



Delegate Annual Report 2021 E.P.G.S.A. Area 59 Panel 71 - Year 1 of 2

Greetings Area 59! I have the great honor of serving as your Panel 71 Delegate to the General Service Conference. Last November, the Assembly elected me to serve at the 2021 and 2022 Conferences, and I am so grateful for the privilege and responsibility to serve A.A. at this level of our upside-down triangle. I serve alongside this wonderful panel of DCMs and Area officers, and am grateful for the service of all members of our 8 standing subcommittees and 3 ad-hoc subcommittees, our special servants, and the Convention Committee. Service entities, including Area 59, with its 48 districts and 1,600+ groups, and our 10 intergroups/central offices, are available to help provide A.A. services and shared experience. In addition to my Area service commitments, I serve the Conference as the Chairperson of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions, my primary committee, and as a member of the Conference Committee on International Conventions & Regional Forums, my secondary committee.

The EPGSA Structure Manual, 2021 edition, provides an overview of the Delegate's duties on page 18: "The Delegate attends the week-long General Service Conference in New York [although in 2020 and 2021, the Conference was held on a virtual platform] as well as other regional, state, area and local A.A. functions; carries to each of these the collective group conscience and considerations of Eastern Pennsylvania and reports to the area the news and information of Alcoholics Anonymous worldwide. She/he/they also serves as a member of the Area Convention Committee. The Delegate's other primary duties are outlined in *The A.A. Service Manual*."

The chapter on the Delegate can be found on pages 32-38 of the 2021-2023 version of *The A.A. Service Manual*, which opens with: "Area delegates have been elected to participate as trusted servants and to provide important leadership in the Fellowship....Delegates are charged with understanding the experiences, viewpoints and group conscience of their areas, while assuming responsibility for the U.S./Canada Conference as a whole." Delegates are not representatives of areas in the usual political sense; after hearing all points of view and becoming fully informed during Conference discussion, we are given the Right of Decision to vote in the best interests of A.A. as a whole.

At the 71st General Service Conference (April 18–24, 2021), we had a record 110 agenda items, which resulted in 49 advisory actions and 89 committee considerations. Highlights included the revised Preamble, the development of a 5th edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* and a 4th edition of *Alcoholicos Anonimos*, a plain language translation of the Big Book, the removal of offensive language from the 12x12, a new pamphlet for Hispanic women, and the option for online groups to participate in our service structure. The Area's Pre-Conference Sharing Session and our online forum helped inform me of the Area's conscience in advance, and I was pleased to do two Delegate's Conference Reports and over a dozen district presentations following the Conference to report back on the outcomes.

Looking ahead, the 72nd General Service Conference will take place in Brooklyn (April 24–30, 2022). We will hold a Pre-Conference Sharing Session in March in District 44, and you can expect to receive a list of the proposed agenda items in January. By February, I will share the background material as soon as I receive it, so please come prepared for a day of sharing. Following the Conference, I will report back to you on the proceedings. Lastly, I want to remind everyone that Area 59 was selected, in 2020, to host the Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly in 2024: we will be at the Hershey Lodge (February 22–25, 2024), and will hold host committee elections in spring 2022 (date and location TBD). The next NERAASA will be held February 25-27, 2022 in Pittsburgh, PA, hosted by Area 60 and Area 48 (Northeastern New York) will host in Lake George, NY, in 2023. I hope to see you all at these upcoming General Service events!

Thank you to all of you serving A.A. through General Service. Your work helps carry the A.A. message. It is a joy to serve you!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caroline N.".

Caroline N., Area 59 Panel 71 Delegate, delegate@area59aa.org