

## 40th General Service Conference— “The Home Group—Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.’s Future”

Monday morning, in his keynote address, Tom H., Eastern Canada regional trustee, told members of the 40th U.S./Canada General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous: “The compassion, the bonding of one alcoholic with another, begins at the group level. The handshake and the eye contact start at the door to the group. The Seventh Tradition basket and the business meeting that keeps everyone informed of news from G.S.O. and of the local church’s increase in rent, are the items that form the building blocks of our future.”

The 40th Conference’s theme, chosen by the previous Conference, was “The Home Group—Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.’s Future.” The home group stands as the basic unit of our entire Fellowship, for it is from this multiplicity of groups, through the districts and the areas, up to the General Service Conference that the direction for the Fellowship as a whole emerges.



Just as the life of an A.A. group extends well beyond the couple of hours a week that group members come together for a meeting, so does the work of the General Service Conference extend throughout the year following its annual week-long business meeting. Traditionally held during the last week of April, this meeting is made up of 135 Conference members, including the 91 area delegates, Class A and Class B trustees, along with directors and staff of the two corporations, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services and the Grapevine.

Conference week is long, often arduous, but ultimately rewarding—filled with board and committee reports, presentations and discussions, workshops, area service highlights, sharing sessions and, most of all, committee meetings.

This year’s Conference was held at the Omni Park Central Hotel, New York City, April 22-28. Co-chairmen of the Conference were Michael Alexander, chairman of the General Service Board and Wayne P., G.S.O.’s general manager. G.S.O. staff member Eileen G. was Conference coordinator.

Sunday afternoon began with registration and orientation, a welcome from board chairman Michael Alexander and greetings from the delegate chairperson, Reba W., Eastern Pennsylvania. Sunday evening was the Conference opening dinner, attended by Conference members and their spouses as well as office personnel, volunteers, and others who are a part of the operation of the General Service Office throughout the year. The evening ended with an open A.A. meeting which was chaired by Robert B., Arkansas. Speakers for the evening were: Karen N., Southern Wisconsin; Ann W., District of Columbia; Vicente M., G.S.O. staff; Jan W., East Central regional trustee; Gareth D., Northwest Ontario; and Jane S., Grapevine director.

This wasn’t the only A.A. meeting of the week, however, and as the Conference progressed, for those who chose to, each day could begin with a 7:30 a.m. meeting of the General Service Conference Serenity Group, which was chaired by Frances C., South Florida/Bahamas/V.I.

The main focus of the Conference though, is on the

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deliberations of each of the twelve Conference committees, and it is during the committee meetings that the major work of the Conference is done. After a joint meeting with each corresponding standing trustees' committee, the Conference committees review material and recommendations, weigh and discuss various issues and come up with recommendations which may result in Conference Advisory Actions (Highlights of Advisory Actions, p. 3).

This year the Conference Correctional Facilities Committee considered the concept of developing a manuscript for a booklet of former Grapevine articles, that would aid in carrying the message to A.A.s behind the walls. The Cooperation With the Professional Community Committee reviewed a revised manuscript of the pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About A.A." As always, the Conference Literature Committee had a very full agenda. Committee members reviewed a completely revised manuscript of the "The A.A. Group" pamphlet; text and illustrations for an easy-to-read "Twelve Steps Illustrated" pamphlet; and a proposed manuscript for a daily reflections book.

Thursday morning, before the Conference Treatment Facilities Committee presented their report, Conference members viewed a 15-minute film developed by the trustees' T.F. Committee in response to a previous Advisory Action. Entitled "Alcoholics Anonymous: Hope," the film illustrates what A.A. is and is not.

Presentations throughout the week, followed by discussions, addressed: The Importance of the Home Group; Sponsorship; Finance; Self-support; The Ninth International Convention (to be held in Seattle, Washington, July 5-8, 1990); and The General Service Trustee. A report was given by the Ad Hoc Committee on Group Registration and A.A. Directories, as recommended by a 1989 Conference Advisory Action.

Wednesday afternoon the Conference elected two new regional trustees. Marc P. of Iberville, Quebec, will replace Tom H. who will rotate out as Eastern Canada regional trustee. Ruth J., outgoing Pacific U.S. trustee, will be replaced by Greg M. of Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Delegate chairperson of the 1991 General Service Conference will be Vera M., Southwest Ohio; alternate chairperson, John E., Kansas.

After the final committee reports had been given, the resulting Advisory Actions recorded and the final presentation given, the Conference was officially closed Friday afternoon with the Serenity Prayer in three languages, led by Jean-Claude P., Northwest Quebec in French; Juan B., Puerto Rico in Spanish; Betty L., G.S.O. staff in English.

Conference members met once again Saturday morning at the closing brunch, with farewell talks by rotating trustees Bill C., general service trustee; Tom H., Eastern Canada; and Ruth J., Pacific U.S.

Michael Alexander, in the General Service Board Report, Monday morning, said: "The quest for freedom that has dominated world affairs in the past twelve months has profound implications for Alcoholics Anonymous. . . . A.A. has been thrust into world prominence by events over which it has no control and, by those events, has been presented with responsibilities that it cannot ignore. That development brings special significance to this Conference year. Without question, the members of this Conference have a big job ahead of them in the next twelve months. With the grace of God that job will be well done."

And where does that work begin? At the top of the pyramid; in each A.A. member's home group.

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## Estimates of Groups and Members as of January 1, 1990

	Groups	Members
United States	43,107	896,033
Canada	4,866	82,949
Overseas	38,060 <sup>1</sup>	762,046 <sup>1</sup>
Correctional facilities	1,663 <sup>2</sup>	51,553
Internationalists		655
Lone members		598
	<u>87,696</u>	<u>1,793,834</u>

1. At the end of 1989, we had reported members from 72 of the 134 overseas countries with A.A. groups. These totaled 30,359 groups and 634,390 members. To establish an estimate for the 62 countries not yet responding, we excluded the ten largest responding and obtained an average of the balance. This average was applied to the 62 and the overall estimate emerged.

2. U.S. and Canada only.

The estimated group counts in the U.S. and Canada include only those that ask to be listed at G.S.O.; thousands do not.

Among listed groups in the U.S. and Canada, many do not report membership figures. For each nonreporting group, an estimate of membership is arrived at by taking an average among reporting groups within the Conference area concerned. Even among reporting groups, membership figures include only those now active and attending meetings; there is no way to count sober members who no longer have a home group.

## 1990 Conference Advisory Actions

Conference Advisory Actions represent recommendations made by the standing committees and approved by the Conference body as a whole; or recommendations discussed and voted upon by all Conference members during general sessions. The most significant Advisory Actions appear below in condensed form. A complete list will be published in the *Final Conference Report*.

**Floor Action (Ad Hoc Committee on Group Registration and A.A. Directories)**—that the domestic directories be retained as formatted; that directories and group information forms include the long form of Traditions Three and Five.

**Agenda**—that, in order of preference, the theme for the 1991 Conference be one of the following: Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action; Sponsorship: Our Three Legacies; Sponsorship: The Hand of A.A.

**Cooperation With the Professional Community**—that the revised pamphlet “Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous” be published, with minor changes, once the supply of the old pamphlets is exhausted.

**Correctional Facilities**—that the trustees’ committee’s recommendation for the development and publication of a collection of correctional facilities stories from previous Grapevines (and other A.A. sources) be approved.

**Finance**—that no change be made to the newly revised pamphlet, “Self-Supporting Through Our Own Contributions,” which emphasizes the commitment on the part of the individual A.A. member.

**Grapevine**—that the words “one time trial distribution of complimentary Grapevines to nonsubscribing groups” in 1988 Conference Advisory Action #25 no longer be considered binding.

**International Convention**—that the 1990 International Convention posters in English, Spanish and French be sold in the registration area as mementos; that the 1991 General Service Conference select three cities for the 2000 International Convention.

**Literature**—that the manuscript for “The A.A. Group” pamphlet be approved, with minor changes; that the A.A. History book project continue to completion; that the manuscript of the Daily Reflections book be approved, after specific changes.

**Policy/Admissions**—that a standing committee for central and intergroup offices not be formed at this time, as many of the problems expressed by central offices and intergroups are “home issue” and the doors

of communication need to be opened at the area level.

**Public Information**—that the trustees’ P.I. Committee consider the feasibility of developing video and television P.S.A.s with the focus on younger A.A. members and all minorities.

**Report and Charter**—that the Twelve Concepts section of *The A.A. Service Manual* be revised with the short form of the Concepts as the Table of Contents, followed by the long form of the Concepts; that the 1990 *Final Conference Report*, in English, French and Spanish, continue to be distributed “no charge.”

**Treatment Facilities**—that the film “Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous” be accepted as presented to meet an expressed need from A.A. members carrying the message into treatment facilities; that the film be translated into French and Spanish, and be captioned for the deaf and hearing-impaired alcoholics.

**Trustees**—that revised text, removing the geographic requirements of the general service trustee, replace the text presently included in *The A.A. Service Manual*.

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## Bilingual Staff Member Sought for G.S.O.

G.S.O. staff people are members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who carry out rotating assignments and correspond with A.A.s throughout the world on all aspects of recovery and service. Additionally, they represent G.S.O. at A.A. functions throughout the U.S. and Canada and provide the primary staff support for the General Service Board.

Applications are now being sought for a G.S.O. staff position. Fluency in both English and Spanish is required, as well as excellent writing skills in both languages. A minimum of six years’ sobriety is necessary; A.A. service experience will also be a consideration, in addition to the applicant’s willingness to relocate to New York, if necessary. This staff member will rotate into different assignments, but will continue to provide services to the Hispanic A.A. community.

Please send employment and A.A. service resumes, as soon as possible, to: Staff Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163. Because of the need to fill this position fairly quickly, it will be difficult to review applications received after June 18, 1990.

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# Reports From G.S.O., the General Service Board, and Trustees' Committees

## General Service Board

**Trustees' report:** Finances of the General Service Office got a lot of attention from the trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous in the past year. Two years ago the price of literature was reduced by about 25 percent. That caused a deficit for the General Service Office in 1988 and another deficit in 1989.

To cover the deficits, the trustees authorized the withdrawal of \$760,000 from the General Reserve Fund in 1988 and \$1,300,000 in 1989. As a result, the Reserve Fund at the end of 1989 stood at \$6,462,000, equal to about 7.9 months of operating expenses of the General Service Office.

Faced with these facts, the trustees took the only action they could take: they directed that the price of A.A. literature be increased. That has been done.

The trustees also took a good hard look at the proposed General Service Office budget for 1990. For the first time in memory the budget was examined by the trustees' Finance Committee, and virtually by all of the trustees, on a line-by-line basis. The aim was to eliminate any expense that could be safely excluded without diminishing the services rendered by the General Service Office.

The budget process is still under review at this writing. A revised budget will be presented to the trustees during Conference week for their approval. In the interim trustees have appointed an Audit Committee to conduct a review of G.S.O. practices. Through that process the trustees are continuing to search for ways to make G.S.O. ever more efficient, effective and business-like. The computer system, which is about to start up, will contribute significantly to that effort.

The trustees also are continuing to seek ways of achieving closer cooperation with all Conference members throughout the year. In that respect, delegates and trustees attending Regional Forums are convening for informal sharing sessions; the chairpersons of several Conference committees attended the General Service Board weekend last January; minutes of board meetings are being sent to delegates who request them; trustees are encouraged to communicate with delegates, staff members and directors whenever it seems appropriate to do so in terms of Conference matters; and a policy of openness is being observed and fostered at all levels of the General Service Office.

In their work last year, the trustees were mindful of international political developments that were springing up all over the place. The quest for freedom that has

dominated world affairs in the past twelve months has profound implications for Alcoholics Anonymous. Our Fellowship is on the threshold of worldwide service that was just a dream only a few years ago.

Since we last met, representatives of the General Service Office, in the discharge of their responsibilities, have visited Chile, Czechoslovakia, England, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Mexico and Poland. Last year the Big Book and the Twelve and Twelve were translated into Russian and Czech; and the Big Book will be available shortly in Hungarian. Additionally, translations are underway in Arabic, Chinese, Turkish, Hebrew, Polish and Hindi.

The pace of international work at the General Service Office is quickening and expanding. This should be gratifying to all members of A.A. for, in keeping with our stated mission, the hand of A.A. should reach out to all alcoholics who may need it, wherever they may be.

A.A. has been thrust into world prominence by events over which it has no control and, by those events, has been presented with responsibilities that it cannot ignore. That development brings special significance to this Conference year. Without question, the members of this Conference have a big job ahead of them in the next twelve months. With the grace of God that job will be well done.

*Michael Alexander*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

## A.A. World Services, Inc.

**Directors' report:** The board met 12 times in 1989, and the following items of significance are highlighted:

- The 1989 budget was examined and approved in January 1989. It was recommended that \$500,000 be moved down from the Reserve Fund to cover the Operating Capital required during 1989. The total budget projected a contributions increase of 7% and an expense increase of approximately 10.8%, creating a shortfall.

- After reviewing the projected cash position through the end of May 1989, which forecasted a negative cash position, we authorized a request to the trustees' Finance Committee to draw \$250,000 from the Reserve Fund, if necessary.

- In October, we undertook a review of anticipated revenue for the balance of 1989, examining contributions and gross profit from sales. Cumulative results for the first nine months of 1989 showed contributions only 2% over the same point for 1988. It was anticipated that contributions for the balance of 1989 and for 1990 would not exceed this 2% trend. An early forecast of

1990 operating expenses combined with this conservative contribution forecast and a desired net excess for all of G.S.O. of approximately \$500,000, required increasing prices of most A.A.W.S. literature to achieve this end. In October, we approved price increases effective January 1, 1990.

- A preliminary 1990 budget was examined and given preliminary approval in December. The final budget forwarded to the trustees' Finance Committee reflected a net operating income of \$675,900, which indicated an increase in operating expenses of 6.8%, as compared to the 1989 projected actual expenses. It also reflected additional cuts in operating expenses and contained recommendations to the trustees and Conference for further cuts amounting to about \$136,500.

- In view of the downward trend in contributions, the Self-support Committee met regularly to discuss ways to reverse this trend. We accepted their recommendation that the board consider the original concept of the five-year plan and define the future role of the committee.

- The computer implementation project moved along on schedule to revised target dates set in December.

- We approved a revised policy on translating the Big Book and Bill W.'s other works.

- We granted the request from the Denmark Literature Committee for \$10,000 to assist them in printing the Big Book under the usual terms.

- We granted permission/did not object to 117 requests to reprint, and three requests to tape-record/videotape from A.A. literature; withheld or objected to 28 requests.

- We priced 13 items, including video tapes and service material.

- Reaffirmed the policy contained in the 1977 Position Paper which explains why the board does not wish to publish study guides.

- Approved producing 1,000, 90-minute tapes at the cost of approximately \$2,830, for the reading disabled.

- We received a request from the Stepping Stones Foundation for a royalty advance in the amount of \$50,000. As there is potential for tax liability on the part of A.A.W.S., which might exceed money we are holding on account of accrued royalties, we agreed to adhere to the original request we had from the executors not to distribute any monies until the tax question is cleared.

- Members of the board were appointed to meet with members of the Audit Committee to review current programs and the direction of major projects.

- Agreed to a long-range planning committee for 1990.

- Forwarded to the board our recommendation for space at the expiration of our lease.

• Toronto, Canada was the site of the fourth A.A. World Services/Intergroup Seminar in November. More than 200 were in attendance, up 20 percent from last year.  
*Jan W., chairperson*

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## Archives

**Trustees' committee:** The committee addressed the full range of archival interests: budget development; permission requests to use our collection; overseeing the inclusions of important additions to our holdings. Some of the notable actions were: The design and implementation of a proposal to gather the experiences of former trusted servants and apply these past experiences, in an organized form, to current issues confronting our Fellowship; and revitalizing the "Don't Throw Me Away, I Belong To A.A." Program, to encourage earlytimers and other members to contribute their archivally significant items to local archival centers or to G.S.O.

*John E. King  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson*

**Archivist's report:** Interest in archival matters is running high within our Fellowship. Two small exhibits on our history join the larger, multi-paneled unit in coverage of a range of conventions, round-ups and forums throughout the U.S. and Canada. The addition of a P.C. makes scheduling these items more precise. Soon the computer will save hours of researching time as we place more finding aids, indexes and catalogues into this format. In 1989 our holdings grew markedly. The most important addition was the works of the late Dr. Milton Maxwell, former chairman of the General Service Board and long-time friend of A.A. Many areas report they have begun "History Study" meetings in which *A.A. Comes of Age*, *Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers*, and *Pass It On* are read and discussed. The study of our history seems to deepen an appreciation of the miraculous wonder of the cohesiveness of our Fellowship.

*Frank M.*

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## Conference

**Trustees' committee:** The committee reviewed suggestions received through the Conference Evaluation Questionnaire, the G.S.O. Post-Conference Sharing Session, and other suggestions and recommended the following:

- That a report/discussion by the Ad Hoc Committee on Group Registration/A.A. Directories be included on the Agenda.
- That other facilities in which to hold the Conference, both within and beyond New York City, be investigated, with agreement

of the Conference members to be obtained before any relocation.

- That a progress report on the upcoming Ninth International Convention be included on the Conference Agenda.

• Reviewed and finalized the Conference Agenda.

- Reaffirmed that we refrain from addressing the same committee agenda topics at consecutive Conferences.

*Phil C., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The Conference coordinator is a contact for all Conference members and all those serving on the general service committees in the 91 areas throughout the U.S. and Canada. The responsibilities of this assignment involve coordinating and following through on all arrangements necessary for the Conference. All A.A. members are encouraged to submit suggestions for the agenda. This is usually accomplished through the delegates. All suggestions are presented to the trustees' Conference Committee for discussion, consideration, and referral to appropriate Conference committees. The Conference coordinator serves as secretary of the Conference Agenda Committee and the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference; corresponds with delegates in preparation for the Conference; works with the general manager and G.S.O. staff in planning and coordinating each phase of the Conference; schedules material for the Conference Manual, Early Bird Edition of *Box 4-5-9* and the *Final Conference Report*.

*Eileen G.*

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## Cooperation With the Professional Community

**Trustees' committee:** The committee reviewed the Professional Exhibit schedule and also proposed that an extra "FS" (smaller) Unit be prepared for area C.P.C. committees for participation in local professional meetings. The revised text of "Members of the Clergy Ask About A.A.," with title change, was recommended to the Conference C.P.C. Committee. The C.P.C. Workbook was reviewed and suggestions were referred to the subcommittee that is working with the Conference C.P.C. Committee to update its contents. Subjects for the *About A.A.* bulletin for 1990-1991 were discussed.

*John Hartley Smith, M.D.  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson*

**Staff report:** The C.P.C. staff person responds to all mail and telephone inquiries from professionals outside the Fellowship. Communication with area, district and central office C.P.C. committees is an ongoing part of the staff assignment; there are approximately 75 area C.P.C. chairpersons listed out of 91 areas, and a total of 833

area, district and central/intergroup office C.P.C. committees. We read minutes of C.P.C. committee meetings and share them with others, and through our bimonthly newsletter *Box 4-5-9*. Information about professional conventions, at which A.A. is scheduled to exhibit, is forwarded to area C.P.C. chairpersons and area delegates. In 1989 A.A.'s exhibits were shown at 26 meetings resulting in more than 1,005 requests for more information about A.A. The mailing list of *About A.A.* has increased to approximately 28,000. The staff member attends meetings of national organizations dealing with alcoholism.

*Susan U.*

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## Correctional Facilities

**Trustees' committee:** The following projects are in progress: Recommendation for a soft-cover book of institutions stories from previous Grapevines was forwarded to the Conference Committee for consideration; the "State of the Nation" survey in the C.F. Workbook is being updated; all material in the Workbook has been reviewed and updating recommended; a tape for beginners is being produced, which will contain several pamphlets recommended for newcomers, and a free tape will be sent to all C.F. chairpersons when available; the easy-to-read pamphlet "Is A.A. for Me?" will be added to the C.F. Workbook.

*Amos E. Reed  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson*

**Staff report:** There are approximately 1,650 correctional facilities groups, served by 700 correctional facilities and institutions chairpersons. The staff member on this assignment answers all correspondence from inmates and C.F. committees and writes approximately 6,000 letters a year. The staff member is also responsible for the correctional facilities section of *Box 4-5-9*. A.A. inmates frequently contact the C.F. desk for help bringing "outside" A.A.s to share in prison meetings. Correctional Correspondence Service, which provides a vital link between "outside" A.A.s and members on the "inside" is coordinated by the staff member on this assignment.

*Betty L.*

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## Finance

**Trustees' committee:** A review of 1989's operations was highlighted by several key items. The first and most important, was the fact that we incurred not only an operating loss of \$69,700, but a total deficit of \$1,204,800, which included 1989's portion of the computer acquisition project of \$507,400. This was due to: contributions were less than budgeted; gross profit from

sales was below budget; cost of production increased higher than anticipated.

Although contributions and sales were higher than 1988, the reduction in sales prices, along with lower than anticipated unit sales, helped generate this deficit. Total expenses were \$38,900 (0.4%) below budget, while operating expenses were \$31,400 (0.3%) over budget.

Contributions were \$153,800 greater than 1988, but \$159,900 less than budgeted. This created a 1989 shortfall of contributions against G.S.O. service expenses of \$860,000 (exclusive of computer costs of \$507,400); this is compared to a shortfall of \$546,000 in 1988.

The 1990 budget, as recommended by the trustees' Finance Committee, was approved by the board. The budget reflects an operating income of \$929,800 and a net surplus, after computer and relocation/renewal considerations, of \$297,800. It also reflects an increase in operating expenses of only 3.6% and total expenses of 4.8%.

Although prices were raised effective 1/1/90, the increase should be considered as almost restoring the prices to the level they were at prior to the series of reductions over the past couple of years. We are still at single pricing, and the Big Book, for example, is priced at \$4.60. The price to A.A. purchasers was \$4.65 when there was two-tier pricing. In reflecting on the attempt to be self-supporting from our own contributions and less dependent on literature income, perhaps we reduced our prices too much, too soon. We should not, however, abandon the concept of self-support, but should be even more determined to achieve the goal of covering office expenses with contributions, perhaps now marching to a slower drummer.

Grapevine's results were positive for 1989. Revenue increased \$232,500 over 1988 and was \$137,900 over budget, a result of all categories of sales being ahead of budget. Expenses were \$237,600 over 1988 but \$697,000 below budget. Net income for the year, including interest, was \$233,200, \$21,200 higher than 1988 and \$232,750 over budget. The Grapevine's net surplus is commendable and represents a modest cushion going forward into 1990. The Grapevine's 1990 budget was approved as presented and reflects a net budgeted surplus of \$19,850, or just under 1% of budgeted revenues for 1990.

The General Service Board Reserve Fund had a fund balance of \$6,462,100 yielding approximately 8.3% on book value, and represented about 7.9 months of combined operating expenses (G.S.O. and Grapevine). This is down \$741,200 from the end of 1988 which represented 9.7 months of coverage. The change reflects the drawdown of \$1,300,000 during 1989, offset by interest earned on the balances.

The major lesson we have learned in 1989 is that changes in financial policies

must be undertaken slowly and with measured response to changing conditions; that one year's abundance of surplus can quickly become the next year's deficit. For the good of the Fellowship, present and future, financial prudence is a virtue well-worth practicing.

*Robert P. Morse*  
(nonalcoholic) *chairperson*

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## General Sharing Session

**Trustees' report:** In-depth reports, followed by discussions, were presented on: A.A. World Services, Inc., its composition, basic responsibilities and a typical agenda; "The General Sharing Session Takes Its Inventory"; "The General Service Trustee—The What, Where and Why of Them"; and "Should the General Service Board Own Property?"

*Don B., chairperson*

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## Group Services

**Staff report:** The group services coordinator provides communication services to the Fellowship as a whole, overseeing the production of service material, which includes the 15 A.A. Guidelines, new Group Handbooks (English, Spanish and French), self-support materials, and G.S.R. kits. A variety of service material is available to A.A.s upon request. This material differs from Conference-approved literature in that it has not come about through Conference process, rather, it reflects A.A. experience and information that is subject to change. The group services coordinator also has responsibility for the five A.A. directories; serves on the A.A. World Services Self-support Committee; acts as a liaison person for central offices/intergroups.

*Pat R.*

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## International / Overseas / World Service Meeting

**Trustees' committee:** This committee is the focal point for information about A.A. around the world, and develops ways to help A.A. growth in countries where A.A. is just getting started. In accordance with A.A.W.S.'s revised policy on translating and/or publishing literature for countries overseas, the committee has recommended that translations of the Big Book be undertaken on a prioritized basis, as the budget permits. The committee recommended that "This Is A.A.," "44 Questions," and "Is A.A. For You?" be translated into Cambodian. A request from some A.A. members in Moscow asking that a new office be listed with us as the General Service

Office of the U.S.S.R. was discussed. It was suggested that the formation of a G.S.O. in Moscow was premature, and that members be encouraged to support the newly formed service group instead.

*Webb J., chairperson*

### Staff report:

**Overseas** — Correspondence from groups and individual A.A.s in countries without a service center or office is answered by the staff member on this assignment. Correspondence in a foreign language is translated and a response sent in the same language. Additionally, the staff member corresponds with 37 G.S.O.s and literature distribution centers outside the U.S. and Canada.

To protect A.A.'s message, careful consideration is given to granting overseas boards, centers, and literature committees, permission to print A.A. Conference-approved literature in the language of the country. A request to reprint should come from the board or representative A.A. committee and before any printing begins G.S.O. first explores how material will be financed and distributed. The request for permission to print or reprint is then presented to the A.A.W.S. Board.

**World Service Meeting** — A highlight of this assignment is planning and coordinating the World Service Meeting which meets biennially in the U.S. and overseas. The Eleventh World Service Meeting will be held October 14-18, 1990, in Munich, West Germany. The European and Ibero-American service meetings are also held biennially, alternating with World Service Meetings.  
*Sarah P.*

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## International Convention / A.A. Regional Forums

### Trustees' committee:

**International Convention** — The committee reviewed and recommended the procedures for the Big Meeting Friday night and the Spiritual Meeting Sunday morning, and also reviewed suggestions for workshops, topic meetings, and suggested non-A.A. speakers. Dates for the International Convention in 2000 were considered and Thursday, June 29 – Sunday, July 2, were recommended. It was recommended that the board invite Nell Wing to accept the ten millionth copy of the Big Book at the Big Meeting. Guidelines for the site selection of the International Convention in 2000 were submitted to the Conference Committee. Pending approval of the Conference Committee it was recommended that Convention posters be sold in the registration area.

**Regional Forums** — Four regions hosted Forums in the past year. Attendance ranged

from 376 to 525. Great enthusiasm, interest, and participation are apparent in all regions. *Box 4-5-9* keeps the Fellowship informed regarding upcoming Forums.

*Ruth J., chairperson*

#### **Staff report:**

**International Convention** — The International Convention assignment involves working with four committees: Trustees', Conference, Host and G.S.O. Planning. The staff member coordinates and serves as secretary to the four committees and is also the liaison to the Al-Anon Planning Committee. The local Host Committee of more than 2,500 A.A.s have volunteered countless hours to make the Convention a wonderful weekend of A.A. sharing at its best.

*Lois F.*

**Regional Forums** — The responsibilities of this assignment involve coordinating Regional Forums, which are held at the invitation of a particular region every two years. Working with the regional trustee, area delegates, and the host city contact person, the Forum coordinator prepares the agenda, oversees hotel requirements, and mails invitations to G.S.R.s, D.C.M.s and other area service workers. Following a Forum, highlights of the weekend's sharing are produced by the coordinator, and sent to all registrants.

*Pat R.*

## Literature

**Trustees' committee:** The following items have become available: "Is A.A. For Me?" (illustrated, easy-to-read version of "Is A.A. for You?"); "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic"; *Alcoholics Anonymous* (large-print edition); "A.A.—An Inside View," 16mm film available for sale (in lieu of long-term lease).

*Projects in Progress: A.A. History Book:* A detailed status report was provided to the Conference Literature Committee; possibility of developing a pamphlet on the concept of the spiritual aspects of A.A. was forwarded for consideration to the Conference Literature Committee.

*Projects completed and manuscripts forwarded to the Conference Committee:* A thoroughly revised draft of "The A.A. Group" pamphlet; text and illustrations for an easy-to-read Twelve Steps Illustrated pamphlet; a complete manuscript on the Daily Reflections book, together with an overview of this project.

*Bill C., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The literature coordinator serves as secretary to the trustees' and Conference Literature Committees, and works closely with the Publications Department on preparing, updating and revising all recovery pamphlets, books, displays and

audiovisuals in accordance with recommendations from the Conference. The literature desk responds to correspondence from A.A. groups and individuals about literature, and maintains contact with area, district, intergroup and A.A. group literature chairpersons. Newly elected literature chairpersons receive a welcoming letter and material to assist them in this responsibility. Additionally, the literature coordinator serves as editor of *Box 4-5-9*, our bimonthly newsletter, which is also available in French and Spanish.

*Joanie M.*

## Loners, Internationalists, Homers

**Staff report:** Loners are A.A.s who are unable to attend meetings because there are no groups nearby; there are now about 550 Loners in 90 countries. Seagoing A.A.s are known as Internationalists, and there are now about 700, plus 60 Port Contacts. Sixty Internationalists Groups meet aboard ships or in ports. There are also 215 housebound A.A.s (Homers) who, due to long-term illness or physical disability cannot get to meetings. These A.A.s make up the Loners-Internationalist Group; they stay sober reading A.A. literature and sharing with other A.A.s around the world through letters, tapes, and *Loners-Internationalists Meeting (LIM)*, a bimonthly discussion meeting in print. A growing number of A.A.s serve as Loner Sponsors, sharing group activities and personal experience with LIM members. With approximately 3,900 A.A.s participating in the *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*, we might call it the largest A.A. group in the world.

*John G.*

## Nominating

**Trustees' committee:** The committee took the following actions:

- Reviewed and approved the letter, procedures, and resumé forms for election of candidates for regional trustees.
- Accepted the report for the General Service Board concerning the pros and cons of changing the geographic qualifications for general service trustees and recommended the report be forwarded to the Conference Committee on Trustees.
- Reviewed and recommended the slate of trustees for election at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in April, following presentation at the 1990 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.

*Joan Jackson, Ph.D.*

*(nonalcoholic) chairperson*

## Public Information

**Trustees' committee:** In the past year, the committee:

- Approved the distribution for the new radio PSAs to a sampling of 134 radio stations in 36 major cities in the U.S. and Canada.
- Reviewed and forwarded to the Conference public information memos to editors, news directors, writers and commentators.
- Approved the appointment of a standing subcommittee on minorities to follow-up on the 1989 Advisory Action to utilize minorities media better and to carry the message into schools with high minorities populations.
- Approved the distribution and collection of the 1989 Membership Survey and is overseeing the analysis of the survey.
- Approved preparation of a report to the Conference Committee on a proposed traditions film with focus on anonymity.

*Desmond T., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The goal of the P.I. assignment is to help to carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic and potential alcoholic through the media. The staff member and a staff assistant respond to an average of 12,500 written and telephoned inquiries that come in annually from the general public and the Fellowship. The staff member also handles interviews with the media. In the past year, literature has been provided for approximately 250 health and community fairs. We also read and processed 15,000 newspaper, magazine and television feature stories; wrote approximately six letters of gratitude each month to publications printing accurate articles about our Fellowship; and followed up on a monthly average of ten anonymity breaks. G.S.O. services are backed up by the tremendous dedication of more than 800 local P.I. committees and about 900 P.I. contacts, as all of us strive to reach out to the alcoholic who still suffers.

*Richard B.*

## Spanish Services

**Staff report:** In our general service structure there are more than 25,000 Spanish-speaking A.A. members meeting in 750 Hispanic groups in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada. The Spanish services coordinator, who does not rotate, coordinates and revises Spanish translations of material from the other assignments and assists in providing services to the Hispanic community. *Box 4-5-9* in Spanish has a section entitled Spanish Services that gives information on general service activities. Many Spanish-speaking districts have been added recently to the areas in our service structure. Service material is translated into Spanish and kept up-to-date; more and

more Conference-approved literature is published in Spanish. The staff member on this assignment represents G.S.O. at the Ibero-American Commission for Translation and Adaptation of A.A. Literature; attends conventions, Hispanic intergroup meetings, and Regional Forums; assists at the World Service Meeting and the International Convention; and greets Spanish-speaking visitors to G.S.O.  
*Vicente M.*

## Staff Coordinator

**Staff report:** As assistant secretary of the General Service Board, the staff coordinator is responsible for scheduling committee meetings, distributing advance material, and preparing and distributing the minutes of the board meeting, and serves as editor of the *Quarterly Report*. The coordinator serves as secretary of the General Sharing Session, is secretary of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions, and is a director and vice-president of A.A.W.S. Another responsibility is chairing the weekly staff meeting and coordinating all staff activities. During 1989, the staff handled 18,000 pieces of mail. Training new staff members is another segment of this assignment. During the past year, approximately 1,236 visitors from all over the world visited G.S.O.  
*Helen T.*

## Treatment Facilities

**Trustees' committee:** The committee reviewed the film targeted for treatment facilities and, after changes, recommended the film to the Conference for approval. The committee also recommended the Conference consider the publication of a four-page pamphlet on temporary contact programs. The committee asked two A.A. members to collect information for a sample newsletter to be presented to the Conference, in the hopes of encouraging A.A. members to send material to G.S.O. on an ongoing basis. Minor changes to the T.F. Workbook were also recommended.  
*John S., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The goal of the Treatment Facilities assignment is to help A.A. members carry the A.A. message to the suffering alcoholic in treatment facilities. The staff member works with treatment facilities chairpersons, corresponds with potential members currently in treatment facilities, sending free literature, phone numbers of intergroups, and, occasionally, an encouraging pat on the back. Interest remains constant in "Bridging the Gap" programs; the staff member also gathers material for the treatment facilities section of *Box 4-5-9*.  
*Mike K.*

# Reports from the A.A. Grapevine

**Directors' report:** For the A.A. Grapevine, 1989 has been a very good year—as good as the board hoped in terms of rising circulation, editorial excellence, and relations with the Fellowship, and significantly better in terms of financial health.

Circulation at the beginning of 1989 was 128,784; by December it was 132,815, and 1990 started out with a circulation of more than 133,000 for several months in a row.

Financially, the corporation did better than was projected for 1989, with a profit of \$233,000 compared to a budgeted profit of only \$450. This happy difference can be attributed to a combination of higher-than-budgeted circulation, unexpectedly large sales of special items, and several expense categories that came in under budget.

In the face of such a profitable year, it may seem contradictory to report that a magazine price increase went into effect with the June issue. However, the board had been delaying the implementation of a price increase for some time, since sales of the book of Bill W.'s Grapevine articles, *The Language of the Heart*, were expected to carry the operation through 1989 and well into 1990. For most of the year, sales of this book were running behind budget. The 1990 budget approved by the Grapevine Board and by the trustees' Finance Committee shows a profit of slightly less than \$20,000. The new price structure includes a first: establishment of a set price in Canadian funds as an option for Canadian subscribers, who have either had to send payment in U.S. funds or depend on the fluctuations of the exchange rate.

Readers tell us that the content of the magazine increasingly reflects the life of A.A. as a whole, and the editorial staff continues to aim for an appropriate mix of articles sharing experience of recovery through the program and those expressing opinions on vital issues in A.A. today. The June 1989 issue, commemorating the Grapevine's 45th anniversary, was a 64-page special issue; in October there was another special expanded issue, "Getting Younger in A.A.—a Day at a Time." The 1989 series on the Steps was concluded in December, and a series on the Traditions began in the January 1990 issue.

In response to the 1989 Conference Action, an A.A. history section ("What We Were Like") has been developed.

Two new cassette tapes on the Twelve Traditions were produced in 1989. In keeping with the board's goal of decreasing dependence on special items, it is significant to report that the 1990 budget contains no provision for a new special item to produce additional revenue. In the recent past, we have budgeted for at least one new special item a year.

As we approach the Grapevine's 46th

birthday in June 1990, the future bodes well for the decade of the '90s and provides a sober promise, one day at a time, for the 21st century.

*Tom H., chairperson*

**Staff report:** Since the Grapevine has been both editorially and financially healthy for several years now, the jobs of everyone in the office have become simpler—though not always easier. Over the past year, we have been able to put a greater proportion of time and energy into improving the internal operation, reevaluating office procedures and job responsibilities with an eye to becoming even more effective and businesslike in serving the Fellowship.

In December, Don Meurer, longtime controller-business administrator of the Grapevine, moved into new responsibilities as controller of A.A.W.S.—though he remains part-time at the Grapevine for the duration of the computer implementation. One result of his leaving is that Ann W. as executive editor and Ames S. as managing editor have assumed a greater share of the day-to-day management and administrative detail. A new controller has been brought in to take over the financial aspects of Don's responsibilities.

For a number of years, the Grapevine circulation department has been a focal point for subscriber services, and when the new system is in place we plan to make that function explicit by renaming and reconfiguring the department as a customer services department.

A large amount of staff time has been spent on implementation of the AS400 computer, and Grapevine subscriptions went "live" on the new system with the June issue.

Whatever the operational needs, the editors always give the major part of their time to the magazine itself, and concentration on editorial planning appears to be paying off. In recent times, the staff has increasingly taken the initiative in requesting material when we perceive a need—from sharing on the question "Is A.A. Changing?" to more articles on the Steps, Traditions, and other basics such as sponsorship—and we think that effort is reflected in both the variety and the quality of the Grapevine's content.

Grapevine representatives at the group, district, and area level are constantly finding new ways of using the Grapevine for sobriety and service, and that experience is shared in the quarterly *GvR News* bulletin. Nearly all Conference areas have standing committees on the Grapevine, and judging by the continuing gradual but steady increase in circulation, their enthusiasm is catching.

*Ann W., executive editor*



# 1990 G.S.O. Budget

## A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

**Income:** The sales income budget of \$11,115,300 is \$2,439,100 (28.1%) greater than 1989. This reflects price increases effective 1/1/90, and a conservative estimate of unit growth. The increase was planned to restore a sufficient gross profit on literature sales.

**Expenses:** Expenses charged against the publishing operation are budgeted at \$3,867,500, about 7.4% higher than 1989 actual.

**Net:** Net publishing income is expected to be \$1,728,000, an increase of \$1,579,700 over 1989. The substantially higher net planned for 1990 over 1989, is required to offset the anticipated shortfall as well as the balance of the computer project, and provision for possible relocation/renovation.

## GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

**Income:** The budget reflects a conservative projection of 1.1% increase in contributions over 1989 (1989 had a 3.9% increase over 1988, following 1988's 6.8% increase over 1987).

**Expenses:** Total group expenses to be directly charged against contributions are budgeted to be \$4,403,900, \$69,800 less than 1989. This results in an anticipated shortfall of these expenses charged against contributions of \$303,900.

## GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses of the General Service Board are budgeted at \$1,183,700. This includes extraordinary expenses of \$232,000 towards the completion of the implementation of the new computer system and \$400,000 set aside as a contingency for possible Relocation/Renovation expenses anticipated in 1990 (our lease expires 3/31/91). Exclusive of these two items, Other Expenses are budgeted \$111,300 higher than 1989. This increase is mainly attributed to the cost of a fifth Regional Forum and the World Service Meeting. The total Other Expenses, including the extraordinary expenses, is budgeted to be offset by the excess net publishing income, as well as an anticipated modest projected net income from the International Convention in Seattle of \$47,400.

## RECAP

The shortfall for 1990 "Group Services" (as defined by the 1986 General Service Conference) supported by group contributions, is budgeted to be \$855,600. It is anticipated that the net publishing income will offset the shortfall and the extraordinary expenses and that no drawdown from the Reserve Fund is planned for 1990.

# 1990 Grapevine Budget

**Total revenue:** The 1990 budget shows revenues of \$2,024,000, including anticipated net revenues from International Convention activities of \$59,000. This anticipates paid subscriptions of almost 133,000, a price increase effective with the 6/90 issue, and \$565,000 in revenue from sale of special items.

**Total expenses:** Editorial and printing costs are budgeted at \$1,034,100, \$6,020 (0.6%) over 1989 actual. Printing of the magazine shows a negligible increase, a result of being able to hold the line of the printing contract and anticipating lower paper costs. Production costs of other materials is up slightly based on a 50% reduction in *Language of the Heart* sales this year.

Total Circulation and Business expenses are budgeted at \$773,500, \$34,430 (4.7%) over 1989 actual.

Total General and Administrative expenses are budgeted at \$283,500, \$57,630 (20.3%) over 1989 actual. General and Administrative expenses are up significantly due to anticipated costs for insurance, retirement fund, and indexing project being higher than 1989.

Total Costs and Expenses are budgeted at \$2,091,150, \$98,080 (4.9%) higher than 1989.

**Net:** After including interest income of \$87,000 we show a modest net income of \$19,850.

## COMPARISON OF SHORTFALL OF 'GROUP SERVICES' SUPPORTED BY GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

### April 1986 Conference Advisory Action 16.a:

16. The area delegates strongly consider implementation of the following suggestions to improve contributions to G.S.O., area assemblies, districts, and central or inter-group offices:

- a. G.S.O. make available to all delegates an itemized list of group service expenses and other expenses of the board, combined into one total, representing group services supported by group contributions.

The following is a recap of these lists [detailed reports appear in delegates' Manual and *Final Conference Report*]:

### 1988

Contributions — A.A. Groups & Members			\$3,900,327
General Fund — Office Expenses	\$3,891,369		
General Fund — Other Expenses of the Board	\$1,068,886		
Less: Extraordinary Expenses:			
Computer Acquisition	(513,926)	554,960	4,446,329
<b>Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions</b>			<u>(546,002)</u>

### 1989

Contributions — A.A. Groups & Members			\$4,054,111
General Fund — Office Expenses	\$4,473,643		
General Fund — Other Expenses of the Board	\$947,818		
Less: Extraordinary Expenses:			
Computer Acquisition	(507,379)	440,439	4,914,082
<b>Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions</b>			<u>(859,971)</u>

### 1990 BUDGET

Contributions — A.A. Groups & Members			\$4,100,000
General Fund — Office Expenses	\$4,403,900		
General Fund — Other Expenses of the Board	\$1,183,700		
Less: Extraordinary Exp.			
Relocation/Renovation	(400,000)		
Computer Acquisition	(232,000)	551,700	4,955,600
<b>Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions</b>			<u>(855,600)</u>

# 1989 Contributions From Groups — by Delegate Area

(in U.S. dollars)

AREA #	GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA	#GPS. RE-PORTED	#GPS. CONTRIB.	% OF GPS. CONTRIB.	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIB.	MEMBER-SHIP	CONTRIB. PER CAPITA	AREA #	GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA	#GPS. RE-PORTED	#GPS. CONTRIB.	% OF GPS. CONTRIB.	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIB.	MEMBER-SHIP	CONTRIB. PER CAPITA
1.	Ala./N.W. Fla.	372	236	63.4%	\$ 21,983.95	5,310	\$4.14	60.	West	648	362	55.9	43,789.11	9,350	4.68
2.	Alaska	205	91	44.4	8,870.27	2,669	3.32	61.	Rhode Island	209	131	62.7	17,926.87	4,286	4.18
3.	Arizona	703	385	54.8	45,914.65	12,105	3.79	62.	South Carolina	258	181	70.2	21,682.36	4,331	5.01
4.	Arkansas	231	153	66.2	12,031.06	3,474	3.46	63.	South Dakota	141	69	48.9	4,654.08	2,958	1.57
5.	Southern California	1,633	811	49.7	135,584.63	55,081	2.46	64.	Tennessee	431	218	50.6	27,303.69	6,977	3.91
6.	N. Coastal	1,815	1,189	65.5	173,076.65	45,901	3.77	65.	Northeast Texas	392	237	60.5	43,842.91	11,536	3.80
7.	N. Interior	585	314	53.7	39,358.86	13,402	2.94	66.	Northwest	227	133	58.6	13,609.61	5,520	2.47
8.	San Diego/Imp.	639	360	56.3	41,973.55	17,693	2.37	67.	Southeast	483	252	52.2	33,750.86	12,794	2.64
9.	Mid-South.	1,445	793	54.9	85,789.76	45,037	1.90	68.	Southwest	453	237	52.3	32,507.51	8,289	3.92
10.	Colorado	571	359	62.9	46,985.24	13,298	3.53	69.	Utah	234	155	66.2	15,254.63	4,095	3.73
11.	Connecticut	1,105	590	53.4	90,861.82	23,271	3.90	70.	Vermont	199	99	49.7	15,134.14	3,377	4.48
12.	Delaware	148	99	66.9	17,259.11	2,450	7.04	71.	Virginia	969	601	62.0	87,861.21	18,643	4.71
13.	D.C.	358	229	64.0	47,014.16	11,720	4.01	72.	Washington	1,080	621	57.5	80,266.01	19,915	4.03
14.	North Florida	514	317	61.7	49,920.14	9,030	5.53	73.	West Virginia	253	148	58.5	11,345.38	2,876	3.94
15.	South/Bahamas/V.I.	1,334	713	53.4	102,570.17	22,875	4.48	74.	Wisconsin						
16.	Georgia	604	471	78.0	66,511.37	13,070	5.09	74.	N. Wis./Upper Pen. Mich.	576	279	48.4	24,858.61	8,645	2.88
17.	Hawaii	225	168	74.7	25,535.41	4,119	6.20	75.	South	790	455	57.6	39,729.04	14,463	2.75
18.	Idaho	177	99	55.9	8,029.08	2,309	3.48	76.	Wyoming	130	78	60.0	6,859.94	1,973	3.48
19.	Chicago	944	431	45.7	63,992.11	22,068	2.90	77.	Puerto Rico	115	68	59.1	4,644.07	1,478	3.14
20.	North	812	403	49.6	39,113.85	15,111	2.59	78.	Alberta/N.W.T.	536	257	47.9	32,517.21	6,930	4.69
21.	South	392	192	49.0	23,421.41	6,573	3.56	79.	B.C./Yukon	650	377	58.0	46,193.12	9,984	4.63
22.	Indiana	550	280	50.9	28,175.74	8,607	3.27	80.	Manitoba	155	70	45.2	8,789.99	3,648	2.41
23.	South	352	217	61.6	24,696.93	7,076	3.49	81.	N.B./P.E.I.	220	109	49.5	7,238.91	3,172	2.28
24.	Iowa	637	361	56.7	35,252.53	12,071	2.92	82.	N.S./Nfld./Lab. Ontario	263	140	53.2	11,158.64	2,974	3.75
25.	Kansas	372	223	59.9	21,917.80	8,820	2.49	83.	East	537	289	53.8	50,550.02	12,399	4.08
26.	Kentucky	503	318	63.2	55,362.28	7,751	7.14	84.	Northeast	183	70	38.3	12,095.77	2,223	5.44
27.	Louisiana	486	252	51.9	26,209.17	8,524	3.07	85.	Northwest	89	38	42.7	5,288.31	1,335	3.96
28.	Maine	392	198	50.5	22,691.05	6,973	3.25	86.	West	441	233	52.8	37,564.20	7,426	5.06
29.	Maryland	753	423	56.2	59,077.20	10,760	5.49	87.	Quebec						
30.	Massachusetts							87.	Southwest	565	459	81.2	34,037.10	14,605	2.33
31.	East	1,165	614	52.7	117,503.93	36,802	3.19	88.	Southeast	236	189	80.0	29,099.41	3,327	8.75
31.	West	187	109	58.3	21,914.87	4,456	4.92	89.	Northeast	350	280	80.0	20,455.94	6,492	3.15
32.	Michigan							90.	Northwest	341	314	92.0	63,266.78	5,947	10.64
32.	Central	464	251	54.1	39,735.67	9,952	3.99	91.	Saskatchewan	335	180	53.7	14,726.76	4,318	3.41
33.	Southeast	517	279	54.0	49,583.20	11,653	4.25		Total U.S./Canada	47,973	26,963 <sup>①</sup>	56.2% <sup>①</sup>	\$3,551,500.33 <sup>②</sup>	978,982	\$3.63 <sup>①</sup>
34.	West	391	205	52.4	33,298.63	7,342	4.54		Individual, in-memoriam, & special meetings				195,169.04		
35.	Minnesota								Specials				272,089.37		
35.	North	499	303	60.7	22,048.15	7,829	2.82		Total for U.S. & Canada				\$4,018,758.74		
36.	South	921	459	49.8	41,024.12	25,345	1.62		<b>FOREIGN AND OTHER</b>						
37.	Mississippi	223	125	56.1	8,345.14	2,843	2.94		Birds of a Feather				60.00		
38.	East	506	279	55.1	31,892.30	7,559	4.22		Correctional facility groups				151.13		
39.	West	223	147	65.9	18,187.66	4,966	3.66		Foreign				20,473.68		
40.	Montana	333	158	47.4	13,006.19	4,142	3.14		International Advisory Council of Young People in A.A.				11,570.00		
41.	Nebraska	687	391	56.9	49,810.49	12,627	3.94		International Doctors in A.A.				25.00		
42.	Nevada	296	155	52.4	14,938.52	4,863	3.07		Internationalist groups				8.50		
43.	New Hampshire	405	197	48.6	23,853.54	5,564	4.29		Internationalists				145.00		
44.	New Jersey								Loners				911.40		
44.	North	1,129	563	49.9	85,730.10	24,860	3.45		Treatment facility meetings				1,880.70		
45.	South	343	204	59.5	32,882.98	5,354	6.14		World Hello				127.01		
46.	New Mexico	276	157	56.9	14,216.35	4,109	3.46		Grand Total				\$4,054,111.16		
47.	New York														
47.	Central	584	305	52.2	55,833.75	9,028	6.18								
48.	H./M./B.	601	298	49.6	32,406.46	7,440	4.36								
49.	Southeast	1,541	846	54.9	179,733.94	42,171	4.26								
50.	West	249	115	46.2	12,531.04	3,625	3.46								
51.	N. Carolina/Ber.	705	471	66.8	67,256.37	11,043	6.09								
52.	North Dakota	175	90	51.4	5,244.80	2,961	1.77								
53.	Ohio														
53.	Cent. & S.E.	507	272	53.6	25,299.16	5,947	4.25								
54.	Northeast	974	323	33.2	29,574.91	22,843	1.29								
55.	N.W. Ohio/S.E. Mich.	231	127	55.0	16,172.98	3,160	5.12								
56.	S.W. Ohio	420	247	58.8	26,165.58	7,778	3.36								
57.	Oklahoma	364	268	73.6	27,449.61	5,125	5.36								
58.	Oregon	645	353	54.7	39,435.22	9,558	4.13								
59.	Pennsylvania														
59.	East	1,066	648	60.8	99,242.53	24,603	4.03								

① Reflects not only those groups that contributed directly to G.S.O., but also those groups that contributed to G.S.O. through their Conference areas (per lists submitted by areas).  
 ② Group contributions reported on this schedule do not include contributions received as specials, individual, in-memoriam, and special meetings.

## Calendar of Events

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office. For any additional information, please use the addresses provided.

### June

- 1-3 — *Haines, Alaska*. Haines Sharing Session. Write: Ch., Box 1037, Haines, AK 99827
- 1-3 — *Redding, California*. 43rd Annual Summer Conf. Write: Tr., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122-2290
- 1-3 — *Key West, Florida*. Sunset Roundup '90. Write: Ch., Box 4165, Key West, FL 33041-4165
- 1-3 — *Leesburg, Florida*. Spring Meetings at Lake Yale. Write: Ch., 609 Glenview Ct., Winter Garden, FL 34787
- 1-3 — *Camp Maria/St. Marys Co., Maryland*. SMIA 15th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 368, Heighesville, MD 20637
- 1-3 — *Winchester, Virginia*. 36th Spring Four State & DC Get-Together. Write: Ch., Box 593, Winchester, VA 22601
- 1-3 — *Grimshaw, Alberta, Canada*. North Peace Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 5039, Peace River, AB T8S 1R7
- 1-3 — *Creston, British Columbia, Canada*. 30th Campout. Write: Ch., Box 2004, Creston, BC V0B 1G0
- 1-3 — *Rome, New York*. 24th East-West Conf. Write: Ch., Box 33, Rome, NY 13440
- 1-3 — *Flagstaff, Arizona*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 22148, Flagstaff, AZ 86002
- 1-3 — *Bronx, New York*. Sixth YPCAA. Write: Ch., Box 243, Bronx, NY 10461-0243
- 7-10 — *Hagerstown, Maryland*. 20th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 11405, Baltimore, MD 21239
- 7-10 — *Odessa, Texas*. 45th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 3347, Odessa, TX 79760
- 7-10 — *St. Simons Island, Georgia*. 26th Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 892, Statesboro, GA 30458
- 8-10 — *Lake Charles, Louisiana*. Sixth Annual LSCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 7483, Lake Charles, LA 71207
- 8-10 — *Mobile, Alabama*. Ninth Annual Azalea City Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 161166, Mobile, AL 36616
- 8-10 — *Conway, Arkansas*. Third District 5 Summertime Sobriety. Write: Ch., Box 700, Conway, AR 72032
- 8-10 — *Rend City, Illinois*. Rend Lake Spring Camp Out. Write: Sec., 316 Johnson St., Centralia, IL 62801
- 8-10 — *Cedar Rapids, Iowa*. 1990 Spring Conf. Write: Ch., Box 9011, Cedar Rapids, IA 52409
- 8-10 — *Akron, Ohio*. 55th Founder's Day

- Celebration. Write: Ch., Box 12, Akron, OH 44309-0012
- 8-10 — *Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada*. MSA Abbotsford Rally. Write: Ch., Box 2311, Clearbrook, BC V2T 4X2
- 8-10 — *Parksville, British Columbia, Canada*. 30th Parksville-Qualicum Rally. Write: Ch., Box 227, Parksville, BC V0R 2S0
- 8-10 — *Vernon, British Columbia, Canada*. 18th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1454, Vernon, BC V1T 6N7
- 8-10 — *West Monroe, Louisiana*. Third NELAAA Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 14832, Monroe, LA 71207
- 8-10 — *Marean Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 537, Naicam, SK S0K 2Z0
- 8-10 — *Santa Fe, New Mexico*. State Conv. Write: Ch., 369 Montezuma, Ste. 205, Santa Fe, NM 87501
- 8-10 — *Brookville, New York*. Roundup (sponsored by gay and lesbian members). Write: Ch., Box 539, Smithtown, NY 11787
- 9-10 — *El Paso, Texas*. Third Mini-Congreso Internacional. Write: Ch., 7011 Alameda Ave., El Paso, TX 79915
- 9-10 — *Gold Beach, Oregon*. South Coast Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 298, Gold Beach, OR 97444
- 15-17 — *Columbus, Ohio*. Eighth LIM Conf. Write: Ch., Box 360446, Columbus, OH 43236
- 15-17 — *Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada*. Sixth Annual Maritime Native Roundup. Write: Ch., 440 Maliseet Dr., Fredericton, NB E3A 2V9
- 15-17 — *Glenheim, Ontario, Canada*. Mid-season Campout. Write: Ch., Box 5, Chatham, ON N7M 5K1
- 15-18 — *Parkersburg, West Virginia*. 38th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 4471, Parkersburg, WV 26104
- 15-17 — *Tauro, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Provincial Roundup. Write: Ch., 273 James St.

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

June (page 21): Making amends; cooperation not affiliation; fragments of A.A. history

- Tauro, NS B2N 5K4
- 15-17 — *Bristol, Rhode Island*. 14th Ocean State Young Peoples Closed Conf. Write: Ch., Box 23199, Providence, RI 02903
- 15-17 — *Casper, Wyoming*. 15th Jamboree. Write: Ch., 1515 South Jackson, Casper, WY 82601
- 16-17 — *High River, Alberta, Canada*. 14th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3220, High River, AB T0L 1B0
- 20-22 — *Springerville, Arizona*. Lyman Lake Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1485, Springerville, AZ 85938
- 22-24 — *Clearwater, Florida*. First Annual District 1 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 40328, St. Pete, FL 33743
- 22-24 — *Memphis, Tennessee*. State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 40691, Memphis, TN 38174-0691
- 22-24 — *Sept-Iles, Quebec, Canada*. Le Congres de Sept-Iles. Write: Ch., C.P. 1289, Sept-Iles, PQ G4R 4X7
- 22-24 — *Montgomery, Alabama*. Third AL-CYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 20922, Montgomery, AL 36120
- 22-24 — *Peterborough, Ontario, Canada*. 29th Kawartha Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., 625 Cameron St., Peterborough, ON K9J 3Z9
- 22-24 — *Pomona Lake, Kansas*. Lakeside Camp-vention. Write: Ch., Box 213, Tope-

## Planning a Future Event?

Please send your information on August, September or October events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by June 10, the calendar deadline for the August/September issue of *Box 4-5-9*.

For your convenience and ours — please type or print the information to be listed on the Bulletin Board page, and mail to us:

Date of event: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

Name of event: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place (city, state or prov.): \_\_\_\_\_

For information, write: \_\_\_\_\_  
(exact mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone # (for office use only): \_\_\_\_\_

Flip up this end of page — more events listed on reverse side

## June (cont.)

- ka, KS 66603
- 29-July 1 — *Memphis, Tennessee*. Roundup (sponsored by gay and lesbian members). Write: Ch., Box 241544, Memphis, TN 38124
- 29-July 1 — *Eugene, Oregon*. Summerfest '90. Write: Ch., 431 W. 13th St., Suite 1, Eugene, OR 97401
- 29-July 1 — *Wichita Falls, Texas*. Texoma Freedom Rally. Write: Ch., Box 3243, Wichita Falls, TX 76309-3243
- 29-July 1 — *Chilliwack, BC, Canada*. Eighth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 134, Chilliwack, BC V2P 6H7
- 29-July 1 — *Grand Forks, British Columbia, Canada*. 19th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch. Box 1664, Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0
- 30-July 1 — *South Fork, Colorado*. San Juan Serenity Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1, Monte Vista, CO 81144

## July

- 6-7 — *Syracuse, New York*. 55th Anniversary Celebration. Write: Ch., 100 E. Manlius St., E. Syracuse, NY 13057
- 6-8 — *Forest City, Iowa*. Celebration of Recovery. Write: Ch., 515 N. Fourth St., Forest City, IA 50436
- 6-8 — *Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 81193, Pittsburgh, PA 15217
- 6-8 — *Montgomery, Alabama*. AL/NW FL Area Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 362, Camden, AL 36726-0362
- 13-15 — *Afton, Wyoming*. Annual Campout. Write: Ch., Box 724, Afton, WY 83110
- 13-15 — *Sparwood, British Columbia, Canada*. Seventh Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1928, Sparwood, BC V0B 2G0
- 13-15 — *Woodstock, Ontario, Canada*. Ninth Annual Marathon of Unity. Write: Ch., Box 1349, Woodstock, ON N4S 8R2
- 13-15 — *Everglades City, Florida*. Original Agape Weekend. Write: Ch., 4201 SW 53 St., #5, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314
- 13-15 — *Tonasket/Oroville, Washington*. Eighth Lost Lake Campout. Write: Ch., Box 624, Tonasket, WA 98855
- 19-22 — *Palm Desert, Florida*. Desert Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1766, La Quinta, CA 92253
- 19-22 — *Atlanta, Georgia*. Atlanta Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 80671, Atlanta, GA 30366

- 20-22 — *Madison, Minnesota*. 14th Annual District 5 Mini-Fest. Write: Ch., Rt. 2, Box 8, Correll, MN 56227
- 20-22 — *Scottsbluff, Nebraska*. Third Annual NCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 272, Gering, NE 69341
- 20-22 — *Scranton, Pennsylvania*. Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 482, Dunmore, PA 18512
- 20-22 — *Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. Seventh Area 60 Weekend of Sharing. Write: Ch., 200 Twin Oak Dr., Wexford, PA 15090
- 20-22 — *Kenai, Alaska*. 17th Wilderness Jam-boree. Write: Ch., Box 3714, Soldotna, AK 99669
- 20-22 — *Edson, Alberta, Canada*. 30th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 147, Niton Jct., AB T0E 1S0
- 20-22 — *Poughkeepsie, New York*. DCYPCC. Write: Ch., 6 S. Fowlerhouse Rd., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
- 20-22 — *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*. 43rd NC/Bermuda State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5586, Cary, NC 27511
- 27-29 — *Camp Tweedmuir, Fruitvale, British Columbia, Canada*. Seventh Campout. Write: Ch., 760 Eldorado St., Trail, BC V1R 4R5
- 27-29 — *Cleveland, Ohio*. CYPAA Conf. Write: Ch., Box 16866, Rocky River, OH 44116
- 27-29 — *Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1276, Hudson Bay, SK S0E 0Y0
- 27-29 — *Biloxi, Mississippi*. 44th Mississippi Area Conv. Write: Ch., 508 Russell, Ocean Springs, MS 39560
- 27-29 — *New Orleans, Louisiana*. 22nd Annual Big Deep South Conv. Write: Ch., 4041 Tulane Ave., Ste. 301, New Orleans, LA 70199

## August

- 1-5 — *Daytona, Florida*. 34th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 4730, S. Daytona, FL 32121
- 3-5 — *Eureka, California*. Kampout. Write: Ch., Box 751, Eureka, CA 95501
- 3-5 — *Toledo, Ohio*. 34th State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1334, Toledo, OH 43603-1334
- 3-5 — *Bronx, New York*. New York State Informational Workshop. Write: Ch., 354 Remsen Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11212

- 3-5 — *Arlington, Virginia*. 1990 Virginia Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6356, Alexandria, VA 22306-0356
- 3-5 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. 15th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 1608 Wyandotte St., W., Apt. 2, Windsor, ON N9B 1H7
- 4-5 — *Fort Morgan, Colorado*. Annual Mini-Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 1063, Fort Morgan, CO 80701
- 10-12 — *Chicago, Illinois*. 17th State Conf. Write: Ch., 205 W. Wacker Dr., Ste. 422, Chicago, IL 60606
- 10-12 — *Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada*. Annual Campout. Write: Ch., 581 John St., Sault Ste Marie, ON P6C 3K6
- 10-12 — *Tiel, Holland*. Fourth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., POB 2279, 2301 CG Leiden, The Netherlands
- 15-18 — *Charleston, South Carolina*. 46th Southern Regional Conf./43rd State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 31105, Charleston, SC 29407
- 16-19 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup XIII. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68805
- 17-19 — *Columbia, Missouri*. State Conv. Write: Ch., 1721 Ellison Way, Independence, MO 64050
- 24-26 — *Farmington, New Mexico*. NMCYPAA 1990. Write: Ch., Box 922, Farmington, NM 87401
- 24-26 — *Chattanooga, Tennessee*. Third Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2554, Chattanooga, TN 37409
- 24-26 — *Bryan College Station, Texas*. Seventh Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5232, Bryan, TX 77805
- 24-26 — *Sarasota, Florida*. Second Annual Westcoast Sponsorship Weekend. Write: Ch., 3951 Sawyer Rd., Sarasota, FL 34233
- 24-26 — *San Luis Obispo, California*. 23rd Annual District 22 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 13308, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
- 31-September 2 — *Reno, Nevada*. Sierra Nevada Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 5874, Sparks, NV 89432
- 31-September 2 — *Nashville, Tennessee*. Ninth Annual Music City Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 17312, Nashville, TN 37217
- 31-September 2 — *Penticton, British Columbia, Canada*. 25th Anniv. Labour Day Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 524, Penticton, BC V2A 6K9
- 31-September 3 — *San Antonio, Texas*. San Antonio-Austin Roundup. Write: Ch., 216 West Cypress, San Antonio, TX 78212