

2016 General Service Conference Committees Agenda Items

I. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2017 General Service Conference.
- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2017 General Service Conference.
- C. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.
-  D. Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

II. Cooperation With the Professional Community

-  A. Consider discontinuing the pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W."
-  B. Consider adding text regarding A.A. and medications to the pamphlet "If You are a Professional..."
- C. Consider adding text to the pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?" regarding A.A. as a resource for small businesses.
-  D. Review draft revision of the pamphlet "How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals."
- E. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

III. Corrections

-  A. Review draft of video created to replace "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell."
- B. Discuss the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.)
- C. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.



Starred topics are highlighted by the Oregon Area delegate because they may be of interest to the general membership.

IV. Finance

- A. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
- B. Review the Conference approved level of \$5,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. Members.
-  C. Review the Conference approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. Member of \$3,000.
- D. Discuss material from A.A.W.S. Self-Support Committee.
- E. Review Self-Support Packet.

V. Grapevine

- A. Review Audio Strategy status update.
-  B. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2017 or later.
- C. Review A.A. Grapevine Workbook.

VI. Literature

-  A. Consider developing a plain language version of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.
-  B. Review A.A.W.S. report on “pagination” of Conference-approved digital books.
-  C. Review progress report on the revision of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Woman.”
-  D. Review progress report on the revision of the pamphlet “A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic.”
-  E. Review progress report on the development of literature for A.A.s with mental health issues and those who sponsor them.
-  F. Review progress report on the development of a plan for the systematic review of A.A. recovery literature.
- G. Review revised draft pamphlet “Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services.”
-  H. Consider request for revision to the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”
-  I. Consider request to update the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”

VII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Approve request for two observers from A.A. in the Ukraine to attend the 2016 General Service Conference.
-  B. Review progress report on plans for French and Spanish translation of all Conference background.
- C. Review report from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference regarding Conference observers from other fellowships.
- D. Consider request that all Conference members be sent the same background material with the exception of digital media and works in progress.
- E. Review dates for the 2019 General Service Conference.

VIII. Public Information

- A. Review 2015 annual report from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
-  B. Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
 - 1. Review the trustees' Public Information Committee report on the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
 - 2. Review 2016 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- C. Review the July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 distribution and tracking information for the video P.S.A. "Doors."
- D. Review 2015 report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on the Usefulness and Relevance of Public Service Announcements.
 - 1. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the English and French language versions of the video P.S.A., "Tengo Esperanza" at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, in addition to the distribution work of local public information committees.
 - 2. Consider discontinuing the video P.S.A. "I Thought."
-  E. Discuss a request to reconsider the 2011 Advisory Action regarding the "Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or Its Affiliates."
- F.
- G. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

IX. Report and Charter

- ★ A. *The A.A. Service Manual, 2016-2017 Edition:*
 1. Review list of editorial updates.
 2. Consider adding definition of “Service Manual” to Glossary of Service Terms.
 3. Consider adding text in the Third Legacy Procedure chart in Chapter One.
 4. Consider draft text for a section on “Local Forums” to be added to Chapter Nine.
 5. Consider removing endnote #4 in Concept Twelve of the Twelve Concepts for World Service.
 6. Consider request to revise text in the Concept Eleven essay regarding “male/female” distinctions in the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

- ★ B. Consider A.A.W.S. recommendation regarding an alternative publishing schedule for *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

- C. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., Western U.S., and International.)
 1. Consider that the category title “ONLINE MEETINGS” be changed to “ONLINE GROUPS/ONLINE MEETINGS” in A.A. Directories.

- D. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.

X. Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities

- ★ A. Consider removing “Special Needs” from Conference Committee on Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities’ name and throughout the committees’ Composition, Scope and Procedure.

- B. Review contents of Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook.

- C. Review contents of Special Needs-Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

XI. Trustees

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - 1. West Central Regional Trustee;
 - 2. Western Canada Regional Trustee.
- B. Review slates of Trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Review report from the trustees' Committee on Nominating on expanding the pool of candidates to serve the General Service Board and the Corporate Boards.
- F. Consider option presented by the trustees' Committee on Nominating regarding the unexpected vacancy of Regional Trustees.

XII. Archives



- A. Explore ways to encourage groups to write or update their histories.
- B. Review Archives Workbook.

XIII. International Convention/Regional Forums

- A. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
- B. Discuss report on the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Conference Committee on Agenda
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A: Review suggestions for the theme of the 2017 General Service Conference.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Starting in 1966, each General Service Conference (GSC) has had a theme. Each year, suggestions for the GSC theme are solicited from the Fellowship starting in early August. Conference members are asked to gather suggestions and submit them to G.S.O. Suggestions are compiled and the list is forwarded to the Conference Committee on Agenda. The Conference Committee uses this list in its discussions about the theme for the next year's Conference.</p> <p>The background material includes the list of suggestions submitted this year and a list of the GSC themes from 1966 through the present</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss theme ideas. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed, so theme ideas would be for the 2018 Conference at the earliest.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>The 2016 Conference Committee on Agenda will select a theme for the 2017 GSC, and then forward that selection to the full Conference body as a recommendation. It is unknown if the compiled list of suggestions included in this agenda item is the sole source from which the selection can be made -- either by the members of the Agenda Committee or the entire voting body of the Conference.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>The theme for each General Service Conference generally revolves around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussions. Regions, Areas, Districts and home groups may incorporate discussion of the theme into local workshops, meetings, pre-Conference Assemblies, etc. This gives A.A. members the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.</p>
Financial impact
None

**Conference Committee on Agenda
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B: Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2016 General Service Conference.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Each year, suggestions for Conference presentation/discussion topics are solicited from the Fellowship starting in early August. Conference members are asked to gather suggestions and submit them to G.S.O. Suggestions are compiled and the list is forwarded to the Conference Committee on Agenda. The Conference Committee uses this list in its discussions about the presentation/discussion topics for the next year's Conference.</p> <p>Included in the background material for this agenda item is the list of suggestions submitted and previous presentations in chronological order by year.</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss presentation / topic ideas. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed, so topic ideas would be for the 2018 Conference at the earliest.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>The full Conference body selects the Conference presentation/discussion topics based on suggestions from the Fellowship and a recommendation from the Conference Committee on Agenda.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Conference members, Regions, Areas, Districts, home groups and the Fellowship as a whole. The presentation/discussion topics for each General Service Conference generally revolve around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussions. They also could be considered for topics at local workshops, meetings, pre-Conference Assemblies, etc. This gives A.A. members the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None.</p>

**Conference Committee on Agenda
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #C: Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Purpose of the evaluation form as stated on the form: “This Conference Evaluation plays an important role in helping both the trustees’ Committee on the Conference and the staff to plan the next annual meeting of the General Service Conference. The committees and staff members responsible for the agendas for future Conferences give careful consideration to the comments of all delegates, trustees, directors and staff who turn in a form.”</p> <p>Conference members are asked to complete an evaluation form at the end of each day. Each day has a form specific to the activities of that day.</p> <p>The Oregon Area body is free to discuss this agenda item, although it may only be of interest to the Delegate. The set of daily evaluation forms for this year’s Conference are included in the background material.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Changes to the Conference Evaluation Form itself may not need discussion by the full Conference. Suggestions from the Conference Committee on Agenda may be sent directly to GSO staff in the form of an Additional Committee Consideration. Changes made to future Conference agendas as the result of comments made on the evaluation forms will be made by those responsible for Conference planning.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>None.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None.</p>

Conference Committee on Agenda Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Agenda Item #D: Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

Questions related to the function of the Conference Agenda Committee occur frequently: whether it should merge with another Conference Committee or whether there might be more meaningful work for it to do, such as reviewing proposed Conference agenda items. The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference found no need for corrective measures regarding how proposed Conference agenda items are processed, and recognized the need to be as transparent as possible about the process and reasons why something may not reach the Conference agenda. The trustees' committee found no role for the Conference Agenda Committee or other Area delegates to play in the selection process of Agenda items, and no relationship between the Conference Agenda' Committee and that selection process.

The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference studied a substantial amount of background and concluded that the best way it can be helpful would be to provide the Conference Agenda Committee with all the background that it considered, in the hope that it could help further Conference Agenda Committee discussions.

350 pages of Background material of "Conclusions Regarding the Conference Agenda Committee and the Agenda Item Selection Process" have been downloaded and can be found on the CD furnished to each district. The full background is included as follows:

- 1.2** 2010 GSC Workshop Topic background packet (97 pages) **p35-131**
- 1.3** 2010 GSC Workshop Report (5 pages) **p132-140**
- 1.4** 2011 Conference Agenda Committee Additional Committee Consideration documents (38 pages) **p215-252**
- 1.5** Disposition of Proposed Agenda Items relevant to role of Conference Agenda Committee 2010-2014 (115 pages) **p253-367**
- 1.6** Archives research regarding changes to The Service Manual describing the Conference Agenda Committee (26 pages) **p368-384**
- 1.7** Conference Agenda Committee History and Actions (37 pages - updated through April 2015) **p141-180**
- 1.8** Conference Agenda Committee 2015 Agenda item E background (19 pages) **p181-193**
- 1.9** Documentation on Restructuring Conference Policy/Agenda Committee and Conference Agenda Committee **p194-214**

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

This Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to review the topic. The request is to give Conference members an opportunity to review all the material that was studied by the trustees committee.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

There is no request for change being made in this Agenda item beyond review by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact.

Financial impact

None.

**Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A: Consider discontinuing the pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W."

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>This item originates from a 2015 Additional Committee Consideration of the Conference CPC Committee, which requested that the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities review the pamphlet, "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W., Co-Founder of AA," noting the 2015 Conference Committee's concerns related to its language, outdated information and relevance to modern day medical professionals. The Conference CPC Committee noted that future development of material may be needed to reflect current information about AA to be provided to medical professionals, perhaps utilizing past and current Class A trustees.</p> <p>The November 1, 2015 report of the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community / Treatment / Special Needs-Accessibilities stated that the committee agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference CPC Committee the subcommittee's recommendation that the pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W." be retired because the pamphlet is too lengthy and dated. The committee acknowledged that "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W." remains a very important piece of AA history and asked the subcommittee in their review of the other C.P.C. pamphlets to ensure that any still-relevant information from the pamphlet was captured in other AA literature.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Changes to Conference approved literature require approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>If approved by the Conference, the pamphlet, "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W., Co-Founder of AA," will be retired to archives and still relevant portions of the pamphlet will be captured in other AA literature.</p>
Financial impact
<p>There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the changes. Staff time and other costs associated with revising and reprinting of service materials will be built into the budget.</p>

**Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B: Consider adding text regarding A.A. and medications to the pamphlet "If You are a Professional..."

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>The January 31, 2016 report of the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community / Treatment / Accessibilities reviewed a progress report from the Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing CPC Pamphlets and agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) the following suggestion(s): That text be added to the pamphlet "If You are a Professional. .." to suggest that in cases where a patient says they cannot take prescribed drugs because they are a member of A.A., the doctor can refer them to the pamphlet "The A.A. Member - Medications and Other Drugs."</p> <p>The draft text for the new section in the pamphlet "If You are a Professional. .." (page 5 beneath the "Singleness of Purpose and Problems Other Than Alcohol" section) is as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>A.A. Members and Medications</i> No A.A. member should "play doctor"; all medical advice and treatment should come from a qualified physician. The suggestions provided in our pamphlet "The A.A. Member-Medications & Other Drugs" may help AA members find the right balance and minimize the risk of relapse.</p> <p>Note: The draft text comes from existing language in the Conference-approved pamphlet "The A.A. Member-Medications and Other Drugs"</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>Revisions to Conference approved literature require approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>If approved by the Conference, the revised wording will be available after the next printing.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the changes. Staff time and other costs associated with revising and reprinting of service materials will be built into the budget.</p>

**Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #C: Consider adding text to the pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?" regarding A.A. as a resource for small businesses.

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>The January 31, 2016 report of the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community / Treatment / Accessibilities reviewed a progress report from the Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing CPC Pamphlets and agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on CPC the following suggestion(s): That text be added to the introduction of the pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?" to clarify that A.A. can work with employers of any size, including small businesses such as medical practices, etc.</p> <p>Draft additional text for pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?" (first page, last paragraph; additions in bold):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A.A. can help organizations of any size from large corporations to small businesses such as medical practices, etc., contact men and women who have achieved sobriety, and are willing to share their experience freely with anyone who seeks help.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>Revisions to Conference approved literature require approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>If approved by the Conference, the revised wording will be available after the next printing.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the changes. Staff time and other costs associated with revising and reprinting of service materials will be built into the budget.</p>

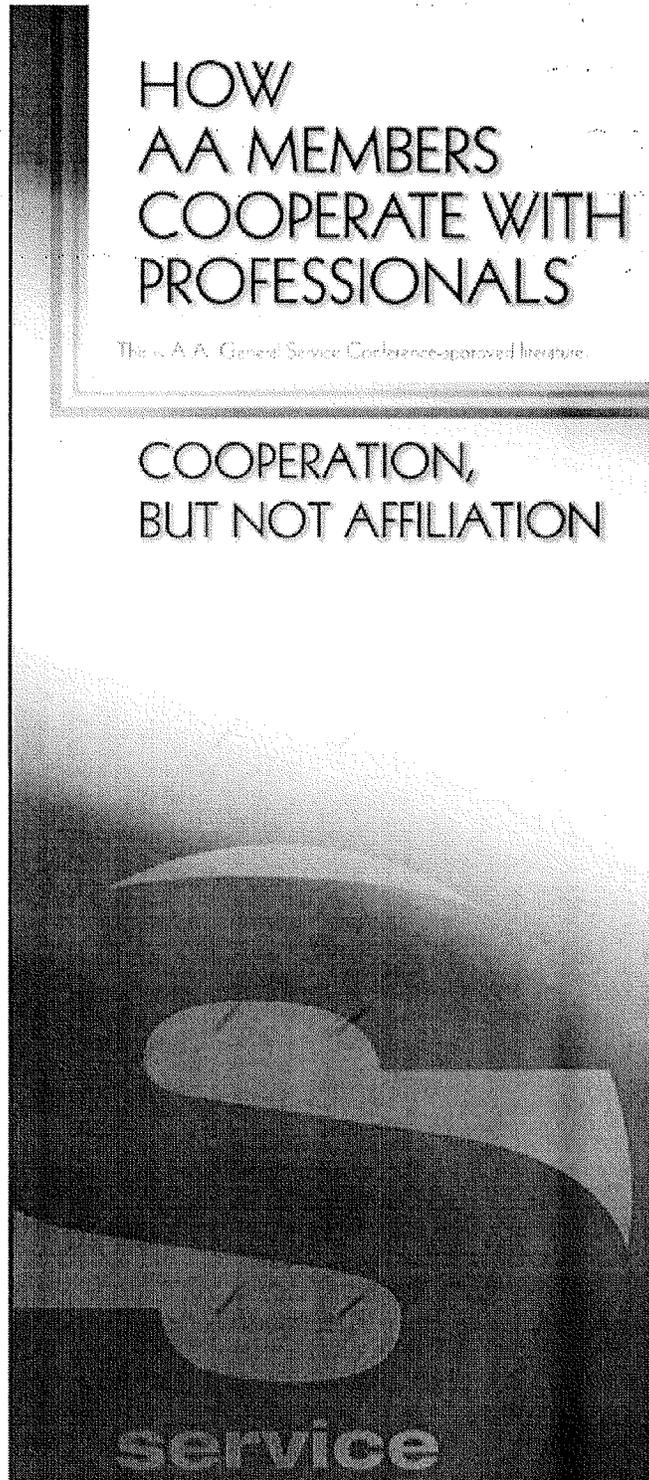
**Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #D: Review draft revision of the pamphlet "How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals."

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>The January 31, 2016 report of the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) / Treatment / Accessibilities considered a request from an Area 03 (Arizona) for a text change to the pamphlet "How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals" and agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community a draft revision of the pamphlet "How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals" incorporating the area text change along with several other text changes suggested by the Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing C.P.C. Pamphlets.</p> <p>The draft revision of the pamphlet "How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals" is a 6 page document and is attached to this summary as EXHIBIT 1.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Revisions to Conference approved literature require approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>If approved by the Conference, the revised wording will be available after the next printing.</p>
Financial impact
<p>There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the changes. Staff time and other costs associated with revising and reprinting of service materials will be built into the budget.</p>

Draft changes marked on attached pages 9, 10, 19, 20, and 21.

EXHIBIT 1
CPC
ITEM D



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Replace "think straight about" with "understand" in third paragraph, page 9:

and services are in no way a part of their A.A. membership. They are paid for their professional or job performance, not for what they do to stay sober in A.A. This is not always understood by their fellow A.A. members, or by their non-A.A. co-workers.

So it is very important that such A.A.s always clarify the difference between their employment and what they do *as A.A. members.*

A.A. Guidelines for Members Employed in the Alcoholism Field and the section on the Eighth Tradition (especially pp. 169-171) in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* help both these members and the rest of us ~~think straight about~~ the differences between the professional and the A.A. roles.

understand

5. A.A.s can also be good volunteers in non-A.A. programs—as long as it is clear that they do not represent A.A.

Many A.A. members—lay people as well as professionals—also help alcoholics in numerous non-A.A. ways as volunteers in non-A.A. activities in the alcoholism field. But we do so as *private citizens* concerned about the health problem of alcoholism, *not* as A.A. members and *not* as representatives of any A.A. body or of A.A. as a whole.

For best results in cooperation with non-A.A. community efforts, we need to stop short of structurally or formally linking A.A. with any other program or enterprise, no matter how worthy.

6. We cannot discriminate against any prospective A.A. member, even if he or she comes to us under pressure from a court, an employer, or any other agency.

Although the strength of our program lies in the voluntary nature of membership in A.A., many of us *first* attended meetings because we were forced to, either by someone else or by our inner discomfort. But continual exposure to A.A. educated us to the true nature of our illness. We then developed a desire for a happy, sober life like that of other members we saw, and we attended meetings willingly and with gratitude.

Add "less" before "rigid" in Question 7, page 10:

So we have no right to withhold the A.A. message from *anyone*—no matter who referred that person to us, or what his or her attitude is at first. Who made the referral to A.A. is *not* what A.A. is interested in. It is the problem drinker who is our concern.

Regardless of our initial opinion of any newcomer, we cannot predict who will recover, nor have we the authority to decide how recovery *should* be sought by any other alcoholic. Some of us need different kinds of help, and it may come best from non-A.A. sources, as pointed out in *Alcoholics Anonymous* (p. 74) and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* (p. 61).

7. *As we mature in A.A., we generally become less fearful and rigid*

less rigid

Those of us blessed with recovery in A.A. need to remember that modesty will win more friends for A.A. than smugness, arrogance, or a know-it-all attitude. Saying "We know the *only* way to recovery" is an egotistical luxury we can no more afford than we can afford resentments.

However, shortly after we come into A.A. and begin to recover, we naturally feel great relief. We may find ourselves praised; within A.A., we begin to build a good reputation, which gradually replaces the shame of our drinking days.

This can easily turn into highly intense gratitude and loyalty to A.A. Then, almost before we know it, we may find ourselves sounding possessive and sensitive about A.A.—as if it were an exclusive society with a monopoly on the truth.

As recovery continues, we recall that thousands of us received aid from families and friends, a hospital or a clinic, a physician or a professional counselor. We realize that the boss who fired us, the relatives who scolded us, or the cop who warned us also helped us—helped us see we had a drinking problem.

We begin to outgrow our defensive possessiveness. With no less devotion to A.A., but without our former fanaticism, we start to lose our fear that some non-A.A. program or professional will usurp A.A.'s role, or take away our newly found pride, gratitude, and other good

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Remove "rest homes" in question 14 and "rest farms" in question 15, page 19:

13 Do A.A. groups accept help from outside sources in the form of free literature, rent, printing, or other financial aid from a non-member, from a government commission on alcoholism, or from any other enterprise outside A.A.?

No. Our Tradition Seven says, "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." Note the word "fully," and read *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* (p. 160).

If a group finds it a hardship to buy literature, G.S.O. can probably help, or some nearby A.A. group or central office or the area general service committee can. All new groups receive a free supply of literature from G.S.O. Discount packages are available for institutions and public information work.

When a meeting place is offered at no charge, it is customary for an A.A. group to make at least a small regular donation as "token" rent. *Learning to be responsible for paying our own way is part of our recovery.*

14 Do A.A. groups or committees own or manage hospitals, ~~rest homes~~, and other rehabilitation facilities in the community?

Traditionally, A.A. groups, intergroups, and committees do not own, operate, or manage such ventures.

15 Can A.A. groups meet regularly in hospitals, rehab centers, ~~rest farms~~, halfway houses, detox units, or inpatient or outpatient alcoholism clinics without implying affiliation?

The position of A.A. groups in treatment facilities was clarified by this recommendation from the 1978 A.A. General Service Conference: "A.A. members who meet with the administration of a treatment facility *concerning the formation* of an A.A. group on its premises should explain group autonomy as well as what A.A. can and cannot do (Traditions), and also have a good understanding of the facility's

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Replace "patients" with "clients" in question 17, page 20:

rules and regulations. After mutual agreements are reached, it is important that this information be shared with the A.A.s who will be attending the group's meetings. It was suggested that groups meeting in treatment facilities try to abide by the self-support Tradition. If money for rent is not accepted by a facility, groups should contribute in some other way. It was also felt that A.A.s employed by the facility should not run the groups at the facility."

16 What can be done when serious differences arise between an A.A. group or committee and others interested in alcoholism?

A frank, friendly, face-to-face discussion works best. Often, the area delegate to the General Service Conference, or a past delegate, is able and happy to participate in mediating such differences. Finding a solution depends on willingness to communicate with, and listen to, one another.

Seeming differences can arise because of misunderstanding of facts—a simple lack of information. For example, non-A.A.s may be uninformed about A.A. Traditions, and many A.A.s are ignorant of the necessary legal regulations governing some facilities outside A.A. Usually, all that is needed is an exchange of information and views, with emphasis on common desires. This can eliminate the problem and preserve goodwill, so all concerned can get back to helping the alcoholic in their own special ways.

help clients

17 How can local A.A. groups and members ~~help patients~~ who are being discharged from treatment facilities?

In order to bridge the gap, A.A. members have volunteered to be temporary contacts and introduce newcomers to Alcoholics Anonymous. Many local groups and committees have established such temporary contact programs. (For more information, see the pamphlet, "Bridging the Gap.")

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Remove "an 'A.A. farm' or" from second paragraph of question 19 and replace "1992" with "latest" in first paragraph of question 20, page 21:

18 What is A.A.'s policy when an alcoholic comes to A.A. meetings in order to get a suspended sentence or parole or to save a job?

First, A.A. accepts the alcoholic. True, A.A. is a voluntary program, but many of us remember how strongly we resisted A.A. at first. We also know, though, that many of us resisters eventually embraced the program because we wanted it, after being around it a while. So it is a good idea to explain this to the official who refers alcoholics to A.A. It also helps to point out that, although A.A. members can try to help, they cannot guarantee anyone's future sobriety or conduct (even their own!), nor accept responsibility for more than "sharing the A.A. experience" with the prospect.

It is useful, too, for A.A.s to remember that, in the final judgment, officials are responsible for their own decisions. Their decisions are *not* A.A.'s responsibility.

19 What is the relationship of A.A. to retreats or other meetings for alcoholics which may (or may not) be held under the auspices of religious denominations?

There is no formal relationship at all, any more than there is a structural or official relationship between A.A. and any church, temple, ethical or humanist or agnostic society, or meditation centers that a member may attend.

A.A. does not sponsor such gatherings. There is no such thing as an "A.A. retreat," any more than there is ~~an "A.A. farm" or an "A.A. rehab center."~~

20 Does cooperating with professionals really do any good?

There is overwhelming evidence that cooperation does pay off handsomely for the individual alcoholic and for A.A. as a whole. This evidence comes from the ~~1992~~ **Membership Survey of A.A. groups in the U.S. and Canada.**

latest Membership

It is this: *Almost one-third of those surveyed credited outside assistance—in the form of medical, psychological, spiritual, or other counseling—*

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**EXHIBIT 2
CPC
ITEM E**

One of the 2015 Additional Committee Considerations of the Conference CPC Committee was: "That the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community / Treatment / Special Needs-Accessibilities continue to read and review the selection of pamphlets included in the C.P.C. Kit, taking into consideration whether the current selection best supports the needs of C.P.C. Committees and professionals in terms of language and content, particularly in the following pamphlets:

- Speaking at Non-A.A Meetings
- A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous
- Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?
- How AA. Members Cooperate With Professionals
- The AA Member-Medications and Other Drugs"

Note: The following pamphlets do not fall under the purview of the trustees' and Conference C.P.C. committees: "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings," "A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous" and "The AA Member-Medications and Other Drugs."

The January 31, 2016 report of the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community / Treatment / Accessibilities noted that the Committee reviewed a progress report from the Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing C.P.C. Pamphlets and agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on CPC the following suggestion(s): That a matrix of comments regarding pamphlets in the CPC Kit from the Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing CPC Pamphlets be provided to the Conference CPC Committee for their review of the C.P.C. Kit and Workbook. See **EXHIBIT 3**, a two page document that follows this sheet.

The list of the C.P.C. pamphlets and videos that fall under the purview of the trustees' and Conference CPC committees are as follows:

- AA as a Resource for the Health Care Professional (P-23)
- AA Cooperation with the Professional Community (DV-13)
- Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community (P-31)
- A Member's Eye-View of AA (P-41)
- How AA Members Cooperate with Professionals (P-29)
- If You Are a Professional (P-48)
- Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace? (P-54)
- Members of the Clergy Ask About AA (P-25)
- Problems Other Than Alcohol (P-35)
- Three Talks to Medical Societies, by Bill W. (P-6)

**EXHIBIT 3
CPC
ITEM E**

Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing C.P.C. Pamphlets

Matrix of Individual Comments

C.P.C. PAMPHLETS			
(Literature in C.P.C. Kit that falls under the purview of the trustees' and Conference C.P.C. committees)			
Pamphlet Title	Intended Audience/Purpose	Is the content current and helpful for C.P.C. committees or professionals?	Additional Comments
How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals (P-29)	Provides an overview to A.A. members about interacting with professionals; excellent for doctors; This is a very direct pamphlet for any professional.	Yes; Suggest updates: Pg 9 - replace "think straight about" with "understand"; pg 19 - Q 14/15 remove "rest farms"; pg 20 - Q 17 replace "patients" with "clients"; pg 21 - Q 19 remove "A.A. farm".	On pg 21 update the information which references the "1992 Membership Survey" every three years.
Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace? (P-54)	Explains how A.A. can work with a business to help their employees with drinking problems by introducing them to local AA members.	Yes; maybe not; not applicable for doctors; directed to mostly medium to large businesses; professionals. Every three years check for update on number of groups in US and Canada.	Good list of additional pamphlets on the back; Under "Singleness of purpose and problems other than alcohol" add "as observers". Include small business in the introductory paragraph.
A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional (P-23)	For health care professionals with common objections to A.A.; includes approaches for referring problem drinkers to A.A.	Yes; add "internet search" to "How to Contact A.A."	Add www.aa.org.
If You Are a Professional (P-46)	A quick guide for professionals on what A.A. does and does not do.	Yes	Title might not indicate that it is intended for professionals who are not alcoholics.
A Member's Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous (P-41)	For people in the helping professions and A.A. members on how A.A. works.	Contains many helpful descriptive passages. The author's tone may be off-putting.	Replace the term "A.A. therapy".
Members of the Clergy ask about Alcoholics Anonymous (P-25)	Frequently asked questions and answers from clergy of many faiths.	Very helpful to the clergy. The questions are appropriate and A.A.'s non-affiliation to religion is clearly implied by the answers.	
Problems Other Than Alcohol (P-35)	For professionals and A.A. members (may not be relevant for doctors).	Yes, especially if the goal is to get alcoholics to A.A.; important to A.A.	
Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community (P-31)	For professionals and nonalcoholics.	Yes; add "internet search" to "Where can you find A.A."	

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Subcommittee on Reading and Reviewing C.P.C. Pamphlets

Matrix of Individual Comments

PAMPHLETS NOT UNDER THE PURVIEW OF C.P.C. TRUSTEES' AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEES			
Pamphlet Title	Intended Audience/Purpose	Is the content current and helpful for C.P.C. committees or professionals?	Additional Comments
Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings (P-40)	Explains to A.A. members how to interact and present to organizations that want to learn more about A.A.	Yes; maybe not; limited importance for C.P.C. This is aimed at members who work in public information.	Pg 16 – Add source of information to point 11. Add www.aa.org. Very helpful especially in planning workshops.
A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous (P-42)	Provides a brief guide to what A.A. is for anyone who wants to help a suffering alcoholic (professionals, including doctors, and A.A. members.)	Yes; excellent in terms of content and brevity; pg 8 -Pt 1 at top add the words "as observers" and last paragraph, remove "sanitariums" or replace w/"treatment centers".	Is alcoholism still the third greatest killer after heart disease and cancer? Pg 10- Pt 6 replace "not connected" with "not affiliated" and replace "fight alcoholism" with "interested in recovery". Pg 11 - add "www.aa.org" pg 12 add "aagrapevine.org."
The A.A. Member— Medications and Other Drugs (P-11)	Provides personal stories regarding use of medications and other drugs; absolutely essential for doctors and recovering A.A. members struggling w/medications.	Last page under "A.A. Publications" add "www.aa.org."	Vernacular is outdated. Stories are mostly for identification.
Understanding Anonymity (P-47)	Explains clearly what anonymity means both within and outside A.A.	Yes	Could be revised to include more about Tradition Twelve anonymity.
A.A. Membership Survey (P-48)	For professionals.	The questions are good information for anyone who wants to evaluate our effectiveness.	Colorful and attractive. Will capture the eye.
A.A. in Correctional Facilities (P-26)	Describes how to establish a meeting in a correctional facility and how to run meetings in a correctional facility.	Maybe	
The Twelve Traditions Illustrated (P-43)	Presents both the spirit and the practical application of our Twelve Traditions.	Not helpful to doctors.	

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**Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #E: Review contents of the C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committee at each General Service Conference (GSC). Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or contents of a Kit may be received. They may be reviewed by the trustees and implemented, or the trustees may choose to forward the ideas to the Conference Committee to be reviewed at the next GSC. Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body. The Conference Committee will put forth approved changes via an 'Additional Committee Consideration.'</p> <p>The background material does not include the current CPC Workbook and Kit - they were mailed only to Conference Committee members.</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss changes to the Workbook and Kit. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Currently, there are some suggested changes being offered from the 2015 CPC Conference Committee's Additional Committee Considerations. Further changes could be suggested by the 2016 Conference Committee.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None</p>

**Conference Committee on Corrections
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B: Discuss Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.)

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) not only helps incarcerated alcoholics, it's a wonderful form of service for 'outside' AA members. Many inmates express a need for sponsorship. While we are careful to tell them that the General Service Office does not assign sponsors, they often receive important guidance on the Twelve Steps through sharing experience, strength and hope with their correspondents.

In 2015, we were able to link 1,741 inmates with outside AA members through C.C.S. We also achieved a real breakthrough this year. In the past, inmates would often have to be on a waiting list for a correspondent, but there are now more English-speaking men and women AA members willing to correspond than there are inmates asking for a correspondent! We can now link inmates as soon as they reach out to us.

There are several reasons for this fortunate situation: refinements were made to the data filtering, improving its efficiency; delegates raised awareness of the need after last year's Conference; articles about C.C.S. appeared in both Grapevine and LaVina; and the International Convention generated great enthusiasm for corrections work. We had a giant C.C.S. mailbox at the 'Carry The Message' Pavilion, and one of the speakers at the Sunday closing meeting was an inmate!

There are currently two major areas of focus. We still don't have enough Spanish speaking male correspondents to answer the needs of Spanish-speaking inmates, so we are actively recruiting volunteers. Also, awareness and participation of C.C.S. in Canada is much lower than in the U.S. A major effort is underway to expand C.C.S. in Canada.

The following items were included in the background material:

"Corrections Correspondence - A Special Kind of A.A. Service" Flyer (F-26/CCS-3)

"Dear A.A. Friend" - Letter to an Inmate Flyer (F-73/CCS-2)

C.C.S. "Before You Sit Down to Write".

A.A. Grapevine article "male call"/ January 2015.

LaVina article "Un mensaje de la OSG/September2015

Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss this item, including discussion of ways to encourage interest in the C.C.S. Program. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to discuss this Agenda topic, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding this topic.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

As stated above, there is no request being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee.

Financial impact

None

**Conference Committee on A.A. Corrections
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #C Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committee at each General Service Conference (GSC). Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or contents of a Kit may be received. They may be reviewed by the trustees and implemented, or the trustees may choose to forward the ideas to the Conference Committee to be reviewed at the next GSC. Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body. The Conference Committee will put forth approved changes via an 'Additional Committee Consideration.'</p> <p>The Corrections Workbook (M451) is contained in the Kit. The content list of the Corrections Kit is available on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website (www.aa.org) with hyperlinks to some items listed.</p> <p>The background material does not include the current Corrections Workbook and Kit - they were mailed only to Conference Committee members.</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss changes to the Workbook and Kit. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Currently, there are no suggested changes. Changes could be suggested by the 2016 Conference Committee.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None.</p>

**Conference Committee on A.A. Grapevine
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A: Review draft of video created to replace, "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell".

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>The original video has helped to carry the, A.A. message of hope and recovery to alcoholics who are incarcerated for 25 years, but .it is clearly out dated. Because of corrections volunteers in the U.S. and Canada, we were able to film a diverse group of alcoholics currently in prison. or who got sober inside and were released. This draft video reflects the latest revisions suggested by the Trustees' Corrections Committee.</p> <p>At the February 1, 2014 Trustees' Corrections Committee Meeting the Subcommittee's recommendation regarding the video, 'It Sure Beats Sitting In a Cell", the committee agreed to forward to the 2014 Conference Committee on Corrections a request to consider a new video be developed to replace "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" (DV-08). The subcommittees suggestions for the proposed video included the following: (1) Reflect diversity (race, age and gender); (2) Include a variety of correctional facilities (example: a juvenile detention center); (3) Inmate sharing to be consistent with AA's singleness of purpose; (4) Include inmate sharing on The Twelve Steps and AA literature; (5) Include references to Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS) and Prerelease; (6) Provide information about A.A. as a source of hope for incarcerated alcoholics; (7) Revise/update service piece that is included with the video.</p> <p>At the January 2016 meeting of the trustees' Committee on Corrections, the committee reviewed the current video to replace "It Sure Beats sitting in a Cell," and agreed to forward it to the 2016 Conference Committee on Corrections. The draft will include two minor revisions. The draft video will be viewed at Conference.</p> <p>Since this is a draft review by the Conference Committee of copyright protected material, only those Conference members will see this video before Conference deliberation. It is not until the video comes out of the Committee process to the floor of the Conference itself that the item is viewed by anyone other than members of the Conference or trustees' Committees.</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss this item, including discussion of ways to encourage interest in Corrections programs.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>New video productions require approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>Once the Conference Committee has reviewed the proposed video, several things may happen. Among them: (1) The Committee might approve the video and recommend that the video be approved by the Conference as a whole; (2) If approved by the Conference Committee, recent experience suggests Conference members will view the proposed video, prior to voting on it; (3) The Committee might also send the proposed video back to the trustees' Committee on Corrections with any significant concerns about the proposed video.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>Financial impact for the development of this video was addressed in the 2014 Advisory Action, which limited the cost to \$70,000.00. This cost was built into the budget as a result of the 2014 action at the Conference.</p>

**Conference Committee on Finance
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A: Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>In 2012 Conference Finance Committee suggested that a review of the delegate's fee be a standing item on the Conference Finance Committee Agenda.</p> <p>The background material includes some history and statistics. The background materials can be summarized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 1969, the requested Area Delegate contribution (fee) to help defray costs was increased from \$100 to \$150 annually.• Since 1969, the requested Area contribution has been increased seven times, with increases coming every 4 – 6 years; and the increase have ranged from 33.3% to 50% above the previous contribution level.• The last increase occurred in 2012, when the annual requested amount was raised from \$1200 to \$1600.• The Delegate's fee of \$1600 from the 93 totals \$148,800.• In 2014, 53 areas sent additional contributions and 7 areas covered the delegate's cost.• In 2015 59 areas sent additional contributions and 14 areas covered the delegate's cost.• In 2015, area delegate fees and contributions totaled \$281,457, representing 28.9% of the total expenses incurred by the conference of \$974,886.
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>In order to receive Fellowship-wide ideas on how to proceed and set an appropriate request amount. The current request amount of \$1600 was the result of an Advisory Action at the 2012 GSC.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>An increase in the Area amount requested would add additional funds to help offset the effects of inflation in Conference expenses since 2012 and would also allow the Areas to be more self-supporting in meeting the costs of bringing their delegates to the GSC.</p>
Financial impact
<p>Some increase in revenues to offset GSC expenses.</p>

**Conference Committee on Finance
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B: Review the Conference approved level of \$5,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from AA Members.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Contained in the background material are various statistics regarding contribution levels to The General Service Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 1957, the limit for individual annual contributions was set at \$100.• In 1967, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$100 to \$200.• In 1972, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$200 to \$300.• In 1979, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$300 to \$500.• In 1986, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$500 to \$1,000.• In 1999, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$1,000 to \$2,000.• In 2007, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$2,000 to \$3,000.• In 2012, only the limit for one-time member bequest was raised from \$3,000 to \$5,000.• The current limit for one-time member bequest is \$5,000
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
In order to receive Fellowship-wide ideas on how to proceed and set an appropriate request amount.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
An increase in these contribution amount limits would add additional funds to the annual contributions received by GSO from all sources.
Financial impact
Some increase in expenses to reflect updating of AA literature to reflect any such change in contribution limits.

**Conference Committee on Finance
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #C: Review the Conference approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member of \$3,000.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Contained in the background material are various statistics regarding contribution levels to The General Service Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 1967, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$100 to \$200.• In 1972, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$200 to \$300.• In 1979, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$300 to \$500.• In 1986, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$500 to \$1,000.• In 1999, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$1,000 to \$2,000.• In 2007, the limit for both such individual annual contribution and one-time member bequest was raised from \$2,000 to \$3,000.• In 2012, only the limit for one-time member bequest was raised from \$3,000 to \$5,000.• The current maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member is \$3,000
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
In order to receive Fellowship-wide ideas on how to proceed and set an appropriate request amount.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
An increase in this contribution amount limit would increase the annual contributions received by GSO from all sources.
Financial impact
Some increase in expenses to reflect updating of AA literature to reflect any such change in contribution limits.

**Conference Committee on Finance
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #D: Discuss material from A.A.W.S. Self-Support Committee.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Contained in the background Material is a Seventh Tradition Fact Sheet. This fact sheet lists 12 things you 7 th tradition dollars do to reach alcoholics. The Fact Sheet is attached.
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
Increased awareness of the 7 th Tradition is necessary to increase 7 th Tradition participation. We continue to look for ways to effectively communicate the importance of self support at all levels of our fellowship.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
The more members that participate in the 7 th Tradition the more self supporting our fellowship may become.
Financial impact
There is no mention of the financial impact associated with this item.

CONFIDENTIAL: 66th General Service Conference Background

YOUR SEVENTH TRADITION CONTRIBUTIONS

Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group

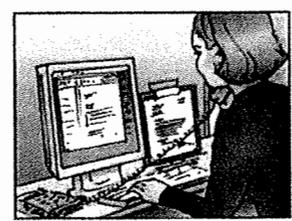
When you or your home group contributes to the General Service Office (G.S.O.) your contribution helps an alcoholic around the corner or around the world.

Here are some of the ways that happens:



1 The G.S.O. Publishing Department has coordinated translations of the Big Book in 68 languages and translations of other A.A. literature in more than 80 languages. Further translations are constantly in process.

2 Each year G.S.O. staff responds to over 90,000 emails, letters, and phone calls from A.A. members, suffering alcoholics, professionals, students, the press and others interested in A.A. Thus accurate and consistent information about A.A. is provided.

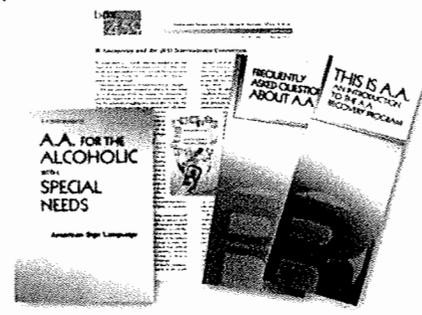


3 Staff communications often help someone find local A.A. meetings, link members in service, and support the start of A.A. in countries where there are no A.A. meetings.



4 G.S.O. maintains and updates the aa.org website that averages over 30,000 visits per day. The website provides information about A.A., including how to find A.A. in their community, and provides help to members and those seeking help with their drinking problem, as well as to families and friends of problem drinkers, and professionals.

5 G.S.O.'s Publishing Department publishes and distributes all A.A. Conference-approved literature. Approximately 8 million books, pamphlets, video and audio products are distributed annually. Some of this literature is specifically designed for sight- or hearing-impaired members. Box 4-5-9, news and notes from G.S.O., is published four times a year in English, French and Spanish.

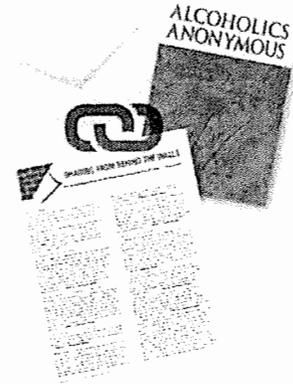


6 G.S.O. coordinates the *Loners-Internationalists Meeting Correspondence Service (LIM)*, which is often the only link to A.A. for many A.A. members in remote areas, homebound, or deployed in active military service.

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CONFIDENTIAL: 66th General Service Conference Background

7 The Corrections coordinator at G.S.O. responds to over 6,500 letters a year, primarily from incarcerated alcoholics. Letters often request literature and many express gratitude for a Big Book supplied or a link to an outside member who can take a soon-to-be released alcoholic to his or her first meeting on the outside.

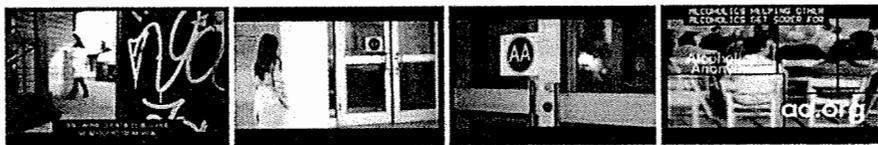


8 G.S.O.'s Corrections staff member also coordinates a Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS), which each year connects over 1,000 alcoholics behind the walls with outside members in order to share A.A. recovery by mail. *Sharing From Behind the Walls*, containing excerpts from inmate letters to G.S.O., is printed four times a year.



9 The G.S.O. Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities desk responds to letters and communications from residents or patients in treatment centers and connects them with local committees. The staff member on this assignment supports groups and members in making the A.A. message receivable to alcoholics with special needs.

10 Professionals are frequently the first contact for an alcoholic seeking help. The Cooperation With the Professional Community (C.P.C.) staff member at G.S.O. provides information about A.A. to hundreds of professionals each year, often sending them basic literature. This assignment also coordinates A.A. exhibits at over 25 national conferences of professionals in various fields each year and publishes the newsletter *About A.A.* for professionals.



11 The Public Information desk coordinates the production and broadcast of audio and video Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to help reach the still-suffering alcoholics. Each year PSAs produced by Public Information are broadcast on television and radio. The most recent PSA, *Tengo Esperanza (I Have Hope)*, was viewed approximately 30,000 times the first year of its release. The Public Information staff member also responds to approximately 600 emails per month from the press and other media, A.A. members and the general public.



12 G.S.O.'s Archives documents the activities of Alcoholics Anonymous for the future and makes the history of the Fellowship accessible to A.A. members and other researchers. Each year the Archives staff responds to over 1,500 requests for information and research. *Markings: Your Archives eNewsletter*, an electronic newsletter, is published three times a year.

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**Conference Committee on Finance
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #E: Review Self-Support Packet.

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>The Self-Support Packet is reviewed by the Finance Committee at each General Service Conference (GSC).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Self-Support Packet Contents</u></p> <p>Self-Support Card F-42 Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix F-3 The A.A. Group Treasurer F-96 A.A. Guidelines on Finance MG-15 Services Provided by GSO/AAWS Flyer Historical Background of Self-Support Flyer</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss changes to the Self-Support Packet. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>The Self-Support Packet is a service piece so changes to its contents do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>When pamphlet and/or service material revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, the revisions are made but materials are not reprinted until existing supplies have been exhausted.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>The financial impact would depend on any changes made to the contents of the Self-Support Packet. There are no proposed changes at this time.</p>

**Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine (GV)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC GV Agenda Item #A: Review Audio Strategy Status Update

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Agenda Item A deals specifically with a 2016 status and financial report from the Grapevine staff regarding the Audio Grapevine Project. The 2015 Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine (GV Conference Committee) requested (in an Additional Committee Consideration) that staff present a status report to the 2016 GV Conference Committee. The 2016 report to be reviewed includes information on the number of stories collected through the new audio strategy of allowing members to record and upload their stories verbally, the number of stories recorded via the dial in phone service versus other submission formats, and the cost of implementing and maintaining this technology to date. The background documents for this agenda item also include previous status reports from 2013, 2014 and 2015, snapshots from the GV Newsletter promoting the audio project and 'Record Your Story' workshops, Record Your Story Workshop Guidelines, and the original proposal from 2012 that put the basic framework together for the project. Grapevine plans to continue collecting stories with a goal to eventually make compilations available for purchase.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>This Agenda Item does not require Conference approval; the GV Conference Committee will merely review and discuss the audio project status report as requested by the prior Conference. The current GV Conference Committee may or may not offer any Additional Committee Considerations or recommendations to the full Conference body as the result of their review and discussion. The Oregon Area body may benefit from discussing the merits of allowing AA members to record their stories in their own voices, as well as the popularity/availability of the audio Grapevine and other GV products through the use of new technologies. The Area body may also want to discuss the merits of a 'Record Your Story' workshop.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>No changes in the audio project have been suggested by the GV staff. Greater Fellowship participation via submitting more stories, increased demand for audio downloads, and increased overall awareness of the GV could result in an increase in GV revenues.</p>
Financial impact
<p>The background documents contain financial details about the cost of the audio project. The voicemail service costs a flat rate of \$11.99 per month. The GV subscribes to audio editing software (costing \$20.00 per month) which allows the editing to be performed in house by GV editorial staff. In the future, Grapevine plans to offer audio stories for sale at prices similar to other online audio offerings. Currently the going rate is \$1.30 to \$1.75 for a single track and \$9.99 for a compilation. This is the only financial information mentioned in the background documents.</p>

**Conference Committee on A.A. Grapevine (GV)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC GV Agenda Item #B: Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2017 or later.

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>Conference Actions in 1992 and 2002 recommended that the Grapevine Conference Committee annually review a list of proposed production items submitted to them from the GV Board at least one year in advance of publication, so that the Conference might offer guidance and continue the existing positive model of mutual Conference and Board involvement in production. The background material for this agenda item includes the 2016 Staff Report which describes 4 books for possible publication in 2017 or later. The report indicates the projected unit cost, the format (all are currently proposed to be produced in soft cover and eBook), the working title and a description of the project. The proposed titles are: 1) <i>Young & Sober II</i>, 2) <i>Stories by Atheist & Agnostic Members</i>, 3) <i>Steps Four and Five</i>, 4) <i>Beginners II</i>.</p> <p>Note: Oregon Area 58, as well as Area 53 Ohio, and a Group in Colorado all made formal proposals in 2015 that the GV consider publishing a volume of previously published stories written by those who are atheist or agnostic.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>New GV items are published regularly to continue to carry A.A.'s message, to help the GV maintain its self-supporting status, and as a service to the Fellowship by making GV articles available in a wide range of formats: print, audio and digital. They also deepen a member's interest and understanding of the Steps, Traditions, and the history of Alcoholics Anonymous. New pamphlets and books require Conference approval.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>All members, groups and others who purchase or receive these GV materials will gain an opportunity to deepen their understanding of A.A. principles and history. The sale of these new items could increase overall awareness of the GV and would result in an increase in GV revenues.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>Each of the books currently under review have a projected unit cost of \$2.50, which includes printing and design costs for a production run of 10,000 units. GV's publishing department will oversee the publication. Staff time and other costs associated with publication will be built into the budget. The softcover books sell for \$10.99 and the eBooks sell for \$9.99.</p>

**Conference Committee on A.A. Grapevine (GV)
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC GV Agenda Item #C: Review A.A. Grapevine Workbook

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>A 2004 Advisory Action recommended that the AA Grapevine (GV) Workbook be designated as service material and that it be reviewed on an annual basis. A 2007 Additional Committee Consideration encouraged the Grapevine to explore less expensive formats for production of the workbook. A 2010 Additional Committee Consideration suggested that electronic updates be made to outdated material, while still preserving a digital version of the historic document. A 2012 Additional Committee Consideration agreed with the proposal to update, proofread and digitize the Grapevine Workbook, and to make it available on the website. (The workbook will no longer be printed.) A 2013 Additional Committee Consideration made minor changes to the workbook and the 2014 GV Conference Committee noted only that the Workbook had been reviewed. The background information for this agenda item indicates that, "In 2015, The advisory actions section of the workbook was updated." A letter from a member in Area 14 was included in the background material. In the letter, the member notes that the Workbook includes no mention of several service committees, including CPC, Special Needs, Literature and Archives. The member also suggests adding a section to provide information on coordinating services in the Hispanic and non-Hispanic communities.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>The GV Workbook is reviewed annually to make sure it continues to be current and relevant. Since Workbooks are service material, changes to their content do not become recommendations, meaning they are not discussed by the full Conference body. The Grapevine Conference Committee will put forth approved changes via an Additional Committee Consideration. Oregon Area members who are familiar with the GV Workbook are encouraged to discuss changes they would like to see made to the Workbook. If Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will be submitted for next year's Conference to consider</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>The Fellowship will have a revised and updated Grapevine Workbook, reflecting current practices and operations. Members interested in the Grapevine may obtain the revised Workbook as a free download from the Grapevine website.</p>
Financial impact
<p>Costs associated with revising the Workbook are built into the GV budget.</p>

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #A Consider developing a plain language version of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The committee reviewed and discussed a request for a plain language version of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The committee agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature a proposal for the development of a plain language version of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

According to the Plain Language Association International, "a communication is in plain language if the language, structure, and design are so clear that the intended audience can easily find what they need, understand what they find, and use that information."

The Conference has reaffirmed on several occasions that the writings of our co-founders not be changed.

A member from the Northwest Territories, a writer who is familiar with the structure of Plain Language content, wrote to GSO " I want to see, sometime in the near future, a plain English language translation of the Big Book. The AA Book has been translated into about 79 languages worldwide. To me there is no difference between taking the 4th edition of the Big Book and translating it into a foreign language, and taking that same book and translating it into plain language, plain English. Bill and Bob were fairly sophisticated and well-educated individuals, in an era where a high level of literacy was prized and respected, whether you were a low bottom drunk, or not! Such a translation into plain language would be very valuable to our AA members in remote communities, and to people coming into our western countries who only know English as a Second Language."

He adds " English literacy is not just an issue facing remote communities. Immigrants to North America and to other English-speaking countries are increasing in number because of political instability all over the world. Many of these immigrants are suffering alcoholics that need the AA program. AA members in prison often have poor literacy skills, regardless of their ethnic background. Also, many of our own children and grandchildren are not as proficient in English as Bill and Bob were in their generation. Social media, such as texting and online videos, and even the old television standby erode good language, replacing it with slang and texting shorthand."

"A plain language version of the Big Book would allow many more suffering alcoholics to read and understand the life-saving AA program proclaimed by Bill and Dr Bob."

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Publication of new conference approved literature requires the approval of the General Service Conference.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Once the Conference Committee has discussed the request to create the book, several things may happen. Among them:

- The Conference Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference to proceed, or not to proceed..
- The Conference Committee might also send the topic back to the trustees' Committee on Literature for further research.
- If the Conference supports the idea, the trustees would then proceed with the development of the book requested.

Financial Impact

There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the process. Staff time and other costs associated with creating service materials will be built into the budget. Some outside contract professional services may be utilized in the process.

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #B: Review A.A.W.S. report on “pagination” of Conference-approved digital books.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

Due to the technical nature of the report, the entire background material report is presented here:

Report on Corresponding Pagination of Digital and Print Books

AAW.S. Publishing had a lengthy phone conversation with David L. from Amazon KDP concerning the ongoing issue some of our members have been having with our ebook page numbers not matching to the printed version. He informed us that a few years ago Amazon had developed software which was to match an ebook page number to its printed companion. The software was released to the public (around 2011), and, when several issues developed, Amazon pulled it back from customer use.

We spoke of some solutions to get around the pagination issue. We could offer the customer a PDF or an ebook with "fixed" pages. These methods would treat each page as an image and would not be available for customization. Not having the option to customize would make the title a digital file and not a true ebook.

There are also apps created by independent developers which, to a degree, paginate an ebook to match its printed companion. The problem with these apps is that the book repaginates whenever the user changes font styles and size. It is possible for the user to closely match a printed version but it cannot be done without an abundance of trial and error. The larger issue with apps is that, without a source file, the customer would need to re-purchase the ebook through their e-reader of choice. A side problem is that some of these apps may not offer AA ebook literature.

David informed that, even though software development is another division, he believes it is an ongoing issue with many ebook publishers. They cannot determine when or if new software will be ready; it could be ready next week, next month, next year, or 10 years from now-but he insured me that Amazon is listening to the publishers' feedback. He bought some possible solutions to the pagination problem, some have already been discussed. He said that as long as our ebook has a TOC, instead of a speaker stating, "open your book to page 268," to have the speaker say "open to Chapter 9." The ebook user can then click on the appropriate chapter in the ebook TOC and go directly to the topic. David L. also suggested we leave the page numbers next to the chapter names in the TOC for the customer to use for reference. Unfortunately, this is not what we were hoping for but at least we have some answers/comments/solutions directly from Amazon.

We reached out to one of our vendors about the Amazon pagination issue. They explained that pagination is indeed handled by Amazon and not something they control when converting the books, and that it seems to be arbitrary on Amazon's part.

Per their publishing guidelines:

3.1.8 Text Guideline #8: Page Numbers Kindle books do not always map directly to page numbers in physical editions of the book. For this reason, there should not be any reference to page numbers in the book. Page numbers should not be included in cross- references or the index. Amazon may make page numbers available for books as additional book metadata. Amazon generates these page numbers based on its own internal technology. They suggested we continue reaching out to Amazon directly to see if they can help, and that they're not at all surprised that they have been less than responsive! Another point they raised was that Amazon's algorithm isn't always perfect-in particular when there are several print editions of a book. That's probably not as much of an issue with the Alcoholics Anonymous titles, but it is something we should keep in mind. We're still working on a sample of the Big Book with pages listed in the TOe. Still not 100% that it will work and that the distributors will allow it (Amazon clearly frowns upon it based on the above) but we should at least try. We will inform you when it is ready. Please let us know if you have any questions/concerns/other thoughts in the meantime. Production Department

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to review the AAWS report on "pagination" of Conference approved digital texts, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding the report, unless any of the content in the report results in desired action by the Conference Committee. Although this agenda item may not lead to a full Conference discussion, the Area body may benefit from reading the report.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>No changes are suggested and no specific discussion points are included in this Agenda Item; the impact to the Fellowship is unknown at this time.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None.</p>

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #C: Review progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "A.A. for the Woman."

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The 2015 General Service Conference recommended that "the trustees' Literature Committee revise the pamphlet 'AA and the Woman' by gathering current sharing from women in AA, with the suggested inclusion of stories from women in the military, single mothers, and women of diverse backgrounds." The committee requested that "a draft revised pamphlet or progress report be brought to the to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature."

Calls for stories (with an October 15, 2015 deadline) were sent to all Conference members, Intergroups and Central offices, and placed in *Box 4-5-9* and *AA Grapevine*. An aggregate total of 104 submissions were compiled and forwarded to the subcommittee on November 20, 2015.

After a careful and lengthy discussion, the subcommittee agreed to retain two stories from the existing pamphlet (stories #1 and #8); and to a top tier list of 5 new stories. The subcommittee also agreed that a final review and further discussions should continue with a goal of presenting stories proposed for inclusion in the revised pamphlet to the trustees' Literature Committee by its July 30, 2016 meeting.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Publication of new or revised conference approved literature requires the approval of the General Service Conference.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Once the Conference Committee has considered and discussed the updating of the pamphlet "AA for the Woman", several things may happen. Among them:

- The Conference Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference to proceed, or not to proceed..
- The Conference Committee might also send the topic back to the trustees' Committee on Literature for further research.
- If the Conference supports the idea, the trustees would then proceed with the development of the pamphlet requested.

Financial impact

There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the changes. Staff time and other costs associated with revising and reprinting of service materials will be built into the budget

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #D: Review progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic."

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The 2015 General Service Conference recommended that the "trustees' Literature Committee "update the pamphlet "AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic' to include a wider range of AA recovery experience from members who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and gender nonconforming, especially regarding being a newcomer and sponsorship." The committee requested that "the title of the pamphlet be revised to reflect this broader scope and that a draft revised pamphlet or progress report be brought to the to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature."

Calls for stories (with an October 15, 2015 deadline) were sent to all Conference members, Intergroups and Central offices, and placed in Box 4-5-9 and AA Grapevine.

Progress Report:

An aggregate total of 55 submissions were compiled and forwarded to the subcommittee on November 20,2015.

The subcommittee agreed that the existing pamphlet was dated and that all stories in the existing pamphlet should be replaced with new stories. The subcommittee also agreed that the narrative style should be reformatted to mirror the narrative style utilized in the other "special focus" recovery pamphlets. Specifically, the subcommittee recommends rewriting the introduction to one that would better reflect the intent and purpose of the revised pamphlet. The subcommittee also recommends correcting "what it was like" and change to "what we used to be like."

After a careful and lengthy discussion, the subcommittee agreed that further review and discussions should continue with a goal of presenting stories proposed for inclusion in the revised pamphlet to the trustees' Literature Committee by its July 30,2016 meeting.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Publication of new or revised conference approved literature requires the approval of the General Service Conference.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Once the Conference Committee has considered and discussed the updating of the pamphlet "AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic", several things may happen. Among them:

- The Conference Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference to proceed, or not to proceed.
- The Conference Committee might also send the topic back to the trustees' Committee on Literature for further research.
- If the Conference supports the idea, the trustees would then proceed with the development of the pamphlet requested.

Financial impact

There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the changes. Staff time and other costs associated with revising and reprinting of service materials will be built into the budget

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #E: Review progress report on the development of literature for A.A.s with mental health issues and those who sponsor them.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>The 2015 General Service Conference recommended that the "trustees' Literature Committee develop literature for the alcoholic with mental health issues;" requesting that a "wide range of AA recovery experience be gathered from members with mental health issues, and from those who sponsor such members" for inclusion in literature on this topic. The committee requested that "a progress report be brought to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature."</p> <p>Calls for stories (with an October 15, 2015 deadline) were sent to all Conference members, Intergroups and Central offices, and placed in <i>Box 4-5-9</i> and <i>AA Grapevine</i>.</p> <p>An aggregate total of 157 submissions were compiled and forwarded to the subcommittee on November 20, 2015.</p> <p>The subcommittee met to qualitatively focus on the stories on hand (identifying each committee member's initial "top 20" selections). The subcommittee also discussed possibilities for the narrative style and format of the pamphlet, and agreed that a "full story" narrative style would be most useful.</p> <p>After a careful and lengthy discussion, the subcommittee agreed that further review and discussions should continue in order to ascertain either the necessity for a second call for stories (specifically, sponsor submissions), and/or identify a top tier list of stories.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Publication of new pamphlets requires approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Once the Conference Committee has discussed the request to create the pamphlet, several things may happen. Among them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Conference Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference to proceed, or not to proceed..• The Conference Committee might also send the topic back to the trustees' Committee on Literature for further research.• If the Conference supports the idea, the trustees would then proceed with the development of the pamphlet requested.
Financial impact
<p>There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the process. Staff time and other costs associated with creating service materials will be built into the budget. Some outside contract professional services may be utilized in the process.</p>

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #F: Review progress report on the development of a plan for the systematic review of A.A. recovery literature.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The subcommittee on the unexpected vacancy of Regional Trustees discussed the importance of providing an affected region with coverage from a Regional Trustee as soon as possible after a vacancy occurs. Discussion on new ways to handle an unexpected vacancy resulted in 4 different options:

1. Replace the Regional Trustee for a full four-year term at the next available opportunity. In order not to disrupt the rotation, a Regional Trustee from a different region could be asked to serve a fifth year. The two regions essentially swap places in the rotation order.
2. Replace the Regional Trustee for a one- or two-year term depending on when in the four-year term the vacancy occurs. The person serving the one- or two-year term is then eligible to serve a full four-year term at the next regularly scheduled election for that region.
3. Introduce the position 'of Alternate Regional Trustee for each region. In the election normal election for a Regional Trustee, the runner-up is selected as the Alternate Regional Trustee. If the Regional Trustee is unable to serve their full term, the Alternate Regional Trustee steps in. If the person who steps in serves two years or less, then he or she is eligible to serve a full four-year term as the Regional Trustee at the next election.
4. Replace the Regional Trustee for a full four-year term at the next available opportunity. The new Regional Trustee would still serve two years on one of the corporate boards but it may not be there middle two years. Do not change the rotation for any other region. This may mean that some years we are electing three Regional Trustees and some years only one.

The subcommittee considered that the option that provides for regional coverage and the least disruption to rotation is the following modification of Option 2.

If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs prior to September 1 in the first year, then an election for a three-year term would occur at the following General Service Conference (GSC) for the affected region. If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs between September 1 in the first year and August 31 of the third year then the delegates from the affected region would be given an option to hold an election for a six-year or five-year term, or leave the position vacant, depending on when the vacancy occurs. Regardless of whether the term was for three, five or six years, the Regional Trustee would be expected to serve two-years on one of the two operating corporation boards.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

This change could involve in possible changes to the GSB By-Laws and to Trustees' Nominating Committee's Procedure No. 11 "Procedures for Electing Regional Trustee Candidates in the U.S. and Canada" that would make this change possible. Participation from the GAS Committee on Trustees and possibly the whole GSC would be needed to develop the appropriate changes in those documents.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

This could necessitate possible changes to the GSB By-Laws and to Trustees' Nominating Committee's Procedure No. 11 "Procedures for Electing Regional Trustee Candidates in the U.S. and Canada"

Financial impact

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #G: Review revised draft pamphlet "Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services."

Brief description of the concern or desired change

As a Conference Committee reviews a new, or extensively revised literature item it is general practice that drafts are reviewed by committee members only. This means that the rest of the Conference members will not be getting copies of the pamphlet in their background materials for the Conference.

The Conference Committee on Literature will be reviewing the draft pamphlet primarily to determine whether or not the item that has been presented to them meets the intended goals of the pamphlet revision.

Also, as with all Conference-approved AA literature, the Conference Committee will be looking at the pamphlet to see "that everything in such literature is in accord with AA principles. Conference-approved material always deals with the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous or with information about the AA Fellowship." (Concerns about routine grammar, punctuation, editing, etc., will be addressed by the Publishing Department.)

A full list of services provided by GSO/AAWS can be found in the background material as Item G Doc. 3..

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Revisions to pamphlets require approval of the General Service Conference.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Once the Conference Committee reviews the draft revision of the pamphlet "Inside AA: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services," several things may happen. Among them:

- The Committee might approve the pamphlet and recommend the pamphlet be approved by the Conference as a whole.
- If approved by the Conference Committee, experience suggests that copies of the pamphlet are made available to all Conference members with enough time to read it prior to voting on the item.
- The Committee might also send the pamphlet back to the trustees' Committee on Literature with any significant concerns about the proposed pamphlet.

Until a pamphlet is "Conference-approved," it is confidential and for committee eyes only. Prior to then, any number of changes might be made by the trustees' Committee on Literature or the corresponding Conference committee. This confidential process ensures that the message that reaches the AA Fellowship is a reflection of AA as a whole, an assurance made by the Conference- approval process.

Financial impact

There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the process. Staff time and other costs associated with creating service materials will be built into the budget. Some outside contract professional services may be utilized in the process.

Conference Committee on Literature Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Literature Item #H: Consider request for revision to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A."

Brief description of the concern or desired change

At their September 25, 2015 meeting, the A.A.W.S. Board considered a request from Area 27 (Louisiana) to create an *AA Guideline for Young People in AA (Y.P.A.A.)*

After full discussion of the request, the Board did not feel there was sufficient need to create a new A.A. Guideline. However, the Board felt it would be helpful to include information on young people's conferences in current A.A. literature. Accordingly, the A.A.W.S. Board agreed to forward to the trustees' Literature Committee a suggestion to review the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." and consider inclusion of information about young people's conferences.

A copy of the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." is included in the full background material.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Publication of new or revised conference approved literature requires the approval of the General Service Conference.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Once the Conference Committee has considered and discussed the updating of the pamphlet requested, several things may happen. Among them:

- The Conference Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference to proceed, or not to proceed..
- The Conference Committee might also send the topic back to the trustees' Committee on Literature for further research.
- If the Conference supports the idea, the trustees would then proceed with the development of the pamphlet requested.

Financial impact

There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the process. Staff time and other costs associated with creating service materials will be built into the budget. Some outside contract professional services may be utilized in the process.

**Conference Committee on Literature
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Literature Item #1: Consider request to update the pamphlet "Twelve Traditions Illustrated."

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>The trustees' committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature a request to update the pamphlet "Twelve Traditions Illustrated." This request comes from Area 07 CNIA. Members of a group noted that the pamphlet was written and illustrated in 1971. They produced a chart showing their views of sections that could be updated.</p> <p>A copy of the "Results of Discussion of The Twelve Traditions Illustrated from the Stockton Group" is attached as Exhibit 1. Please note the group cites items and suggested changes for discussion purposes only.</p> <p>CNIA 07 would like to make clear that we are not suggesting any specific language or approach to the revision of this pamphlet. We understand, if approved, our trustees committee on Literature would begin work and final approval of literature rests in the hands of our fellowship through the General Service Conference process.</p> <p>A 14 page printout of the "Twelve Traditions Illustrated" pamphlet is added to this Agenda Item as Exhibit 2.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>Changes to Conference approved literature require approval of the General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>Once the Conference Committee has considered and discussed the updating of the pamphlet requested, several things may happen. Among them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Conference Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference to proceed, or not to proceed..• The Conference Committee might also send the topic back to the trustees' Committee on Literature for further research.• <p>If the Conference supports the idea, the trustees would then proceed with the development of the pamphlet requested.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>There is no mention of financial impact in the background material. Generally, however, GSO's publishing department will oversee the process. Staff time and other costs</p>

associated with creating service materials will be built into the budget. Some outside contract professional services may be utilized in the process.

Results of Discussion of "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated"
Stockton Group
CNIA 007 Stockton, CA

But for a small change in the essay on Tradition Three, this pamphlet remains largely as is since 1971. It has not been given a review since.

Citation	Item	Suggested Change
Entire pamphlet		Let's have page numbers
	<p>Illustrations</p> <p>Text – there may be entirely too much text for today's reading styles.</p>	<p>Years ago, women wore dresses to meetings, and men wore ties. The pictures give a totally wrong impression of what our membership looks like today.</p> <p>The illustrations are busy and tend to be figurative. They may be difficult to understand for "literal" readers.</p> <p>The illustrations are really old-fashioned. Update.</p> <p>Can the language be simplified and made more direct?</p>
Introduction, paragraph 3	"By 1950, they had been condensed to their present form.	The long form is still present. The "widely used short form" is the condensed version.
"Still" illustration		I showed this picture to some members under 40 years of age and none of them knew what this picture was supposed to be.
Tradition 1, paragraph 3	"It's a selfish program" is treatment jargon.	Strike this sentence.
Tradition 2	<p>"Boarding the airplane" illustration.</p> <p>Guy with a pipe on a wooden folding chair</p>	<p>Update. In small airports people board this way, but the major airports – no.</p> <p>Is this guy leading the group? He looks like a therapist facilitating. Do those folding chairs still exist?</p>
Tradition 4	"Hippie illustration"	Update, please!

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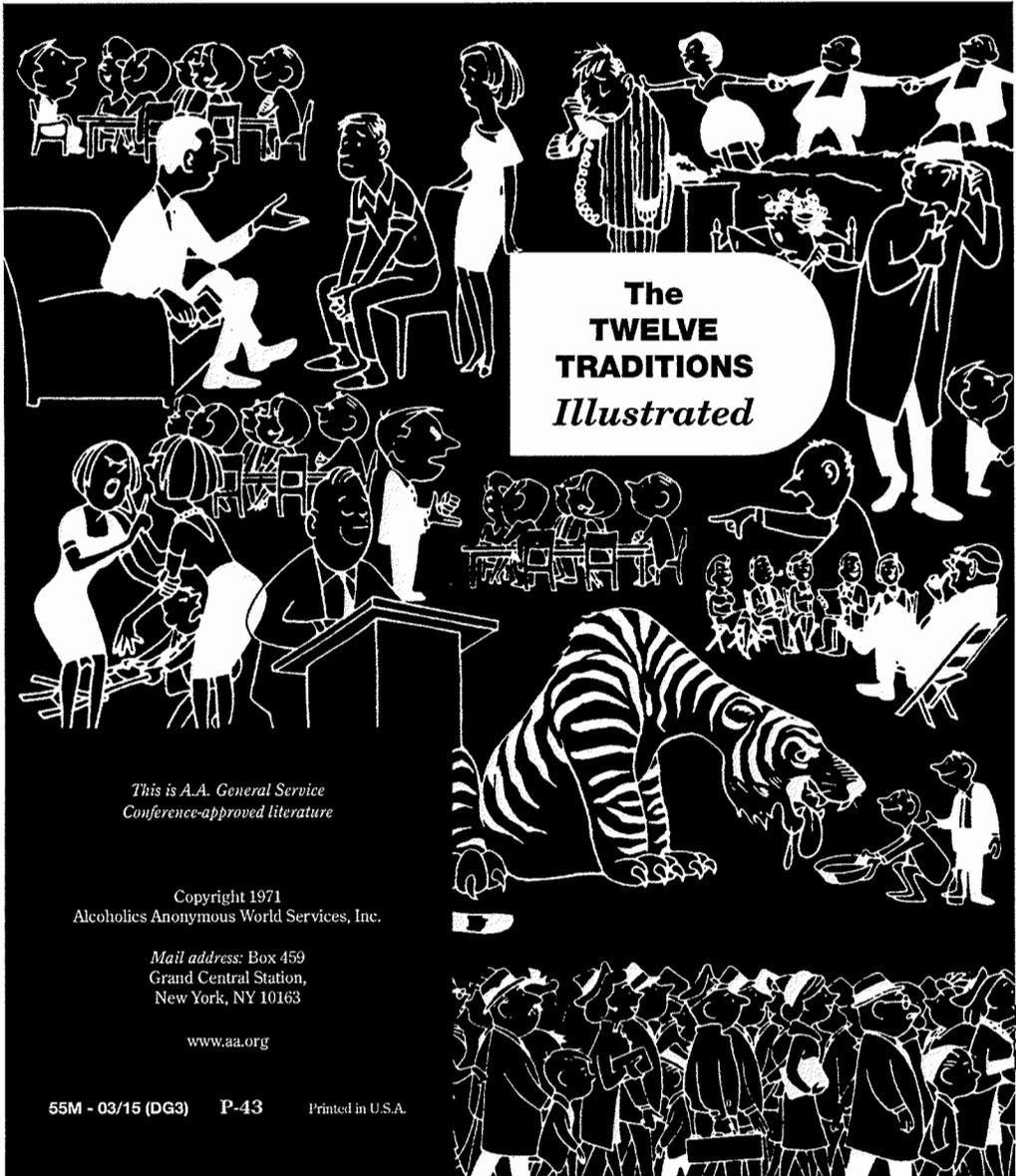
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CONFIDENTIAL: 66th General Service Conference Background

Tradition 5	Illustration 3...what's that thing to the back of the woman? Illustration 5...a handsaw? Really?	Update to computer and circular saw
	Paragraph 4	Remove the judgmental language and reiterate language from "The AA Member- Medications and Other Drugs. " The point is well-taken, but could be made simply and directly.
Tradition 7	"Pied Piper" Illustration Bequests paragraph 5 "Borderline cases"	I showed this picture around. Very few people recognized the Pied Piper. It was meaningless. Update to current These "borderline" activities have become extremely popular in certain parts of our Conference, and this whole topic is worth a good discussion.
Tradition 8	Paragraph 3, "Arranging to get a sick drunk to a hospital..." "Pay phone" and "in-box" illustrations	This may be validating a practice that exposes our Intergroups up to medical liability. Recast. Update.
Tradition 9	"Please – nobody get any ideas!" "Jungle" illustration	This entire paragraph might be rewritten, providing the example in simple, direct words. Change this to something else...it has racist overtones and we can do better.
Tradition 11	Paragraph 4 "The Tradition is talking about 'personal anonymity' remember?"	Add information on electronic media here. Mentioned 3x We may not need so much on "How to Be Anonymous on TV." Mentioned 2x Lose the condescending language. Striking "remember?" would work.

Positive comments: It's all appropriate. I'd refer it to a newcomer anytime. It was my first introduction to the study of the Traditions. I like it. Don't change anything. I've gone through this pamphlet with sponsees.

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The
TWELVE
TRADITIONS
Illustrated

*This is A.A. General Service
Conference-approved literature*

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The Twelve Traditions A Distillation of A.A. Experience



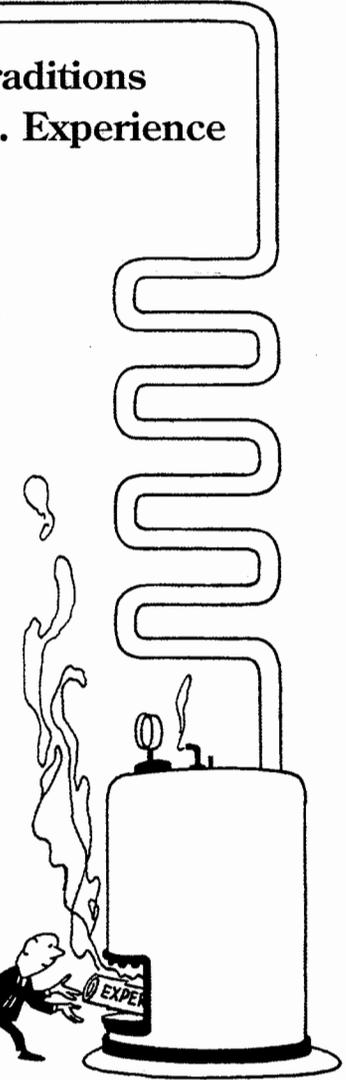
As newcomers, many of us say to ourselves, "Let the group officers worry about the Traditions. I'm just an average member. They're rules for running groups, aren't they? And everybody tells me, 'There are no rules in A.A.!' Then we look closer—and find that the Traditions are *not* rules—and they are *not* just for

officers. They have deep meaning for each one of us, as the Twelve Steps do.

Like the Steps, the Traditions were not figured out in advance, as courses of action against future problems. The action came first. Pioneer A.A. groups, with nothing to go on except the trial-and-error-and-try-again method, soon discovered: "Well, that way didn't work. But the other one did. And *this* one works even better!"

Both successes and failures were reported in letters to A.A. headquarters (eventually to become the General Service Office). In went these shared experiences of A.A.'s first ten years, and out came the Twelve Traditions. In 1946, then in the "long form," they were published in the A.A. Grapevine. By 1950, they had been condensed to their present form and were adopted by A.A.'s First International Convention.

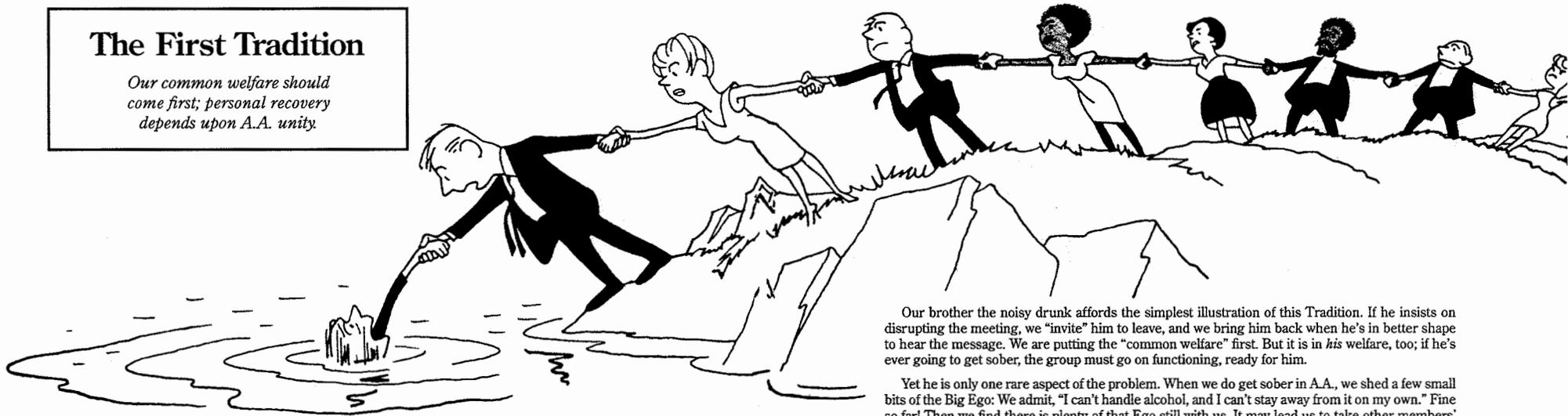
"Our Traditions are a guide to better ways of working and living," co-founder Bill W. said. "And they are to group survival what A.A.'s Twelve Steps are to each member's sobriety and peace of mind.... Most individuals cannot recover unless there is a group. The group must survive or the individual will not...."



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The First Tradition

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.



Our brother the noisy drunk affords the simplest illustration of this Tradition. If he insists on disrupting the meeting, we "invite" him to leave, and we bring him back when he's in better shape to hear the message. We are putting the "common welfare" first. But it is in *his* welfare, too; if he's ever going to get sober, the group must go on functioning, ready for him.

Yet he is only one rare aspect of the problem. When we do get sober in A.A., we shed a few small bits of the Big Ego: We admit, "I can't handle alcohol, and I can't stay away from it on my own." Fine so far! Then we find there is plenty of that Ego still with us. It may lead us to take other members' inventories and to gossip about their supposed shortcomings. It may lure us into hogging the floor at every discussion meeting.

Oh well, it's a selfish program, isn't it? After all the miseries of active alcoholism, why shouldn't we indulge ourselves a little? We all know one good reason why we shouldn't: Self-indulgence of this kind is an immediate personal danger; it threatens the individual's own sobriety. More than that, it threatens the very basis of our sobriety—the unity of the A.A. group. For a self-righteous gossip *can* damage the mutual trust that is vital to every group. And a compulsive talker *can* ruin the effectiveness of a discussion meeting—"I've stopped going to that group. Nobody but Joe can get a word in edgewise."

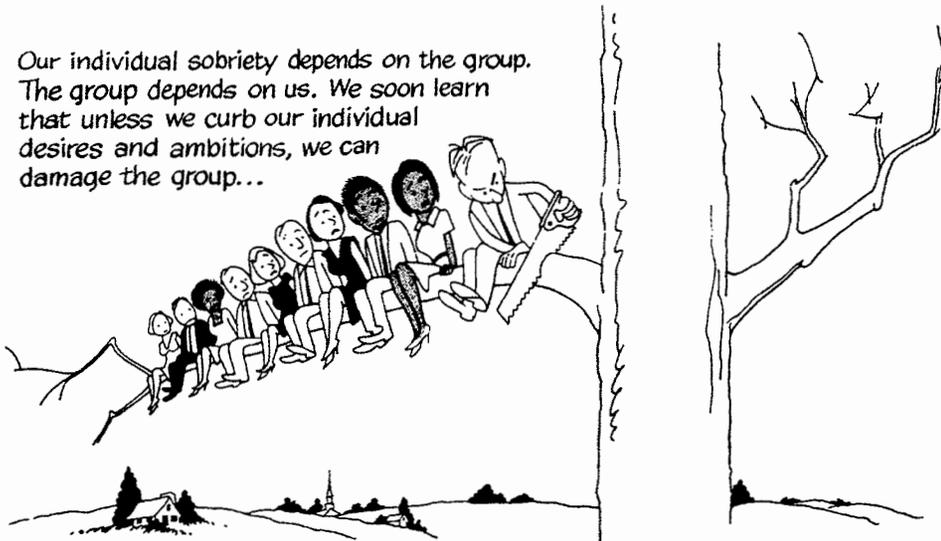
When A.A. was very young, the first members clearly saw the preservation of its unity as a life-or-death matter for themselves and for the alcoholics still unrecovered. The First Tradition states this aim, and it is the common aim of all Twelve Traditions. When A.A. reached the age of 35, the aim was restated in the theme of the 1970 International Convention:

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;
To keep our Fellowship united.
For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
And the lives of those to come.

Each of the other eleven Traditions explains one specific way to protect the unity of the Fellowship and the A.A. group. Those early members quickly recognized power-drivers as potential group-wreckers. And they're still around—the members who are always sure that they're always right—the members who are happily ready to assume all the burdens of leadership and grimly unwilling to share them, let alone give them up. But a group does need officers. How can we cope with this dilemma? Tradition Two provides the answer. ...

Our individual sobriety depends on the group. The group depends on us. We soon learn that unless we curb our individual desires and ambitions, we can damage the group...



The Second Tradition

*For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority...
a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.
Our leaders are but trusted servants... they do not govern.*

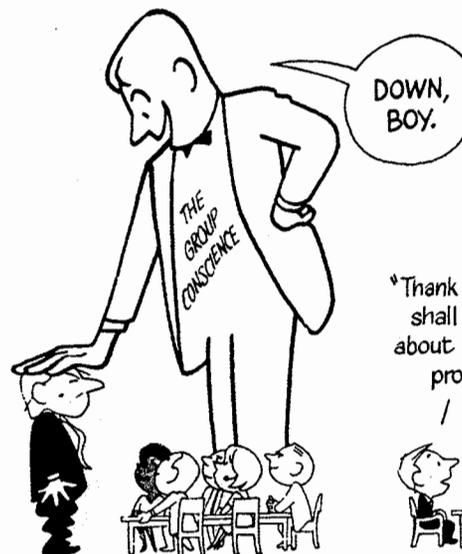
"Now that I've been elected Secretary, I'll show this group some real leadership!"



"There's only one way to do it and I'll tell you what it is..."



"...furthermore, we'll take our money and establish a fund... I'll manage it..."



"Thank you. Now shall we talk about working the program?"



Members of A.A. may be chosen to serve in many ways...



Group Secretary

Intergroup Representative



General Service Representative



Conference Delegate

But they must always remember that they serve for the good of all, without authority over any.

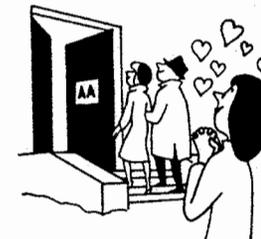


A.A. is both a democracy and, in Bill W.'s words, "a benign anarchy." A group elects its own officers—who have no power to *order* anybody to do anything. In most groups, most of the slate rotates out of office at the end of six months, and new officers are elected.

If a group wants to be a part of the whole A.A. service structure, it elects a G.S.R. (general service representative, with a two-year term). G.S.R.s elect area committee members and then join them in electing a delegate from their area to the annual General Service Conference. The Conference is about the closest approximation of a government that A.A. has; it produces opinions on important matters of policy; it approves the choice of some trustee nominees for the General Service Board and directly elects others. But nei-

ther the Conference nor the board can give orders to any group or member.

Then who's in charge around here? A.A. is a spiritual movement, and so the "ultimate authority" is the spiritual concept of the "group conscience." Its voice is heard when a well-informed group gathers to arrive at a decision. The result rests on more than arithmetic, a "yes" and "no" count. Minority ideas get thoughtful attention. What about that annoying character who's always sure she's right. If she's wrong, then she will—if she remembers the First Tradition as well as the Second—go along with the decision of the group conscience. Does this notion seem too cloudy? Let's think back to our first meetings. The presence we newcomers felt in those rooms was the same as the group conscience. And it was real—welcoming us in, setting up no barriers of rules....



The Third Tradition

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

We've thrown away all membership rules and regulations that might keep you out. We want you to have the same chance for sobriety that we have had.

"We aren't a bit afraid you'll harm us, never mind how twisted or violent you may be."

from *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*



Isn't every organization entitled to have rules for membership? Why did A.A. decide to forgo this privilege, to be "inclusive...never exclusive"? That's easy. Early members tried it the other way, and it just didn't work. As the Fellowship was nearing its ten-year mark, the office that served as headquarters "asked the groups to list their membership rules and send them in," Bill W. recalled. "If all of these edicts had been in force everywhere at once, it would have been practically impossible for any alcoholic to have ever joined A.A. About nine-tenths of our oldest and best members could never have got by!" So the rule books went out the window and were replaced by one uncomplicated sentence: Tradition Three.

But, somebody may ask, isn't this Tradition itself a rule? It does state *one* requirement for membership. Let's read it again, and ask another question: *Who* determines whether or not newcomers qualify, whether they do want to stop drinking? Obviously, nobody except the newcomers themselves; everybody else simply has to take their word for it. In fact, they don't even have to say it aloud. And that's fortunate for many of us who arrived at A.A. with only a half-hearted desire to stay sober. We are alive because the A.A. road stayed open to us.

The problem faced by this Tradition isn't just past A.A. history. It keeps coming up—for instance, when a group debates whether to exclude alcoholics who have problems other than alcohol or have differing lifestyles. The Tradition mentions no such additional requirements, no demand that prospective members must *not* have a history of drug abuse, a certain lifestyle, or an institutional background. All alcoholics are welcome.

What about the group that seems to impose extra requirements, beyond "a desire to stop drinking"? This might be a "special interest" group or collection of groups in which, for example, each member must be a physician—or a young person, a man, a woman, a priest, or a law-enforcement officer. By their own account, those attending special interest groups consider themselves A.A. members *first*. They attend general-membership meetings as well as those that fill their other individual needs, and they remain devoted to A.A.'s primary purpose.

These "special interest" groups offer only one instance of the diverse and inclusive membership within our Fellowship. Our Traditions allow unparalleled freedom, not only to every A.A. member, but to every A.A. group.



The Fourth Tradition

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

There are all kinds of groups...

Little groups...



and big groups...



and off-beat groups...



But wherever two or more alcoholics are gathered together to practice A.A. principles, it is an A.A. group if they say it is.



And you are a member if you say you are!



A member who does any amount of traveling finds the A.A. spirit much the same everywhere. But apart from this inward kinship, there are vast differences among groups. Here, the traveler finds three members discussing the Steps in somebody's living room; there, 300 listening to speakers in a church auditorium. In one part of the U.S., respectful silence greets the speaker who begins, "My name is Ann, and I am an alcoholic." In another, everybody happily shouts, "Hi, Ann!" And in many other places, she may introduce herself with her full name—at a one-hour meeting or a 90-minute meeting. In each neighborhood in every part of the world reached by A.A., the local group is free to work out its own customs.

As always, freedom brings responsibility. Because each group is autonomous, it's up to each group to avoid any action that might harm A.A. And there *have* been such actions—or this Tradition would be unnecessary. "Implicit throughout A.A.'s Traditions," Bill W. wrote, "is the confession that our Fellowship has its sins. We admit that we have character defects as a society and these defects threatens us continually."

Blown up to multiple size, the Big Ego may inspire one group to take over all the public information work for its area, without consulting any of the other local groups. Once the group has decided, "We have all the answers," the lid's off. The group may then decide that, let's say, the Eleventh Tradition is an outdated technicality: "This is a competitive age! We're going to come right out and give A.A. some good, vigorous promoting!" To the general public, this one conspicuous group is A.A. Its antics reflect, not only on the ignored neighboring groups, but on the entire Fellowship.

In a way, the Fourth Tradition is like the Fourth Step: It suggests that the A.A. group should take honest inventory of itself, asking about each of its independently planned actions, "Would this break any Tradition?" Like the individual member who chooses to make the Steps his or her guide toward happy sobriety, the wise group recognizes that the Traditions are not hindering technicalities—they are proved guides toward the chief objective of all A.A. groups....



The Fifth Tradition

Each group has but one primary purpose
...to carry its message to the alcoholic
who still suffers.

No matter how different our own personal concerns, we are all bound together by one common **RESPONSIBILITY**...
to carry the message
to the suffering alcoholic.



Every newcomer learns (some of us the hard way) that the business of staying sober must have top priority. If we fail at that, we can't succeed at anything else. The Fifth Tradition tells us that groups should remember *their* "one primary purpose."

Often, unthinking enthusiasm puts a group off the main track. One, for instance, offered an "expanded A.A. program" that included helping newcomers to find jobs. Tradition Five doesn't frown on the individual A.A. who tells another about a good opening. But when the group turns itself into an employment agency, newcomers may get confused about *their* primary purpose. A.A.'s function is to help them get sober—then they can find work for themselves.

Using discretion, a member may lend a few dollars needed for a meal or a hotel room, or may even invite a broke alcoholic to be a temporary houseguest. But the A.A. group as a whole is not a friendly finance company, nor a welfare department, nor a housing bureau.

Even when acting on their own, as individual members, A.A. lay people certainly shouldn't award themselves honorary medical degrees and hand out diagnoses and prescriptions and amateur analysis of other people's neuroses. Exactly because this personal failing is so common, the A.A. group in all its dealings should be extra careful to emphasize that it is not invading the medical field. Through the personal experiences of its members, it is qualified to carry only one message: how an alcoholic can recover in A.A. That's all.

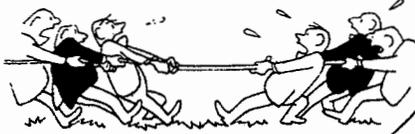
Yet one group recently felt itself equipped to set up an "alcoholism information center." The temptation is understandable; it was even stronger at the time this Tradition was written, because public ignorance about alcoholism as an illness was more widespread than it is now. Since then, other agencies have sprung up to assume the task of educating the general public on alcoholism. That is not A.A.'s purpose, but these agencies also are trying to help the active alcoholic. They are our friends—and Tradition Six marks the boundaries of the relationship...



I am responsible.
When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want
the hand of AA always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.

The Sixth Tradition

An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.



We found that there are all kinds of goals, motives and ambitions...

...and the good name of A.A. could be smeared!



The "related facility" may be an outside group combating alcoholism—or an enterprise that A.A.'s want to start. It was the latter that most often confronted the young Fellowship. Outside agencies were pretty scarce in those days, and some members thought A.A. should cover the whole alcoholism field. Led by a "super-promoter" (as the "Twelve and Twelve" describes him), one group built an all-purpose center, including a section for drying-out treatment. Picture any group tackling such a project! Arguments over cost, architecture, staff, fees, medication, and rules might even make the local paper. (And pity the poor newcomer straying into the group—"We'll get around to you in a minute.")

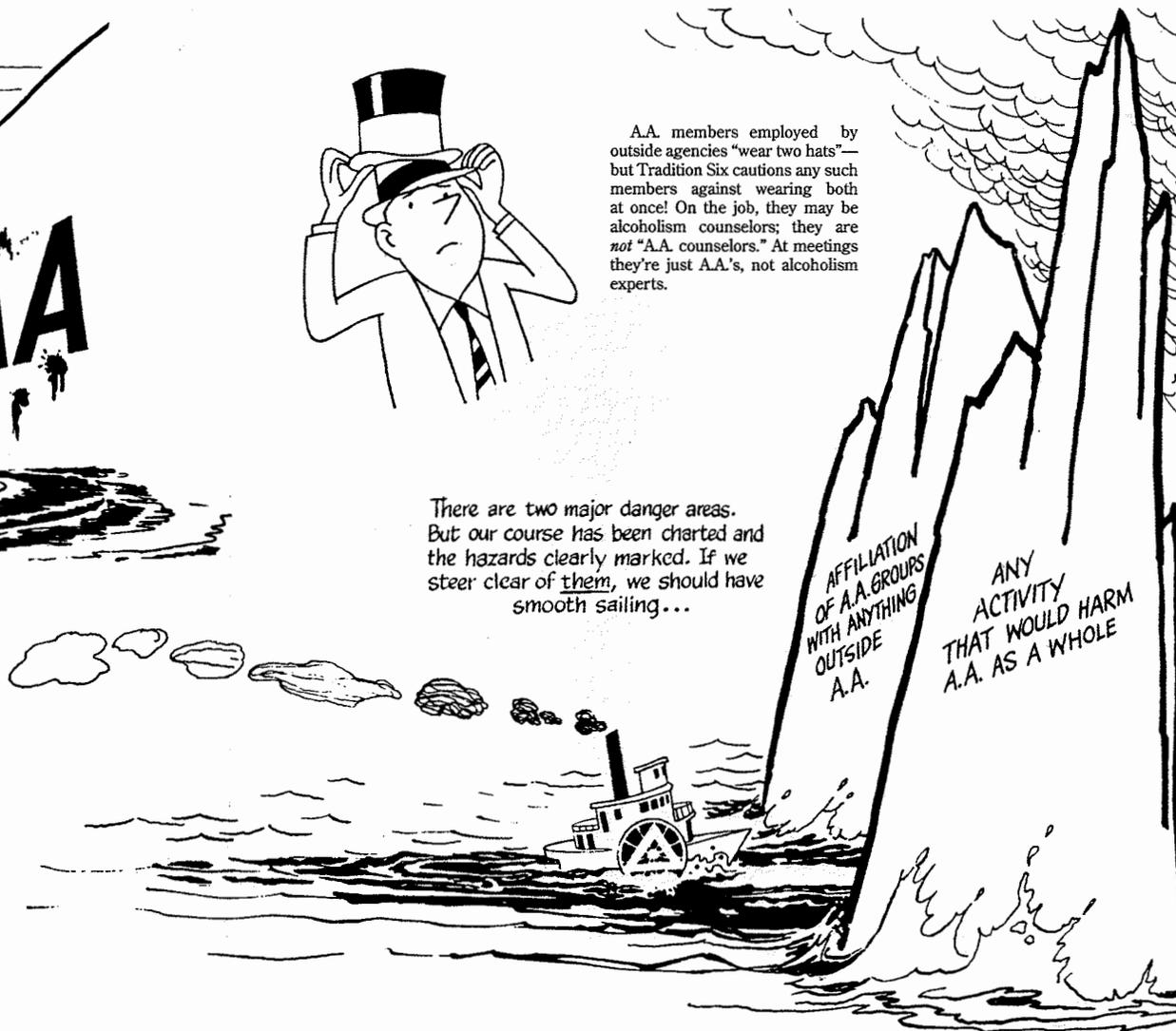
Though that ambitious center failed, some individual members have since founded successful clubhouses, rest farms, halfway houses, etc. The enterprises are run by these A.A.'s and patronized by other members or prospective members. But money and property *are* involved. Therefore, it has proved wise to keep the operation of the facility completely separate from that of any A.A. group, and to keep "A.A." or terms like "Twelfth Step" out of the name.

Toward outside agencies dealing with alcoholism, the A.A. policy is "cooperation but not affiliation." A group cooperates, for example, by welcoming referrals from clinics or by sponsoring A.A. groups in institutions. But in one area, money for a rehab was solicited *at an A.A. meeting*—implying affiliation. In another, A.A. was listed among beneficiaries of a United Fund drive....



A.A. members employed by outside agencies "wear two hats"—but Tradition Six cautions any such members against wearing both at once! On the job, they may be alcoholism counselors; they are *not* "A.A. counselors." At meetings they're just A.A.'s, not alcoholism experts.

There are two major danger areas. But our course has been charted and the hazards clearly marked. If we steer clear of them, we should have smooth sailing...



The Seventh Tradition

Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

"Passing the basket" at meetings is our way of meeting our responsibility for the work of A.A. Our own contributions support the group, the General Service Office, and all A.A. activities



The lure of money has led many astray. It could happen to us.



As active alcoholics we were always looking for a handout—in one way or another...



Part of our personal recovery came in making ourselves into responsible human beings



We do have to be practical. A group can hardly hold its regular meetings on a street corner, and an empty basket won't fill a coffee urn. As soon as we become active in a group, we learn how many expenses are involved in making its meetings effective. Then our horizons broaden. What about that intergroup or central office so many of us called to ask for help? Phone companies don't give free service. Beyond our own locality, we learn about the A.A. General Service Office and the work it does for groups everywhere. A.A. activity is self-supporting at all levels, and in every case the responsibility comes right back to us, the individual members, for we are A.A.

Perhaps, especially when we are very new, our contributions clink, rather than rustle. The first members were in the same fix, and it seemed to them that A.A. would need more outside help than the modest gifts then coming in.

Their plans required grand-scale philanthropy. (Tradition Six hadn't evolved yet; Bill W. recalled a scheme for "a chain of hospitals.") But John D. Rockefeller Jr., an early friend said, "I am afraid that money will spoil this thing." A few A.A.'s had already reached the same conclusion; gradually, this minority became a majority as experience showed that members themselves *could* provide enough to finance A.A.'s proper aim.

In its simplest application, Tradition Seven is easily understood; when we hear about a new A.A. group being started with funds from a Federal antipoverty program, our quick reaction is "Somebody goofed!" But then we come to "borderline" cases: Groups put on a raffle for the benefit of their central office and invite the public to buy tickets; a hometown paper runs an ad for an A.A. dance and show. Both projects would be routine

for any other society. For us, both mean that we've got the hand out again, asking nonmembers for money.

Often, of course, we don't have to ask. A.A. is now high on the worthy-cause list; G.S.O. and groups politely turn down many unsolicited gifts and bequests. In Tradition Seven, there's a note of realism: Handsome gifts may have strings attached. We even put a limit of \$5,000 on the amount *members* may leave to A.A. in their wills or contribute annually while living, so that none of us can buy influence in A.A., no matter how rich we are.

Money may pose a different problem if a group treasury grows too fat, beyond a prudent reserve. Squabbling over uses for the spare cash, groups have lost their unity and strayed from their purpose. But there's one simple solution that strengthens our unity and advances our purpose: Give the excess to A.A. activities and services....



Experience has shown us, also, that A.A. as a whole needs to be self-supporting and independent

The Eighth Tradition

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.



Spiritual as it is, A.A. remains very much of this world. The Eighth Tradition, like the Seventh, focuses on a vulgar five-letter word that isn't actually mentioned in either: money. Many of us have had to explain to some cynical prospect, "No, I'm not a social worker. I don't get paid for talking with you. I'm doing it because it's the best way to stay sober myself."

This does not mean, of course, that the idea of turning professional has never entered any A.A.'s mind. In the lean years, Bill W. did think of becoming a lay therapist to earn money through his experience in helping alcoholics. But, with a strong nudge from the group conscience, he soon realized that he could never hang out a shingle reading "Bill W., A.A. Therapist, \$10 an Hour"! It became clear to the early members that no A.A. should ever ask or accept payment for "carrying this message to somebody else, person to person and face to face."



But new questions arose as membership grew and the word of hope spread, sending thousands of alcoholics in search of A.A. The first intergroups or central offices were usually manned by A.A. volunteers; now, most such offices are so busy that full-time employees are needed as well. Naturally, A.A.'s are better suited to such jobs than are nonmembers—but these A.A.'s then being paid for doing Twelfth Step work? No. In the office, they are just paving the way for this work. Arranging to get a sick drunk into a hospital, telling a shaky newcomer where the nearest meeting is tonight, they are helping to make it possible for that alcoholic to hear the message "person to person and face to face."

A similar development has taken place at the Fellowship's "headquarters." Once a tiny office for one co-founder (Bill) and one secretary, it has grown into the present General Service Office, fully staffed, with a big mailroom keeping the lines of communication open throughout A.A. worldwide. The employees, both A.A. and

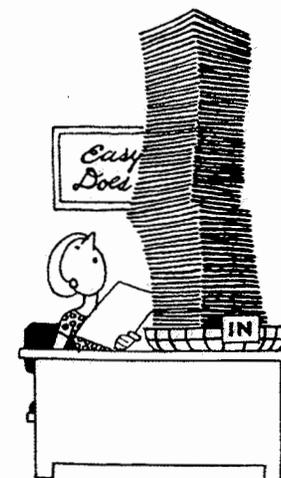
nonalcoholic, are paid on a scale comparable to that in profit-making enterprises, so that the office force can function dependably. And the A.A. staff members are in exactly the same position as the A.A. intergroup employees. Suppose you drop in at G.S.O. one day when you're in New York. Staff members who pause to chat with you may have been working on next year's Conference or corresponding with a group in your home area, helping it to carry the message more effectively. For that, they are paid biweekly checks. But you may also hear them mention to other staff members plans for taking a newcomer to a meeting in the evening or for giving an A.A. talk to a neighborhood group the next week. For that, they are paid only with their own continuing sobriety.

In these office jobs and in other assignments, members are actually paid for their business and professional skills. Working at a G.S.O. desk, on Conference-approved books and pamphlets, or on the Grapevine, these A.A.'s use their abilities as correspondents, managers, writers, editors, artists, proofreaders—as well as their understanding of A.A. from the inside. On occasion, volunteers have given their time and talent to all these services, and their contributions are deeply appreciated. But what if the Fellowship decided that all such assignments should be handled *only* by unpaid volunteers? In present-day A.A., there's too great a volume of work to be done in spare hours here and there, and only the rich or the retired could afford to work full-time. If we tried to find in this limited group people qualified for particular tasks, obviously the field would be narrowed down—too often, down to nobody at all.



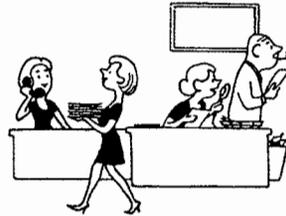
There would be another problem in using volunteers alone: It seems ungrateful—or, at least, it's socially awkward—to criticize or reject a job done for free. But paid jobs for A.A. get quite a going-over! Take our literature, for instance (like this pamphlet). Whatever the subject, we want to be sure that each piece expresses as clearly as possible the view of the group conscience of A.A. as a whole. So any new project must first be approved by the Conference. Once it is in process, the Literature Committee of the General Service Board keeps a careful eye on it at every stage. Frequently, drastic changes are required. The "finished" product then must be okayed both by that committee and by the Conference Literature Committee, and further revisions are often—

"Now wait a minute!" some old-timer may interrupt. "What's going on here? Didn't Dr. Bob say, 'Let's keep it simple?'..."



The Ninth Tradition

A.A., as such, ought never be organized but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.



The words "Let's keep it simple" were the last Bill W. heard from his fellow founder of A.A., shortly before Dr. Bob's death in 1950. Aware that "it" mean our *recovery* program, Bill later wrote, "We need to distinguish sharply between spiritual simplicity and functional simplicity. ...When we get into questions of action by groups, by areas, and by A.A. as a whole, we find that we must to some extent *organize* to carry the message—or else face chaos. And chaos is not simplicity."

When Tradition Nine speaks of "A.A. as such," it goes to the heart of the A.A. experience, to the "spiritual simplicity" of one alcoholic's saying, silently perhaps, "Help!" and another alcoholic's answering, "I know how you feel. We're here to help you." Such a relationship couldn't be organized. Or could it?

A nonmember familiar with modern business procedures might examine the A.A. practice of sponsorship and see it as a haphazard operation. How about computerizing it? Then an A.A. behind an intergroup desk might say, "So you want help? First, you need the right sponsor. We have personality profiles of all our sponsors fed into our computer. We'll match you up to the best one for you if you'll just fill out this questionnaire. ...Where are you going? Come back!" *That* would be an attempt to organize "A.A. as such." (Please—nobody get any ideas!)

But in "action by groups," we find that we do need some degree of organization. If everybody thinks somebody else is going to make the coffee, what's the result? No coffee! To avoid such a disaster, one or more members agree

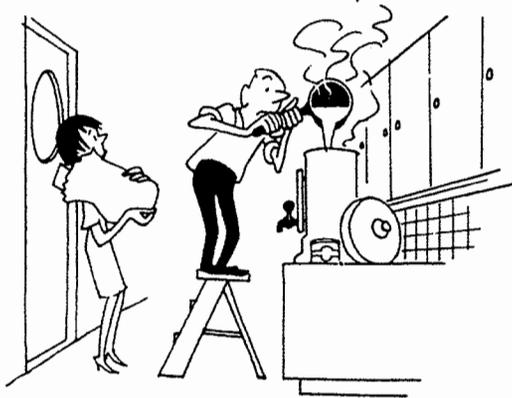
to be responsible for preparing meeting refreshments. All the way from coffee-brewers to trustees on the General Service Board, those who take part in A.A. service work are assuming responsibility—not taking on authority. (Here, Traditions Two and Nine interlock.) Group officers are responsible to the members of the group; intergroup committees, to the groups in one locality; institutions committees, to A.A. groups in treatment facilities and correctional facilities; area committees, to all groups in their areas; Conference delegates and committees, to all groups in the U.S. and Canada; the General Service Office and Board and the board's committees, to all groups and members everywhere.

In an average business corporation, the board has final power to determine company plans and policy. Our board of trustees serves in a custodial capacity; trustees vote at the Conference—but as individuals, with one vote apiece. In industry, branch offices jump when the home office speaks. Our G.S.O. is just a clearinghouse of A.A. information, offering *suggestions* based on experiences reported to it by groups.

And yet, with so small a degree of organization, A.A. miraculously does work! One reason may be that Tradition Five applies to each A.A. committee and board as directly as it does to each A.A. group. By cleaving to this "one primary purpose" in all its activities, the Fellowship retains "spiritual simplicity." To diffuse that purpose, to embroil A.A. in issues apart from its true concern, would create dangerous complications....

WE DO SET UP COMMITTEES AND BOARDS . . .

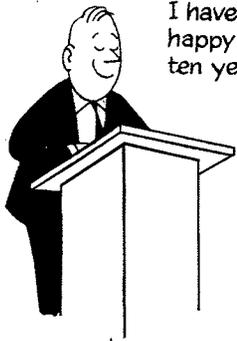
But whether they make coffee... or help organize groups in deepest Africa... **THEY ONLY SERVE**



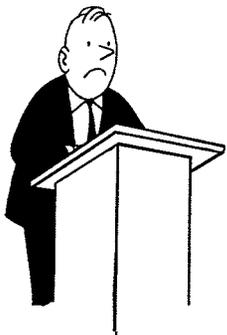
The Tenth Tradition

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

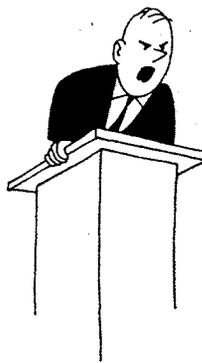
And so, thanks to A.A.,
I have maintained a
happy sobriety for
ten years. I thank you.



But before I leave...



...I know I
speak for all of A.A.
when I protest the current
legislation before the
Congress! I refer to
that infamous piece
of rubbish known
as House Bill
No. x7-11-12!



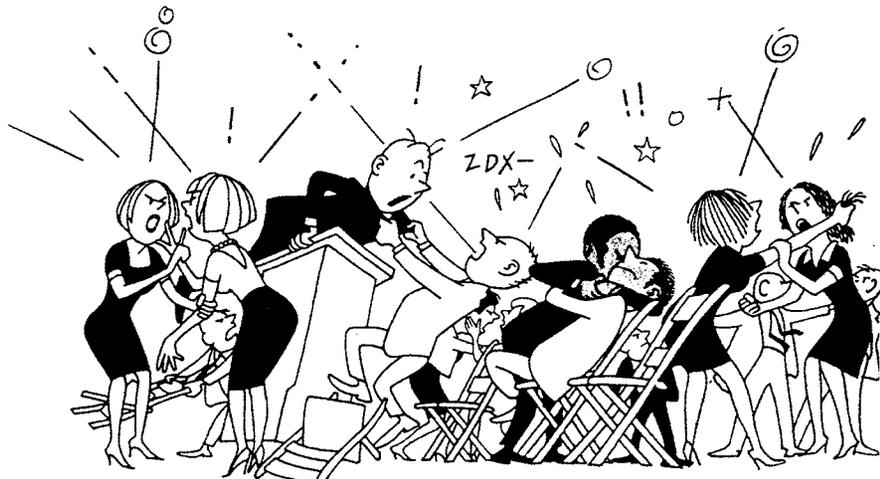
OH
YEAH?

SEZ
WHO?

...It must not pass!
And to that end I am
sending a telegram
in the name of A.A.
and our group...



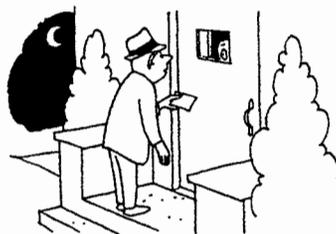
How
could anyone
get sober or
stay sober in an
outfit like
that?



The Eleventh Tradition

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

Ours is not a secret society...
we carry the message
anywhere we can—



Alcoholics who have recovered through our program are themselves the strongest attraction that A.A. has. When people are asked what led them to seek A.A. help, the answer given most often is: "An A.A. member." Their chances would have been slim if all of us had remained completely in hiding. But many of us have chosen to tell our friends, neighbors, employers, co-workers, doctors, or spiritual advisers that we are in A.A.—and when we do so, we are *not* breaking our anonymity in the meaning of this Tradition.

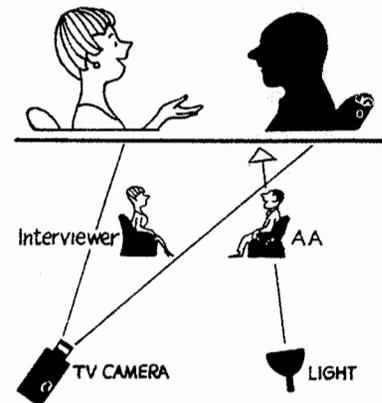
Suppose a sick alcoholic never has the good fortune to meet an A.A. How is such a person going to find us? The search will be difficult if the local group thinks *it* should be anonymous, too. The Tradition is talking about "personal anonymity," remember? Alcoholics will not be attracted to A.A. if they don't know that it exists or if they have distorted, unfavorable impressions of its members or its program.

Giving the general public an accurate picture of A.A. is the chief job of our public information committees. In addition, they often carry the message to certain groups—from police officers to personnel directors—whose work includes contact with active alcoholics.

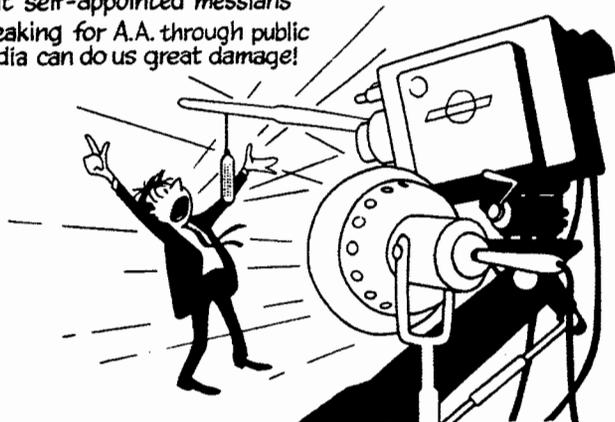
How to Be Anonymous on Television

Information about A.A. is being offered to the public through all the communications media, in print and over the air. On radio, it's easy to guard members' anonymity, of course. But TV (not in wide use when the Traditions were written) is another matter. According to a Conference opinion, members are breaking their anonymity when they are identified on TV as A.A.'s and their faces are shown—whether or not their names are given. And yet this medium, with its vast audiences, cannot be ignored.

Different techniques have been employed to preserve anonymity on TV: masks; screens; back-lighting that shows A.A.'s only as silhouettes; camera angles showing them only from the back. The "shadow" method diagrammed here is simple, relaxed—and appropriate. For we are not selling personalities—we are explaining A.A. Personal anonymity breaks in the public media not only may discourage timid prospects; they may threaten the anonymity-breaker's own sobriety, by violating the spirit of the A.A. program and Traditions....



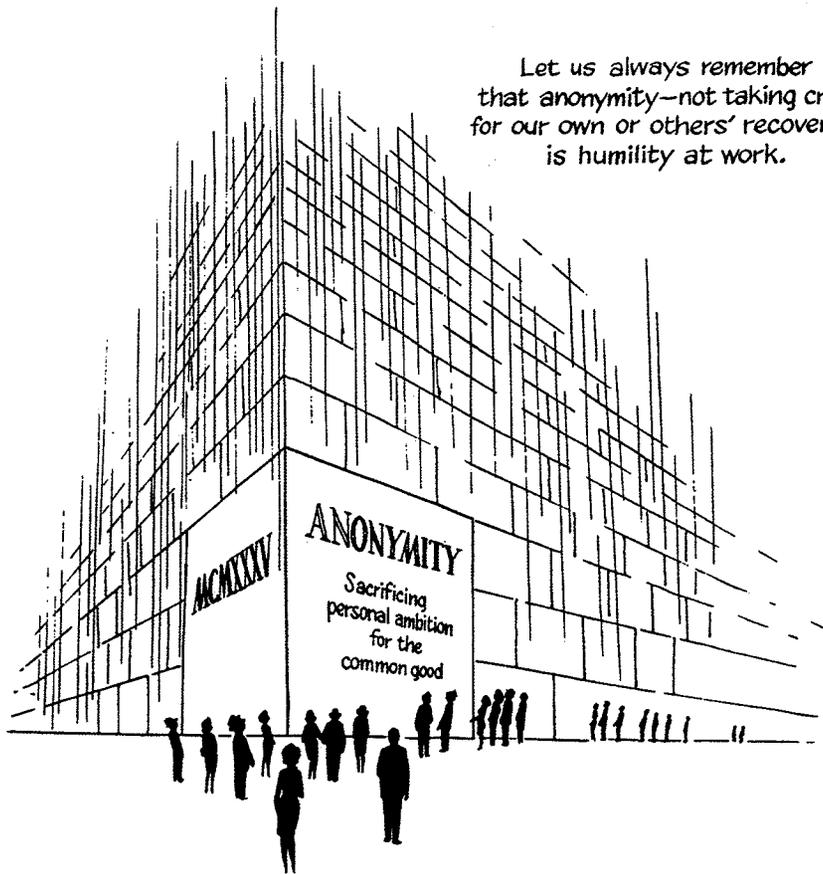
But we must ever be aware
that self-appointed messiahs
speaking for A.A. through public
media can do us great damage!



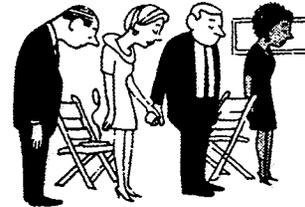
The Twelfth Tradition

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Let us always remember
that anonymity—not taking credit
for our own or others' recovery—
is humility at work.



Anonymity, as we observe it in A.A., is at root a simple expression of humility. When we use the Twelve Steps to recover from alcoholism, we are *each* trying to achieve real humility, to put our self-respect on a solid base of truth, rather than on fantasies about ourselves. When we use the Twelve Traditions to work together in A.A., we are *all* trying to achieve humility; as individual members, by recognizing our true place in A.A.; as a fellowship, by recognizing A.A.'s true place in the world.



Tradition One reminds each of us that we are not recovering on our own, that we should control our personal desires and ambitions in order to guard the unity of our group and our Fellowship. We ought not (Tradition Two) fancy ourselves as big shots in A.A., no matter what office we hold.

All of us are just alcoholics together, and in our groups we are not entitled (Tradition Three) to rule on the qualifications of other alcoholics seeking the same help that we've had. Yes, a group needs humility too. It may make its name public, but in the *spirit* of anonymity it should see the Whatever Group as merely part of a bigger whole (Tradition Four), careful in every enterprise to consider the welfare of all the other groups that make up A.A. In both group and individual activities, we should remember what the full name of our

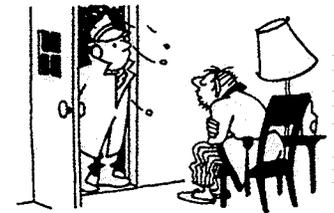
Fellowship is. It does not represent any established religion, nor is it a new religion. We are not evangelists or gurus out to save humanity; we are anonymous alcoholics trying to help other alcoholics (Tradition Five).

In the rising battle against alcoholism, we ought not let our pride in A.A. mislead us into linking our Fellowship with other agencies, in order to bid for a share in their power, prestige, and funds. If we keep Traditions Six and Seven in mind, we will instead direct all our efforts toward A.A.'s own unique purpose.

When we go on Twelfth Step calls, we should not tell ourselves how noble we are for doing such valuable work without pay. The meaning of Twelfth Step work cannot be measured in money (Tradition Eight), and we *have* received advance pay for it, in coin of far greater worth—our very lives. In the same Tradition, it's suggested that a service center maintains A.A. humility by paying its employees decent wages—rather than considering A.A. so virtuous an outfit that employment there is a favor.

When we are given special responsibilities within A.A., Tradition Nine defines these as opportunities to *serve*, not titles to flaunt. The humility of the Fellowship itself is safeguarded by Tradition Ten, with the refusal to set ourselves up as general authorities, swinging our collective weight around in the public arena.

We do not want to sell our program as a "surefire remedy" in the extravagant terms of a promotional campaign (Tradition Eleven), or dramatize it by identifying noted people in A.A., thereby implying that recovery has been for each of us an individual accomplishment. As Tradition Twelve reminds us, we have something stronger than our human personalities to rely on. Our principles come first—and they are not our own invention. They reflect eternal spiritual values. With this Tradition, both as individuals and as a fellowship, we humbly acknowledge our dependence on a power higher than ourselves.



This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;

To keep our Fellowship united.

For on A.A. Unity depend our lives,

And the lives of those to come.

Comisión de la Conferencia de AA Política / Admisiones
Área de Oregon Resumen

2016 Política de GSC #A artículo: Aprobar la solicitud de dos observadores de A.A. en Ucrania para asistir a la Conferencia de Servicios Generales de 2016.

Breve descripción de la empresa o el cambio deseado

La Junta de Servicios Generales de Alcohólicos Anónimos en Ucrania escribió para solicitar que dos miembros les permitirá asistir a la 66ª Conferencia de Servicios Generales, 17 de Abril - 23,2016 en Nueva York, en calidad de observadores.

Que el Comité en el comité de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales quería que la Comisión de la Conferencia sobre Política y Admisiones que ser consciente de la fuerte experiencia de servicio tanto de las personas que solicitan para asistir a la Conferencia y del hecho de que Ucrania ha estado trabajando diligentemente para aprender de todos la experiencia de AA se puede obtener, y nos han recibido dos veces en los últimos cinco años.

El papel histórico del Comité de Política / Admisiones en este procedimiento data desde 1956 y es muy importante. Que el Comité de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales considera que la papel de la política / admisiones en este proceso como uno de formalidad y hecho simplemente para cumplir con la convención. El Comité reconoce que, si bien esta práctica puede ser visto por algunos como "redundante" o un "sello de goma", las actas de la Conferencia y lo formal la aprobación de los asistentes durante sus deliberaciones se maneja adecuadamente con el procedimiento actual y es una cuestión de rutina.

¿Por qué esta necesidad, la discusión completa de compañerismo y / o acción de la Conferencia

De acuerdo con su ámbito de aplicación, el Comité de Admisión / Política Conferencia es responsable de revisar todas las solicitudes de admisión en la Reunión Anual de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales. Estas solicitudes se presentan habitualmente a la Conferencia para su aprobación inmediatamente después de la apertura de la Conferencia.

Impacto de hacer el cambio deseado (si lo hay)

El tema de cada Conferencia de Servicios Generales gira generalmente alrededor básica principios de A.A. y puede provocar discusiones que hacen reflexionar. Regiones, áreas, Distritos y grupos en los hogares pueden incorporar la discusión del tema en locales talleres, reuniones, asambleas pre-conferencia, etc. Esto le da a los observadores la oportunidad de estar más informados acerca de AA y aprovechar esta información de vuelta al SGC de su país.

Impacto financiero

Tanto los observadores son bilingües y serán responsables de sus gastos de viaje. G.S.O. proporciona de hotel alojamiento y comidas, similar a los observadores de los huéspedes anteriores.

Comisión de la Conferencia de AA Política / Admisiones

Área de Oregon Resumen

2016 Política de GSC #B artículo: Revisar informe de situación sobre los planes para la traducción francesa y española de todos los antecedentes Conferencia.

Breve descripción de la empresa o el cambio deseado

Que el Comité de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales ha pedido crear un plan para traducir todos los materiales de la conferencia, un informe de situación que debe darse a la Comisión de la Conferencia 2016 sobre la política de admisión y que describe el proceso y los costes, incluyendo las opciones utilizando tercera traductores del partido y una propuesta para cambiar los plazos de presentación del programa.

Cuatro planes están siendo sometidos a revisión. Tres cuentan con un plazo de septiembre para la presentación de propuestas de nuevos elementos del programa. Dos convocatoria para la traducción de fondo utilizando los recursos profesionales y fiscales que no tenemos y no es probable que veamos en el próximo año o dos. La tercera y cuarta planes son más modestos y que se podría hacer antes, pero requieren que AA abrazar un estilo más de proponer nuevos temas del programa "vamos a llegar al punto / que sea sencillo". En todos los planes, todo el mundo recibe el mismo fondo, ya sea en Inglés, español o francés.

Plan de A- Este plan toma el proceso de la Conferencia y el fondo integral tal como la conocemos hoy en día y superpone el requisito de que todos los antecedentes será traducido al francés y español. En el Plan A, todos los nuevos temas del programa de conferencias propuestas se reciben hasta el 15 de septiembre para permitir los temas del programa debe ser aprobado por la conclusión de la reunión de la Junta de Servicios Generales oct nov.

Plan de B- Este plan trae un poco de simplicidad y uniformidad a la forma en que se presentaron las propuestas de nuevos temas del programa y aporta un enfoque más restringido a la reunión de fondo. Propuestas de temas del programa nueva conferencia se deben, en el final de septiembre, teniendo en cuenta los temas del programa debe ser aprobado por la conclusión de la Oct.Nov. reunión de la Junta de Servicios Generales. Una de dos páginas Conferencia de Nueva Agenda formato de propuesta El artículo será utilizada para enviar en cada nueva propuesta tema del programa. Ninguna otra página acompañarán el Formato de Propuesta Conferencia Tema Nuevo Programa recibida por G.S.O. Las obras en progreso se reenvían a la Conferencia por un comité de administradores, etc. nominaciones no necesite disponer de forma. El personal compilará hasta 6 páginas de antecedentes esenciales, lo que se considera necesaria para la formulación de una conciencia de grupo informada. Siempre que sea posible, las referencias y la documentación no serán más de 10 años de edad. Algunas acciones, como la correspondencia transmisión de un tema propuesto por el comité de custodios o uno de los directorios de las empresas, ya no tiene que ser documentados, a menos que una condición o estado particular, acompañadas de la recomendación.

Plan de C- En el Plan C, la fecha de inicio cuando la Conferencia de dos páginas para el Nuevo Programa formato de propuesta de artículo se debe es a finales de septiembre, teniendo en cuenta los temas del programa debe ser aprobado por la conclusión de la reunión Oct.Nov GSB. referencia de la conferencia, se publicarán a finales de noviembre. Esta opción da la beca de la cantidad máxima de tiempo, casi cinco meses, para revisar los artículos y ayudar a su delegado para preparar la Conferencia. Ninguna otra página acompañarán el Formato de Propuesta

Conferencia Tema Nuevo Programa. En el formulario, Personal hará referencia a la información sobre los tiempos anteriores el tema de la propuesta fue considerada por la Conferencia de Servicios Generales o por los administradores o por un consejo de administración. El texto real de acciones de asesoramiento o recomendaciones se observará por Equipo en una sección del Formato de Propuesta Conferencia Tema Nuevo Programa.

Plan de D- En el Plan D, la fecha de inicio cuando la Conferencia de dos páginas para el Nuevo Programa formato de propuesta de artículo se debe es el 15 de diciembre, y los temas propuestos sería aprobado por la conclusión de la reunión de enero / febrero de GSB. referencia de la conferencia, se publicarán a finales del mes de febrero, sólo alrededor de una semana después de lo que se hace ahora. Ninguna otra página acompañarán el Formato de Propuesta Conferencia Tema Nuevo Programa. En el formulario, Personal wlll información de referencia sobre los tiempos anteriores el tema de la propuesta fue considerada por la Conferencia de Servicios Generales o por los administradores o por un consejo de administración. El texto real de acciones de asesoramiento o recomendaciones se observará por Equipo en una sección del Formato de Propuesta Conferencia Tema Nuevo Programa.

¿Por qué esta necesidad, la discusión completa de compañerismo y / o acción de la Conferencia

Esta propuesta cambiaría la forma en que los temas del programa de conferencias se procesan, cómo y cuándo se presentan los temas del programa propuesto, cómo y cuando se aprueben los temas del programa, cuando los artículos están disponibles para su área de discusión, y podría influir en lo áreas de proceso de la información e informar a sus delegados . Área de Oregon podría recibir el fondo de 2 a 6 semanas antes de lo que hacemos ahora, pero en el plan D que no lo conseguiría en todos antes de la Asamblea Pre-Conferencia. Esta propuesta afecta a todos los aspectos del negocio incluyendo AA nivel de grupo.

Impacto de hacer el cambio deseado (si lo hay)

Aprobación de temas de la agenda de la reunión de la Junta de Octubre / Noviembre no permitirá Fideicomisarios y personal suficiente tiempo para completar los proyectos asignados en julio / agosto después de la Conferencia.

El esfuerzo de traducción requiere que el Departamento de Publicaciones desarrollar un manual de AAW.S. estilo para estandarizar la traducción y la coherencia con los profesionales.

Sea cual sea el plan se selecciona, de selección y capacitación adiciones a los equipos de traducción se llevará más de un año.

Todos los planes incluyen una amplia distribución Conferencia de fondo que no incluya información financiera sólo está disponible después de la auditoría en marzo, hojas de vida personales, obras en curso, y designaciones "para el comité de ojos".

Los traductores profesionales sería la única traducción uniforme y auténtica de fondo SGC. Otro trabajo de traducción tendría que ser externalizadas.

En 3 planes, el fondo estaría disponible 3 a 5 semanas antes de lo que ahora recibimos. En la 4ª planta, el fondo estaría disponible aproximadamente 10 días más tarde de que lo hagamos ahora. Área de Oregon no recibiría ningún fondo antes de la Asamblea febrero.

Agenda presentaciones instrumento podría ser debido en septiembre en lugar de diciembre, y los nuevos métodos de presentación de los temas del programa propuesto sería desarrollado.

Al presentar las solicitudes del programa, los individuos, los grupos y áreas sería toda utilizar un lenguaje estandarizado y formas de hacer las traducciones en uniforme.

Impacto financiero

Plan A: Tiempo para la tarea es de 95 días hábiles, 19 semanas, 4,5 meses. El costo de aproximadamente \$ 331.200

Da la beca de tres meses para examinar el fondo antes de la Conferencia.

Plan B: Tiempo para la tarea es de 84 días hábiles, 18 semanas, cuatro meses. El costo de aproximadamente \$ 207.000

Da la beca de tres meses para examinar el fondo antes de la Conferencia

Plan C: Tiempo para la tarea es de 40 días hábiles, diez semanas, meses 2.25. El costo de aproximadamente \$ 45,680

Da la beca de casi cinco meses para examinar el fondo antes de la Conferencia

Plan D: Tiempo para la tarea es de 39 días hábiles, diez semanas, meses 2.25. El costo de aproximadamente \$ 45,680

Da la beca de poco menos de dos meses para examinar el fondo antes de la Conferencia

Incluso si no se adopta el plan de traducción, se reconoce que la Oficina de Servicios Generales verá gastos de explotación aumentan en \$ 350.000 cada año, o aproximadamente \$ 1 millón cada tres años, y la oficina no tiene fuentes de ingresos garantizados para cubrir eso.

Google Translate for Business: [Translator Toolkit](#) [Website Translator](#) [Global Market Finder](#)

2016 Política de GSC #C artículo: Informe de revisión del Comité de Custodios de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales en relación con los observadores de la Conferencia de las demás compañerismo.

Breve descripción de la empresa o el cambio deseado

El subcomité recomienda al Comité de los custodios de servicios generales Conferencia que:

Este informe se remitirá con el fondo adecuado a la política Conferencia / Comité de Admisión, con una petición de que el Comité considere el concepto de la admisión de representantes de la estructura de servicio de otras compañerismo de los doce pasos para observar la Conferencia de Servicios Generales.

El comité no tomar medidas sobre la solicitud de Hijos Adultos de Alcohólicos observar la Conferencia de Servicios Generales con el fin de permitir que la Conferencia de examinar el concepto

separarse de una petición específica. En caso de que la Conferencia decida examinar las solicitudes de

Otros pasos Doce compañerismo para permitir que representantes de su estructura de servicio a observar la G.S.C., los Hijos Adultos de Alcohólicos puede volver a aplicar en ese momento.

Los miembros de AA de otros países han sido bien recibidos en calidad de observadores desde mediados de la década de 1950. No hay petición anterior se ha recibido de cualquier otra beca de Doce Pasos antes de una reciente solicitud de ACA (Hijos Adultos de Alcohólicos).

Al permitir que los miembros no-AA para asistir a la SGC, surgen una serie de preguntas.

Algunos de estos son:

- ¿Sería constituyen la afiliación y / o respaldo?
- ¿Qué procedimientos que sería necesario para proteger el anonimato?
- GSC es una reunión de negocios cerrado y no abierto a todos los miembros de AA.
- ¿Existe una necesidad expresa de un cambio de política? Esto podría ser una solicitud de una sola vez, o abrir la puerta a futuras solicitudes de observadores no AA?
- ¿Qué pasa con las consideraciones financieras de la utilización de los fondos de AA para los propósitos no-AA?
- Tenga en cuenta que los procesos desarrollados específicamente para AA pueden no satisfacer las necesidades de los otros doce Paso estructuras compañerismo para conferencias.
- Actualmente la G.S.O. acciones de experiencia, fortaleza y esperanza con otras compañerismo de los doce pasos a través de la correspondencia, conversaciones telefónicas y de vez en cuando reuniones cara a cara.

¿Por qué esta necesidad, la discusión completa de compañerismo y / o acción de la Conferencia

Reconociendo la profundidad y amplitud de las consideraciones señaladas anteriormente, el subcomité acordado permitir que representantes de otros de Doce Pasos para observar el G.S.C. haría constituyen un cambio significativo en la política. Antes de responder a esta solicitud específica de una Conferencia discusión del concepto de observadores de otros admisión de Doce Pasos para observar la Conferencia de Servicios Generales sería beneficioso.

Impacto de hacer el cambio deseado (si lo hay)

Permiten a los representantes de otros de Doce Pasos para observar el G.S.C. haría constituyen un cambio significativo en la política respecto a las garantías de anonimato, una posible afiliación, y las consideraciones financieras.

Impacto financiero

El material de base no aborda posibles repercusiones financieras que la cuestión de quién sería el responsable de los aspectos financieros, incluyendo alojamiento y comida, para los visitantes.

Comisión de la Conferencia de AA Política / Admisiones
Área de Oregon Resumen

2016 Política de GSC #D artículo: Considerar la posibilidad de que todos los miembros de la Conferencia

se enviarán el mismo material de fondo con la excepción de los medios digitales y trabajos en proceso.

Breve descripción de la empresa o el cambio deseado

Hay cuatro tipos de conferencias documentos de referencia que se distribuyen únicamente a los miembros de un comité de conferencia en particular, en lugar de todos los miembros de la Conferencia:

1-CV de los candidatos a cargos de elección o aprobados en la SGC.

2-Obras en ejecución, incluidos los folletos, audio / visuales, materiales de anuncios de servicio público, y películas.

Lista 3-anual de cambios de redacción y con Manual de Servicio.

4-Otros documentos confidenciales.

A petición de la zona 14, el norte de Florida, para proporcionar todo el material de fondo para todos los miembros votantes de la SGC, con la excepción de los medios de comunicación Tipo 2-digitales y trabaja en proceso.

La solicitud de la zona estados: Área 14 es diligente en la prestación de nuestro A.A. miembros con todo el material de apoyo para asegurar una conciencia de grupo informada. Con el fin de cumplir con nuestro objetivo de la transparencia y para estimular la participación en el proceso de la Conferencia, es vital que nuestro Delegado tiene todos los antecedentes material. With la edad del tablero de instrumentos Conferencia no parecería un costo prohibitivo para publicar toda la información y en caso material vital se omitió en el material de apoyo que los publicara omisiones al descubierto con una notificación por correo electrónico.

Entendemos que puede haber circunstancias especiales en las que algún material no debe ser distribuida, pero estamos pidiendo que esto no ser usado en exceso como una excusa para no incluir la información.

Realmente creemos en nuestra A.A. Conceptos. Nuestros delegados deben tener la oportunidad de decidir la importancia de todo el material de referencia y deben ser los que van a decidir qué elementos del programa debe ser discutido por los miembros de la zona.

¿Por qué esta necesidad, la discusión completa de compañerismo y / o acción de la Conferencia

La discusión de este artículo puede o no dar lugar a ninguna acción. Los delegados asignados a la Conferencia

se les pide a Comisión de la Agenda para discutir la solicitud y el informe. Por debatir el asunto en una nivel de comunión que puede llevar a una mejor comprensión del proceso mediante el cual los temas del orden del día son SGC

decidido. Discusión en distritos y grupos de casas pueden dar A.A. miembros la oportunidad de participar y estar más informados acerca de AA

Impacto de hacer el cambio deseado (si lo hay)

Esto podría resultar en hojas de vida confidenciales de los candidatos a custodio ser revisada en un nivel local y otros memos confidenciales distribuido a todos los miembros de la Conferencia y de sus zonas. Por lo general, un documento se clasificó como confidencial a petición del comité de los custodios que está reenviando un elemento a una comisión de la Conferencia o menos frecuencia, a petición del proveedor de la información.

Impacto financiero

No hay información de fondo está incluido en el precio de proporcionar material de referencia completo, lo cual sería mínimo si la distribución era solamente por medio de tablero de instrumentos.

Comisión de la Conferencia de AA Política / Admisiones
Área de Oregon Resumen

2016 Política de GSC #E artículo: fechas de revisión de la Conferencia de Servicios Generales 2019.

Breve descripción de la empresa o el cambio deseado

Cada año, el comité considera fechas para la Conferencia de Servicios Generales de tres años de antelación, teniendo en cuenta la importancia de evitar conflictos con días de fiesta importantes.

Las opciones que se someterán a la consideración:

1st Choice - Domingo, 28 de Abril - Sábado, Mayo 4, 2019

2ª opción - Domingo, 14 de Abril - Sábado, 20 de abril 2019

No hay material de referencia para indicar cómo las fechas se seleccionan como "la opción 1 y la segunda opción", o que esas fechas seleccionadas. Una suposición lógica es que el Comité de Síndicos selecciona las fechas en consulta con el coordinador de sus eventos y el enlace del hotel, con un enfoque hacia el mantenimiento de la conferencia data consistente en el calendario de año en año.

¿Por qué esta necesidad, la discusión completa de compañerismo y / o acción de la Conferencia

El Comité de Política / Admisiones enviará una recomendación al el cuerpo completo de la Conferencia para la aprobación de sus fechas seleccionadas.

Impacto de hacer el cambio deseado (si lo hay)

Desconocidos, a menos que las fechas anteriores entren en conflicto con las principales fiestas religiosas otra events. In estos casos, lo hacen not. Historically, desde 1993, el Conferencia se produce ya sea la última semana de abril o la primera semana de May. This en su mayoría se refiere a los miembros del GSC 2019.

Impacto financiero

Ninguna

Conference Committee on A.A. Policy/Admissions Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Policy Item #A: Approve request for two observers from A.A. in the Ukraine to attend the 2016 General Service Conference.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous in Ukraine wrote to request that two members be allowed to attend the 66th General Service Conference, April 17 - 23, 2016 in New York, as observers.</p> <p>The trustees' committee on the General Service Conference committee wanted the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions to be aware of the strong service experience of both individuals requesting to attend the Conference and of the fact that the Ukraine has been diligently working to learn from all of the AA experience they can obtain, and have hosted us twice in the past five years.</p> <p>The historical role of the Policy/Admissions committee in this procedure dates since 1956 and is an important one. The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference views the role of the Policy/Admissions in this process as one of formality and done simply to comply with convention. The committee acknowledges that while this practice may be viewed by some as being "redundant" or a "rubber stamp," the proceedings of the Conference and the formal approval of those in attendance during its deliberations is appropriately handled with the current procedure and is a matter of course.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>In accordance with its scope, the Conference Policy/Admissions Committee is responsible for reviewing all requests for admission to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference. Such requests are customarily presented to the Conference for approval immediately following the opening of the Conference.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>The theme for each General Service Conference generally revolves around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussions. Regions, Areas, Districts and home groups may incorporate discussion of the theme into local workshops, meetings, pre-Conference Assemblies, etc. This gives observers the opportunity to become more informed about A.A. and take this information back to their country's GSC.</p>
Financial impact
<p>Both observers are bilingual and will be responsible for their travel costs. G.S.O. provides hotel accommodations and meals, similar to previous guest observers.</p>

Conference Committee on A.A. Policy/Admissions Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Policy Item #B: Review progress report on plans for French and Spanish translation of all Conference background.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference has been asked to create a plan to translate all Conference materials, with a progress report to be given to the 2016 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions that describes the process and costs, including options using third-party translators and a proposal to change agenda submission deadlines.

Four plans are being submitted for review. Three feature a September deadline for the submission of new agenda item proposals. Two call for the translation of background using professional and fiscal resources we do not have and are not likely to see in the coming year or two. The third and fourth plans are more modest and might be done sooner, but require that AA embrace a more "let's get to the point / keep it simple" style of proposing new agenda items. In all plans, everyone receives the same background, whether it is in English, Spanish or French.

Plan A- This plan takes the Conference process and comprehensive background as we know it today and superimposes the requirement that all background will be translated into French and Spanish. In Plan A, all proposed new Conference Agenda Items are due by September 15, allowing for agenda items to be approved by the conclusion of the Oct Nov General Service Board meeting.

Plan B- This plan brings some simplicity and uniformity to how proposals for new agenda items are submitted and brings a more restrained approach to the gathering of background. Proposed new Conference agenda items are due in the end of September, allowing for agenda items to be approved by the conclusion of the Oct.Nov. General Service Board meeting. A two-page Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form will be used to send in each new agenda item proposal. No other pages will accompany the Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form received by G.S.O. Works-in-progress being forwarded to Conference by a trustees' committee, nominations etc. will not need the form. Staff will compile up to 6 pages of essential background, that which is deemed necessary for the formulation of an informed group conscience. Wherever possible, references and documentation will be no more than 10 years old. Some actions, such as correspondence forwarding a proposed agenda item by trustees' committee or one of the corporate boards, no longer needs to be documented, unless a particular condition or statement accompanied the recommendation.

Plan C- In Plan C, the start date when the two-page Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form is due is the end of September, allowing for agenda items to be approved by the conclusion of the Oct.Nov GSB meeting. Conference background would be posted at the end of November. This option gives the Fellowship the maximum amount of time, nearly five months, to review items and help their delegate prepare for Conference. No other pages will accompany the Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form. On the form, Staff will reference information regarding previous times the subject of the proposal was considered by the General Service Conference or by the trustees or by a corporate board. The actual text of Advisory Actions or recommendations will be noted by Staff in a section of the Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form.

Plan D- In Plan D, the start date when the two-page Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form is due is December 15, and proposed agenda items would be approved by the conclusion of the Jan/ Feb GSB meeting. Conference background would be posted at the end of February, only about a week later than is done now. No other pages will accompany the Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form. On the form, Staff will reference information regarding previous times the subject of the proposal was considered by the General Service Conference or by the trustees or by a corporate board. The actual text of Advisory Actions or recommendations will be noted by Staff in a section of the Conference New Agenda Item Proposal Form.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

This proposal would change the way the Conference Agenda Items are processed, how and when proposed Agenda items are submitted, how and when Agenda Items are approved, when Items are available for Area discussion, and could impact how Areas process the information and inform their delegates. Oregon Area might receive background 2 to 6 weeks earlier than we do now, but in Plan D we would not get it at all before the Pre-Conference Assembly. This proposal affects every aspect of AA business including group level.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Approval of Agenda Items at the Oct/Nov Board meeting will not allow Trustees and Staff enough time to complete projects assigned in Jul/Aug following the Conference.

The translation effort requires that the Publishing Department develop a manual of AAW.S. style to standardize translation and consistency with professionals.

Whatever plan is selected, vetting and training additions to translation teams will take over a year.

All plans include widely distributed Conference background that does not include financial information only available after the audit in March, personal resumes, works-in-progress, and designations "For Committee Eyes Only".

Professional translators would be the only uniform and authentic translation of GSC background. Other translation work would have to be out sourced.

In 3 plans, background would be available 3 to 5 weeks earlier than we now receive it. In the 4th plan, background would be available about 10 days later than we get it now. Oregon Area would not receive any background prior to the February Assembly.

Agenda Item submissions would be due in September instead of December, and new methods of submitting proposed Agenda Items would be developed.

When submitting agenda requests, individuals, groups, and areas would all use standardized language and forms to make the translations uniform.

Financial impact

Plan A : Time for the task is 95 business days, 19 weeks, 4.5 months. Cost approximately **\$331,200**
Gives the Fellowship three months to review background before Conference.

Plan B : Time for the task is 84 business days, 18 weeks, four months. Cost approximately **\$207,000**
Gives the Fellowship three months to review background before Conference

Plan C : Time for the task is 40 business days, ten weeks, 2.25 months. Cost approximately **\$45,680**
Gives the Fellowship nearly five months to review background before Conference

Plan D : Time for the task is 39 business days, ten weeks, 2.25 months. Cost approximately **\$45,680**
Gives the Fellowship just under two months to review background before Conference

Even if no translation plan is adopted, it is acknowledged that the General Service Office will see operating expenses increase by \$350,000 each year, or roughly \$1 million every three years, and the office does not have guaranteed income sources to cover that.

**Conference Committee on A.A. Policy/Admissions
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Policy Item #C: Review report from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference regarding Conference observers from other fellowships.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The subcommittee recommends to the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference that:

This report be forwarded with appropriate background to the Conference Policy/Admissions Committee, with a request that the committee consider the concept of admitting representatives from the service structure of other Twelve Step Fellowships to observe the General Service Conference. The committee take no action on the request from Adult Children of Alcoholics to observe the General Service Conference in order to allow the Conference to consider the concept separate from a specific request. Should the Conference decide to consider requests from other Twelve Steps Fellowships to allow representatives from their service structure to observe the G.S.C., Adult Children of Alcoholics can reapply at that time.

AA members from other countries have been welcomed as observers since mid-1950s. No previous request has been received from any other Twelve Step Fellowship prior to a recent request from ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics).

In allowing non-AA members to attend the GSC, a number of questions arise. A few of these are:

- Would it constitute affiliation and/or endorsement?
- What procedures would be needed to protect anonymity?
- GSC is a closed business meeting and not open to all AA members.
- Is there an expressed need for a policy change? Might this be a one-time request, or open the door to future requests for non-AA observers?
- What about financial considerations of using AA funds for non-AA purposes?
- Note that processes developed specifically for AA may not meet the needs of other Twelve Step Fellowships Conference structures.
- Currently the G.S.O. shares experience, strength, and hope with other Twelve Step Fellowships through correspondence, telephone conversations and occasionally face-to-face meetings.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Recognizing the depth and breadth of the considerations outlined *above*, the subcommittee agreed allowing representatives from other *Twelve* Step Fellowships to observe the G.S.C. would constitute a significant shift in policy. Prior to responding to this specific request a Conference discussion of the concept of admitting observers from other *Twelve* Step Fellowships to observe the General Service Conference would be beneficial.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Allowing representatives from other *Twelve* Step Fellowships to observe the G.S.C. would constitute a significant shift in policy regarding anonymity safeguards, possible affiliation, and financial considerations.

Financial impact

Background material does not address possible financial impact other than the question of who would be responsible for financial aspects, including room and board, for the visitors.

**Conference Committee on A.A. Policy/Admissions
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Policy Item #D: Consider request that all Conference members be sent the same background material with the exception of digital media and works in progress.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

There are four types of Conference background documents that are distributed only to the members of a particular Conference committee, rather than all Conference members:

- 1-Resumes of candidates for positions elected or approved at the GSC.
- 2-Works in progress including pamphlets, audio/visual materials, Public Service Announcements, and films.
- 3-Annual list of editorial updates for the AA Service Manual.
- 4-Other confidential documents.

A request from Area 14, North Florida, to provide all background material to all GSC voting members, with the exception of Type 2-digital media and works in process.

The Area's request states: Area 14 is diligent in providing our A.A. members with all the background material to ensure an informed group conscience. In order to fulfill our goal of transparency and to stimulate participation in the Conference process, it is vital that our Delegate has all the background material. With the age of the Conference Dashboard it would not seem cost prohibitive to post all information and in the event vital material was omitted in the background material post those omissions when discovered with an email notification.

We do understand that there may be special circumstances where some material should not be distributed, but we are asking that this not be overused as an excuse for not including information.

We truly believe in our A.A. Concepts. Our Delegates should have the opportunity to decide the importance of all the background material and they should be the ones to decide which agenda items should be discussed by their Area Members.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Discussion of this item may or may not result in any action. Delegates assigned to the Conference Committee on Agenda are being asked to discuss the request and report. By discussing it at a Fellowship level it may bring better understanding to the process by which GSC Agenda topics are decided. Discussion at Districts and home groups may give A.A. members the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

This could result in confidential resumes of trustee candidates being reviewed at a local level and other confidential memos distributed to all Conference members and their Areas. Usually a document is classified as confidential at the request of the trustees' committee that is forwarding an item to a Conference committee or less frequently at the request of the provider of the information.

Financial impact

No background information is included on cost of providing full background material, which would be minimal if distribution was by means of Dashboard only.

**Conference Committee on A.A. Policy/Admissions
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Policy Item #E: Review dates for the 2019 General Service Conference.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Each year the committee considers dates for the General Service Conference three years in advance, taking into consideration the importance of avoiding conflict with significant holidays.</p> <p>Choices being submitted for consideration: 1st Choice - Sunday, April 28 - Saturday, May 4, 2019 2nd Choice - Sunday, April 14 - Saturday, April 20, 2019</p> <p>There is no background material to indicate how the dates are selected as “1st choice and “2nd choice” or who selected those dates. A logical assumption is that the Trustees Committee selected the dates in consultation with their events coordinator and hotel liaison, with a focus toward keeping the conference dates consistent in the calendar from year to year.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>The Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions will send a recommendation to the full Conference body for approval of their selected dates.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Unknown, unless the above dates would conflict with major religious holidays or other events. In these cases, they do not. Historically, since 1993, the Conference occurs either the last week in April or the first week in May. This mostly concerns the members of the 2019 GSC.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None.</p>

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A: Review 2015 annual report from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>This Agenda item asks the Conference Committee on PI to review annual reports sent to the trustee's Public Information Committee from the A.A.W.S. Board and the A.A. Grapevine Board on their website activities. The reports from both corporate boards cover very detailed information about every substantive and minor change made to the websites in 2015, as well as analytical information about website usage. The detailed reports can be viewed in their entirety in the hard copies of background material provided to each District. Also included in the background material is a report from the Trustees' Public Information Subcommittee on Website Analytics.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>A Conference Advisory Action in 2004 requires the A.A.W.S. Board to prepare an annual report for the trustees' PI Committee "summarizing all Web site quarterly report information. The report along with any additional comments from the trustees' Committee would be forwarded to the Conference P.I. Committee for their consideration." Consequently, this item will appear on the PI agenda for each Conference. There is no information concerning previous Conference Advisory Actions requiring the A.A. Grapevine Board to submit an annual report to the trustees, however this year's agenda item includes a review of both reports. Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to review the website reports, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding these reports, unless any of the content in the reports results in desired action by the Conference Committee.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>There is no request for change being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None</p>

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B1: Review the trustees' Public Information Committee report on the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>The trustee's Public Information Committee updates the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan each year. At the August 2015 Board meeting, a subcommittee was formed to review and develop the Media Plan. They reviewed the suggestions made by the 2015 Conference Committee. The subcommittee also prepared an addendum addressing the 2015 Conference Committee's request to "explore specific questions regarding the exploration of new avenues for presenting A.A. information." The addendum contains the subcommittee's reasoning which resulted in six suggestions regarding new avenues for presenting AA information. The addendum includes very detailed information including recent trends in media usage, specific benefits of using different platforms to reach the still-suffering alcoholic (Google for Non-Profits, LinkedIn, Twitter, Flickr, Instagram, Tumblr, Facebook), how each platform may or may not help the public information task of providing accurate information about what AA is and what it is not, how user interaction with A.A. content on such platforms might avoid controversy or the appearance of endorsement or affiliation, information about terms of service and privacy policies of the different platforms, and information about the use of these platforms by other Twelve Step fellowships. The detailed reports can be viewed in their entirety in the hard copies of background material provided to each District.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to review the trustees' Public Information Committee report on the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding the report, unless any of the content in the report results in desired action by the Conference Committee. Although this agenda item may not lead to a full Conference discussion, the Area body may benefit from reading the report and addendum, however, and discussing how we as individuals and groups are using the various social media platforms and if they are being used appropriately.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>There is no request for change being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None</p>

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B2: Review 2016 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Since 2013, a portion of the trustees' PI Committee Composition, Scope and Procedure document includes the task of "ongoing development and annual review of the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan." (P.I.C.M.P.) This year's review and update of the P.I.C.M.P. focused on further exploration of how the Fellowship might utilize social media and networks to make AA information available to the public. At the January 2016 Board meeting, the trustees' PI Committee agreed to forward 2 suggestions to the Conference Committee on PI: 1) That a proposal be developed for the implementation of both a Google-For-Non-Profits account and a Twitter account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public; 2) That a guideline be developed on "Carrying the A.A. Message Online and in Social Media." Three other items were listed as areas to be considered and explored. The 2016 P.I.C.M.P. will also continue addressing 10 action items from the 2015 Plan. The trustees' reports and the proposed 2016 P.I.C.M.P. can be viewed in their entirety in the hard copies of background material provided to each District.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to review the 2016 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding the report, unless any of the content in the report results in desired action by the Conference Committee</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>There is no request for change being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None</p>

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #C: Review the July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 distribution and tracking information for the video P.S.A. "Doors."

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>The 2015 Conference recommended that the video public service announcement "Doors" be centrally distributed, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, and that the information gathered from the process be forwarded to the 2016 Conference Committee on Public Information for their review. This agenda item includes a report from the Multimedia company used to track the PSA, showing that the PSA aired 29,754 times during the time period mentioned. The report also includes detail of audience impressions (estimated number of people who viewed the spot) and the media value had the PSA not been free. Included also is a document explaining how to access reports on the airing of PSAs which may be useful to local PI Committees. These reports will be reviewed and discussed by the 2016 Conference Committee on Public Information.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to review the 2015 distribution and tracking information for the new PSA "Doors," it is possible they will make no recommendations, unless any of the content in the report results in desired action by the Conference Committee</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>There is no request for change being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact.</p>
Financial impact
<p>None</p>

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #D1: Review 2015 report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on the Usefulness and Relevance of Public Service Announcements. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the English and French language versions of the video P.S.A., "Tengo Esperanza" ¹ at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, in addition to the distribution work of local public information committees.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Since 2008, the Conference Committee on PI annually reviews PSAs for relevance and usefulness. To assist in this effort, the trustees' PI committee also reviews the PSAs, and issues a report for consideration by the Conference Committee. This agenda item asks the Conference PI Committee to review the 2015 trustees' PI Committee report on the usefulness and relevance of PSAs. In particular, the Committee will review a recommendation from the trustees' committee that the video "Tengo Esperanza" in English and French be centrally distributed, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$40,000. ("Tengo Esperanza" has already been approved in Spanish.) The background information contains the full report finalized in January 2016, which outlines the above recommendation and a recommendation to retire one PSA. The report also indicates that the trustees do not see a need for a new PSA in 2016. The report contains information regarding a member-submitted video project on anonymity, and a suggestion to add subtitles to current PSAs in additional languages. The trustees took no action on either topic. The background information also includes a document outlining the history of centralized distribution and tracking of PSAs, and the script in English, French and Spanish of the video "Tengo Esperanza."
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
New video productions and expenses associated with their tracking and distribution require approval of the General Service Conference.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
Part of this agenda item is for the Conference PI Committee to review the trustees' report on usefulness and relevance of PSAs. There is no request for change being made beyond discussion by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact. If the Conference Committee approves the centralized distribution and tracking of the video "Tengo Esperanza," it will forward its recommendation to the full Conference Body for vote and approval/disapproval. If the Conference approves the agenda item, it will result in a Conference Advisory Action and the trustees' PI Committee will be tasked with implementing the distribution and tracking
Financial impact
If approved, the distribution and tracking of the video "Tengo Esperanza" is capped at \$40,000.

¹ The video P.S.A "Tengo Esperanza" can be viewed on aa.org.

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #D2: Review 2015 report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on the Usefulness and Relevance of Public Service Announcements. Consider discontinuing the video P.S.A. "I Thought."²

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Since 2008, the Conference Committee on PI annually reviews PSAs for relevance and usefulness. To assist in this effort, the trustees' PI committee also reviews the PSAs, and issues a report for consideration by the Conference Committee. This agenda item asks the Conference PI Committee to review the 2015 trustees' PI Committee report on the usefulness and relevance of PSAs. In particular, the Committee will review a recommendation from the trustees' committee that the video "I Thought" be discontinued.
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
Recommendations about retiring existing PSAs or developing new PSAs require approval by the General Service Conference. A 2008 Advisory Action requires an annual review to make sure they continue to be useful and relevant. PSAs that become outdated and/or are no longer useful to the Fellowship need to be retired. In last year's review of existing PSAs, the trustees' PI Committee recommended that "I Thought" be discontinued because it is not available in HD (high definition) which is the standard TV format.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
If the Conference Committee approves the retirement of the PSA "I Thought," it will forward its recommendation to the full Conference Body for vote and approval/disapproval. If the Conference approves the recommendation, it will result in a Conference Advisory Action and the trustees' PI Committee will be tasked with retiring the PSA.
Financial impact
No further expenditures will occur on the retired PSA, and it will be removed from distribution.

² The video P.S.A "I Thought" can be viewed on aa.org.

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #E: Discuss a request to reconsider the 2011 Advisory Action regarding the “Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or Its Affiliates.”

Brief description of the concern or desired change

In 2010, the Conference recommended that “The trustees’ Public Information Committee report back to the 2011 Conference Committee on Public Information with a draft policy on showing or not showing faces of actors who are portraying AA members or potential AA members in Conference-approved visual media, reviewing and taking into consideration targeted audiences for all available AA tapes and videos.” Following the Conference, a subcommittee of the trustees’ PI Committee was formed, resulting in a draft policy as requested. In 2011, the Conference reviewed and approved the draft policy which is now known as the “Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or Its Affiliates.” The full policy and the report of the 2010 subcommittee can be viewed in their entirety in the hard copies of background material provided to each District. The policy adopted in 2011 states that, in general, videos will not show full faces of actors portraying A.A. members unless the video is approved by substantial unanimity by both the General Service Board and the Conference. This agenda item is asking that the current policy be reconsidered, although the reason for the request is not clear. A letter from the delegate from Area 06 in California is included in the background material. In that letter, a comment in favor of showing full faces is as follows: *Our group wants to be sure that everyone knows that our Deaf members need to have facial expressions to understand. We feel that the full faces should remain; it is common to have a disclaimer that the people in the video are actors.* Other comments from Area 06 seem to be in favor of NOT showing full faces. Area 06 discussed this topic during 4 Assemblies and then passed the motion with substantial unanimity to ask the Conference to reconsider. The background material does not indicate whether the current trustees’ PI Committee agrees or disagrees with the video policy. It is merely passing the request on to the full Conference body for discussion and vote.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

This agenda item is intended to initiate a reexamination of the policy of NOT showing full faces in videos produced by the General Service Board. The Conference Committee on PI may reconsider the policy and recommend to the full Conference body that the policy be changed or rescinded. They may also discuss the matter and decide to take no action, or to return the matter to the trustees’ for further information as to why they feel the matter should be reconsidered. Although this agenda item may not lead to a change or reversal of the policy, the Area body may benefit from reading the policy and the trustees’ report and discussing how we interpret “... personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films” as stated in the Eleventh Tradition and/or if showing full faces in videos results in “promotion rather than attraction, and personalities coming before principles” (Eleventh and Twelfth Traditions).

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

A.A.’s “Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or Its Affiliates” may be continued “as is,” changed, rescinded, or replaced by the Conference, thus affecting future production of videos showing full faces of actors portraying A.A. members.

Financial impact

Not known at this time.

**Conference Committee on Public Information
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #F: Review contents of P.1.Kit and Workbook

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committee at each General Service Conference (GSC). Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or contents of a Kit may be received. They may be reviewed by the trustees and implemented, or the trustees may choose to forward the ideas to the Conference Committee to be reviewed at the next GSC. Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body. The Conference Committee will put forth approved changes via an 'Additional Committee Consideration.' The background material does not include the current PI Workbook and Kit - they were mailed only to Conference Committee members. Included in the background material, however, is a memo to the 2016 Conference Committee on PI stating that the PI Workbook and Kit have been updated to reflect suggestions from last year's Conference Committee. The details of those changes can be viewed in their entirety in the hard copies of background material provided to each District. Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss changes to the Workbook and Kit. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>When pamphlets and/or service material revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference Committee, the revisions are made but materials are not reprinted until existing supplies have been exhausted</p>
Financial impact
<p>None</p>

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A1: The A.A Service Manual, 2016-2017 Edition: review list of editorial updates.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Each year a list of standard editorial updates, along with any errors to be corrected, are forwarded to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter for review. The background information indicates that editorial updates were forwarded from the Report and Charter Committee secretary, the Publishing Department and from Archives, but copies were mailed only to Report and Charter Committee members and not included in the background documents. Consequently, this item is not suitable for full Fellowship discussion or discussion by the Oregon Area body.
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets. Since we do not have access to the list of editorial updates., we do not know if the suggested changes are major, requiring discussion by the full Conference body, or if they are minor changes that can simply be forwarded on to the Publications Department. Consequently, this item is not suitable for full Fellowship discussion or discussion by the Oregon Area body.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
When revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, The A.A. Service Manual is reprinted and existing supplies of the prior year's manual are destroyed. To this effect, the Publications Department makes every effort to project accurate print quantities to minimize waste.
Financial impact
There is no background information concerning the cost of annual reprints of The A.A. Service Manual.

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A2: Consider adding definition of "Service Manual" to Glossary of Service Terms

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>May 11, 2015 Email request from Terry Bedient, chair General Service Board, to Tracey Ober Report & Charter GSO:</p> <p>"During floor debate at the past three General Service Conferences, there were questions from delegates regarding the definition of The A.A. Service Manual.</p> <p>In reviewing the service manual and other publicly available information about A.A., I was not able to locate a definition.</p> <p>It seems that the "Glossary of General Service Terms" beginning on page S19, would be an appropriate location to include the definition of The AA Service Manual. I would suggest that the Committee consider such an addition."</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>When revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, The A.A. Service Manual is reprinted and existing supplies of the prior year's manual are destroyed. To this effect, the Publications Department makes every effort to project accurate print quantities to minimize waste.</p>
Financial impact
<p>There is no background information concerning the cost of annual reprints of The A.A. Service Manual.</p>

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A3: Consider adding text in the Third Legacy Procedure chart in Chapter One.

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change</p> <p>Nov 6, 2015 Memo request from "Service Study Group" to Conference Coordinator</p> <p>“During a recent meeting of our Service Study Group we noted the following inconsistency between the narrative description of the Third Legacy Procedure (Page S-22) and the Chart describing the Third Legacy Procedure (Page S-22) as follow:</p> <p>Narrative: After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds.of the total vote, the candidate with the smallest total is automatically withdrawn; (bold added for emphasis) 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.</p> <p>Nowhere on the chart does it indicate that after the fourth ballot “the candidate with the smallest total is automatically withdrawn.”</p> <p>Chart: (See Page S-22 for Full Chart)</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action</p> <p>Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any)</p> <p>When revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, The A.A. Service Manual is reprinted and existing supplies of the prior year’s manual are destroyed. To this effect, the Publications Department makes every effort to project accurate print quantities to minimize waste.</p>
<p>Financial impact</p> <p>There is no background information concerning the cost of annual reprints of The A.A. Service Manual.</p>

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A4: Consider draft text for a section on "Local Forums" to be added to Chapter Nine.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

From the 2015 Conference Advisory Action:

That a new section on "Local Forums" be added to Chapter 9 (The General Service Board) of The AA Service Manual and requested that draft language be brought back to the 2016 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

Background documents attached: Draft text of section on "Local Forums"

Local Forums in October 2006, the concept of Local Forums was approved by the General Service Board. The purpose of Local Forums is to bring Forum information to AA members in remote, sparsely populated areas, urban neighborhoods or underserved AA communities. Any AA community or service entity may request a one-and-a-half or two day Local Forum. Unlike Regional Forums, the responsibility for Forum expenses such as meeting room rental and miscellaneous expenses are assumed by the Local Forum Committee. The General Service Board will send two participants, one from the Board and one from the General Service Office or Grapevine office and display literature at Board expense. Like Regional and Additional Forums, Board participation in Local Forums requires the approval of the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. The Regional Forums Coordinator works closely with the Local Forum organizing committee to create an agenda that is responsive to local needs. As all Forums are intended to be sharing sessions, no formal actions result. Sharing at Forums is captured in Forum Final Reports which are distributed to all attendees. Regional Forums Final Reports are available on G.S.O.'s A.A Web site. Forums provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

When revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, The A.A. Service Manual is reprinted and existing supplies of the prior year's manual are destroyed. To this effect, the Publications Department makes every effort to project accurate print quantities to minimize waste.

Financial impact

There is no background information concerning the cost of annual reprints of The A.A. Service Manual.

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A5: Consider removing endnote #4 in Concept Twelve of the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

The Concept Study Group in Reno Nevada, Area 42 requested the Conference consider removing "Endnote #4" from the "The AA Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service". Endnote #4 reads as follows:
"Bill here, apparently inadvertently, used the phrase "in action and spirit" instead of "in thought and action" that appears elsewhere in both the Conference Charter and the statement of Concept XII."

After extensive research, the Concept Study Group concluded that there is no evidence to indicate that, Bill himself, meant anything different from what he wrote in Warranty 6 of Concept XII of the Service Manual, which reads:
"That though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in action and spirit."

Specifically, the Study Group believed that Endnote #4 was added out of speculation as to what Bill meant to say. Additionally, since Endnote #4 was added after Bill W.'s death in 1971, it could not be confirmed or otherwise responded to by Bill himself.

Because the content of Endnote #4 remains speculative in nature and because there is no clear historical evidence that Bill meant anything other than what he originally wrote, the Concept Study Group is requesting that Endnote #4 of Warranty 6, Concept XII be removed from future printings of "The A.A Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service."

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

When revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, The A.A. Service Manual is reprinted and existing supplies of the prior year's manual are destroyed. To this effect, the Publications Department makes every effort to project accurate print quantities to minimize waste.

Financial impact

There is no background information concerning the cost of annual reprints of The A.A. Service Manual.

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #A6: Consider request to revise text in the Concept Eleven essay regarding “male/female” distinctions in the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

Delegates from Area 68, SW Texas, and Area 10, Colorado, found that a number of obstacles were a deterrent to attracting diverse, competent and qualified candidates as future trustees. One of these might be Bill Wilson’s essay on Concept XI , that uses language and imagery giving potential trustee candidates reason to question if Alcoholics Anonymous is an outdated and out-of-touch organization.

The GSC is being requested to consider the two paragraphs that begin with the text "Women workers present yet another problem..." and end with "...are women" be removed from the Twelve Concepts essay on Concept 11(pages 58 & 59 in the 2014-2015 version of the Service Manual). These two paragraphs state that males and females are differently qualified to serve in different roles in the general service office (and, by implied extension, in other service roles within AA). While there is a footnote identifying that the GSO is an equal opportunity employer, this footnote is insufficient to assure readers that AA, in fact, has no opinion as to whether there are differences between men and women in their abilities to serve in various capacities. In fact, one could make a strong argument that Bill’s statement in these two paragraphs is contrary to our 10th tradition.”

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

When revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, The A.A. Service Manual is reprinted and existing supplies of the prior year’s manual are destroyed. To this effect, the Publications Department makes every effort to project accurate print quantities to minimize waste.

Financial impact

There is no background information concerning the cost of annual reprints of The A.A. Service Manual.

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B: Consider A.A.W.S recommendations regarding an alternative publishing schedule for The A.A Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

Memo dated December 16, 2015 from Chet Parker, A.A.W.S. Board Chair:

The A.A.W.S. Board met on December 11, 2015 and reviewed a proposal submitted by the Publishing Department, for the biannual publication of the AA Service Manual.

After a full discussion, the AAW.S. Board agreed to forward the following recommendation: That the AA Service Manual be revised per existing schedule after the 2016 General Service Conference and a new edition published biannually (i.e., every two years, instead of annually), beginning in 2017 at a savings of approximately \$45-50,000 in alternate years when a new edition is not published, The next edition of the Service Manual would be published in 2018 (after the Conference), the subsequent edition in 2020 (after the Conference), etc

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Revisions to the A.A. Service Manual (excluding typos, minor formatting, etc.) require Conference approval, the same as other books and pamphlets.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

That The AA Service Manual be revised per existing schedule after the 2016 General Service Conference and a new edition published biannually (Le., every two years, instead of annually), beginning in 2017 at a savings of approximately \$45-50,000 in alternate years when a new edition is not published. The next edition of The AA Service Manual would be published in 2018 (after the Conference), the subsequent edition in 2020 (after the Conference), etc.

Financial impact

Direct costs:

BM-31 (English: 2015-2016 AA Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts) Manufacturing Cost: \$16,471.44

BM-33 (English: 2015-2016A.A. Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts-Large Print) Manufacturing Cost: \$3,248.00

FBM-31 (French: 2015-2016 AA Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts) Manufacturing Cost: \$2,306.83

SBM-31 (Spanish: 2015-2016 AA Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts) Manufacturing Cost: \$3,188.33

SBM-31 (Spanish: 2015-2016 AA Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts) Manufacturing Cost: \$2,358.00

Manufacturing Total after discounts: \$27,021.89

Freight for the BM-31, BM-33, FBM-31, SBM-31 & SBM-33 titles are combined to help reduce costs.

KC Freight Cost: \$1,397.64

Sol Ex Freight Cost: \$210.36

NY Office Freight Cost: \$1,076.84

Freight total: \$2,684.84

Direct costs total: \$29,706.73

Indirect (soft) costs

Best estimate, focusing on the work by three employees - managing editor, Group Services Assignment Staff member and Staff assistant: approximately \$12,000 in labor costs. Additional costs of approximately \$5,000 comprise overhead, photo-copying, mailing and miscellaneous additional work hours (not in office).

Indirect cost total: \$17,000

TOTAL: Direct + Indirect cost is approximately: \$46,707

Conference Committee on Report and Charter Oregon Area Summary

- 2016 GSC Agenda Item #C1:** Discuss A.A Directories (Canada, Eastern US, Western US & International)
- Consider that the category title "ONLINE MEETINGS" be changed to: ONLINE GROUPS/ONLINE MEETINGS" in A. A. Directories.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

2005 Conference Advisory Actions:

Online meetings in languages in addition to English, French and Spanish be listed in A.A. directories under "ONLINE MEETINGS" with the meeting language indicated next to the listing and in accordance with the 1997 Conference Advisory Action that:

On-line A.A. meetings that request to be listed in A.A. directories be added to the 'International Correspondence Meetings' in A.A. directories, that each listing include the internet address of the on-line meeting, and that each on-line meeting requesting to be listed in our directories furnish G.S.O. with the name and physical address of a member willing to serve as "mail" contact.

Online meetings listed in A.A. directories under "ONLINE MEETINGS" continue to be listed with an e-mail contact address only, in keeping with the 1997 General Service Conference recommendation that:

On-line A.A. meetings that request to be listed in A.A. directories be added to the 'International Correspondence Meetings' in A.A. directories, that each listing include the internet address of the on-line meeting, and that each on-line meeting requesting to be listed in our directories furnish G.S.O. with the name and physical address of a member willing to serve as "mail" contact.

After full discussion, the AAW.S. Board agreed to forward to the 2016 Conference Committee on Report & Charter their recommendation that the heading "ONLINE MEETINGS" be changed to "ONLINE MEETINGS/ONLINE GROUPS

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Substantial changes to the Directories would require Conference approval.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Impact on the Fellowship is unknown

Financial impact

There is no background information concerning the cost of printing the Directories.

**Conference Committee on Report and Charter
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #D: Discuss General Service Conference Final Report

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>There is no background material for this agenda item. This may be a recurring item on the agenda for the Conference Committee on Report and Charter. The Oregon Area body may wish to discuss the General Service Conference Final Report if specific issues or problems are noted by any members participating on this committee. If Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>No changes are suggested and no specific discussion points are included in this agenda item. Background document was mailed to committee members only.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Substantial changes to the General Service Conference Final Report would require Conference approval.</p>
Financial impact
<p>There is no background information concerning the cost of printing the Final Report.</p>

**2016 Conference Committee on
Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC TSNAC Agenda XII, Item A

Consider removing “Special Needs” from Conference Committee on Treatments/Special Needs-Accessibilities’ name and throughout the committee’.

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change:</p> <p>The committee heard a progress report from the Subcommittee on Making A.A. More Readily Available to All and recommended to the General Service Board that ‘Special Needs’ be removed from the name of the trustees’ Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community / Treatment Special Needs-Accessibilities and throughout the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure to:</p> <p>Avoid words with possible negative connotations throughout, such as disabled or disabilities.</p> <p>Ensure the inclusion of a wide range of accessibility issues, such as single parents that might require child care at a meeting, or senior members that my need meetings brought into nursing homes or elder care facilities.</p> <p>A key theme should be that of inclusiveness. Accessibility issues apply to all members who have difficulties participating in Alcoholics Anonymous, whether those difficulties be physical, geographic, cultural, ethnic, spiritual, etc.</p> <p>The concept of removal of obstacles to participation by all members should be another guiding principal for the workbook.</p> <p>These suggestions are indications of the membership who might gain from this change. The recommendation is also that these changes be reflected in the service piece “Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs” and in the A.A. Guidelines “Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs”, and “Carrying the Message to the Deaf Alcoholic”.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference approval?</p> <p>Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any):</p> <p>When pamphlets and/or service material revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, the revisions are made but materials are not required until existing supplies have been exhausted.</p>
<p>Financial impact:</p> <p>Regarding any possible changes made that affect the printed versions, generally GSO’s publishing department oversees the changes to existing literature and service materials. Staff time and other costs associated with the printing of service materials will be built into the budget.</p>

**2016 Conference Committee on
Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC TSNAC Agenda XII, Items B and C:

Review Treatment/Special Needs Accessibilities Kits and Workbooks

<p>Brief description of the concern or desired change:</p> <p>Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committee at each General Service Conference (GSC). Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or contents of a Kit may be received. They may be reviewed by the trustees and implemented, or the trustees may choose to forward the ideas to the Conference Committee to be reviewed at the next GSC. Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body. The Conference Committee will put forth approved changes via an ‘Additional Committee Consideration.’</p> <p>The background material does not include the current TSNAC Workbook and Kit - they were mailed only to Conference Committee members.</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss changes to the Workbook and Kit. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year’s Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
<p>Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference approval?</p> <p>Workbooks and Kits are service pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
<p>Impact of making the desired change (if any):</p> <p>When pamphlets and/or service material revisions are presented to and approved by the Conference, the revisions are made but materials are not required until existing supplies have been exhausted.</p>
<p>Financial impact:</p> <p>Regarding any possible changes made that affect the printed versions, generally GSO’s publishing department oversees the changes to existing literature and service materials. Staff time and other costs associated with the printing of service materials will be built into the budget.</p>

**Conference Committee on Trustees
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Trustee Items A1, A2: Review resumes of candidates for:
West Central Regional Trustee, and Western Canada Regional Trustee.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

One of the primary functions of the Conference Committee on Trustees is to review resumes of Area nominees for elected Trustee positions, i.e., Regional Trustee and Trustee-at-Large. Candidates must meet the qualifications as outlined in *The A.A. Service Manual* in order to be eligible to be elected at the Conference.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Resumes for the candidates for the three Trustee positions being elected at the 66th General Service Conference (GSC) are provided only to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees. The Conference Committee will review the resumes as required by this agenda item, and notify the Conference Coordinator only if a candidate does not meet the qualifications. Consequently, this item is not suitable for full Fellowship discussion or discussion by the Oregon Area body.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

The Oregon Area Delegate will not be voting in these elections.

Financial impact

None

**Conference Committee on Trustees
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Items B, C, D: Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc., Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc., Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
Another function of the Conference Committee on Trustees is to present to the full Conference body (in the form of a recommendation) the slates of officers and directors of the General Service Board (GSB) and our two corporate boards, A.A. World Services, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. The slates for the 3 entities are forwarded to the Trustees Conference Committee by the Trustees Committee on Nominating for “disapproval, if any.”
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
The slates of officers and directors will be forwarded by the Trustees Conference Committee to the full Conference body “for disapproval, if any.” Rotation of Trustees is a key element in the slates being changed each year. Rotation of officers and directors at the board level serves all the same purposes as rotation of other trusted servants at other levels of the service structure. Because the slates of officers and directors are pre-determined, this agenda item is not suitable for full Fellowship discussion or discussion by the Oregon Area body.
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
The Oregon Area Delegate will be voting on the slates, but there will be little or no discussion on the Conference floor unless there is a ‘disapproval.’
Financial impact
None.

**Conference Committee on Trustees
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Trustees Item #E: Review report from the trustees' Committee on Nominating on expanding the pool of candidates to serve the General Service Board and the Corporate Boards.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

This item was prompted from a discussion of the Additional Committee Consideration from the 2015 Conference Committee on Trustees:

Reflecting on the importance of Concept XI, it is important to identify, attract and recruit in a timely manner, a diverse, competent and qualified pool of candidates to serve as Class A trustees, Class B trustees, non-trustee directors and appointed committee members on trustees' committees.

The subcommittee agreed that a lack of diversity of board servants is not in the best interest of the General Service Board, and suggested expanding posting notification of vacancies to the broadest possible audience.

Each time a vacancy arises, the General Service Board have a discussion during its next planning sharing session or sooner by conference call, if necessary, to identify the current skills and background needed by the board. The results of these discussions should be clearly communicated to the Trustees Nominating Committee in a timely manner to be sure the current needs can be taken into consideration.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

This Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to 'discuss' the topic, so the request is largely for information gathering only. During discussions, the Conference Committee may or may not take formal action resulting from that discussion.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

There is no request being made in this Agenda item beyond 'review' by the Conference Committee, therefore there is no known impact. The committee may or may not choose to take further action.

Financial Impact

None.

Conference Committee on Trustees Oregon Area Summary

2016 GSC Trustees Item #F: Consider option presented by the trustees' Committee on Nominating regarding the unexpected vacancy of Regional Trustees.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

When there is an unexpected vacancy on the GSB, a region could go without coverage until a new Regional Trustee is elected. The Subcommittee on the Unexpected Vacancy of a Regional Trustee agreed to forward to the Conference Committee on Trustees the following option for their consideration:

If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs prior to September 1 in the first year, then an election for a three-year term would occur at the following General Service Conference (GSC) for the affected region. If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs between September 1 in the first year and August 31 of the third year then the delegates from the affected region would be given an option to hold an election for a six-year or five-year term, or leave the position vacant, depending on when the vacancy occurs. Regardless of whether the term was for three, five or six years, the Regional Trustee would be expected to serve two-years on one of the two operating corporation boards."

Four options were developed and the one forwarded, a modification of Option 2, was considered to provide for coverage for the region and the least disruption to rotation. Full discussion can be found in the Full Background material on the four options presented:

1. Replace the Regional Trustee for a full four-year term at the next available opportunity. In order not to disrupt the rotation, a Regional Trustee from a different region could be asked to serve a fifth year. The two regions essentially swap places in the rotation order.
2. Replace the Regional Trustee for a one- or two-year term depending on when in the four-year term the vacancy occurs. The person serving the one- or two-year term is then eligible to serve a full four-year term at the next regularly scheduled election for that region.
3. Introduce the position of Alternate Regional Trustee for each region. In the election normal election for a Regional Trustee, the runner-up is selected as the Alternate Regional Trustee. If the Regional Trustee is unable to serve their full term, the Alternate Regional Trustee steps in. If the person who steps in serves two years or less, then he or she is eligible to serve a full four-year term as the Regional Trustee at the next election.
4. Replace the Regional Trustee for a full four-year term at the next available opportunity. The new Regional Trustee would still serve two years on one of the corporate boards but it may not be there middle two years. Do not change the rotation for any other region. This may mean that some years we are electing three Regional Trustees and some years only one.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

The Subcommittee discussed possible changes to the GSB By-Laws and to Trustees' Nominating Committee's Procedure No. 11 "Procedures for Electing Regional Trustee Candidates in the U.S. and Canada" that would make this change possible. It was decided that the GSC Committee on Trustees and possibly the whole GSC should weigh in on this matter prior to developing the appropriate changes in those documents.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)
This could result in possible changes to the General Service Board By-Laws and to Trustees' Nominating Committee's Procedure No. 11 "Procedures for Electing Regional Trustee Candidates in the U.S. and Canada".
Financial impact
The background documents do not specify any financial considerations.

**Conference Committee on Archives
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Archives Item #A: Explore ways to encourage groups to write or update their histories.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

Area 46, New Mexico, and Area 54, NE Ohio, each endorsed the following Statement of Gratitude as sent to GSO in September 2015:

The National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop by action at its meeting on this day:

- Wishes to express its sincere gratitude for the continuing support of GSO Archives plus AA's Trustees' Archives and Conference Archives Committees in its efforts to guide archivists throughout the Fellowship to gather and maintain our historical records.
- Requests that these entities explore ways to encourage groups to write or update the histories, in recognition of this critical aspect of AA archives.

If Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to discuss this Agenda topic, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding this topic.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

There is no request being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee.

Financial impact

None.

**Conference Committee on Archives
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Archives Item #B: Review Archives Workbook.

Brief description of the concern or desired change
<p>Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committee at each General Service Conference (GSC). Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or contents of a Kit may be received. They may be reviewed by the trustees and implemented, or the trustees may choose to forward the ideas to the Conference Committee to be reviewed at the next GSC. Workbooks and Kits are service pieces, so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e., they are not discussed by the full Conference body. The Conference Committee will put forth approved changes via an "Additional Committee Consideration."</p> <p>The background material does not include the current Archives Workbook. They were mailed only to Conference Committee members. The current Workbook may be viewed at the GSO website. There were no changes made to the Archives Workbook since the Conference Committee on Archives reviewed it at the 2015 General Service Conference.</p> <p>Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss changes to the Workbook. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year's Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.</p>
Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action
<p>Workbooks and Kits are services pieces so changes to their content do not become recommendations, i.e. they are not discussed by the full Conference body.</p>
Impact of making the desired change (if any)
<p>Currently there are no suggested changes. Changes could be suggested by the 2016 Conference Committee.</p>
Financial impact

**Conference Committee on International Conventions / Regional Forums
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Int. Conv. / Reg. Forums (IC-RF) Item #A: Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

This Agenda item asks the Conference Committee on International Conventions / Regional Forums to discuss ways to encourage interest in Forums and how Areas communicate about upcoming Forums. Suggestions on encouraging participation in Regional Forums can be found in detail discussions since 2009, and contained in the Full Background. Below are the newest suggestions from:

2015

- That Delegates and Area Trusted Servants communicate the value of Forum participation early and often.
- Share with the Fellowship the easy availability of one on one conversations with trustees, directors and staff members that can be found at the Forums.
- Consider utilizing AA Conventions and other AA events as opportunities to share the new Regional Forum Flyers with the Fellowship.

2014

- Sharing ideas among Areas in a Region or Region-to-Region.
- Encourage those who have attended Regional Forums to share their enthusiasm about their experience-word-of-mouth sharing is really powerful.
- Bring information about the Regional Forum to every District and Area event

2013

- Using locally created “save the date” flyers to encourage attendance and participation.
- Emphasize you do not have to be involved in General Service to attend a Regional Forum.
- Making Regional Forums more prominent on G.S.O.’s AA website.
- Continue to include information about Regional Forums in Box 4-5-9 on a regular basis.

Oregon Area participants are encouraged to discuss this item, including discussion of ways to encourage interest in Forums. After having discussions about this topic, if Oregon Area members have ideas they would like to pass on to the Fellowship, they can either advise the Delegate, write a motion for Oregon Area consideration, or contact GSO directly. Be advised that suggestions/ideas will not be considered at this year’s Conference since the Agenda submission deadline has passed.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to discuss this Agenda topic, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding this topic.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

As stated above, there is no request being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee.

Financial impact

None

**Conference Committee on International Convention/Regional Forum
Oregon Area Summary**

2016 GSC Agenda Item #B: Discuss report on the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

Brief description of the concern or desired change

This Agenda item asks the Conference Committee on International Conventions / Regional Forums to discuss the report from last year's International Convention in Atlanta Georgia. The background material contains a four page report that covers the broader aspects of the event. There is also a brief financial statement (the final report is not completed or audited, so this is only a status of income/expenses). The background material also contains a page with the History of International Convention excesses of revenue or expenses and a page of Flags carried by 93 members of their county. The background material on this Agenda item concludes with a Box 459 article about the convention.

There is no request being made in this Agenda item beyond discussion by the Conference Committee.

Why does this need full Fellowship discussion and/or Conference action

Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to discuss this Agenda topic, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding this topic.

Impact of making the desired change (if any)

Since this Agenda item is only asking the Conference Committee to discuss this Agenda topic, it is possible that they will make no recommendations regarding this topic.

Financial impact

None