AAWS In news about translation of our literature into other languages, the Croatian Big Book has been approved, a revised translation of the Slovakian Big Book has been submitted for review, and the Navajo Big Book is proceeding with translation of the final two chapters. The Big Book is currently available in 70 languages, including the original English-language edition. There are 21 non-English language editions pending (14 new language and seven revisions in progress). Our message continues to be made more and more widely available to help the alcoholic who still suffers. AAGV The newest GV book, Voices of Women in A.A., is in production and will be available this fall as both a print publication and an e-book. Finance and budgetary On the AAWS side, total revenue for the first six months of 2017 was about $8.8 million. Expenses were about $7.8 million, and net profit was just under $1 million. Significant factors contributing to the strong results were increased literature sales and increased Seventh Tradition contributions. The GSB is once again grateful to the Fellowship for the contributions that help to make services possible, and also grateful to management for the prudent approach to operations that is helping to keep increases in operating expenses below budget. The financial picture also looks good on the Grapevine side. Total income for the first six months of 2017 was about $963,000. Expenses were about $915,000, and net profit was about $48,000. Significant factors contributing to the strong results were increased gross profit on the magazine and interest income from the subscription deposits held in the Reserve Fund. The GSB’s gratitude goes out to the whole Grapevine community, as well as to Grapevine management for prudence in keeping increases in operating expenses below budget. La Viña had a shortfall of revenues versus expenses for the first six months of 2017 of about $62,000, which is about $21,000 less than the budgeted shortfall. Please remember that the General Service Conference has asked that La Viña be supported as a service to the Fellowship. It is different from other aspects of our services, in that it also has a revenue stream, and we should always keep its distinct hybrid status in mind whenever we look at La Viña financials.

The Reserve Fund had a balance on June 30, 2017, of about $16.3 million, which reflected a contribution of $1.2 million from GSO and a contribution of $40,000 from Grapevine. The current balance represents approximately 10.7 months of operating expenses (we like to keep it at somewhere between nine and twelve months of operating expenses).

With the strong financials reported above in mind, the GSB approved a recommendation from the finance committee to transfer $2 million from the Reserve Fund, with $1.25 million going to the Pension Plan Trust and $750,000 going to the Post-retirement Medical Fund, as part of ongoing efforts to ensure that we keep our promises to our retired employees. After this transfer, the Reserve Fund will be at about 9.4 months or operating expenses – still within our preferred range. The committee met on July 30th, and the finance department at GSO was already able to report that there were

459 online contributions on July 27th for $7.27. I can’t tell you how delighted the finance department personnel and the GSB treasurer are about this grass-roots campaign that began last year in the Pacific region and continues this year. For those who may be reading this report as a pass-along and who may not be familiar, this is an effort to spread the word about how much it costs per member per year for GSO to provide services to the Fellowship and to encourage members to make a contribution in that amount on the date that corresponds to the dollar amount. GSO didn’t ask for this; it came about through people taking the initiative at the local level. Here’s the idea behind it. In 2016, it cost $7.27 per member to provide services, and members took it on themselves to send a contribution in that amount on 7/27. The finance department plans to track mail-in contributions for $7.27 received in the coming weeks and to report those figures at the October meeting. Thanks to the trusted servants and members at the local level who got this going and who have continued it this year. Dear members of the General Service Conference,

At the most recent Board Weekend, General Service Board received an update on the pending legal matter in executive session with counsel present. While I cannot share that discussion, I can share some new information that will keep you current with our actions to date.

The court has entered a stipulated order, as proposed and agreed to by both parties, which requires defendant (Mr. Kenneth R.) not to transfer or sell the Printer’s Copy Manuscript of Alcoholics Anonymous for the duration of the matter.

The August 2 hearing (noted in the judge’s initial order granting the temporary restraining order) did not occur, upon agreement of the parties and the court. The court has recently set the next status conference for October 11, 2017.

The Manuscript is now in secured storage at Crozier Fine Arts. Both Profiles in History (the auction house) and Questroyal Fine Arts (the gallery that had displayed the manuscript) have been dismissed from the matter.

Please note: All filings in the case are a matter of public record.

The discussions of the legal situation within the Board and with counsel, however, remain confidential and privileged, so this is as much as can be shared at this time.

On behalf of the General Service Board and A.A. World Services, I wish to thank you for your ongoing engagement, all your questions and expressions of concern, and your love for our A.A. Fellowship and the Legacy of A.A. Unity. While some of you may disagree with our actions from time to time, please be assured that each Board member loves A.A. and is acting in good faith as a trusted servant in accordance with Tradition Two, as discussed in the Concept Seven essay.

The Public Information desk at the General Service Office continues to be the primary source of communication about this legal matter, both within and outside the Fellowship. We ask that you direct your comments there, so that we can gather your thoughts in an orderly manner. All communications about this matter received as of July 27 have been provided to all Board members.

With much gratitude for your service to Alcoholics Anonymous,

Michele G, Chair An Update on AAs in the wake of Hurricane Henry What's happening to Houston AA after Harvey? We are grateful to report that the Houston Intergroup office was spared significant damage from the storm. The office is now open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 6:00pm. However, we are sure that many of the 500+ groups that we support in the greater Houston area weren't so fortunate. Many other offices, groups, and members from around the country have contacted us with offers of support. Houston Intergroup is setting up a distribution center to coordinate help and replacement literature for those groups and members who lost A.A. material in the flooding.

If you, or your group, has extra Big Books or 12&12's that you could contribute towards this relief we'd greatly appreciate the donations. In addition, if you wish to make a monetary donation towards this work you can do so through PayPal on our website. (CLICK HERE for access to the page.) or you can mail in a check. Please mark all donations "HARVEY" so that we can segregate them.

Please send any materials to: Houston Intergroup 4140 Directors Row Suite D Houston, TX 77092 (713-686-6300) Clarification from Ron the Delegate from area 67 SE Tx A little clarification on the Houston relief. Any money that is sent to Houston Intergroup will be used to purchase literature only. It is not and will not be used for any other purpose. At the present time Houston is still in the early stage of recovery, people are still flooded and the Group needs are still being assessed. Thank you all for your love prayers and encouragement.