



February Delegate Report

- Welcome to our new location at East Yolo Fellowship.
- Thank you to District 27, Appointed Chairs, Officers, and all volunteers for a wonderful Winter Assembly.
- Special thanks to the Tech Committee for managing a great hybrid assembly, moving storage, buying equipment, and solving tech issues behind the scenes.

- Ways to stay informed about A.A.:
 - Meeting Guide app – use the “News” button.
 - AA.org – click “What’s New.”
 - CNIA.org – check “What’s New” on the Delegate’s page.

- General Service Board:
 - Received 8 pieces of correspondence this quarter: local/area matters, a past trustee’s suggestions, and 4 letters about withholding or reducing contributions related to Conference actions, the 2020 International Convention, and lack of information that has now been reported.
 - Concept VII was quoted: the Conference’s “practical power” is greater than the trustees’ legal power, including in extreme cases the ability to withhold funds.
 - These letters are being seen as loving appraisals, expressions of concern, and minority opinion, rather than simply “power of the purse.”
 - Over 20,800 contributions were received in the same quarter.
 - The Board reaffirmed its commitment to respond in writing to all correspondence and have responses available for Board review.

- A.A. World Services (AAWS) Board:

- Full Board met 8 times since the last meeting, focusing heavily on budget review, which the Finance Committee approved.

- Communications & Language Services: working on initiatives like YouTube Shorts to reach more young people.

- Finance: approved international literature fund requests and continued budget oversight.

- Trademarks: AAWS holds 58 trademarks; new ones are created as needed for publications, conventions, and major initiatives.

- Nominating: submitted recommendations for a general service trustee and a non-trustee director.

- Publishing: continued positive reception of the Plain Language Big Book; approved a new illustrated Twelve Steps display (about 25 dollars), with more formats possible depending on sales.

- Services & Technology: continued work on tech and communication improvements, including earlier notices of literature changes; completed a strategic plan review and internal inventory to maintain standards.

- Grapevine Board:

- Financial: losses reduced from over 800,000 dollars two years ago to under 300,000 dollars this year, with hope to reach about 200,000 dollars next year; primary purpose remains reaching those who are still sick and suffering.

- Digital growth: app subscriptions up 35% in 2025; 120 new EU subscriptions after January 11 release; app store revenue over 456,000 dollars.

- Audience expansion: podcasts over 1.3 million downloads (about 24,000 per month); social media growth includes 62,000 Instagram views and 17,000 YouTube subscribers.

- Products: greeting card sales brought in 32,000 dollars.

- Innovation & strategy: fulfillment system conversion underway; weekly online Grapevine open meeting to be repurposed as podcasts; new subscription sales commission model for intergroups and central offices.

- Accessibility: ASL playlist for deaf and hard-of-hearing members on YouTube.

- Planning: 5-year strategic plans for Grapevine and La Viña to be shared with the Conference committee.

- Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee:

- Reviewed revised "CPC PowerPoint" (F-75) and "Information on Alcoholics Anonymous" (F-2); found them more current and effective.

- Continues to gather shared experience on professionals working with unhoused alcoholics; an update is planned for Q3 2026.

- Corrections Committee:

- Audio version of the Plain Language Big Book expected in June at about half the projected 20,000-dollar budget.

- Smart Communications added as another tablet provider.

- More Grapevine literature is now in correctional facilities than at any time in A.A. history.

- E-communications are improving efficiency and lowering costs.

- Digital literature is beginning to be implemented in Canadian correctional facilities earlier than expected.

- The committee stressed the need for more volunteers for correspondence and expressed deep gratitude to current volunteers.

- General Service Conference / Finance-related items:

- Initial planning underway for a self-supporting trip to Stepping Stones.

- Considering an earlier start to Saturday's closing session of the Conference to allow a shared visit and smoother travel.

- Will continue inviting only current Conference members to the Sunday Opening Dinner and A.A. meeting, for unity and financial prudence.

- Clarified Opening Dinner invitation list:

- Conference members.

- GSO/GV employees (with a cap on RSVPs).

- Local hospitality committee members.

- Conference interpreters.

- Trustee Emeriti attending the Conference.
- Admitted observer from Ireland Service Structure.
- Stepping Stones staff.
- GV/LV Advisory Boards will no longer be invited, consistent with not including ACM attendance.

- Grapevine/La Viña (operations):

- Darwin conversion underway with Grapevine Digital, Customer Relations, Finance, and vendors Treeline and North Studio; expected completion by end of February.
- Weekly online Grapevine open meeting starts February 4, 2026; meetings recorded and released as a second weekly podcast; anonymity protected.
- Ongoing work with warehouses to reduce inventory.
- Intergroup/central office subscription sales commission model begins after the Darwin conversion.
- Book discounts and free shipping started November 1, 2025, leading to strong sales in November and December.
- CDs on half-price sale to clear inventory; CDs will soon be discontinued.
- PAI 76 (restore "men and women" in the A.A. Preamble) was discussed; after thoughtful discussion about unity and disunity, the Grapevine Board took no action.
- Special Forum for Deaf Alcoholics held virtually January 17 (noon–8 p.m.); GSO staff presented on products and services; members expressed strong appreciation for the ASL playlist on YouTube.

- Literature Committee:

- Accepted a draft graphic explaining how changes to the Plain Language Big Book would be reviewed and revised.
- Accepted a progress report on the process to receive, assess, and forward proposed changes to the Plain Language Big Book.
- Reviewed a proposed agenda item to revise and expand the pamphlet "The A.A. Member — Medications & Other Drugs" (P-11) and agreed to forward it to the 76th General Service Conference.

- This item will be assigned to the Corrections Committee as part of Equitable Distribution of Workload.

- A.A. World Services / Finance (simple summary for 2025):

- Numbers are unaudited and as of January 26, 2026; they may change after all December activity and the audit.

- 2025 operating revenue: about 18.9 million dollars (7% below budget).

- 2025 operating expenses (before depreciation): about 18.5 million dollars (2% below budget).

- Operating surplus: about 325,000 dollars (budget had projected about 1.3 million).

- Figures exclude International Convention and building retrofit costs (retrofit spending about 493,000 dollars through year-end).

- As of January 26, 2026:

- Operating cash: about 575,000 dollars.

- Accounts payable (bills owed): about 1.14 million dollars.

- Short-term gap between cash and bills: about 563,000 dollars.

- Reserve Fund:

- GSB authorized up to 750,000 dollars to draw for AAWS and GSB operations; 500,000 dollars actually drawn.

- Currently about 5.9 months of combined GSO, Grapevine, and La Viña operating expenses (2025 budget basis).

- Expected to be about 5 months after full retrofit draw by April.

- International Convention:

- Final numbers not ready; awaiting:

- Canadian GST refund.

- Three hotel rebate reconciliations.

- Insurance claim for lost revenue from Canada postal strike.

- Current indication: results appear close to break-even relative to the size of the event.

- Public Information Committee:

- Appreciated a new draft service card for young people and encouraged moving forward once complete.
- Reviewed draft of young people's user-generated videos and suggested adding them to AAWS YouTube Shorts.
- Appreciated adapted PSAs from GSO Australia.
- Recommended adding an "actor portrayal" disclaimer to videos where appropriate, in line with existing policy.

- Agenda items, background, and workshops:
 - There are 68 total agenda items for the Conference.
 - I serve on the CPC Committee and especially want to hear from GSRs on the 5 CPC items.
 - GSRs can find all service committee information at AA.org > Inside A.A. > Service Committees.
- CPC agenda items (for GSR input):
 - Agenda A: Review A.A. LinkedIn presence (link on AA.org under CPC); feedback on the page is welcome.
 - Agenda B: Progress report on developing an outward-facing pamphlet for mental health professionals (draft is Conference-only; GSRs can suggest general ideas such as color, font, photos, tone).
 - Agenda C: Review content and format of the CPC Kit and Workbook (digital versions at AA.org > Inside A.A. > Service Committees > CPC).
 - Agenda D: Review progress report on the effective use of CPC videos on AA.org (GSRs can watch CPC videos on the site).
 - Agenda E: Consider a request to create short stand-alone audio/visual clips when developing new or revised videos for professionals (shorter clips and "sound bites" to fit how people watch media today; request originated from Area 75 BC/Yukon CPC committee in Vancouver).
- Other agenda items that stand out:
 - Corrections:

- Consider the request to update the pamphlet "The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs."

- Finance:

- Discuss motion to add wording to F-3, "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix."

- Consider a request to create a Twelve Step study guide or workbook.

- Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (PAI-22).

- Grapevine/La Viña:

- Consider that AA Grapevine, Inc. accepts contributions.

- Literature:

- Review draft of the Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.

- Review progress report on the update to Living Sober.

- Review progress report on developing a Plain Language Big Book amendment process.

- Report and Charter:

- Consider the request to remove a quote from Dr. Bob in The A.A. Service Manual.

- Inventory Implementation:

- Review Inventory Implementation Report.

- Closing:

- Direct GSRs to CNIA.org, > Delegate Page > Confidential Downloads and committee background.