Area 21 Delegate Report: 76th General Service Conference
"Humility in Action"

General Conference Overview

- The 76th General Service Conference took place at the New York Hilton in Midtown, the same location as last year, from April 26th to May 2nd, 2026.
- This year's Conference consisted of 136 voting members: 93 Area Delegates, 26 Trustees and Directors and 17 GSO and Grapevine Staff Members.
- The Delegates ranged from 35 to 80 years old with years of sobriety ranging from 7 to 47 years.

General Service Board Report

- 35,000 people attended the International Convention in Vancouver, CANADA in July. The convention broke even financially despite lower numbers of attendees than anticipated.
- The GSB welcomed 8 new members this year as nine trustees rotated after last year's Conference.
- The GSB continued its work on the items identified in the GSB inventory in 2024, including a 3-day retreat in September and January, and a Townhall meeting with members of the GSO.
- The board continues to work on improving communication with the Fellowship
- The GSB engaged legal counsel to review the processes followed to resolve the concerns brought to the Board over the past few years pertaining to harassment, intimidation and bullying by the Board. Counsel confirmed that no further action is required.

Everything AA App

- Announcement made on Friday that AAWS had acquired the "Everything AA" App from its designer.
- Estimated to become cost neutral in approximately 8 months due to contributor base.
- Non-conference approved materials will be removed.
- The app will increase access to literature and create additional opportunities for contributions.
- Contributions made on the app are now going to AAWS.

Financial Health and Prudent Reserve

- The external audit firm gave GSO finances the highest level of reassurance; an "unmodified opinion."
- Working capital ratio is 4:1, which improved over last year.
- Contributions are down 6% from last year. Gross publishing sales were 6% up but gross profits were 2.4% down due to increased costs.
- Grapevine's operating loss was 300K vs. 850K last year. Huge improvement! LV losses are also improving.
- Grapevine app subscription sales have fully paid back the GSB App investment.
- Prudent Reserve is currently at 5.89 months.
- AA is still in good financial shape despite less revenue due to many cuts made to staff and projects not getting done. Inflation-adjusted spending at GSO is down vs. 10 years ago.
- Going forward the solution is not more sales; it is more contributions!!!! Only 34% of groups are contributing to GSO.

Trustee Rotation

- Candice Caper from Area 18 (Idaho) was selected as the new Pacific Regional Trustee.
- Jeff Stephens Area 86 (West Ontario) was selected as the new Eastern Canada Regional Trustee.

Advisory Actions of Interest

- The theme for the 2027 GSC is "Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future."
- The pamphlet "The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs" be revised.
- "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" (Item F-3) be updated with a question about supporting AA Grapevine/La Vina by purchasing subscriptions.
- The Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, be approved with minor editorial changes.
- The word "Eskimo" be removed from "Chapter 7: Working with Others" and replaced with a neutral, non-racial term.
- Following the 78th GSC, the Equitable Distribution Workload process be discontinued.
- The revised pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" with the new title "Anonymity – Our Spiritual Foundation" be approved.
- The draft of a new "Amendment" section be approved for inclusion in the next Service Manual.
- Animated videos based on the pamphlets "The Twelve Steps" and "The Twelve Traditions" be done.

Floor Actions Resulting in Advisory Actions

- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense to attend the Conference be increased from $2,200 to $3,000.
- AAWS offer a print version of the 2026 Final Conference Report (FCR) to be available for purchase.
- The word "Eskimo" be removed from the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, chapter essay on "Tradition Eight" and replaced with a neutral, non-racial term.

Closing Reflections

The Conference had a feeling of unity, restoration and repair. There was a sense that we are coming out of a time of some problems with the GSB that has resulted in improved workflow at the GSO and better communication with the Fellowship. "You don't create unity; you build unity through discussion and working together," and we felt that at the GSC this year. For me it was an extremely positive experience and reassured me that AA is in a solid place.

More than ever, I am in awe of the amount of work and dedication displayed by the members of the GSB and the staff of the GSO. These are people working from their hearts for an organization they all love as much as we do. The importance of their work seems to be ever present in their intentions and actions.

It has truly been a privilege to serve these past two years as your delegate to the General Service Conference, and I look forward to visiting your districts to discuss the results.

Jodi B., Area 21/Panel 75 Delegate