

# **2019 General Service Conference (GSC)**

## **Agenda Item Summaries**

### **Complete Package – All Items**

Your Delegate wants to hear all comments and feedback from you and your groups on these GSC Agenda Items. Please share this document with your groups and bring back any discussions or group consciences to the Assembly. Please utilize the open microphones during the Pre-Conference Assembly. GSC Background information is available upon request.

*Disclosures: The materials in this document are only summaries of the background. Information presented in the summaries are carefully distilled or extracted to be concise and provide enough information so that all districts and members in Area 42 can fully participate. The summaries do not reflect the opinions of the Area 42 officers.*

Confidential

This includes background for the 69th General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document; Distribution is limited to A.A. members.

Conference Committee: I. **Agenda — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review suggestions for the theme of the 2020 General Service Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	1951 through 1961 the conference theme became defined by taking a "sense of the meeting ". Starting 1962 definite themes came into being. Conference themes revolve around basic principles of AA, they can spark thought-provoking discussion and be incorporated into meetings, workshops, pre-conference assemblies etc.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Your ideas for a conference theme. Your opinion on the possible theme suggestions for 2020, which are available upon request.

Conference Committee: I. **Agenda — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2020 General Service Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Just as the topics for the General Service Conference are selected a year in advance so are the presentation/discussion topics. This advanced selection allows time for the fellowship as a whole to participate. The list of presentations and discussion topics from 1985 to 2018 is available upon request.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Your ideas for presentation/discussion topics. Your opinion on the possible topic suggestions for 2020, which are available upon request.

Conference Committee: I. **Agenda — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2020 General Service Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The General Service Conference workshop topics will be considered at the same time as the theme and presentation topics. This advanced selection allows time for the fellowship as a whole to participate. The list of workshop topics from 1985 to 2018 is available upon request.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Your ideas for workshop topics. Your opinion on the possible topic suggestions for 2020, which are available upon request.

Conference Committee: I. **Agenda — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, process and 2018 Evaluation Summary.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee reviewed the 2018 General Service Conference Evaluation and noted that the evaluation is now available for delegates to fill out online. The committee reviewed the summary of the 2017 General Service Conference evaluations. Noting the low number of respondents, the committee reiterated the obligation that Conference members have to fill out the evaluation.
What does the Delegate need to know?	The evaluation form was provided online. The number of people who filled it out (63) was still low, even though it is obligatory for the conference members. The results/summarized responses are attached to the agenda item.

Conference Committee: I. **Agenda — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Before the January board weekend, the trustees' committee chair and staff secretary will arrange a conference call with the Conference committee to review items submitted as Agenda items and to talk about items still being considered by the trustees' committee. This way, Conference committee members would get a verbal report on the disposition of items submitted to the trustees' committee, and could share regarding those items. This will allow all Conference committee members to offer feedback on proposed Agenda items related to their committee.
What does the Delegate need to know?	The trustees' committee is interested in the thoughts of the Conference committee members as to whether these proposed Agenda Items not forwarded or still under consideration should be forwarded to the Conference committee.

Conference Committee: II. **CPC — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Discuss progress on implementation of A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Decisioning. Much exhaustive work has been done by the consultant, Impact Collaborative, IC, and the Trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/ Treatment and Accessibilities (C.P.C./T.A.) to create a LinkedIn page. Now the Conference Committee on CPC shall discuss whether or not to adopt the recommendations of the Trustees' C.P.C./T.A. That the process was inclusive and reflects the group conscience of A.A. Each of the committee's members had an opportunity to have input. All of the consultant's recommendations and questions were thoroughly addressed by the committee. The collaboration between the consultant and the trustees committee is in keeping with the goals of A.A. World Services, Inc.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about implementing a A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page?

Conference Committee: II. **CPC — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to remove text "They may help arrange hospitalization" from the pamphlet "Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community."
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 03 Arizona submitted the recommendation. The motion was submitted to the Area. The assembly body passed this recommendation with "substantial unanimity". The word "they" is ambiguous and could lead someone to "assume that they would be hospitalized" by A.A, or that someone "might expect A.A. to find treatment for them and pay the cost".
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this sentence needs to be removed from the pamphlet?

Conference Committee: II. **CPC — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for CPC, Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Workbooks and kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The Kits and Workbooks are available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).

What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.
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Conference Committee: **III. Corrections — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Consider request for a review of all corrections related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Proposal was presented by BC Yukon Area 79 stating terms like inmate and offender are used by Judicial system and not by AA members incarcerated or by AA volunteers in this area. For that reason, they don't use the book, AA in Prison Inmate to Inmate, or Pamphlets Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic or It Sure Beats Sitting in A Cell. They arrived at this decision by an informal polling of members in this Area's Correctional Facilities. Area 51 North Carolina no longer uses the word "inmate" in any reports or communications also.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your Group believe that the experience of BC Yukon Area 79 is sufficient to request a review/change of all corrections literature to eliminate terms such as "inmate" or "offender"? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **III. Corrections — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional Facilities in each service area in the U.S. and Canada and the status of meetings held therein.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Proposal submitted by Hudson/Berkshire New York, Area 48 . It states that it often takes 6 months or more for a new Corrections Chair to collect all information needed to function properly and cover all Corrections requests and address any facilities that need attention. The purpose of the database would be multifold. 1) To allow incoming Area Corrections Chair ready access to information regarding where focus is needed to carry the message into facilities. 2) Provide valuable data to Areas and Districts conducting inventories. 3)To help GSO to be of additional service in efforts to carry the message into Correctional Facilities across the US and Canada. The data points would originate as voluntarily submitted uploads by the Area Corrections Chairs to the Corrections desk for entry into the database. There would be No Collection of names or contact information. Informal cost estimates for developing database for Corrections Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$25-30K for solo or small development team</li> <li>• \$50-60K for Agency like those working on Website redesign or Meeting Guide App</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your Group believe that asking the GSO to develop such a data base is a good idea? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **III. Corrections — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for CPC, Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Workbooks and kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The Kits and Workbooks are available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

Conference Committee: **IV. Finance — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Reviewing expense of the area delegates vs what GSC asks the area to contribute towards the cost of delegate. The contributions the areas contribute help cover the cost.</p> <p>Annual Conference delegate fees have increased from \$150 in 1969 to \$1,800 in 2017. The delegate fee increased from \$1,600 to \$1,800 in 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The average Conference cost per attendee was approximately \$5,400 in 2012 and \$8,300 in 2018. The costs vary depending upon whether the conference is held in Manhattan or Rye Brook NY.</li> <li>Costs have increased due to the full translation of all the background information into French and Spanish.</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the current area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference?

Conference Committee: **IV. Finance — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review the Conference-approved level of \$5,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. Members.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Bequest Contributions limits have risen from \$100 in 1967 to \$5,000 in 2012. This was last reviewed in 2016.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the current limit on individual bequests to the GSB?

Conference Committee: **IV. Finance — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Individual contribution maximum has risen from \$100 in 1967 to \$5,000 in 2018. In 2018 the Conference-approved limit was increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the current limit on annual contributions for individuals to the GSB?

Conference Committee: **IV. Finance — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review Self-Support Packet.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Self Support Packet is reviewed by the Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. The Self Support packet contains service pieces, and suggested changes to its contents do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The contents of the packet is available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

Conference Committee: **V. Grapevine — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine book topics for 2020 and later.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Conference Committee on the Grapevine reviews a list of proposed special items (Grapevine Books) from the Grapevine Corporate Board so that the Conference can offer guidance or voice disapproval. The Grapevine Corporate Board retains the “right of decision”, but values the Conference Committee’s input. A 2002 Advisory Action recommended that the Grapevine should review the list at least one year prior to possible production. Grapevine items are published for several reasons, foremost of which is to carry the message of AA stories from members and friends of the fellowship. This year’s list includes: 1) <u>The Early Days of AA</u> - classic Stories by members from the 30’s, 40’s, and 50’s about what AA was like from the pages of the Grapevine. 2) <u>Getting Involved in General Service</u> - inspiring stories of experience by AA members who got involved in service below the group, from pages of the Grapevine 3) <u>Surrender and Hope</u> - Spanish-speaking AA members share how they came to surrender and join AA for a new life, from the pages of La Viña.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think these three book titles are appropriate special projects for the Grapevine Corporate Board to plan?

Conference Committee: **V. Grapevine — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to remove the “Alcoholism at Large” section from AA Grapevine.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 64 (TN) requested an Agenda item to the General Service Conference to remove the “Alcoholism At Large” section from the Grapevine. They believe this section is in conflict with A.A.’s Traditions and Grapevine’s statement of purpose. The “Alcoholism at Large” section of the Grapevine includes articles and excerpts from the press about the legal, social, and medical aspects of alcoholism. Prior to 1966 this section had different titles and was published sporadically in the magazine. In 1966 the Grapevine began publishing the section called “About Alcoholism” or the “gray pages” as it is known to the GV readers. Since 1974 there have been many agenda items requesting the removal or addition of this section. It has been removed and later added back, currently named “Alcoholism at Large”.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think the “Alcoholism At Large” section should be removed from the AA Grapevine?

Conference Committee: **V. Grapevine — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Grapevine Workbook online at <a href="http://www.aagrapevine.org">www.aagrapevine.org</a> is a resource for Grapevine and LaViña reps and other AA members using GV and LV to help alcoholics get/stay sober. GV Inc. seeks to increase journal subscriptions and distribution with improvements to online resources.</p> <p>The Conference Committee annually reviews the GV Workbook and recommends updates, in 2018 suggesting a comprehensive review and revision of the Grapevine Workbook take place.</p> <p>The GV and LV management team reviewed the online Workbook, concluding revisions should be done by freelancer with familiarity of history, procedures, products of AA Grapevine, Inc.</p> <p>Additional information on revisions is not available to the fellowship at this time.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Group discussion of experience with or perspectives on how the Grapevine Workbook has served as a resource to carry the AA message to alcoholics in treatment and corrections facilities, remote communities, in access-limited circumstances and as a recovery resource for groups.

Conference Committee: **V. Grapevine — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey and summary.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Grapevine magazine subscriptions have decreased 33% over the past 10 years. Increasing subscriptions is necessary to sustain the current voice of the Fellowship and the important role GV and LV content plays in carrying AA's message of recovery.</p> <p>Fall 2018, the Grapevine Board surveyed current, past, and non-subscribers of GV and La Viña, in English and Spanish, for strategic planning purposes. The initial summary and some findings released to the board in December include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subscribers are very positive about - Appearance; Variety of stories; Most feel price is right; Some report positive resolutions to customer service issues.</li> <li>• Opportunities identified - Improve perceptions and relevance of GV and LV as important recovery tools; Clarify how funded; More content to reach younger members and long-timers; Simplify subscription model; Improve digital problems; Learn from LV engagement strategies.</li> <li>• Next steps - Apply survey results to make progress toward strategic goals; Find contributors of what readers want more of; Use new media responses; Use identified problem feedback; Pricing feedback to subscription model for platform decisions; Understand who is contributing and how to reach potential contributors; Understand funding misconceptions to develop contribution messages.</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about the items under "Opportunities identified"? Also, future opportunity to review and discuss survey results once report in lay persons language becomes available to fellowship.

## Conference Committee: VI. Literature — Item A

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the development of the pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Progress Report: In response to the notice sent out to the Fellowship in 2018, in English and Spanish, fifty-nine submissions of experience, strength and hope were received for consideration in the development of the pamphlet for Spanish speaking women in A.A. The process to review and select stories for a draft pamphlet will begin with the July 2019 trustees' Literature Committee meeting. To assist in the review and selection of the stories received and the development of the pamphlet, a member of A.A. who is bilingual in English and Spanish was selected in January 2019 by the General Service Board to serve as an appointed committee member (A.C.M.) on the trustees' Literature Committee. This A.C.M. will begin their one-year term in July 2019.
What does the Delegate need to know?	How your group feels about this pamphlet for the Spanish speaking women in the A.A. community?

## Conference Committee: VI. Literature — Item B

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the development of the pamphlet on A.A.'s Three Legacies.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Trustees Literature Committee's subcommittee is in the process of reviewing 46 submitted stories. The subcommittee agreed that the pamphlet open with an explanation in contemporary language describing A.A.'s Three Legacies and how they work together, followed by a section on the history of A.A.'s Three Legacies in contemporary language using quotes from Bill W.'s writings. These opening sections would be followed by members' stories sharing experience, strength and hope related to A.A.'s Three Legacies. The subcommittee agreed that evaluation of the stories would include each of the Three Legacies as well as how they work together and their relation to group life and other settings.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group like the idea of this upcoming informative publication?

## Conference Committee: VI. Literature — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider requests to develop a Fifth Edition of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> .
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Trustees' Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Literature requests to develop a Fifth Edition of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> . Four areas sent proposals to GSO to develop a Fifth Edition of the book, <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> : Area 20 Northern Illinois, Area 46 New Mexico, Area 03 Arizona, and Area 49 South Eastern New York. The goal for a new edition is to update the stories to better reflect our current membership. Historically, editions of the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> have been published in somewhat regular intervals, between 16 to 25 years. It has taken 3 to 4 years from the proposal of a new edition to its first printing. If a 5th Edition were started by the 2019 General Service Conference, it would most likely be completed in 2022 to 2023, 21 or 22 years since the previous edition was published.

	If the agenda item moves forward, Area 49 would also like the committee to <b>consider</b> a concentrated, or additional section of stories comprised of individuals who got sober as young people, meaning under the age of 25, maybe called “Young People in AA”. It is believed this would make the stories of young people more visibly accessible in the book and would help more young people identify that it is possible to be young and alcoholic and to live a sober life.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does Area 42 wish for this to be considered?

Conference Committee: VI. **Literature — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding updating the video “Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	2018 Conference Advisory Action to the Trustees’ Literature Committee to update the video “Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure” to reflect a current portrayal and contemporary presentation of the services and offices, and to provide a progress report or draft of updated video to the 2019 Conference Committee on Literature. July 28, 2018 Trustees’ Literature Committee meeting requested staff secretary work with the Publishing Department to begin work on the project and present a story board or progress report at the January 2019 meeting. January 26, 2019 Trustees’ Literature Committee meeting reviewed and agreed to forward a progress report on updating the video “Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure” to the 2019 Conference Committee on Literature. The Trustees received a verbal report of a scheduled timeline for the selection of a video production company. July 2019 Trustees’ Literature Committee expects a presentation of the selected video production company along with a progress report.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group. Progress report to be sent by Trustees’ Literature Committee to the 2019 Conference Committee on Literature.

Conference Committee: VI. **Literature — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the update regarding text on anonymity to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Trustee Committee on Literature reviewed, agreed, and forwarded the progress report revision of pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship to the 2019 Conference Committee. A subcommittee of three people identified appropriate placement of anonymity and suggested language for the October 2018 meeting. The 2018 Conference advisory Action asked the Trustees’ Literature Committee to revise “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship”, including a section on anonymity and bring back a progress report or draft text to the 2019 Conference Committee on Literature.
What does the Delegate need to know?	The delegate is not asking for a sense of the assembly of this matter.

Conference Committee: VI. **Literature — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Consider the development of a Literature Committee Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	A letter from SW Quebec (Area 87) requested a Literature Committee Workbook be developed as guidance for future new literature chairs and committees. The proposed workbook would include: A sample welcome letter, enclosures with links, a Literature Display packet, as well as an excerpt from page 23 from the pamphlet "The AA Group: Where It All Begins".
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group believe a new Literature Committee Workbook would be helpful?

Conference Committee: IV. **Literature — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet "Too Young?"
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floor action to revise the pamphlet "Too Young?" was brought the General Service Conference in 2017 to reflect more current collective experiences of young alcoholics and their welcome to A.A.</li> <li>• The age-group focus of the original pamphlet was too broad to be especially effective.</li> <li>• Two "target audiences" that need to be reached and both of these groups would benefit from different approaches, both graphically and thematically.</li> <li>• Different approaches include utilization of video as well as print. With an accompanying print format that would be innovative and attractive to young people as well.</li> <li>• The Publishing Department has been in contact with a graphic artist/video producer familiar with our A.A. materials and approach.</li> <li>• Video samples, and or print drafts to be available by July or November.</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	No Group conscience is being asked on this item at this time by the delegate. However, if there are any individual concerns the delegate can be emailed directly.

Conference Committee: IV. **Literature — Item H**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A."
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advisory Action was brought to the General Service Conference in 2016 for the trustees Literature Committee to revise the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." to better reflect the experiences of young people in A.A. today.</li> <li>• Personal recovery stories of young people were solicited from the Fellowship.</li> <li>• A final selection in October 2018 comprised of 19 stories to serve as a pool from which the Publishing Department could utilize 10 or 12 to include in the final pamphlet. However, they are focusing on fewer than originally planned.</li> <li>• Literature Committee added an ACM with strong ties to young people in A.A.</li> <li>• Developing graphics, and editing the stories into smaller "bite-sized" excerpts : What It Was Like, What Happened, and What It Is Like Now.</li> <li>• Approaching young people with a more dynamic, less text-heavy pamphlet is the goal.</li> <li>• A working draft or progress report will be presented in July 2019.</li> </ul>

What does the Delegate need to know?	No Group conscience is being asked on this item at this time by the delegate. However, if there are any individual concerns the delegate can be emailed directly.
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Conference Committee: **IV. Literature — Item I**

Agenda Topic	Review proposed revision to A.A. World Services' "Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials."
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	This action was initiated in 2018 to update previous policy from 2012. Current policy is an inhibiting or limiting factor in updating outdated pamphlets. An outside communications consulting company, Impact Collaborative was hired to conduct an audit of communications practices, both within and without Alcoholics Anonymous. The findings of Impact Collaborative are as follows (abridged): "There are significant challenges in communications that are negatively impacting A.A.'s and impeding its effectiveness in reaching the still-suffering alcoholic". "A.A.'s collection of pamphlets would benefit from a comprehensive language review with the aim of updating this important segment of your literature relative to the following six aspects-aspects which currently fall outside the scope of the existing Policy on Publication of Literature: a)Audience -to whom is the pamphlet directed? b)Use of outdated language or references. c)Presentation of outdated science. d)Use of A.A. jargon not familiar to a given audience. e)Ongoing contextual relevance of A.A historical data. f) Focus on diversity and inclusivity.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group. With a revised policy and ability to update the pamphlets more frequently and as needed according to these overriding criteria, it can be expected that our message of hope and recovery might more effectively address the needs of those to whom it is directed."

Conference Committee: **IV. Literature — Item J**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to revise the pamphlet "The A.A. Group."
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 1 District 20 Three Legacies Group Motion of June 24 2018. Requesting an addition to the pamphlet "The A.A. Group" Proposed adding the following to page 30, 'Group Inventory section', under the proposed questions for a Group Inventory, as follows: "Do you feel safe coming to the group? Are the group's members treated with respect?"
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your Group feel these two questions need to be added to the Inventory Questions?

Conference Committee: **IV. Literature — Item K**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding the update to the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated."
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Trustees' Literature Committee expressed appreciation for the premise and the language in the suggested revision and requested the Publishing Department include the spirit of the proposed update in the revisions underway for the pamphlet. an appropriate graphic designer along with further developing a narrative that is less "text heavy." Also discussing meaningful

	<p>next steps in terms of “marrying” the art/design and the text with an eye toward presenting a unified draft to the TLC at their next meeting in July. They will begin the process of finishing the pamphlet in time for a full review by the 2020 Conference Literature Committee for either final approval or additional corrections/revisions.</p> <p>Area 36 submitted this agenda item regarding Tradition 11 to be added to Item K; To quote Bill W. 's writing on page 15 from <i>The Language of the Heart</i>, "...it should be the privilege, even the right, of each individual or group to handle anonymity as they wish."</p> <p>However, when dealing with social media, personal anonymity as well as the group's anonymity may be easily compromised. We must be careful when using social media to not use full names and/or photos of A.A. members in a way that would identify them or others as A.A. members.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	This Item is still underway and is just being presented to the 2019 Committee to view the progress.

Conference Committee: IV. Literature — **Item L**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report regarding language on safety and A.A. for inclusion in <i>Living Sober</i> and “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Trustees’ Literature Committee subcommittee reviewed its scope and considered the suggested text from the Publishing Department including the question of whether the draft text effectively addresses the request. The subcommittee agreed more clarification was needed about whether or not it was intended for text to include topics of safety in the rooms as well safety within sponsorship relationships. It was noted that the topic of safety in the rooms in the draft text is limited. There was nothing found regarding a request to address safety within sponsorship relationships. The draft text that was produced mostly addressed this area. There was very little on safety in the rooms which is what the Conference Committee seemed to be asking for. Clarification from the Conference Committee on Literature is needed.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This item also is still under progress and not likely to be ready for the committee to recommend to go to the floor for discussion and vote, at this time.

Conference Committee: IV. Literature — **Item M**

Agenda Topic	Consider revising the Foreword to the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> .
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The addition to the Foreword intends to include verbiage on the Concepts and why they are an integral part of A.A.</p> <p>The intention is to shed light on the “why” of A.A.’s service structure which is the purpose of the Concepts.</p> <p>At this time, the Foreword suggests that A.A. is a two-sided triangle, Recovery (Steps) and Unity (Traditions), and though the concepts are not included in the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i>, the need to reference the third side, Service (Concepts), is pertinent.</p> <p>The addition of this reference in the Foreword would encourage members to familiarize themselves with the Concepts, thus completing the triangle of the A.A. program.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Would your group vote to include the excerpt informing members about the Concepts in the Foreword of the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> ?

Conference Committee: **IV. Literature — Item N**

Agenda Topic	Consider suggestion to add “Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers” to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose (blue) card.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2013, the Conference Literature Committee Meeting recommended that this statement be added to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose card, but that item failed. This addition would closely match the language in the A.A. group pamphlet and there has been some confusion in the past because language on the pamphlet and the card do not match. The addition of this statement would make the language in the A.A. literature uniform.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group want to include the statement on the Primary Purpose card?

Conference Committee: **VI. Literature — Item O**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to update the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	C.P.C./T.A. noted multiple request for simplified language literature coming to G.S.O. from various sources in the past years. The committee felt that a new version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated” is warranted to reflect simplified language, and to be accessible to more individuals with low reading levels, without losing the powerful message of our steps/message.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group want the trustees to consider updating the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated?”

Conference Committee: **VI. Literature — Item P**

Agenda Topic	Review matrix of A.A. recovery literature.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	As per the Advisory Action of the 2017 General Service Conference, implementation of annual review of recovery literature.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

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

Agenda Topic	Review dates for the 2022 General Service Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Each year this committee selects the Conference dates three years in advance This is to consider important holidays and avoid conflict. Which option to pick: 1. Sunday, April 24 – Saturday, April 30, 2022 Consideration: Lailat al-Qadr Thursday, April 28, 2022 (Muslim Holiday) 2. Sunday, May 1 – Saturday, May 7, 2022 Considerations: Cinco de Mayo Thursday May 5, 2022 (Mexico’s Independence Day) & Mother’s Day Sunday May 8, 2022 (U.S. holiday)
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have a preference on the date for the 2022 General Service Conference?

## Conference Committee: VII. Policy/Admissions — Item B

Agenda Topic	Review report from G.S.O.'s general manager on General Service Conference site selection.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Advisory Actions on site selection date back to 1956 In a 2017 advisory action it was recommended this report be created for 2018 The purpose of this report is to explore options of other venues outside of the two current locations. The reasons for seeking the information which include but not limited to the following: 1) Costs of venues and AV have risen over time; 2) It costs \$400,000 more to hold the conference in NY city in 2018 compared to the other location; 3) Suitability of sleeping rooms and meeting rooms; 4) Possibility of better transportation than we currently have to airports; 5) General service manager hired firm to help find new locations; 6) Moving forward, G.S.O. management will explore issues regarding the location at sites outside the City and state of New York; 7) They did not look outside of New York City but do plan to explore; 7) Contract negotiations are taking place for 2021 & 2022
What does the Delegate need to know?	No Group conscience is being asked on this item at this time by the delegate. However, if there are any individual concerns the delegate can be emailed directly.

## Conference Committee: VII. Policy/Admissions — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider a process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	There are many agenda items submitted to the trustees Committee that are not forwarded to the conference to be added to the agenda for the conference. In 2016 there was a recommendation to create a policy that would allow area delegates to be more included in the decision as to which agenda items they think would affect the Fellowship and that they would like to see submitted to be included on the Conference Agenda. A Subcommittee was created and gave suggestions as to how to involve area delegates in this process. It was decided that area delegates would be able to discuss with the trustees of their assigned committees and voice opinions but would not vote. This practice was part of the 2016 conference trustee meetings and was met with well regards from both the trustees and the delegates.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Would you like to continue refining a process that would allow area delegates to participate in the agenda items that are to be discussed at the General Service Conference?

## Conference Committee: VII. Policy/Admissions — Item D

Agenda Topic	Discuss the process of approving qualified representatives from other A.A. service structures to observe the U.S. and Canada General Service Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Currently requests to observe the General Service Conference are received and reviewed and then, if recommended, are added to the agenda for the Conference Policy/Admissions Committee which meets the Sunday before the Conference. A recommendation was given that this process be reviewed to allow the potential observers more time to plan to participate if request is granted.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Would you like the process of how and when potential qualified observers of the conference are approved to be discussed at the next General Service Conference?

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

Agenda Topic	Discuss a request to “develop a procedure to deal with special requests/agenda items.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Occasionally, groups outside the regular committees request either to attend the General Service Conference or make a presentation to the Conference. A proposal has been submitted “that the Policy/Admissions Committee develop a procedure to deal with special requests/agenda items.” In 2018, two representatives from a communications consultancy firm hired by the General Service Board requested attendance to that year’s Conference in order to observe how the General Service Conference conducts itself. The General Service Board hired this company as a part of its Strategic Plan. A similar occasion arose in 2012 when an ad-hoc committee of delegates on recovery medallions wished to make a presentation of their findings to the Conference.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Is a policy needed to address special requests? Should a separate procedure be developed for ad-hoc committees of delegates versus outside observers?

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

Agenda Topic	Consider revising the “Process for Polling the General Service Conference Between Annual Meetings.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The General Service Office sent out a poll in the summer of 2018 in order to reach a majority vote on changing the date of the 2019 General Service Conference due to a hotel reservation mix up. GSO’s current procedure is to email all of the delegates with an email form with a clearly stated motion and a form that allows for a YES or NO vote and a space for additional comments. Voters can respond with a reply email or may call in their vote. The voting period is two weeks. Minority Opinion may be expressed after the initial vote followed with a Motion to Reconsider. This proposal suggests adding a discussion period where no voting takes place for two weeks, using threaded group email discussion. The voting period would only take place after the discussion period closed. Polling between annual meetings only occurs when special circumstances arise such as a request for aid from the General Service Board, a Great Emergency, need for an action involving a matter of basic principle or policy that arises during a Trustee meeting, or an amendment to the GSB Bylaws.
What does the Delegate need to know?	How do we best provide a forum for discussion and minority opinion that leads to an informed group conscience when polling delegates between conferences?

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

Agenda Topic	Reconsider the 1986 Advisory Action regarding a simple majority vote by the full Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Page 57 of the service manual tells us that any binding advisory action requires 2/3 majority vote, but a simple majority vote of the conference shall be considered a suggestion to the GSB, GSO, and or the Grapevine. These suggestions are sometimes reported in the final conference report and sometimes are not. The 1986 advisory action asks if a committee recommendation does not receive the two thirds vote required to become a conference advisory action, but does receive the majority, it automatically becomes a suggestion and be duly noted in the final conference report.

What does the Delegate need to know?	Should any committee vote that receives a majority but not substantial unanimity be automatically considered a suggestion and reported in the final conference report?
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Conference Committee: **VIII. Public Info — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review 2018 annual reports from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Routine Reporting. In 2004, it was established that the A.A.W.S. Board would be responsible for preparing a quarterly report to the trustees' Public Information Committee for their review. The report would include the following information:</p> <p>1) Changes to the Website 2) Updates on Website activity 3) A summary of requests or correspondence from the Fellowship regarding the Website and a summary of actions taken by the A.A.W.S. Board in response to those requests or correspondence.</p> <p>These quarterly reports are compiled into an annual report to the Conference PI Committee.</p> <p>Highlights from the annual report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Meeting App is, slowly but surely, coming! Estimate of not more than \$50K for development of the App.</li> <li>• The website is being redesigned, slower than the App. After spending \$45K with no acceptable creative design, the contract with the website vendor was terminated.</li> <li>• They're in the early development stage of the YouTube channel. However, there is a proposed General Service Conference agenda item from Northern Minnesota Area 35 for the removal of our YouTube channel. The matter will be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public information. No details were provided.</li> <li>• Statistical information about traffic on aa.org and grapevine.org can be found pages 11 and 12 of the report.</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group. The committees are functioning well. The websites are maintained, with appropriate information being added, updated, and deleted routinely.

Conference Committee: **VIII. Public Info — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review a report regarding the 2019 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Routine. The trustees' Committee on Public Information is forwarding a report of activities to the Conference Committee on Public Information.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group. This is a 2 page document with lots of bullet points. You might want to consider skimming it. The trustees' PI committee is doing a great job of looking forward to ways to reach still suffering alcoholics and is asking that a "Comprehensive Media Plan" subcommittee be formed at the July 2019 meeting to determine a scope of work and action plan.

Conference Committee: **VIII. Public Info — Item C (1)**

Agenda Topic	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): 1. Review the distribution and tracking information for the video PSA “Changes.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Are TV Stations playing this PSA? Is this message being delivered to possible sufferers and their families? As of Feb 6, 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English – 4,358 airings, 36.7 million impressions, 1.9 million donated value</li> <li>• Spanish – 419 airings, 6.1 million impressions, 190 thousand donated value</li> <li>• Canada – 367 airings, 1.7 million impressions, 32 thousand donated value</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is a video distribution update that the Conference Committee requested last year.

Conference Committee: **VIII. Public Info — Item C (2)**

Agenda Topic	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): 2. Review the 2018 Report on the Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2002 GSC set up a 4-year cycle plan for PSA’s; new 1 each year, retire the oldest. In 2008 the feasibility and effectiveness of the plan came into question. The current policy is to annually review the current PSA’s, and assess the need for new ones. New outreach to key groups has been explored including; (09) older members and special needs, (11) Spanish and French speakers, (13) young people. There are 4 current PSA’s in distribution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “My World” 2010 {see notes in Item C (3)}</li> <li>• “I Have Hope” (Originally “Tengo Esperanza” 2012) Translated to English and Spanish in 2015. 40K production, 40K distribution and tracking. 40K tracking translation.</li> <li>• “Doors” 2014 30K production, 24K re-record, 40K distribution and tracking.</li> <li>• “Changes” 2017 40K production, 42K distribution and tracking. {see Item C (1)}</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	This review is covering the current (2019) and history (2007 -2018) of relevance and usefulness of PSA’s.

Conference Committee: **VIII. Public Info — Item C (3)**

Agenda Topic	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): 3. Consider request that the video PSA “My World” be discontinued.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	“My world” is the oldest of the 4 PSA’s in distribution. It was developed in 2010 for \$40K. It was distributed and tracked for \$35K.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Is it still relevant and useful?

Conference Committee: VIII. **Public Info — Item C (4)**

Agenda Topic	Public Service Announcements (PSAs): 4. Consider request to approve the development of a new PSA in video format that utilizes full-face actors (not members of A.A.).
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 06 making a motion to develop new PSA using full-face actors (again). Compelling PSA's from Australia using full-face were their deciding factor. Executive VP of Connect360 Multimedia (a PSA distributor) does not feel we need full-face to produce a relevant PSA, and states: "In fact, having partial face...reinforces A.A.'s commitment to anonymity." 1968 GSC Action states full face depiction equals anonymity break even w/o name. So, they hired actors, and included disclaimers. In 2009 the PSA "Hope" utilized full face actors speaking directly to the camera/audience. Controversy ensued culminating in the 2011 GSC Action "...shall not show the actor's full-face." A request to rescind in 2015 resulted in "no action," and reconsidered in 2016 same result. Pros: 1) In this world of technology, videos with full faces have more impact. 2) Full face videos make it easier for people who read lips to understand. Cons: 1) Promotion rather than attraction? Personalities before principles? 2) Is the use of full-face actors (with disclaimers) consistent with our traditions?
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group want to use actors showing full-face in PSA videos?

Conference Committee: VIII. **Public Info — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review draft language addressing anonymity and safety proposed for the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	This January, the Trustees' Committee on Public Information agreed to forward the proposed revision to the Conference Committee on PI to add the following text to the "Understanding Anonymity" pamphlet. This is regarding Safety in AA. The proposed addition: Q. Is it okay to call the proper authorities if I witness inappropriate or even criminal behavior at a meeting? A. Groups strive to provide as safe an environment as possible in which members can focus on sobriety, and, while anonymity is central to that purpose, it is not intended to be a cloak protecting inappropriate or criminal behavior. Calling the proper authorities in such cases is a serious step meant to preserve the safety of members and does not go against any A.A. Traditions.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group agree with the new Q&A to be added to the pamphlet?

Conference Committee: VIII. **Public Info — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to update language in the flyer “A.A. at a Glance.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	An Area District Literature Chair thought the pamphlet language was inconsistent with other AA literature. Others agreed, however, the matter was narrowly defeated on the Assembly floor, probably due to a “lack of information.” The current Trustees Committee on PI reviewed the proposal and agreed to forward it to the Conference Committee on PI. <b>Change:</b> <b>Old:</b> “Sobriety is maintained through sharing experience, strength and hope at group meetings and through the suggested Twelve Steps for recovery from alcoholism” <b>Proposed:</b> “Sobriety is maintained through sharing experience, strength and hope at group meetings and through the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, which are suggested as a program of recovery.”
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group want the change to be made?

Conference Committee: VIII. **Public Info — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Review the 2018 trustees’ Public Information Committee progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The AAWS YouTube account was established in 2017 as a Conference Advisory Action. A 2018 Conference Advisory Action called for the submission of an analytics report to the Trustees Committee on Public Information. This is their January 2019 report.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group. This one is easy – it is just a review of a Progress Report! The AAWS YouTube channel was launched in October 2017. There are currently approximately 2600+ subscribers. Since the launch 481 users have accessed aa.org from the YouTube channel. The channel currently has published 24 videos. However, some of these videos are duplicates as they are also posted in Spanish and French.

Conference Committee: VIII. **Public Info — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Review the 2018 trustees’ Public Information progress report on the use of Google AdWords and Google Grants to carry the A.A. message.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	2016 Conference Advisory Action to establish and explore a Google for Non Profits account. Growing out of Item F above, this Conference Advisory Action sought to explore Google AdWords and Google Grants. The Trustees Committee on Public Information was directed to provide a progress report, including cost analysis. The Report is being forwarded to the 2019 Conference Committee on Public Information.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group. Another easy Progress Report review. Leave it to the Committee to report when it is ready. A PowerPoint is being provided to committee members only. That PowerPoint (which I don’t have) is probably key to understanding the projected costs. In a note attached to the summary, <i>“you can budget for \$18,000 per month = \$108,000 for 6 months however, it will not ‘spend’ this way. It will go up and down over the months starting lower and building. We also suggest an additional 1k to 2K over time, added to each month.”</i>

Conference Committee: **VIII. Public Info — Item H**

Agenda Topic	Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for CPC, Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Workbooks and kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The Kits and Workbooks are available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

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

Agenda Topic	Discuss General Service Conference <i>Final Report</i> .
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The General Service Conference Final Report is on the Agenda for discussion. The General Service Conference Final Report gives G.S.R.s the ability to answer questions about the outcomes of Agenda items that the homegroups voted on and the Delegate in turn voted on at the General Service Conference.
What does the Delegate need to know?	No Group conscience is being asked on this item at this time by the delegate. However, if there are any individual concerns the delegate can be emailed directly.

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

Agenda Topic	<i>The A.A. Service Manual</i> , 2018 - 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing Department on the redesign of <i>The A.A. Service Manual</i>.</li> </ul>
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Publishing Department is undertaking a thorough evaluation, update and redesign of the Service Manual with a preliminary draft or progress report to be sent to the 2019 Conference Committee on Report and Charter. The goal is to ensure the A.A. Service Manual is user friendly, has attractive and inviting tone of content, simple and targeted to the user/reader, and focused on relevant information. Goals include changing the physical format, design, organization of content and tone of content.
What does the Delegate need to know?	No Group conscience is being asked on this item at this time by the delegate. However, if there are any individual concerns the delegate can be emailed directly.

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

Agenda Topic	Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., and Western U.S.)
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	No background provided. However, this agenda topic is on the agenda every year. The directories are mailed to the committee members only.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Consider revising the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” to include related corrections activities.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Panel 67 delegate from Area 53, Central and Southeast Ohio, who served on the corrections committee proposed to incorporate the phrase “Bridging the Gap” more inclusive by merging “treatment “and “corrections” in the title of the pamphlet. This change it was felt would be more inclusive and engage more diverse potential AA members upon being released from both such facilities.</p> <p>While some areas combine treatment and corrections bridging the gap activities; many do not. There remains a definite bias that potential AA members leaving treatment are much more receptive to the AA message than those individuals being released from prison. There is a sense that combining treatment and corrections would not adequately address the bridging the gap programs of the US and Canada.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group believe that the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” should include both corrections and treatment?

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider adding a story from an A.A. member who is deaf to the pamphlet “Access to A.A.: Members Share on Overcoming Barriers.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The above committee found through sharing from members of the fellowship the lack of a definition between the topics of deaf and hard-of- hearing in our literature and service material including ASL interpretation services, overcoming access barriers and participation in the three legacies by our deaf and hard-of-hearing AA members.</p> <p>It is general practice that personal stories are reviewed by committee members only. The inclusion of a personal story in a pamphlet is a confidential process that ensures that the message is a reflection of AA as a whole, an assurance made by the conference approval process.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think about adding this story?

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic – Never too Late.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>At the July 2018 meeting of the trustees’ committee on C.P.C./T.A., the chair appointed a subcommittee to identify projects to pursue to improve the effectiveness of carrying the A.A. message and improve cooperation with the Armed Services. The subcommittee considered all branches of the military, as well as veterans and veteran services.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One focus of the subcommittee for improving the effectiveness of carrying the A.A. message and cooperation with the Armed Services was reviewing A.A. literature which contained stories from members of the military or veterans.</li> <li>2. Suggestions for updating were to get more recent stories, replacing ones that reference the Depression and WWII; to include information about online meetings; and to add information about A.A. Grapevine and its website.</li> <li>3. Pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic - Never too Late”, available on G.S.O.’s A.A. website</li> </ol>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think this pamphlet needs to be updated?

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Discuss the concept of posting anonymity-protected interviews on aa.org with military professionals about their experience with A.A.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>At the July 2018 meeting of the trustees’ Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities, the chair appointed a subcommittee to identify the projects to pursue to improve the effectiveness of carrying the A.A. message and improve cooperation with the Armed Services. The subcommittee agreed upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The usefulness of creating additional audio content to carry the message to military professionals, military personnel and veterans. These audio clips, 5 to 10 minutes in length, could be used in various places, such as G.S.O.’s A.A. website, an app, LinkedIn, the A.A.W.S. YouTube channel, etc.</li> <li>• For informational content, professional interviews with military professionals were discussed. These professional friends of A.A. could be asked their experience with the Fellowship, and how they overcame any challenges they might have had in working with A.A.</li> <li>• To have a concept audio interview recorded to provide to the full trustees’ committee. Consisting of a short interview to give the flavor of what the subcommittee had in mind.</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think of this idea?

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review draft of proposed Remote Communities Kit.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The 2018 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities suggested that the trustees’ Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities (C.P.C./T.A.) consider producing a Remote Communities Kit and Workbook.
What does the Delegate need to know?	No group action.

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Review contents of Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for CPC, Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Workbooks and kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The Kits and Workbooks are available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

Conference Committee: **X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item G**

Agenda Topic	Review contents of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for CPC, Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, and Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Workbooks and kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The Kits and Workbooks are available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

Conference Committee: **XI. Trustees — Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review resumes of candidates for: 1. Northeast Regional Trustee 2. Southwest Regional Trustee 3. Trustee-at-Large/Canada
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	These items or ones very similar are on the Conference agenda every year, reflecting on the rotation of the elections of the eight regional trustee jobs. The background material consists of listing those who have been nominated by each listing of those who have been nominated by each area as a candidate, and those who will be eligible to vote of these nominations at the Conference.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is an administrative review process.

Conference Committee: **XI. Trustees — Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	This agenda item is on the Conference agenda every year and is required by the Bylaws of The General Service Board, Inc. The Conference is required to have an opportunity to disapprove the election of our trustees. The background consists of a listing of those people who will be presented to the 2019 Conference.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is an administrative review process.

Conference Committee: **XI. Trustees — Item C**

Agenda Topic	Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee reviewed and recommended to the General Service Board a list of Directors of AA World Services, Inc., for the election in May 2019, following presentation at the 2019 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is an administrative review process.

Conference Committee: **XI. Trustees — Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee reviewed and recommended to the General Service Board a list of Directors of the AA Grapevine, Inc. for election in May 2019 following presentation at the 2019 General Service Conference for disapproval if any.
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is an administrative review process.

Conference Committee: **XI. Trustees — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Review draft procedures for partial or complete reorganization of the General Service Board.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Committee on Nominating :agreed to forward the draft procedures for a partial or complete reorganization of the General Service Board to the 2019 Conference Committee on Trustees. The committee reviewed a proposal to reorganize the A.A.W.S. and General Service Boards and took no action. The committee noted that although a reorganization was not considered necessary at this time, the committee requested that the trustees' Committee on Nominating develop procedures for a partial or complete reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. Board or AA Grapevine Board and that a report be brought back to the 2019 Conference Committee on Trustees, including all possible options.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Nothing from your group.

## Conference Committee: XII. Archives — Item A

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add the 1940s home movie of the co-founders and their wives to the video “Markings on the Journey.”
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Trustee Committee on Archives had the newly acquired film of Bill, Lois, Dr. Bob and Anne and agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Archives a request to consider adding the 1940s home movie of the co-founders and their wives to the video “Markings on the Journey.” This 1940s film of the co-founders and their wives, filmed in the gardens at Stepping Stones (the home of Bill and Lois), was donated to the G.S.O. Archives in 2017 through legal transfer. It is a rare home movie, filmed in Kodachrome and about two minutes in length. As far as we are aware, it is the only moving image of the co-founders and their wives that exists. A.A.W.S., Inc. is the legal copyright owner of the home movie.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Would your group like to have this video added to “Markings of the Journey”?

## Conference Committee: XII. Archives — Item B

Agenda Topic	Review Archives Workbook.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Archives Workbook is reviewed by the Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Workbooks and kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations. The Archives Workbook (M-44i) is available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website ( <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ).
What does the Delegate need to know?	This is annual housekeeping.

## Conference Committee: XII. Int’l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item A

Agenda Topic	Discuss an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony to be taken at the 2020 International Convention.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Prior to 1994 there were no Advisory Actions regarding the photo. January 26, 2019 trustees’ IC/RF Committee meeting agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums discussion of an anonymity-protected photo of the flag ceremony to be taken at the 2020 International Convention. Prior recommendation of the 2014 Conference IC/RF Committee for the 2015 International Convention that resulted in an Advisory Action: “It was recommended that: ‘An anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2015 International Convention.’”
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group feel about taking an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony?

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

Agenda Topic	Consider a broadcast of the 2020 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony, similar to the anonymity-protected delayed Internet broadcast of the 2015 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The Flag Ceremony sets the celebratory and international tone for the Convention weekend and is one of the major highlights of each International Convention, displaying 90+ flags representing countries whose members are attending the Convention. Starting in 2005 the limited broadcast that required a password was shared with the General Service Conference areas in the U.S./Canada and with General Service Offices overseas and was accessed 1,760 times during a 9-hour period. The broadcast has since been expanded through G.S.O's A.A. website with no password or access code required and the ceremony was viewed a total of 448,165 during a two-week period.
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group feel about an anonymity-protected broadcast of the flag ceremony?

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

Agenda Topic	Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	Since 1975 Forums have provided an opportunity for enhancing knowledge and communication among AA members, the General Service Board, and staff and directors from the GSO and the AA Grapevine. They offer a meeting place to ask questions and share ideas to help carry the AA message. The committee is seeking additional ideas to provide information about and increase interest in Forums to all members of AA.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any ideas on encouraging and attracting first-time attendees? Is your group aware that Area 42 will be hosting the 2020 Pacific Regional Forum in Las Vegas?