

SAGSC Roundtables Presentation – Full Report  
March 17, 2024

All Agenda Items, summaries and background material can be found on the Area 42 website, NevadaArea42.org in the member's protected area. The password is Area42member.

**Topic 1 – Grapevine and La Vina Item C – Heather – Discuss the cost effectiveness and sustainability of continuing to print La Vina.**

**Summary: 2010** The cost per year for La Viña (in Black and White) was \$21,400. The goal of being self-supporting was to be by 2013. **2017** GV and La Viña cannot accept contributions and are self-supporting through their subscriptions and sales of books and other items The Committee considered the spiritual value of Grapevine and La Viña a beacon of hope for alcoholics and treatment centers, prisons, and alcoholics all over the world 2018 it's recommended that La Viña be published six times a year (in color) as a fellow service to the fellowship. From 2018 to 2023: **2018** loss of \$80,735 **2019** loss of \$84,807 **2020** loss of \$174,801 **2021** loss of \$42,164 **2022** loss of \$77,482 **2023** loss of \$110,693 **2024** budgeted for \$99,861 The total loss from 2018 to 2023 is \$570,682.

**Presentation:** From: Secretary to Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee Re: How services are funded for Grapevine/La Viña The Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee discussed the Grapevine budget report and referenced the request for funding of services provided by Grapevine. The Committee had a discussion on how the La Viña services being funded by the General Service Board was a Conference Advisory Action. They felt the decision to fund services for Grapevine should be sent to Conference for further discussion. The Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee recommended to the General Service Board to forward a request to the Conference Committee on Grapevine/La Viña to explore the services provided by AA Grapevine and how it should be funded. **2024 Office Report La Viña Finances:** This is a review of La Viña magazine circulation, revenue, costs and the contribution from the General Service Board over the past 6 years, and the corresponding budget for 2024. Note that La Viña's circulation peaked in 2019, but then dropped dramatically in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID shutdowns hurt circulation in 2021 and 2022 as well. A rebound has been slow, but circulation did improve in 2023 and we expect that trend to continue. \*The column "Other Revenue" refers to La Viña books and other items from the catalog. The budget for 2024 shows improved circulation and a reduction in costs and GSB contribution. To: Jon W., Senior Editor/Secretary to the Conference Committee on Grapevine/La Viña.

Year	Circulation	Magazine Revenue	Other Revenue*	Costs	GSB Contribution
2018 Actual	9,635	65,343	15,392	229,202	148,467
2019 Actual	10,150	68,338	15,749	373,401	288,594
2020 Actual	6,435	21,831	12,425	426,881	252,080
2021 Actual	6,415	24,159	17,005	429,810	388,646
2022 Actual	6,685	96,151	59,710	714,086	636,604
2023 Reforecast	7,281	109,000	100,754	865,144	754,451
2024 Budget	7,836	115,187	101,304	688,373	569,512

Suggestions for Grapevine, Inc. in 2018 for year 2018 or later:

- Stories of Recovery for Hispanic Women, Hispanic AA members share their experience, strength and hope and stories extracted from LV magazine.
- Writing Together: Stories from LV Workshops, A collection of LV stories about carrying the message into institutions.

Suggestions for Grapevine, Inc. in 2024 for year 2024 or later:

- Veteranos Hispanos en AA (Voices of Oldtimers)
- Como Llegamos a creer (How We Came To Believe)
- Spiritual Awakenings (LaVina book) GV translated into Spanish.

At the request of the General Service Conference, AA Grapevine, Inc. provides digital publishing services to the Fellowship at no charge to members. The Conference Committee on Grapevine will be discussing how these services shall be funded going forward. Below is a rundown of the cost of these services in 2023. These costs include vendor, talent, editing, freelance and platform fees. **Projects Happening Now!** 2023 Report \*New Marketing and Promotional Costs Notes AAGV Podcast, GV & LV Instagram, GV & LV YouTube Channel, Editing, posting Inc. staff time, promotional materials, equipment, zoom, etc. Total \$91,390.00 \*Jon W., Senior Editor, explained (in a GVAC report) that there is a 5-year plan in place and there is a projected profit in 2026, following a build-up of new subscribers - using digital resources now in place. As of November (according to the Quarterly Report from GSO) there were the following stats for LaVina: Instagram: 1,413 followers Podcast: 577,000 (for both) YouTube: 11,900 subscribers (both), 109 videos with 163,456 views App: 596 Subscription Downloads, 70 Subscriptions, Gross Income \$978, Net Income \$831. Print Subscription prices for Grapevine is going up for the first time in 12 years. Grapevine from \$28.97 to \$36.

### Summarized Discussions:

- Do we know the number of subscribers we need to be self-supporting? There is always talk about how we need more people to subscribe. (Heather) We were self-supporting in 2017 and then the pandemic hit, we now have a 5 year plan to be independent of GSO money, 50% of the revenue is from Grapevine books and such, the new app may help generate more money.
- Are apps and such cost effective? (Heather) The numbers are just Grapevine and La Vina so don't know.
- There were losses in 2018 & 2019 – are people not subscribing? Seems loss of money was pre-pandemic as well. (Heather) Losses were for La Vina.
- If we are only discussing printing as a loss – we could decide to no longer have printed copies. (Heather) No plans to stop printing at this time. Expecting app to generate for Grapevine and La Vina, (Jonelle) feedback is it is not sustainable with continual losses.
- Need to be clear to groups we're talking about La Vina printing/editing/production costs, missing Grapevine statistics, digital shows sustainability & a solution (Heather) La Vina is currently digital and part of the app.
- Wants La Vina to continue, talked to Quebec about how they manage their version La Vina (La Vigne), it is a smaller scale and more grassroots, our business model isn't working, maybe we can get some ideas from Quebec.
- There are lots of things involved in publishing for periodicals, after the pandemic materials costs went up a lot i.e. ink, equipment, etc., digital is the corporate way to save expenses, there is a cultural need for La Vina i.e. people who are unable to leave their homes for meetings, Suggest solution of every home group member gets a subscription
- Districts 21 and 22 have problems using computers, it would be a dis-service to force them to digital, Have to support La Vina convention, get a subscription & give a subscription
- Principle - Power of AA money strings – if we're not satisfied then they will go away, all entities should be self-supporting, Grapevine sells various things to be self-support, the fellowship supports it or they die as a natural effect
- Are we printing more than we sell? (Heather) We always have past editions for sale, during pandemic only sold to subscribers
- Agreed with Tony and recommends supporting the La Vina convention
- Wants to confirm the numbers are just for La Vina
- Comment – Topic has been around a long time, concern as to lay person who is not a finance person – feels she doesn't have enough information to be informed, not apples to apples (Heather) Grapevine is printed 12 times a year, La Vina is printed 6 times a year, La Vina has reps, Supporting the Carrying the Message is a good way to be supportive, Grapevine literature Working Group describes the role of the Grapevine and La Vina is to educate people, info for hospital s and institutions

- 2001 Advisory Action – to publish La Vina and that it be supported by GSO as a service to the fellowship, paid for through the General Fund (Heather) 2010 – proposed self-supporting by 2017, then pandemic hit, now there is the 5 year plan
- Seems the item is not looking for solution – in that case the answer is no however just because it is not cost effective doesn't mean it isn't important, Are there any statistics on does it help people get sober?
- Has La Vina experience for several years, The Spanish community is working hard to support La Vina, yearly convention is growing and sending subscriptions for La Vina, (Heather) La Vina conference was closed during COVID.
- Read La Vina the first time when incarcerated, first page caught him, attended PRAASA didn't understand, having problems with La Vina director & committee, confusion between La Vina and Grapevine and where the money is going, report is specific to La Vina, Solution – donations
- 2013 goal posted, question if the 5 year plan money will offset all losses including Grapevine (Heather) Get both printed and digital subscriptions and that will help both Grapevine and La Vina
- Where is the money coming from to cover the losses? (Heather) GSO; (Paula) Can we afford it? (Heather) That's why it needs to go to conference and raise prices, (Paula) is La Vina subscription going up? (Heather) went to editor and haven't heard that the La Vina price is going up, Grapevine is going from \$28 to \$36, (Paula) It's not just about profit - La Vina has been around for 28 years – we can figure out solutions
- Grapevine can't accept contributions – must live off sales, altogether La Vina and Grapevine losses are over \$2 million, GSO uses 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions to pay for it, treat losses as service, need to look at the articles of incorporation for solutions (Heather) Recommend Carrying The Message subscriptions as way to support both

**Topic 2 - Literature Item K – Victor – Consider a request that the words “Donation” and “Contribution” be swapped under Warranty One in “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated” pamphlet.**

**Summary:** The New Horizons Group of Alcoholics Anonymous in Bend Oregon Area 58 District 5 Our Group would like to make a motion to suggest the word "Donation" and "Contribution" be swapped around in the 12 Concepts Illustrated under Warranty One. Advisory Action from the 56th General Service Conference (2006): Finance t was recommended that: The word “donation” be replaced with the word “contribution” in A.A.W.S. literature as it comes up for reprint.

**Presentation:** Historical Context: From the 56<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference in 2006, as Advisory Action recommended that: The word “donation” be replaced with the word “contribution” in A.A.W.S. literature as it comes up for reprint. **PAI 9** (2022) A Proposed Agenda Item (PAI9) was submitted by the New Horizons Group of Alcoholics Anonymous in Bend, Oregon (District 5), suggesting that the words “Donation” and “Contribution” be swapped around in the 12 Concepts Illustrated under Warranty One. The problem this addressed reads: “Given the definitions clearly the words are misplaced in this paragraph and could give new GSRs a misrepresentation as to why we don't use the word “Donation” in the rest of our literature.” As support for this proposal, The New Horizons Group cited P-44 Legacy of Service: “In the midst of this exciting turn of affairs, the Conference agreed that the Alcoholic Foundation ought to be renamed the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, and this was done. The word “Foundation” stood for charity, paternalism and maybe big money. A.A. Would have none of these, from here out we could assume full responsibility and pay our expenses ourselves.” The group further added: “The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, like all the rest, is a spiritual principle. One of the ways I've been taught to support the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition is to never use the “D” word in an AA setting.” “We don't “Donate” to Alcoholics Anonymous. WE “Contribute.” Groups, Districts, Areas, and even AA as a whole, don't accept “donations.” WE are fully self-supporting through our own “Contributions.” The word “donation” implies something given for charity. My sobriety is not a charity. It's something I get to participate in. In the same way I get to contribute to my household bills. I don't donate to the electric company or my mortgage. I DO however “donate” to the Animal Shelter. Meals on Wheels, and other charitable organizations.” As for the intended/expected outcome of the proposed item's approval, the group wrote this: “That our literature be

corrected to be consistent with the use of the wording with the rest of our Conference approved literature.”

AAWS Response – In a letter to the submitting group, AAWS replied: “...the original PAI submitted last year was considered by AAWS, and the pamphlet was revised 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” (in accordance with the 2006 Advisory Action recommended that” the word “donation” be replaced with the word “contribution” in A.A.W.S. literature s it comes up for reprint.)” “...However, the AAWS Board agreed that it may be useful to forward this item to the 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference given the fact that sentiment within the Fellowship may have shifted since the 2006 Advisory Action.”

Background/References: 1. Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission Form – PAI9 (2022); 2. AAWS response to submitter (November 2023); 3. Current pamphlet “Twelve Concepts Illustrated” available on GSO A.A. website.

#### **Summarized Discussions:**

- Latest version online uses the word contributions.
- No other discussion

### **Topic 3 – Policy/Admissions Item D – Janice – Review report of the GSB Ad-Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the U.S./Canada Service Structure.**

**Summary:** This item updates the GSB Ad-Hoc committee activity with the results of survey questions requested by the conference committee. Summary: With the explosion of online/virtual/zoom AA meetings during and in the wake of COVID, AA has sought to address questions about how best to include and incorporate the representation of these meetings. These new non-traditional AA meetings have created questions about who should represent them, how best to interact with them, and ultimately whether they belong in the AA GSB/GSC structure or not. In response to these issues, the Ad-Hoc Committee sent out questions about non-traditional AA meetings to the body, and the results of these survey questions are listed. In general, the questions found that the number of non-traditional AA meetings has grown substantially, the way they are counted and represented varies, and that there is support for the continued existence of non-traditional AA meetings. There does not seem to be a broad consensus about how to fit non-traditional AA meetings into existing service structures, but there is significant support for continuing to study the questions of representation and inclusion that these meetings’ existence has created. Further, there is considerable support for the sharing of “best practices” and lessons learned in this evolving frontier of AA meeting inclusion.

#### **Presentation:**

So, in the wake of COVID there was an explosion of online or virtual AA meetings. These were new non-traditional AA meetings, which created questions about who should represent them, how best to interact with them, and ultimately whether they belong in the structure of the AA General Service Board and the General Service Conference.

In response to these issues, the Ad-Hoc Committee sent out questions about non-traditional AA meetings to the body, and I’ll be reviewing the questions and the results of this survey with you shortly. But first I want to give a brief history of various proposed agenda items from the general service Conferences from 2021 through 2023. Please keep in mind that as I review these proposed agenda items, I’m essentially giving a very brief summary of each item and this is a partial list. The committee simply wanted to give some background on this topic.

#### **2021/71<sup>st</sup> GSC**

PAI 30 ...recognize and grant Online AA groups the same privileges as brick and mortar groups.

PAI 37: Adapt the General Service structure to recognize online-only groups as official groups. Without that recognition, members have no voice and are denied access to service opportunities.

PAI: 37: Consider allowing Virtual or Online Groups to register under their respective district and area instead of Online Intergroup

#### **2022/72<sup>nd</sup> GSC**

PAI45: Establish and test virtual areas for the U.S. and Canada online groups utilizing time zones rather than geographical locations.

PAI 46...recognize Online International Groups (OIGs) and welcome them into the General Service Structure...

PAI: 61: GSO add a new Area to the service structure as a virtual only Area, including their own delegate...

PAI 79...create two new non-geographical Areas – one for the U.S. and one for Canada, each Area GSRs electing their own Delegate...

### **2023/73<sup>rd</sup> GSC**

PAI 83: No hybrid or online only groups be included in the structure of Alcoholics Anonymous.

### **2024/74<sup>th</sup> GSC**

PAI 19...expand Area boundaries to include languages and time zones on top of the current Areas....creating two pilot websites to collect and verify the group's information and pass it on. One pilot on the East Coast and one on the West Coast, including 1 Area and 3 Districts per pilot area in order to expedite approval and establishing their considerations for General Service that much quicker...

PAI 69...Add online areas to each region

PAI 88...GSC creates Area 94 with Regions being their districts

Now, let's review the survey questions and responses. There were 540 total responses. And for all of you math wizzes out there, as I read off the numbers, I'll be highlighting the bulk of the responses so it may not add up to 540 but I do have all the details for anyone who wants to review it.

#### **Question 1: Are the online groups in your area participating in their districts? At the Area level?**

##### **Responses Tally**

District - 118; Area – 43; Both – 270; None – 99; Area/District/None - 10

**Total 540**

#### **Question 2: Is this participation at in-person meetings, online via hybrid meetings and/or fully online only meetings?**

##### **Responses Tally**

In person – 85; Online via hybrid meetings – 177; Fully online only – 116; No participation – 60; Other - 102

**Total 540**

#### **Question 3: Are members of your online groups active at the district and/or the area level as chairs/members of committees or officers?**

##### **Responses Tally**

Area - 26; District – 142; Area Committees – 12; Combination of the three – 198; Other – 136; Not sure - 26

**Total 540**

#### **Question 4: How are the voices of online groups heard at the area level?**

##### **Responses Tally**

Through the service structure – 318; Communication (outside service structure) – 55; Not connected – 67; Unknown – 45; Other - 55

**Total 540**

#### **Question 5: How have your districts and area coped with purchase, maintenance, and transportation of equipment, as required for online and/or hybrid meetings?**

##### **Responses Tally**

Budgeted – 184; Not budgeted – 52; Personal equipment – 53; Unknown – 73; Group autonomy – 82; Mixed (help of IGCs, reimbursed, partial, etc.) – 96

**Total 540**

#### **Question 6: What option does your area (inclusive of online groups) prefer:**

##### **Responses Tally**

No change: online groups are listed based on geography and areas are autonomous regarding if they need or want a virtual district and other efforts to facilitate participation – 301; The implementation of

an online are for US/Canada. The area would be autonomous regarding membership and structure; HOWEVER, delegates would need to be from the US or Canada – 112; US or Canada – 112; Other - 127  
**Total 540**

**Question 7: How have the online groups in your area used their expertise to help district and area service committees to:**

- a. Bring online meetings to treatment facilities, correctional facilities, nursing homes and rehabilitation centers.
- b. Reach out and connect with remote communities.
- c. Help members who are homebound or have mobility issues.
- d. Offer more options for members with accessibility challenges, such as hard of hearing, blind, and/or deaf.
- e. Use simultaneous interpretation to offer meetings in more languages.
- f. Provide meetings for immunocompromised members.
- g. Offer meetings 24/7 for A.A.s who are shift workers, new parents, or caregivers.
- h. Make meetings accessible to those who have lost their driving privileges.

Of the varied answers, 35 indicated “all of the above” to the suggestions, 44 expressed that they did not know how to answer. Many responses selected multiple options, of which the specific instances were the following:

**Responses that included the suggest options: #**

- a. Bring online meeting to treatment facilities, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and rehabilitation centers. 8
- b. Reach out and connect with remote communities. 6
- c. Help members who are homebound or have mobility issues. 68
- d. Offer more options for members with accessibility challenges, such as hard of hearing, blind and/or deaf. 33
- e. Use simultaneous interpretation to offer meetings in more languages. 8
- f. Provide meetings for immunocompromised members. 48

In general, the questions found that the number of non-traditional AA meetings has grown substantially, the way they are counted and represented varies, and there is support for the continued existence of non-traditional AA meetings. There does not seem to be broad consensus about how to fit non-traditional AA meetings into existing service structures, but there is significant support for continuing to study the questions of representation and inclusion that these meetings existence has created. Further, there is considerable support for the sharing of “best practices” and lessons learned among this evolving frontier of AA meeting inclusion. **Ad Hoc Committee recommendations:** Within the framework of the committee’s scope of work, the following are the recommendations it is prepared to make at this time: The committee feels that at this time here is no clearly expressed need for the creation of an additional Area for virtual groups. However, the committee feels that it might be helpful for local sharing to be compiled by the General Service Office, and that the Group Services desk should consider the creation of an A.A. Guideline to encourage participation and provide shared experience for technological and logistical learned efficiencies.

**Summarized Discussions:**

- PAI means Proposed Agneda Items which means it will be brought to the conference floor, Virtual AREA PAI what online groups belong to an Area? Each Area is autonomous, we don’t need GSO’s permission to join an Area.
- My home group is online, Do we want to still consider a pilot? (Janice) Yes. (Speaker) it’s a good idea just need to consider the cost of the pilot.
- When groups register they have the option to register as online, we have online groups registered in our Area, virtual groups are very active, maybe even more than in person ones, some confusion because members are from all over, suggest a virtual area in each region, what about international people
- Virtual meetings have people from all over just like live meetings have people who up from out of town, in person meetings don’t change for having visitors, (Janice) Where initiated = where registered

- She's a GSR for an online group, group went online with COVID, have 1 in person meeting and 2 virtual meetings, started with geographic region, have freedom to choose, helps elderly to attend virtual meetings, many benefits from anonymity – not asked where we live in open/live meeting, regarding the survey – who picked the groups? Don't think it was a good selection of groups.
- Group in Japan started an online group, the roots are not in the States, have virtual delegate, questions about costs involved
- Question if survey was only about zoom meetings and not other kinds of non-in-person meetings (Janice) Numbers are online, Janice will follow up to get answer
- Liked idea of virtual regions, suggester register in districts, maybe register in DIM districts that need support, help them, we get Int'l all the time, don't have to be in a regional area to participate
- Idea of geography and selection, maybe groups have different concerns than a specific region, members might not feel connected, pilot sounds intriguing
- Is there a place to call to get more information about virtual meetings? (Janice) The Meeting Guide, and other resources.
- Virtual participation existed before COVID, how did conference call groups do it? (Janice) So many more groups and many more looking for representation
- Has online meetings with other central offices, There is an online Intergroup
- Knows of a DCM for an online only district, each group decides for themselves where they want to join

#### **Topic 4 – Public Information K – Kevin – Consider revised proposal to develop an AAWS Instagram account.**

**Summary:** The 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information discussed a request for Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. to create an Instagram account, aligning with Twelve Traditions. In the July 29, 2023, Meeting of the trustees' Public Information Committee, a draft proposal for the AAWS Instagram account was reviewed and revised based on the 2023 Conference Committee's suggestions. The proposal emphasized reaching key audiences digitally, sharing updates, literature, and engaging with the community. It outlined strategies, target audiences, the use of Hootsuite, analytics, and security measures. The proposal highlighted Instagram's potential for engagement and the responsibility to maintain anonymity and security. It proposed regular posting, featuring existing and new content, while discouraging solicitations for contributions on the platform. The revised proposal was forwarded to the 2024 Conference Committee on Public Information for further consideration. Communication Services was encouraged to proceed, but the committee sought more details on messaging, target audiences, analytics, and maintenance costs. Suggestions included clarifying content differentiation, defining key performance indicators, and considering a social media management platform like Hootsuite.

**Presentation:** The committee discussed a request for Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. to establish an Instagram account in line with the Twelve Traditions and encouraged Communication Services to continue with planning for the account. The committee suggested that Communication Services provide additional information on the intended messaging, target audiences, analytics, and total cost to maintain the account. The committee requested that a new proposed plan be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Public Information. The committee offered the following suggestions for the next iteration of the proposed plan:

- Posting Daily Reflections, "What's New" from GSO, and press releases, are duplicative to what we share on our A.A. website and Meeting Guide app news.  
The committee requested a detailed strategy on the target audiences for internal versus external messaging to be communicated within a potential future Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Instagram account.
- Including more information in the proposed plan, specifying how distinct messaging and target audience of a potential Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Instagram account differs from the existing AA Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts.
- Providing information on the total expense including the staff expense for managing the account.

- Including a section defining the key performance indicators that will indicate the channel is successful in carrying the message to members and potential members.
- Capturing the need for a social media management platform, like Hootsuite, in the proposed plan.
- Perform ongoing evaluations of our communications channels to meet members and alcoholics on the platforms they utilize.
- Developing a policy with defined criteria that would allow AAWS to explore and implement new external platforms as technology changes.

From the July 29, 2023, Meeting of the trustees' Public Information Committee:

The committee reviewed the draft proposal for an AAWS Instagram account. The director of CSD reported that the current draft reflected the suggestions forwarded by the additional committee consideration of the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information regarding the development of an Instagram account. The committee agreed to forward the revised proposal to the 2024 Conference Committee on Public Information. AAWS Instagram Account Draft Proposal included: Goals, Strategies, Target audiences; Social Media Management Tool (HootSuite); Analytics, Anonymity & Security, Privacy settings; Content Procurement, Outside contributions

#### **Summarized Discussions:**

- Asked about Hootsuite at last assembly, is that the anonymity software that blurs out faces? Better management and grow brands, (Kevin) Don't think it blurs faces.
- Only 1 vote at only 1 meeting, if agenda item just affects a district or Area only needs to be discussed if it affects AA as a whole
- This is not approved at last conference, it was sent back to the trustees with questions, and told to bring back this year, question is should AAWS have an Instagram account

#### **Topic 5 – Int'l Conventions/Regional Forums Item E – Alfredo – Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.**

**Summary:** Add virtual elements to Regional Forums, or even add a virtual fifth forum to the annual calendar. Disseminate advance information about events using flyers, posters, announcements in Grapevine and La Viña, podcasts, Instagram messages, invitations in ASL, QR codes, and Box 4-5-9 articles.

**Presentation:** My name is Alfredo, I am an alcoholic and the chair for our Area 42 International Conventions and Regional Forums committee. Today I am here to talk about Item E- "Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums" and more specifically the upcoming Pacific Regional Forum. For those who don't know we have 4 Forums a year. In North America A.A. is divided into 8 Regions so every region has a forum every two years. PLEASE, PLEASE if you haven't already mark your calendars, this year July 12th, 13th and 14th the Pacific Regional Forum will take place at the Westgate Resort & Casino in fabulous Las Vegas Nevada. Registration is FREE and YOU are invited. Bring a friend, bring a newcomer, bring your home group...all are welcome. What is a Regional Forum you might ask? A Regional Forum is "an experience you must not miss"! A Regional Forum is your chance to learn and become better informed on how A.A. works and meet some of the hard-working people who do that work. A Regional Forum is your chance to meet General Service Office staff, Grapevine staff, A.A. World Services staff, General Service Board Members and other Trusted Servants in our region. A Regional Forum is your chance to attend workshops, listen to presentations, and use your voice by participating in sharing sessions where you can go to the mic ask questions, make comments and/or share your experience. Finally, a Regional Forum is your chance to grow in your recovery and be of service. Did I mention registration is FREE? Question: How we can we as an Area (or I as an individual) encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums? Answer: Word of mouth and pen- talk about it, announce it, email it, text it, Facebook it, Instagram it, Twitter it...repeat.



**Summarized Discussions:**

- Make Area funds available for people from Area 42, financial incentive
- Use Instagram for this kind of stuff and other social media
- Funding people is not practical with \$70,000 deficient for Area budget
- Other archivists want to see our archives, tell other areas to visit us
- The forum is like a corporate report, encourage discussion, encourage people to attend and keep the GSO people accountable, we will have a new Class B GSB Chair for the first time ever, ask him questions,
- Open to all, only pay for delegate and alternate delegate,
- Area budget is \$7200 for travel to the Forum, this is money budgeted, it could be used for one time only basis to help fund within the Area, at least partially fund people