

## **2016 Area 69 Fall Workshop**

**November 5-6, 2016**

Hosted by District 5

Price, Utah

### **Delegate Report**

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for the love and service you give to Alcoholics Anonymous! No matter what you “do” or what service position you might hold, whether it’s in your home group, your district, your area, or in your own living room working with another alcoholic---you are a vital part of carrying the A.A. message to the still suffering alcoholic. I am always inspired by the enthusiasm and commitment to General Service demonstrated by A.A. members within the Utah Area 69 Fellowship!

Our General Service Board Trustees (GSB), General Service Office (GSO) staff, and Corporate Board Directors of A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine, are constantly active in providing a broad spectrum of services requested of A.A. members globally. They are consistently engaged in the perpetuation and implementation of not only the current General Service Conference (GSC) Advisory Action projects, but also, continuing “works in progress” resulting from previous Conferences’ Advisory Actions.

Part of the Delegate’s responsibility is to pass along current information about these activities to the Area. At the time---when writing this report---I have not received any *new* information from our GSB that was not included in my last report. Joel C., our Pacific Region Trustee, recently attended the October General Service Board Quarterly Meeting in New York, and will share his full report with the Pacific Region Delegates on a conference call scheduled later this month. I will include the additional information in my December Committee Meeting Delegate’s Report next month. However, I did receive a Conference Members Memo from the General Service Board Trustees regarding the work in progress on the “Strategic Plan” that was approved at the February 2016 Quarterly Board Meeting. The following has been taken, in part, from information in the Memo.

Ahead of the 66th General Service Conference, a copy of the General Service Board Strategic Plan (the “SP”) was distributed to all Conference Members. At the July General Service Board meeting, the General Service Board approved a plan to forward a number of items to trustees’ committees as a means of commencing work on effecting the processes outlined in the SP to achieve the goals that were also outlined in the plan. The GSB reviewed a prioritized list of the items on the GSB strategic plan and agreed to move forward on implementing items from the plan in a four-year cycle.

I received, and have attached to this report, a copy of a table showing a list of “number 1 priority” items being forwarded, and the trustees’ committees to which they are being forwarded to. It is anticipated that each trustees’ committee, to which these processes have been assigned, will deal with them as part of the work with which the committees are tasked. They will be addressed along with the requests that were made by the Conference and the other work on the agendas of the various trustees’ committees.

At this point in time, the GSB is still waiting for feedback from staff as to an estimation of the demands on staff resources of proceeding with these items. "While wishing to move these items forward, we need ever be mindful of our finite human and financial resources".

Some of the items assigned to the various trustees' committees in the table have been commenced, some are nearing completion, and others have yet to begin. What the table is intended to do is to communicate to the Fellowship about those items identified in the Strategic Plan that are underway or will soon be underway.

The General Service Board will continue to discuss ways in which all of the processes identified in the Strategic Plan can be effected in order to make progress in achieving all of the goals identified in the plan. The expectation is that this work will continue over several years and that the processes and goals will evolve as they are further explored and as input is received from the Conference and the Fellowship. It is the hope of the GSB that by providing this kind of communication, the Board can not only obtain highly valuable input from delegates and the broader Fellowship, but continue to demonstrate leadership in seeking to ensure the future of Alcoholics Anonymous, and in open and effective communication.

On another note, a list of *potential* Conference Agenda Items received by the Conference Agenda Trustees Committee has been posted to the Delegates' Dashboard. As you may recall, General Service Conference (GSC) Agenda Items are received in a number of ways. Agenda item suggestions are often originated and put forth by individual A.A. members, by an A.A. Group conscience, and by a District or an Area Assembly motion/collective conscience. The deadline for Agenda Item submissions for the 2017 67th GSC is December 15, 2016, so there is still time to add submissions from Area 69 that we feel are important matters in Alcoholics Anonymous that may need additional address and attention to---by the members serving the GSC next year.

Here is a sampling of some of the items already on this list: "that the 67th General Service Conference consider revisions to the pamphlet *"Questions and Answers on Sponsorship"*"; "that the 67th General Service Conference consider revisions to Chapters 2, 3 and 5 of the *"A.A. Service Manual"*"; "that A.A.W.S. make available the *"Self-Support"* Packet (F-19) in Spanish and French; "that the 67th General Service Conference reconsider the 2010 Advisory Action to publish *La Viña* in 64 pages"; "Consider developing a pamphlet to reflect the recovery experiences of Deaf A.A. members to help prospective Deaf newcomers to identify with other alcoholics"; "that the pamphlet *"Too Young"* (P-37) be retired"; "that the short form of the Concepts be revised"; "that the Conference consider development of A.A. Literature providing information and guidance to A.A. groups regarding matters of personal conduct, safety and the protection of our members. That in the development or modification of A.A. Literature providing information and guidance to A.A. groups regarding matters of personal conduct, safety and the protection of our members, we draw upon the spiritual values contained within our Steps, Traditions and Concepts, the experience of our Fellowship, and the resources and examples of comparable literature developed by the A.A. General Service Conferences of Great Britain and Australia revised"; "that the General Service Office reduce the cost of the General Service Conference by 5%, each year for the three Conferences immediately following approval of this motion by the General Service Conference"; "that *"The A.A. Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service by*

*Bill W.*” will be published electronically in all years, including those years in which it is not published physically. These electronic editions will be made available to the Fellowship through all relevant distribution systems, including the Alcoholics Anonymous website”; “that the General Service Board investigate the feasibility of hosting a future General Service Conference in Canada”; and to add a “change” to gender option in the “A.A. Survey”, ...just to name a few!

As you can see, the General Service Conference process really is a year-round activity---ever seeking to improve our communication and service efforts, not only throughout the A.A. General Service Structure and Fellowship, but also to the outside community that may come in contact with alcoholics needing the hand of A.A. This is the purpose of our being. Simply, trusted servants---joined together in service and brotherly love---eagerly holding an outstretched hand of hope to the still suffering alcoholic, that he too, may achieve the gift of sobriety so freely offered in Alcoholics Anonymous.

I am extremely grateful for Alcoholics Anonymous in my life today, and for the many wonderful people I have had the joy of meeting and working with over the years. You have truly touched and blessed my life...and countless others I am sure, through your love and commitment in service to Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you for the incredible experience, opportunity, and trust you placed in me almost two years ago, in serving as your Panel 65, Area 69 Delegate! I am truly humbled and honored to be counted among you...

In A.A. Love and Service,

Renae H.

Panel 65 Area 69

Utah Delegate

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