



News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.®

Vol. 74, No. 3

www.aa.org

Summer 2026

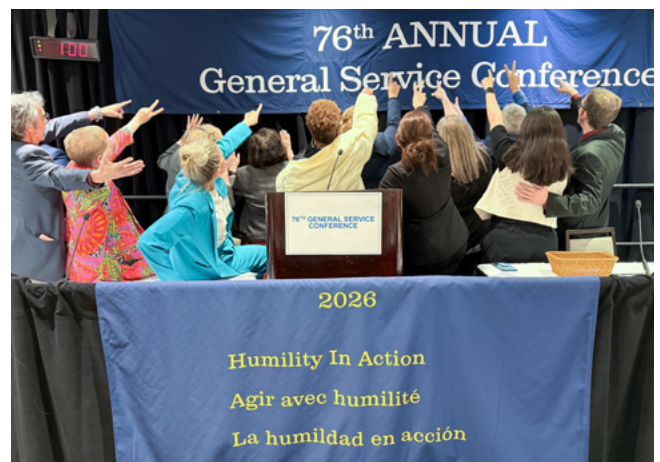
■ The 76th General Service Conference: ‘Humility in Action’

The 76th General Service Conference was held April 26–May 2, 2026, at the New York Hilton Midtown hotel. Guided by the theme of “Humility in Action,” 136 Conference members gathered at the week-long event in the spirit of unity, fellowship and service, prepared to address 70 agenda items critical to the future of A.A. throughout the United States and Canada. The General Service Conference is both a stage for a year’s worth of work coming to fruition through spirited deliberation and voting from the Conference body, as well as an opportunity to identify new paths to forge for carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The week kicked off Sunday morning with opening remarks from General Service Board Chair Scott H., who set the tone for the week ahead — highlighting the importance of detaching from personal differences and uniting in service to inform the work to be done throughout the Conference. This was followed by a lively roll call of all Conference members conducted by General Service Office General Manager Bob W. Reflecting on this year’s theme in his welcome address, Jay T., Conference delegate chairperson from Area 27, Louisiana, addressed the Conference body, saying, “I hope we can approach

the week with open minds, patient hearts and a spirit of cooperation. If we remain willing — willing to listen, willing to learn and willing to trust the process — then humility will truly be in action.”

In her keynote address, rotating Eastern Canada regional trustee Joyce S. candidly shared about her over 10 years in general service and all the challenges that came with it — feelings of inadequacy and fear, and, at times, a fractured relationship between delegates and the General Service Board. Capping that



Box 4-5-9 is published quarterly by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115, www.aa.org

Copyright © 2026 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Note on anonymity: From time to time in this publication full names and/or pictures of GSO employees, Class A trustees and other nonalcoholics are used. The anonymity of A.A. members is maintained, as they are identified throughout by first name and last initial only.

honesty with a powerful message of resilience regarding past difficulties, Joyce asserted that “despite the pain, the work of the Conference was done. ... Our responsibility to the Fellowship was upheld. That tells me something important: A.A. is bigger than any one conflict, any one Conference or any one personality.”

Also on Sunday, three delegates presented on the topics of “Restoration and Discovering Grace, Unity and Fellowship”; “Gossip vs. Facts: Examining the Health of Our Own Communications”; and “Finding Common Ground.” The presentations were followed by general sharing from the Conference body, where a palpable feeling of camaraderie and a shared sense of purpose resonated throughout the room. “I’m feeling the love and unity; this is the right start,” one Conference member noted, while another lovingly implored, “Let’s agree to disagree and leave here strongly united.” Following a session of Joint Trustees’ and Conference Committee meetings, the first day of the 76th General Service Conference concluded with the annual opening dinner and A.A. meeting.

Much of the week’s agenda was centered around the work of 13 Conference committees and the thorough discussion of their reports and recommendations submitted to the Conference body. Additionally, reports from the 2025 Inventory Implementation Committee and the Cross-Functional Communications Group were presented, as well as reports from the General Service Board and its affiliate boards — AAWS and AA Grapevine. There were also presentations highlighting A.A. around the world and a detailed finance report delivered by an independent auditor — followed by a “Picnic Table” finance presentation from Scott H., stepping in for interim Treasurer Terry

Bedient, who was unable to attend the Conference.

A workshop titled “Keeping Our Own House in Order” offered Conference members the opportunity to break out into 10 groups, sharing on topics centered around Step Ten as it relates to general service. Two general sharing sessions were held during the week where Conference members were encouraged to ask questions and share on the topics impacting their individual areas — and the Fellowship as a whole. A third sharing session scheduled for Thursday evening was forgone in favor of continuing with the discussion of Conference committee reports.

Perhaps the most widely anticipated of the many agenda items addressed during the week was a draft of the fifth edition of the beloved Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Following a 2021 Advisory Action authorizing its development, the draft — including 26 new stories, a new preface and foreword, and updated appendices — is the culmination of five years of work, including the review of nearly 2,400 story submissions. After being put forth as a recommendation from the Conference Committee on Literature, the draft was provided to Conference members to read between Tuesday and Friday morning, when discussion around the agenda item commenced. Expectedly, robust and

ATTEND A REGIONAL FORUM

Regional Forums provide unique opportunities for A.A. members across the U.S. and Canada to connect with people throughout the A.A. service structure. At forums, members can exchange information with representatives of the General Service Board, AAWS, AA Grapevine and the GSO.

Upcoming Regional Forums in 2026 include:

Eastern Canada

August 21–23

Hôtel Mortagne, Boucherville, QC

Southeast

September 18–20

Hilton Raleigh North Hills, Raleigh, NC

Pacific

December 4–6

Wyndham San Diego Bayside, San Diego, CA

Questions? Contact the Regional Forums desk at GSO, regionalforums@aa.org.



passionate sharing was heard from the Conference body, ranging from trepidation and concern over the new content to enthusiastic support and excitement, with one member stating, "This book will save lives." Ultimately, the matter was put to a vote, with Conference members approving to publish the fifth edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, making it the first new edition of the Big Book since the fourth edition was published in 2001. Additionally, it was voted to remove an offensive term from the first 164 pages of the Big Book, which sparked even further discussion around the matter of founders' writings.

Conference business adjourned Friday evening with heartfelt farewells from the Panel 75 delegates and closing remarks from GSB Chair Scott H. "The survival of A.A. depends less on the work we do and more on how we treat each other," Scott said, echoing the message of his opening remarks delivered almost a week prior. And noting the unified spirit of this year's Conference, he said: "We chose to trust, laugh and be positive. ... The energy in the room this week was life changing."

On Saturday morning, Tammy S., Area 86, Western Ontario, was introduced as the 77th General Service Conference delegate chairperson, offering a warm reminder to us all when she said, "Clearly, when I get out of the way, miracles happen." Following a reading of "How It Works," three rotating trustees — Joyce S., Eastern Canada regional trustee; Reilly K., Pacific regional trustee; and Carolyn W., general service trustee — addressed the Conference body, reflecting on their time in service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

"I have been truly blessed that my Higher Power gave me the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous all the way from the very top of the triangle down to the bottom. ... This journey has touched

not only my sobriety, but every part of my life," Joyce stated with gratitude. "Service has a way of shaping us, strengthening us and preparing us for responsibilities we never believed we could handle."

Looking back on 60 years of sobriety, Reilly touched on the trials and triumphs that come with service, noting her time as a regional trustee as "the most joyous highlight" of her journey. Reflecting on an early conversation with her sponsor, Reilly recalled asking if she could *be someone* important in A.A., and her sponsor replying bluntly, "No." When she asked if she could *do something* important in A.A., her sponsor said, "Just be there. Always be there." And that is exactly what she has done for three quarters of her life.

In her remarks, Carolyn talked about her unlikely path to general service, noting that she was banned from A.A. meetings and struggled to stay sober when she first came to the rooms. On what life looked like after eight years of board service, Carolyn admitted that she was uncertain — though her love for A.A. was never more clear. "I don't know how to go from here and repay to Alcoholics Anonymous what you've given me, but I know that I will try every day," she said. "And when I fall short, I hope you will tell me because Alcoholics Anonymous deserves absolutely nothing but our very best."

Following closing remarks from GSO General Manager Bob W., who expressed his gratitude for a respectful, loving Conference, calling it the "ultimate expression of the Second Tradition," the Conference officially concluded with the Responsibility Statement. And as attendees gathered their belongings, preparing to visit Stepping Stones, make their journeys home and turn their attention to the work and year ahead, the theme of next year's General Service Conference was sure to be on their minds — and in their hearts: "Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future."

2026 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 on by all Conference members during general sessions. The group conscience of the Fellowship in the United States and Canada was expressed in the following Advisory Actions, which the General Service Board accepted in its legally required annual meeting following the 2026 Conference.

A sampling of Advisory Actions from the 2026 General Service Conference appears below. A complete list will be published in the 2026 *Final Conference Report* (available from GSO this fall).

FLOOR ACTIONS

- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense to attend the Conference be increased from \$2,200 to \$3,000.
- AAWS offer a print version of the 2026 *Final Conference Report* (FCR) to be available for purchase. If production costs of the project are not covered by sales, the FCR print version will end for the 2027 General Service Conference.
- The word "Eskimo" be removed from the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, chapter essay on "Tradition Eight" and replaced with a neutral, non-racial term.

AGENDA

- The following theme for the 2027 General Service Conference: "Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future."
- The following presentation theme and topics for the 2027 General Service Conference:
 - "The Spirit of Rotation: Cultivating Leadership."
 - "Anonymity, Our Spiritual Compass."
 - "Innovation Meets Tradition."
- The following workshop topic for the 2027 General Service Conference: "Unexpected Spiritual Lessons."

CORRECTIONS

- The pamphlet "The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs" (Item P-11) be revised and that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2027 General Service Conference.

Note: As a result of the 2025-2026 Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) plan, the above item was on the agenda of the Conference Committee on Corrections.

FINANCE

- "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" (Item F-3) be updated with the following change:

The question and answer on a group making financial contributions to AA Grapevine on page 12, which reads:

Q: Can our group make financial contributions to AA Grapevine?

A: No. AA Grapevine, Inc. is not set up to take contributions from groups or individuals. Groups and individual members support the Grapevine by purchasing Grapevine and La Viña subscriptions and other Grapevine publications and using them in their Twelfth Step work."

Be replaced with:

Q: How can our group support AA Grapevine / La Viña?

A: AA Grapevine, Inc., does not accept contributions from groups or individuals. Groups and individual members support the Grapevine by purchasing Grapevine and La Viña subscriptions and other Grapevine publications and using them in their Twelfth Step work. When your group is discussing how your funds should be used, you may consider purchasing subscriptions, gift certificates, books and other materials, or supporting the Carry the Message project to ensure that Grapevine and La Viña continue to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. For further information, visit aagrapevine.org."

LITERATURE

- The following language be added to the Conference Committee on Literature Composition, Scope, and Procedure under the Procedure section:
"To have the Conference Committee chairperson maintain consistent contact with the chairperson of the trustees' Literature Committee throughout the year."
- The fifth edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be approved with minor editorial changes.
- The word "Eskimo" be removed from "Chapter 7: Working With Others" and replaced with a neutral, non-racial term.

POLICY/ADMISSIONS

- Following the 78th General Service Conference that the Equitable Distribution Workload (EDW) process be discontinued.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- A pilot 2026 Membership Survey, with a budgeted cost not to exceed \$10,000, to explore how to include groups not listed by the General Service Office in a future full membership survey. The committee requested a progress report or pilot survey results be brought back to the 2027 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The revised pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" (Item P-47) with the new title "Anonymity — Our Spiritual Foundation" be approved.

REPORT AND CHARTER

- The question "What happens if a group decides not to hear a GSR report?" be added to Chapter 1 FAQs section in the 2026-2028 Edition of *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* and that the question and answer be included as follows:
"What Happens if Our Group Decides Not to Hear my GSR Report?"

If a group decides not to hear a GSR report during a meeting, the information can still be shared in other ways. This may include a written report with printed copies, email, group messaging, a shared online document, or posting the report on a bulletin or noticeboard. When utilizing these methods, it is important to respect Tradition Eleven and protect anonymity; so that members' names are not publicly available. Hearing the GSR report is important because it helps keep the group connected to A.A. as a whole. As co-founder Bill W. explained, A.A. groups hold the ultimate responsibility for A.A. world services. The GSR serves as the communication link between the group and the larger Fellowship by sharing the group conscience with the Conference and bringing Conference actions back to the group. This two-way communication allows the group to have a voice in A.A., strengthens unity, and provides spiritual benefits by helping members stay informed, involved, and connected to the Fellowship beyond the home group."

- A draft of a new "Amendment" section be approved for inclusion at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service section of *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*.



■ Call for Theme Suggestions for the 2030 International Convention in St. Louis, Missouri July 4-7, 2030 — Deadline 10/9/26

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 which will be reviewed and selected by the trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee.

To provide inspiration, the themes of past A.A. International Conventions have been: "I Am Responsible" in 1965; "Unity" in 1975; "Let It Begin With Me" in 1980; "The Joy of Living in 1995"; "Fifty Years With Gratitude" in 1985; "Fifty-Five Years — One Day At a Time" in 1990; "A.A. Everywhere — Anywhere" in 1995; "Pass It On — Into the 21st Century" in 2000; "I Am Responsible" in 2005; "A Vision for You" in 2010; "80 Years — Happy, Joyous and Free" in 2015; "Love and Tolerance is Our Code" in 2020; and "Language of the Heart" in 2025.

Please send your ideas to"

2030ictheme@aa.org by October 9, 2026.

■ LinkedIn: Connecting Professionals with Alcoholics Anonymous

Every day, professionals across healthcare, behavioral health, corrections, social services, education, faith communities, employee assistance programs and many other fields encounter individuals whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. Having access to accurate information about Alcoholics Anonymous can make an important difference.

To help meet that need, the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. maintains an active presence on [LinkedIn](#) as an extension of our public information and outreach efforts.

LinkedIn serves as another digital resource — alongside [AA.org](#) — where professionals can easily access current information about A.A. and the many ways the Fellowship supports those seeking recovery from alcoholism. Through weekly posts, we share A.A. literature, videos, audio content, historical information, updates from the General Service Office and stories that highlight A.A.'s ongoing mission of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

The development of A.A.'s LinkedIn presence has been a thoughtful, collaborative effort over several years. In 2018, the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee reviewed a report exploring LinkedIn as a potential platform for reaching professionals and forwarded it to the 2018 Conference Committee on CPC for consideration. The following year, the trustees reviewed the progress of creating a LinkedIn page and agreed that a page directing professionals to AA.org would fulfill the goals of the 2018 Advisory Action. In June 2021, the General Service Office published its first LinkedIn post announcing a Class A trustee vacancy, marking the beginning of A.A.'s presence on the platform.

We also use LinkedIn to broaden the reach of [About A.A.](#), our newsletter for professionals, by sharing articles that explore how Alcoholics Anonymous serves as a resource for those working in healthcare, corrections, law, human resources and many other professions. Through this outreach, we aim to strengthen connections with the professional com-

munity while encouraging greater awareness of how A.A. can support those seeking recovery.

Recognizing the diverse communities we serve, we regularly share content in English, Spanish and French, helping ensure that language is not a barrier to accessing information about A.A. or to professionals working with multilingual populations throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Our LinkedIn presence is an active outreach effort designed to help professionals learn about A.A. as a resource. Whether you're looking for information about Alcoholics Anonymous, educational materials to share or guidance on connecting someone with A.A., we're here to help.

This outreach is sustained through close collaboration between the General Service Office's Communications Department and the CPC Staff coordinator, who work together to maintain a weekly posting schedule and thoughtfully incorporate multimedia, relevant content and hashtags that help professionals discover A.A.'s resources. Inquiries received through LinkedIn are directed to the appropriate General Service Office employee to ensure each request is answered by the person best equipped to help.

One of the strengths of this outreach is that it makes effective use of existing General Service Office resources. Because maintaining an organizational presence on LinkedIn is free, Staff are able to expand outreach to the professional community with minimal additional expense.

As of July 2026, the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services LinkedIn page has grown to more than 5,000 followers, reflecting an expanding network of professionals who look to A.A. as a resource in their work with individuals and families affected by alcoholism.

If you're interested in learning more, we invite you to follow our LinkedIn page and explore the resources we share each week. For questions about our LinkedIn page or other Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) efforts, please contact us at cpc@aa.org or visit our [webpage](#).

The Power of Our Seventh Tradition

■ Self-Support in Action: Sharing Stories of Impact

The General Service Office launched an initiative this spring to [invite members](#) to share their stories about the ways the Seventh Tradition has had a positive impact on their sobriety and on the Fellowship.

Members of the Fellowship have responded to the call with powerful sharing that attests to the impact of self-support on their lives and in their service to carry the message. Below are excerpts from their stories.

“I’m grateful to be actively involved with the CPC Committee in Area 19, Chicago. In our service work, A.A. materials have been essential in helping us carry the message, especially in our outreach to medical professionals. One resource we rely on regularly is the [Meeting Guide](#) app. When we present to hospital staff, we take a few minutes to introduce the app, help staff download it and walk them through how it works. Many are unaware that this tool exists, or how useful it can be to patients looking for meetings and reliable A.A. information. After each presentation, we follow up by sharing links to the A.A. literature we discussed, along with the Meeting Guide app, so staff can easily share resources with colleagues and patients. And in this way, A.A. materials continue to help us carry the message beyond the meeting room.

“I am a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. I was being told at one point that if I took psychiatric medications, I wasn’t sober. But it had also been suggested to me that sometimes there can be a difference between what A.A. says and what people in A.A. say, and it would be up to me to determine what that might be. So, one day, I decided to try to find out what Alcoholics Anonymous might have to say about this. So, I called the General Service Office directly. Not only was my call answered, but the person on the phone said that, actually, a pamphlet had just been printed that addressed this very topic, and that she would send it out in the mail that day. The pamphlet was [The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs](#). Now, this may sound like a small act of service, but in my life, it was huge. It may have saved my life. For that, I am ever so grateful. Thank you, A.A.

“The GSO podcast, [Our Primary Purpose](#), has turned out to be a great resource for our district. A question came up about Class A, non-alcoholic, trustees — who they are, and why we need them. I just listened to two episodes of the podcast where Class A trustees talked about exactly that. And rather than hand someone yet another article to read, I could point them to the podcast where they could hear it directly from the people doing it. Similarly, we were talking about Tradition Three. And there’s a podcast episode called A.A. Is For Everyone, with interviews of members who’ve helped gather stories from their communities for pamphlets like [Indigenous People in A.A.](#), and several new pamphlets. And they talked about how those pamphlets help widen the door into A.A.

“It has been a privilege volunteering for [Corrections Correspondence](#) for about 14 years now, and what an unexpected blessing these alcoholics have been to my recovery. I remind them that they’re helping me more than they know. In helping them, I’ve learned how to speak the language of the heart when taking them through the steps in the Big Book and through letters. For me, it takes a lot of meditation and prayer. I always look forward to them sharing their experience, strength and hope to help me be a better servant. I always end a letter with ‘trust God, clean house, help others.’ And I am only sober by the grace of God and A.A. action.

“My sponsor and a couple of A.A. friends were the first people I told I was gay. I remember wondering how the rest of A.A. would react. Fortunately, I got sober in a group that made me feel safe to sort that out. Not long after that, I noticed a pamphlet in the group’s literature rack — P-32, now called [LGBTQ Alcoholics in A.A.](#) I was too scared to pick it up, but just seeing it there planted a seed — maybe I was already more welcome than I thought. I learned it was contributions from members that made that pamphlet available to me for no charge. I eventually became GSR for my home group, where I had the opportunity to discuss that very pamphlet at our area’s mini conference. There was

spirited discussion about how we use our Seventh Tradition to carry the message. Well, I fell in love with service that day. I never would have imagined that years later I'd be an area delegate. I don't know what moments of my journey have made the difference and why I've stayed sober while others have not, but I know for sure that pamphlet, on that day, was a turning point in my sobriety. Participating in conversations that turn my contributions into actions, to let all those who suffer from alcoholism know that they are welcome here, is how I honor our Seventh Tradition.

We want to hear your stories! You can still 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.

Send your voice memos to:
selfsupportfinance@aa.org.

Look for animated videos of member stories this fall on our [YouTube](#) channel.

■ Everything AA App: New Digital Resource



In May, AAWS acquired the Everything AA app, which features A.A. literature and other resources to help carry the message. In a [communication](#) to the Fellowship, the AAWS Board expressed gratitude to the app's developer, Ben S., for helping to make this transition possible.

Over the coming months, app users will see phased updates as the app is reviewed and enhanced as a trusted source for our literature, Conference-approved content and other resources. There is no cost to use the app, but users may also subscribe to support ongoing development, maintenance, accessibility and digital services.

Read the board's message about the app and a message from Ben S. [here](#).

The app is available on both iOS and Android. For app support, please contact everythingaa@aa.org.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS ON YouTube



Alcoholics
Anonymous

Young and Sober in A.A.

AAWS Inc. · 246 views · 20 minutes ago

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

[@alcoholicsanonymousworldse1373](#)

**Alcoholics
Anonymous®**

■ Class A Trustee Service Opportunity

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.).

Class A trustees serve up to two consecutive three-year terms. Since the experience the Class A trustees offer is valuable to the GSB their availability and attendance at the meetings noted below is critical. Applicants are encouraged to discuss this time commitment with their family and employer.

- Three quarterly Board Weekends — meetings typically run from Friday through Monday at noon.
- A fourth quarterly meeting combined with the annual GSC (seven days) in April/May.
- Special meetings of the board as needed.
- Trustees serve on committees of the GSB and may also serve on trustees' subcommittees involving multiple video conference calls, including weekends, weekdays and evenings.
- Rotational attendance at Regional Forums.
- May be asked to serve two years on either the A.A. World Services, Inc. or AA Grapevine corporate boards, which meet more frequently than the GSB and include possible corporate board subcommittees.
- Frequently invited to participate in regional or area activities such as service conferences, area assemblies and other A.A. events as assigned.

Trustees are reimbursed for travel, hotel and meal expenses.

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 submission link](#), 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**.

■ Regional Trustee and Trustee-at-Large/Canada Service Opportunities

Opening for three Class B (alcoholic) trustees — Northeast and Southwest regional trustees and trustee-at-large/Canada. Resumes are due by January 1, 2027.

Three new Class B (alcoholic) trustees will be elected at the General Service Conference (GSC) in April 2027, two regional trustees (Northeast and Southwest) and a trustee-at-large/Canada.

The new Northeast regional trustee will succeed Ken T., of Pepperell, MA; the new Southwest regional trustee will succeed Teresa J. of Albuquerque, NM; and the new trustee-at-large/Canada will succeed Robert L. of Notre-Dame-des Monts, QC.

In seeking applications for vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large file of qualified applicants that reflect the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A. itself.

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

Since much is asked of the trustees with respect to their time, please be sure your candidate understands the commitment. Applicants are encouraged to discuss this time commitment with their family and employer. Trustees are expected to attend the following:

- Three quarterly Board Weekends — meetings typically run from Friday through Monday at noon.
- A fourth quarterly meeting combined with the annual General Service Conference (seven days) in April/May.
- Special meetings of the Board as needed.
- Trustees serve on committees of the GSB and may also serve on trustees' subcommittees involving multiple video conference calls, including weekends, weekdays and evenings.
- Rotational attendance at Regional Forums.
- May be asked to serve two years on either the A.A. World Services, Inc. or AA Grapevine corporate boards, which meet more frequently than the GSB and include possible corporate board subcommittees.
- Frequently invited to participate in regional or area activities such as service conferences, area assemblies and other A.A. events.
- In addition to the above, the trustee-at-large is also expected to:
 - Attend the World Service Meeting as a delegate representing the U.S. and Canada. The World Service Meeting is held every two years, and the meeting location alternates between New York

City and a location outside the U.S. and Canada.

- In the year between the World Service Meeting, the trustees-at-large attend the Meeting of the Americas (REDELA) as delegates representing the U.S. and Canada. The location rotates among member countries in North, Central and South America.
- Trustees-at-large will occasionally be invited to attend international events that will require additional time away from home. They represent the GSB at these events in helping to carry the A.A. message.

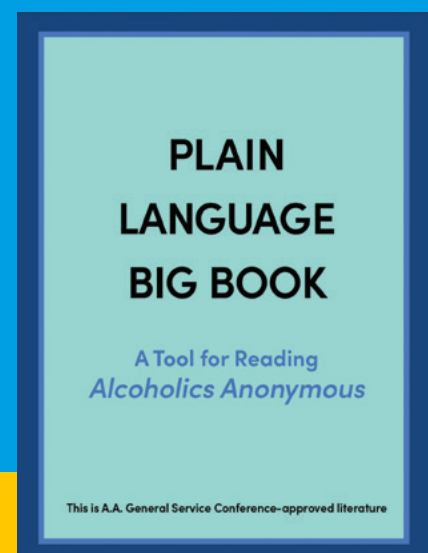
Trustees are reimbursed for travel, hotel and meal expenses.

As soon as possible after your area has elected a candidate for regional trustee and/or trustee-at-large/Canada, the GSC delegates are asked to send the name and contact information of the candidate to the secretary of the trustees' Nominating Committee at nominating@aa.org. The secretary will then reach out to the candidate with instructions on how to submit their resume. Resumes must be received electronically or post marked by the **January 1, 2027** deadline.

AUDIO VERSION OF PLAIN LANGUAGE BIG BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

The *Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* is now 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 257,000 copies to date.

The audio version is available at the AAWS [webstore](https://www.aaws.org/webstore) and major audiobook platforms.



Audiobook

Narrated by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
June 15, 2026 • 8 hr, 41 min

\$9.99

OUR PRIMARY
PURPOSE*

PODCAST

EVERY TUESDAY

*Available in English only

Our
Primary
Purpose

Official Podcast of the
General Service Office
**Alcoholics
Anonymous®**

SEASON 2 STREAMING NOW
AND AVAILABLE ON
PODCAST PLATFORMS



LISTEN NOW



gsopodcast@aa.org



aa.org/gso-podcast

Visit the General Service Office!

Visitors are welcome to GSO, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tours are scheduled at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 2 p.m., and last about 45 minutes.

**On Fridays, GSO hosts an open A.A. meeting at 11 a.m.
There is also a guided tour offered after the meeting at 12:15 p.m.**



SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT TO GSO

All visitors must register in advance to gain access to the building in accordance with the building policy. Accordingly, we strongly recommend that individuals contact us prior to their visit so that we can enter them into the building's security system.

**We're located at 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY
(building entrance at 61 Claremont Avenue).**

Groups of 10 or more must contact us ahead of time to schedule their visit so that we can best prepare for your time at the General Service Office.

To schedule your visit, email gsotours@aa.org or call 212-870-3430.

To learn more about visiting GSO, including location details, our health and safety policy, and information about purchasing literature, please visit aa.org/visiting-the-gso.

Please note, the building will be closed to visitors September 7, October 12 and November 11.

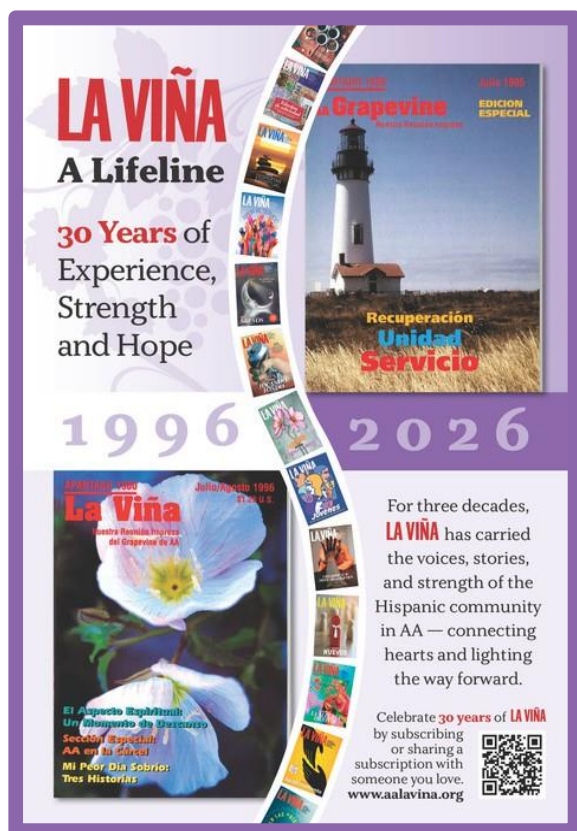


Strengthening Participation Through GVR and RLV

Grapevine & La Viña Representatives play a vital role in carrying the message and helping connect groups with the experience, strength and hope shared through the Grapevine and La Viña. Participation at the group level strengthens communication, unity and engagement throughout the Fellowship.

Groups are encouraged to complete their GVR registration via the [Get Involved Page](#) on our website. Groups without an active GVR are also encouraged to consider electing one and ensuring they are registered and connected at the district and area level. This will ensure the AA Grapevine reaches the group structure.

Email **GVRC@aagrapevine.org** to see if your group is registered. GVR complimentary material for your role can be found at www.aagrapevine.org/gvr-resources!





The meeting after the meeting on the
 “AA Grapevine Half-Hour
 Variety Hour”
 &
 “Grapevine Weekly Open
 AA Meeting”

The podcasts are available on your
 favorite podcast platforms and via
 the player at

www.aagrapevine.org/podcasts



GRATITUDE

Being thankful, appreciating sobriety,
 helping others and living life to its fullest

STORIES FROM AA GRAPEVINE

www.aagrapevine.org/books

GRAPEVINE YOUTUBE CHANNEL

490+ videos
 and collection is
 expanding!



American Sign
 Language videos for
 the Deaf.

Listen on the go and stay inspired wherever you are!
 Visit www.youtube.com/aagrapevine

Calendar of Events

NOTE: Events may be canceled or moved to online formats due to health and safety concerns. Please contact the event coordinators as listed before making your plans.

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office. Please note that we cannot attest to the accuracy, relevancy, timeliness or completeness of information provided by any linked site. For any additional information, please use the event contact information provided.

SEPTEMBER

- 4-6 Omaha, Nebraska**
LIII Convención Hispana USA Canada
Write: Box 6002, Omaha, NE 68106
Info: www.liiiconvencionhispanausacanada.org
- 4-6 Dallas, Texas**
Our Living Legacy Conference
Info: <https://ourlivinglegacyconference.com/>
- 4-7 Redondo Beach, California**
South Bay Family Roundup
Write: Box 83, Redondo Beach, California 90277
Info: <https://rcs.squaredroot.net/org/SBRU>
- 4-7 Tampa, Florida**
Tampa Bay Fall Roundup
Info: <https://tampabayfallroundup.com>
- 10-13 Tacoma, Washington**
National Archives Workshop Tacoma
Write: Box 8105, Tacoma, WA 98419
Info: www.area72aa.org/naaaw
- 11-13 Concord, California**
National Technology Workshop
Info: <https://naatw.org/>
- 18-20 Key West, Florida**
Keys for Serenity
Info: <https://www.keysforserenity.com/>
- 18-20 San Diego, California**
Woman to Woman San Diego
Info: www.womantowomansandiego.com

OCTOBER

- 2-4 Powell River, British Columbia**
79th Annual Powell River Rally
Info: praarally@gmail.com
- 16-17 Ontario, Canada**
72nd Annual Eastern Ontario Fall Conference
Info: eoc@ottawaaa.org
- 23-25 Newark, Delaware**
Northeast Woman to Woman Conference
Write: Box 215, Magnolia, NJ 19962
Info: <https://newwoman2womandeleware.regfox.com/38-th-annual-northeast-woman-to-woman-conference-2026>
- 23-25 Milford, Iowa**
Northwest Iowa Pre-Winter Rally
Write: Box 372, Okoboji, IA 51355
Info: <https://prewinterrally.org/>
- 23-25 Oak Creek, Wisconsin**
24 Convencion Hispana del Estado de Wisconsin
Info: Lirr52020@gmail.com
- 30-1 Branson, Missouri**
Western Area of Missouri Colors of Fall Convention
Info: <https://wamo-aa.org/>
- 30-1 Stillwater, New Jersey**
NAGL NJ Annual Closed Conference
Write: Box 404, West Orange, NJ 07052
Info: <https://naglnj.com>
- 30-1 St. Thomas, Virgin Islands**
Promises in Paradise
Write: Box 307556, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00803
Info: www.promisesinparadise.com

NOVEMBER

- 6-8 Bolivar, Pennsylvania**
85th Laurel Highlands Conference
Info: www.laurelhighlandsconference.com
- 6-8 Pewaukee, Wisconsin**
Area 75 2026 Conference Southern Wisconsin Area Assembly
Write: Box 7444, Madison, WI 53707
Info: <https://2026-area-75-conference.square.site/>
- 6-8 Bossier City, Louisiana**
79th Tri-State Convention
Info: <https://www.tristateconvention.org/>
- 13-15 Phoenix, Arizona**
International Conference of Secular AA 2026
Info: <https://www.aasecular.org/icsaa-2026>
- 13-15 Salt Lake City, Utah**
National Corrections Conference
Info: <https://www.nationalcorrectionsconference.org/>
- 13-15 Saint Simons Island, Georgia**
Ladybug Roundup
Info: <https://www.ladybugroundup.com>
- 13-15 Vancouver, British Columbia**
36th Annual Vancouver Round Up
Info: www.vanroundup.com