

**Delegate Visits:** In the last quarter of this year I've continued to do visit districts, either helping with elections, giving updates on current activity of GSO, offering information from the 2014 Conference and why we do this thing called general service in the first place. Both new GSRs and GSRs that didn't make it to the Post Conference assembly indicated having a chance to interact with their delegate in a small room environment helped them understand some things better. For me, all the visits are worth it.

Some of my visits were to neighboring Areas 5, & 93 who both had Officer elections. One of my duties is to stay familiar with Regional meetings, but in Southern California we also have a long time practice of supporting each other's Elections and sometimes Conference related assemblies.

**Preparation for Pre Conference Workshops Friday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday Feb 29<sup>th</sup>:**

It would be very helpful for districts to continue to keep the last two weekends in February open and clear from any other local event planning. We are still finalizing exact dates and locations for Pre-Conference workshops that are critical to helping your delegate participate well at the General Service Conference in April.

The approximate Conference Related timeline is as follows:

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Feb 13-15 | Conference Agenda items are published                          |
| Feb 20-29 | Pre-Conference Workshops **Save these tentative dates Please** |
| March 6-8 | <i>(PRAASA – shown here for planning purposes)</i>             |
| April 11  | Pre Conference Assembly  |
| April 19  | General Service Conference in NY                               |

**GSO Updates**

Most of the GSO updates for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2014 were included in the November Area Assembly Delegate Report. Here are some recent updates or information not included in my November report:

Archives

A suggestion to revise the policy regarding distribution of recordings of keynote presentations and other talks given at the General Service Conference will be forwarded to the 2015 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions. The proposed change would allow recordings to be made available for research purposes, included some recordings never made public from (for example) the 1955 Convention when the General Service Conference Structure was adopted by the fellowship.

Literature

From Mary Clare Lynch, staff member on the literature assignment:

The "Many Paths to Spirituality" (P-84) pamphlet has sold more than 68,000 copies to date – that's after two printings and approximately three months on sale. We expect to order a third printing fairly soon because the rate of sale is exceptionally high for a new pamphlet.

GSO

For the first nine months of the year total gross sales were \$14,345,500 which is \$1,870,000 over estimate for the year to date. This is primarily due to a large order (\$1.8 million) from a major outside purchaser prior to the implementation of the literature price increase. A.A. Comes of Age is now available as an e-book. The next e-book title will be As Bill Sees It.

GRAPEVINE/La Viná

From Ami Brophy, executive editor/publisher, reported that the six-percent annual decline in subscriptions that GV is experiencing is comparable to trends in magazine sales in general. We have a better than average renewal rate, but what we really need in order to slow the decline or possibly even reverse it is new subscribers. There will be a subscription challenge in 2015 – look for details to be communicated to the delegates in early 2015.

### International Convention 2015

Rooms and Registration is not sold out! Some Rumors have been going around along those lines. Registration and hotel reservations continue to break records. There are 26,000 registrations so far. The first block of hotel rooms sold out, as did the second block, so we are now into the third block. Hotel and dorm accommodations are both still available.

Special guests will include Laurie Lukens, daughter of Ruth Hock, and Sister Judith Ann, current Head of the Order and Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Charity, the order to which Sister Ignatia belonged. The presence of these two special guests will provide a living link to the earliest years of AA. The 35 millionth copy of the Big Book will be presented to the Sisters of Charity in recognition of the important role that Sister Ignatia played in AA's pioneering time.

### General Service Conference

A request to consider holding the General Service Conference on the West Coast every other year was discussed briefly and tabled to the January Board weekend so that more background could be developed.

A recommendation related to Conference background development gives Conference committee (at the Winter Board Weekend Meeting) chairs a greater role by having the committee secretary confer with the committee chair to review a list of the proposed background for each of the committee's agenda items (the corresponding trustees' committee chair will also be consulted).

Another recommendation passed regarding Conference committee chair participation at the winter quarterly Board weekend ensures that the delegate chairs will be allowed to participate during their corresponding trustees' committee meeting.

**Por favor informen a sus distritos que con gusto puedo programar visitas grupales o distritales, ya sea en un entorno grupal o empresarial. Solo llámenme y podemos concertar el día y la hora.**

**Unconditionally in Service,**



Si puedo ayudarlo de cualquier forma, solo llámeme o envíeme un mensaje. Estoy disponible para visitar grupos o distritos, si me invitan.  
Dean B.

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