

2022 General Service Conference

Agenda Topic Summaries

Pre-Conference Assembly

March 20th, 2022

Disclosures:

The materials in this document are only summaries of the background. Information presented in the summaries is carefully distilled or extracted to be concise and provide enough information so that all districts and members in Michigan can fully participate. For more information on any particular item(s), please contact your DCM or DCMC to obtain full background information.

Please do not consider the summaries opinions of the Area officers. Only the section on “What the Delegate needs to know” is personally from our Delegate.

This includes background for the 72nd General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document; Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Websites (including social media pages) available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members.

A Message from the Delegate: How to Use These Summaries

This document contains the **Agenda Topic Summaries** of the background information for all of the items to be considered by the thirteen Conference committees of the 72nd General Service Conference (GSC). The topics will be discussed by their respective committees, and the committees *may* or *may not* send recommendations to the whole Conference for consideration and vote.

The **purpose** of these summaries is so that they may be used as a tool by General Service Representatives (GSRs) to provide their group with pertinent information to facilitate an informed group conscience and then to convey that group conscience to the Delegate. In many cases, the summaries serve as an appetizer and those GSRs and groups with an interest in more information can obtain the complete background by way of a password-protected link on our Area website. Your District Committee Member Chair (DCMC) or DCM can provide you with the password. Please remember to **treat the background as A.A. Confidential**, and do not share it in any public forum or with non A.A. members.

Please pay special attention in these summaries to the section at the end of each topic: “What does the Delegate need to know?” Not all topics make for fruitful discussion at group level, and this is intended to help you narrow that down. Many of the agenda topics are only for that particular committee (such as reviewing a draft or progress report on the development of a piece of literature) and do not require a group conscience, but still may be of great interest to read and share. Other topics appear every year, such as reviewing workbooks and kits used by Public Information, Corrections, etc. Local committees may wish to share their experience. These summaries may also be used by other members of our Fellowship to communicate good information about the agenda topics and, where appropriate, to convey opinions to the Delegate. Any questions in this section are intended to be a guide, not a limit, for your sharing sessions. Feel free to interpret them broadly.

Your Delegate this year serves on the **Trustees Committee**. Please bear in mind that I will have the opportunity to discuss the agenda topics in that section in depth during my committee meetings at the Conference and your input on those items would be especially helpful.

What is new in 2022 is that we are in the first year of the three-year trial of the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) process. If you want to know more about the EDW, there is a detailed report on this under Policy/Admissions. The key thing to note here is that there are Literature items sprinkled throughout the Conference committees to allow for more members of the Conference to share in the work. So be sure to look through all the agenda topics to see if there are any of interest to your group or committee.

Thank you for participating in the Conference process!

In love and service,
Jim Hankinson Area 34 Delegate Panel 72

Conference Theme, Presentation and Workshop Topics

The theme of the 72nd General Service Conference is:

“A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service”

The Presentation/Discussion topics will include:

How do A.A.s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify and Serve?

Going Beyond Fear

How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere

The Workshop Topic will be:

The Warranties – Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World

These are wonderful A.A. topics that can be talked about and discussed throughout the Fellowship, in assemblies, districts, intergroup/central office gatherings, and in groups. While we don't hear “group consciences” on these, please consider using them for your A.A. events. We will also have some time for sharing on the Conference Theme at the Pre-Conference Assembly.

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item A

Agenda Topic	Review suggestions for the theme of the 2023 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The theme of the Conference and the presentation topics revolve around the basic principles of A.A.; these suggestions can provoke a stimulating discussion at Area and District meetings as well. Regions, areas, and districts often incorporate the theme of the Conference in discussions, giving members of A.A. an opportunity to participate and be more informed about A.A. The background includes a list of 23 suggestions for the theme of next year’s Conference. The background also has a list with the themes of every Conference between 1951 and 2022. The Agenda committee will review and discuss all the ideas submitted and present a recommendation to the full Conference for approval.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. If you have a suggestion for a future theme, please share that with the Delegate, who can send it in later this year to be included in the background for 2023.

Conference Committee: Agenda— Item B

Agenda Topic	Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The seven presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference are listed in the background material. In the background, one can also find a list with the presentation and discussion topics of every Conference between 1985 and 2022. The Agenda committee will review and discuss all the ideas submitted and present a recommendation to the full Conference for approval.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. If you have a suggestion for a future presentation/discussion topic, please share that with the Delegate, who can send it in later this year to be included in the background for 2023.

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item C

Agenda Topic	Review workshop topic ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 10 workshop topic ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference are listed in the background material. In the background, one can also find a list with the workshop topics of every Conference between 1985 and 2022. The Agenda committee will review and discuss all the ideas submitted and present a recommendation to the full Conference for approval.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. If you have a suggestion for a future workshop topic, please share that with the Delegate, who can send it in later this year to be included in the background for 2023.

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item D

Agenda Topic	Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and 2021 Evaluation Summary.

<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>The committee reviewed the draft version of the 72nd General Service Conference evaluation form and discussed the suggestion to include a question on the form related to the pilot of the Equitable Distribution of Workload. The committee agreed to implement the updates to the evaluation form for the 2022 General Service Conference. The background includes a copy of this year’s evaluation form. A summary of results from the 2021 evaluation form is also in the background. The feedback is generally positive about the 2021 Conference, the second Conference held virtually in A.A. history. There were concerns about the timeliness of the Conference Manuals arriving to attendees in advance of the Conference and some questions about the value of having presentations in the midst of an already-quiete-busy Conference agenda. Digital distribution of Conference materials was generally well-received, although some members still preferred hard copies.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.</p>

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item E

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Discuss progress report of Conference improvement.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>At the August 2021 board meeting the committee formed a subcommittee on Conference improvement, with part of its scope to discuss a proposed agenda item to “alternate the G.S.C. between virtual and face-to-face formats.” The background contains a bulleted list of the subcommittee’s further scope that it was tasked to make progress reports and recommendations on, and excerpts from the progress reports in October 2021 and January 2022. The final subcommittee meeting was January 4, 2022, and the draft for the 2022 Conference Week Schedule was reviewed and accepted.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.</p>

Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item A

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Review progress report on A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>In 2017, the Conference C.P.C. committee began discussing the potential development of a LinkedIn page for Cooperation with the Professional Community committees and requested that the trustees write a report exploring all aspects of this social media tool, whether it was feasible within the Traditions, and develop a potential implementation plan. A report from the Trustees was presented in 2018, at which point the Conference C.P.C. committee recommended the development of an A.A.W.S. page on LinkedIn that could help professionals find information about A.A., broaden the reach of the <i>About A.A.</i> newsletter for professionals, and potentially deepen the pool of Class A Trustee candidates.</p> <p>The 2019 C.P.C. committee reinforced the 2018 request, asking for a disclaimer that “promoted” content on the LinkedIn page was not affiliated with A.A., adding links and content referencing how A.A. cooperated with professionals, and requesting an annual report tracking how the LinkedIn page was used. In 2021, the committee reinforced this request, resulting in the progress report in the background now. This progress report notes that in the last quarter of 2021, A.A.’s LinkedIn page had 1600 followers and 1506</p>

	<p>page views from 578 unique visitors from across multiple industries. Engagement with the content on the page ranged from 8 to 10 percent.</p> <p>Current priorities for the LinkedIn page include posting a range of content directed to professionals (including newsletters, videos directed to professionals, and employment opportunities) and expanding the use and visibility of A.A. on LinkedIn.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review suggested revisions for the draft pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2020, the Conference C.P.C. committee requested possible updates to the pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community” that focused on currency and inclusion of modern professionals, and to also create samples that communicate the content of the pamphlet visually. Suggested edits to the text of the pamphlet are included in the background.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlets for the mental health professionals.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, the Conference C.P.C. committee recommended the development of a pamphlet directed to mental health professionals. The Trustees met and determined that to help develop this pamphlet, they would first assemble a focus group of Class A (non-alcoholic) trustees and other mental health professionals that are members of the fellowship to find out what they need when addressing the suffering alcoholic.</p> <p>The focus group met and discussed barriers to referring or providing information to clients about A.A. The entire focus group report is in the background. Barriers included confusion about spirituality vs. religion, that professionals don’t know how to “refer” people to A.A. since A.A. has no intake process, confusion about anonymity, confusion about A.A.’s policy on medication (there is none), understanding who is an alcoholic, knowing the types of meetings that exist, confusion about A.A.’s singleness of purpose, and sometimes non-existent relationships with local A.A. resources. The focus group hoped that A.A. could clearly communicate that recovery is an evidence-based service, that it is accessible, and that it is inclusive.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group or committee hope is included in a pamphlet directed to mental health professionals? What information do you think can help mental health professionals effectively address suffering alcoholics?

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Consider creating a new pamphlet designed to help C.P.C. committees reach as many doctors as possible.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A C.P.C. committee in Boise, Idaho is asking for the development of a pamphlet to help C.P.C. committees reach doctors. The committee notes the current “A.A. as a Resource for the Healthcare Professional” pamphlet is quite involved, and a C.P.C. contact card may be too impersonal to communicate with doctors. The committee also observes local doctors are not engaged with A.A., and that many doctors do not know they are treating alcoholics. The background information also includes a sample page of a potential pamphlet.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group or committee think a pamphlet specifically targeting doctors is necessary? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.
--------------	--

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Workbooks for Archives, C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference. In 2021, the Conference C.P.C. committee asked for shared experience on creative ways to carry the A.A. message to professionals (including, but not limited to) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sharing from the fellowship is included in the background, and it could be added to the Kit and Workbook. There are also two suggested revisions to the current <i>Sample guide letter to Military chaplains</i>, an example of a letter to a military chaplain, and a proposal to remove the <i>Sample guide letter to professionals who work with military veterans</i> from the C.P.C. Workbook because it might be missing the mark to the targeted audience and much of what the letter suggests is better-stated in other parts of the Workbook.</p> <p>The current C.P.C. Kit contents and Workbook can be found online: www.aa.org/contents-cpc-kit-list</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate or Alternate Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.</p>

Conference Committee: **Corrections — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review Corrections Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Every year, the Corrections committee at the Conference reviews the Corrections Kit and Workbook. Outdated information may be updated or removed by GSO staff members, who report those changes to the trustees. There were two meetings with the trustees' committee on Corrections scheduled due to the many revisions that were suggested by the National Corrections Committee. The suggested revisions are still being reviewed by the Corrections committee and are not available in the background. Because of the current supply chain challenges, including paper shortages, it is anticipated that the revised kit and workbook will be available in digital format prior to the print versions.</p> <p>The current Kit and Workbook are available online: www.aa.org/contents-corrections-committee-kit-list</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	<p>Does your group or committee have any suggestions regarding materials that should be added (or removed) from the Corrections Kit and Workbook?</p>

Conference Committee: **Corrections — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Reconsider use of the term “person in custody” in A.A. literature.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This proposal comes from a District in Area 79 (BC/Yukon) and the GSR of a Medium Security Institutional Group in Canada. They are asking the 2022 Conference to reconsider the 2021 Conference decision to change the language in our A.A. literature from “Inmate” and “Convict” to “Person in Custody.” The submitter says that “Person in Custody” is neither recognized nor used in Canada’s Judicial system. Multiple correctional A.A. groups felt using the term already in use, “Inside A.A. Members” was more respectful and encourages inclusiveness. They also felt that the terminology of inmate or convicts is appropriate when literature is directed to professionals. There are suggestions for different terminology from Correction Groups in the background, along with copies of A.A. Pre-release Contact Information service pieces F-162 and F-163.</p>

What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the term “person in custody” should be reconsidered? Why or why not?
--------------------------------------	--

Conference Committee: **Corrections — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Consider requests to limit changes to the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The 71st General Service Conference passed two advisory actions to develop a Fifth Edition of the Big Book. First, that a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that “The first 164 pages of the Big Book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Doctor Bob’s Nightmare’ and the Appendices remain as is.” Second, that “Pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface, and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V.”</p> <p>There are two requests in the background that were combined into this single item. The first one cites the second advisory action noted above and expresses the sentiment that the protection of Bill’s writings from the 1995 Advisory Action was taken away by the actions of the 71st Conference. They also note that updates to Appendices III and V can be via additional information immediately following the existing text of the respective appendix.</p> <p>The second submission included in this item also asks that no changes be made to the Big Book except for updating stories. The reasoning behind their proposal is that they feel that outside issues are being brought into A.A. and into A.A. literature. They quote Tradition 10 and the Preamble as well as our co-founder Bill Wilson. There is a comparison to the Washingtonian Movement and how outside issues destroyed that movement and how they feel Alcoholics Anonymous is heading in that direction. The submitter also expressed concerns on “cancelling pronouns” being the start of changes throughout the literature with of a possible progression of removing “musts” to eventually removing God.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel there is a need to limit changes to the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> ? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Corrections — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Discuss request to make A.A. literature changes slowly and with A.A.’s primary purpose in mind.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This submission comes from a long-time member who feels that “considering making any changes to the Big Book and any literature is a mistake while the world is challenged by distance due to the Covid-19 pandemic.” He asks us to keep the lesson of the Washingtonians in mind when making changes, that our message has worked for 86 years, and that our primary purpose should remain clear.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that changes to our A.A. literature are done at a pace that keeps our primary purpose in mind? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Finance— Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review Self-Support Packet.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The self-support packet is reviewed annually by the Conference Committee on Finance. It consists of a number of pamphlets, the self-support card, A.A. Guidelines on Finance and the Birthday Envelope. The memo in the background also asks that the Conference Committee review the materials with an eye toward inconsistent language regarding

	making contributions to G.S.O. (General Service Office) when they should be made to G.S.B. (General Service Board).
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. Does your group know that the new address for sending contributions to the General Service Board is: P.O. Box 2407, James A. Farley Station, New York, NY 10116-2407?

Conference Committee: **Finance — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add a historical disclaimer to the front of the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This proposal from Texas included a number of letters from groups and districts in support and suggests that rather than making changes to the text, something like the following could be added as a disclaimer: “While the language in this text may seem dated, please remember that Bill W. wrote in the language and custom of his times. Bill was very tolerant of different individuals and members. All alcoholics, were and are now welcomed cordially into A.A. Were Bill to write this book today, it may be worded differently in some places. Society may change, but the basic spiritual principles of Alcoholics Anonymous are classic and eternal. We hope that this book continues to broaden and deepen the understanding of the Twelve Steps as written in the book Alcoholics Anonymous.”</p> <p>G.S.O. received many other requests to reverse or rescind one or more of the changes approved at last year’s General Service Conference, and several requests to preserve, unaltered, the text of the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> as originally published. These requests are excerpted in the background and fall generally into the following categories: the sentiment that no changes should be made to Bill’s writing, concerns that one change could lead to a “slippery slope” of endless future changes, that the COVID pandemic (or other issues) didn’t allow for a fully informed group conscience, and that the changes are the result of outside issues and therefore not in keeping with Tradition 10.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the idea of adding a historical disclaimer at the beginning of the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> ?

Conference Committee: **Finance — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Consider request that all proposed changes to the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> be handled in footnotes.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In response to the changes made at last year’s Conference, this proposal from a District seeks to maintain the integrity and historical accuracy of the text by handling all changes in footnotes rather than in a revision of the actual text.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that changes to <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> should be handled in footnotes or by changing the body of work itself? Why?

Conference Committee: **Grapevine and La Viña — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Grapevine Workbook is available via aagrapevine.org and is used primarily by Grapevine Representatives and Committees. This is an annually standing agenda item for the Grapevine committee. The background notes that the committee last year asked for additional information to be included in the workbook on ways to use the AA Grapevine

	as a Twelfth Step tool, the availability of books, pricing, ways Canadian members can more easily participate, and new multimedia platforms. AA Grapevine management has contracted a freelancer to help rewrite and redesign the workbook to add graphics and expand on ways to use the magazine as a recovery tool.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Grapevine and La Viña — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, the Grapevine committee recommended that the A.A. Grapevine Board launch an Instagram account, and they requested that a report on that account be brought back to the Conference this year. Instagram is an online mobile photo-sharing site that allows its users to share pictures and videos either publicly or privately (as well as through a variety of other social networking platforms). It is visual in nature, allowing images to be displayed with or without short descriptions.</p> <p>The progress report (included in the background) reports that the Instagram accounts for Grapevine and La Viña launched on July 7, 2021, posting a Daily Quote each morning and additional posts each week (including new magazine issue releases, new book accounts, and inspiration from both AA pioneers and today’s members). There are numerous examples of posts in the background. More than 130,000 people were reached by the Grapevine posts; the account has 5965 followers (an increase of 8.21 percent in the past 90 days). The large majority of followers are from the United States (with a handful of followers from other English-speaking countries), approximately 40 percent of followers are under age 45, and more than half of followers are female. Another 15,000 people were reached by the La Viña posts; the account has 658 followers (an increase of 6.82 percent in the past 90 days). While the majority of followers are from the United States and Mexico, a large number of followers come from Spanish-speaking countries in Central America, South America, and Europe. Nearly 45 percent of followers are under age 45, and while the majority of followers are male, about 35 percent of followers are female.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Grapevine and La Viña — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2023 and later.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>At every Conference, the Grapevine Committee reviews a list of proposed book topics. The proposed books for 2023 (and later) are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Best of Dear Grapevine (working title) - Previously published stories from the pages of Grapevine by A.A. members which were printed in the magazine’s letters section. 2. Book for Newcomers (working title) - Previously published stories by A.A. members sharing helpful tools and suggestions during their first year in sobriety. 3. Best of La Viña II (working title) (La Viña book) - Spanish-speaking A.A. members share their experience, strength and hope, from the pages of La Viña 4. Prayer & Meditation (working title) (La Viña book) - Previously published stories by Spanish-speaking A.A. members sharing about the many ways they practice Step Eleven (possibly including some translated stories from the Grapevine version).

	The background also includes a list of previously-approved book ideas that could be produced.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What do the members of your group think about these topics for Grapevine/La Viña books? Are there other topics they would like to see addressed?

Conference Committee: **Grapevine and La Viña — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Discuss the wide-ranging impact the Preamble change has had on our A.A. Fellowship.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, as the result of a floor action at the General Service Conference, the A.A. Preamble published in the Grapevine was revised, with the word “people” replacing “men and women.”</p> <p>A letter from the Grapevine Board Chair included in the background notes that, almost immediately following last year’s Conference, the Grapevine Board began receiving considerable feedback (some favorable, some unfavorable, and some simply asking for additional information) regarding the Preamble revision. While some people said that the A.A. unity was enhanced by the welcoming language, others said unity was disrupted by the change. Some members expressed concern that Grapevine’s editorial independence was negatively impacted; however, it was the Board, Publisher, and Editors who proposed this change and forwarded the change for discussion as an agenda item to the General Service Conference. Some people noted that each group is autonomous – and that their groups had changed the Preamble prior to the official change, while others said their groups would continue using “men and women.” Some people suggested the language change was an outside issue, while others said it was an inside issue supported by Tradition 3 (welcoming, inclusive, etc.). The Grapevine Board Chair concludes that more discussion is required so that we can move forward as a Fellowship.</p> <p>A timeline of how the Preamble change occurred is also included in the background.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	How well has your group received the new A.A. Preamble? Do you have any examples of how the change has helped or hindered unity in the Fellowship? Do you have any examples of how it has helped or hindered newcomers getting sober in A.A.?

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Annual review of recovery literature matrix.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The matrix is designed as a tool for the trustees’ and Conference Literature committees, containing pertinent information regarding distribution to inform periodic review. This year it has been reformatted and the background also includes a Publishing workflow report at the request of the Conference committee. It was also noted that consideration is underway for the matrix and workflow information to be included in the background for review and approval of pamphlet updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy (see Item O).
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in <i>Living Sober</i> and the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2018, the Conference Literature committee requested new text addressing safety in the book <i>Living Sober</i> and, in the pamphlet, “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.” The focus of the language was meant to address safety at the group level. This has been discussed again in years since, and the Publishing department developed language that could be inserted on page 76 of the book <i>Living Sober</i> ; you can find that language in the background material (Document 4). The Publishing department also developed language

	that could be inserted on pages 14 and 23 in the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship;” that language is also in the background material (Document 5).
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review draft pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2018, the Conference approved the development of a pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies, with emphasis on the history of the Three Legacies, how they work together and including personal stories of members’ experiences with the Three Legacies. The draft was sent only to the Conference Literature committee, but you can review the progress report and some history on the development in the background.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review draft pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2019, the Conference voted to update this pamphlet. The draft was sent only to the Conference Literature committee, but you can review the progress report and some history on the development in the background, including considerations related to the graphics. The current pamphlet is available on the aa.org website.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2019, the Conference voted to update this pamphlet. The draft was sent only to the Conference Literature committee, but you can review the progress report and history on the development in the background, including considerations related to the concurrent update of similar pamphlets. The current pamphlet is available on the aa.org website. Another consideration is whether to adapt a video animation of a similar pamphlet from the General Service Office in Great Britain for use here in the U.S. and Canada. You can view their video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN6t4jAXJd0
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “Too Young?”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2019, the Conference voted to update this pamphlet and different formats are being explored, including video and animation. The progress report is in the background along with the history of Conference considerations and past sharing from Y.P.A.A. members.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Review draft of the revised pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”
--------------	---

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2016, the Conference voted to update this pamphlet. The draft was sent to Conference Literature committee members only. The progress report is in the background along with the history of Conference considerations and past sharing from Y.P.A.A. members.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item H**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021, the Conference voted to update this pamphlet with fresh stories and a title that is respectful and inclusive. The progress report is in the background, along with the history of Conference considerations and actions, and past reports from subcommittees related to the need. The progress report details the formation of the working group, which is comprised of seven A.A. members representing a wide variety of ethnic, geographic, linguistic and age perspectives, who are well acquainted with the pamphlet’s target audiences. Details on the working group process and strategy for outreach to collect stories are also in the report. A call for stories will be coming soon.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item I**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021, the Conference voted to revise and update this pamphlet to correct inaccuracies and to include fresh stories and language that is respectful and inclusive. The report is in the background along with some history. There is an identified need for an Appointed Committee Member to lead the process and a working group.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item J**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding development of a Fourth Edition of the book <i>Alcohólicos Anónimos</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021, the Conference approved the development of the Fourth Edition of the Spanish Big Book. History regarding the development of the current Third Edition is in the background, along with requests for revisions related to translation “errors and omissions” sent in by members over the years. The progress report includes information on the working group timeline and call for stories, with plans for presentations and story writing workshops at numerous A.A. events. A call for stories will come soon. The seven members on this working group have been chosen for their experience as native Spanish-speaking members of the Fellowship. Their heritage includes Mexico, Central and South America, Spain, and the Caribbean and they are all very active in service at different levels. The working group will collect stories from the broad diversity of Hispanic A.A. members in the U.S./Canada structure only, noting that countries outside the U.S./Canada structure can obtain licenses from A.A.W.S. that would allow original stories from their respective countries to be included in Big Book editions they

	publish themselves. The working group is mindful of translation concerns. The Publishing department will work with a professional translator to provide drafts, which the members of the working group will then review in sections to ensure that the text encompasses the diversity of the Spanish-speaking population. They will use the list of corrections and suggestions received as a reference when they review the drafts from Publishing, and they are taking notes on what they hear from the Fellowship.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item K**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding the translation of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)</i> into plain and simple language.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, the Conference approved a recommendation that a draft version of the book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)</i>, be translated into plain and simple language and be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible. The detailed progress report from the Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) subcommittee is available in the background. TABB reviewed all the feedback from the Fellowship on the video that was made available last year by a previous subcommittee (RIPTAB). Some information on their review carries over into the related Item L below.</p> <p>The TABB subcommittee also reviewed a number of proposed agenda items sent in this year to stop the development of a plain language Big Book. Of note in these proposals were concerns regarding political intentions, eradication of God, and the removal of all gendered language. The TABB subcommittee affirmed in the report that the objective is to achieve a translation into plain language that meets the accessibility needs of those with a 5th grade reading level. The request to prospective translators noted specifically that “we are seeking simplification of vocabulary, syntax and style to bring it into alignment with current plain language guidelines” and that “sensitivity to A.A.-specific language will be key.” While the translator is a professional, this will be a collaborative effort. A.A. members through the TABB subcommittee, G.S.O., the trustees’ Literature Committee and ultimately the General Service Conference will guide the process.</p> <p>Also in the report is a roadmap to guide workflows and address the unique circumstances of this sort of translation, including touchpoints with the General Service Conference. Of particular note is that some unedited samples of the translated text from the Big Book are included in this report. While very preliminary in nature, the TABB subcommittee recognizes that there is “a high level of interest in the process for the plain and simple language translation, and that there are those with concerns regarding the intent of this project. It is hoped that this early transparency, and of sharing materials that have yet to even be edited, will serve to provide the Conference Committee on Literature the opportunity to see exactly where this project is at this point in time and offer any early feedback that they may have.”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. You are encouraged to share information in this summary and the background with members of your group who are interested in the development of this draft literature.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item L**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding requests to develop study guide workbooks for A.A.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, the Conference Literature committee requested that the trustees’ Literature committee consider the development of workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, as reflected in the most current edition of the book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, and that a feasibility report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. This year the trustees’ Literature committee also received proposed agenda items to consider creating an individualized workbook to accompany the Big Book, and the development of a contemporary and comprehensive new workbook to study the Twelve Steps, Traditions and Concepts. A detailed progress report from the Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) subcommittee is available in the background, along with the report from a previous subcommittee (RIPTAB). There is some overlap in the report from the related Item K above.</p> <p>In January 2022, the trustees’ Literature Committee discussed the work done by the TABB subcommittee regarding requests to develop study guide workbooks for A.A. The committee agreed on requesting feedback from the Fellowship on the following options:</p> <p>Option 1 – Take no action, as suggested by the 1985 advisory action which reaffirmed previous Conference actions that there was no need for a Step study guide.</p> <p>Option 2 – Turn to the Grapevine and leverage its ample archive of articles on practicing the Steps to show variation in approach and style. Future Grapevine podcasts could serve a supplemental role and help enrich this effort.</p> <p>Option 3 – Create a General Service Conference-approved study guide workbook to aid in studying the Twelve Steps. Possibly with inclusion of the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts.</p> <p>Note: Options 2 and 3 to primarily be a print-based product, with the potential of supporting and/or companion material via digital, video, and/or podcast.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any feedback on the requests to develop study guide workbooks and/or the options presented above?

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item M**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding development of a Fifth Edition of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The 71st General Service Conference passed two advisory actions to develop a Fifth Edition of the Big Book. First, that a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that “The first 164 pages of the Big Book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Doctor Bob’s Nightmare’ and the Appendices remain as is.” Second, that “pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface, and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V.”</p> <p>The detailed progress report in the background includes: a historical summary of previous editions; proposed Conference schedule of recommendations for review; a proposed monthly breakdown of the subcommittee work; proposed list of all potential</p>

	recommendations/decisions related to printing a new edition with recent history of actions included; historical background notes from Fourth Edition; a talk on A.A. principles given at a Board sharing session by past trustee, David E.; a proposed call for stories for the 5th Edition; and much more. A call for stories will be coming soon.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item N**

Agenda Topic	Discuss the existing version of the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021, a Conference advisory action approved the updated version of this pamphlet, “Experience Has Taught Us: An Introduction to Our Twelve Traditions,” (P-91) as a distinct piece of literature addressing a different audience and serving a different purpose. The Conference that year also recommended that the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” (P-43) not be retired. The trustees’ Literature committee agreed with continuing publication and distribution of the existing “Twelve Traditions Illustrated” pamphlet. The committee also noted the potentially offensive language and visuals which contributed to the original request to revise this pamphlet, and in January 2022 they requested that the Publishing department seek professional input on approaches to revise language and offensive visuals.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item O1 - O4**

Agenda Topic	Discuss G.S.O. Publishing updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy: O1 - Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Is A.A. for You?” O2 - Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?” O3 - Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.” O4 - Review the draft update of the pamphlet “This Is A.A.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This item has been carried over from the previous Conference due to pandemic-related delays and the workload of the committee. The Conference Literature committee will review the drafts of the above pamphlets with G.S.O. Publishing updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy. These updates were approved in January 2021 by the A.A.W.S. Board and the trustees’ Literature Committee at that time. The background includes the A.A.W.S. “Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current.”
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item P**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding strategy to make current literature accessible in all possible formats.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In August 2020, the trustees Literature Committee discussed making current literature accessible in all possible formats noting that the various approaches and strategies for broadening format availability of literature items with accessibility in mind is underway in the Publishing department and being discussed by the A.A.W.S. Publishing committee. This includes publishing audiobooks and eBooks and digital distribution of literature, including into prisons, and the new unabridged version of <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> in

	audio format on CD in English, French and Spanish. Also, language review based on the A.A.W.S. Editorial Policy for updating pamphlets to keep current. A workflow priority plan is in the background. More than 24 pamphlets are in the review process.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item Q**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding Literature Committee workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	On January 29, 2022, the trustees' Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to forward a progress report to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature regarding a Literature Committee workbook. The report includes a draft outline with shared experience from local committees.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item R**

Agenda Topic	Discuss changes to the text of the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> as directed by the 71st General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, three recommendations to change the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> were passed by substantial unanimity at the 71st Conference. 1. A revision was made to page 117, replacing the phrase “mate of the opposite sex” with the word “partner.” 2. A revision was made on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six” to replace the sentence “No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health.” The new sentence is: “No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust or gluttony.” 3. The long form of each Tradition is now included at the end of each essay for that Tradition in the book (with the complete set of Traditions still at the back of the book as before). New printings of the book in 2021-2022 have included these changes.</p> <p>The General Service Office has since received 40 requests to reverse or rescind one or more of these changes, and/or to preserve, unaltered, the text of the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i>, as originally published. The proposed agenda items, excerpts of which are sampled in the background information, fell broadly into four categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. References to previous Conference advisory actions and the sentiment that Bill’s writing should not be changed. 2. The “slippery slope” concern, that these changes could lead to endless future changes. 3. That the COVID pandemic, or other issues, didn’t allow for a fully informed group conscience. 4. That the changes are the result of outside issues and therefore not in keeping with Tradition 10, or other Traditions. <p>Also in the background is a History of Proposed Changes and Editorial Updates (2002 – Current) for <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> prepared by the Archives department.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group feel about the changes that were made to the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> ?

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item S**

Agenda Topic	Consider an update of the book <i>Experience, Strength and Hope</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This came from the progress report on the development of the Fifth Edition of the Big Book. In January 2022, the trustees Committee on Literature agreed to forward to the Conference Literature Committee a recommendation that all stories dropped from the Fourth Edition of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> be added to the next printing of the book <i>Experience, Strength and Hope</i> . The current anthology contains 56 stories retired from the first three editions of the Big Book.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review G.S.O. general manager’s report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Last year, the committee suggested that future General Service Conference site selection reports provided by G.S.O. management include more details on specific sites considered for an overall reduction or containment of total Conference costs, suitability of sleeping

	rooms and meeting rooms, and an improvement in the convenience and cost of transportation to and from airports. Due to the uncertainty of the hotel market caused by the pandemic, the sites for the 74 th and 75 th General Service Conference have not yet been selected, but the office is now preparing to transition all events back to pre-pandemic schedules. In 2018, the General Service Office contracted a consultant that sent 11 Request for Proposals (RFP) to hotels in New York City, Westchester County, Long Island, Connecticut, and New Jersey, and secured the current site of the Brooklyn Marriott for the 2022 and 2023 Conferences. Although a few years old, the data gathered provides a good cross-section of hotels eligible for selection. The background contains the memorandum from the General Manager with a breakdown of costs and transportation information.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review dates for the 2026 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In order to provide additional flexibility to G.S.O. management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee will review a slate of dates in April or May that are the best choices and do not conflict with any significant holidays. Included in the background are a list of Conference dates from 1993-2022 and a 2026 calendar listing holidays and observances.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Discuss the procedure: “Process for Approving Observers to the Conference.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This submission came from the Area 39 Western Missouri Delegate as a follow up to a committee consideration from the 2021 Conference. It requests a change of procedure of the process for approving visitors to the Conference, to enable the Policy/Admissions Committee, along with the trustees’ Committee on the G.S.C., to approve routine requests for admission from General Service structures outside the U.S. and Canada without requiring a Conference Advisory Action. The reasoning is that it could save time for G.S.O. staff and other Conference members, and support the right of decision of the committee. The background material contains the current “Process for Approving Visitors to the Conference.” (The polling process itself is outlined in the background for Item D below.)
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that the process for admitting observers to the G.S.C. from other General Service structures outside of the U.S. and Canada should require full Conference participation and an Advisory Action? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the development of a process using virtual meeting technologies for polling the G.S.C. between meetings.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021 it was decided that a process would be developed to make use of virtual meeting technologies when polling the General Service Conference between annual meetings. As a result of the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) however, the undertaking was paused as the number of potential agenda items submitted this year overwhelmed and

	reprioritized the workload of all committees. The background contains the current process for polling by email and phone. Since this year there was only one topic for polling (see Item C above), it was handled with the standard process.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, it was approved to create the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) on a three-year trial basis with a progress report after each year. A subcommittee was formed and the EDW was implemented for the 72nd General Service Conference. Aspects of the whole process that were most visible to the fellowship included the timeline advancement pushing the deadline to submit agenda requests from December 15 up to September 15, and the implementation of a Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) submission form rather than a submission letter, streamlining the processing of agenda requests and their assignment to a committee. Other initiatives of the EDW involved the coordination of communications and meetings of the trustees' and Conference committees between annual meetings and Board weekends, the creation of a scoring tool to evaluate and assign an estimate of the complexity and time-demand that each item would place on a G.S.C. committee, and the distribution of agenda items to committees that that are not receiving as many new items.</p> <p>The background is very detailed with a copy of the 2021 EDW Plan and the Year One progress report that describes the findings identified in the first year of the trial. Overall, the plan delivered the intended results, and the report goes in depth to explain the impact of the timeline advancement with the challenges and opportunities it created. It also describes the unforeseen workload and attention the project itself entailed and identifies areas of focus and questions about other processes (including background translation) to be addressed during Year Two of the trial.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to restore a paragraph in the story “Freedom from Bondage” in the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This motion comes from an Area where it passed with substantial unanimity. The text that was removed from page 546 is shown in the background in its original location: “I looked around me at people who seemed happy and tried to analyze their happiness, and it seemed to me that without exception these people had something or somebody they loved very much. I didn’t have the courage to love; I was not even sure I had the capacity. Fear of rejection and its ensuing pain were not to be risked, and I turned away from myself once more for the answer, this time to the drinks I had always refused before, and in alcohol I found a false courage.”</p> <p>Also included in the background is a history of the deletion of the paragraph in 2002 with excerpts from reports from the trustees' Literature Committee explaining the reason for the deletion—which focuses on creating a similar page count between the Third Edition</p>

	and Fourth Edition. If not for the edits to this story (and several others), there would be multiple blank pages at the end of the book because of how books are published.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think the paragraph should be added back to the story “Freedom from Bondage” in future printings? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Policy/Admissions — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” to reflect shared experience on service sponsorship.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This proposal came from Area 44, New Jersey and was not able to be addressed by the Conference Literature committee in previous years. They are requesting that the Service Sponsorship section in the pamphlet “Questions & Answers on Sponsorship” (P-15) be expanded, and that the pamphlet be retitled to include Service Sponsorship. Some benefits and goals from the proposal: reinforce the notion that service work often begins with a suggestion from a service sponsor; have more members engage in service work; point out the benefits of service to the individual, the group and the fellowship; define service work as a responsibility of the recovering A.A. member; discuss ways in which a person in service can attract others to service; explore ways in which a service sponsor can assist those new to service; and, present personal experiences of those serving as service sponsors.</p> <p>The background also includes links to the current pamphlet and service material on service sponsorship. It is noted that since the item was originally submitted, a section on service sponsorship was added to the revised <i>A.A. Service Manual 2021-2023 edition</i>.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” should be revised to include more shared experience on service sponsorship? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review the 2022 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This is an annual item and this year’s report focused on the work of the Comprehensive Media Plan working groups. Communication is at the heart of A.A.’s mission to extend the hand of recovery from alcoholism to anyone who seeks our help. This media plan outlines all the activities A.A. does to carry the message publicly and the committee continues to refine this draft plan document and seek feedback from the Fellowship through the Conference process. The plan sections are Website, Public Relations, Social Media, A.A.W.S. LinkedIn, GV Instagram, Meeting Guide App, Content Creation, TV PSAs, Podcasts, and Literature. In 2022, priorities are Website Search Engine Optimization, PI Calendar planning, developing sharable content, and clarifying the strategic value of the Meeting Guide App.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item B1**

Agenda Topic	<p>Public Service Announcements (PSAs): Review the distribution and tracking information for two video PSAs: i. “Sobriety in A.A.: My Drinking Built a Wall” ii. “Sobriety in A.A.: When Drinking is no longer a Party.”</p>
--------------	---

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Since 1966, A.A. has utilized Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to inform the public about our message of recovery. When local TV or radio stations have “gaps” in their programming, they will allow non-profits to fill said gaps with short information that serves the public good. As of January 2022, the U.S. English and Spanish TV PSAs have now aired a total of 2,792 times with 13,783,195 impressions (views) and \$840,942 in donated media value. The PSAs have been shown in dozens of stations across the US.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item B2**

Agenda Topic	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): Review the 2021 report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This is an annual item. Our current video PSAs remain useful according to the report. Also noted, the project to update all English, French and Spanish Radio/Audio PSA contact A.A. tag lines, to remove any outdated references, is complete. Video and Audio PSAs are all available online www.aa.org/public-information-committees
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review a progress report and the G.S.O. Podcast Plan.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The P.I. committee is in the process of developing a service material-themed podcast, as directed by the 2021 General Service Conference. Guidelines for producing the podcast and financial information are in the background, along with a link and a transcript of the pilot G.S.O. podcast created in 2021. The committee released a survey about the pilot episode to the corporate boards and office staff and feedback was positive. Some proposals for consideration are: 1) Consider moving in a new direction and creating a G.S.O. Podcast plan using the A.A. Grapevine podcast experience as a guide (establishing a very streamlined/simple/repeatable format that requires minimal oversight from G.S.O); 2) Consider moving forward with the existing G.S.O. podcast team process outlined in this G.S.O. Podcast plan and produce 6 to 12 podcast episodes in 2022; and 3) Given the success of the A.A. Grapevine podcast, request if they can incorporate G.S.O./Service Material-oriented content within the context of their format and not create a separate G.S.O. podcast.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think podcasts are an effective way of sharing information about A.A. within the Fellowship? Do they have any feedback on the pilot episode or the plan?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review report on “YouTube Performance.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	There are now 109 A.A.W.S. videos posted publicly to YouTube (some in English only, others in English, Spanish and French). The channel has 6,500 subscribers with 31,515 total views in the fourth quarter of 2021. The video titled “Alcoholics Anonymous” and “Alcohólicos Anónimos” were the most viewed videos on the channel.

	You can find the channel here: www.youtube.com/c/AlcoholicsAnonymousWorldServicesInc
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review report on “Google Ads Performance.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2019, the Conference approved starting the process to implement Google AdWords for the purpose of providing information about A.A. to the public through Google searches. In the fourth quarter of 2021 Google Ads Performance resulted in 5,430 clicks (up from 3,100 last year), 50,900 impressions (up from 24,500 last year) a cost-per-click of \$0.86 (\$1.43 last year), and a total cost of \$4,560 (no change). The most “attention” we get from Google searches through the Google AdWords continues to be “Find a Meeting.” Staff will continue to create new content to reach different professional categories like corrections, education, faith, HR, legal, medical, military and treatment.</p> <p>It was highlighted for the Conference Committee in the Comprehensive Media Plan that the office needs the ability to continuously optimize the Google Ads campaigns based on standard best practices to maximize opportunities to reach suffering alcoholics. The appropriate staff members should be able to make the following updates to the campaign without waiting a year for Conference approval to ensure improved performance: Evaluate and experiment with ad targeting; A/B test ad copy and design; add/remove keywords and negative keywords; change keyword match type; test multiple landing page options; and approve/deny basic campaign suggestions provided by Google Ads.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Review report on “Meeting Guide Performance.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Meeting Guide App launched a major upgrade in 2021 with some new features outlined in the background material. Some of these upgrades include the ability to distinguish between online and in-person meetings as well as embedding login IDs for online meetings. The app has also added a handful of new participating communities to the meeting listings every month. These are geographic locations who voluntarily add their current meeting lists to the app.</p> <p>More info on the App: https://www.aa.org/meeting-guide-app</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Do members of your group know about and use the Meeting Guide app? Does your group or committee feel it is a helpful tool? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Review the “2021 Fourth Quarter Report on A.A.W.S. Board Oversight of G.S.O.’s A.A. website.”
--------------	--

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A.A. launched a new website in 2021 therefore the fourth quarter report is critical in understanding how the new website is performing and being received. In December 2021, the website had averaged about 435,000 visits per week. Most visitors (roughly two-thirds) go to the Daily Reflections page. The committee has developed a set of tasks to continue to develop and improve the A.A. website.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. Specific questions and suggestions should be directed to: websiteservices@aa.org

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item H**

Agenda Topic	Review report on “A.A.G.V./La Viña Website, Marketing and Podcast.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	According to the report in the background, “2021 was a good year for Grapevine and La Viña. We tracked over 1 million visitors between the Grapevine site and store and saw a 13% increase in revenue (\$1.22M). The podcast, though launched late in the year, was the 5th most popular page on the site overall for 2021.” The GV podcast had 38,015 downloads and the GV daily quote page had 45,136 views as of January 2022. You can find the website and podcast at: www.aagrapevine.org
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item I**

Agenda Topic	Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 2021 Conference approved a recommendation that a feasibility study on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms (including, but not limited to, Netflix, Hulu, and YouTube) be conducted, with a report brought back to this year’s Conference. These would be paid placements, not donated space like our PSAs on broadcast channels. The research identified various platforms and costs to place our existing PSAs on these digital spaces. It also explained the difference between passive or active ad placements. The research did not find anything in the Public Information Committee’s History & Action documents or department files stating we cannot do paid advertising. In fact, we already partake in unsolicited paid email marketing/advertising communication distribution via Campaign Monitor. The trustees’ discussion of the research identified some questions to spark discussion: Does this feel like a direction that the Conference would like to try? What sort of target audience demographics might be reached with this type of PSA message? What sort of messaging?
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group or committee think A.A. should pursue paid placement of public service announcements on streaming platforms? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item J1**

Agenda Topic	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials: Consider suggestion to revise the flyer “A.A. At a Glance.”
--------------	---

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The staff secretary has researched the trustees' Public Information Committee files and discovered the P.I. Pamphlet Review Grid of the Conference-approved pamphlets under the purview of this committee. "A.A. At a Glance" (F-1) has been part of our materials since 1954 and has continued to be updated, most recently in 2019. The Conference Committee is being asked to consider if editorial updates and a more modern look would improve the ability to carry the message captured in this flyer. You can find it online at: www.aa.org/aa-glance
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group or committee think this flyer is helpful as a quick description of our Fellowship? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item J2**

Agenda Topic	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials: Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 2021 Conference approved a recommendation that the trustees' Public Information Committee revise the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings" to better reflect carrying the A.A. message to diverse public audiences in non-A.A. settings and include a section on media training/press interviews, and that a draft or progress report on the revision be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information. There is also a suggestion to create a PowerPoint version of the pamphlet to help those who are (quite literally) "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings." Other proposed suggestions for change are in the report. A draft version revised by a local Area was included in the background sent to the Committee only. The current pamphlet can be found at: www.aa.org/speaking-non-aa-meetings
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item J3**

Agenda Topic	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials: Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	From the 2021 Additional Committee Consideration of the Conference Committee on Public Information: The committee requested that G.S.O. Publishing conduct editorial updates to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" to reflect current technology terminologies and service resources." Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Fellowship has profoundly expanded its digital presence. Included in the background are some suggested revisions to a section on website and social media pages, and a suggestion of new content about virtual A.A. meetings. Link to the current pamphlet: www.aa.org/understanding-anonymity
What does the Delegate need to know?	Are members of your group familiar with this pamphlet? Do they have any feedback on the suggested revisions?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item J4**

Agenda Topic	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials:
--------------	---

	Consider request to retire and replace the “A.A. Fact File.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021 the Committee considered this content for digitization. Moving away from its “print first” approach by placing these materials in a possible A.A. service app and a downloadable PDF. From the January 29, 2022, trustees’ Public Information Committee report: The committee agreed to forward to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information the request to retire “The A.A. Fact File” (M-24) and replace it with a service material version of a new digital PI Press Media Kit. This new version is in the background material along with other Digital Resources.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group or committee think this resource will be more effective in a digital format? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item K**

Agenda Topic	Review request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The trustees’ and Conference P.I. committees have been discussing this request since 2020. A.A. literature on anonymity is available (“Understanding Anonymity,” A.A. Guidelines on Internet, etc.) but that the content is dated and does not accurately reflect current technology or the Fellowship’s experience. The Conference committee suggested the trustees’ committee gather: shared experience from the Fellowship on how A.A. members adhere to anonymity Traditions on various social media platforms; suggested safety and etiquette while using social media; and information on anonymity on video meeting platforms. The trustees’ committee may create and distribute a survey to capture the current A.A. experience when it comes to “Anonymity on Social Media.” A draft survey is in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item L**

Agenda Topic	Review report on development and distribution ideas for the “A.A. Triennial Membership Survey.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Historically, every three years there is an A.A. membership survey of the fellowship, but there has been a delay since the last one done in 2014. There was a professional review of the methodology of the survey itself and a detailed report from the trustees’ Committee on P.I. is included in the background. The possibility of utilizing a digital questionnaire is discussed as well. The report recommends using our current methodology, with proposed improvements and language changes. There are samples of the 2014 survey form and a draft of the updated form in the background materials.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item M**

Agenda Topic	Review content and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook.
--------------	--

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The review of these items is on the agenda every year. Typically, service kits are updated annually each fall. Due to pandemic-induced supply chain and paper shortage challenges, implementation of the updates has been delayed. The P.I. Kit and Workbook have always been in a print format. This year, the committee considered how the P.I. Kit and Workbook could be converted into digital formats such as PDF or as part of the A.A. service App that is being considered.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate or Alternate Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Report & Charter — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Discuss General Service Conference <i>Final Report</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This is an annual item for the Report & Charter Committee, to discuss the 2021 General Service Conference <i>Final Report</i> .
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Report & Charter — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review <i>The A.A. Service Manual, 2021-2023 Edition</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	After thorough evaluation, update, and redesign of the <i>Service Manual</i> recommended by the 2018 Conference, the updated and revised A.A. Service Manual 2021-2023 was published in Nov. 2021. The current Service Manual is available online at: https://www.aa.org/aa-service-manualtwelve-concepts-world-services
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly. If your group has any suggestions or corrections for future printings, you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Report & Charter — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled “Amendments.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 2021 Conference approved a recommendation to add a new section at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled “Amendments,” and that it contain an updated version of the Concept XI essay that incorporates the information in the current footnotes and endnotes, along with comprehensive descriptions of the current General Service Board committees. The report in the background expresses concerns about the impact of such a change on the basic editorial structure of how the Twelve Concepts are presented and outlines four possible approaches with that in mind. The four versions of sample text were in the background for Committee eyes only. The Publishing Department is seeking guidance from the Report and Charter Committee regarding which approach to formalize when the changes are introduced following the 2023 General Service Conference. Once determined, this format will be implemented for the 2024-2026 edition of the <i>Service Manual</i> .
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any initial feedback or concerns about the report or the approaches being considered for a future printing of the <i>Twelve Concepts for World Service</i> ?

Conference Committee: **Report & Charter — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet “G.S.R.: Your Group’s Link to A.A. as a Whole.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This proposal came from a group in Illinois and was passed at their Area Assembly in December 2019. The group believes that adding the G.S.R. preamble to the G.S.R. pamphlet would be beneficial because they believe the G.S.R. preamble is a clear-cut directive to G.S.R.s regarding their responsibility, adding the G.S.R. preamble to the pamphlet would provide consistency and thus unity across A.A. as a whole, and, if added, it would affirm Conference approval when read at District and Area Functions.</p> <p>The G.S.R. preamble included in the proposal states: “We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that adding a G.S.R. preamble to the pamphlet would be beneficial? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Report & Charter — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Consider requests that the chapter titled “The Doctor’s Opinion” be returned to page one, as it was in the First Edition.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The trustees’ Literature Committee received and forwarded two separate requests asking that, upon the creation of a Fifth Edition of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, the chapter titled “The Doctor’s Opinion” be returned to page one, as it was in the First Edition published in 1939. When the Second Edition was published, Roman numerals were printed prior to what is now page one (material prior to page one also includes the Preface and the Forewords). There is nothing in the background explaining the reasoning behind changing the page numbering in the book.</p> <p>One proposal states that most readers do not read the pages with Roman numerals. If someone is reading without guidance from another member, they might miss this section. There are links to slides included in the background with a note that in the 1995 Advisory Action it states, “The first 164 pages of the Big Book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Doctor Bob’s Nightmare’ and the Appendices remain as is.” The other proposal says that the placement of “The Doctor’s Opinion” on page 1 of the First Edition was of paramount importance. It is noted that some members are comfortable with the memorization of current page numbers, but they are asking for a restoration to the original page numbering to “help more newcomers have a better chance at sobriety.”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think “The Doctor’s Opinion” should be renumbered to be page 1 in future printings of the Big Book? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2019 there was a Conference Advisory action to revise the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic—Never Too Late.” The committee performed the first-round review of 84 stories and selected 23 stories to be part of a second-round review. The goal of the second round is to select the top 12 stories. The committee agreed to forward to the 2022 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities the 12 stories to review, and to identify any gaps in the targeted categories of the older alcoholic experience. Compiled stories for the second-round review are for Committee eyes only.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on military audio interviews.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2019 there was a Conference Advisory action to “...develop anonymity-protected audio interviews with military professionals about their experience with A.A. as a resource for posting online.” The trustees’ Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee reviewed the progress report on audio interviews with A.A. members who are in the Armed Forces and made the following suggestions: Develop a questionnaire for audio-military interviews; Request a broad cross-section of A.A. members; Create a standard roadmap between U.S. and Canada having a unified plan; Seek interviews and seek contacts from various military branches; and Develop a project plan that will include reporting to the entire trustee committee. The subcommittee on Military Audio Interviews will continue their work and provide a progress report to the trustees’ committee at the July 2022 meeting.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Discuss draft version of A.A. Guidelines for remote communities.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2021, the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities was provided an update on this new service material which is still in development. They said they would look forward to a draft this year. The draft guidelines and a memorandum to Publishing from the last review by the trustees’ Committee are being forwarded to the 2022 Conference Committee for discussion. The memo included suggested edits to find appropriate language addressing Indigenous people from US and Canada and to remove two quotes under the section “Spanish Speaking women in A.A.” Other sections requiring editing are also highlighted. Shared experience is included from multiple areas, <i>The Remote Communicator</i> (the Remote Communities newsletter), LIM (Loners-Internationalists Meeting), Box 459, the A.A. Grapevine, and members working in remote communities.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly; if your group or committee has any suggestions, please share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
--------------	--

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Every year, the Treatment and Accessibilities committee at the Conference reviews the Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook. Outdated information may be updated or removed by GSO staff members, who report those changes to the trustees.</p> <p>The Kit contents and Workbook are available online at: www.aa.org/contents-treatment-committee-kit-list</p> <p>Due to competing projects the updates have been delayed in 2021. Because of the current supply chain challenges, including paper shortages, it is anticipated that the revised kit contents and workbook will be available in digital format prior to the print versions.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Every year, the Treatment and Accessibilities committee at the Conference reviews the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook. Outdated information may be updated or removed by GSO staff members, who report those changes to the trustees.</p> <p>The Kit contents and Workbook are available online at: www.aa.org/contents-accessibilities-kit-list</p> <p>Due to competing projects the updates have been delayed in 2021. Because of the current supply chain challenges, including paper shortages, it is anticipated that the revised kit contents and workbook will be available in digital format prior to the print versions.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>On page 12 of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group... where it all begins,” the section titled “What Is an A.A. Group?” describes the Group in terms of Tradition Three and Warranty Six. The Group as a spiritual entity is not mentioned until page 31 and only in reference to safety. The long form of Tradition Five states, “Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.” The members that submitted this request feel the inclusion of the Long Form of Tradition Five in this section will provide a clearer picture that an A.A. Group is a spiritual entity.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that there is a need for this addition to the pamphlet? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to revise text in the chapter “Getting plenty of rest” in the booklet <i>Living Sober</i>.
--------------	--

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The member that submitted this request proposes that the following language in <i>Living Sober</i> chapter 12, “Getting plenty of rest” be removed: “Nobody has ever died of lack of sleep.” The submitter writes that this statement is false and misleading because it suggests sleep is not important and that there are no consequences from lack of sleep. Several articles and resources were submitted to support the above claim as well as the acronym, H.A.L.T. about not getting too Hungry, Angry, Lonely, or Tired.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that there is a need to remove or revise this text? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item A1**

Agenda Topic	Review resumes of candidates for: Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The resumes are only available to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees, but you can see a list of names of the candidates elected by each Area in the Eastern Canada Region in the background. The Eastern Canada Regional Trustee will be elected by Area Delegates from that region, and members of the trustees’ Nominating Committee and the Conference Committee on Trustees in accordance with the procedures laid out on the voting sheets in the background and Chapter 8 of the <i>A.A. Service Manual</i> .
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. Your Delegate <i>may</i> be a voting member in this election as a member of the Conference Committee on Trustees.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item A2**

Agenda Topic	Review resumes of candidates for: Pacific Regional Trustee
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The resumes are only available to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees, but you can see a list of names of the candidates elected by each Area in the Pacific Region in the background. The Pacific Regional Trustee will be elected by Area Delegates from that region, and members of the trustees’ Nominating Committee and the Conference Committee on Trustees in accordance with the procedures laid out on the voting sheets in the background and Chapter 8 of the <i>A.A. Service Manual</i> .
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. Your Delegate will be a voting member in this election as a member of the Pacific Region.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board has been reviewed and recommended by the trustees’ Nominating Committee. It will be reviewed by the Conference Committee on Trustees, before the Conference meeting, for disapproval, if any. The chairperson of the Conference Committee on Trustees will then present the slate to the entire Conference for disapproval, if any. The slates with the names of trustees and officers are in the background material, and include seven Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees, and 14 Class B (alcoholic trustees). Two of those Class B trustees will be elected at the Conference (see Topics A1 and A2 above). Resumes for the new trustees were provided only to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees.

What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.
--------------------------------------	---

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. has been reviewed and recommended by the trustees' Nominating Committee. The resume for one new non-trustee director was provided only to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees. The entire slate will be reviewed by the Conference Committee on Trustees, before the Conference meeting, for disapproval, if any. The chairperson of the Conference Committee on Trustees will then present the slate to the entire Conference for disapproval, if any. The names of the slate of directors are included in the background.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. has been reviewed and recommended by the trustees' Nominating Committee. A resume for one new non-trustee director was provided only to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees. The entire slate will be reviewed by the Conference Committee on Trustees, before the Conference meeting, for disapproval, if any. The chairperson of the Conference Committee on Trustees will then present the slate to the entire Conference for disapproval, if any. The names of the slate of directors are included in the background.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Discuss the revised "Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or A.A. Grapevine Boards."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The 2018 Conference Committee on Trustees reviewed a proposal to reorganize the A.A.W.S. and General Service Boards and took no action on the proposal. Though they didn't see a need at that time, they did request that the trustees' Nominating committee develop procedures for a partial or complete reorganization of our corporate boards should a need arise in the future. A subcommittee was formed and procedures were drafted and brought back to the 2019 Conference, together with pertinent information provided by legal counsel.</p> <p>The 2019 Conference Committee reviewed the draft and provided suggestions for additional specificity. One of those suggestions included a revision to Article 4 of the Conference Charter, which was reviewed by the Report and Charter Committee and approved by the 2020 Conference. The 2020 Conference Committee on Trustees reviewed the revised procedures and suggested that the use of alternate trustees be considered and a revised plan be brought back to the 2021 Conference. A memo in the background from the General Manager explains that current practices and procedures would not allow for the creation of an alternate trustee, and points to how the current draft plan offers a viable solution for prompt reorganization of the Board.</p>

	<p>The 2021 Conference Committee on Trustees reviewed the procedures again and requested that the trustees' Nominating Committee consider further review, with specific attention placed upon on the time frame and procedure for the selection of regional trustees. They also suggested some minor editorial changes for clarity and to reflect the updated Conference Charter. Those editorial changes can be seen in the newest draft of procedures included in the background. The trustees' Nominating Committee did not make any substantive changes to the procedure for regional trustees, noting that ample communication and planning would be available for areas to develop a selection procedure for regional trustees if the Conference were to call for such reorganization. In the background, other communication between the two committees during the past year indicates that further discussion among area delegates with the trustee for their region is acceptable, if desired. The purpose of those discussions would be to gain more clarity or to offer any specific suggestions for improvement to the procedures.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel these Procedures are sufficient to guide the Fellowship through such a reorganization, if needed? Why or why not? If not, does your group have any specific suggestions for improvement?

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A group has proposed that language from page 29 in the English version of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” (P-16) be revised. Currently, in the section in the pamphlet on A.A. Group Inventory, question 9 asks: “Mindful that holding office is a great responsibility not to be viewed as the outcome of a popularity contest, are we choosing our officers with care?” Their suggestion is to change it to: “Mindful that trusted service is a great responsibility not to be viewed as the outcome of a popularity contest, are we choosing our trusted servants with care?”
What does the Delegate need to know?	Note: The question on page 32 of the Spanish version of the pamphlet (SP-16) is worded differently. Does your group think that this text needs revising? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You're Different?” to include stories reflecting greater diversity.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This proposal to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You're Different?” (P-13) comes from the Archives Chair in Area 79 (BC/Yukon), with assistance from the Delegate. The submitter of this item feels that in keeping with the purpose of the pamphlet, new stories are needed to better represent all the diverse populations of the U.S. and Canada with language that is more current and respectful. The pamphlet can be found here: www.aa.org/do-you-think-youre-different
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that this pamphlet needs to be updated with new stories to reflect greater diversity? Why or why not? If so, does your group have any suggestions?

Conference Committee: **Archives — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review content and format of Archives Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Workbooks for Archives, C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference committees during each General Service Conference. The Archives Workbook can be found online: www.aa.org/archives-workbook
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone.

Conference Committee: **Int'l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the 2021 Conference, the Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums had a thoughtful and wide-ranging discussion regarding methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention, particularly the use of the Lord's Prayer. Although the prayer is part of the history of A.A. and is widely used and supported in some areas, it could make some members feel excluded and its continued use supports the misperception of A.A. as a religious organization. The committee also discussed possible alternatives to the Lord's Prayer, including the Third Step Prayer, the Seventh Step Prayer, and A.A.'s Declaration of Unity. A survey is being created by the trustees' Committee to gather wider sharing from the Fellowship regarding the use of the Lord's Prayer at International Conventions. This survey will go out through multiple communication platforms (Box 459, A.A. Grapevine/La Viña, etc.) Implementation of the survey has been delayed to later in 2022/2023.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Assembly, but you can share them with the Delegate via email, through a web form on the Area website, or by phone. When the survey becomes available, please encourage members to participate.

Conference Committee: **Int'l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Regional Forums are held several times a year and are a service provided by GSO staff and the General Service Board with the intent of allowing the general A.A. membership (not just people involved in General Service) to meet and interact with GSO staff and corporate Board members. This helps members put a face to their trusted servants and special workers. In order to encourage interest and attract first-time attendees, this committee discusses several ideas each year. In 2021 some ideas discussed were: using the meeting guide app to further convey Regional Forum information; using videoconferencing technology to broadcast portions of future in-person forum programs, allowing members who may not have resources or time to travel to participate; ensuring future host regions are well informed about dates, locations, programs, and ways the local membership can participate; extending outreach materials to invite the Spanish-speaking and LGBTQ communities to attend Regional Forums; conducting at least one presentation or workshop in Spanish and/or French at each Regional Forum.

What does the Delegate need to know?	Do members of your group know about Regional Forums? Are they planning to attend the Pacific Regional Forum in Salt Lake City, UT, September 16-18, 2022? What are some of the things that could attract members of your group to attend a Regional Forum?
--------------------------------------	--