



Delegate Report, Panel 69  
Quarterly Area Meeting: March 10, 2019

The first quarter of Panel 69 is behind us. It has been a busy time getting our Area Committee operating to serve our Members in Eastern PA. We are grateful for all the servants on our Area Committee and the extra time you put into learning your new roles as DCM's, Officers and Special Servants.

**General Service**

- The General Service Board of Trustees (GSB) made their final decisions regarding the 2019 General Service Conference agenda on Jan 23, 2019. They released them for communication to the Fellowship. We have emailed the Item list to all Area committee members and posted them on our web site.
- The A.A. World Services app will include the "Big Book," *Daily Reflections* (print & audio, with video and subtitles to follow), Meeting Finder and communications function. It is up to each area, district and intergroup to keep their meeting data current.
- A new AAWS software system was scheduled to go online on Feb. 1, 2019. However, some final touches are being made. More details to follow.
- Our Regional Trustee shared A.A. General Service Office summary financial information at the Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly (NERAASA). Literature sales for 2018 increased to \$14.2 million. Literature profit increased to \$9.5 million. Group and Member contribution income was flat at \$8.4 million. Total revenue was \$17.8 million. Total expenses were \$17.4 so total profit was \$454,603. So Group contributions support about 73% of our service needs. Literature profits support 27% of our service needs.
- Better communication in our Fellowship (up and down the "triangle") is a key initiative by the General Service Board, A.A. World Service and AAGrapevine boards. A recent audit of communications practices revealed many key factors. Here's a few:
  - *Most groups fall outside of the conference structure*
  - *Services from the (General Service) office are not as effective as they could be*
  - *Poor transfer of information to and from Delegates*
  - *Barriers exist that are limiting ideas from the group to the conference*
  - *AA has a good reputation outside but is not distinguishable from other clinical and "self-help" groups.*
- After seven years of work, the Navajo "Big Book" and the American Sign Language "Big Book" have been released!

**2019 General Service Conference Preparation**

- My major focus at this stage of Panel 69 is to prepare to participate in the annual General Service Conference (GSC.) This event will be held May 19 – 25, 2019 in New York City at the Times Square Crown Plaza Hotel. The conference is comprised of 93 delegates from across the U.S. and Canada, all Board members and some G.S.O. staff. The total is about 123 voting members. I received access to an online "hyper-office" that contains all the information needed including: Final Conference Agenda (70

items) and background material (575 pages this year.) The Agenda has been posted on our area web site. You can request individual background packets via email by sending your request to our Alternate Delegate, Caroline N. I am grateful to her for organizing and reviewing all the material to see that we do not share material that breaks anyone's anonymity. Please do not share any of the material in the public arena.

- I have participated in the Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly (NERAASA) and Northeast Area Regional Delegates (NERD) meeting. NERAASA was held near Baltimore. I attended the Delegate/Alt-Delegate workshop. Most of the discussion was to help prepare new (Panel 69) delegates for the GSC. I enjoyed participating in the flag ceremony with my colleague Marge, Delegate for Western PA. In addition, I presented a two-minute summary of service highlights for Area 59. NERD is a meeting that helps Northeast Delegates and their Alternates to prepare for the Conference and have discussions about how all of our areas are. We get quality time with our Northeast Area Regional Trustee. We will be voting for a new Northeast Regional Trustee at the 2019 GSC. So, part of our discussion has been to help prepare and review nominees for that election.
- G.S.C. Corrections Committee: All delegates are assigned to a GSC Committee. I am assigned to Corrections. On Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> I participated in a combined Trustees and GSC Corrections conference call. The objective was to discuss two potential inclusions onto the GSC Agenda regarding Corrections.
- Area 59 Pre-Conference Sharing Session (May 4, 2019.) Over the past two years we have offered DCMs, groups and members a chance to complete a survey that helps the delegate choose GSC Agenda Items we can deliberate in Area 59. This year, I selected the top 27 items (3 items per subcommittee) that will be discussed at our Pre-Conference Sharing Session. Thanks for your help with this. All DCMs and any members who wish can participate. Please see your folders (given to you by your subcommittee chairperson) for detailed instructions. I appreciate your help to be fully prepared for the Conference.

### **Convention Committee Inventory**

- On Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> I attended the Area 59 Convention Planning Committee inventory. This inventory had originally been requested by Area 59, Panel 67 but was delayed due to scheduling problems. Our Panel 69 Convention Chairperson, Paul M. obtained the services of J. Gary L. to facilitate the inventory. I submitted questions collected from Area 59 officers and Committee members from Panel 67. I was allowed full participation during the meeting. The discussion very constructive and in good spirit. The most important take-away to report to you is that this Panel 69 Convention Committee is taking appropriate actions to address key problems and plan an excellent. The Convention Committee Chair (Paul) has already presented key steps that have been taken to ensure there are enough capable servants on this committee. I have been consulted on every step and every selection and I fully support the committee's actions. The action to place non-past delegate members on the committee is not in line with our Structure Manual guidance. However past precedent and current needs necessitate this action. For the long term I have referred the issue to our Structure subcommittee. They are currently researching solutions, including changing the language so that the current Delegate is a voting member of the Convention committee with a voice for the Area Committee.

### **Important Service Events**

- Please familiarize yourself and your district members with the [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and [www.area59aa.org](http://www.area59aa.org) web sites. Area 59 recently initiated and implemented a new

mobile-friendly web design. There is a new menu feature. Please learn how to use these important information resources.

- Northeast Regional Forum: May 31 – June 2, 2019 at the Westchester (New York) Marriott. This is an excellent event that allows for personal interaction with G.S.O. staff and General Service Board members. This year it occurs on week after the G.S.C. So, you can ask questions and hear reports fresh from the Conference. There is no fee to register: just room, meals and travel. It's worth attending at least once in your life and it happens only once every two years in our Northeast Region.
- Delegate's Conference Reports & Mini-Assemblies: Mini I will be held on June 8<sup>th</sup> and Mini II is on June 30<sup>th</sup>. I'll be reporting on the details of the General Service Conference. DCMs and host members will be participating to make for educational events. See [www.area59aa.org](http://www.area59aa.org) for details.

### **Travel & Activity Report**

Dec 16, '18	Speak at Step Group: Tradition 12	Kennett Square, PA
Jan. 6, '19	SEPIA/Area 59 Share-A-Day Planning	Philadelphia
Jan. 13	DCM Orientation	Lebanon, PA
Jan. 13	EPGSA Convention Planning Mtg.	Lebanon, PA
Jan. 14	G.S.B. & G.S.C. Corrections Call	Home
Jan. 15	Chair/speak at Three Legacies Group	Kennett Square, PA
Jan. 26	Tour Lancaster Host Resort – Convention Com.	Lancaster, PA
Feb. 7	West Chester Young People's Mtg. Speaker	West Chester, PA
Feb. 9	Convention Committee Inventory	Bethlehem, PA
Feb. 10	SEPIA/Area 59 Share-A-Day	Philadelphia, PA
Feb. 17	Pre-Area Officers' Meeting	Hershey, PA
Feb. 22 – 24	Northeast Regional Service Assembly	Hunt Valley, MD
Mar. 8 – 9	Northeast Regional Delegates' Mtg.	Somerset, NJ
Mar. 10	Quarterly Area 59 Committee Meeting	Philadelphia, PA

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve!

In Fellowship & Service,

*Ken D*

Delegate, Area 59, Panel 69