

July 2019 Quarterly Delegate Report

June 2, 2018

Western Washington Area Committee

2019 PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

The 2019 Pacific Northwest Conference will take place from Friday, June 21st through Sunday June 23rd at the Holiday Inn Portland-Airport in Portland, Oregon. The oldest continuing conference in AA still provides an opportunity for AA's from all over the Pacific Northwest to gather together and share, learn, reach out and have fun. The conference typically includes speakers, panels, and workshops.

<http://www.pnc1948.org/>

70TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The theme for the 2020 General Service Conference is: **2020: A Clear Vision for You**

The following will be presentation/discussion topics for the 2020 General Service Conference:

- Recovery – *Who is Missing in Our Rooms?*
- Unity – *Practicing Our Principles*
- Service – *Keeping A.A. Relevant*

The workshop topic is: *Attraction through Action*

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

- Employees: At the end of 2018, G.S.O. had 91 employees: 38 administrative, A.A. staff, supervisory and exempt professionals and 53 supporting personnel.
- G.S.O. Visitors: In 2018, G.S.O. welcomed more than 3,000 visitors (up from 2,312 in 2017), including many English- and Spanish-speaking groups ranging in size from 10 to 40.
- Archives finished 2018 with approximately 1,600 requests for information and research, and accessioned over 375 new items. Projects for 2019 include digitizing Bill W.'s personal collection of unpublished correspondence; scanning past trustee correspondence and conference committee background; organizing, filing and digitizing historical materials from the 1950s and 1960s, originally set aside by Nell Wing.
- Contributions for 2018 were \$8,384,721. This was \$184,721 (2.25%) greater than budgeted and \$24,731 (0.29%) less than 2017. This represented 74% of the cost of Fellow Services, the remaining 26% was made up through literature sales. This compares with 82% and 18% in 2017.
- During 2018, 82,229 contributions were received, 12,330 of which were online (few of which were from the 'recurring contribution' feature).

A.A. WORLD SERVICES

- Four major projects concerning Communications are in focus. Website design, A.A.W.S. Mobile App, You Tube and ERP software.

- GSO continues to implement ERP to replace FNV (Fellowship New Vision). This project has slowed due to data migration. Expected completion: August 2019.
- Revenue for 2018 was up by 2.16% over 2017 (this includes about 8.4 million in contributions-very close to 2017) Operating expenses were up 8.56% over 2017. This was due to salaries (new employees), litigation, ERP Software costs and implementation, and travel due to conference being in NY vs. Rye and World Service Meeting being in South Africa.
- 2019 Budget: The A.A.W.S. Board approved the budget of the General Service Office for 2019, which reflects gross sales of \$15,000,000 and a bottom line profit of \$501,221. After review by the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, the 2019 budget was approved by the General Service Board.
- There were 1,641 new A.A. groups in the U.S. and Canada listed with G.S.O. in 2018.

Website aa.org:

- The website received an estimated total of 15,254,461 visits for the year 2018, an increase of 14% from last year's total of 13,396,071.
- Approximately 431 emails were received through the online Website Feedback Form in 2018. G.S.O.'s Website Committee reviewed this feedback, with each email receiving a response.
- Some highlights of new features for 2018 include: posting of the new Experience, Strength and Hope pamphlets following Conference approval in April 2018; posting of press release for the 25th World Service Meeting; posting of YouTube Information and FAQ pages; posting of the Meeting Finder onboarding announcement; and posting of the "A.A. Around the World" feature on the International page.
- The YouTube channel was started with three Conference-approved PSAs: "Doors," "My World" and "I Have Hope" (available in English, French and Spanish). Expansion of the YouTube collection is in process, with the ultimate goal of hosting all A.A.W.S. video content.

Our Great Responsibility – New Publication

A selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference talks, 1951 – 1970. Timeless and timely, these 16 selected talks give fresh perspectives on the A.A. Fellowship in our co-founder's own words.

Available for \$10 at: <https://b2c.aaws.org/p-1045-our-great-responsibility.aspx>

A.A. GRAPEVINE AND LA VINA

- Grapevine ended 2018 with net loss of \$153,500 against budgeted net loss of \$271,313. The loss was primarily due to costs incurred as a result of Leadership transition.
- Gross profit for the magazine and subscription products reached \$1,911,513. Gross profit on the magazine was ahead of budget by \$140,236.
- Gross profit on books and related items was \$562,436.
- Overhead costs were budgeted at \$2,042,590 versus an actual of \$2,065,013.
- La Viña is published by AA Grapevine, Inc., with the shortfall between revenue and expenses made up by the General Service Board as a service to the Fellowship. La Viña had an average circulation of 9,635 per issue. Total income for the magazine for 2018 was \$80,375 with expenses at \$229,202.

- 2019 is the 75th anniversary of AA Grapevine. In recognition of this Grapevine has developed a Toolkit, a comprehensive package of recovery tools, for both Grapevine and La Viña, aimed at helping groups build the connections needed to reach other groups and the still-suffering alcoholic.
- The average paid circulation for print magazines was 66,857 in 2018 down from 69,249 in 2017.
- LaVina had a 2018 average circulation of 9,635. This compares with a 2017 average circulation of 9,996; 2016 average circulation of 10,374.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment/ Accessibilities

- The committee reviewed a pilot summary on badge-reader technology. The committee agreed to move forward with providing badge readers to the scheduled 2019 exhibits when possible.

Accessibilities

- The Subcommittee on Accessibilities: Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing - was formed in 2018. The scope is to continue exploring ways to meet the needs of A.A. members who are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing.
- The Subcommittee on Accessibilities: A.A. in the Armed Services – was formed in 2018. The scope is to improve the effectiveness of carrying the A.A. message and improve cooperation with the Armed Services.

Corrections

- “A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Information - For A.A.s on the Inside” (F-163) and “A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Information - For A.A.s on the Outside” (F-162) had been forwarded to the Publishing department for review, editing and development. A final draft is expected to be completed for review in July 2019.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

- July 2-5, 2020, Detroit, Michigan.
- The FAQ for the International Convention is up: https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/2020-international-convention-frequently-asked-questions
- Registration forms will be mailed in August 2019 to all G.S.R.s, central offices, intergroups and international G.S.O.s.
- Online registration will be available September 9, 2019, on aa.org.

Public Information

- A new membership survey may soon be developed. An RFP for a new methodology will be reviewed by the committee in July.
- Updating videos for Young People will be reviewed by the committee in July.

REGIONAL FORUMS

The Regional Forum for 2022 will be held in Utah.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Foster
Panel 69 Delegate