

## Spring Assembly Meeting 3/14/26 Delegate Report

Greetings, Area Trusted Servants!

### Recent Activities

2/4/26: East Central Region (ECR) Monthly Meeting

2/13/26 – 2/15/26: Conference of Delegates Past & Present Area 34 Benton Harbor, MI

3/4/26: East Central Region (ECR) Monthly Meeting & General Service Conference Sharing Session

### General Service Conference

The General Service Conference is next month and there is a great deal of activity taking place. The final agenda items and background material were released during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February. Alternate Delegate Dawn B. has done a wonderful job putting together the virtual Pre-General Service Conference Workshop breakout sessions and sending this information out to Area trusted servants.

Please attend one or more of these virtual workshops scheduled from March 22 through March 29 and encourage your GSRs to do the same. The breakouts serve several valuable purposes: 1) they help to fully educate the fellowship on the items which will be discussed during this year's Conference and 2) they will help me, as your elected Delegate, carry an informed and representative group conscience from Northern Illinois Area 20 and 3) the workshops will give members a chance to learn more about the Conference process, have informal agenda item discussions, and share their experience and perspective on items which affect A.A. as a whole.

Once we've completed the breakout sessions, we will all come together for an in-person Pre-General Service Conference Workshop on 4/11/26. Attending this important session will provide me with additional input and insights to take with me as I prepare for the Conference in April.

### AAWS Highlights

The first Quarterly meeting of the A.A. General Service Board met on February 2, 2026. A copy of the draft report was sent out to members of the Area during the third week of February. Below are several key highlights; I will address others separately:

Gross literature sales were 5% less than budget, primarily due to a sales dip in November, 2025. However, gross literature sales were 6% more than in 2024 due to a full year of Plain Language Big Book sales. Since its introduction in November 2024 over 228,000 copies of the Plain Language Big Book have been sold producing a gross revenue of just over \$2 million.

In 2025, Seventh Tradition Self-Support contributions covered 57% of operating expenses. As a reminder, we rely on Seventh Tradition contributions and literature sales to serve the Fellowship.

A report was provided following the December strategic planning session, which focused primarily on an AAWS Board inventory. Given that recent inventories had already been undertaken by the General Service Board, General Service Conference, and the General Service Office, it was determined that the AAWS Board should likewise engage in an inventory process on its own initiative. Specific items that are relevant to the AAWS Board that surfaced during those other recent inventories were identified and used as the basis for discussion. The session generated productive and insightful discussion, with topics including communication, reaffirming the importance of maintaining respect, and clearly defining roles and responsibilities.

The International Convention financial update was presented by the CFO, who reported that final International Convention financials were not yet available due to three outstanding items. These include a pending Canadian Goods and Services Tax refund application that was recently submitted and is expected to be resolved within approximately 60 days, outstanding hotel rebate reconciliations from three hotels based on final occupancy, and an insurance claim related to lost revenue resulting from the Canada postal strike for which no timeline or estimated recovery amount has been provided. Based on information currently available, the CFO stated that the Convention results appear to be very close to break even, within a narrow margin relative to the overall size of the event.

Grapevine 2025 financial report, including La Viña: The Grapevine controller reported on the unaudited year-end results for the period ending December 31, 2025, were presented. Although print subscriptions declined by 8%, both online and app subscriptions increased by over 34%. Total subscription income increased by 5.4%. Subscription gross margin increased 39%. Other published Items income increased by 7.7% gross margin decreased by 3%. Total gross margin increased 18.3%. Total expenses improved 10.5% compared to 2024 but were over the reforecast by 1.5%. Grapevine bottom line was an improvement of 67% compared to 2024.

La Viña - below are key percentages:

- 1) Total circulation increased by 6%.
- 2) Subscription income increased 36%, and subscription gross margin increased over 300%.
- 3) Other published items income increased 30% and gross margin increased 30%.
- 4) LV total gross margin increased 63%.
- 5) Total expenses decreased 4%.
- 6) La Vina's bottom line improved 17%.

### Upcoming Planned Events

3/22/26 – 3/29/26 Virtual Pre-General Service Conference Workshop Breakout Sessions

4/11/26 – Pre-General Service Conference Workshop

4/26/26 – 5/2/26: 76<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference New York Hilton, NY

6/26/26 – 6/28/26 East Central Regional Conference University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

Expenses year-to-date are \$539.50.

In love and service,

Lisa Snipes

Delegate | Panel 76

Area 20 Northern Illinois

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