 **Connecting with Love, Unity and Service**

 **Delegate’s Report**

**Area 50 – General Service Assembly – 9/16/23**

Dear Area 50 Family-

It is with enthusiasm and excitement, that I look forward to the Area 50 Elections for Panel 74 (Area Service Positions for 2024-2025) to be held on Saturday, September 16, 2023!! I hope you are also excited to see how God speaks through our Area Conscience. If you are able to stand for a position, I hope your willingness is in step, and that you raise your hand to see what happens. We end up with the best trusted servants, through God’s will, when we have many members standing for all positions. **We need YOU. Area 50 general service, with the goal of making sure AA is here for the next sick and suffering Alcoholic, needs ALL OF US, and is not complete without YOU.**

Among others, our GSR Education Committee has done a fabulous job in preparing our trusted area servants for the election, but if you do have any remaining questions, please feel free to reach out to me. Please do not let fear, or any lurking questions remain, that may cause you to miss a service opportunity.

As with so many things in AA, my life changed when God made me able, and I added my own willingness, to first stand for Area Service in 2015. My first service sponsor told me that in discussing General Service, its not what “I did” that is important – it is how God has made it possible for General Service to change me, that is important. Participating in General Service has taught me vision, flexibility, tolerance and prudence. It has taught me the absolute necessity of balancing what has worked, with new ideas that might be better (not allowing good to be the enemy of great)! It has taught me the importance of showing up, speaking up when necessary, and quietly yielding when appropriate. It has solidified for me that God can and will remove my restentments, fear, selfishness, self-seeking and dishonesty. This is by no means an exhaustive list of the change that God, through General Service, has made in my life. My hope is that this is an attractive enough set of promises that might encourage you to continue your own General Service willingness. Love you!

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Continued thanks for the honor of serving you and AA as a whole. Here are some updates from the tip of the upside-down triangle that represents the General Service Conference!

1. **As a final reminder, potential agenda items for the 74th General Service Conference, to be held in April 2024, are due on September 15th.** This is the third and final year of the “Equitable Distribution of Workload” trial, which moved the due date up from 12/15 to 9/15 for each of the three years. Please contact me if you have a potential agenda item that has not yet been submitted.

At our Area Committee Meeting on 8/23/23, the Area Committee unanimously approved a motion to be submitted as a potential agenda item for the 74th General Service Conference. The motion is to change the procedure, timing, and 2nd year delegate eligibility for election of the delegate chair of the General Service Conference. The motion and background support information can be accessed via:

<http://area50wny.org/wp-content/uploads/PAI-Delegate-Chair-082123.pdf>

1. Hardcopy Final Reports from the 73rd General Service Conference have shipped to the Area Delegates. I have not received our hardcopy reports as of this writing, but I anticipate having these in hand for our 9/16 election assembly. **New this year, by a Conference Advisory Action out of the Conference Committee on Report and Charter, the anonymity-protected version of the Final Report will be posted to AA.org !!!!** I will also notify our corresponding Secretary, Sandy C., to circulate the pdf to the full area email list, once this is available.
2. You may remember from our pre-conference assembly and the delegate’s questionnaire, that we discussed participation of online groups in the general service structure. The options were: (a) leave as is with groups indicating what area and district they would like to be registered in, with the default being the address of the group contact if not specified (b) a virtual district in Area 50, and one of each of the other 92 areas in the US and Canada or (c) a new Area 94 for all virtual meetings, with their own Area 94 Delegate. No changes were made at the General Service Conference this year, but more information is sought from a Committee Consideration from the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions at the 73rd General Service Conference,

*“The committee reviewed the “Report of the GSB Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the U.S./Canada Service Structure” and expressed appreciation for the report, particularly the results of the survey to delegates. The committee agreed that an i****mportant next step would be for delegates to find out more about the online groups in their areas and requested that the ad-hoc committee provide them with sample questions they may use in that inquiry.*** *The committee looks forward to the next iteration of the ad hoc committee and the continued exploration of the possibilities for the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada general service structure.”*

At my request, the link to the online group survey questions was circulated to the area email list by Sandy C, on 8/30/23. Please note that the survey may be submitted by individual members, groups, or districts. Please indicate who is answering, and be certain to indicate that you are from Area 50. You may also access the survey here:

<https://groupservices.cmail20.com/t/y-l-pkytkty-didjvirdt-r/>

D. The A.A. Grapevine, Inc. app launched, as promised, on 9/1/23! It is actually 4 apps (one in Spanish and one in English in each of Android and IOS). The app subscription is $2.99/month or $29.99 plus tax, in advance for the year. If you search “AA Grapevine” in apps, you should be able to locate this.

1. There remains an opening for a GSO Staff Member, which can be accessed via:

<https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/Jobs/Details/1415215>

1. In addition to a summary article on the 73rd General Service Conference, the Summer 2023 edition of the Box 4-5-9 has a tremendous article on bringing virtual meetings into Correctional Facilities. If you don’t already have an email subscription to Box 4-5-9 to get “News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.”, navigate to:

<https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/newsletters/f-36_summer2023.pdf>

1. Please remember to access our Area 50 website, to ensure that your group is informed. All of the advisory actions and recommendations of the Conference, as well the report back are posted.

The advisory actions and recommendations are in the protected file section:

[**www.area50wny.org**](http://www.area50wny.org)

**Delegate’s News**

**Materials**

**Protected Materials**

**to access protected files**

The password is the same that has been announced. If you still need the password, please email me at**p72delegate@area50wny.org**

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Please let me know if you have any questions. As always, I am willing and available to attend Group, District, Committee or Intergroup meetings to discuss the group conscience and actions of the 73rd General Service Conference.

**Thank you for all you do. You continue to amaze and inspire me with your service to AA!**

With your help, and with God’s loving arms around us, **let’s keep doing this together, Shoulder to Shoulder**. I thank you for the honor of serving A.A. and Area 50.

Yours in Love and Service,

Denise M.

Area 50 (WNY) Panel 72 Delegate

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