

2024 General Service Conference

Agenda Item Summaries

Central California Area 93

Pre-Conference Workshop

April 7, 2024

Av College Cafeteria (SCT) Building

Parking Lot D2,

3041 West Avenue K Lancaster, Ca

Disclosures:

The materials in this document are summaries of the background for the different agenda items under discussion at the General Service Conference this year. Information presented in the summaries is carefully distilled or extracted to be concise and provide enough information so that all districts and members in CCA 93 can fully participate. For more information on any particular item(s), please refer to the background documents (available from your DCM, your DCMC, and from the Area website).

Please do not consider the summaries to be the personal opinions of the CCA 93 officers and committee chairs. Only the section on “What the Delegate needs to know” is personally from our Delegate. Everything else is intended to be a *summary* of what is in the background.

This includes background for the 74th General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential AA document. Distribution is limited to AA 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 Item Summaries** of the background information for all of the items to be considered by the thirteen Conference committees of the 74th General Service Conference. The items 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 CCA 93 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. You can access the website at www.area93.org

Please remember to **treat the background as confidential**, and do not share it in any public forum or with non-AA members. This is because the background may contain first and last names of AA members, their emails, their addresses, or other personal information.

Please pay special attention in these summaries to the section at the end of each Item: “What does the Delegate need to know?” Not all items make for fruitful discussion at group level, and this is intended to help you narrow that down. Many of the agenda items are only for that specific 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 they still may be of great interest to read and share. Other items 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 valuable information about the agenda items and, where appropriate, to convey opinions to the Delegate. The questions in this section, if any, are intended to be a guide, not a limit, for your sharing sessions. Feel free to interpret them broadly.

You can share your group consciences with me at the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 7. Email is also an option, but I prefer hearing group consciences so that other groups can hear what your group had to say. This allows for a more fruitful discussion.

As your Delegate this year, I serve on the **Report & Charter Committee and Archives Committee**. Please bear in mind that I will have the opportunity to discuss the agenda items in that section in depth during my committee meetings at the Conference, and your input on those items would be especially helpful.

Thank you for participating in the Conference process!

Yours in service,
Pablo H. Panel 73 Delegate

Conference Theme, Presentation and Workshop Topics

The theme of the 74th General Service Conference is:

“Connecting with Love, Unity and Service”

The Presentation Theme and Topics will include:
Responsibility in Service: When and How to Give
Safety Throughout the Structure in our Fellowship
1728 Sponsorship
Overcoming the Barriers to Participation

The Workshop Topic will be:
Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the
Year, to Better Inform the Group’s Conscience

These are wonderful AA 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 AA events. We will also have some time for sharing on the Conference Theme at the Pre-Conference workshop.

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item A

Agenda Item	Review suggestions for the theme of the 2025 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 21 suggestions for the theme of next year's Conference. The background also has a list with the themes of every Conference between 1951 and 2024. 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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Agenda— Item B

Agenda Item	Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2025 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 17 presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2025 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 2024. 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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item C

Agenda Item	Review workshop topic ideas for the 2025 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 16 workshop topic ideas for the 2025 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 2024. 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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item D

Agenda Item	Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and 2023 Evaluation Summary.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Every year, an evaluation form is given to all Conference members (and observers). The background includes the evaluation form that will be given to Conference members this year, the evaluation form that will be given to observers this year, and a summary of the 2023 evaluations. Because of those evaluations, there were some changes made to the schedule of the Conference this year, resulting in savings of approximately \$112,000; the savings are also detailed in the background.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the changes to the schedule of the Conference this year? Why do they think that way?

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item E

Agenda Item	Discuss progress report on Conference improvement.
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Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The background details potential actions that could improve the experience (or expenses) of the 74th General Service Conference based on feedback from the evaluations from last year's Conference.</p> <p>Those actions include Conference members receiving Board reports and the Conference Week schedule three to four weeks prior to the Conference, providing details about New York City (and the dress code at the Conference) in advance, holding Joint Committee meetings by videoconference prior to Conference Week, and holding a follow-up 30-minute session for a Joint Committee meeting on Sunday afternoon (after the Conference starts). There were also cost savings from removing an early day prior to the Conference and holding the meet/greet, the Remote Communities Meeting, and the 1728 Meeting virtually. During Conference Week, Chair report summaries would be briefer, the buffet dinner on Wednesday is now being replaced with a stipend for an outside the hotel meal, reducing coffee stations, using interpretation technology, and creating reading room accommodations for the Plain Language Big Book. At the end of the Conference, the buffet breakfast has been canceled, and Conference members are being told they can make voluntary self-support contributions for the trip to Stepping Stones organized by the General Service Board. Future Conferences have further potential changes that could reduce expenses and enhance experiences.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Agenda — Item F**

Agenda Item	Review feedback from Delegate Chairs on quarterly communications.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Delegate Chairs are surveyed regarding quarterly communication. The background includes the survey questions they were asked, and a breakdown of their answers.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Agenda — Item G**

Agenda Item	Review Conference Inventory plan for the 2025 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The General Service Conference will hold its inventory in 2025. The background notes that inventory participants will include all voting members: first- and second-year delegates, trustees, directors, and staff.</p> <p>A draft of the plan for the 2025 Inventory is in the background. The inventory will include fifteen workshop groups, each with approximately nine members. Preliminary inventory will be conducted via an online survey, which will then be shared to each working group. Workshop groups will meet during time slots reserved for presentations, and then report back the result of their discussion to the full Conference. A comprehensive inventory report will be produced after the inventory is complete; it will be distributed electronically to all Conference members and be posted on the AA website; information about the inventory may be included in Box 459 and other AAWS publications.</p> <p>There are potential questions for inventory in the background.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any concerns about the Inventory plan for the 2025 General Service Conference? If so, what are they?

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

Agenda Item	Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	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 draft a report exploring all aspects of this social media tool, to

	<p>assess whether it was feasible within the Traditions, and to 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. As of September 30, 2023, the LinkedIn page has 3,261 followers, 2,344 total page views (a 2.7% increase from last quarter), and 872 unique visitors (a 5.6% decrease from last quarter). 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> <p>The LinkedIn AAWS page is at www.linkedin.com/company/aaworldservicesinc.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for 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. By October 2023, interviews with mental health professionals were completed. The materials gathered in the interviews were forwarded to the AAWS Publishing Department. This material along with current A.A. literature will be considered in the creation of a draft pamphlet.</p> <p>In January 2024 the trustees’ CPC/T-A committee reviewed the updated development of the pamphlet for the mental health professionals, which included a working title and a path toward another meeting this July, at which point AAWS Publishing will present the committee with another progress report or a draft of the pamphlet.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Kits and Workbooks for C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate trustees’ Committees during each working annual period. Service kits are typically updated annually each fall.</p> <p>The CPC Kit and Workbook is linked in the background material..</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss effectiveness and relevance of CPC videos currently on aa.org.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In October 2023, the trustees discussed ways to update the videos targeted at professionals and what approaches should be considered concerning, content, cost and other factors when reviewing current CPC videos. They noted the current language of the

	<p>videos and asked for consideration to be made to assist in focusing the content for pre-professionals as well as professionals.</p> <p>During a follow-up meeting in January 2024, trustees reviewed a proposal to revise three CPC videos currently available on the AA.org website. The committee requested the term “pre-professionals” be replaced by “para-professionals” to ensure that we are including those who work alongside the professionals in supporting roles. The committee noted the estimated production cost appears reasonable. Video editing (with six rounds of revisions) would total \$3,000; stock music costs \$2,000, and translation would cost \$1,000.</p> <p>The videos under review are at: www.aa.org/A.A.-Video-for-Healthcare-Professionals. www.aa.org/A.A.-Video-for-Legal-and-Corrections-Professionals. www.aa.org/A.A.-Video-for-Employment-Human-Resources-Professionals.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any concerns about updating these videos? Are there additional suggestions to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of these videos?

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

Agenda Item	Consider a request to develop a pamphlet on the unhoused alcoholic in A.A.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This agenda item is being proposed by Area 40 (Montana). It was first proposed by a group who recognized a need in their community within District 41 (centered around Great Falls, MT). The Area Literature Committee passed the motion and brought it to the floor of the Assembly, where it passed with substantial unanimity. The background notes that the Area reviewed current AA literature prior to submitting this proposed agenda Item and did not find any references to the unhoused or homeless. The request asked for a pamphlet on AA for the Unhoused Person that specifically addresses alcoholism, what A.A. is and is not, and that includes personal stories from A.A. members who have experienced homelessness. The trustees’ Literature Committee received this request and forwarded it to the Conference for input.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this pamphlet would be useful? Why or why not? How do we address the barriers that unhoused alcoholics experience in accessing A.A.?

Conference Committee: **Corrections — Item A**

Agenda Item	Consider updated Singleness of Purpose text to replace the existing paragraph in the pamphlet “A Message to Corrections Professionals.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2022, the Conference Committee on Corrections made multiple suggestions for revision and update to the Corrections Workbook, including a change to the “Singleness of Purpose” section of the pamphlet “A Message to Corrections Professionals.” That change centered on updating professional terminology based on evolving language regarding alcoholism and addiction. GSO Publishing has also suggested that we remove professional labels (like Substance Use Disorder) from our literature so that we do not need to update literature as professional terminology changes.</p> <p>As a result of these suggestions, the following paragraph would replace a paragraph that uses professional terminology in the pamphlet.</p> <p>“Some professionals refer to alcoholics and drug addicts as a single group when using professional terminology. Nonalcoholics are, therefore, sometimes introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend A.A. meetings. Nonalcoholics may attend open A.A. meetings as observers, but attendance at closed meetings is limited to persons who have a desire to stop drinking.”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that this change accurately communicates the difference between open and closed meetings to corrections professionals? Why, or why not?

Conference Committee: Corrections — Item B

Agenda Item	Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	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. Sometimes, members of the Conference Corrections committee will also review these changes. The Corrections Kit and Workbook is linked in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group or committee have any suggestions regarding materials that should be added or removed from the Corrections Kit and Workbook?

Conference Committee: Corrections — Item C

Agenda Item	Review the video “Carrying the Message Behind These Walls” for effectiveness, relevance, and intended audience.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The video “Carrying the Message Behind These Walls” addressed multiple audiences over an extended duration. The Trustees’ Corrections Committee suggested that the Conference review the video for effectiveness, relevance, and intended audience. They noted that a shorter, more targeted presentation could be more effective. The video can be found online at www.aa.org/Carrying-the-Message-Behind-These-Walls .
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that the video “Carrying the Message Behind These Walls” remains effective and relevant? Would they prefer an updated video? What changes would your group like to see in a new video? In what format (DVD, VHS, streaming) would they like to see future videos?

Conference Committee: Corrections — Item D

Agenda Item	Consider a request to develop a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 06 (California Northern Coastal) requested that a pamphlet entitled “Experience, Strength and Hope: AA for the Transgender Alcoholic” be produced. The Area passed this proposal by substantial unanimity after multiple years of discussion. While a pamphlet for the LGBT alcoholic already exists, the Area noted that gender identity and expression is different from sexuality, and the unique barriers of transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, gender-fluid, two spirit, and gender non-conforming alcoholics could be better addressed in a separate pamphlet. This proposal began at Queer Femmes: A Meeting for Trans Women and Queer Femmes of All Genders, a group in Oakland, CA, was forwarded to the District, where discussion occurred for the better part of 2018. The proposal was then forwarded to the Area, which discussed the proposal for two years until the motion to forward the request passed in 2021. The background includes a letter from the originator of the proposal that details the numerous reasons a separate pamphlet is being requested. The background also links to the pamphlet “LGBTQ Alcoholics in AA,” which can be found online at www.aa.org/lgbtq-alcoholics-aa .
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that this pamphlet would be useful? Why or why not? How do we address the barriers that transgender alcoholics experience in accessing AA?

Conference Committee: Finance — Item A

Agenda Item	Consider a request that the General Service Board develop supplemental reporting focused on the actual and evolving costs of various services provided by the GSB.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 47 (Central New York) submitted this proposed agenda item. As online services increase, (Meeting Guide app, podcasts, Instagram accounts, etc.) they come with more

	long- term costs such as server fees, development costs as platforms evolve, and ongoing content creation, which will increase over time. This proposed new reporting would be developed to communicate better the costs of the services being provided to the fellowship and could be included as background information for any agenda item listed in the report. The background has some considerations listed regarding content, frequency, and the level of detail to consider, as well as a list of items that are already reported on.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this new reporting will be an effective tool to communicate the cost of certain services to the fellowship? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Finance — Item B**

Agenda Item	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 multiple pamphlets, A.A. Guidelines on Finance, Your Seventh Tradition Contributions Flyer, the Self-Support card, the AAGV/La Viña Self Support Flyer and the Birthday Contribution Envelope.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Finance— Item C**

Agenda Item	Review progress report reflecting shared experience from the Fellowship on possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Following a Committee Consideration from the 73 rd General Service Conference that the trustees' Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s Founders, the trustees' Literature Committee met to discuss and subsequently developed a list of suggested questions for discussion. The list was distributed to all Conference Delegates with the anticipation that the Area Delegates would schedule discussions within their Areas, utilizing the proposed questions to help inform the discussions. The background includes a letter noting that this was never intended to be a survey of groups – but rather a discussion at each Area.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person. As an Area, we will share our groups' experiences on possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders during the Assembly as part of a sharing session.

Conference Committee: **Finance— Item D**

Agenda Item	Review video "Hope" for effectiveness and relevance.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In October 2023 The trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee met and reviewed the video "Hope" as part of their regular review of material associated with treatment and accessibilities. The committee agreed to forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities the video "Hope" for discussion on its' effectiveness and relevance. The current video was approved in 2009, and an evaluation tool in the background provides some useful questions to ask when reviewing this specific video. The video is at www.aa.org/Hope-Alcoholics-Anonymous .
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel the "Hope" video is still relevant and an effective tool for reaching alcoholics today? Why or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Review AA Grapevine Workbook.
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Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	An updated AA Grapevine Workbook was posted on the AA Grapevine website in January 2024 at www.aagrapevine.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/GV_Workbook_Dec_2023.pdf . The workbook was streamlined recently to make it easier to use and more helpful for Grapevine reps. The content was updated to expand on shared experience and how to use Grapevine and La Viña as a recovery tool. Colorful illustrations have been added as well as clickable links which take members directly to relevant sections of the Grapevine website for more detailed information. It has also been designed to make it easier for staff to update from time to time. The workbook was also recently translated into Spanish for La Viña reps and Spanish-speaking members.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2025 or after.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Each year, the Conference Committee on the Grapevine reviews a list of proposed items from the Grapevine staff at least one year in advance of their possible production. A.A. Grapevine items are published to carry the message of A.A. through stories from members and friends of the Fellowship and to help Grapevine maintain its self-supporting status. The list of proposed book topics is available in the full background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss the cost effectiveness and sustainability of continuing to print La Viña.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>La Viña was started in 1995 as the result of a Conference Advisory Action based on an expressed need for a Spanish edition of the Grapevine. The Conference recommended that funding for up to five years of publication be obtained from the General Service Board Reserve Fund, and that if, after five years, it was determined to no longer be feasible, publication be discontinued.</p> <p>Many Committee Considerations and Recommendations, in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2010, 2015, 2017, and 2018 recognized the demonstrated effectiveness of La Viña, its spiritual benefits as a Twelfth Step tool, and overall support for its continued publication and need for it to achieve spiritual parity with the A.A. Grapevine. At the same time, some of these Conference Considerations recognized the need for La Viña to continue striving for the goal of becoming self-supporting, and that funding La Viña as a service through the General Fund is an issue that affects the overall fellowship.</p> <p>In 2023, an individual member submitted a proposed agenda item requesting that the Conference review the overall cost effectiveness and sustainability of continuing to print La Viña, referencing financial reports released by the General Service Board over the last five years. The specific numbers are available in the full background material. The member noted in their submission that they believe in the usefulness of La Viña and are hoping only for an informed group conscience.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Please share the impact (positive or negative) that the La Viña magazine (both print and/or digital version) has had on your recovery and in your community.

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

Agenda Item	Explore the services provided by AA Grapevine and how they should be funded.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Since its inception, the AA Grapevine has been meant to be funded solely through subscriptions and (more recently) the sale of Grapevine books and other items. This has been reaffirmed by the Conference numerous times, in 1993, 1994, 2008, and, most recently, in 2017.

	<p>In 2023, the Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee discussed that La Viña (a Spanish-language magazine similar to the AA Grapevine) is funded by the General Service Board as a result of a Conference Advisory Action. The Trustees' committee suggested that the Conference discuss whether the Grapevine also be funded by the General Service Board. The background includes the letter from the Trustees' committee.</p> <p>The Grapevine currently produces, as a service to the Fellowship, the AAGV Podcast, the Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts, and the Grapevine and La Viña YouTube accounts; in 2023, these services cost \$91,390.</p> <p>The background also includes an excerpt from the bylaws of the General Service Board.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that the AA Grapevine should be funded solely through subscriptions and sales, or would your group like to see Seventh Tradition contributions used to fund AA Grapevine services?

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

Agenda Item	Consider a request to develop a pamphlet on the Asian and Asian-American alcoholics in A.A.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 49 (Southeast New York) requested that a pamphlet for Asian and Asian-American alcoholics in A.A. be produced. This motion was discussed at the Area 49 assembly on September 2023 and passed with a vote of 90 in favor and 2 opposed. This agenda Item arose from a member in Area 49. The member shared that as an Asian in recovery, he didn't feel like he belonged. He noted that the drinking culture is different from Western drinking culture, and that this can lead to difficulty in relating. Additionally, the member noted that some Asian members were dropping out of the program, and their Western fellows didn't seem to know what to do or say. Finally, the member notes that the Chinese translation of the Big Book contains only the first 164 pages, and not the personal stories in the back. The member shared that the Twelfth Step says we carry the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this pamphlet would be useful? Why or why not? How do we address the barriers that Asian and Asian-American alcoholics experience in accessing A.A.?

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item A**

Agenda Item	Annual review of recovery literature matrix.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The matrix is a tool for the trustees' and Conference Literature committees. It has important information about distribution for regular review. At the January meeting of the trustees' Literature committee, they reviewed and agreed to send the 2024 Recovery Literature Matrix to the Conference Committee on Literature.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item B**

Agenda Item	Review progress report regarding revisions to the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The trustees' Literature Committee is working on a pamphlet called "The Twelve Steps Illustrated." They want colorful illustrations that represent different spiritual beliefs and are easy to understand. However, at the 2023 General Service Conference, the Conference Literature Committee decided not to use the graphics in a proposed draft pamphlet. Instead, they asked the Publishing Department to create a new version and report on its progress at the 2024 Conference.

	In the 2024 Trustees report, it was mentioned that the Publishing Department is working with the A.A. Grapevine's art director to find illustrators. They will review samples from these illustrators before making a final choice. Potential illustrators are being asked to think about diversity in their work, and they're being shown the rejected pamphlet to understand what the committee didn't like. With \$10,000 budget and clear guidelines, the Publishing Department aims to have sample illustrations ready for approval by the July 2024 meeting of the Literature Committee.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item C**

Agenda Item	Review draft of the revised pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.” (Retitled: “Black in A.A.: Experience, Strength and Hope.”)
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, there was an Advisory Action during the General Service Conference to update the pamphlet called "A.A. For the Black and African American Alcoholic." The aim was to add new stories and give it a new title that's respectful and inclusive. A progress report on this project was given to the Conference Committee on Literature in 2023, and they asked for a draft or another progress report at the 2024 General Service Conference.</p> <p>The updated draft of the pamphlet, now titled "Black in A.A.: Experience, Strength, and Hope," was reviewed by the Trustees' Literature Committee. They suggested adding current contact information for A.A. on the back page. This revised draft will be looked at again by the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature. Because it's been significantly changed, it's being kept confidential and only committee members will review it (not the entire Conference). The focus of the review will be on whether the draft meets its goals and aligns with A.A. principles, specifically concerning the recovery program or information about the A.A. Fellowship. After the committee review, they might approve the pamphlet and suggest it for approval by the whole Conference, providing copies of the draft for them to read before voting. Alternatively, if they have concerns, they might send it back to the Trustees' Committee on Literature for more work.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item D**

Agenda Item	Review progress report or draft of the revised pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”³
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Following a Conference Advisory Action made in 2021, the Trustees Literature Committee has been updating the pamphlet titled "A.A. for the Native North American." This decision aimed to ensure that the language used is respectful and inclusive of all Indigenous peoples, to include new stories, and to correct any inaccuracies in the current version. Efforts have been made to reach out to a broad audience of Native North Americans in both the U.S. and Canada to gather these stories. The full report for this agenda item, provided to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature, includes details about how often the committee has met, the outreach efforts for story submissions (including extending deadlines for wider participation), plans to evaluate submitted stories, activities undertaken by the committee chair to engage with writing workshops, and changes in the committee's membership. Currently, the working group for the pamphlet consists of four members from Canada and two from the U.S.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item E**

Agenda Item	Review progress report or draft manuscript of the Fourth Edition of the book <i>Alcohólicos Anónimos</i> - Spanish.
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Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Following an Advisory Action at the 2021 General Service Conference, the Trustees Literature Committee has been working on the Fourth Edition of the book <i>Alcohólicos Anónimos</i> , the aim of which is to update stories to better reflect the current membership. The Trustees Literature Committee has submitted a progress report on this project for the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature. The report states that the working group has met twice, appointed a chair of the working group, and consists of seven members. The working group has discussed several items related to the project, including, but limited to the timeline for review of stories, including new stories and stories from the 3 rd Edition, and review of Chapter Five. The working group will continue to provide updates as the project progresses.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item F**

Agenda Item	Review draft manuscript of 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>Following an Advisory Action at the 2021 General Service Conference, the Trustees Literature Committee has been working on a translation of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)</i> into plain and simple language. The Advisory Action requested that it be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible.</p> <p>Following the 2023 General Service Conference, the Conference Committee on Literature agreed with the general direction of the project and requested that it continue to move forward. Conference members were also permitted to review the draft of the book privately and securely in a reading room.</p> <p>The Trustees Literature Committee has reviewed the draft manuscript of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)</i> translated into plain and simple language and agreed to forward it to the 2024 Conference Literature Committee. They also reviewed and submitted a “letter of understanding” outlining the confidentiality guidelines related to review of the manuscript (to ensure A.A.’s legal rights in the registration of the approved final draft of the manuscript with the U.S. Copyright Office, maintain the integrity of A.A. literature and ultimately our most valued asset which is A.A. unity). After the 2024 Conference Literature Committee reviews the draft manuscript, several things may happen, among them: The Committee might approve the manuscript and recommend it be approved by the Conference as a whole, permitting Conference members to review it in a reading room before voting. The Committee might also send the manuscript back to the Trustees Committee on Literature with any significant concerns or changes to the proposed draft.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group hope this plain and simple language translation of The Big Book (<i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>) includes? What does your group hope this book accomplishes? What specific concerns/fears does your group have about this new book? The Delegate will be reading this draft at the Conference – The Delegate needs to know what you want them to focus on when reading and discussing this potential new book.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item G**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on the development of the Fifth Edition of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Following an Advisory Action at the 2021 General Service Conference, the Trustees Literature Committee has been working on a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> . The Advisory Action requested an update of the 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,’ ‘Dr. Bob’s Nightmare,’ and the Appendices remain as is.”

	<p>The Trustees Literature Committee has submitted a progress report for the project to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature. The report notes that the story review process is moving slower than anticipated, so they have dropped and replaced readers who have yet to complete their first packet of stories and increased the number of readers. More readers have been selected from readers recommended by members of the committee. All current readers have signed, and any future readers will sign, non-disclosure agreements. Although several factors created delays in the process of reviewing stories, staff has improved and streamlined the response form used for submitting “keepers,” staff is working to speed up the packet assembly and distribution, and lots of stories have been read. The Committee continues to monitor the pace of the readers to ensure the process continues to progress as desired.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item H**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on the video animation of the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Following an Advisory Action at the 2022 General Service Conference, the Trustees Literature Committee has been working with the Publishing Department on adapting the video animation of the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated” published by the General Service Board of A.A. Great Britain. The video animation can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN6t4jAXJd0.</p> <p>At the 2023 General Service Conference, the Conference Literature Committee discussed this project, acknowledging that it is pending for budgetary reasons. In preparation for the 2024 General Service Conference, the Trustees’ Literature Committee reviewed a progress report on the project, including cost estimates submitted by the Publishing Department, and agreed to forward this to the 2024 Conference Literature Committee. The Publishing Department has met with the animation company responsible for producing the animation video “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.” The ballpark cost estimate for an English (“Americanized”) version, including minor revisions to the illustration and a new narration recording of American English is \$2,780. A separate budget was created for French- and Spanish-language versions, which would be the second phase of the project. There are two options presented on how to handle the French- and Spanish-language versions. One would use translated voiceovers for French and Spanish versions with illustrated visual treatment also translated in French and Spanish versions. The second option would use translated voiceovers for both French and Spanish versions with the illustrated visual text remaining in English and with French and Spanish subtitles of the visual text for each version. The section option costs \$1,210 less.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about adapting the video animation of the 12 Concepts for World Service produced by A.A. Great Britain? What does your group think about the options to have the visuals translated into French and Spanish in comparison to having the visual text remaining in English with French and Spanish subtitles?

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item I**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on video adaption of the pamphlet “Too Young?”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the 2023 General Service Conference, there was an Advisory Action that the print version of the of the pamphlet “Too Young?” be retired and that the content be repurposed as an animation video at an estimated cost no higher than \$70,000. The committee requested that a progress report or a rough cut of the video be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature. The pamphlet they are working on repurposing can be viewed at www.aa.org/too-young .

	<p>In October 2023, the trustees' Literature Committee reviewed a progress report on this project submitted by the Publishing Department. An excerpt from the January 2024 trustees' Literature Committee meeting report stated that the committee had reviewed three art samples showing the direction of the graphics for the video project. The committee discussed how the designs should stay clear from stereotypes and that feedback from young people may be beneficial. The committee will be forwarding the art samples, which are confidential, to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature.</p> <p>In addition to the art samples, the trustees' Literature Committee is also sharing additional updates with the Conference Committee. First, research with various animation production companies suggests that the cost to develop the Too Young animation video will be significantly higher than \$70,000. To stay within this budget, the trustees suggest exploring the option of producing one storyline rather than multiple stories in the pamphlet. Some other factors for consideration are the length of the animation and the initial production phases, including factors like colorization and the style of the animation. The current step in the animation process is obtaining approval from the Conference on the final draft of the storyboard. The remaining steps are art direction, voiceover narration recording, illustration, animation, sound design, integration, and delivering the final product.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the progress of this project so far? Are there any additional concerns or suggestions your group thinks should be considered as the project moves forward?

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item J**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on revisions to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>At the 2023 General Service Conference, the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities requested that the trustees' Literature Committee consider updating the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" to add language on working with alcoholics with intellectual or information processing challenges, communication challenges, and diverse neurological abilities. At the July trustees' Literature Committee meeting, the committee discussed this request, and asked several members to begin developing appropriate draft language that addresses the challenges of alcoholics with experiences of racism and trauma. At the October trustees' Literature Committee meeting, the committee reviewed a progress report and a draft mock-up of the revisions to date.</p> <p>The Trustees' Literature Committee has submitted a full progress report to the Conference Committee on Literature; they will review this progress report at the Conference this year. The full progress report is available in the background materials.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Literature — Item K**

Agenda Item	Consider a request that the words "Donation" and "Contribution" be swapped under Warranty One in "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" pamphlet
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated," there is a sentence that originally read, "So long as we refuse to take outside contributions and limit donations from individual members, we shall not become wealthy in any perilous sense."</p> <p>This agenda Item arises from a group in Area 58 (Oregon). The agenda Item was originally proposed in 2022 and requested that the words "contribution" and "donation" be swapped – so the sentence would read: "So long as we refuse to take outside donations and limit contributions from individual members, we shall not become wealthy in any</p>

	<p>perilous sense.” The original proposal notes that the word “donation” implies charitable giving, and that our “sobriety is not a charity.”</p> <p>As a result of discussion at the 2023 General Service Conference, A.A.W.S. revised the pamphlet as follows: “So long as we refuse to take outside contributions and limit contributions from individual members, we shall not become wealthy in any perilous sense.” This was done in accordance with a 2006 Advisory Action that recommended that the word “donation” be replaced with the word “contribution” in A.A.W.S. literature as it comes up for reprint. As the pamphlet is printed now, the word “donations” is not used at all.</p> <p>The original submitter of the Agenda Item believes that the wording should be as noted in their original proposed Agenda Item – that is, the word “donations” used to refer to money coming from outside sources, and the word “contributions” to refer to money coming from A.A. members. The A.A.W.S. Board agreed to forward this to the 2024 General Service Conference, noting that the sentiment within the Fellowship may have shifted since the 2006 Advisory Action.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that the word “donations” should be used in the pamphlet when referring to money coming from outside sources? Why or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Review GSO general manager’s memo regarding General Service Conference site selection.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the 73rd General Service Conference (GSC), the Conference Committee on Policy/Admission reviewed the dates for the 2027 General Service Conference. To provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select three proposed dates for the 77th General Service Conference listed in the background. The committee also brought forth the consideration that it will not be requesting a site selection report from the GSO General Manager in 2024, recognizing that contracts have been executed with hotels in the New York area for 2024, 2025, and 2026, and that site selection for the 2027 GSC could be impacted by the results of the Location Plus Committee and possible relocation of the General Service Office.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review dates for the 2027 and 2028 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office (GSO) 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 include the best choices and that do not conflict with any significant holidays. Included in the background is a list of Conference dates from 1993-2023, and the 2028 calendar with holidays and observances. GSO staff makes a note of holidays and observances so that there are no scheduling conflicts.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the General Service Conference (GSC), committee work is one of the most important parts of the conference week for the 93 Delegates. However, the distribution of the agenda items to conference committees had been consistently weighted with several committees often getting the bulk of agenda items to discuss year after year, while other

	<p>committees get few, if any, new agenda items. That imbalance has led to some committees working well beyond their allotted meeting times and other committees finishing their work with hours to spare. Seeking a better-balanced workload and a more equitable Conference experience has led to the three-year pilot known as the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW). The final report summarized each year’s work, described the distribution process, provided the year three survey results, and presented recommendations for the Policy and Admissions Conference Committee (P&A) to consider during their deliberations at the 74th GSC.</p> <p>The goal of the three-year EDW Pilot was to “ensure that the Conference committees receive an equitable distribution of agenda items that require a depth and substance of discussion.” The term equitable was defined in the 2020 plan to mean that, “everyone gets their fair share of something, it’s an adjective meaning fair or impartial. Something that is equitable does not unduly benefit one person more than any other person.”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the Equitable Distribution of Workload should continue? Why, or why not?

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item D

Agenda Item	Review report of the GSB Ad-Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the U.S./Canada Service Structure.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2021, two advisory actions passed at the Conference. The first recognized online groups and encouraged their participation, listing those groups who asked to be listed within the group’s preferred district and area, with the default option being the location of the group’s primary contact. This supersedes the 1997 Advisory Action that designated online groups as “international Correspondence Meetings.” The second advisory action in 2021 was that the Board form a committee to explore future possibilities for the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada General Service structure.</p> <p>In 2023, the committee requested delegates find out more about the online groups in their areas and requested that the ad-hoc committee provide them with sample questions they may use in that inquiry. The background has the history and current reporting, current database information, the survey of area delegates, regional forums and workshop presentations, and the international perspectives from the World Service Meeting.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group feel about the participation of online groups in the General Service Structure? What have been the challenges and solutions as participation has increased? What more can be done to increase awareness to online groups about their ability to participate? How should online groups participate? Should there be an online-only area or areas? Online-only districts? Or is the current situation working well right now?

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item E

Agenda Item	Discuss revising procedures for electing the Delegate chairperson, Conference Committee chairpersons and their alternates.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2023 the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions passed an Advisory Action that the members of the General Service Conference meet outside of the annual meeting for general sharing sessions at least two times per year utilizing virtual meeting technology. The General Service Board Chair and Delegate Chair set the date and time and determine what issues currently facing the Fellowship would be chosen as topics.</p> <p>Currently, procedures indicate the delegate chair be selected by lot. The proposed agenda item suggests that because this increased the authority and responsibility of the Delegate Chair, the procedure for electing that position – as well as Conference Committee chairpersons and their alternates – be reviewed. The background includes the PAI submission form from Area 50 and a document detailing the history and practices of electing a delegate chairperson.</p>

What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel changes should be made to the current procedures for electing the Delegate chairperson, Conference Committee chairpersons and their alternates? Why or why not?
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Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item A**

Agenda Item	Review the 2024 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee reviewed and accepted the 2023 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan (CMP) and expressed continued support for the vision and architecture of this version of the CMP. They shared that the plan provides a great framework and guardrails that capture the public information work, messaging, and channels GSO and AA Grapevine are using to make the Fellowship, general public, media, and professionals aware of the relevance of Alcoholics Anonymous. The background material includes the 2024 Comprehensive Media Plan by the Trustees' Public Information Committee and a detailed table of content. The introduction also describes a Comprehensive Media Plan as one of the primary focuses of the Trustees' Public Information Committee.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): Review the 2023 report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>At the October 2023 meeting, the trustees' committee reviewed and discussed the current videos and audio PSAs for timeliness, accuracy, effectiveness, and their ability to reach diverse audiences. Conversation focused on three television PSAs: “My Drinking Built a Wall,” “We Made Changes to Stop Drinking,” and “Opening Doors to a New Life.” They expressed no concerns about these three PSAs. They also discussed the PSA “When Drinking is No Longer a Party” and suggested that video remained useful. They also noted that the PSA “Since Getting Sober I Have Hope” might not be as useful in one language as it is in another. They also suggested the Conference consider retiring the 30 second version of the English-language PSA “Since Getting Sober I Have Hope.” The committee also asked Communication Services Department to research whether the 15 second version of the English-language PSA “Since Getting Sober I Have Hope” remained useful.</p> <p>After discussing the radio PSA “We Know How You Feel,” the committee agreed to retire the 15 second version. The committee asked the Publishing Department to research whether the last part of the PSA could be edited to remove reference to “Giving AA a call.” The committee also agreed to recommend that the PSA “We're All in This Together” be kept in circulation but to continue to discuss how we can best communicate the message that A.A. is welcoming and inclusive.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any suggestions on the Relevance and Usefulness of these PSAs?

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

Agenda Item	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): Discuss progress report on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In the fall of 2023, staff on the Public Information assignment requested proposals from various vendors for the work of placing A.A.'s PSAs on streaming platforms with the requested proposals from Connect 360 Multimedia, Moore Marketing, VNR1 Communications, Williams Whittle Agency, Plowshare Marketing, and PSN (Public Service Network). Some of these agencies decided not to submit formal proposals because they understood that our budget would not accommodate the kinds of media purchases, they would recommend.

	Streaming video media is purchased per IP address. If an organization pays for a PSA or ad to be shown to 30,000 Hulu watchers, it will run for those 30,000 users, no more. Background material includes graphics of broadcast media pricing and streaming expected cost and some platform-specific details about different streaming services (like Amazon, Connected TV, Hulu, You Tube ESPN digital, CNN, Fox, USA Today, and Facebook).
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any suggestions on the placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms? How much of your Seventh Tradition contributions would your group want to use to purchase PSAs on streaming platforms? Why?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item B3**

Agenda Item	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): Review progress report on the Mesmerize Point PSA distribution channel.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Mesmerize Point is a distribution channel used by AA to show PSAs. The progress report shows that AA videos were featured on screens in approximately 2,278 locations during the fourth quarter of 2023. These videos appeared approximately 4.7 million times across these locations during the three-month period. The committee asked Mesmerize Point to generate reports that would provide them with more information on the following: <i>What is the geographic spread of venues? (rural versus urban for instance) Can you tell us the number of times English-language videos played versus Spanish? What is the distribution of video players in pharmacies versus medical settings? Can you provide us more information about the type of medical facilities where our videos have run (ie- cardiology versus primary care or pediatrics etc)?</i>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the use of the Mesmerize Point PSA streaming channel? What additional questions would your group like to have answers to about the distribution of our public service announcements?

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

Agenda Item	Review report on the GSO Podcast.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A GSO Podcast is expected to launch in 2024. A working group is finalizing the themes and structure for the first series or episodes. The group has worked with the Archives department to obtain recordings available for public usage to include as reoccurring segments during episodes. They met with a music producer for potential theme clips. They also created multiple questionnaires to include for each interview (currently, GSO staff working on the Public Information desk, the Corrections desk, and CPC, along with the Director of Publishing and the GSO Manager). They have also begun collaborating with the Staff Services team to obtain “visitor testimonials” during GSO tours and other visits.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review report on AAWS YouTube channel.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee reviewed and accepted the AAWS YouTube Channel report covering the period between October 2022 and September 2023. The report notes that there were 95,545 views of the AAWS YouTube channel (a 17.3% decrease from last year), watch time totaled 3,947 (a 6.3% decrease), and subscribers increased to 9,102 (up 19.4%). Background material includes a chart with the ten most videos that were viewed, watch time, average percentage of each video viewed, and impressions. The Communications Services Department has been reviewing available channel features and enhancements for future support of our content creation.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item E

Agenda Item	Review report on Google Ads.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 2023 Google Ads report highlights positive engagement, particularly in the "Find a Meeting" ad group. The committee suggests revising the "Get Help" ad group. Challenges include ad content flags and a temporary disconnection in 2023 due to Google's policy changes on mutual support groups. The report details ad performance, costs and adjustments made over the course of the year. The Communications Department aims to resolve issues, explore efficient grant utilization, and address the impact of Google's policy changes on Alcoholics Anonymous advertising. Further research and monitoring are planned.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item F

Agenda Item	Review report on Meeting Guide app.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Version 4.0 of Meeting Guide App is active. The App now has about 1,444,008 active users and 950,245 new users. Goals in the future include improving design and improving online versus in-person search.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item G

Agenda Item	Review report on GSO's A.A. website.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The goal of the A.A. website, aa.org, is to present Alcoholics Anonymous as a credible, relevant resource to new visitors and deliver value to existing members. The site also includes pages for online contributions, an online store, and a repository of resources for A.A. members and potential members, trusted servants, A.A. Groups, the media, the professional community and more. The background includes a summary of traffic to the website last year; there were more than 12.7 million views and an engagement rate (interaction with the website) of 38.72%. Google Analytics are not currently available for aa.org because of a reporting issue.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item H

Agenda Item	Review reports on reports on AAGV/La Viña media platforms.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	As the Grapevine and La Viña continue to develop modern tools for outreach, the Public Information committee will review reports on what has been accomplished. Some of the work done this past year include the launch of the AA Grapevine and La Viña apps, updates to the webstore, and the Grapevine podcast's growth and development. As of January 2024, the apps have been downloaded 26,623 times; the podcast has been streamed 726,000 times (and growth increases by 6,000 streams on average each week). The Grapevine YouTube channel also has 12,4000 subscribers.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Is your group aware of the ways AAGV/La Viña are carrying the message digitally?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item I

Agenda Item	Review report for AAWS Online Business Profiles.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Google, Bing, and Yelp keep public, online profiles of millions of businesses. These online profiles also have open comment sections that, if unattended, can become unruly. For example, in the 3 rd quarter of 2023, the Google Business profile of AA had 45,263 views. The Communication Services Department and Public Information answered 34

	comments and 83 questions on the Google profile. Last year the committee suggested care be taken to ensure the GSO response to messages avoid sounding canned.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review report from working group on improving analytics across media platforms.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A 2004 Advisory Action requires the General Service Office (GSO) to compile quarterly and annual website analytics reports. Since that time, AA’s digital footprint has grown along with the data it produces. There is now a working group appointed by the Public Information (PI) committee that will research the best way to report on the data generated by our website, YouTube, Google Analytics, and the Meeting Guide app. The Analytics Working Group is evaluating the best ways to capture and report on the information generated by all of AA’s media properties.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Consider revised proposal to develop an AAWS Instagram account.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Communication Services Department, along with the guidance of Public Information Desk, has recommended the creation, implementation, and management of an official Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (A.A.W.S.) Instagram account. This Instagram account would highlight the GSO Podcast (with scheduled posts to build awareness of upcoming episodes with audio clips), upload updates and announcements from GSO (such as new literature offerings, calendars, and upcoming events), host short clips of our approved videos, offer seasonal literature special offers, include Press Releases, newsletters, news, and more, offer features and how-to-guides for the Meeting Guide app, and post excerpts from our literature and archives. All the postings would observe AA’s anonymity and security standards and utilize Conference-approved content. Grapevine and La Viña are currently utilizing Instagram accounts.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Are members of your group familiar with the Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts? Does your group feel like a AAWS Instagram account would be an effective tool in carrying the message? Why or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Review progress report on the Young People’s Video Project.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	GSO has been producing content focused on young people for decades, but efforts to ask the Fellowship for anonymity-protected video submissions that would carry the message to young people began with an Advisory Action in 2007. In order to generate more interest in the project, in September 2023, a GSO Staff member and the Senior Digital Production Manager from GSO’s Publishing Department attended the International Convention of Young People in AA (ICYPAA) in San Francisco. At that conference, GSO staff recorded fifteen interviews with young people that could be used for this project. Some videos have already been completed and are available online at www.aa.org/videos-for-young-people-downloads .
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel like video content is an effective way to attract young people to AA? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item M1**

Agenda Item	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials: Review progress report and draft on revision to the flyer “A.A. at a Glance.”
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Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The staff secretary has researched the trustees' Public Information (P.I.) 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. A revised draft of this flyer will be forwarded to this year's Public Information Committee for review. The current pamphlet can be found at http://www.aa.org/aa-glance .
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item M2**

Agenda Item	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials: Review draft of the revised pamphlet "Speaking at Meetings Outside of A.A."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 2021 General Service 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. The draft of the revision is still being developed and a draft or progress report on the revision will be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information. There are eight suggestions in the background material that are still being worked on. After a draft is completed, the committee will consider additional tools like a PowerPoint presentation. The current pamphlet can be found at http://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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Public Information — Item M3**

Agenda Item	Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials: Review progress report on revision to the flyer "A Message to Teenagers."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A 2021 advisory action asked for a revision to the flyer 'A Message to Teenagers' to better reflect carrying the A.A. message to young people. The committee is in discussion on how to best reach teenage alcoholics – from updating the artwork and questions in the pamphlet to creating digital materials that can be shared on social media and other platforms to reach teens where they are today. In 2023, 500 members were invited to provide feedback on the flyer. Work is continuing. The current flyer is at www.aa.org/assets/en_US/f-9_amesagetoteenagers-1.pdf .
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review results of A.A. Membership Survey convenience sample pilot.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The P.I. committee last year reviewed the report on the 2022 A.A. Membership Survey process and suggested a study to examine any potential differences in data based on different collection methods. The traditional membership survey process is conducted through Area Delegates. In 2023, they also collected data via the Meeting Guide App and through the AA Website. 32,000 individuals took part in this survey pilot, which enabled the committee to measure the effectiveness of the methods they used. The committee used standardized "data cleaning" methods to make the information gathered suitable for comparison to other surveys.

	A final report or a progress report on the project will be submitted to the trustees' PI Committee in July 2024.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Did anyone at your group participate in these online surveys? Does your group feel this is an effective way to understand the Fellowship? Why or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Review content and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate trustees' Committees during each working annual period. Service kits are typically updated annually each fall. The P.I. Kit and Workbook is linked in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Report & Charter — Item A1**

Agenda Item	The A.A. Service Manual, 2024-2026 Edition: Review list of editorial updates.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Every year, the General Service Board, the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (A.A.W.S.) Board and the AA Grapevine Board review The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service and forward updates to the Conference committee on Report and Charter. A 2021 Conference Advisory Action recommended that a new section be added 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 currently in footnotes and endnotes, along with comprehensive descriptions of the current General Service Board committees. A 2023 Conference Advisory Action recommended that a full rewrite be conducted of chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 to correct inaccuracies and better clarify the roles, responsibilities, and relationships between the General Service Office, A.A. Grapevine, and A.A. World Services, Inc. A list of editorial updates, the draft sections of chapters 8 – 12, and the draft section titled "Amendments" are available only for members of this committee.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This is an annual item for the Report & Charter committee, to discuss the 2023 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 Pre-conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss the reporting of Simple Majority Items.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	During the January 27, 2024 meeting of the trustees' General Service Conference Committee, the committee heard sharing on the Item of Simple Majority. Specifically, there is a section in the Final Conference Report titled "Recommendations Passed by Simple Majority."

	<p>An agenda Item requires a two-thirds vote to become an Advisory Action. However, a 1986 Advisory Action established that “If a committee recommendation does not receive the two-thirds vote required to become a Conference Advisory Action, but has a majority of votes, it automatically becomes a suggestion and will be duly noted in the Conference Report.”</p> <p>During the January 27, 2024 meeting, the committee shared that they felt this was ambiguous, and that the Simple Majority section could lead to misunderstandings and confusion. They asked for a discussion on whether the practice of communicating items that failed to achieve substantial unanimity as suggestions is still desirable. Questions and concerns have been received that using the wording “passed” to describe a recommendation that did not pass (as it did not receive the required two-thirds vote), but instead received a simple majority of votes, may cause confusion. They also noted concern that listing these items in the Final Report may take away from the full respect of Advisory Actions that did result from substantial unanimity.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the reporting of items that did not receive the required two-thirds vote to pass as “Passed by Simple Majority” is confusing? Why or why not? How does your group think items that received a Simple Majority, but not substantial unanimity, should be reported in the <i>Final Report</i> ?

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

Agenda Item	Review progress report on Military Outreach Project (formerly known as the Military Audio Interview).
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2017, the trustees’ CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee formed a subcommittee to develop resources for the professional military community, veterans, and active duty A.A. members. This led to the recording of several anonymity-protected audio interviews with military professionals about their experience with A.A.</p> <p>The 2023 Conference reviewed a progress report, and requested that the 22 interviews recorded to date be expanded to include veterans, and French-speaking members. The conference will review an updated progress report this year.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Kits and Workbooks for C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate trustees’ Committees during each working annual period. Service kits are typically updated annually each fall.</p> <p>The Treatment Kit and Workbook is linked in the background material.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Kits and Workbooks for C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate trustees’ Committees during each working annual period. Service kits are typically updated annually each fall.</p> <p>The Accessibilities Kit and Workbook is linked in the background material.</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 or in person.
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Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities — Item D**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on update to the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A 2020 Advisory Action instructed that the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” be updated for currency and inclusion to reach a broader scope of treatment settings. A progress report was reviewed by the 2023 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities and had several revisions. An updated progress report will be reviewed at the conference this year.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review updated Bridging the Gap service material.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Service material is under the purview of staff responsibility and does not require conference approval but is included here for committee consideration.</p> <p>The 2023 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities discussed a progress report on a proposed Bridging the Gap workbook, and noted that information on Bridging the Gap and other contact programs already exists in the Treatment and Corrections Workbooks and suggested instead that sharing be collected from the Fellowship and combined with existing resources to develop A.A. Guidelines on Bridging the Gap.</p> <p>At the 2023 trustees’ CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities committee, the committee accepted the progress report on Bridging the Gap service materials, and stated they appreciated the work done to date on the A.A. Guidelines on Bridging the Gap, and agreed to forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities for their consideration additional service material.</p> <p>Draft materials are available in the background on this item.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Review report on what resources is currently available from the General Service Office and the AA Grapevine to meet accessibility-related challenges and how those resources are communicated to the Fellowship.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In response to a 2023 Conference committee consideration, GSO staff conducted an internal inventory of accessibility resources produced by A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine. The inventory was originally requested by Maryland’s Area 29 ASL Translation Committee who hoped that a structure-wide inventory process would ideally include members with a disability or accommodation need and also professionals familiar with access services. The list of available resources includes the Big Book and Twelve and Twelve in Braille and American Sign Language (ASL), various pamphlets, the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook, A.A. Guidelines, newsletter articles, and service material such as the Accessibilities Checklist for A.A. Groups. Listed under Grapevine resources are a number of individual articles, as well as the October 2019 special issue titled “Is A.A. Accessible to All?” The report noted that while GSO has a number of resources for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Blind/Visually Impaired alcoholic, there were less resources focused on members with perceptual/learning differences, mobility challenges or mental health concerns. The reported methods of communication for

	sharing these resources with the Fellowship were the AA.org website, GSO's newsletter <i>Box 4-5-9</i> and the news section of the Meeting Guide app.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Is your group aware of these accessibility resources and where to find them? What more can the General Service Office do to increase awareness of these materials among its groups and members, and how effective are they in reaching alcoholics with access-related barriers?

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

Agenda Item	Review P-27 “A.A. in Treatment Settings” for effectiveness and relevance.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the October 2023 meeting of the trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee, the committee reviewed the pamphlet “A.A. in Treatment Settings” as part of their regular review of material. The committee agreed to forward a discussion on the pamphlet's effectiveness and relevance to the 2024 Conference. The Pamphlet is linked in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this pamphlet is effective and relevant? Why or why not? How do we make A.A. accessible to members in treatment settings?

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

Agenda Item	Review F-4 “Where do I go from here?” flyer for effectiveness and relevance.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the October 2023 meeting of the trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee, the committee reviewed the flyer “Where do I go from here” as part of their regular review of material. The committee agreed to forward a discussion on the flyer's effectiveness and relevance to the 2024 Conference. The flyer is linked in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this flyer is effective and relevant? Why or why not? How can we best help members to connect with A.A. after leaving treatment facilities and correctional institutions?

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

Agenda Item	Review resource lists for Remote Communities and Cooperation with the Elder Community.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the October 2023 meeting of the trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee, the committee reviewed the Remote Communities and Elder Community resource lists and agreed to forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities for their review. The Resource List for Remote communities, and the Resource List for the Elder Community is available in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think we are successfully supporting members in the elder community and other remote communities? Why or why not? How can we ensure that A.A. is accessible to all who need it?

Conference Committee: **Corrections — Treatment and Accessibilities — Item J**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on updating A.A. Service Material to better carry the message to alcoholics with intellectual or information processing challenges, communication challenges and diverse neurological abilities.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2023, the General Service Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities asked that the trustees review accessibility-related service material and consider updating it with new shared experience on this Item. The trustees' Committee on CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities reviewed a report on service materials that could be updated to address members with intellectual or information-processing challenges. That list included the Accessibilities Workbook, the Treatment Workbook, and a number of other service materials listed in the background.

	Note: This Item was originally listed as Corrections Item E; you may have downloaded old background documents, so if you want to find more information in the background, check in the Corrections section if it is not in the Treatment and Accessibilities section.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Please ask your group what publication formats communicate best to those with neurological diversity. What is the best way to gather shared experience from this demographic in our Fellowship? What service materials and committees most likely intersect with this demographic?

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item A1**

Agenda Item	Review resumes of candidates for: West Central Regional Trustee
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The resumes are only available to members of the Conference Committee on Trustees, but the background information lists names of the candidates elected by each Area in the West Central Region. The West Central Regional Trustee will be elected by Area Delegates from that region, 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 information and in Chapter 8, pgs. 53-54 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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item A2**

Agenda Item	Review resumes of candidates for: Western 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 the background material lists names of the candidates elected by each Area in the Western Canada Region. The Western Canada Regional Trustee will be elected by Area Delegates from that region, 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 material and in Chapter 8, pgs. 53-54 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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item B**

Agenda Item	Review slates of Trustees and Officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slates of Trustees and Officers of the General Service Board have been reviewed and recommended by the Trustees' Nominating Committee. They 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 present the slates 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 15 Class B (alcoholic) Trustees. Two of those Class B Trustees will be elected at the Conference (see items 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 Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item C**

Agenda Item	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 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 in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item D**

Agenda Item	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. Resumes for new non-Trustee Directors were 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 Grapevine Directors are included in the background material.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item E**

Agenda Item	Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The proposal to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different?” began at the 2022 General Service Conference, via an Advisory Action, that the “Trustees’ Literature Committee revise the pamphlet ‘Do You Think You’re Different?’ to update the stories to represent greater diversity and bring back a draft pamphlet or progress report to the 2023 General Service Conference.” It is in the Trustees’ workload because of the 2021-22 Equitable Distribution of Workload plan.</p> <p>The Literature Committee commenced its work. A Call for Stories was drafted, along with a story evaluation tool and outreach methods to the Fellowship for story submissions across the U.S. and Canada, which included, amongst many, information and flyers published in Box 4-5-9, the meeting guide app, on the <i>Grapevine</i> website and in an article, to remote communities chairs, announcements at regional events, writing workshops at regional service events, and personal invitations. In November 2023, the story rating tool was revised to better prioritize members’ experiences with alienation, accessibility issues, and multicultural and diverse population challenges. Another Call for Stories was requested. The working group reports that the project is moving along well.</p> <p>The current pamphlet can be found at www.aa.org/do-you-think-youre-different.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop, but you can share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

Conference Committee: **Trustees — Item F**

Agenda Item	Discuss guidelines or parameters for deadlines of Conference agenda items.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This topic was submitted in April 2023 by a past Delegate and Trustee who expressed concern that the current deadline for submitting Agenda Item items for consideration by the Conference (September 15) may mean that that any Agenda items meant to censure or reorganize that current Panel’s General Service Board would not be heard until the following year. The past Delegate noted that their Item was based on the (February) 2023 resignation of the General Service Board Chair.</p> <p>The background material contains details of the General Service Conference timeline shifts over the years (1993 to present) to allow for the maximum participation of groups, Districts and Areas in the Agenda items process, including changes to the Agenda</p>

	<p>items submission deadline, the finalization of the items by the General Service Board, and availability of the background material.</p> <p>The background material notes that the current timeline means that the Conference Committee staff is heavily tasked with the writing, research, editing, processing, printing, etc. of thousands of pages of materials in a short period and that technology may possibly be making it more feasible to meet the deadlines than in the past [Sept. 15 Agenda items submission deadline, Dec. 26 release of Preliminary items to Delegates, the finalization of the items by the General Service Board in late January or early February, Delegates receiving background material by Feb. 15].</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group feel about the current timeline for the General Service Conference Agenda items process? Should the Conference revisit the dates (guidelines) or consider a review of the (timeline) parameters for the General Service Conference Agenda items process?

Conference Committee: **Archives — Item A**

Agenda Item	Review content and format of Archives Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Archives Workbook is reviewed annually at the General Service Conference.</p> <p>The Archives Workbook can be found online: www.aa.org/archives-workbook.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item at the Pre-Conference Workshop; if your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate via email or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss an anonymity-protected photograph of the Flag Ceremony to be taken at the 2025 International Convention.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	An anonymity-protected photo has been taken at each International Convention since the first International Convention in 1950. This has been consistently approved since 1994. Prior to this, the International Conventions Committee met on an ad hoc basis (and therefore did not make advisory actions to the Conference). In the years since, the Conference has agreed to take this photograph. Because the International Convention is next year, the trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums committee forwarded this request to the Conference this year.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that an anonymity-protected photograph should be taken at the 2025 International Convention? Why, or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Discuss an encrypted, anonymity-protected, delayed Internet broadcast of the Convention Flag Ceremony for the 2025 International Convention.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>A highlight of each International Convention has been the parade of flags at the Opening Meeting on Friday evening. The Flag Ceremony sets the celebratory and international tone for the Convention weekend with a display of 90+ flags representing countries whose members are attending the Convention.</p> <p>Since 2005, with the approval of the Board and the Conference, a limited broadcast of this event was shared. It required a unique password, along with technical requirements to access the Flag Ceremony on the Internet. Access was available approximately 9 hours after the end of the Flag Ceremony, which allowed time for editing to ensure anonymity and to launch the broadcast. In 2010, access was granted through the AA website (meaning passwords were no longer required); it was viewed nearly 14,000 times over the course of the Convention. In 2015, the broadcast was viewed nearly 40,000 times; viewing was extended for two weeks past the Convention. There was no Convention in 2020. The plan for next year's Convention is to start streaming the flag ceremony on</p>

	Monday morning (after the Convention ends) so that the editing process does not have to be as long and intense (given requirements to edit for anonymity protection).
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that this is a valuable practice? Should it continue? Why or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Discuss a report concerning virtual programming for the 2025 International Convention.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Discussions held by the trustees' International Conventions-Regional Forums Committee regarding adding virtual programming at the 2025 International Conventions (the first time AA would provide virtual programming) are detailed in the background.</p> <p>Initially, the plan was to include a virtual session as part of a three Big Meetings product, but later it was separated into two concepts: offering virtual sessions as part of the convention and providing a standalone virtual session track for broader participation. The rationale behind this decision includes facilitating international participation amidst travel difficulties and embracing virtual meeting technology, which has been previously used by the General Service Board (GSB). The report suggests focusing on the international element, considering interpretation services, managing capacity, and determining registration methods and fees. Estimates for the cost of virtual sessions are provided, with the intention of covering expenses through registration fees. The trustees' IC-RF Committee plans to gather feedback from international members and involve the Conference Committee on IC-RF for review.</p> <p>A report from a potential vendor outlines two potential approaches for the convention: a scaled-back hybrid version with reduced budget and capabilities, and a full hybrid version offering enhanced interaction. Key considerations include the choice of streaming platform, with Zoom Webinar and Vimeo being primary options, each offering distinct features and pricing structures. The scaled-back version focuses on limited virtual panelists and two-way communication, while the full hybrid version proposes broader engagement strategies including custom content creation and expanded language interpretation. Equipment and staffing requirements are detailed for both scenarios, emphasizing the need for local AV vendors and technical personnel. The report emphasizes that the provided proposals are preliminary and subject to further refinement based on budgetary constraints and project vision.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group want virtual programming options for the International Convention in 2025? What type of virtual programming would they want to see?

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

Agenda Item	Discuss options for closing the Big Meeting at the International Convention.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>For the last four International Conventions, at the choice of the respective chair, one of the Big Meetings is closed with the Lord's Prayer, one is closed with the Serenity Prayer, and one is closed with the Responsibility Statement. At the 2021 General Service Conference, the Conference Committee on International Conventions/ Regional Forums (IC/RF) discussed methods of closing the Big Meetings at the next International Convention in 2025, particularly the use of the Lord's Prayer. A survey was conducted in 2022 to gather feedback from the Fellowship regarding methods of closing the Big meetings, including the use of the Lord's Prayer and potential alternatives (e.g., Third Step Prayer, Seventh Step Prayer, A.A.'s Declaration of Unity). In December 2022, the Trustees IC/RF Committee reviewed and discussed the survey results and concluded that the data "did not reflect an overwhelming desire by the respondents to change the current practice". While 50% of members who responded supported keeping the current practice, data (in the background) notes that nearly 40% of English respondents and 55% of Spanish respondents wanted to end the practice of using the Lord's Prayer, and that 47%</p>

	<p>of English respondents and 74% of Spanish respondents wanted to substitute another option for the Lord's Prayer.</p> <p>In 2023, the Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums noted that the consensus of the committee was to continue allowing the chair the choice of closing the meeting with one of the three options. A floor action at the Conference requested that only the Serenity Prayer and the Responsibility Statement be options. Because the Conference ran out of time for substantive discussion on the floor action, a motion to recommit (send it back to the Trustees' Committee) passed – and the Trustees' committee forwarded the item again to the 2024 Conference for more discussion.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group believe the Lord's Prayer should remain one of three options for closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention? Why or why not?

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

Agenda Item	Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Regional Forums are held several times a year and are a service provided by the General Service Office (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.</p> <p>In 2023 the committee suggested adding virtual elements or even adding a virtual fifth forum to the annual calendar. Another suggestion was to disseminate advance information about events using flyers, posters, announcements in Grapevine and La Viña, podcasts, Instagram messages, invitations in ASL, QR codes, and <i>Box 4-5-9</i> articles.</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 or in person.

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

Agenda Item	Discuss the production of anonymity-protected videos of other highlights of the Convention as a way of sharing the spirit and enthusiasm of the 2025 International Convention with A.A. members.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The committee agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums the discussion of an anonymity-protected, delayed Internet broadcast of the Convention Flag Ceremony for the 2020 International. This recommendation aims to preserve archival footage while respecting anonymity. The committee viewed a one-minute draft video providing a glimpse of past international convention flag ceremonies and agreed to proceed with the project. Once final edits are completed, the video will be made available for download on aa.org and other available platforms.</p> <p>Note: A video was made but never used due to the cancellation of the 2020 International Convention. The cost of that video was estimated to be around \$4,700.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about producing this type of short video? What could be filmed in addition to the flag ceremonies to share the enthusiasm and spirit of the International Conventions?

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

Agenda Item	Discuss the production of a delayed, anonymity protected, digital access video product offering of the three big meetings at the 2025 International Convention
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The trustees' IC-RF Committee met multiple times between October 2023 and February 2024 to discuss incorporating a virtual component into the 2025 International Convention. They proposed adding a digital option for Friday night's meeting, including

	<p>the flag ceremony, and the Saturday and Sunday Big meetings, at a fee to be determined. The estimated production cost, including anonymity protection editing and hosting, is \$58,000. Additionally, they suggested offering a separate digital access product for the three Big Meetings post-convention. This proposal was shared with the 2024 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums for review.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group think this video project would be beneficial for members to be purchased during registration or post-convention? Why or why not?</p>