at how the Delegates were invited to participate in the discussion, in fact, we participated more than I expected. I also spent some time getting to know some of our Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustees. As I've said before, these are truly friends of AA who give a great deal of time and effort in serving our fellowship.

Along with several others from Area 20, I attended the Conference of Delegates Past & Present in Champaign February 7-9. I had the opportunity to visit with a few of the past delegates from Illinois and our neighboring states along with the other 13 delegates from the other areas in our East Central Region. At this event, the delegates, including myself, participated in a mock conference and met with our Regional Trustee and GSO staff to ask questions and to prepare ourselves for the week-long General Service Conference in New York in April. I had the pleasure of co-chairing the mock conference with the delegate from Area 74.

On Wednesday, Feb. 26th – I will attend (hasn't happened yet at the time of my report), the Conference Sharing Session. This is an opportunity for the full conference to meet prior to the GSC in April.

Coming up

On March 5th I will attend an initial meeting of the **Conference Agenda Committee**, which is my Panel 74 committee assignment at the GSC. This year I will be serving as the Chair of this committee. This will be an opportunity to set the working rules of our Committee and to review some of our agenda items before the Conference.

Some items of interest:

Here are some of the financial highlights from the latest GSO Quarterly Financial Report

- 2024 Member & Group Contributions totaled \$11.25 Million vs. a budget of \$10.5 Million. This was a record year in contributions, 4% greater than 2023.
- Gross literature sales for 2024 were \$14.5 Million. This is \$2.3 Million less than budget, but only 1% less than 2023. Literature Gross Margin was \$7.6 Million. This is \$900K lower than the budgeted amount of \$8.5 Million.
- Total operating expenses were \$18.7 Million, about \$100K less than budget.
- The current reserve is at 6.47 months.
- LaVina subscriptions were 5% behind budget, totaling 7,492. Operating deficit for 2024 totaled \$565K
- Progress on the Big Book 5th edition continues. Stories are still being read and reviewed. Looks like a release later this year or early 2026

Future Events I'll be attending:

April 26-May 3 75th General Service Conference, Manhattan, NY

July 3-6 International Convention – Vancouver, CA

Nov 14-16 Illinois State Conference, Schaumburg, IL

My expenses year-to-date are \$673.51, largely related to workshop travel and attendance at the CDPP in Champaign.

Respectfully,

Erik Long

Delegate

NIA Panel 74

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