

## 41st General Service Conference— “Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action”

In a continuation of what seems to be an emerging trend throughout the Fellowship of a return to basics, the theme of the 41st General Service Conference was “Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action.” Over the past three years, the Conference has addressed the topics of Singleness of Purpose, Anonymity, and the Home Group, three concepts and realities which similarly anchor our entire Fellowship.

Held annually in April, the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in the United States and Canada consists of 132 voting Conference members, made up of delegates from the 91 service areas within the U.S. and Canada, trustees of the General Service Board, and A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors and staff members. Through this Conference body, the collective group conscience of A.A. in the U.S. and Canada is expressed.

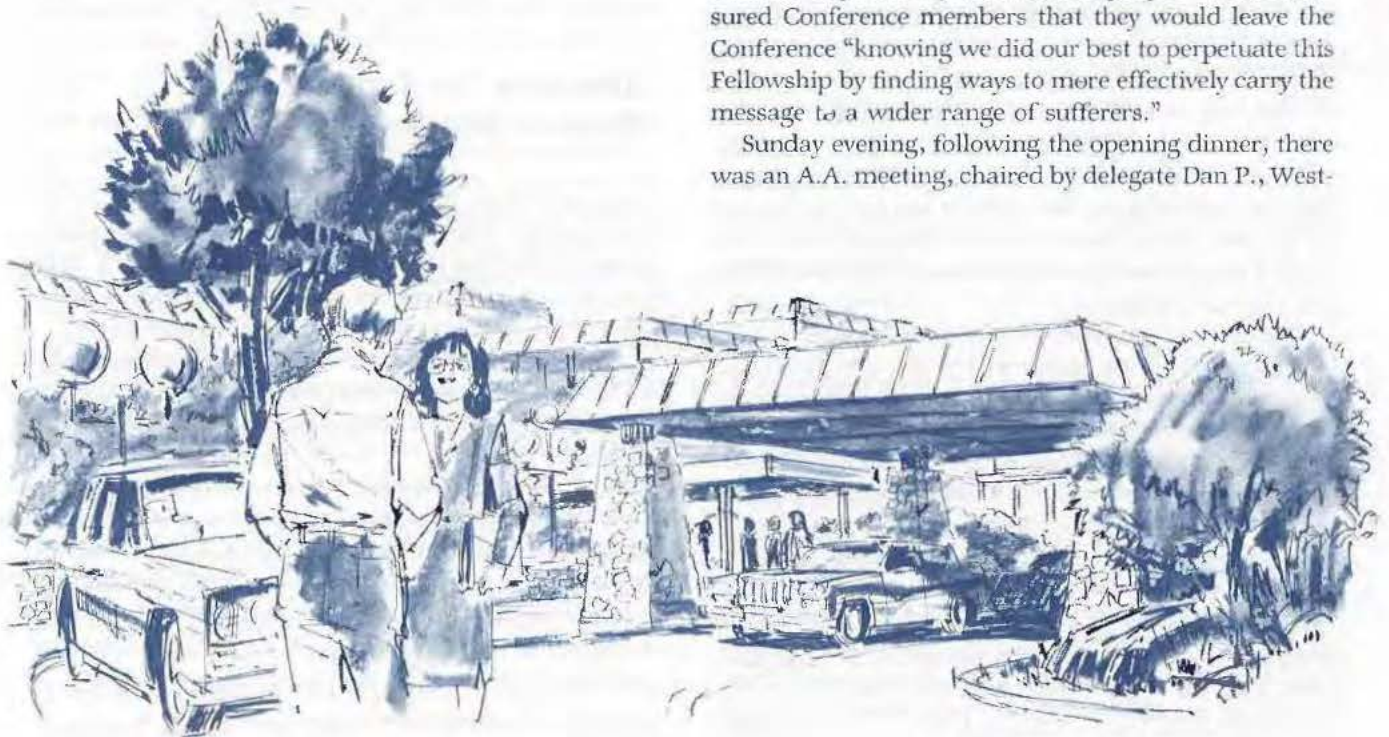
This year’s annual A.A. “business meeting” was held

April 14–20 at the Rye Town Hilton, in New York’s Westchester county, a short distance north of Manhattan. Except for the 1955 Conference, which was held in St. Louis just prior to the International Convention, this is the first time the Conference has been held outside of New York City. Co-chairing the Conference were Michael Alexander, chairman of the General Service Board, and Wayne P., the General Service Office’s general manager. G.S.O. staff member Eileen G. was Conference coordinator.

At 2:00 Sunday afternoon Michael Alexander welcomed Conference members and the roll was called by Wayne P., followed by greetings from delegate chairperson Vera M., of S.W. Ohio.

The keynote address was delivered by Webb J., trustee-at-large/Canada, who spoke of the changes in A.A. since he was a newcomer, and the many new frontiers presented by “the opportunities to carry the message to millions of previously unreachable people.” Webb reassured Conference members that they would leave the Conference “knowing we did our best to perpetuate this Fellowship by finding ways to more effectively carry the message to a wider range of sufferers.”

Sunday evening, following the opening dinner, there was an A.A. meeting, chaired by delegate Dan P., West-





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ern Ontario. Lead by delegate Marty G., New Hampshire, the speakers were Dan G., delegate from Wyoming; Marc P., Eastern Canada regional trustee; Sam S., delegate from Georgia; Ann W., Grapevine executive editor; and Pat R., G.S.O. staff.

Throughout Conference week presentations were given on the Conference theme of Sponsorship; Cooperation Not Affiliation; the A.A. Grapevine; and Our Collective Humility. Reports were given on the Eleventh World Service Meeting and on Finance.

A workshop session addressed the Conference theme, and there were three "What's on Your Mind?" sharing sessions where Conference members had the opportunity to raise issues that were not already on standing committee agendas.

Throughout the week Panel 41 delegates presented their Area Service Highlights. Who are these 91 delegates? Some interesting statistics (compiled on responses from 78 delegates) indicate the average age of a delegate is 53.4 years, oldest 74, youngest 36; average sobriety 14.1 years, longest 33, shortest 7; average length of service 11.4 years, longest 25, shortest 6 years.

Each morning at 7:30 a quiet hour was provided by the General Service Conference Serenity Meeting, chaired by Maryann W., delegate from Montana, for all who were free to begin their day with an A.A. meeting. Tuesday, Conference members took an afternoon break and climbed on buses for a trip to Manhattan, driving by the new G.S.O. location at 475 Riverside Drive and on for a tour of the General Service and Grapevine offices and the A.A. Archives.

Trustee elections were held on Wednesday afternoon. Jake H. of Winthrop, Maine will be the new Northeast regional trustee, replacing John S.; new trustee-at-large/Canada, replacing Webb J., will be David O'L. of St. John's, Newfoundland. Ann B. of Fort Smith, Arkansas, will be the Southwest regional trustee, filling the position held by the late Jan W. of Texas.

A sadness and void felt by all Conference members was the loss of regional trustee Jan W., who was killed in a tragic accident in November. In a presentation on Sponsorship Monday morning, George B., New Mexico, said: "Jan does not need our aggrandizements, indeed, she would have rejected them. This, then, is a simple

acknowledgment of gratitude. We thank you for your life, Jan."

After reviewing presentations from eight major cities bidding for the site of the International Convention in the year 2000, the joint Committee on International Convention selected the following three cities for final consideration (in alphabetical order): Atlanta, Georgia; Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Toronto, Canada. Following a site-inspection tour of these cities the General Service Board will make its final decision, probably by the end of 1991.

Delegate chairperson of the 1992 General Service Conference will be Rod B. of Iowa; alternate chairperson, Jim K. of North Carolina.

The lion's share of work during Conference week takes place in the meetings of the 11 standing Conference Committees. After careful consideration of agenda items, committees made their recommendations, which were brought before the entire Conference Thursday and Friday, where many of the items became Conference Advisory Actions (Highlights of Advisory Actions, p. 3).

Saturday morning Conference members came together for the last time at the closing brunch. It is not unlike coffee-time after your home group's business meeting—the group conscience has spoken and individual disagreements are forgotten or forgiven. The rotating trustees, Webb J. and John S., gave their closing remarks. Strangely enough, the feeling might be summed up in words used on Monday by George B., the delegate from New Mexico, "Our bonding stems not so much from having shared a common disaster as from our sharing in the common solution."

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## **Résumés for Trustees Election due Jan. 1, 1992**

Two new Class B (alcoholic) regional trustees—from West Central U.S. and Western Canada—will be nominated at the General Service Conference in April 1992. Résumés must be received at G.S.O. no later than January 1, 1992, and must be submitted by delegates only.

The new West Central trustee will succeed Don B., of Bloomington, Minnesota; the new Western Canada trustee will fill the position presently held by Phil C., of Brandon, Manitoba.

A sound A.A. background is a basic qualification for Class B trustees. Ten years of continuous sobriety are desirable but not mandatory. Candidates should be active in both local and area A.A. affairs; and, because trustees serve the entire Fellowship, they require the background and the willingness to make decisions on matters of broad policy that affect A.A. as a whole.

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# 1991 Conference Advisory Actions

Conference Advisory Actions represent recommendations made by the standing committees and approved by the Conference body as a whole; or recommendations discussed and voted upon by all Conference members during general sessions. The most significant Advisory Actions appear below in condensed form. A complete list will be published in the *Final Conference Report*.

**Agenda**—that the theme for the 1992 General Service Conference be: The A.A. Message in a Changing World.

**Cooperation With the Professional Community**—that the Preamble, the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions be added to “A.A. and Employee Assistance Programs,” “A.A. as a Resource for the Medical Profession” and “If You Are a Professional . . .” when pamphlets are reprinted.

**Correctional Facilities**—that a 60-minute audiotape be produced of selected stories from the booklet *A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate*, including culturally varied voices and some female stories.

**Finance**—that the pamphlet “Self-Supporting Through Our Own Contributions” not be changed at this time.

**Grapevine**—that the Grapevine discontinue publishing the “About Alcoholism” section; that because of an expressed need the Grapevine commence as soon as possible to include at least one article in Spanish in each month’s issue.

**International Convention**—that the cities of Atlanta, Minneapolis, and Toronto be given equal consideration as a site for the International Convention in the year 2000.

**Literature**—that the A.A. History book project continue to completion, and that a manuscript be forwarded to the 1992 Conference; that the six-point definition of an A.A. group in “The A.A. Group” pamphlet be deleted, and that minor changes be included in the next printing; that the proposed Twelve Steps Illustrated pamphlet be published.

**Policy/Admissions**—that the policy for establishing new delegate areas, as described in the *A.A. Service Manual*, is adequate to allow for the gradual growth of the Conference and provides for a representative cross-section of A.A., and further recommended that the trustees’ Conference Committee consider a presentation/discussion topic on new delegate areas for the 1992 Conference, focusing on existing delegate areas, procedures for new delegate areas and future A.A. growth.

**Public Information**—that the pilot footage for a video targeting younger people and minorities be approved and the 15-minute video production be presented to the

1992 Conference for final approval; that the trustees’ P.I. Committee proceed with storyboards or other visual aids that outline a proposed film or video on the Traditions with focus on anonymity.

**Report and Charter**—that the six-point description of an A.A. group, in the *A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*, be deleted and replaced by the Long Form of Tradition Three and a section of Warranty Six, Concept XII; that footnote 7, Concept XI be deleted as it pertains to merit pay until the General Service Board obtains Conference approval of merit pay, being mindful that Bill W. notes in the introduction to the Concepts: “The future advocates of structural change need only make out a strong case for their recommendations—a case convincing to both the Trustees and the Conference.”

**Treatment Facilities**—that the manuscript for a pamphlet on “bridging the gap” be approved; that the *Treatment Facilities Newsletter* be distributed semiannually for the purpose of sharing information.

**Trustees**—that the slate of officers and trustees to be elected at the General Service Board meeting, April 1991, be approved; that the slate of directors of the A.A.W.S. and Grapevine Boards be approved.

## Estimates of Groups and Members as of January 1, 1991

	Groups	Members
United States	46,450	1,012,623
Canada	5,046	87,532
Overseas	40,755 <sup>1</sup>	894,260 <sup>1</sup>
Correctional facilities	1,663 <sup>2</sup>	52,534 <sup>2</sup>
Internationalists		303
Lone members		217
	<u>93,914</u>	<u>2,047,469</u>

1. At the end of 1990, we had reported members from 71 of the 131 overseas countries with A.A. groups. These totaled 34,082 groups and 762,796 members. To establish an estimate for the 60 countries not yet responding, we excluded the ten largest responding and obtained an average of the balance. This average was applied to the 60 and the overall estimate emerged.

2. U.S. and Canada only.

The estimated group counts in the U.S. and Canada include only those that ask to be listed at G.S.O.; thousands do not.

Among listed groups in the U.S. and Canada, many do not report membership figures. For each nonreporting group, an estimate of membership is arrived at by taking an average among reporting groups within the Conference area concerned. Even among reporting groups, membership figures include only those now active and attending meetings; there is no way to count sober members who no longer have a home group.



# Reports From G.S.O., the General Service Board, and Trustees' Committees

## General Service Board

**Trustees' report:** The past year was dominated by the International Convention, held in Seattle, Washington, over the Fourth of July weekend, and attended by 48,000 A.A.s and Al-Anons. In the flag ceremony on the opening night, 75 nations acknowledged their debt to Alcoholics Anonymous. One of the many highlights of the weekend was the presentation of the ten millionth copy of the Big Book to Nell Wing, Bill W.'s long-time assistant.

After two years of deficits, the revenues of the General Service Office exceeded its expenses in 1990. This reflected the determination of the board that 1990 would not be a deficit year. The proposed budget was trimmed, but services did not suffer. The board is following a similar course for 1991.

Early next year the A.A.W.S. and Grapevine offices will be moving into new quarters at Riverside Drive and 120th Street in Manhattan. The building is operated on a nonprofit basis and is occupied by tax-free organizations. As a result, the basic rent is substantially lower than would be otherwise. G.S.O. and the Grapevine should be able to operate more effectively and pleasantly in the new space.

Last year some chairpersons of Conference committees were invited to attend the quarterly meeting of the General Service Board in January. Their presence proved so helpful that the chairpersons of all Conference committees were invited to the first quarterly meeting this year. This is part of the process by which the board tries to keep in touch with delegates on a year-round basis. In that respect, trustees and delegates attending A.A. Regional Forums now meet in a separate session of their own on Forum weekends.

There has been increased communication between G.S.O. and members of the Fellowship in Eastern European countries, particularly those recently liberated from one-party regimes. We have tried to accommodate the needs of A.A.s in those countries including, among other things, the translation of A.A. literature into other languages and the dissemination of information about the A.A. structure and how it works. We shall continue to give as much help as we can to A.A.s in other countries in the coming Conference year.

Although we are responding with greater frequency to requests for help from overseas, we have not allowed ourselves to be diverted from the needs of alcoholics in the United States and Canada. It is abundantly clear to us that minorities continue to be under-represented in A.A., i.e., the elderly,

blacks, Hispanics, and Native North Americans. We continue to look for ways to better serve alcoholics in correctional facilities; men and women in the military; sight- and hearing-impaired and other disabled persons. We are redoubling our efforts to find ways and means to extend the hand of A.A. to all such alcoholics, and we can use all of the help that we can get for that purpose from everybody in A.A.

Our attention continues to be focused on alcoholics who come to A.A., but leave after an all too brief interval. An analysis of our triennial Membership Survey indicates that 50 percent of alcoholics who attend their first A.A. meeting stay only 90 days. Many explanations are advanced for this phenomenon, but the board refuses to accept it as a normal condition in our Fellowship. With willingness, imagination, and the many resources of our program, we can make A.A. and sobriety attractive enough so that more newcomers will stay with us longer, while, at the same time, not overlooking those who have been in the program for an extended time. If we make up our minds to do so, then with the grace of God and the collective determination of the entire Fellowship, we will succeed in that effort as we have in others.

*Michael Alexander*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

## A.A. World Services, Inc.

**Directors' report:** A.A. World Services, Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of the General Service Board with the delegated responsibility to maintain oversight of the General Service Office. During 1990 the board met 12 times. The following items of significance are highlighted:

- The 1990 budget was examined and approved for recommendation to the trustees' Finance Committee. This budget reflected a net operating income of \$929,800 and a net income of \$297,800, including the non-recurring expenses for the computer project and renovation/relocation. Operating expenses reflected an increase of only 3.8% as compared to the 1989 projected actual expenses.

- 1990 midyear adjustments, totaling \$56,900, were recommended to the trustees' Finance Committee, and consisted of an increase to income of \$61,500 and an increase to expenses of \$118,400.

- Computer applications were tested and are running live. Among them are Accounts Payable, Receivable, Cash Receipts, Order Entry, Inventory and Contributions. We are transmitting pick-pack information to the warehouse via computer modem.

- The Self-support Committee explored

ideas for posters, a new information packet, and a focus on birthday contributions.

- We granted permission/did not object to 106 requests to reprint and three requests to tape/record/videotape from A.A. literature; we withheld or objected to 16 requests.

- We priced five foreign literature items; two English books; five miscellaneous items.

- We accepted an expanded service piece regarding use of A.A.'s trademarks and logos, and referred it to the Report and Charter Committee for inclusion in the A.A. Service Manual. Regarding the use of A.A. logos on tokens and medallions, A.A.W.S. reiterated the position already taken and communicated to the Fellowship; namely, that such use would be trivialization of our trademarks.

- With the approval of the trustees' International Committee, we adopted the recommendation of our subcommittee that foreign translation requests will be considered by the A.A.W.S. Board on a case-by-case basis; the full responsibility for the review of these works remains with this board, rather than with the trustees' International Committee.

- Countries requesting permission to translate the Big Book will be asked to include all of the front matter, including the Doctor's Opinion, all Forewords, the basic text (pp. 1-164), Dr. Bob's Story, and the Appendices.

- Newark, N.J., was the site of the Fifth A.A.W.S./Intergroup Seminar in September; about 140 participants from 95 intergroups attended.

- Many hours were devoted to inspecting various sites to relocate the General Service Office. The General Service Board approved the move to 475 Riverside Drive, which is an office building for nonprofit organizations. This will effect a savings of \$3,000,000 over the ten year period of our lease.

- We signed a lease for a one-year extension at our present location, to expire March 31, 1992, and are receiving bids from architects and designers with plans for the new space.

- The 1991 budget was examined and approved for recommendation to the trustees' Finance Committee, containing price increases to go into effect April 1. The budget reflected a net operating income of \$1,873,700, excluding extraordinary items. Included were extraordinary expenses of double rent/relocation of \$632,700 and relocation/construction of \$1,790,000 (estimated), resulting in a net loss of \$549,000; this amount is to be offset by the earnings of the Reserve Fund of approximately \$564,000 in 1991.

*Harold G., chairperson*



## Archives

**Trustees' committee:** The committee continued to be concerned with the best ways of gathering, preserving, making accessible, and using our past. We are ever mindful that our responsibilities include not only our central Archives, but also all the local archives which are proliferating and flourishing out in the Fellowship.

The committee is deeply involved in planning for the archives over the next ten years. The goal we seem to be working toward is the central Archives as a research library, where our past can be gathered in a systematic manner, preserved by state-of-the-art techniques, and made rapidly and electronically available to members of the Fellowship. The archives has been enriched over the past year by many gifts from members of the Fellowship. We are particularly fortunate to have received all the papers of the late Milton Maxwell, past chairman of the General Service Board.

*Joan Jackson, Ph.D.*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

**Archivist's report:** Over 300 people attended the session "The Archives" at the International Convention, an indication of the growing interest in our Fellowship's early history. Another sign of growth is interest in our newsletter, *Markings*, and in the distribution of other items by G.S.O./Archives: over 300 copies of the Washingtonian Analysis by Milton Maxwell, Ph.D.; 285 copies of the prepublication manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous*; and 143 sets of Archival photos. During 1990, 1,249 visitors signed our guestbook, each leaving a little of themselves behind for our collection.

*Frank M.*

## Conference

**Trustees' committee:** The committee reviewed suggestions received through the Conference Evaluation Questionnaire, the G.S.O. Post-Conference Sharing Session, and other suggestions, and recommended:

- That at the 1991 Conference, more time be allocated for "What's on Your Mind?"
- That there also be presentations on "The A.A. Grapevine" and "Cooperation not Affiliation: We are Responsible."
- That a report of the Eleventh World Service Meeting be part of the 41st Conference.
- Reviewed all items submitted for 1991 Conference consideration.
- Reviewed and finalized the Conference Agenda.

*Jacqueline M., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The Conference coordinator is the contact for all Conference members, and all serving on the general service committees in the 91 areas of the U.S. and Canada, and coordinating all arrange-

ments necessary for the Conference. All A.A. members are encouraged to submit items for the Conference to address, most of the items through the various area assemblies. All suggestions are brought to the trustees' Committee on the Conference for consideration and referral to appropriate Conference committees. The Conference coordinator serves as secretary of the Conference Agenda Committee and the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference; corresponds with delegates and other area officers throughout the year; works with the general manager and G.S.O. staff in planning and coordinating each phase of the Conference; schedules and assembles all material for the Conference Manual, Early Bird Edition of *Box 4-5-9* and the Conference *Final Report*.

*Eileen G.*

## Cooperation With the Professional Community

**Trustees' committee:** The committee reviewed professional conferences and the Professional Exhibits, discussed new material for the C.P.C. Workbook and current C.P.C. literature. The revised pamphlet "A.A. and Employee Assistance Programs" was published in October and is being distributed. The pamphlet "A.A. as a Resource for the Medical Profession" is being updated. We recommended that two new large Professional Exhibits and two table-top portable exhibits be purchased for C.P.C. commitments. We continued to discuss ways to provide better services to area, district and local C.P.C. committees, including more C.P.C. workshops at Regional Forums, and more related articles in *Box 4-5-9*.

*John Hartley Smith, M.D.*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

**Staff report:** The C.P.C. staff person responds to all mail and telephone inquiries from professionals outside the Fellowship. Whereas ten years ago A.A. meetings were starting on college campuses, now inquiries come in to start A.A. meetings in high schools. Communication with area, district and central office C.P.C. committees is an on-going part of this assignment. There are approximately 75 area C.P.C. chairpersons listed out of 91 areas, and over 2,380 area, district and central/intergroup office C.P.C. chairpersons and committee members. We read minutes of C.P.C. committee meetings and share them with others, and through the newsletter *Box 4-5-9*. In 1990, information about 100 different professional conferences, at which A.A. was invited to exhibit, was forwarded to area C.P.C. chairpersons and area delegates. A.A.'s professional exhibits were shown at 26 meetings, resulting in more than 1,092 requests for more information about A.A., and 1,469 requests to

receive the *About A.A.* bulletin, which has a mailing list of over 28,000. The staff member also attends meetings of national organizations dealing with alcoholism.

*Susan U.*

## Correctional Facilities

**Trustees' committee:** The new booklet, *A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate*, became available February 1991. The Correctional Facilities Workbook was revised, including a 1990 "State of the Nation" survey. A prerelease contact list, to be distributed by G.S.O., is being forwarded to the Conference Committee for consideration. Also, the problem and solutions for integrating long-term correctional facility/H & I committees with local area service structures, was forwarded to the Conference. The Conference Committee will discuss the feasibility of a 60-minute audio tape based on *A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate*. The committee is particularly concerned about reaching inmates with literacy problems through audiovisual material.

*Amos E. Reed*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

**Staff report:** There are 1,645 correctional facilities groups and 1,000 correctional facilities committee chairpeople and contacts. The staff member on this assignment writes over 6,000 letters a year; coordinates the Corrections Correspondence Service in which an "outside" A.A. member shares the message of recovery during the inmate's term of confinement; contributes articles to *Box 4-5-9* to assist communication of correctional facilities service work to the widest possible A.A. membership.

*Valeria O'N.*

## Finance

**Trustees' committee:** The 1990 results of G.S.O. and the Grapevine reflect a lot of positives. G.S.O. had an operating income of \$1,061,000 versus an operating loss of \$697,400 in 1989. After adjusting for extraordinary income from the International Convention and extraordinary expenses for the computer implementation project, the net income for 1990 was \$939,600, compared to a net loss of \$1,204,800 in 1989. Contributions came in at \$4,416,900, 8.9% over 1989 actual. Net sales, originally budgeted to be \$10,624,300, were revised downward at mid-year to \$9,713,500. Actual net sales were \$10,114,000, 4.1% greater than projected, due to greater than anticipated sales of the new *Daily Reflections*. Gross profits rose to almost acceptable levels, due to some price increases January 1, 1990, and stable printing costs.

Total operating expenses were



\$8,827,200, \$202,300 less than budgeted and \$310,800 over 1989. The net income from the International Convention was \$190,000. The event is not intended to be a fund-raiser and made a modest income.

Publishing income covered the shortfall of Office Expenses to be paid for by contributions. This deficit was only \$4,600 in 1990, as compared to a projected shortfall of \$53,900. Publishing income was then used to offset Other Expenses of the board of \$532,500 and computer project expenses of \$311,400.

The 1991 budget, including literature price revisions to obtain adequate gross margins, indicates an operating income of \$1,873,700. The bottom line for 1991 reflects a loss of \$549,000, which is less than the anticipated earnings from the Reserve Fund in 1991. The net loss of \$549,000 results from duplicate rent, incurred by the move in early 1992, and that portion of relocation and construction costs estimated to occur in 1991. Our look into 1992 reflects additional costs from this move, with savings beginning to inure as a result of lower rent at the new location, thereby reducing annual operating expenses. In 1990, the Reserve Fund earned \$550,400; there were no draw downs, and the Grapevine contributed \$82,800 to the Fund.

The Grapevine revenue amounted to \$2,054,700 while expenses totaled \$1,908,100, thus resulting in a net income from operations of \$86,606. Interest earned from operations, and unfulfilled subscription monies held in the Reserve Fund, totaled \$107,300, bringing the total income for the year to \$193,900. The large variance is accounted for by revenue being \$30,700 over budget, and expenses \$123,000 under budget. The 1991 Grapevine budget forecasts an operating loss of \$41,400, offset by interest income of \$100,000, leaving a net income of \$65,600. This is comprised of revenue estimated to be \$58,100 over 1990 actual, resulting from their price increase, which will offset slightly lower estimated circulation. Expenses will increase 9.4% over 1990 actual.

The Reserve Fund had a fund balance of \$7,095,400 which represented 8.4 months of combined operating expenses (G.S.O. and Grapevine). This is up \$633,200 from the end of 1989 which represented about 7.8 months of coverage.

As we look ahead to 1991 and beyond, we are concerned about decreasing literature unit sales. We are confident though, that the 1991 price increase re-establishes prudent gross margins for almost all of our major products. We anticipate no general price increases for at least three years. With the upcoming relocation and the reduced rent and operating costs, we hope that we have righted the financial ship and the boards can concentrate on the policies and future of A.A.

*Robert P. Morse*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

## General Sharing Session

**Trustees' report:** In-depth sessions and discussions were held on: the "Reserve Fund," its history, sources and role it plays in the overall finances of the Fellowship; "The Responsibility and Relationship of A.A. in the U.S. and Canada to A.A. Worldwide," and what guidelines and policies need to be established; "Reaching the Alcoholic in Prisons," emphasizing the need to encourage more outside A.A.s to share their experience, strength and hope on the "inside," and the need for illustrated and simplified A.A. reading material and audio-visuals.

*Don B., chairperson*

## Group Services

**Staff report:** The group services coordinator provides communication services to the Fellowship, overseeing the production of service material, the 15 A.A. Guidelines, the Group Handbook, self-support materials, and G.S.R. kits. Service material, available to A.A.s upon request, is different from Conference-approved literature in that it has not come about through the Conference process, rather, it reflects A.A. experience and information, and it is subject to change. The group services coordinator also has responsibility for the production of the five A.A. Directories; serves on the A.A.W.S. Self-support Committee; acts as a liaison for central offices/inter-groups; serves as secretary for the Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

*Pat R.*

## International / Overseas / World Service Meeting

**Trustees' committee:** This committee serves as a link between the World Service Meeting and the General Service Board, as a focal point for information about A.A. around the world, and develops ways to foster A.A. growth in countries where our Fellowship is getting started. The 11th World Service Meeting was held in Munich, Germany, October 1990, with 36 delegates from 25 countries. There was great interest in the Concepts, which will also be a topic at the 12th W.S.M. There was also considerable discussion about the work being done throughout the world in carrying the message to those in countries which do not have a service structure or the financial means to provide their own literature. The delegates unanimously agreed to seek cooperation in raising funds for providing start-up literature for those countries. This past year we have been asked for literature assistance from Nepal to Egypt. Therefore,

the committee requested that A.A.W.S. and the board consider this in the literature assistance budget.

*Webb J., chairperson*

## Staff report:

**Overseas** — Correspondence from groups and individual A.A.s in countries without a service office is answered by the staff member on this assignment. The staff member corresponds with 37 G.S.O.s and literature distribution centers outside the U.S. and Canada. To protect A.A.'s message, careful consideration is given to granting overseas boards and centers to reprint A.A. literature in the native language of a country. A request to reprint would come from the board or representative A.A. committee and before any printing begins G.S.O. first explores how material will be financed and distributed. The request is then presented to A.A.W.S. This year, we have published the Big Book in Arabic, Turkish and Lithuanian.

**World Service Meeting** — A highlight of this assignment is planning and coordinating the World Service Meeting which meets biennially in the U.S. and overseas. The theme of the 11th W.S.M. was "Twelve Concepts for World Service." The European and Ibero-American service meetings are held biennially, alternating with World Service Meetings.

*Sarah P.*

## International Convention / A.A. Regional Forums

### Trustees' committee:

**International Convention** — We know that the vast majority of the 48,000 attendees at the 55th International Convention, in Seattle last July had a wonderful experience. Of the bid proposals for the site of the 65th International (2000), the following cities met the basic requirements: Atlanta, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Minneapolis, New Orleans, St. Louis, San Antonio, Toronto. Three potential sites will be recommended to this Conference. Final selection of the site for the year 2000 will be made by the board in late 1991.

**A.A. Regional Forums** — Five regions hosted Forums in the past year—weekends of energetic and dedicated A.A. sharing. Box 4-5-9 keeps the Fellowship informed regarding upcoming Forums.

*Jan W., chairperson*

### Staff report:

**International Convention** — The International Convention assignment involves working with four committees—Trustees, Conference, Host and G.S.O. Planning. Preliminary plans are already underway for the 1995 International Convention in San Diego, with approximately 250 sessions of



workshops, panels, topic meetings and marathons, and about 1,000 speakers and moderators. San Diego A.A.s will be recruiting a volunteer Host Committee, and everyone is already excited about working on this complex but so worthwhile event.  
*Eileen G.*

**Regional Forums** — This assignment involves the coordination and follow through for all arrangements necessary for the Regional Forums in the U.S. and Canada. Regional Forums are held at the region's invitation every two years. Working with the regional trustee, area delegates and host committee, the Forums coordinator prepares the agenda, works with the hotel, and sends invitations to area service people. Following the Forum, a report is sent to all who registered for the Forum.  
*Pat R.*

## Literature

**Trustees' committee:** The following items have become available: "The A.A. Group" pamphlet—major revision; *Daily Reflections*.

*Projects in Progress; A.A. History Book:* A detailed status report was given to the Conference Literature Committee.

*Projects completed and manuscripts or reports forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee:* The deletion of the six-point definition of an A.A. group in "The A.A. Group" pamphlet, along with minor revisions; a simplification of the text for the proposed Twelve Steps Illustrated (easy-to-read) pamphlet; a report on the feasibility study of the filmstrip/video of "Circles of Love and Service" revealed no need to update this material, the suggestion to add a story of a young person who found A.A. while in prison to "Young People and A.A.," with the trustees' Correctional Facilities Committee gathering some stories for return to the trustees' Literature Committee; a report and background on the possibility of developing a pamphlet on "unity."  
*Phil C., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The literature coordinator serves as secretary to the trustees' and Conference Literature Committees, and works closely with the Publications Department on preparing all new recovery pamphlets, books, displays and audiovisuals. The literature desk receives and responds to correspondence from A.A. members and groups about literature, and maintains contact with area, district, intergroup and A.A. group literature chairpersons. Each newly elected literature chairperson receives a welcoming letter and material to assist them in this vital responsibility. Additionally, the literature coordinator serves as editor of *Box 4-5-9*, our bimonthly newsletter, which is also available in French and Spanish.  
*Joante M.*

## Loners, Internationalists, Homers

**Staff report:** Loners are A.A.s who are unable to attend meetings because there are no groups nearby. There are now about 250 Loners in 90 countries, including the U.S. and Canada. Seagoing A.A.s are known as Internationalists. There are now about 300 Internationalists and 35 Port Contacts. Sixty Internationalist Groups meet aboard ships or in ports. There are 150 Homers, A.A.s who are housebound due to long-term illness or disability. Loners, Homers and Internationalists stay sober reading A.A. literature and sharing A.A. experience, strength and hope with other A.A.s around the world through letters and tapes. A literature package is sent to each new Loner, Homer or Internationalist as well as a directory of members, a subscription to *Box 4-5-9* and *Loners-Internationalists Meeting (LIM)*, a bimonthly meeting-in-print, sharing excerpts of letters received at G.S.O. from LIM members. About 800 A.A.s serve as Loner Sponsors, sharing group activities and personal experience. With approximately 1,700 A.A.s (including Loner Sponsors) participating in the *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*, we might call it the largest A.A. group in the world.  
*John G.*

## Nominating

**Trustees' committee:** The committee took the following actions:

- Suggested that past delegates be rotated a minimum of one year before applying for position of appointed committee member.
- Recommended the removal of all geographical restrictions for appointed committee member positions.
- Reviewed its guidelines for selecting G.S.O.'s general manager, as well as "emergency procedures" for hiring a general manager.
- Reviewed the "Procedures and Areas of Responsibility" chart of the *Composition, Scope and Procedure*, and accepted it, as presented, with minor changes.
- Reviewed and recommended the slate of trustees for election at the annual meeting of the members of the board in April, following presentation at the 1991 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.  
*John King*  
(nonalcoholic) chairperson

## Public Information

**Trustees' committee:** In the past year, the committee:

- Forwarded to the Conference a report

which responds to the request for information about the history of the A.A. Membership Survey and which makes recommendation for future surveys.

- Prepared and approved a 3-minute pilot video to present to this Conference on the feasibility of producing a 15-minute video using younger A.A. members and minorities to target urban minority schools.
- Prepared a chapter on anonymity, for review at this Conference, to be inserted in the Public Information Workbook.
- Conducted a feasibility study on the possible production of a Traditions video with focus on anonymity.  
*Desmond T., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The goal of the P.I. assignment is to help carry the A.A. message of recovery from alcoholism to alcoholics through the media. The staff member and staff assistant respond weekly to an average of 100 written and telephone inquiries from the public and the Fellowship, is responsible for handling interviews with the media describing what A.A. is and what it can and cannot do, and providing accurate information to the media, researchers, the public and to members about A.A. Literature is provided for health and community fairs, or to local public information committees. We also read and processed about 5,000 newspaper, magazine and television feature stories; wrote approximately five letters of gratitude each month to publications printing accurate information about our Fellowship; and followed up on an average of 20 anonymity breaks per month. G.S.O. services are backed up by more than 800 local P.I. committees and about 1,400 P.I. contacts, as all of us strive to communicate and reach out to the alcoholic who still suffers.  
*Richard B.*

## Spanish Services

**Staff report:** There are more than 27,000 Spanish-speaking A.A. members meeting in 775 Hispanic groups in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada. The Spanish services coordinator, who does not rotate, coordinates and revises Spanish translations of material and assists in providing services to the Hispanic community. *Box 4-5-9* in Spanish has a section entitled Spanish Services that gives information on general service activities. Many Spanish-speaking districts have been added to our service areas. Service material is translated into Spanish and kept up-to-date; more and more Conference-approved literature is published in Spanish. The staff member represents G.S.O. at the Ibero-American Commission for Translation and Adaptation of A.A. Literature; attends conventions, Hispanic intergroup meetings, and Regional Forums; the World Service Meet-



ing and the International Convention; and greets Spanish-speaking visitors to G.S.O. *Vicente M.*

## Staff Coordinator

**Staff report:** As assistant secretary of the General Service Board, the staff coordinator is responsible for scheduling committee meetings, distributing advance material, and preparing and distributing the minutes of the board meeting, and serves as editor of the *Quarterly Report*. The coordinator serves as secretary of the General Sharing Session, is secretary of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions, and is a director and vice-president of A.A.W.S. Another responsibility is chairing the weekly staff meeting and coordinating all staff activities. During 1990, the staff handled 18,000 pieces of mail. Training new staff members is another segment of this assignment. During the past year, approximately 1,250 visitors from all over the world visited G.S.O. *Helen T.*

## Treatment Facilities

**Trustees' committee:** The committee forwarded to the Conference a draft of a proposed pamphlet on bridging the gap from treatment to A.A., which emphasizes temporary contact programs. We also reviewed a service piece to assist A.A.s making presentations about A.A. and/or introducing A.A. films in treatment facilities. A letter providing information about our primary purpose, nonaffiliation, and anonymity, was mailed to delegates, area T.F. committees and central/intergroup offices. The Treatment Facilities Workbook was reviewed and is being revised and streamlined.

*John S., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The goal of the Treatment Facilities assignment is to help A.A. members carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic in treatment. The staff member serves as secretary to the trustees' and Conference T.F. Committees, works with treatment facilities chairpersons, answers correspondence from people in treatment interested in receiving information about A.A., and with administrators and counselors of treatment facilities, who contact us for information. A major highlight since the last Conference has been completion and distribution of the video "Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous," which is closed-captioned for hearing-impaired viewers and also available in Spanish. The staff member is also responsible for gathering material for the Treatment Facilities section of *Box 4-5-9* and for the *Treatment Facilities Newsletter*. *Lois F.*

## Reports from the A.A. Grapevine

**Directors' report:** Once again, the Grapevine has had a very good year. Year-end financial statements for 1990 showed a profit of \$193,900 compared to a budgeted \$19,850. Circulation for 1990 as a whole averaged 134,200 compared to a budgeted average of 133,000. 1990 started out in the 133,000-plus range, and rose to an all-time high of 136,163 with the May issue—the issue before the price increase. Historically, there has usually been a downturn in circulation after a price increase, but for a few months, we thought it was leveling off rather than declining. As we move into 1991, however, the downswing is continuing. Right now, circulation stands at the turning point. The budgeted average circulation for 1991 is 130,000, and we are heading in that direction. We have begun a program of early acknowledgment of all new subscriptions, "bridging the gap" between receipt of payment and mailing of the first issue with a welcoming brochure.

We happily report, also, that paid circulation is only part of the story. In response to a suggestion from the Conference Grapevine Committee last year, we have sent more than 37,000 back issues to delegates for the use of area service committees.

Letters, phone calls, and informal communications from readers remain positive about magazine content. Two special issues were published in 1990: In July, a special international and Convention issue; in November an expanded "classic" issue. We have published five Big Book stories from the first and second editions that were taken out of the third edition, with good response. An oldtimers issue in September was well received. There was less enthusiasm for the section of articles by nonalcoholic friends of the Fellowship in the May 1990 issue. The consensus seems to be that the magazine should consist primarily of A.A. sharing, and that occasional articles by nonalcoholics are welcome to enhance the Grapevine and broaden its perspective.

The A.A. history section has taken a slightly different turn from its original purpose, which was to highlight area and local histories and archival material. The section has been expanded to include more Fellowship-wide features.

1990 may be remembered as the year Victor E. went on vacation, to the dismay and freely expressed concern of many readers. We are happy to tell you that he has not yielded to the temptation of those barroom doors, and a new artist has volunteered to keep him active and moving into the '90s.

Sales of special items in 1990 were down from 1989, principally because sales of *The Language of the Heart* have leveled off, though nearly all items were slightly lower.

No new special items were produced last year to give a boost to revenues and sales.

Most areas have standing committees on the Grapevine, and a number of chairpersons are immediate past delegates, as suggested in several past Conference Actions. Other areas do it differently, but GvRs are alive and well and active throughout the U.S. and Canada.

As a board and as individuals, the Grapevine directors offer any help members of the Fellowship need from the Grapevine to carry the A.A. message most effectively wherever you may be.

*Stanley S., chairperson*

**Staff report:** Over the past year, both members of the Grapevine editorial staff have had the opportunity to share information about the Grapevine at Regional Forums, area assemblies, and area and district Grapevine workshops. The chance to travel to other parts of the U.S. and Canada and listen to first-hand reactions to the magazine from a variety of readers adds a valuable dimension to both the magazine and the operation as a whole.

Since the 1990 Conference, there have been some changes at the Grapevine office, all of them in the direction of improved service to A.A. members who read the magazine and use the special items.

1990 was the year the circulation list was converted to a new and faster computer system. Since processing now takes a few hours rather than a few days, many new subscribers receive their first issue sooner. And when a reader does have a problem, it can be resolved faster and more easily.

The Grapevine's accounting system has been manual until now, so it is a major step forward to have computerized accounting and order entry/inventory. We are reaping major benefits in terms of speed, accuracy, internal controls, and availability of management information.

With the new system, the GvR coordinator will have two new features available: She will be able to find GvR records more easily (greater search capability), and will also be able to print mailing labels herself.

But hardware and software and better procedures are only part of the picture—there must be people pushing the right buttons, and the Grapevine has been well served by its 20 employees, both A.A.s and nonalcoholics. This year for the first time, we held an Employee Recognition Day honoring personnel with five, ten, and fifteen years of service. The machinery is in place, as well as the people to run it with competence, dedication and imagination. We have come through the first year of a new decade with flying colors, and look forward to the future.

*Ann W., executive editor*



## 1991 G.S.O. Budget

### A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

**Income:** The sales income budget of \$12,676,800 is \$2,188,600 (20.9%) greater than 1990. This reflects price increases effective 4/1/91. The increase aids in restoring a sufficient gross profit on literature sales.

**Expenses:** Expenses charged against the publishing operation are budgeted at \$4,427,600, about 13.5% higher than 1990 actual.

**Net:** Net publishing income is expected to be \$2,400,200, an increase of \$854,000 over 1990. The substantially higher net planned for 1991 over 1990, is required to offset the anticipated shortfall as well as a partial provision for relocation/renovation.

### GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

**Income:** The budget reflects a conservative projection of 3% increase in contributions over 1990 (1990 had an 8.9% increase over 1989, following 1989's 3.9% increase over 1988).

**Expenses:** Total group expenses to be directly charged against contributions are budgeted to be \$4,694,700. This results in an anticipated shortfall of these expenses charged against contributions of \$122,200.

### GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses of the General Service Board are budgeted at \$2,827,000. This includes extraordinary expenses of \$2,422,700 set aside for Relocation/Renovation expenses anticipated in 1991. Exclusive of this item, Other Expenses are budgeted lower than 1990. This decrease is mainly attributed to the cost of the 1990 World Service Meeting, which is held every other year. The total Other Expenses, including the extraordinary expenses, is budgeted to be offset by the excess net publishing income, as well as investment income from the Reserve Fund.

### RECAP

The shortfall for 1991 "Group Services" (as defined by the 1986 General Service Conference) supported by group contributions, is budgeted to be \$531,500. It is anticipated that the net publishing income will offset the shortfall and most extraordinary expenses and that minimal drawdown from the Reserve Fund is planned for 1991.

## 1991 Grapevine Budget

**Total revenue:** The 1991 budget shows revenues of \$2,112,800. This anticipates paid circulation of 130,000, the effect of a price increase beginning with the 6/90 issue, and \$600,500 in revenue from sale of special items.

**Total expenses:** Editorial and printing costs are budgeted at \$1,062,900, \$45,600 (4.4%) over 1990 actual. Printing of the magazine shows a negligible increase, a result of being able to hold the line of the printing contract. Production costs of other materials is up slightly.

Total Circulation and Business expenses are budgeted at \$836,800, \$105,600 (14%) over 1990 actual.

Three areas of increase are postage, subscription services and departmental restaffing. Total General and Administrative expenses are budgeted at \$254,500, \$34,900 (15.9%) over 1990 actual. General and Administrative expenses are up due to anticipated costs for insurance and payroll taxes.

Total Costs and Expenses are budgeted at \$2,154,200, \$186,100 (9%) higher than 1990.

**Net:** After including interest income of \$107,000 we show a modest net income of \$65,600.

### COMPARISON OF SHORTFALL OF 'GROUP SERVICES' SUPPORTED BY GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

#### April 1986 Conference Advisory Action 16.a:

16. The area delegates strongly consider implementation of the following suggestions to improve contributions to G.S.O., area assemblies, districts, and central or inter-group offices:

- a. G.S.O. make available to all delegates an itemized list of group service expenses and other expenses of the board, combined into one total, representing group services supported by group contributions.

The following is a recap of these lists [detailed reports appear in delegates' Manual and *Final Conference Report*]:

#### 1989

Contributions — A.A. Groups & Members			\$4,054,111
General Fund — Office Expenses	\$4,473,643		
General Fund — Other Expenses of the Board		\$947,818	
Less: Extraordinary Expenses:			
Computer Acquisition	(507,379)	440,439	4,914,082
<b>Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions</b>			<u>(859,971)</u>

#### 1990

Contributions — A.A. Groups & Members			\$4,415,395
General Fund — Office Expenses	\$4,426,366		
General Fund — Other Expenses of the Board		\$824,145	
Less: Extraordinary Expenses:			
Computer Acquisition	(311,422)	512,723	4,939,089
<b>Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions</b>			<u>(523,694)</u>

#### 1991 BUDGET

Contributions — A.A. Groups & Members			\$4,567,500
General Fund — Office Expenses	\$4,694,700		
General Fund — Other Expenses of the Board		\$2,827,000	
Less: Extraordinary Expenses:			
Relocation/Renovation	(2,422,700)	404,300	5,099,000
<b>Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions</b>			<u>(531,500)</u>



# 1990 Contributions From Groups — by Delegate Area

(in U.S. dollars)

AREA #	GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA	#GPS. RE-PORTED	#GPS. CONTRIB.	% OF GPS. CONTRIB.	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIB.	MEMBERSHIP	CONTRIB. PER CAPITA	AREA #	GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA	#GPS. RE-PORTED	#GPS. CONTRIB.	% OF GPS. CONTRIB.	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIB.	MEMBERSHIP	CONTRIB. PER CAPITA
1.	Ala./N.W. Fla.	397	234	58.9%	\$ 26,384.21	6,089	\$4.33	60.	West	677	391	57.8	39,297.92	10,188	3.86
2.	Alaska	211	96	45.5	9,759.92	3,027	3.22	61.	Rhode Island	222	120	54.1	17,759.92	4,570	3.89
3.	Arizona	782	398	50.9	45,196.36	13,215	3.42	62.	South Carolina	273	186	68.1	23,665.93	5,268	4.49
4.	Arkansas	242	130	53.7	12,672.60	3,729	3.40	63.	South Dakota	163	72	44.2	6,601.48	3,362	1.96
5.	Southern California	1,820	864	47.5	118,604.80	61,570	1.93	64.	Tennessee	443	239	54.0	29,944.45	7,734	3.67
6.	N. Coastal	1,910	1,250	65.4	192,470.97	52,907	3.64	65.	Texas	427	222	52.0	46,012.91	14,005	3.29
7.	N. Interior	609	323	53.0	42,074.42	15,803	2.66	66.	Northeast	253	132	52.2	14,914.14	6,099	2.45
8.	San Diego/Imp.	709	413	58.3	51,957.94	21,014	2.47	67.	Northwest	540	259	48.0	39,163.75	15,001	2.61
9.	Mid-South	1,520	854	56.2	96,725.75	47,657	2.03	68.	Southeast	458	240	52.4	38,159.55	9,805	3.89
10.	Colorado	630	360	57.1	48,391.01	15,535	3.11	69.	Southwest	266	179	67.3	18,748.61	4,992	3.76
11.	Connecticut	1,208	660	54.6	96,528.33	27,252	3.54	70.	Utah	224	96	42.9	14,848.02	3,861	3.85
12.	Delaware	154	112	72.7	24,218.65	2,500	9.69	71.	Vermont	1,004	609	60.7	87,264.68	19,327	4.52
13.	D.C.	401	245	61.1	50,987.91	13,686	3.73	72.	Washington	1,200	688	57.3	94,336.25	22,656	4.16
14.	Florida	589	351	59.6	57,734.53	11,461	5.04	73.	West Virginia	274	140	51.1	11,865.88	3,140	3.78
15.	North South/ Bahamas/V.I.	1,467	795	54.2	113,427.45	26,185	4.33	74.	Wisconsin	594	305	51.3	23,887.39	9,209	2.59
16.	Georgia	641	493	76.9	76,964.15	14,795	5.20	75.	N. Wis./Upper Pen. Mich.	849	480	56.5	48,091.80	15,201	3.16
17.	Hawaii	241	156	64.7	34,443.68	5,033	6.84	76.	South	135	70	51.9	6,976.49	2,137	3.26
18.	Idaho	184	111	60.3	10,990.78	2,754	3.99	77.	Wyoming	127	74	58.3	5,476.31	1,610	3.40
19.	Illinois	1,028	429	41.7	58,879.26	23,738	2.48	78.	Puerto Rico	562	261	46.4	32,041.53	7,294	4.39
20.	Chicago	896	429	47.9	39,325.63	17,337	2.27	79.	Alberta/N.W.T.	692	398	57.5	58,567.54	11,127	5.26
21.	North South	409	218	53.3	25,648.40	7,202	3.56	80.	B.C./Yukon	164	66	40.2	8,713.27	3,980	2.19
22.	Indiana	592	326	55.1	29,145.57	9,673	3.01	81.	Manitoba	225	117	52.0	8,198.14	3,285	2.50
23.	North South	410	249	60.7	26,700.10	8,669	3.08	82.	N.B./P.E.I.	274	144	52.6	12,589.08	3,140	4.01
24.	Iowa	632	375	59.3	39,459.35	12,608	3.13	83.	Ontario	572	319	55.8	59,409.20	13,190	4.50
25.	Kansas	398	243	61.1	26,542.50	9,512	2.79	84.	East	193	74	38.3	12,664.41	2,354	5.38
26.	Kentucky	534	344	64.4	56,299.79	8,618	6.53	85.	Northwest	90	30	33.3	4,299.03	1,409	3.05
27.	Louisiana	526	238	45.2	24,696.68	9,241	2.67	86.	West	468	230	49.1	50,483.88	8,236	6.13
28.	Maine	439	198	45.1	19,113.69	7,902	2.42	87.	Quebec	572	388	68.0	37,269.91	14,854	2.51
29.	Maryland	775	433	55.9	61,958.23	10,857	5.71	88.	Southwest	231	186	80.0	11,000.57	3,337	3.30
30.	Massachusetts	1,312	625	47.6	92,514.10	46,667	1.98	89.	Southeast	356	286	80.0	24,405.45	6,767	3.61
31.	East West	206	118	57.3	20,215.19	4,849	4.17	90.	Northwest	366	345	94.0	71,175.77	6,309	11.28
32.	Michigan	523	246	47.0	40,763.33	11,275	3.62	91.	Saskatchewan	340	178	52.4	18,065.57	4,443	4.07
33.	Central Southeast	552	287	52.0	54,455.59	13,121	4.15		Total U.S./Canada	51,472	28,052	54.5%	\$3,767,346.34	1,099,951	\$3.43
34.	West	404	210	52.0	38,566.22	7,857	4.91		Bermuda	24	1	4.2	4,150.00	204	20.34
35.	Minnesota	513	290	56.5	22,323.54	8,079	2.76			51,496	28,053	54.5%	\$3,771,496.34	1,100,155	\$3.43
36.	North South	951	487	51.2	46,225.21	24,659	1.87		Individual, in-memoriam, & special meetings				212,863.94		
37.	Mississippi	226	125	55.3	9,891.66	3,109	3.18		Specials				395,218.87		
38.	East West	539	315	58.4	36,016.35	8,338	4.32		Total for U.S. & Canada				\$4,379,579.15		
39.	Montana	226	147	65.0	17,790.78	5,527	3.22		<b>FOREIGN AND OTHER</b>						
40.	Nebraska	345	166	48.1	15,749.78	4,626	3.40		Birds of a Feather				80.50		
41.	Nevada	704	387	55.0	54,776.26	13,706	4.00		Correctional facility groups				125.40		
42.	New Hampshire	320	145	45.3	14,937.81	6,144	2.43		Foreign				30,846.27		
43.	New Jersey	494	198	40.1	22,113.10	6,980	3.17		International Lawyers in A.A.				17.00		
44.	North	1,170	588	50.3	81,873.97	26,640	3.07		Internationalists				100.00		
45.	South	371	216	58.2	33,913.52	6,091	5.57		Loners				2,994.00		
46.	New Mexico	296	154	52.0	14,100.59	4,780	2.95		Treatment facility meetings				1,554.52		
47.	Central	636	314	49.4	48,153.90	10,290	4.68		World Hello				98.14		
48.	H./M./B.	680	314	46.2	33,099.90	9,288	3.56		Grand Total				\$4,415,394.98		
49.	Southeast	1,639	850	51.9	190,465.77	46,498	4.10								
50.	West	258	125	48.4	14,900.25	3,797	3.92								
51.	N. Carolina	707	478	67.6	74,117.56	11,799	6.28								
52.	North Dakota	178	100	56.2	7,027.42	3,068	2.29								
53.	Ohio	572	235	41.1	24,333.85	7,373	3.30								
54.	Cent. & S.E.	1,053	327	31.1	27,257.02	25,163	1.08								
55.	N.W. Ohio/ S.E. Mich.	256	136	53.1	16,342.75	3,699	4.42								
56.	S.W. Ohio	462	250	54.1	26,432.33	9,290	2.85								
57.	Oklahoma	368	280	76.1	35,948.82	5,508	6.53								
58.	Oregon	679	388	57.1	58,066.92	11,169	5.20								
59.	Pennsylvania	1,244	700	56.3	101,771.36	33,102	3.07								

## CONTRIBUTION COMPARISON — 1990-1989

(in U.S. dollars)

	#GPS. RE-PORTED	#GPS. CONTRIB.	% OF GPS. CONTRIB.	AMOUNT OF CONTRIB.	MEMBERSHIP	CONTRIB. PER CAPITA
U.S. & Canada 1990	51,496	28,053	54.5%	\$3,771,496.34	1,100,155	\$3.43
U.S. & Canada 1989	47,973	26,963	56.2	3,551,500.33	978,982	3.63
Increase (Decrease)	3,523	1,090	(1.7%)	\$ 219,996.01	121,173	\$(.20)

① Reflects not only those groups that contributed directly to G.S.O., but also those groups that contributed to G.S.O. through their Conference areas (per lists or percentages submitted by areas).  
 ② Group contributions reported on this schedule do not include contributions received as specials, individual, in-memoriam, and special meetings.



## Calendar of Events

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office. For any additional information, please use the addresses provided.

### June

- 1-2 — *Creston, British Columbia, Canada.* Campout. Write: Ch., Box 2004, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0
- 1-3 — *Bethesda, Maryland.* Northeast Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
- 6-9 — *Austin, Texas.* 46th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., 105 Pine Cone Lane, Elgin, TX 78621
- 7-8 — *Nashville, Tennessee.* 21st Founder's Day Reunion of the Woodbine Group. Write: Ch., 2407 Nolensville Rd., Nashville, TN 37211
- 7-9 — *Haleyville, Alabama.* Eighth District 5 Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 951, Haleyville, AL 35565
- 7-9 — *Conway, Arkansas.* Fourth District 5 Summertime Sobriety Conv. Write: Ch., Rte. 1, Box 36, Damascus, AR 72039
- 7-9 — *Key West, Florida.* Sunset Roundup '91. Write: Ch., Box 4165, Key West, FL 33040
- 7-9 — *Davenport, Iowa.* Iowa Spring Conf. Write: Ch., Box 952, Davenport, IA 52805-0952
- 7-9 — *New York, New York.* First New York City Big Book Study. Write: Ch., Box 426, South Salem, NY 10590
- 7-9 — *Winchester, Virginia.* 37th Four State & DC Spring Get Together. Write: Ch., Box 593, Winchester, VA 22601
- 7-9 — *S.W. Calgary, Alberta, Canada.* 10th Annual Calgary Gratitude Round-up. Write: Ch., Box 954, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4
- 7-9 — *Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada.* 13th Annual MSA Rally. Write: Ch., 1315-3044 Clearbrook Rd., Clearbrook, BC V2T 4T6
- 7-9 — *Montreal, Quebec, Canada.* Third Bilingual Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 1121 Stn "B", Montreal, PQ H3B 3K9
- 7-9 — *Stellarton, Nova Scotia, Canada.* 26th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 301, New Glasgow, NS B2H 2C5
- 7-10 — *St. Simons Island, Georgia.* 27th Golden Isles Family Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 892, Statesboro, GA 30458
- 8-9 — *Great Bend, Kansas.* Kansas Area Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 1773, Salina, KS 67402-1773
- 9-15 — *Vilnius, Lithuania.* Lithuanian Conv. Write: Ch., L.A.A.A. c/o M & R Insurance, 2808 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404

- 13-16 — *Hagerstown, Maryland.* 21st State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 37131, Towson, MD 21286-7131
- 14-16 — *Mobile, Alabama.* 10th Azalea City Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 161166, Mobile, AL 36616
- 14-16 — *Jackson, Mississippi.* 45th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 15174, Hattiesburg, MS 39402
- 14-16 — *Akron, Ohio.* Ninth Loners International Conf. Write: Ch., Box 360446, Columbus, OH 43236
- 14-16 — *Bristol, Rhode Island.* 15th Annual Ocean State Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 23199, Providence, RI 02903
- 14-16 — *Morgantown, West Virginia.* 39th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 4, Fairmont, WV 26554
- 14-16 — *Cache Creek, British Columbia, Canada.* 16th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 400, Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0
- 14-16 — *Chatham, Ontario, Canada.* 13th Annual Campout. Write: Ch., Box 5, Chatham, ON N7M 5K1
- 14-16 — *Marean Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 537, Naicam, SK S0K 2Z0
- 14-16 — *Vernon, British Columbia, Canada.* 19th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 9, Lavington, BC V0E 2B0
- 21-23 — *Huntsville, Alabama.* Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., 416 Zandale, Huntsville, AL 35801
- 21-23 — *Lancaster, California.* 18th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3174, Quartz Hill, CA 93536
- 21-23 — *Topeka, Kansas.* Heartland Conf. Write: Ch., Box 213, Topeka, KS 66603
- 21-23 — *Westfield, Massachusetts.* Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1037, Holyoke, MA 01041
- 21-23 — *Waterville Valley, New Hampshire.* 26th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 321 Lincoln St., Rm. 204, Manchester, NH 03103

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

- June* (page 31): Character defects; A.A. history; sponsorship
- July* (page 28): A.A. in prison; opinions and outside issues.

- 21-23 — *Casper, Wyoming.* 16th Jamboree. Write: Ch., 1515 S. Jackson, Casper, WY 82601
- 22-24 — *Bozeman, Montana.* Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 6536, Bozeman, MT 59715
- 27-30 — *Indian Wells, California.* Desert Pow Wow. Write: Ch., 12958 Bloomfield St., Studio City, CA 91604
- 28-30 — *Oakland, California.* 44th Summer Conf. Write: Ch., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122-2290
- 28-30 — *Cincinnati, Ohio.* 35th State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 804, Troy, OH 45373
- 28-30 — *Wichita Falls, Texas.* Texoma Freedom Rally. Write: Ch., Box 3243, Wichita Falls, TX 76309-3243
- 28-30 — *Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada.* Third Summer Conf. Write: Ch., 52 Seventh St., Moncton, NB E1E 3G4
- 28-30 — *Manchester, England.* Manchester Conv. Write: The Registrar, 17 Orchard St., West Didsbury, Manchester M20 8LP, England, U.K.
- 28-30 — *Parksville, British Columbia, Canada.* 31st Annual Rally. Write: Ch., Box 683, Parksville, BC V9P 2G7
- 29-30 — *Santa Clara County, California.* "50

## Planning a Future Event?

Please send your information on August, September or October events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by *June 10*, the calendar deadline for the August/September issue of *Box 4-5-9*. For your convenience and ours — please type or print the information to be listed on the Bulletin Board page, and mail to us:

Date of event: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

Name of event: \_\_\_\_\_

Place (city, state or prov.): \_\_\_\_\_

For information, write: (exact mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone # (for office use only): \_\_\_\_\_

Flip up this end of page — more events listed on reverse side



## June (cont.)

Years: A Celebration of Sobriety." Write: Ch., 535 Race St., Suite 130, San Jose, CA 95126

## July

- 4-7 — *Columbus, Ohio*. Second Annual COYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 2925, Columbus, OH 43216-2925
- 4-7 — *Memphis, Tennessee*. SERCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 382281, Germantown, TN 38183-2281
- 4-7 — *Nashville, Tennessee*. Tenth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 17312, Nashville, TN 37217
- 5-7 — *Binghamton, New York*. Silver Anniversary Conv. Write: Ch., Box 2849, Binghamton, NY 13902
- 5-7 — *Eugene, Oregon*. Summerfest. Write: Ch., Box 1172, Eugene, OR 97440
- 5-7 — *Seattle, Washington*. Pacific Northwest Conf. Write: Ch., 1823 Tenth Ave. West, Seattle, WA 98119
- 5-7 — *Oshawa, Ontario, Canada*. 19th Annual District Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2003, Oshawa, ON L1H 4G0
- 5-7 — *Naantali, Finland*. Summer Roundup. Write: Naantalin Matkailu Oy, Kaivotori 2, 21100 Naantali, Finland
- 10-14 — *Tampa, Florida*. 35th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 13218, Tampa, FL 33611
- 12-13 — *New Market, Virginia*. Summer Meeting. Write: Ch., 2216 Occidental Dr., Vienna, VA 22180
- 12-14 — *Soldotna, Alaska*. 18th Wilderness Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 287, Sterling, AK 99672
- 12-14 — *Baton Rouge, Louisiana*. State Conv. Write: Ch., 16841 Buckner, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739
- 12-14 — *Sugarloaf, Maine*. 14th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1463, Portland, ME 04102
- 12-14 — *Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. Eighth Weekend of Sharing. Write: Ch., 200 Twin Oak Dr., Wexford, PA 15090
- 12-14 — *Tonasket/Oroville, Washington*. Ninth Lost Lake Campout. Write: Ch., Box 624, Tonasket, WA 98855
- 12-14 — *Woodstock, Ontario, Canada*. 10th Annual Marathon. Write: Ch., Box 1349, Woodstock, ON N4S 8R2
- 12-14 — *Christopher Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Lakeshore Roundup. Write: Ch., General Delivery, Christopher Lake, SK S0J 0N0

- 18-21 — *Atlanta, Georgia*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 80671, Atlanta, GA 30366
- 19-21 — *Chicago, Illinois*. Roundup. (sponsored by gay/lesbian members) Write: Ch., 606 W. Barry, Box 196, Chicago, IL 60657
- 19-21 — *Columbia, Missouri*. State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 26186, St. Louis, MO 63136
- 19-21 — *Tacoma, Washington*. Freedom in Sobriety. Write: Ch., Box 111659, Tacoma, WA 98411-1159
- 19-21 — *Ft. Nelson, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 422, Ft. Nelson, BC V0C 1R0
- 26-28 — *Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada*. District 6 Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., R.R. 1, Bass River, Colchester County, NS B0M 1B0
- 26-28 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. 16th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 8888 Riverside Dr. East, #2111, Windsor, ON N8S 1H2
- 26-28 — *Copenhagen, Denmark*. Annual Nordic Meeting. Write: GSO Denmark, Post Box 334, DK-1503, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 27-28 — *Aberdeen, South Dakota*. Dakota Prairie Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 545, Aberdeen SD 57402-0545
- 31-August 4 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Annual I.D.A.A. Conf., Write: Ch., % All Destinations Travel, 1290 Homer St., Yaletown Square, Vancouver, BC V6B 2Y5

## August

- 2-4 — *Prescott, Arizona*. Arizona Area Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 12763, Prescott, AZ 86302
- 2-4 — *Decatur, Illinois*. 14th Regional and 18th State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 4611, Decatur, IL 62521
- 2-4 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. West Central Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10164-0371
- 2-4 — *Toledo, Ohio*. OYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 178121, Toledo, OH 43617 (accommodation for hearing-impaired)
- 2-4 — *Scranton, Pennsylvania*. 1991 Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 482, Dunmore, PA 18512
- 2-5 — *Casuarina, Northern Territories, Australia*. Darwin Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 40760, Casuarina, NT, Australia
- 3-4 — *Ft. Morgan, Colorado*. Northeast Colorado Mini-Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 1063, Ft. Morgan, CO 80701
- 8.11 — *Tiel, The Netherlands*. Intergroup I Europe Fifth Roundup. Write: Sec., Frankenslag 5D, 2582 HB, The Hague, The Netherlands

- 9-11 — *Eureka, California*. Fourth Annual Redwood Creek Campout. Write: Ch., Box 751, Eureka, CA 95501
- 9-11 — *Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky*. First Annual Rule 62 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 62, Covington, KY 41012
- 9-11 — *Stony Brook, Long Island, New York*. NYSYPAA V. Write: Ch., Box 623, Laurel, NY 11948
- 9-11 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. Campout Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1A, Tulameen, BC V0X 2L0
- 9-11 — *Uchelet, British Columbia, Canada*. West Coast Rally. Write: Ch., Box 218, Tofino, BC V0R 2Z0
- 9-11 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. 22nd Central West Ontario Conv. Write: Ch., Box 307, Elmira, ON N3B 2Z7
- 10-11 — *Olean, New York*. 1991 Day of Learning. Write: Ch., 609 Garden Ave., Olean, NY 14760
- 16-18 — *Phoenix, Arizona*. Second Salt River Summer Roundup. Write: Ch., 4602 N. 7th St., Phoenix, AZ 84014
- 16-18 — *Meeker, Colorado*. White River Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1036, Meeker, CO 81641
- 16-18 — *Dallas, Texas*. 20th Lone Star Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 835112, Richardson, TX 75083-112
- 16-18 — *Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada*. 15th Annual North Island Rally. Write: Ch., Box 789, Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0
- 23-25 — *Joplin, Missouri*. Fourth Summer Hummer. Write: Ch., Box 2075, Joplin, MO 64803
- 23-25 — *Rapid City, South Dakota*. Great Fact Round-Up. Write: Ch., 919 Fulton St., Rapid City, SD 57701
- 23-25 — *Chattanooga, Tennessee*. Chao Choo Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2554, St. Elmo, TN 37509-2554
- 23-25 — *College Station, Texas*. Eighth Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 9409, College Station, TX 77842
- 23-25 — *Greenlake, Wisconsin*. 11th Greenlake Round Up. Write: Ch., 406-4 Sheffield Rd., Waukesha, WI 53186
- 23-25 — *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. District 90-05 Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Bureau de Services, C.P. 24, Succursale A, Hull, PQ J8Y 6M7
- 29-Sept. 1 — *San Francisco, California*. International Conference of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 170358, San Francisco, CA 94117
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Tampa, Florida*. Fifth Annual Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 360185, Tampa, FL 33601