



Delegate Report
E.P.G.S.A. Area 59 Panel 71
March 14, 2021
Area Quarterly Meeting, 2Q21 (Zoom)

Greetings Area 59! The first quarter of Panel 71 has been very busy as the new Area Committee of DCMs and officers learn new service roles and begin operating together to serve the Fellowship in Eastern Pennsylvania. Thank you to the members of the Area Committee, as well as our special servants, Virtual Assistance Team members, Convention Committee members, and Past Delegates, for the time and energy you are dedicating to General Service.

We continue to meet on a digital platform for Area activities as the pandemic persists. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we do our part to ensure the safety of our members. I look forward to whenever we can meet in person again, as public health guidelines permit, but until then, I am grateful to see you on the screen!

General Service Updates

- As is customary this time of year, the annual audits of the General Service Board, Inc., AA Grapevine, Inc., and AA World Services, Inc. are currently in process. I am pleased to share the following update on 2020 with unaudited financial information:
 - 2020 contributions reached an all-time high of \$10,304,185, which is \$417,930 greater than the reforecast. Of this amount, approximately 21% (or \$2.16 million) was received online. We are grateful to the Fellowship for contributing \$1,442,421 in December to propel us past the \$10 million mark for the year. The December 2020 total of \$1.44 million is the highest single month of 7th Tradition voluntary contributions ever!
 - Gross literature sales revenue for 2020 is \$9,098,578 compared to a reforecast amount of \$9,856,109, for an unfavorable difference of \$757,531. Although gross sales did not reach the reforecast amount, our cost of goods sold was only 28% of gross sales as compared to a reforecast 35%. Therefore, gross literature profit has exceeded reforecast by \$113,607.
 - The revenue split between gross profit on literature sales and contributions in 2020 is about 37% literature and 63% contributions (compared to the historical split of 58% literature and 42% contributions). The significance of this split/shift highlights, in a favorable way, the full extent of the “Fellowship Rally” (i.e. the unprecedented increase in 7th Tradition voluntary contributions to cover the services provided by our GSO during the pandemic).
 - Payroll and benefits expense is \$11,329,538, which is \$374,429 less than the reforecast amount of \$11,703,967. Total expenses are \$16,667,870, which is \$45,195 less than the reforecast amount of \$16,713,065.
 - Also, although the General Service Board received \$1,181,042 from the event insurance settlement for the canceled 2020 International Convention, the Board has not yet decided whether to:
 - a. put the money into its Prudent Reserve
 - b. keep the money in its operating account to promptly pay vendors (which yields purchases discounts)
 - c. to apply the money to its employee pension fund and/or employee medical benefits (which would lessen future obligations) or
 - d. a combination of the above (or, something completely different).

- In the first month of 2021, the percentage of online contributions to the General Service Board rose to almost 40%!
- Fellowship Connection 3.0 is currently proceeding with translation (French and Spanish), training, and an update to the Help Guide all underway. While our Area Registrar and the Records Department at GSO are the only ones who can make changes to the database, delegates and DCMs have just been given read-only access!

71st General Service Conference (April 18–24, 2021) Preparation

- All delegates are assigned to a Conference Committee. I am assigned to Policy & Admissions as my primary committee and was also assigned to a secondary committee: International Conventions / Regional Forums.
- In January, I participated in two Trustees and Conference Committees conference calls (one for each committee) with the objective of discussing potential agenda items for our agendas.
- The Policy & Admissions Committee has met two more times to discuss two items referred from the Trustees Committee on the General Service Conference, and made two recommendations to the full Conference using the polling system to poll Conference members between the annual meeting:
 - India's General Secretary - recommendation made unanimously, passed by Conference members (I voted in favor): that the general secretary of the General Service Board of A.A. India be admitted to the 71st Virtual General Service Conference as an observer.
 - ACMs - recommendation made with substantial unanimity, forwarded to Conference members (I voted in favor): that the request to invite ACM members from trustees' Committees, to attend the 71st General Service Conference, except sessions designated for delegates or trustees only, on a one-year trial basis, as non-conference members to share points of information be approved.
- As a first-year delegate, I submitted Area Highlights to the Conference Coordinator, then was invited to share them aloud at NERAASA and NERD; they will be printed in the Final Conference Report, but not shared aloud at the Conference this year.
- My major focus is to prepare to participate in the 71st General Service Conference, by reviewing the agenda items and background information (a record 1,371 pages this year).

Pre-Conference Sharing Session, March 28, 2021

- Please continue to announce the Area 59 Pre-Conference Sharing Session, share access to the agenda items and background information with members, and prepare for the event by reading the background information assigned to your subcommittee.
- This year, I selected 22 items (2 items per subcommittee) to be discussed by subcommittees the morning of March 28, as well as 5 additional items from my two Conference Committees for all to discuss as time permits.
- DCMs, please see your folders on the Google Drive for detailed instructions. All members are encouraged to view the agenda items and background information on the Google Drive and provide input on any agenda item outside of the March 28 event via the Google Group (I sent the links on February 20). I appreciate your help to be fully prepared for the Conference!

Delegate's Conference Reports, May 23 and June 12, 2021

- Please plan to attend one or both, and announce the invitation to all members to come, as I'll be reporting on the details of the 71st General Service Conference.
- Thank you to our Officer-at-Large for leading the planning of these events, which the officers decided will be virtual.

Web Servant Transition / Interim Web Team / Search for New Web Servant

- At the end of December, Greg G. shared his decision to step down from Web Servant after serving Area 59 since 1995. I am grateful to Fred, Hugh, and Ira, who agreed to serve in the interim until a new Web Servant is appointed. In addition to his service as Tech Servant, Fred is responsible for

Zoom and the online events calendar, Hugh is responsible for Area email, and Ira is responsible for other updates to the website beyond the events calendar.

- Today, I am announcing the search for a new Web Servant. Please see the attached letter and instructions, and kindly share the news with members to encourage qualified members to submit their service and/or professional resumes along with a letter of interest by the deadline of May 15. This position is appointed by the Delegate and affirmed by the Area Committee, which I hope to do so in June.

Referral to Structure Subcommittee

- I referred to Structure a matter stemming from an inquiry from Past Delegate Debbie T. who served Northern New Jersey and now lives in Eastern Pennsylvania, about how Area 59 involves Past Delegates who served Area 59 vs those who served in other areas regarding:
 - A vote at the Election Assembly
 - Invitations to Area functions
 - A role on the Convention Committee
 - Participation when other Past Delegates are involved, such as serving as secretaries at Pre-Conference Sharing Sessions, speakers at the GSR Orientation at EPGSA
- I requested the members undertake research and report findings to the Area Committee:
 - 1.) Contact all Area 59 Past Delegates for their experience and perspectives (note: some Area 59 Past Delegates have experience living in other areas including Marcia G. and Steve O. for instance) and contact the Past Delegate from Northern New Jersey, Debbie T., to hear her thoughts on the matter
 - 2.) Develop a survey with a few questions for me to send to all delegates from the US/Canada to learn about the practices/structure in their areas regarding Past Delegate voting privileges and participation for those from their area and from those who move to their areas
 - 3.) Consult other area websites to read their structure manuals or bylaws to look at the wording about Past Delegate participation
 - 4.) Discuss and deliberate the merits of bringing a recommendation to the full Area Committee for consideration
 - 5.) Report back out to the Area Committee through the Structure quarterly report

NERAASA 2021

- The first virtual NERAASA had 1,649 registrations!
 - Unique webinar visitors: Friday 961, Saturday 1,256
 - Peak roundtable attendance: Friday 620, Saturday 703
 - Total minutes on Zoom: 105,501
 - Total page views of NERAASA program website: 102,465 from 3 continents
- I participated in the Delegates roundtables and the flag ceremony, and attended the other sessions throughout the weekend
- Please save the date for February 25-27, 2022 in Pittsburgh, PA, hosted by Area 60
- As a reminder, Area 48 (Hudson, Mohawk, Berkshire) will host in 2023 and Area 59 (Eastern Pennsylvania) will host in 2024 - **February 22–25, 2024** at the Hershey Lodge

70th GSC Final Conference Reports

- Please ask your GSRs at your upcoming district meeting if anyone would like copies of the 70th General Service Conference Final Report, email me with your request, and I will mail the requested amount to one contact per district (either the DCM or other district officer).

Service Activity Log

December 6 Pre-Area Officers Meeting
December 12 Subcommittee Chair Orientation
December 13 1Q21 December Area Quarterly Meeting

December 19	Western US/CAN Virtual Forum
December 20	Monthly NERDs + Alternates + NERT Meeting
December 30	Area Officers Meeting about Web Servant and plans for interim
January 10	Area/SEPIA Share-A-Day Planning Meeting
January 12	Conference Committee on International Conventions / Regional Forums Meeting
January 13	Conference Committee on Policy & Admissions Meeting
January 15	Tech Planning for DCM Orientation Meeting
January 17	DCM Orientation
January 17	Monthly NERDs + Alternates + NERT Meeting
January 19	Area Web Servant Transition Meeting
January 20	Conference Committee on Policy & Admissions Meeting
January 31	Convention Committee Meeting
February 1	Area Officers Meeting about Pre-Conference Sharing Session
February 7	Tech Planning for Pre-Conference Sharing Session
February 10	Conference Committee on Policy & Admissions Meeting
February 10	Area 19 Sharing Session: Planning a Pre-Conference Forum
February 11	Panel 70 and 71 Delegates Meeting hosted by Delegate Chair
February 15	Structure Subcommittee Meeting to Refer Matter on Past Delegate Participation
February 16	Speak at District 26 Monthly Meeting
February 17	Pre-Conference Sharing Session Orientation for Subcommittee Chairs, Chair, and Parliamentarian
February 20	Pre-Area Officers Meeting
February 21	Area/SEPIA Share-A-Day
February 21	NERAASA Flag Ceremony Taping Session
February 21	Monthly NERDs + Alternates + NERT Meeting
February 25-28	NERAASA 2021 (Virtual Platform)
March 7	Convention Committee Meeting
March 13	NERD Reunion
March 14	2Q21 March Area Quarterly Meeting

Thank you for the privilege to serve our Fellowship. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

With gratitude,



Caroline N., Area 59 Panel 71 Delegate
 Conference Committee on Policy & Admissions Member
 Conference Committee on International Conventions / Regional Forums Member
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