

Big Day Assembly Delegate Report

I am setting in the airport after the Pacific Regional Forum to start writing my report. I am so overwhelmed that I do not know where to begin. This past weekend was full of gratitude and happiness for being in the place that I am in my life. It was a wonderful experience seeing friends, meeting new ones, the hugs and laughs. It was great to be in person and be able to represent a fine area.

Members from the Pacific Region got to chat and meet Class A and B Trustees, General Service Board Chair and Manager and staff members, in person. They shared their experience and love for alcoholics. The discussions were out of this world. There will be a full report that will be sent out. There are some great workshop topics for us to have here in Area 08! I know shameless plug. 😊

I received an email right before leaving regards the forum not being hybrid. The thought was raised that we should see if we (Area 08) would be willing to host the forum. I wasn't sure of the process or who to talk too. Since the Staff Member from the desk was at the forum, I thought I would ask. He stated that he would send me the information and talk to our current Pacific Regional Trustee. I thought she was too busy to talk to. I spoke with Kathy F., our past Pacific Regional Trustee. She walked me through the process and gave me some pointers.

At the forum, a few of the members from Area 08 had dinner on Saturday evening. I ask the question to everyone at the tables. They thought it would be a great idea and are willing to help! This is why I love Area 08! Now we are asking the assembly, would you like for us to put in a bid to host the 2026 Pacific Regional Forum? We are very eager to hear your response.

Since the conference is a year-round process, the General Service Manager, Bob M., gave a report on what is happening at the office since the conference. I have attached a copy of the report for you to review.

We just received a preliminary list of agenda items for the conference. So far there are 97 items. There are more that the board needs to go thru to complete the list. Some of the items are duplicates or worded a little different but have the same objective.

The General Service Office has hired a few new people and made a few changes with current staff members. If any of your members or committees reach out and do not get a response, please let me know. They are not avoiding you, there is a not going on right now.

I serve on the Policy and Admissions committee. We meet a few weeks ago for the first time since the conference. Most committees will not meet until next year. We have recommended to have visitors come to the conference to observe. This way they can make travel plans sooner and set up translation.

Areas of Interest:

International Conference: will be held in Vancouver BC Canada 2025. The planning has begun. The website or registration is not operational at this time. As soon as information becomes available, I will let you know. For those of you who have travel issues out to the country, please sure and check out the website for information. The time will be now to start working on those "issues" to make it to the conference.

There was a survey to help better plan for the International Convention. The deadline for responses is October 31st. If you need the link or QR code, please check out AA.org or email me and I will send to you.

Grapevine/LaVina:

Sales are hanging in there. They are not where we expected or would like them to be. Electronic are going up. What does this mean? Well, there are ongoing discussions about the magazine and being digital and the profit of sales. We have no plans to stop printing magazines right now. Don't work. They are working to make the website more accessible and user friendly. The Grapevine Podcast is doing great. If you are interested, please download and listen. Grapevine also would like to know if you would prefer a "Grapevine App"? Some place where you could find all grapevine books and audio. We were given an email address to submit your input. Email address will be in my report. social@aagrapevine.org

Box 459

All issues of Box 459 can be found on aa.org. if you were receiving it in print and now you are not, please reach out to staff. We received notice that there was a glitch during covid with the print version. Everything should be rectified now.

PRAASA

We are about 6 months out from PRAASA. It will be held in Los Angeles. I hope that many of you as possible will think about attending. This will give you an opportunity to meet many other members doing or have done the same service as you. You will get to talk about what obstacles you are facing and how you can get through them. As soon as I have more information, I will pass along. Registration or hotel information hasn't been released at this time.

Writing

For those of you who love to write, this is the time to submit your stories. We are looking for stories in English and Spanish for the Big Book. We are also looking of stories for the pamphlet "AA for the Black and African American". Stories are also being sought out for the pamphlet "AA for the Older Alcoholic – Never too late. For the pamphlet, AA for the Older Alcoholic – Never too late, the deadline was yesterday. I spoke with David from the working group on the pamphlet. They have received numerous stories, but one last push would be very helpful. If you know of any older alcoholics, please have them reach out to me or check out AA.org for the information to submit story.

Printing

There is a worldwide paper, printing, manufacturing, trucking and other delivery disruptions continue to beset the supply chain, causing backorders of books and other items throughout the publishing industry. There are a lot of changes that will help. GSO is working consistently for solutions to get books and other products to fill orders throughout the US and Canada.

There was a printing error in English language editions of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. You will be able to order this edition soon.

Membership Survey

I notified the assembly that we be conducting a survey this year. I received a preliminary list of groups in our area. The time has come to complete the process. The Registrar, the Alternate Delegate and I will be reaching out to groups and sending them the survey to have completed. If you are contacted, please act quickly to the survey. Thank you for your cooperation.

Finance

Currently, we have just under 8 months in our Reserve Fund. Our overall operating deficit from Jan 1 to June 30 is around \$114,000 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$797,000. Contributions are \$5,011,648 as of the end of June. This is 50% of the 2022 budget of \$10,000,000. If you would like more detail graphs and list of numbers, please let me know. I can send them to you.

Delegate Travel

Since our last assembly, I have gotten to visit many districts, groups and individual meetings. Sharing in the conversion with GSRs and other members about our area, agenda items, AA as a whole and a host of other topics. Members are having conversations like never before.

I made an appearance at Unity & Service conference in Concord. This was a small conference, but it packed a great punch. The event shared several speakers on various topics about service and the traditions. I made a host of new friends and do plan on attending in the future.

I attended the 4-area DCM Sharing Session. This event was a hybrid event that has been a loop in my sobriety for some time now. Getting to share and listen to other DCM and trusted servants talk about obstacles that they face and how they get to a solution.

I visited the San Diego Central Office for its open house. The event was well attended and lots of great speakers. An enormous amount of literature was sold during that time. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported this event.

I attended one of the few Labor Day picnics in the county. I arrived at Calavera Community Park to a large crowd enjoying burgers and music. Committees had tables set up and giving out literature to newcomers. Bravo to all the districts that played a part in the event. District 16 hosted a picnic as well. I didn't make it in time before the event was over.

Today, we will be discussing various motions and other business. You will get to see and hear from one of our Trustees at Large, Trish L. She will speak about her role as Trustee and events and meetings that she has attended. She will discuss how your groups are connected to meeting around the world.

I hope that you will enjoy the assembly today as much as I will. This will be a great opportunity to listen and participate with your group's conscience on various topics. To all the new and old GSR's, if you have any questions, don't be afraid to ask one of us or your DCM. We are here to work together for one common goal which is to help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. By having sobriety, I get to help others the same way I was helped.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Respectfully submitted,

Monty C. Area 08 Delegate P72