

Delegate's Report
October 2018 ACM

I don't get enough praise from my husband. We have been together 31 years and some of it has been down right difficult. I want him to recognise the wife that I am and I would like him to do it fairly regularly. The other day I found out something from my son, recently returned from the grips of a tenacious cult, who now works with my husband every day. He said his dad praises me all the time to others. In fact, every chance he gets he tells someone what a great gal I am. He extols my work ethic, my service in AA and even my beauty. After some thought I realized that second hand praise was actually better than my limited expectations. I think we limit our expectations all the time.

When contemplating my monthly report I am sometimes conflicted about what I should share. At times I think I cajole too much and extol too little. I love extolling and we don't do enough of this. There are so many members in our area who give so much to keeping AA secure and healthy for the years to come. It is what drew me to General Service in the first place. In my early years I was enthusiastically thanked for chairing a picnic committee or showing up to a CPC event at the Convention Center--on time. I want the trusted servants of Area 08 to know that I have every praise for the work you do whether it is chairing the district meeting regularly and on time or making announcements at your home groups about upcoming events. When all of us are doing something the entire fellowship benefits.

Tonight I am delivering copies of the 2018 Conference Report in both English and Spanish. I sent you the digital copies some time ago and there are limited numbers of the hardcover booklets so please only take one for yourself and one other until they are gone. The GSO thanks you for your patience in receiving these.

The annual Southern California Convention held in Rancho Mirage appeared to be well attended. I was able to share a room with an old friend and join other Area 08 members in carrying the message of next year's conference to the few but interested attendees. It was the first time I heard the topics of next year's conference being played out and I have the feeling that the theme and topics will be very compelling in the coming months. I hope other committees and Districts will incorporate the Conference theme and topics into their workshops or panels as it helps build language around the work we will be doing when the Conference Agenda Items arrive next year. As a reminder, the theme for the 2019 General Service Conference will be:

"Our Big Book — 80 Years, 71 Languages."

The presentation/discussion topics for the 2019 General Service Conference will be:

Yesterday's World — Our Legacies Begin

Today's World — **Demonstrating** Integrity, Anonymity and Service

Tomorrow's World — Courage to be Vigilant

The workshop topic for the 2019 General Service Conference will be:

"Clarity of Purpose — Addressing the Needs of Our Meetings"

The bold faced word, demonstrating, was added later and I have no idea why but I sent an email to the General Manager, Greg Tobin, asking that question. He responded by sending me the transcript of the report that was read at the Conference and indeed, it was there. I missed that and I feel like that might have been an important piece to have called to question as it does affect my understanding of the topic. You can be sure I will be paying closer attention to all the reports this year, particularly when I was part of that committee decision.

The 3rd Quarter Board Meeting will be held later this month and the agenda item proposal from District 2, The Plain Language Big Book, will be at the Trustees' Literature Committee. I received confirmation on Tuesday that it has been received.

Besides the letter of support I wrote for the Plain Language Big Book, I also wrote a letter of support for the 57th AA International Women's' Conference. I have attached both letters of support for your perusal and I am hoping to get a recommendation from our ACM to submit this to past GSR, District 23, Amy M., to include in their bid proposal.

Last weekend I attended the Grapevine Workshop and shared a bit on writing and submitting (key word, submitting,) articles to the Grapevine. In spite of the low attendance, the time we allowed for free writing was well spent and almost everyone who attended came up to the podium to share their possible submission. It was absolutely refreshing. It's possible that had there been a larger audience the writers would have been too nervous about sharing their writing which made the event quite successful. The Grapevine Committee is thinking of doing another workshop just for audio recordings of stories to send to Grapevine. Wouldn't that be a great one to attend?

Another workshop, held the same day as the Grapevine Workshop, was the Literature Workshop. Events like these should be heavily advertised if you expect to get attendance from a wide cross-section of both North and South Counties. Both of the workshops were on the Master Calendar but neither of them had a flyer posted on the Area 08 website. I have heard that it is sometimes difficult to get a flyer posted due to our commitment to parity within the area and our guideline to send all flyers to Policy Committee for approval before posting. Please call or email myself or any officer on the board if you have any trouble getting a flyer posted on the website. Communication is vital in the area if we are going to stay connected.

I am disappointed to miss Unity Day but I have a calendar conflict I cannot change. I will be thinking of you all as I participate in an annual "Festival of the Arts" in downtown Vista all day. Every school in our district will be displaying student work at this festival. Jerry has done a fantastic job in getting the word out about Unity Day. I am hearing this event announced at all my meetings--even in NORTH COUNTY!

Sunday I travel to Santa Monica to help with the 3rd Legacy Elections in Area 05. I believe our Area Registrar will be traveling with me to share this experience. Another election that I will be participating in takes place next month in Area 93. Our neighboring Areas are always good about traveling to Area 08 when we have an election so reciprocating is a great way to be of service. Let me know if you are interesting in attending an assembly outside our area.

I am visiting a couple of Districts next month, 21 and 10, and I still have room on the calendar for more if you would like me to pay a visit. Just email me and we can set a date that works.

Lastly, I am celebrating my 35th birthday the day after our next assembly in Brawley. On November 4th you are all invited to help me celebrate. I would love to see any and all of you there.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.