



July Delegate Report



Opening Reading

“There must come a day, it seems to me, when every alcoholic, in or out of A.A., finally sits down in the presence of his enemies. When he does, he will be amazed to discover that he is attending a meeting of one — himself. The day the alcoholic in A.A. realizes that his enemy is within, that the tigers are largely creatures of his own design and lurk in his own unconscious, that is the day when for him A.A. becomes what I believe its founders meant it to be: a flight into reality.”

“A Member’s-Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous” (Item P-41), page 25

I can’t believe we’re already in July. I remember a past delegate saying, “Don’t blink — it’ll be over before you know it,” and that has certainly felt true lately.

I’ve been busy these past few weeks with report backs, and I want to thank all the districts for collaborating and working together to make them happen. Last weekend I had the chance to drive down to Tulare and visit Districts 55 and 53, and on Sunday I stopped by Harvest Hall on the way home to do a report back with Districts 34, 36, and 37.

Thank you to the panelists who shared on the 12 Concepts. You all did a wonderful job, even with the surprise of being handed a concept when you walked in.

Tomorrow I’ll be visiting Districts 20, 21, and 22 at the Rocklin Fellowship, and I’m looking forward to seeing some of you there. I’ll also be visiting District 47 on August 8th, and Districts 9, 11, and 15 on September 20th.

I had the opportunity this past month to attend the Pacific Northwest Conference in Vancouver, Washington, a conference that has been gathering A.A. members in service since 1948 and is supported by Areas 58, 72, 92, and 18. It was a privilege to be of service and to participate on the panel “Innovation Meets Tradition: When Do We Evolve,” as well as the Ask-It Basket portion of the conference.

One thing I especially appreciated was seeing current delegates and past delegates take part together. That made me think about how valuable it might be to invite past delegates to participate in the Ask-It Baskets at our assemblies as well. The Delegate Report panel was another highlight for me, because it gave us a chance to hear directly from four delegates about their conference experience and committee work.

Heather N. from Area 18 spoke about the Agenda Committee and how the theme and discussion topics for next year’s conference were developed, while Courtney S. from Area 72 shared about the Grapevine and La Viña committee’s five-year plan and the satisfaction the committee felt about the direction of the publications. Chris H. from Area 58 spoke about the Policy/Admission Committee’s recommendation to move away from the EDW process, and Dan M. from Area 92 spoke openly about the Literature Committee’s work and the removal of the “E” word from literature.

What stood out to me most was the seriousness and respect with which each committee approached its work. Dan’s description of how the literature item was handled before and during the conference reminded me that our process matters, and that trust in the conference structure depends on patience and faith in one another. I was proud to serve alongside delegates who honored that process and did not speak about agenda items before it was time to do so.

Have you seen the new Box 459

There is a Call for Theme Suggestions for the 2030 International Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, July 4-7, 2030 Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about a theme for the 2030 International Convention celebration of A.A.'s 95th Anniversary in St. Louis, Missouri, July 4-7, 2030. We invite you to send in suggestions that will be reviewed and selected by the trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee. For inspiration, here are the themes of past A.A. International Conventions: 1965: "I Am Responsible" 1970: "Unity" 1975: "Let It Begin With Me" 1980: "The Joy of Living" 1985: "Fifty Years With Gratitude" 1990: "Fifty-Five Years — One Day At a Time" 1995: "A.A. Everywhere — Anywhere" Send your ideas to 2030ictheme@aa.org by October 9, 2026.

Twelve Concepts for World Service Video Now Available in Three Languages The Twelve Concepts for World Service animated video is now available for viewing in English, French and Spanish. The video was adapted from an A.A. Great Britain version in adherence to an Advisory Action of the General Service Conference of the U.S./Canada. The video is based on the A.A. pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated" P-8. This lively tour through the Twelve Concepts offers a wonderful introduction to A.A. service, with roles and responsibilities illustrated in an easy-to-understand "whiteboard animation" style. Follow along to see how wide participation in the "inverted triangle" of the Fellowship enables us all to work together to carry the A.A. message of hope and recovery.

View the Twelve Concepts Video here

English: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-concepts-forworld-service-video>

French:

<https://www.aa.org/fr/les-douze-concepts-des-services-mondiaux-video>

Spanish:

<https://www.aa.org/es/los-doce-conceptos-para-el-servicio-mundial-vide>

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Your Contributions in Action Your Seventh Tradition contributions to the General Service Board of the U.S./Canada helped fund the project to adapt this video for the U.S./Canada Fellowship — an example of the powerful impact of your “dollars in the basket.”

Audio Version of Plain Language Big Book is Available. The Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous is available for purchase in audio format. The Plain Language Big Book was designed so that the A.A. Twelve Step program of recovery from alcoholism may be easily understood by all people who have a desire to stop drinking. The print edition, first published in 2024, has sold more than 230,000 copies to date. The audio version will be available at the AAWS webstore and major audiobook platforms.

THE POWER OF OUR SEVENTH TRADITION

An Opportunity to Share Your Stories about the Impact of Self-Support Your General Service Office is inviting members to share their stories about the ways the Seventh Tradition has had a positive impact on your sobriety and the Fellowship. You can participate by recording a brief (about one minute) message telling us how GSO/AAWS essential services, supported through your contributions, have touched your recovery or helped you or your group to carry the message.

Examples of stories might include:

- How a piece of literature helped you get or stay sober
- How service material produced at GSO aided your sobriety or helped you to carry the message
- Finding much-needed help and a meeting via the Meeting Guide app

- Experience with the Loners Internationalist Meeting (LIM) or Corrections Correspondence Service
- How the newsletters, Box 459, About A.A., or Sharing from Behind the Walls, helped you carry or receive the message of A.A.
- Assistance you received from the General Service Office

We want to hear your stories! Send your voice memos to selfsupportfinance@aa.org. Watch and share the video about this initiative here. We want to hear your stories! Send your voice memos to selfsupportfinance@aa.org. Watch and share the video about this initiative here.

GSO Reopens for Tours The General Service Office at 475 Riverside Drive, 11th floor, in New York City, reopened in April after the successful completion of a retrofit project.

On April 24, GSO welcomed its first visitors to the revitalized space, including groups of A.A. members as well as area delegates and board members in town for the 76th General Service Conference, which took place April 26-May 2.

The A.A. The meeting at the office has also resumed and is held every Friday at 11 a.m. The 11th floor office space was retrofitted to accommodate all GSO employees on one floor of the building. The newly updated space is designed to better support collaboration and our ongoing work serving the Fellowship. This milestone marks the culmination of several months of work that required patience and flexibility from all involved. We are grateful for the understanding and support of the Fellowship throughout the duration of the project, as GSO employees worked hard to ensure continuity of essential services throughout the duration of this project.

We are excited to welcome you back to the revitalized General Service Office. Learn more about visiting GSO. To schedule a visit, contact gsotours@aa.org or call 212-870-3430.

A first-ever Special Online Forum for Deaf A.A. Members was held on January 17, 2026, to respond to an expressed need in the Fellowship and give Deaf members “a seat at the table.” The forum was created through the hard work of Deaf members, hearing allies, and GSO staff, and it grew out of a desire to improve access, communication, and service participation for Deaf alcoholics.

The forum was planned well in advance and made sure Deaf members could take part in a way that fit their language and cultural needs. Presentations were kept in plain language, and the event used interpretation and relay work between ASL, LSM, LSQ, English, French, and Spanish so more members could fully participate.

The main message from the forum was simple: Deaf members need to be included directly, not spoken for by others. Alene R. said the goal is for hearing people to ask Deaf people what they need, because “nothing about us without us” really matters in A.A. service.

This forum also highlighted a larger service need: Deaf members need more accessible literature and meeting support so they can carry the message and stay connected to A.A. The experience was described as positive and educational for both Deaf and hearing members, and it opened the door for better future collaboration.

Every month I mention the Meeting Guide App. I always ask who has a red dot on their meeting guide app. If you have one that you have not opened or see what's new in AA. In the last month you can find the links to the new young people shorts, Box - 459 and two letters about the Everything AA App. One from AA World Service and the other letter from Ben S the Developer of the Everything AA App. Here is what Ben had to say.

A Message from Ben S.

For the past several years, building and maintaining Everything AA has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. What started as a small project to make A.A. resources easier to access grew into something far larger than I ever expected. I have heard from members all over the world: newcomers trying to find their first meeting, people traveling, people in difficult moments, and people simply looking for a way to keep A.A. close throughout the day. Those messages stayed with me. They are what kept me going. As an A.A. member, I have always tried to keep the purpose of the app simple: to be useful, to stay out of the way, and to help make A.A. more accessible to anyone who needed it. I have done my best to serve that purpose with care and respect for the Fellowship. The time has now come for me to step away from maintaining the app and to transfer stewardship of Everything A.A. to Alcoholics Anonymous World Services. This is a meaningful transition. Everything A.A. has always been about service, and I believe AAWS is the right place for the app to continue forward. As an independent developer, there were limits to what I could do. AAWS will be able to support and develop the app in ways that I could not do on my own. Some parts of the app may change over time. I know some familiar features may be missed, and I understand that. At the same time, those changes are part of bringing the app into alignment with

AAWS, GSO, and our traditions. These changes will give it a stronger foundation for the future. I believe there is a lot to be hopeful about, including future improvements and additions that were not possible while I was maintaining the app independently. My hope is that members give AAWS patience, support, and an open mind as they take this forward. The app exists because A.A. members used it, shared it, contributed to it, and trusted it. That same spirit can help guide its next chapter. I am deeply grateful to everyone who used the app, sent kind words, reported issues, made suggestions, or supported the work along the way. You helped shape Everything AA into what it became. This closes my chapter as the independent developer and maintainer of Everything AA. I'm grateful that the app will continue forward under AAWS, and I hope it continues to serve members for years to come. Thank you for allowing me to be of service in this way

With gratitude, Ben S.

Grapevine

AUGUST 2026

Sober Travel

The August issue is "Sober Travel!" featuring fun, helpful stories by AA members about getting out and going places in sobriety, and the many ways we stay sober while on the road and in the air.

GRAPEVINE important updates

- **Coming soon: The Book of the month!**
- New Release: Gratitude! Discover our new brand book here.
- Tune In Anytime: Explore Grapevine's two powerful podcasts.
- Bring Grapevine to Your Group: Download free tools today.
- Subscribe Your Way: Choose Print, Complete, or Digital.
- The Grapevine Apps: Reaching More Members Worldwide!
- AA Grapevine Greeting Cards
- Be a part of Grapevine's Audio Project
- New Bulk Book Discounts!
- American Sign Language Videos for Deaf Alcoholics

Opening for Class A Trustee

Following the 77th General Service Conference (GSC) in April 2027 there will be one (1) opening for a Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee to serve on the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous (GSB). The trustees' Nominating Committee asks trustees, delegates, and directors to reach out to appropriate candidates for Class A Trustee and encourage them to consider serving Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.).

Resumes due by August 31, 2026

In seeking applications for the GSB, the trustees' Nominating Committee is committed to creating a large applicant file of qualified people reflecting the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A.

Class A Trustees are chosen from a variety of professional backgrounds, including accounting, clergy, corrections, education, finance, health care, law, medicine, military, psychology, social work, and science. Candidates are invited to include statements demonstrating interest in Alcoholics Anonymous, leadership skills and characteristics, a proven track record in their professional field, experience as a board member, and experience working with A.A. and its members.

Candidates can submit their business or professional resume using this resume, by email to nominating@aa.org or send by mail to Secretary, trustees' Nominating Committee GSO, PO Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163 by August 31, 2026.

I received a few emails from GSO Staff reaching out for some request from Bridging the Gap and PI/CPC. I sent those requests to Valeri our BTG chair and District 17 DCM. As the Chair for the CPC Committee for next years conference I will receive flyers and invitations to different events. Next Thursday I will attend the Professionals Platform Series. Our Class A Trustees will be participating in the Series.

Professionals Platform Series

Supporting Professionals. Strengthening Recovery.

A cross-sector forum convening professionals across the United States and Canada.



**Dawn Marie Klug
M.S., LCMHC, CEAP**

President and Chief Operating Officer,
Employee Assistance Network
Class A Trustee,
General Service Board of
Alcoholics Anonymous



**Andrea G. Barthwell
MD, DFASAM**

President and Founder,
Encounter Medical Group, PC
Board Chair, Global Recovery
Initiatives Foundation & National
Recovery Friendly Workplace Institute



**Dr. Matthew C. Chow
MD, FRCPC**

Chief Mental Health Officer,
TELUS Health

WHAT DOES A RECOVERY-FRIENDLY WORKPLACE LOOK LIKE?

Join Employee Assistance Program (EAP) professionals, doctors, and corporate leaders to explore practical ways to support employees affected by Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD) and build resilient, human-centered workplaces as AI reshapes how we work and recover.

- Spanish and French interpretation available
- Contact Us: info@professionalsplatform.org

Learn More: ProfessionalsPlatform.org

**Thursday
23 July 2026**

**7:00–8:30 PM ET
6:00–7:30 PM CT
4:00–5:30 PM PT**

**Virtual Access
Zoom Meeting ID:
867 7265 7920
Passcode: 853223**



A.A. EXHIBITS AT ANNUAL NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Conference Dates	Location	Conference Name
JULY 20-23	Nashville, TN	ALL RISE: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS
AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 2	Minneapolis, MN	GOVERNORS HIGHWAY SAFETY ASSOCIATION (GSHA) ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28-30	Portland, OR	PUBLIC SECTOR HR (PSHR) ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

COOPERATING WITH PROFESSIONALS TO HELP ALCOHOLICS

cpc@aa.org

Alcoholics Anonymous®

Closing Reading

Our first objective will be the development of self-restraint. This carries a top priority rating. When we speak or act hastily or rashly, the ability to be fair-minded and tolerant evaporates on the spot. One unkind tirade or one willful snap judgment can ruin our relation with another person for a whole day, or maybe a whole year. Nothing pays off like restraint of tongue and pen. We must avoid quick-tempered criticism and furious, power-driven argument. The same goes for sulking or silent scorn. These are emotional booby traps baited with pride and vengeance. Our first job is to sidestep the traps. When we are tempted by the bait, we should train ourselves to step back and think. For we can neither think nor act to good purpose until the habit of self-restraint has become automatic.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, "Step Ten," page 91