

## 2015 Area 69 December (Inventory) Committee Meeting

December 5, 2015

### Delegate Report

Dear Friends,

I can't think of a better way to begin the month of December than to come together with you---as Area 69 trusted servants and friends---and spend the day in love and service to this great Fellowship! These events fill my heart with so much gratitude and humility for the many blessings we all have experienced. Each and every one of us today, is a true miracle of life because of Alcoholics Anonymous. For me, it just couldn't get much better than this!

My report is short today in that there is not a lot of *new* information to share since we last met at the Area Fall Workshop in November. The following are highlights from the November GSO Board meeting, including additional updates I've recently obtained.

#### AWWS

**The co-location construction project** to bring Grapevine onto the 11<sup>th</sup> floor of 475 Riverside Dr. and to renovate and update the General Service Office space is proceeding on schedule and should be completed by the end of November. However, the opening date to welcome **visitor tours** has been pushed back on the aa.org website to **January 4, 2016**.

#### AAGV

**More outreach** within the Fellowship is needed to slow (or perhaps even reverse) the trend of declining subscriptions. **Grapevine circulation averaged \$72,500** for the first nine months of 2015 (*which is \$2,307 ahead of budget, but was \$1,759 lower than the first nine months of 2014*). Significant contributors to subscriptions being ahead of budget include 900 subscriptions purchased by International Convention attendees, the success of the Subscription challenge, and the Carry the Message effort. **La Vina circulation averaged \$10,310** through the first nine months. **Pricing for the mobile-friendly version of Grapevine** has been set at **\$24** for a one-year subscription, and this new product should be available in the first quarter of **2016**. The **new Grapevine book**, "*Forming True Partnerships*", is out and selling strongly.

**Delegate's Note:** Area 69 Utah is still holding 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the ongoing US/Canada Grapevine Subscription Challenge with a 33.16% increase in *new* Grapevine subscriptions this year, while new subscriptions to the La Viña here in Area 69 have increased by a whopping 94.44% (8<sup>th</sup> place)---way to go everyone! This effort equates to our "meeting in print" being circulated into many more hands, helping us to reach the alcoholic and A.A. member in need. Missouri continues to lead with a 46.71%, followed by Rhode Island at a 44.58% increase.

#### Finance and Budgetary

**Under GSO financial results, there is about a \$283,000 net loss for the first nine months of this year.** Expenses are essentially flat from the same period last year, and **total revenue (literature, contributions, and interest) is down about 18%** from last year.

**On the Grapevine financials, there is about a \$207,000 net profit for the first nine months for Grapevine.** The La Vina shortfall is about \$99,000 for the first nine months, which is about \$19,000 less

than budgeted. **The Reserve fund** is at about 10 months of operating expenses, and it is expected to decline to about 9 months of operating expenses once the co-location project is completed.

### Literature

**Over 220 stories were submitted** for the three literature projects initiated by the 2015 Conference (revisions to “A.A. for the Woman” and “A.A. for the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic,” and the development of literature for A.A.s with mental health issues). Included were over twenty stories from Spanish-speaking members.

### Public Information

The **new PSA, “Doors”** is performing very well. It has been picked up by CNN Airport Network and is playing in at least nine major airports.

### Trustees’ Planning Session

The Trustees discussed a preliminary report on a **feasibility study** that was initiated this year in response to a suggestion from the trustees’ finance and budgetary committee, **which projects that if contributions continue to stay basically flat and sales continue to decline (including literature sales on the AAWS side and subscriptions on the AAGV side), that we may see significant budget deficits within a few years.** (The treasurer is refining projections, and there is a desire to hold sessions during Conference week to discuss ways to reduce expenses, increase revenues, and/or make improvements to our structure in order to respond proactively to the situation).

If you did not get a copy of November’s Delegate Report and would like to read it in its entirety, it is posted on the utahaa.org website - “Area 69 Business Documents”, or I am happy to e-mail you a copy.

The Final Report of the three year (2013, 14 and 15) General Service Conference Inventory was scheduled to be available to the Fellowship by late Fall. I was hoping to have them here today, but haven’t received them yet. I’m happy to bring some to your District’s meeting when I get them, and I will definitely have them for distribution at our 2016 February Committee Meeting. The 2015-16 edition of *“The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service”* is now available.

In closing, I want to thank District 6 for inviting us to share a wonderful evening with them celebrating sobriety and enjoying a delicious turkey dinner together on November 20<sup>th</sup>. I loved the visiting and the strong spirit of gratitude for Alcoholics Anonymous that was felt there. Thank you again for your generous hospitality District 6!

Serving Area 69 has been such a blessing in my life! I often feel short of words that can adequately express the gratitude I have in my heart for the opportunity you have given me to serve as your Utah Delegate!

I sincerely wish you all a very Peaceful, Blessed and Joyous Holiday Season filled with love and serenity!

Renae H.  
Area 69 Delegate