

August ACM Delegate's Report

With everything going on, I didn't have time to write this report and get it completed and sent to Translation. I am going update on several different topics and mention a few other over again.

AA is live and moving. This is confirmed by the Pacific Regional Trustee who I meet with right before this meeting. She gave us a report from the board weekend which was at the end of July.

I mentioned that we would be doing a survey. Well, the time has come. I received my first email to verify if some groups were still active and willing to participate in the survey. The original deadline was the 19th but has since been updated to the 26th of August. The Registrar is helping with this project. The survey is confidential. Please encourage your groups that when the survey happens do not share any of the information or do not claim bragging rights. The committee believes that the survey will produce effective results.

After the board's approval, implementation has begun on the new jacket-less format for the next printings of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous. This jacket-less formatting will help reduce backorders, streamline turnaround time, and bring our book to the Fellowship in a timelier manner, will help to better navigate supply-chain disruptions, reduce delivery times as well as expense (i.e., the cost of goods sold has increased three-fold during the pandemic). · The first printing of the new cover format English-language Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, is scheduled to start printing in mid-October, to be completed November/December 2022.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions The next print run for the "Twelve and Twelve," in English-language and French-language editions, to receive this same jacketless format switchover. · The first printing of the new format is expected in November or December 2022.

Submission for personal stories for the fifth edition is due October 31st. There have been several means of communication to get the word out. If any of your members are interested, please reach out one of us to get the information you need. From the Literature Trustee's Committee: We are delighted to invite A.A. members to contribute your stories of recovery to the Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous. the trustees' Literature Committee is seeking a wide range of A.A. experience, strength and hope from the Fellowship.

[English 5th Edition](#)

Submissions for personal stories for the fourth edition (Spanish) is December 15th. Districts 15, 17, and 18 or any groups that have Spanish speaking members, please get the word out. I will attach the guidelines for submissions with my report.

Spanish 4th Edition

Some printing of the Big Book and other books are back in stock. There are still several items on back order. Supply chain disruptions throughout the world with paper, printing and trucking industries leave unfavorably interruptions.

Grapevine

AA Grapevine Upcoming Magazine Topics through 2022: · August: Sober Travel, · September: Young and Sober, · October: Relapse (prevention), and · November Gratitude and Fun in Sobriety. Upcoming Grapevine Books, Currently Available: · Fun in Sobriety.

LaVina

AA La Viña Upcoming Magazine Topics (2022): · July – Aug.: Prison Issue, · Sept. – Oct.: No Matter What, and · Nov. – Dec.: La Viña Short Stories.

Instagram Update, thru June 30, 2022: · AA Grapevine has 7,868 “followers” and La Viña has 936 “followers.”

Grapevine Podcasts: continues to grow. Podcast downloads topped over 180,000 since its inception.

2024 Conference Agenda Committee has announced that its time to come up with conference theme, presentation and workshop topics for the General Service Conference. Please send suggestions by December 2, 2022. I would like to make this an area challenge. Every group that come up with a theme, presentation and workshop topics, I will get them donuts or bagels or something equivalent for the group. This process in our area is usually done by the Agenda Committee. We currently do not have an agenda committee.

Finance

Finance and Budget: Although unaudited, mid-year performance are in: Contributions - Unaudited: The board accepted the Finance department reports in March, June and July, highlighting the following information: Year-to-date contributions (six months ending June 30, 2022) are \$5,011,648. This represents 50% of the 2022 budget of \$10,000,000 (with 50% of the year elapsed) and is \$35,332 more than last year. Year to date, 22% of contributions have been received online. On average, a contribution made online costs \$2.67 less to process than a contribution made by check.

Literature - Unaudited: · Year to June 30 gross literature sales is a little over \$5.8 million (rounded). This represents 52% of the 2022 budget of \$11,000,000. But there's more to the story - our “cost of goods sold” continues to rise because of the increased cost of paper, postage, publishing, and other supply chain-related expenses.

Expense - Unaudited: · Year to June 30 payroll and benefits expense (for our valued GSO employees) is a little over \$4.7 million, which is 47% of the budget amount with 50% of the year elapsed (so, we're pretty much on budget). · Total operating expense year to June 30 is around \$8.2 million (a little more, actually) which is also 47% of the budget amount with 50% of the year elapsed. Overall Deficit or Surplus: · Our overall operating deficit year to June 30 is around \$114,000 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$797,000. All things considered, we're ahead of budget.

Reserve Fund - Unaudited: · As detailed by Kevin Prior, our non-alcoholic Treasurer of the General Service Board, our Reserve Fund continues to hover at just under 8 months (7.65 to be more specific)

Planning for the 2025 International Convention is underway. A member engagement survey was sent out recently. Here are the links to the survey. Here's a link that goes directly to the email blast containing the links to the survey in English, Spanish and French that you received last

week. Please feel free to distribute the survey widely in your Area (e.g., to GSRs, DCMs). I also have QR codes that are available in all three languages. Let me know if you would like them.

Note that the survey closes October 31, 2022.

English- <https://createsend.com/t/y-FC8165F7F1FAD9262540EF23F30FEDED>

Spanish- <https://createsend.com/t/y-FC8165F7F1FAD9262540EF23F30FEDED>

2035 International Convention. Is Area 8 interested in hosting the 2035 International Convention. I have reached out to the Past Delegates for feedback. I got one response. Now, I am asking the body! Is Area 8 ready to host the next International Convention?

How many of you read the Summer Edition of Box 459? What did you think about it? Did anyone notice that it was taken down for a while? Well, it was. It has been put back up since it was taken down. I am not sure, but I believe it had something to do with the Covid Article.

I have been informed that two of the staff members are no longer employed. As soon as I get the new assignments, I will email them out.

There are several workshops and picnics coming up. I hope that some of your members will be available to attend these events. Don't be alone during the holiday or over the weekend. We support each other and these events need your support.

I visited several districts and groups since the last ACM. It's been an honor meeting home group members and having face to face discussions. Answering what I can and getting back to others when the information becomes available.

I attended the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session last weekend. I was very happy that I was able to attend. I was disappointed in the attendance of Area 8 DCM. This event has been a favor of mine since I first became a DCM. There were several other smiling faces in the crowd. I appreciate your support and diligence to continue to work for our area.

I still have a few more districts to visit. Please let me know what night your districts are meeting; I will do my best to make it. DCM's let your GSR's know that I am available to visit their groups as well.

The Pacific Regional Forum is just around the corner. If you haven't booked your room or flight, the time is now. I am working on my presentation. I will be there in person for the weekend. If you would like to meet some of the staff and board from the General Service Office, this will be your opportunity. The forum will be back in the Pacific Region in 2024.

Our next assembly will be on the last weekend in September. DCM's, please push your GSR's to attend in person or online. This is an important time to be involved in General Service. Your group's conscience is what is paramount to having an informed discussion. Without your group's conscience, we can't implement the what's best for the area or AA as a whole.