

Minutes – Area 25 Assembly
July 21-23, 2023, at Webster Conference Center
Salina, Kansas 67401

Friday, July 21, 2023, 7:30pm

Josh R., Area Chair opened the evenings meeting by giving a brief overview of all that would be happening over this Assembly weekend ahead. He then asked that all invite God into the room with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Josh shared that he was excited about the elections this weekend and that our brand new Southwest Regional Trustee Teresa J. would be facilitating the election process.

After being introduced Teresa spoke to the Assembly. She shared that she was excited to be of service to the Area by administering the elections on Sunday. Teresa shared her last name with those present and stated that we do not have to be anonymous within the fellowship and it helps her remind herself who she is. She shared that she currently resides in Albuquerque, New Mexico which is Area 46. Teresa shared that Area 25 could also claim her too because she was born and raised in Kansas and she is a Wichita Shockers fan. Teresa then qualified herself as a member by sharing her story and the journey that took her to Albuquerque and into the rooms of AA. She shared many powerful thoughts in her story. Teresa shared that her first service job in AA was being the Intergroup Representative and when she did not show up at business meeting to report back, she found that someone else had been elected by her Home Group as the new Intergroup Representative. She shared that she learned that one must be very responsible in service work. Teresa stated that later she was elected Alternate GSR for her Group and later she became the GSR. Teresa stated that at her first assembly she saw chaos and deduced that God must be in charge of AA, she shared that service built her faith. She also came to see the fun in going to Assembly, sharing car rides and rooms. She shared that the God of her experience helped her to see that things go better, usually slower, if we do it together. She stated that she has an enormous amount of faith in the General Service Structure and that one gets to grow through service. She stated, "Being of service gives me the opportunity to give back to this beautiful fellowship that saved my life." Teresa stated that Area 46 is excited about having a Trustee and now Kansas can claim her too. Teresa invited all to reach out to her. She shared that she is serving on the Literature and Finance Committees as a Trustee and also on the Ad Hoc Committee working on location. She shared that her job on the Literature Committee is to move the work forward, not to make decisions. Teresa then answered some questions from the floor. She stated that she was shocked when she had learned that she had been elected Trustee and it took a couple of days for the reality to sink in. She shared that the 5th Edition Big Book is in the process of narrowing down the stories for the stories section of the book. She stated that over 2,500 stories had been submitted, so she has been reading a lot of stories. The goal for the Literature Committee is to have the stories

narrowed down to 100 by spring and down to finalist by the next General Service Conference. They are also working on the translation of the Spanish version of the 5th Edition. The Plain Language Big Book is in the editing stage right now. It will go to the General Service Conference in April for approval or disapproval. Teresa pointed out that the goal is to stay the same things as are written in the standard Big Book but using simpler words to aid in understanding at a 4th Grade level. Teresa stated that she is looking forward to getting to know the fellows in Area 25 better as she fills her term as Trustee.

Josh reminded the Group that the KAAAAI Board meeting would be at 8:15am in the morning and that all were welcome to attend. A sharing session for GSR's and DCM's would follow that.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Saturday, July 22, 2023

At 9:00am Area Chair Josh R. opened the Assembly.

The members of the Assembly then split off to attend GSR and DCM sharing sessions. Bridget B., Alt. Delegate, lead the GSR sharing session and Mike H., Past Delegate lead the DCM sharing session.

The members reconvened at 10:45am and then split out to attend their Committee Meetings.

12:00 to 1:30pm – The Assembly took a lunch break.

1:30 to 2:30pm Area Chair Josh R. welcomed the members of the Assembly back by stating that he hoped they had all had good Committee Meetings this morning and a good lunch. Josh reminded everyone the last time Concepts 1, 2 and 3 were discussed, this session Concepts 4, 5 and 6 would be covered. Don G., Past Delegate, spoke on Concept 4, Dave R., Past Delegate, spoke on Concept 5 and Josh R., Area Chair addressed Concept 6.

On Concept 3, Don G. shared that he has a conversation with his sponsor when he was a year sober and his sponsor asked him what he was going to now to stay sober. His sponsor pointed out that people who are involved in AA Service tend to stay sober longer and he was instructed to read the Service Manual which he found fascinating, because he's a geek like that. Don thanked District 5 and Area 25 for allowing him to learn to be of service. He discussed that he participated on 12 step calls and working

with sponsees. Don described this concept as the job description at GSO and the Bill of Rights for members. He pointed out that the new guy with one day has the same power as the guy with 41 years. This concept makes one a part of the group, not apart from the group. He also reminded everyone, “respect each other as you want to be respected.” He reminded everyone that participation has two parts: giving of ourselves and including others. Participation does not mean carrying the whole load. He closed by stating that we are a spiritual entity but we have to do a little business too.

Dave R. then shared on Concept 5 and he thanked Josh for asking him to speak on this Concept. Dave presented a short ‘do you know quiz’ where one had five choices and he asked the Assembly which was correct. He received several responses. He stated that everyone has a seat at the table and that this concept was written to guide the General Service Conference and applied throughout the AA service structure all the way down to the groups. Dave shared that the minority opinion is a key part of this Concept and that one has the duty to file a minority opinion if the majority is making a grave mistake. He stated that it takes time to present a well stated minority opinion which can lead to good discussion and take time, a lot of time, but it can change opinion. Dave stated that it takes about five years to get a minority opinion through the General Service Conference. Dave added that in the post pandemic world all members still have a voice via hybrid meetings, which can be a pain but they help include all. He stated AA has always had the ‘promise of inconvenience’.

Josh R. shared on Concept 6. Josh stated that this Concept represents, “Your duty to do it” and if this Concept was narrowed down to one word it would be “accountability”. He shared that the General Service Conference has the overall authority in the US and Canada and that the General Service Board carries out the day-to-day operations of AA. The General Service Conference allows the General Service Board to do its job. The Board of Trustees meet quarterly and the main arm is the General Policy and Finance Committee. He explained that the General Service Conference does not micromanage the Board and its objective in handling the affairs of AA. Josh stated that September 15, 2023 is when all agenda items are due from individuals and areas.

To wrap up this discussion of the Concepts, Josh asked for any general questions relating to the concepts. He was met with silence from the floor. The Assembly took a short break.

2:45pm Josh introduced Will H., Web Chair, to discuss proposed changes in the Area 25 Guidelines for web related matters. Josh reminded the Assembly that Will and the Web Committee had worked hard to bring the Web guidelines up to date to meet the current Area web needs. These proposed Guideline changes had been presented in a handout at the October 2023 Committee meetings and they will be voted on at the January 2024 Assembly. Will explained the historical context of the need to make the guideline changes due to the importance of technology in today’s world. Will explained that the appointment of an Alternate Web Chair was at the top of this list. This Alternate would step in if the Web Chair became unable to fulfil their responsibilities. It has been

suggested that that Alternate work under the Web Chair, train and learn responsibilities and rotate in as Web Chair after two years. A number of responsibilities would be modified/moved/added in the Guidelines to accommodate this new position and share responsibility with the Web Chair. Will stated that it is still to be determined whether these positions will be appointed or elected positions. Will also discussed that the Area currently has two domain names: Ks.aa.org and Kansas.aa.org. The keeping and managing of the Area passwords was also discussed. The Area Chair is also the keeper of these passwords and there is a vault where all are kept. Passwords generally are changed about four times a year. Will stated that the Web Committee had voted and approved the proposed changes to the guidelines in their Committee meeting. He will be posting these proposed changes to the website and sending them out by MailChimp.

The Committee Chairs and DCMs gave their reports from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

Committee Reports

Accessibilities – Chella F. – Reported that there were eight people in attendance at the Accessibilities Committee meeting this morning representing six Districts. The Committee recapped some items discussed at the last Area Committee Meetings. They discussed the Meeting Guide App (with the blue chair logo) includes accessibilities information on it. District 10 is taking meetings into nursing homes and there DCM Brett G. is available as a contact for other DCM's who would like to address carrying the message into nursing homes in their Districts. Signage on windows and greeters at the doors to assist newcomers and specifically those with special needs were discussed. Progress within various districts and identification of areas of need were discussed. The committee would like to redo and update the Accessibility display board as a Committee and they invited all DCM's to please invite all Accessibility Chairs in their Districts to attend the Area Committee Meetings in October to help with this task. District 10 is the home of the Kansas School For the Deaf and they have found the school to be an excellent resource in finding ASL translation. The District is also exploring how to carry the message to those impacted by neuro divergence. District 14 is providing call sheets for transportation and this District is requesting support with Spanish translation. If you speak Spanish, please reach out to District 14 for collaboration and service. District 16 has implemented signage which is having a positive impact with those needing transportation reaching out. District 19 requested that all Area 25 do DCM's reach out to District Meetings to assist in composing a list of those who can sign. The District is also making sure that their literature racks include Literature in Spanish. District 23 is also discussing taking meetings into nursing homes and it has been suggested that they also work with the CPC Committee in their district. This District has had multiple requests on the District website for Spanish speaking translation, so if you speak Spanish and are looking for service please contact the District 23 DCM. The zoom meeting regarding The Plain Language Translation of the Big Book will be held on Sunday, August 20th at 2:00 PM CST. Spanish and ASL translation will be available.

Go to ks-aa.org and under events one can find more information. The 66th Kansas Area 25 Conference was discussed and all Area Accessibilities Committee Members and District Accessibility Chairs were encouraged to attend and to reach out to the conference and volunteer. Chelle shared her contact information with the Committee: Go to ks-aa.org and then under Area25 Servants select the Accessibilities Chair. In closing Chelle clarified that the goal of the Committee is to spread awareness about making the message of AA available to all. The Committee is inclusive with an array of options that one can be involved in, including transportation, Spanish translation, deaf and hard of hearing translation, nursing home meetings, helping persons with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and neurodivergence. She encouraged all to “Ask yourself what you are passionate about and get involved in the Third Legacy of Service that allows cooperation with treatment, corrections, CPC, and more”.

Al-Anon Liaison - Martin B. – Reported that he had attended the 50th Annual Al-Anon State Conference, June 9-11, 2023, in Wichita. 129 people attended the conference. He shared that the Al-Anon Area Chair feels that they are now past covid. Martin shared that there were a lot of good speakers at the conference. Mike H., Past Area 25 Delegate, from Scott City, Kansas was the AA speaker and did a fabulous job. Martin stated that it was good to see a number of AA people in attendance at the conference. An AA meeting was held at the conference which about 30 AA members attended. Martin shared that he learned that he was a double winner and that some are actually triple winners. KARU, the Alateen camping weekend, is the weekend July 21- 23, 2023 at Camp Horizon in Arkansas City, Kansas. Martin encouraged everyone to support Alateen. AWCS Meetings will be held September 9-10, 2023 here in Salina at the Country Inn and Suites.

Chronicler - Marty T. – Reported that three people representing two Districts had attended the Committee Meeting this morning. He shared that they discussed trying to get group histories from some of the dark groups in Districts. Marty reported that District 31 did turn in their Group Histories through the new fillable form on the Area website. Marty reminded everybody that the form is available online, it can be filled out there and it is forwarded to him. Marty stated that he is available to come to any District to discuss District and Group histories, as always, “Have history will travel!” And he reminded the Assembly “That we do not know where we are going if we don't know where we have been.” Marty was also able to go to the storage unit in Topeka and check out what was in the storage until.

Corrections – Sallie T. reported that sixteen people from nine Districts had attended the Corrections meeting this morning. Sallie stated that she was very excited because Corrections is had some good activity going on. She was happy to report that the Yellow Can Fund is sustaining literature requests for AA members behind the walls. She thanked the Area 25 members for their continued support. Several Districts have reported facilities opening and for volunteers to be allowed to come in to carry our message of hope to those behind the walls. District 2, Norton, Kansas, reported that

new volunteers had received their orientations and badging. District 7 reported that they have volunteers going in to all the jails in their District. District 13 and 19 have reported some exciting activity, some facilities newly reopened and a couple still having meetings. District 19, El Dorado Correctional Facility is asking for meetings to resume. Sally reported that she has had the privilege to travel and attend some service events. She wanted to express her thanks to District 7 and District 14 for inviting her to share. Sally stated, "If I am asked, I will come" and she thanked Area 25 for allowing her to be of service.

Cooperation with Professional Community - Cheryl H. reported that 30 people representing 10 Districts attended the CPC meeting and that they had a great meeting. Cheryl stated that CPC is active across Area 25. The sample letter from the CPC Workbook has been distributed in Douglas County to KU School of Law, School of Nursing and to various other entities. Pamphlets and hotline cards are being taken to Human Resource Managers at Lowe's and Home Depot. Professionals are not responding well to phone calls so the letters and pamphlets are being sent instead. The use of LinkedIn was discussed as a tool to let professionals know that Alcoholics Anonymous World Service can be a great resource for them. Getting meetings back into the State Mental Hospitals was also discussed.

Grapefree Press – Gena W. reported that there were eight people in attendance, representing six Districts. Gena stated that they had a great meeting with a lot of good ideas and discussion. She shared with the Assembly that the GFP is our Kansas, Area 25 newsletter and all that it contains. The three ways to get the Grapefree Press were discussed. The Grapefree Press can be received by 1. Pdf version through the Area 25 Email list. 2. Download or view the current issue via ks.aa.org website. 3. Those without internet access can sign up for print copies or get them from their DCM. They are currently sending out 120 printed copies to the Districts. The Committee discussed several new ideas: 1. Ask a question of Area 25 readers to illicit an experience that will be printed in the next issue of the GFP. 2. Include blurbs about the history of AA in Kansas in cooperation with the Chronicler. 3. Since the GFP isn't translated into Spanish, invite Spanish speaking districts to write a column of their activities in Spanish. Remember that you can get in touch with the Grape Free Press at gfp@ks-aa.org.

Grapevine – Tama C. shared that 13 people representing six Districts had attended the Committee meeting. The group discussed how they use and promote the Grapevine in their meetings. There is a podcast for the Grapevine that is called "The Grapevine Variety Show" and it comes out every Monday with fun topics. One person asked about how to publish a story in the Grapevine so the submission process for stories was discussed. Some of the books that are published by the Grapevine were discussed. There are also 33 eBooks in English and five in Spanish as of 2022. There are also 12 Audio book CD's that can be ordered at store.aagrapevine.org/eBooks.

Literature – Ken S. shared that 13 people representing seven Districts plus the SW Regional Trustee, Teresa J., were in attendance at the Literature Committee meeting

this morning. Teresa sits on the Trustee Literature Committee. Teresa related information about the 5th Edition Big Book including that there were over 2,500 stories submitted and that the committee hopes to get it down to 100 and make the final cut from those. The 4th Edition "Plain Language Big Book" has been translated and is currently in the editing process. Teresa described the editing process to the committee members. Publishing costs and why there was a significant increase was discussed. The new jacketless Big Book and 12X12 are now available. Ken thanked Theresa for attending the meeting and he thanked Area25 for allowing him to serve. Ken stated service manuals will be available in October at the Committee Meetings.

Public Information – Rich S. reported that six people from five Districts had attended the PI Meeting. The committee discussed getting the message out into nursing homes and schools. District 10 is reaching out to schools in getting literature into their libraries. District 12 is getting a PSA out and getting more people interested. The committee had a great sharing session on Tradition 11 and anonymity at the level of press radio and film.

Treatment – Jerry W. stated that there were 14 people representing five Districts present at the Treatment Committee meeting today. The Committee had a visitor from Area 39 in Missouri and nine of those in attendance were Spanish speaking members from the Assembly. Various issues in the treatment area were discussed. District 21 is working to get a group of Spanish speaking members together to serve those in Treatment. Bridging the Gap will be having a workshop in Houston, TX on September 7, 2025, more info can be obtained on the website <https://www.btgww.org/>. District 1 reported that they don't have a lot of options for Treatment out in the Colby, Kansas area. District 7 shared that they are taking speaker meetings to Valley Hope in Atchison, Kansas. District 18 is taking AA meetings into New Chance in Dodge City once a week. District 27 Topeka stated that they have no treatment options. District 27 shared that they bring information into local jails on treatment options and that the Spanish speaking members are working to coordinate their activities with other Districts in the metro. The area also working to get Treatment info to the Spanish population. Candy from District 27 shared that she serves as interpreter for her District. Jerry closed the meeting by encouraging Committee members to stand for election to offices in the business meeting tomorrow.

Web – Will H. shared that there were 15 people representing six Districts at the Web Committee meeting this morning. The committee reviewed outstanding website enhancements under old business. The main topic of discussion was the creation of an Alternative Web Chair position and amending Kansas Area Guidelines to accommodate if this change is made. Much discussion was had about the wording in the changes to the Guidelines. The Committee voted to approve these changes and this motion passed the committee vote. (These changes were presented to the Assembly earlier in the session today by Will.) Several items were discussed under new business: #1 How to keep individuals in mind to help the growth of the website. #2

Look at how the current website manages meeting listings from various Districts and Groups throughout the Area. And #3 The question was raised, is the Web Committee a good place to raise questions about setting up social media accounts for a group? Will also reminded DCM's and GSR's to ensure that their group's meeting listings are up to date online.

DCM Reports

District 1 – No Report

District 2 – No Report

District 3 – No Report

District 4 – Eric D. reported that the District has eight groups. The last District Meeting on July 2nd was held in Ellsworth and was attended by four Groups. The District will be having their camp out at Sylvan Park by Lake Wilson on the last weekend in August (August 27th -27th). Speakers on Saturday night are Shane R. from Ellsworth and Zelda B. from Washington KS. There will be a Delegates Report and chili feed in Hays, Kansas on October 7th at the Trinity Lutheran church in Hayes.

District 5 – Bryan P. reported that the District has 13 Groups. He shared that the District had pulled the plug on the AT&T hotline, saving the District \$100 a month. The District is working through what is the best way to do District Meetings: rotating site, moving the meeting, having a feast to attract people to attend?? District 5 is really lacking GSR representation. There are plenty of service positions open in the District. A lot of Groups are celebrating anniversaries with lake parties or get togethers at parks. The Lindsborg, KS meeting closed its Sunday night 8:00 PM meeting but they are still holding their Wednesday evening meeting.

District 6 – Cliff S. reported that the District had held its spring round up in Junction City and this was a success with good attendance, lots of raffle prizes and great shares by four members about their experience with step work. An “Autumn Extravaganza” on November 4th in Wamego is being planned details are not finalized but there will be a save the date flyer available today. This Is The Week that was in Manhattan celebrated their 46th anniversary. The Foxhall Group in Wamego celebrated 30 year anniversary with a fried chicken dinner. A group member with 34 years of sobriety shared his story and then introduced his sponsor to share his story (with some of ‘the rest of the story’ commentary). Cliff reported that he had attended the Annual District 6 Al-Anon Family Group potluck picnic in Keats, Kansas on July 1st. The picnic had excellent attendance and they had a father and son from Manhattan sharing their AA stories as well as an AFG speaker from Olathe sharing her story. The spirit of rotation has become a staple under old business at each District Meeting, hoping to encourage members to step up and fill service positions.

District 7 – Kent P. shared that the District currently has five Groups, which is up from his last report. Valley falls is holding meetings on Monday at 7:00pm (Big Book) and on Friday at 7:00pm (discussion meeting). On June 10th the District Corrections meeting had a potluck and Sally T., Area Correction Chair, came to share. District Corrections is very active, keeping in touch with each County's Corrections Facilities with in person meetings, literature or simply checking in with them. Members from different groups volunteer to do these various activities. District Treatment is very active in Atchinson Valley Hope taking speaker meetings in on Saturdays and Monday evenings. The District will soon be leading AA

meetings inside the treatment center. The District utilizes many members from various groups to carry the message and to bridge the gap.

District 8 – Tegan E., Alt. DCM. reported that there are 35 Groups in District 8 and that all committees have chairs and are active. The District sponsored an event and it was a success....more to come. The District will have the 50th Topeka Area Banquet coming up in October and Group 1 will be holding Fun in the Sun.

District 9 – Greg A. reported that the District has nine Groups but the status of one Group (Share Group) is currently unknown. District 9 rotates their District Meetings location, they are currently meeting at Leavenworth Group One through September then they will meet in Basehor Group for the final three months of the year. The District has a good turnout from their GSR's but they have very little support at the committee level. The District does not have an Accessibilities Chair, PI/CPC Chair, Treatment or Corrections Chair and one person covers Literature and Grapevine Chair. The District has entertained the idea of sponsoring a billboard however they decided to put that off until they get a PI/CPC Committee Chairperson. The District is considering doing a district inventory but tabled this idea until they can get more attendance at the meetings, not just the same five to seven people. The district is restarting its Annual Round Robin which was interrupted by COVID and it will be held October 15th. They are hoping to secure the Eisenhower Recreation Center in Kansas City KS. They will know all details by mid-August.

District 10 – Bret G. reported that the District has 20 active Groups. Things are going well in district 10. They continue to have fun and vibrant District committed to carrying the message. In May they held their biennial district inventory with a special thanks to Alternate Delegate Bridget B. for facilitating. Overall, the inventory reinforced that we are doing well and highlighted a few areas for us to look to improve. The District formed an Ad-Hoc committee to revisit sections of their district guidelines. The District will be working as a district to reach out to a list of groups in District 10 who are not actively participating in the District. The goal is to invite them to join us in our efforts. We continue to have active committees which are looking to carry the message in Johnson County. They have increased efforts to ensure literature is available at treatment centers, detox facilities, and correctional institutions. The Shawnee group will be celebrating their 55th Anniversary on August 26th and 27th. On Saturday, August 26th a potluck dinner will be held at 5:00 PM at the Monterey Office Park, Suite 113. Sunday August 27th a Gratitude Meeting at the Shawnee Group will be held and at 5:30 there will be an anniversary dinner at the old Shawnee Town Hall, 11600 Johnson Drive. Julie C. will be speaking after dinner. All are welcome.

District 11 – No Report

District 12 – No Report

District 13 – Charles L. reported that the District had held their 28th Annual Family Round Robin on May 13, 2023 and it was a success. The speakers were great, and there were 63 AA's in attendance with a total of 863 years of sobriety. The District has new Grapevine and Literature committee chairs. They still have to fill the Accessibilities Committee Chair. The Treatment Committee is taking meetings into Mirror, Inc. Valley Hope is not allowing meetings in and the Treatment Chair is looking into this matter. The Corrections Committee is taking meetings into Harvey and Reno County correctional facilities.

District 13 is asking approval to host the 2024 Corrections Conference. Attendance at District meetings has remained steady.

District 14 – Eric H. shared that the District has nine active Groups. The District held a “Service Extravaganza” on May 20th and Gena W., GFP Chair, Dave R., Past Delegate and Sally T., Corrections Chair all helped out by sharing at the event The Carbondale Group is having the 19th Picnic in the Pasture on Saturday, August 19th. Food will be at 5:30 and there will be a raffle and fast cash. The movie “One Too Many” (1950) will be shown at 8:30pm. Osage City Group just had their annual Anniversary event in June. Friends of Bill W, Emporia, had their anniversary on July 16th with a speaker from Iowa. The Emporia Group has reported their building has been sold they are expecting to have to move their meeting. The Campus Group, Emporia, reports meetings are going well. Flint Hills Group, Strong City, is still doing hybrid meetings . They recently got Zoom bombed and had to change the account and password. The Twin Lakes Group, Council Grove, reports attendance is normal. Corrections is still taking meetings to the Osage County Jail and they are working to get a Zoom meeting set up for Chase and Lyon County Jails. District 14's picnic is coming up on September 10th in Emporia at Hammond Park on September 10th at noon.

District 15 – No Report

District 16 – Pat R. stated that there are currently five Groups in the District. The Summer Roundup will be held August 12th and 13th in Garden City, KS more information is available on swks-a.org. Current meetings, events and current contacts can also be found on that website. The Ulysses Group added a third meeting on Monday night at 8:00 PM.

District 17 – John B. reported that the District has five Groups currently with only two Groups being active at the District level. Numbers are up a little. The District is still taking meetings to the treatment center.

District 18 – J. Wynn F. reported that the District has nine Groups. The District Picnic will be August 5, 2023 at 6th St. Park. There will be hamburgers and hot dogs provided, so bring a friend and a side dish. They will eat at 5pm then have the Delegates Report and an AI-Anon speaker at 6pm and an AA speaker at 7:00pm. The District is looking at how they can be more effective as a District and within their Groups.

District 19 – Robyn G. stated that the District has 27 Groups at this time. The Metropolitan Group celebrated their 75th anniversary on June 3, 2023. There was a great turnout. Founders’ day was celebrated June 10th 2023 with 60 to 70 members attending and a lot of drop ins. There great fellowship and a great speaker. June 24th Renewal Group had an Open House for Service Work where the District Committee Chairs shared and had a Q&A session. Attendance was good. On July 29, 2023 Park Lane Group will have a Sponsorship Workshop. Public information has a PSA on iHeartRadio (Bull Radio / B98) and people are hearing it.

District 20 – Samuel H. reported that they have five active Groups in the District. The District Meeting is on the third Sunday each month at 8:00am. All Groups in the District have daily meetings from 8:00 to 9:30pm. Two of the Groups have meetings on Saturday at noon and Sunday at 10:00am. The District had their 20th Hispanic Encounter in Wichita KS. Group Un Dia Alavez will celebrate its 10th Anniversary on October 14th. For information call 316-209-2864. The District continues to carry the message with information on the radio and they continue to take meetings to Higher Ground. Our Public Information

committee also received a message regarding meetings in Spanish in Ark City, KS. Our Public Information contact number is 316-880-8744.

District 21 – Randall R. reported that the District has five Groups who are still keeping the doors open and having meetings. Conway Springs and Sedan are still meeting once a week. Wellington, New Hope Group is having two meetings daily and a weekly women's meeting as well as jail meetings. Ark City, Maple Park Group is have two meetings daily, speaker meetings and working to bring in Spanish speaking meetings. Winfield, 12 X 12 Group has two meetings daily, weekly treatment center meetings, and weekly jail meetings. Once a month they have a speaker meeting. The Ark City, Easy Does it Group has a Sunday evening meeting.

District 22 – No Report but turned in a memorial on Sunday.

District 23 – Karma L. reported that the District has 19 Groups. The financials for the District are good. All service positions have been filled and District meetings have been well attended. July 8th was the Quarterly District Meeting and there was a great turnout. Kansas City Central Office has moved to a new location 4047 central St. Kansas City, MO in the Westport area. And for the first time in four years AA meetings have been allowed to resume in the Jefferson County Jail.

District 24 – Fred H. stated that the District has four Groups and those meetings are in Maple Hill, Silver Lake, Paxico and St. Mary's. The District Fall Festival is set for September 9, 2023. There will be fun, food and fellowship. All Groups keep getting bigger, which is great news!! Silver Lake regularly has 40 to 45 people in attendance and the Group has doubled its donation to both GSO and Area due to the increase in income.

District 26 – Allen S. shared that the District has five active Groups. Allen shared that District 26 is in North Central Kansas and consists of five groups across 2 counties. On June 25th the Gateway Group had its annual picnic. There were more than 40 in attendance and Joe C. shared his story. A registration and hotel room for the state conference was raffled off. Attendance for most meetings has been up. We do not have any more events planned for this year.

District 27 – Idelfonso S. reported that District 27 has 13 active Groups. The District continues to have a study group every Wednesday for the District. On April 16th they formed a committee for the Hispanic Encounter of Kansas. On May 13th they attended the inter district meeting in Wichita. District 27 is working with groups to come to an agreement for the table of Services and GSR and assistant committee so the service period is one year or three years. This is to be on the same time frame as our Areas time frame. We had our second Concepts Workshop on July 16th. District 27 and our GSRs agreed to support our Area with one of the persons of translation and support their expenses this is so our Area does not pay expenses for two translators who are participating at events. They are still enjoying 24 hours of sobriety a day at a time in District 27.

District 30 – No Report

District 31 – Jesus R. reported that the District has six active Groups and that they have been motivating the Liberal Group. He shared that the District meeting is every third Sunday of the month. They also have a Unity Group the second week of each month. The District has been volunteering in different places, like hospitals and churches and in different parts of the city. On August 6th Grupo Legado De Amor is celebrating the 2nd anniversary of a fellow alcoholic member. Our district is also having

workshops with themes with the participation of all groups in the district. District 31 which is all a happy 24 hours.

Memorials

District 4: Charles Morgan, Lincoln Group, years unknown.

Mark Reed, Lacrosse Group, 43 years.

Jesse Hockersmith, Oak Street Group, with a desire to stay sober.

Bill Zimmerman, Oak Street Group, About four years.

District 5: Jeff Plott, New Beginnings, years unknown.

Howard C. Debauche, Group 1, over 30 years.

Katherine "Katie" Brubaker, Group 1, over 40 years.

District 8: Norm S. – 31 years

District 9: John Nichols, The Bethel Group with 35 years.

District 10: John O., Olathe Group, 16 Years

John R., Keep It Simple, A sincere desire.

District 13: Cheryl L. of the Newton Group with 12 years

Stacy M. of the Newton Group with 29 years

District 14: Barry C. of The Friends of Bill W with 31 years

District 18: Doug H. of the Sharon Fellowship with 28 years

District 21: Roger W. of the Winfield Group with five years.

District 22: Raymond G. of the Pittsburg Group with 52 years.

District 23: Karen L. of the Freedom Group with 7 years.

District 26: Jere B. of the Gateway Group with 46 years.

District 27: Inez of the Fuente de Vida with 37 years.

The Assembly took a dinner break. The Assembly reconvened at 7:00pm.

Delegate Report

73rd Annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous

by Darin Hall, Delegate

Darin began the presentation by sharing some highlights of his time in the Big Apple and his daily routine. He also shared about his visit to Stepping Stones.

Then on to the business at hand: The 73rd General Service Conference Co-Chaired by:
Jimmy D., Interim Chair, GSB (SW Regional Trustee)
Francis G., First Vice Chair, GSB (NE Regional Trustee)
Bob W., General Manager, GSO
Tami L., Delegate Chair (A78 Delegate, Alberta/NWT) 73rd

Conference Statistics. . .

133 total Conference Members

93 Delegates – 70%

25 Trustees, AAWS and Grapevine Directors –18.8%

15 GSO and Grapevine Staff – 11.2%

Average Age: 57

Oldest: 76

Youngest: 35

Average length of Sobriety: 22yrs

Longest: 49 Years

Shortest: 7 Years

Conference 2023 AA's Three Legacies – Our Common Solution

Area Highlights

Recommendation from floor:

Consider a request to suspend reading the Area Highlights from the 73rd GSC in order to allow discussion of the following topics:

Sunday: Are the decisions of the GSB producing unity within the Fellowship and inspiring confidence in the Board's future functions?

Monday: The General Service Board Code of Conduct

Tuesday: Is the prudent reserve being used as the Conference intends?

Became Agenda Committee item D: failed 49 / 72

Location Plus Report - Carolyn W., General Service Trustee

Last study done in 2014
Outside consultant hired
Study will cost \$112,000
Define characteristics and space needs
Look for efficiencies in current office situation
Consider spiritual impact of moving from NY
Consider current employee needs.

Participation On-line Groups - Trish N., Trustee-at-large Canada

35 pg. report on first survey in the 72nd GSC Report
New survey has not been analyzed yet
Areas, districts finding ways to include on-line groups
1,168 listings for on-line
752 have GSRs
2 virtual Districts, D20 in A48 and D25 in A72, steady increase in groups joining them

A new Southwest Regional Trustee. . .Teresa Jacks, Panel 68, Area 46 New Mexico was elected!!

The Path For An Idea to Become an Agenda Item:

1. An idea, suggestion, question, concern or subject comes from an A.A. member, GSR, DCM, Area Committee member, Delegate, Trustee, or G.S.O./GV staff, and may be shared or discussed at the group, District and Area assembly and sent to the Conference Coordinator GSO.
2. The idea is reviewed by the G.S.O./GV staff and forwarded to the Appropriate Trustee's Committee.
3. Then it is referred to the Appropriate Conference Committee if approved.
4. During General Service Conference, recommendations that are presented in the Committee Report to the Conference will be voted on.
5. If a Conference Committee recommendation is approved, after full floor discussion, it becomes a Conference Advisory Action, which becomes binding when approved by the General Service Board. (Note: No conference action is bound by another GSC)

How Committees Report Out:

Final items for the Conference Agenda are assigned to one of the 13 standing committees, where items can be discussed in small groups before being considered by the full Conference body. Without committees, it is doubtful that any Conference would be able to function effectively. After committees deliberate on their assigned agenda

items, they will determine if they would like to make each item either a recommendation or an additional committee consideration.

When a recommendation, whether it comes from a committee or through a floor action, is approved in full Conference session with substantial unanimity it becomes an Advisory Action.

Committee Consideration – NO VOTE

An item that was discussed by a Conference committee, but with no action taken or recommendation made to the Conference as a whole this serves as a suggestion to the corresponding trustees' committee.

The Committee's:

Cooperation with the Professional Community

Advisory Action: Passed 110 / 23

The committee recommended that the pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community" be approved with minor editorial changes.

Additional Committee Consideration:

The committee considered a request to retire the pamphlet "A Member's Eye View" and took no action. The committee expressed support for removing the pamphlet from CPC materials as it is outdated and less effective for providing information about A.A. to the professional community.

Grapevine / La Vina

Recommendation A: failed 80/49

The committee recommended that alternate delegates be provided access to the same Conference materials as their sitting delegates, except for materials shared during Conference week. (EDW)

Grapevine and La Vina apps – Launch September 2023. Print continues for traditional subscribers to Grapevine and La Viña. The magazines are not going away!

Additional Committee Consideration:

The committee forwarded the following book selections to the Grapevine Board to produce in the year 2024 or later:

Grapevine Cartoons & Jokes III

Emotional Sobriety III

Veteranos Hispano en AA (Voices of Old Timers) (LaVina book)

Como llegamos a creer (How we Came to Believe) (LaVina book)

Spiritual Awakenings (LaVina translated book)

Treatment/Accessibilities

Advisory Action A: Passed 120 / 9

The committee recommended that the revised pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic—Never too Late” be approved with minor edits in a format that does not require folding.

Advisory Action B: Passed – Unanimous

The committee recommended that the 22 interviews recorded as part of the Military Audio project be approved, giving GSO the latitude to distribute the audio interviews in various formats and on various platforms.

Additional Committee Consideration:

- Reviewed the progress report on Military Audio interviews and requested that the project be expanded to include veterans.
- Discussed the suggestion that an Accessibility Inventory be conducted throughout A.A.’s structure and suggested that the trustees’ CPC/TA Committee take an inventory of what resources are currently available from the GSO and Grapevine to meet accessibility related challenges and consider the best methods for communicating about those resources to the Fellowship.

Additional Committee Consideration: Bridging the Gap

- Discussed the proposed BTG workbook. Noted that information already exists in the Treatment and Corrections Workbooks and suggested sharing be collected with existing resources to develop A.A. Guidelines on Bridging the Gap.
- Reviewed the progress report on the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” (P-49) and suggested additional revisions. They agreed that the distinction between Treatment and Corrections be maintained.
- Reviewed the progress report on the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” and suggested that the trustees’ CPC/TA Committee convert the newly developed draft pamphlet “For Professionals: How A.A. Bridges the Gap” into a single sheet service piece or a service card.

Report and Charter

Advisory Action A1: passed 125 / 5

The Committee recommended that “The A.A. Service Manual” not be printed in 2023 and that a new edition be published biennially (every two years), beginning in 2024.

Advisory Action A2: passed 118 / 10

That a full rewrite be conducted of chapters 8,9,10,11 and 12 to better clarify roles and correct inaccuracies. A progress report or draft be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

Advisory Action B: passed 114 / 16

Recommended that anonymity-protected Conference Final Reports be posted annually on aa.org starting with 2023.

Finance

Advisory Action B1: passed 123 / 4

That the suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be increased from \$1,800 to \$2,200.

Advisory Action B2: passed 126 / 4

That the Trustees Finance & Budgetary Committee develop ways to report quarterly, the fiscal performance of the AAWS, GSB and GV Boards to the members of the General Service Conference for the purposes of transparency and assisting in the reporting to the A.A. Fellowship.

Additional Committee Consideration: (EDW)

The committee suggested the Trustees' Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship regarding changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders and that a progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Finance.

Questions might include:

- Should revisions be subjected to a 2-year Conference review.
- Should suggested changes retain the original writing with footnotes for text being updated or should founder's writings remain unchanged?
- Should there be a threshold for review (group, district, area)?
- Should the changes to the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions by 2021 General Service Conference remain?
- Should a new policy regarding Bill W.'s writing be created as a guide to future changes?

Corrections

Advisory Action B: passed 124 / 4

Consider a request to include content to existing A.A. literature on sponsorship of persons in custody by outside members of the Fellowship. The committee recommended that the following section be added to the pamphlet "A.A. in Correctional Facilities" on page 12 between the sections titled "Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS)" and "The following-through – released A.A. persons in custody": Sponsorship - Like all A.A. members, persons in custody can benefit from sponsorship. For more information, please refer to the Corrections Kit and Workbook or contact your local Corrections committee.

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee suggested that AA Grapevine consider including shared experience on sponsoring persons in custody in the July prison issue and future issues.
- The committee agreed to forward to the trustees' Committee on Literature a suggestion to consider inclusion of language related to sponsorship of persons in custody in the pamphlet "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship."
- The committee discussed the 2021 and 2022 versions of the service piece "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" and concluded that the service piece is a necessary and

useful tool for A.A. groups. The committee suggested revisions to be considered for inclusion in the next printing of the service piece.

Policies and Admissions

Advisory Action A1: passed 92 / 36

The committee recommended that the “Process for Polling the General Service Conference Between Annual Meetings Using Virtual Technology” be approved as amended.

Advisory Action A2: passed 118 / 12

That to foster unity, trust, and transparency in the Fellowship, the members of the GSC meet outside of the annual meeting for sharing sessions at least two times per year utilizing virtual meetings. The General Service Board Chair and Delegate Chair will set the date and time as well as determine topics.

Trustees

Advisory Actions A1, A2, B and C: (8 hours discussion in committee and 4 hours discussion on the floor)

The committee recommended approval of the following slates:

- Slate of Trustees, passed 107 / 25
- Officers of the General Service Board, passed 103 / 28
- Directors of AAWS, passed 107 / 23
- Directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. passed 114 / 19

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee thoroughly discussed the General Service Board’s actions at the January 29, 2023 Board Planning and Sharing session that led to the resignation of the board chair. The committee agreed that the board’s failure to fully utilize the spiritual principles of A.A. to address leadership problems were deeply concerning. The committee also agreed that failure to expedite communication to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous about the board chair’s resignation and lack of transparency regarding the board’s decision resulted in widespread mistrust and disunity. After lengthy and prayerful discussion, the committee took a vote to censure the General Service Board failing to achieve substantial unanimity.
- The committee met individually with each current General Service Board Trustee to hear their vision for the future of Alcoholics Anonymous, assessment of the current state of the board, and what actions can be taken to improve communication. The committee agreed the board must improve communication with the Fellowship, including listening to the Fellowship. The committee suggested that the board utilize an externally facilitated process to make organizational improvements.
- The committee requested that the General Service Board find time and space to continue to develop spiritual practices in harmony with the A.A. principles of reflection, accountability, and healing. The committee encourages the board to continue their work on reviewing and clarifying the board’s code of conduct, whistleblower policies, and

confidentiality policies to provide a clear path to remedy any possible problems within the General Service Board.

Agenda

Advisory Action A: Passed 128 / 1

The committee recommended the theme for the 2024 GSC: “Connecting with Love, Unity and Service.”

Advisory Action B: Passed 126 / 3

The committee recommended the presentation theme and topics for the 2024 GSC:

“Responsibility in Service: When and How to Give”

“Safety throughout the Structure in our Fellowship”

“1728 Sponsorship”

“Overcoming the Barriers to Participation”

Advisory Action C: Passed 125 / 2

The committee recommended the workshop topic for the 2024 GSC: “Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year, to Better Inform the Group’s Conscience.”

Advisory Action A: Passed 99 / 32

The committee recommended that the GSC conduct a thorough inventory of itself during the 2025 GSC and that a Conference Planning Committee be established by the GSB to develop an inventory plan, timeline and cost estimate, to bring forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Agenda.

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee discussed the composition of the Conference Inventory Planning Committee and suggested that the composition be similar to the makeup of the GSC: delegates, trustees, non-trustee directors, and staff members from the GSO and AA Grapevine.

Literature

Advisory Action A: Passed 122 / 6

The committee recommended that the revised draft of the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” be approved.

Advisory Action B: Passed 104 / 26

The committee recommended that the print version of the pamphlet “Too Young” be retired and the content be repurposed as an animation video at a cost no higher than \$70,000.

Advisory Action C: Passed 109 / 14

The committee recommended that the work on the draft pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies be ceased. The committee noted that the material gathered would be most useful as service material.

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee reviewed minor graphic and editorial updates to the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” which was approved by the 2022 GSC

- The committee reviewed a draft of the Literature Committee workbook. The committee made minor editorial suggestions and looks forward to the new Literature Committee workbook being made available.
- The committee reviewed a progress report of the Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, and requested a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a report on the update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.” The committee noted the progress made and requested that a draft or a progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature. The committee noted with appreciation the efforts made by the Trustees’ Literature Committee to ensure that the members of the working group that participated on the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic” represented the community reflected in the pamphlet. The committee suggested that the 2018 report “Reaching Out to African American Alcoholics” be provided as a possible resource for future projects involving carrying the message to other communities.
- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language and agreed with the general direction of the project. The committee requested that the project continue to move forward and that a draft or progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee discussed new proposed agenda items (PAI’s) related to the plain language Big Book translation and took no action. The committee acknowledged the concerns of the Fellowship. The committee noted that these concerns will be addressed at a special section during the 2023 GSC.
- The committee discussed Big Book or Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions study guides and took no action. The committee suggested that currently approved projects (plain language translation) be completed before considering new materials.

A Plain Language Translation. . .

Each Conference member had one hour to review the first 6 chapters of the draft of the plain language translation of the 4th ed. of the Big Book. No phones or tablets were allowed in the room. Each “station” had a copy of the translation and a large print Big Book to compare. Paper with a disclaimer was provided to take notes on for reference during discussion.

A two-hour sharing session, on Friday, moderated by John W., AAWS Non-Trustee Director, Chair of the Plain Language Translation Subcommittee gave Conference members a time to relate their experience in reading the draft book, share thoughts, make suggestions etc.

Darin reported that he liked the translation and that it would have been helpful to him as he came into AA as a young man.

Public Information

Advisory Action A: Passed 120 / 9

The committee recommended that the Membership Survey pamphlet be updated to reflect the findings from the 2022 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey, with minor editorial changes.

Advisory Action B: Passed 120 / 3

The committee recommended that the AAWS Board prepare sufficient periodic analytics reporting on our current communications platforms to be provided to the Trustees' Public Information Committee and the Conference Committee on Public Information.

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee reviewed the report titled, The 2022 A.A. Membership Survey Results Reporting and agreed with the development of a dynamic A.A. web page to disseminate the complete results of the 2022 A.A. Membership Survey. The committee appreciates that each infographic developed to reflect the survey results is designed to be a part of a library of results and will be made available for use by A.A. members, the professional community, and the media.
- The committee discussed the feasibility research of paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms and noted that paid placement is an important new addition for airing and tracking our already produced, relevant PSAs on streaming platforms. The committee requested the trustees' Public Information Committee consider several vendors and develop a plan detailing target audiences, analytics, and cost for how we would begin to use such streaming platform channels in the U.S./Canada Service Structure.
- The committee reviewed a report on the request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media. The committee requested that trustees' PI Committee and staff secretary focus on developing and administering a survey, to all age demographics, particularly a young population with the goal of obtaining results that will inform decisions on any new form of communication.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

Advisory Action A: Passed 130 / 1

The committee recommended that the following three cities, expressed here in alphabetical order, be considered as possible sites for the International Convention in 2035:

Indianapolis, Indiana,
New Orleans, Louisiana
Phoenix, Arizona.

Don't Forget.... The 2025 International Convention – Vancouver, Canada
and the 2030 International Convention – St. Louis, Mo!!!

Additional Committee Considerations:

- The committee discussed the report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention. The consensus of the committee was that we should keep

with the current practice of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention wherein the chair has the choice of closing the meeting with either the Lord's Prayer, the Serenity Prayer, or the Responsibility Statement. Forums

Floor Actions

Floor Action #1: Conference declined to consider

Starting in 2024, voting for trustee elections may utilize paper or electronic ballots.

Floor Action #2: Conference declined to consider

The 2016 Conference Advisory Action stating: "General Service Conference delegates be provided a copy of the final approved annual General Service Office and AA Grapevine budgets with the Pre-Conference material for all future Conferences" be reconfirmed.

Floor Action #3: Failed 25 / 104

The 73rd General Service Conference censure the General Service Board due to poor communication to the Fellowship regarding the resignation of the former Chair of the General Service Board and for the process that was followed regarding the acceptance of her resignation. (Motion to decline failed, amendment failed)

Floor Action #4: Conference declined to consider

To enhance trust among General Service Conference members, the following actions be taken:

- The GSB prepare a report delineating the history of their Confidentiality Policy and the reason(s) for enacting it.
- The General Service Board initiate a review regarding the need for a less restrictive Confidentiality Policy.
- The existing Confidentiality Policy of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc., be made null and void.

Floor Action #5 (Advisory Action #1) : Passes 118/ 14

In an effort to improve communication, ensure Board policies are reflective of our principles, and reestablish a relationship of trust between the GSC, the GSB and the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, the GSB is asked to undertake an inventory prior to the 74th GSC. To assist the Board in this endeavor, the 73rd GSC will establish a working group to aid the GSB in formulating possible inventory questions.

Floor Action #6: Conference declined to consider

The General Service Board create an Ad Hoc Joint committee on Communications throughout our service structure that includes trustees, delegates, and staff members.

Floor Action #7: Failed 28 / 102

Following the work of the trustees' ad hoc committee on policy review, Conference members be asked to sign a code of conduct which guides how we work together including but not limited to: *Confidentiality *Communications *Mutual Respect *Social

Media *Transparency. This code should include an acknowledgement that mistakes will be made and should suggest mechanisms for righting any wrongs. This code should follow in spirit and language the principles outlined in our 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts and our Conference Charter. This code should be reviewed annually by the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions. (Motion to decline to consider failed)

Floor Action #8: Conference declined to consider

The General Service Board begin to develop supplemental reporting focused on the actual costs of the various service items we provide, with an initial draft being brought back to the Conference Committee on Finance for review at the 74th General Service Conference.

Floor Action #9: Conference declined to consider

Beginning with the 2024 GSC, the delegate chair and alternate delegate chair for the following year's GSC, will be elected in the Conference session scheduled immediately following completion of all committee reports and completion of the discussion of, and voting on, floor actions (if any). Etc.

Floor Action #10 (Advisory Action #2) : Passes 88 / 40

The options for closing the Big Meeting at the International Convention be the Serenity Prayer or the Responsibility Statement. (Motion passed to recommit to Trustees' ICRF Committee)

Summary:

- 85 Agenda items
- 29 Advisory Actions
- 4 Failed Recommendations
- 78 Committee Considerations
- 10 Floor Actions
- 10 Advisory Actions, Floor Actions or Considerations directing attention to GSB improving communication with the Conference and the fellowship.

A look at finances...

Operating deficit of \$1,579,305.

Over Budget Categories represent 28% of total operating costs. Categories Include: Data, Automation and Website /Facility and Equipment /Travel and meetings.

2022 GSO Financial Highlights

7th Tradition of Self Support (Self-Support - Covered 59% of Operating Expense)

2022 \$10,550,000. 2021 \$10,780,000.

Operating Expense

2022 \$17,820,000. 2021 \$14,860,000.

AAWS publishing Gross profits

2022 \$4,890,000. 2021 \$6,290,000.

Literature Price Increase

- 20% on Books
- 30% on Pamphlets
- 20% on misc. items
- Some items not increased to maintain accessibility
- Applies only to English, French and Spanish titles.

2023 GSO Budget

Operating revenue

2023 \$18,791,320 2022 \$15,910,334

Contributions

2023 \$10,500,000 2022 \$10,548,525

Literature gross margin

2023 \$7,950,000 2022 \$4,894,113

Total Operating Expenses

2023 \$17,085,479 2022 \$17,821,142

Operating surplus

2023 \$505,841 2022 \$1,579,305

2022 Grapevine Financial Highlights

Paid Subscriptions: Decreased 6.7% in 2022

On-line Subscriptions: Decreased 27.6% in 2022

Operating Expenses -- \$1,882,701.

Operating loss: 2022 \$404,940. 2021 \$112,618.

General Fund Support of La Vina

2022 \$636,604. 2021 \$388,646.

La Vina circulation increased by 4.3% in 2022.

2022 Grapevine results were a gross margin on subscriptions of \$789,246 and a net profit of \$674,515 on other items.

Contributions Statistics 2022

Individuals

Total \$3,248,394.

Avg. contribution per yr \$121.79

Most common \$50

of contributions 26,671

Groups

Total \$6,204,547.

Avg. contribution per yr..... \$317.01

No. of active groups 58,455

No. of groups contributing 19,572

% of groups contributing 33.48%

Contributions by type of Contributor

58.8% Groups

30.8% Individuals

9.4% IG/CO, Area, District

5% Meetings

5% Events

Darin thanked Jimmy D, SW Regional Trustee for his service! And shared about the "What would Jimmy do?" campaign.

Darin stated that they found a way to fill time while waiting on late departures by visiting 182 Clinton Street in New York City.

He then closed by thanking Area 25 For Your Time And The Privilege Of Serving.

Sunday, July 23, 2023 - Closed Business Meeting 8:30am to 12:00pm

Opening the Assembly – Josh R. Area Chair opened the business meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Josh read the Area 25 Preamble and discussed the qualification to be a voting members of the Assembly. It was determined that the Roll Call would be taken right before the elections today as many Assembly members were still coming and going this morning.

Secretary's Report – A point of clarification was made by Heather G., Alt. Area Chair, that Full Assembly minutes are to be read and approved at the next full Assembly and Committee Meeting minutes are to be read at the next Committee Meetings and approved. Area Secretary Cindy D. re-read the Minutes of the January 2023 Assembly, as they had previously been read at the April Committee Meetings. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Dan S., District 21. The motion was seconded by Dawn MS. of District 8. The motion to accept as read passed.

Josh picked up on a bit of the minutes regarding registration for the 2023 Kansas Area 25 State Conference and stated that pre-registration for the Conference was still pretty pathetic. He stated that during the elections, during a vote tally, a drawing would be held for the give aways offered by the State Conference Committee.

Treasurer's Report – Area Treasurer Scott O. stated that the Area Balance Sheet is in balance at \$63,319.89. The CD's held at Sunflower Bank now include the seed money for future SWRASSA Conferences to be hosted by Area 25. Total Area income for the quarter, April thru June 2023, was \$8,652.36 total expenses were \$5,268.78, leaving a net profit of \$3,383.58 for the quarter which he stated was inline with the budget. Scott stated that there are two contributions to be made to GSO and the printing cost were a little high due to having the new GSR/DCM notebooks printed in January. David from District 8 asked where the translators' costs would be reflected on the financial statements and Scott stated that they would be a line item on future reports. Josh shared that the Area did not have to purchase new translation equipment as the old equipment has been retrieved and is functioning fine and meeting the translation needs. Ben S. proposed that the Area look into some different options on printing. He proposed that all handouts at the Assembly be loaded online and then shown on screen at the Assembly. Scott stated that he would look into this and possibly set up an Ad-Hoc Committee to do further research on options.

KAAAAI Board Report – Dee S. shared that the Board had met this morning. She stated that the insurance is paid all paid up and cleaning out the Area storage unit in Topeka is being looked into. She thanked the Assembly for allowing her to be of service.

Delegate Report – Darin H. shared that he has 11 more Delegates Reports to present across the State and he stated that he may have to ask his Alternate, Bridgette B. to help out with a few. Darin touched on a few highlights from his full report last night. He stated that adjustments were needed at GSO to cover the Delegates cost at the General Service Conference, raising the amount from \$1,800 to \$2,200. Darin stated that he would like to submit an Agenda Item to the GSC relating to the voting ration which currently stands at 70% for Delegates and 30% for Trustees. He asked the Area for support in getting this ratio realigned. Darin thanked Bridget for her huge support over the last three months as he was recovering from his accident. He also thanked Debbie H. from Area 39 who helped him get his Delegates Report together. Darin thanked everyone for their support and encouragement for himself and his

family as they walked through his accident and recovery. He stated that it has been an honor to serve and thanked Area 25 for the opportunity for him to do so.

Alt. Delegate Report –Alternate Delegate Bridget B. shared that after news was out of Darin’s accident, people began reaching out to help her. She stated that she had been praying more his most speedy recovery and she had texted him many a bad jokes. Bridget reminded everyone that the Southwest Regional Forum will be September 29 thru October 1, 2023 in El Paso, Texas. Bridget stated that it had been pretty quiet on the Alt. Delegate front. She thanked the Assembly for the opportunity to serve.

Alt. Chair Report - Heather G. reported that the October Committee Meetings will be back at the Quality Inn. She stated that the rooms are \$75.99/night and cut off for reservations is October 13, 2023. Comfort Inn will have rooms at \$99.00/night and their cut off is October 1, 2023. Heather stated that she will also be sending this information out via Chimp mail. All Area meetings in 2024 & 2025 will be at the Webster Conference Center.

2024 Dates: January 19—21, 2024 April 5-6, 2024 July 19-21, 2024 October 18-19, 2024

2025 Dates: January 24-26, 2025 April 4-5, 2025 July 18-20, 2025 October 18, 2025

Heather closed out her report by taking the Roll Call-Voting Count was conducted by Heather G. Alternate Area Chair. There were 110 members eligible to vote on issues brought before the Assembly. The 2/3 vote required for passage would be 73 votes.

2023 State Conference – Dee Y. reported that 153 people have registered for the Conference and they have 5.75 in scholarships. She reminded everyone that the Conference is September 15-17th. She also stated that they can always use volunteers. Dee stated that during a break in the elections today the Committee will be drawing for prizes!!

Old Business: There was no old business brought to the floor.

New Business:

1. Approve Accessibilities Chair-Chelle F.

Josh shared that Chelle is already out there doing the Accessibilities thing and lighting the world on fire. Bill E., District 13 made a motion that Chelle be the Areas new Accessibilities Chair, this motion was seconded by Oliva P, District 8. All voted “Aye” in favor of the motion and none were opposed.

2. Area Assembly Guideline Changes

Josh stated that these proposed guideline changes had been discussed in detail in the January evening session and reviewed for a second time in April.

Randall W., District 8, (a hidden wordsmith among us) made a motion to correct the wording, a word was missing, and accept the guidelines. This motion was seconded by Ben S., District 10.

Randall W. also stated that there needed to be some clean up done in Section 4 – Accessibilities and made a motion to make these needed changes and accept the Guidelines as corrected. This motion was seconded by David R., District 8. This motion passed.

Randall W. then made a motion to clarify the language in Section 7. Brett P., District 10 seconded the motion. This motion failed.

Bridget B., Alt Delegate, made a motion to accept the Guidelines as presented for sections 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7. David S. seconded the motion and the motion passed.

3. Area Conference Guideline Changes

Josh stated that the purpose of the proposed changes were to clean up the Guidelines. Josh stated that he had just caught that Special Needs should be changed to Accessibilities through out these Guidelines. Terry C., District 8 made a motion to accept the revised Guidelines with edits. Oliva P. seconded the motion.

Election of 2024-2025 Officers

Josh reminded everyone not to fold their ballots, to write legible or the ballot is considered spoiled and thrown out and to pass completed ballots to the end of the row for collection. Josh then turned the facilitation of the election of officers over to our new Southwest Regional Trustee, Teresa J. Teresa was aided by Past Delegates collecting and counting the ballots. The Third Legacy Procedure was read from the Service Manual (page 110) and the qualifications to stand for office were stated.

A new Roll Call was then taken and there were 111 votes. 72 votes are needed for a win.

4. Elect Delegate for 2024-2025 – Bridget B. was elected Delegate.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Bridget B.	97						
Melissa B.	5						
Kaylon J.	8						

5. Elect Alt-Delegate for 2024-2025 – Ken S. was elected Alt-Delegate.

A motion was made by Dee C, District 10 and seconded by Jay F., District 18 to hold a 5th vote. The motion passed.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Ken S.	43	57	66	72	Yes	78	
Kaylon J.	22	20					
Scott O.	15	5					
Melissa B.	21	29	44	38	Yes	30	

6. Elect Area Chair for 2024-2025 – Melissa B. was elected our new Area Chair.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Melissa B.	38	54	67	82			
Scott O.	3	1					
Kaylon J.	14	4					
Rich S.	18	9					
Will H.	35	39	41	26			

While the ballots were being counted, The State Conference Committee brought their “Wheel of Names” of all registered for the 2023 State Conference and selected two lucky people to win free rooms. Those who won the drawing were:
Robert C of Honeycut AA and Laura F. of the Ste E’s Group.

7. Elect Alt-Area Chair for 2024-2025 – Will H. was elected our new Alt. Area Chair.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Sallie T.	23	20	20				
Rich S.	6	4					
Will H.	39	65	87				
Kaylon J.	13	5					
Dee Y.	20	14					
Scott O.	6	1					

8. Elect Area Treasurer for 2024-2025 – Scott O. was elected our new Treasurer.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Scott O.	64	81					
Kaylon J.	44	26					

9. Elect Alt-Area Treasurer for 2024-2025 – Kaylon J. was elected our new Alt. Treasurer.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Kaylon J.	88						
Sonja F.	18						

10. Elect Area Secretary for 2024-2025 – Dee Y. was elected our new Area Secretary.

	1st Vote	2nd Vote	3rd Vote	4th Vote	Vote on 5th Vote	5th Vote	The Hat
Sonja F.	31						
Dee Y.	77						

11. Elect Alt-Area Secretary for 2024-2025 – Sonja F. was elected our new Alt. Secretary by acclamation. Brett, District 10 made the motion to accept by acclamation and it was seconded by Dave, District 14. The motion passed unanimously.

	1st Vote	
Sonja F.	Elected	by acclamation

12. Elect two members of the Assembly to serve on the KAAAAl Board for 2024. Only two members stood to serve as members of the KAAAAl Board. A motion was made by Dave, District 18, to accept by acclamation and was seconded by Oliva P., District 8. The motion passed unanimously.

	1st Vote	
Randall W.	Elected	by acclamation
David P.	Elected	by acclamation

One final piece of business was brought to the floor of the Assembly. Ben S., District 10, made a motion to support our current Delegate in the submission of an Agenda Item to the to the General Service Conference in regard to the current percentage of voting members at the GSC. It currently stands at 50% Delegates and 50% Trustees/Staff. Dawn MS., District 8, seconded the motion.

A second motion was made to table the above motion and it was seconded. 55 members were in favor of tabling the motion and 40 were opposed. The thought behind tabling the motion was so that members could discuss with their home groups.

The Minority opinion was shared by Darin H., Delegate, he stated that the current physical make up of the General Service Conference is 70% Delegates and 30% Trustees and GSO Staff. Darin's proposal is to match the vote to the actual make up of the GSB. Darin stated that the deadline for submitting Agenda Items for the next GSC is September 17, 2023. Bridget B., Alternate Delegate, reminded the GSRs that they hold the right of decision on behalf of their groups.

The motion to table this issue, then failed. The original motion to submit the proposal, after clarification, was unanimously accepted with no objections.

A motion to close was made and seconded. The vote to close was accepted unanimously. The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Day, Area 25 Secretary