

# “We...” E.P.G.S.A. Newsletter

5/15/2022

Newsletter Edition 4, Volume 2

**From the Current Delegate:**  
by Caroline N.,  
Delegate,  
Panel 71

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<https://area59aa.org/area-59-business-additional-resources/>

## From the Current Delegate

It was an incredible honor to attend the General Service Conference, held in-person in Brooklyn, New York, April 23-30, 2022. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and A.A. members across Eastern Pennsylvania! I am very much looking forward to reporting back on the proceedings and outcomes at our two Mini-Assemblies and, upon invitation, at your district meetings or workshops over the summer and through the end of the panel.

I was grateful to have with me the secretaries’ notes from each of the subcommittee meetings and the Area Secretary’s notes from the main session at our March Pre-Conference Sharing Session. Your input on select agenda items was very useful and informative, and I was able to draw upon some of the points you made when I went to the microphone to speak in favor or against various recommendations that came out of committee.

A number of members in Area 59 also took advantage of the Google Group to post comments on not only the agenda items selected for the Pre-Conference

## What’s Happening at GSO?

### F.A.Q. - 2025 International Convention

Added May 2022

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the 2025 International Convention & Travel to Canada

**North/South Connections Virtual Special Forum – A.A. in Remote Communities Video Flyer (ENG, FR, SP, ASL) and call for videos**

Added May 2022

[Video Flyer \(ENG, FR, SP, ASL\)](#) and [call for videos](#)

We hope you can join us

### Press Release: April 2022

Added April 2022

[Think you might have a drinking problem? Alcoholics Anonymous can help.](#)

**Recovery story solicitation for the Fifth Edition of the Book Alcoholics Anonymous —Big Book**

Added on April 2022

Please click the following highlighted link to find a memo regarding the [recovery story solicitation for the Fifth Edition of the](#)

Sharing Session, but any agenda item that was to be considered by Conference. Many thanks to those who took the time to do so.

When we meet at the Mini-Assemblies, I will report back to you on the advisory actions, the committee considerations, and the items for which no action was taken. I will also share how I voted, the reasons I voted as I did, and the vote tallies, which I tracked carefully this year, knowing it's important to some to know these details.

One of the actions I'm most proud of came out of the committee I chaired, Policy/Admissions. It may not be relevant to all A.A. members, as the revision to the Preamble or the decision to develop a Fifth Edition of the Big Book were last year. But it felt vitally important to ensure equity and inclusion among the General Service Structure: we made a game-changing recommendation regarding translation of General Service Conference background material. As we reviewed the Equitable Distribution of Workload report on year one of the three-year pilot period, looked back at the Report on Translation and Interpretation of General Service Conference Material we were given last year, and knowing how delayed the French and Spanish translations were this spring, we came forward with a recommendation that was considered by the Conference body as a whole.

After an amendment, it read: **The committee recommended that the compilation of all conference committee background be made available simultaneously in English, French, and Spanish.**

While this may mean that the Office will not be able to hit the February 15 mark, we acknowledged that a slight delay would be worthwhile to ensure our French- and Spanish-speaking members have equitable access to the background information and no longer feel like second-class members. We will see this take effect in early 2023, in advance of the 73rd General Service Conference!

There were dozens of other actions taken as a result of the 72nd, and I look forward to sharing them with

## [Book Alcoholics Anonymous —Big Book.](#)

### Quarterly Report from G.S.O

Added April 2022

## [Activities of the General Service Board including A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.](#)

### About AA Spring 2022

Added April 2022

*About AA* is the newsletter from the General Service Office of the U.S. and Canada for professionals in all fields who deal with alcoholics. This issue takes a look at "[A.A. as a Resource Around the World.](#)" The issue also focuses on "Reaching Out to Mental Health Professionals" and introduces three new Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees of A.A.'s General Service Board.

### Recovery story solicitation for the Fourth Edition of the Big Book *Alcohólicos Anónimos*

Added on April 2022

Attached, please find a memo regarding the [recovery story solicitation for the Fourth Edition of the Big Book \*Alcohólicos Anónimos\*](#)

### Appointed Committee Member Sought for the Trustees Literature Committee

Added on April 2022

Please click the following highlighted link to find a memo regarding the [Appointed Committee Member Sought for the Trustees Literature Committee](#)

you and answering any questions you may have.

Now that the Conference is over, the Trustees' committees and General Service Board, A.A.W.S. Board, and Grapevine Board are all moving ahead with implementing the Conference advisory actions. It's up to them to prioritize and take the appropriate steps to enact the decisions we made. As they make progress throughout the year, they will report back and we can learn more in Box 4-5-9, the Quarterly Reports from our General Service Office, through our Regional Trustee, at Regional Forums, and by corresponding directly to Conference members. I hope you stay engaged and follow the progress along with me!

And, you can expect the next annual deadline to be September 15, 2022, to submit proposed agenda items for the 73rd General Service Conference to be held in spring 2023. As A.A. evolves to continue meeting the needs of members and alcoholics still suffering, I am grateful to be serving alongside you to carry the message!

With gratitude,

Caroline N.  
Area 59 Panel 71 Delegate  
[delegate@area59aa.org](mailto:delegate@area59aa.org)

## From Our Area 59 Treasurer Dan B.

### The Treasurer Zone

Greetings from your Area Treasurer, Dan B! It's been an honor and privilege to serve over the past year and a half.

For those unfamiliar with the responsibilities of being treasurer, I invite you on a journey into a wondrous land whose boundaries are those of imagination. Your next stop:

### **A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF AN AREA TREASURER**

### **PSA Announcement**

Added April 2022

Did you know we have two brand new [A.A. Public Service Announcements?](#)

### **Recovery story solicitation for the "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic" Pamphlet Update**

Added on April 2022

Please click the following highlighted link to see the recovery story solicitation for the ["A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic" Pamphlet Update.](#)

### **Announcing: Mixed-Title Quantity Discount Test Pilot**

Added March 2022

In our ongoing efforts to ensure that A.A. literature is equally accessible throughout the Fellowship and to remove barriers that may hinder getting our life-saving literature into the hands of all who need it, we will be implementing a Mixed-Title Quantity Discount Test Pilot. [Click here for more information!](#)

### **Box 4-5-9 Spring 2022**

Added March, 2022

[This issue](#) highlights the recent launch of G.S.O.'s new website -- redesigned and updated for a more modern look and feel. There is also information about the upcoming 75th anniversary of A.A. in the United Kingdom and how the Twelve Concepts are approaching their own 60th birthday. There is also information about openings for G.S.O. staff positions and a Call for Stories for three important new

**MONDAY:** Get the mail and process contributions. (If you're "lucky", the number will be under 5.) Processing consists of some combination of the following: marking the back of the checks with the Area "stamper"; depositing them using the bank's mobile app; entering the transactions into the accounting software – if the group has not been entered into the system; its information is cross-referenced with a group list provided by the Officer at Large; generating thank you letters in Microsoft Word; folding the letters and putting them into the matching envelope, making sure to include a remittance envelope for future contributions; sealing the envelopes and adding a stamp; placing the envelopes in the "to mail" pile on the desk.

**TUESDAY:** Get the mail and process contributions. Process newly submitted expense reports: enter the information into the accounting software; verify receipts; write the check; print the envelope; add the stamp and place in the "to mail" pile on the desk.

**WEDNESDAY:** Go to the mailbox and drop off everything in the "to mail" pile from the desk. Get the mail and process contributions. Attend a subcommittee meeting for which you are the advisor. Process a newly received expense report.

**THURSDAY:** Get the mail and do a "happy dance" since there is no mail for the treasurer. Remember to write a check to the facility hosting the next Area event. Attend another subcommittee meeting for which you are the advisor. Begin putting together the documents needed for the upcoming Area meeting.

**FRIDAY:** Get the mail and process contributions, *plus* the paper expense report. Go to the mailbox and drop off envelopes. Answer a question received about Area finances. Process a newly submitted online expense report.

**SATURDAY:** Get the mail and process contributions. It's the end of the month, which means time to "balance

literature projects.

### **Request for shared experience on "Inside" Sponsorship**

Added March 2022

Please click the following highlighted link to see a [request for shared experience from the Corrections Assignment at G.S.O.](#)

### **Western Canada Regional Forum Flyer**

Added March 2022

We hope you can join us for the upcoming Western Canada Regional Forum! [Click this link to find the event Flyer.](#)

### **North/South Connections Virtual Special Forum — A.A. in Remote Communities**

Added March 2022

We hope you can join us for the upcoming [North and South Virtual Special Forum.](#)

### **72nd General Service Conference Travel Plans and Participation: Pandemic-Related Information**

Added on February 2022

Attached, please find a memo regarding [72nd General Service Conference Travel Plans and Participation: Pandemic-Related Information.](#)

### **Valentine's Day Special Offer**

Added February 2022

Facsimile First Edition Big Book and *A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous* at pop-up sale prices you'll love! Offer valid

the checkbook” and reconcile the amount in the accounting software with the actual bank balance – depending on how many mistakes you made, this can take be straightforward or painful, but there are *always* mistakes.

**SUNDAY:** NO MAIL TODAY! Get up early to attend an Area workshop or other event. Start planning for the next week...

Although the week may be fictional, and the “t” in “treasurer” can certainly feel like “time consuming”, what this service position has really taught me is gratitude. I truly had no idea how much time and energy are spent by treasurers everywhere, just to keep things running, and making sure our 7th Tradition dollars are available to help fulfill our primary purpose. Thank you to all past and future treasurers for your service!

Speaking of finances and the 7th Tradition, the Area is doing well, with spending and contributions roughly where they should be vs. the budget. One trend to note is that expenses for in-person events are definitely higher than in the past, especially the cost of food and facility rental fees. The Area’s operating account balance continues to decrease, due to the resumption of in-person events, plus the work being done by our subcommittees, including the special projects that were part of the budget.

If you ever have any questions about Area finances, please send an email to [treasurer@area59.aa.org](mailto:treasurer@area59.aa.org) or call; one of the most enjoyable parts of being treasurer is helping other or answering questions related to financial matters.

Finally, as we are almost approaching summer, please consider showing your gratitude by taking part in the “6.06 Challenge” explained below!

Yours in grateful service,

Dan B.

February 14–28, 2022. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **Staff Vacancy Winter 2022**

Added February 2022

Please see the attached announcement regarding a [G.S.O. Staff vacancy.](#)

### **New Reduced Shipping Charges**

Added February, 2022

Announcing: New Reduced Shipping Charges for A.A.W.S. Literature Purchases to Be Implemented February 1, 2022. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **Eastern Canada Regional Forum Flyer**

Added February 2022

We hope you can join us for the upcoming Eastern Canada Regional Forum! [Click this link to find the event Flyer.](#)

### **Quarterly Report from GSO**

Added January, 2022

[Activities of the General Service Board including A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.](#)

### **Highlights from A.A.W.S. December 3, 2021**

Added January, 2022

[Highlights from the A.A. World Services Board meeting held on December 3, 2021.](#)

### **Supply chain disruptions and Big Book print delays**

Added January, 2022

[Supply chain disruptions throughout](#)



In 2021, Number of Members: 1,475,520.

Money to make GSO self-supporting: \$8,934,742.

Here's how Areas meet the Challenge to cover their own share of Group Services for a year:

- Groups collect \$6.06 for each member on or before 6/06.
- Groups send contributions to GSB\* on 6/06/22
- Contributions can be made online at aa.org.

(Be sure to mention the "6.06 Challenge" and group number)

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\*General Service Board  
Post Office Box 2407  
James A Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116-2407

[the worldwide paper, printing and trucking industries continue to unfavorably impact the manufacture and distribution of A.A.W.S. literature – including the Big Book.](#)

## ***Area 59 Library Inventory:***

### **NERAASA:**

|         |                           |               |   |
|---------|---------------------------|---------------|---|
| NERAASA | 2001 – Hartford, CT.      | Cassette Tape | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2002 – Pittsburgh, PA.    | Cassette Tape | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2003 – Albany, NY.        | Cassette Tape | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2004 – Nashua, NH.        | Cassette Tape | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2005 – Newton, MA.        | Cassette Tape | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2006 – Burlington, VT.    | CD            | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2007 - Hunt Valley, MD.   | CD            | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2009 – Portland, ME.      | CD            | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2010 - Niagara Falls, NY. | CD            | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2011 – Tarrytown, NY.     | CD            | 1 |
| NERAASA | 2012 – Albany, NY.        | CD            | 1 |

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NERAASA 2013 – Lancaster, PA. CD 2  
NERAASA 2016 – Springfield, MA. CD 2  
NERAASA 2017 – Framingham, MA. CD 1  
NERAASA 2018 - Cromwell CT CD 1  
NERAASA 2019 - Hunt Valley MD CD 1  
NERAASA 2022 - Pittsburgh PA Thumb Drive 1

## **Spanish Inventory:**

AA for the Alcoholic with Special Needs-Spanish: 2013 CD 1  
Despertares Espirituales-Spiritual Awakening- Grapevine Stories-Volume II: 2008 CD 1  
Doce Pasos Y Doce Tradiciones: 2006 CD 1  
El Grupo Base: corazon de AA-Volume I & Volume II: 2010 CD 1  
LA Historia de AA: 2007 CD 1  
Las Doce Tradiciones-Volume 1: 2009 CD 1  
Lo Mejor De Bill: 2012 CD 1  
The History of La Vina-Volumes I+II+III (Set 3 CD): 2004 CD 1

## **All other Area 59 Inventory:**

"Doors" HD PSA: 2015 DATA DVD2  
12 Steps and 12 Traditions - (Braille): 2006 CD 1  
12 Steps and 12 Traditions - American Sign Language: 2009 DVD 2  
A New Freedom - French & Spanish Subtitles: 2016 DVD 2  
AA Cooperation with the Professional Community: 2009 DVD 2  
AA for the Alcoholic with Special Needs: 2013 CD 1  
AA in Correctional Facilities: 2010 DVD 2  
AA World Service - GSO Today: VHS 1  
AA World Service - PSA Compilation Video - French-English Spanish: 2012 DVD 1  
AA World Service - PSA Compilation Video - French-English Spanish: 2014 DVD 1  
Alcoholics Anonymous - 3rd Edition of Big Book - American Sign Language: 2009 DVD 2

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Alcoholics Anonymous - 4th Edition of Big Book: CD 1  
Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age: 2008 CD 1  
Bill Discusses the 12 Traditions: 2007 DVD 1  
Carrying the Message Behind These Walls: 1998 DVD 2  
Hope: Alcoholic Anonymous: 2009 DVD 2  
It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell: 1987 DVD 2  
Living Sober: 1998 CD 1  
Marking on the Journey - GSO Achieves: 2014 DVD 3  
Pioneers of AA - (very first stories): 1998 CD 1  
Radio Public Service Announcement for Alcoholic Anonymous: 2009 CD 2  
Southeast PA Intergroup Assoc - Ocean City NJ: 2001 Cassette Tapes 1  
The Best of Bill: 2007 CD 1  
The Big Book in Navajo: 2018 CD 1  
The Home Group - Heartbeat of AA - Volume II: 2010 CD 1  
Three Legacies by Bill: 2008 CD 1  
Voices of our Co-Founders: 1963 CD 1  
Young People and AA: VHS 2  
Young People's Animation Video: 2010 DVD 5  
Young People's Videos: 2009-2010 DVD 3  
Young People's Videos: 2009 DVD 1  
Your AA GSO The Grapevine & The General Service Structure: 1992 DVD 2

\*If anyone is interested in any of the items above feel free to contact either our Literature and or Treatment and Accessibilities subcommittees.

[literature@area59aa.org](mailto:literature@area59aa.org)

[tf@area59aa.org](mailto:tf@area59aa.org)

Link to AA's online bookstore:

<https://onlineliterature.aa.org>

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## Spotlight on District 58



District 58 is located in Schuylkill and part of Northumberland counties. Things have been a little different since Covid. We lost our meeting place for our monthly district meeting. Without hesitation we turned to the platform of zoom and we are still meeting on zoom the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6pm. We have chosen to stay on zoom because it works better for most of us with late work schedules. At the beginning of this panel, we had about 5-6 showing up. Now we have doubled that.

We started working with Bridging the Gap Coordinator. One of our GSR's has graciously taking this task on and goes into the rehab facilities often to let them know about this program. We are excited to get the new comer to their first meetings so that they don't feel so alone. We have been working on getting back into Schuylkill County jail, however, that has not happened yet. We did just get word that we may be able to do a zoom meeting for them.

We have also just launched our new website. Our web servant worked very hard to get this up and running. The site is now linked with Area and it is very user friendly. If you would like to check us out our website is [district58area59aa.org](http://district58area59aa.org)

District 58 also just had a Fun shop. We had a great Committee that organized everything. This was our first workshop since the pandemic began and it went well. We had displays from Area Finance, Ad-hoc Literature, and Structure. We also had displays from our District committees Grapevine, BTG, and sign-ups for corrections, BTG, and the hotline. We had two great speakers and two games. AA bingo and AA jeopardy was a hit. We had just under 40 people show up for our workshop. There were also new comers from a rehab facility that were able to come and they came early, eager, and willing to help with set up, registration, and clean-up. I don't know if they realized how much they helped us that day.

I would like to thank every member of district 58 for showing up and participating so we can keep our focus on our primary purpose of carrying the message to the new comer. We work well together and couldn't do this without everyone doing their part!

Judy M DCM D58

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“We...” is a newsletter for members of the Area 59 (E.P.G.S.A.) General Service Committee, Service Volunteers and interested Fellowship members. For information contact: [literature@area59aa.org](mailto:literature@area59aa.org)

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2022 G.S.C Theme:

A.A Comes of Age 2.0; Unified in Love and Service

Graphic Formatting by Rob C.