

## 37th General Service Conference— “The Seventh Tradition—A Turning Point”

As it has each spring for the past 36 years, the U.S./Canada General Service Conference met in New York City, April 26 to May 2; the meeting was held at the Roosevelt Hotel, as it has been for many years.

Actually, the work of the Conference is an ongoing process throughout the entire year — at the group level, in the districts and areas, at the General Service Office and in the constant work of committees, from local areas to the trustees' committees. And it is at A.A.'s annual General Service Conference that the delegates from 91 areas of the U.S./Canada, trustees, directors and staff members of G.S.O. and the Grapevine come together to express A.A.'s collective group conscience and ensure that the voice of A.A. as a whole will be heard.

“The Seventh Tradition—A Turning Point” was the theme of the 37th Conference. Even the choice of the Seventh Tradition as a theme is a kind of turning point — it has never been the theme before. Through the years Conference themes have varied — reflecting the climate and times of the Fellowship. For example, at the first Conference in 1951, after co-founders Bill W. and Dr. Bob turned A.A. over to the Fellowship, the theme was: Not to Govern—But to Serve. Determination to Work and Grow Together marked the theme of the 11th Confer-

ence in 1961. Sponsorship (1967), Group Conscience (1969), Our Primary Purpose (1972), the A.A. Group (1977) and A.A. Takes Its Inventory (1981) have all been the focus of attention at previous Conferences. And yet, while our tradition of self-support through contributions has not been “officially” addressed, it has, in one way or another, been discussed at nearly every Conference since 1951.

On June 10, 1987, Alcoholics Anonymous will be 52 years old, and the Conference felt that the time has come for A.A. to take a long look at self-support throughout the entire service structure. Wayne P., Southwest regional trustee, said in the keynote address at the opening of the Conference Monday morning: “Obviously, we are talking about money, and I have yet to meet an alcoholic who does not have a deep and abiding love for it as well as a deep conviction that they are experts in fiscal management. However, I do not think most of us got here because of our expertise in this area. The issue of self-support is the tradition that has saved our Fellowship, thanks to Mr. Rockefeller.”

In recent years, group contributions have sometimes failed to fully support service activities — thus affecting districts, areas and intergroups, as well as the General



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Service Office. On Monday afternoon the Conference heard presentations on finance, and it was pointed out that G.S.O. has come to rely more and more on publishing income for group services and General Service Board activities, expenses that should be provided by group contributions. It was further noted in the presentations that publishing income has come increasingly from non-A.A. sources. This has the potential to create Sixth Tradition problems as well.

In the past year, the General Service Board has had a self-support project, informing areas through the delegates of the details of the current shortfall in contributions. The 37th Conference noted with gratitude that the Fellowship has responded with increases of from 30% to 50% in contributions from last year's levels for the past five months. It was noted that a continuation of this trend for the next year and a half would bring the Fellowship essentially to a level of self-support from which the rates of increase enjoyed in the past, in proportion to the growth of the Fellowship, would suffice.

The Conference also noted with approval the plan of the Grapevine for comprehensive long-range planning leading to redefinition of the use of the magazine, together with more effective communication of its role in twelfth-step work. The Grapevine, like everything else we do, has one primary purpose — to carry the message.

The main concern of the Conference was, as it has always been, Alcoholics Anonymous' primary purpose — reaching the still-suffering alcoholic. On Tuesday morning Conference members heard two reports on the Native North American Project, and Thursday the Conference recommended that the trustees' Literature Committee develop a special pamphlet sharing personal stories of Native Americans.

Tuesday afternoon there was a presentation/discussion session: "Are We Carrying the Message to All?," and the three presentations addressed what is being done for hearing- and visually-impaired alcoholics, and other language groups. "Court Programs—Current Problems and Solutions," a subject of much interest in many areas, was the presentation/discussion topic Wednesday afternoon. There were also reports on the Ninth World Service Meeting, held in Guatemala in October of 1986.

The Conference approved the recommendation of the Conference Literature Committee for the revision of the Conference-approved pamphlet, "Too Young?," which

has been updated and is graphically more appropriate for today's young alcoholics. Another revised pamphlet, developed by the Correctional Facilities Committee that was approved, was "Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic." Conference members viewed and approved a film targeting young people, developed by the Public Information Committee, and a film based on the pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell."

Wednesday afternoon the Conference elected three new Class B (alcoholic) trustees. W.F. (Webb) J., British Columbia/Yukon, will replace Helen H. as trustee-at-large, Canada; Jan W., Northwest Texas, replacing Wayne P., as Southwest regional trustee and the new Northeast regional trustee will be John S., Northern New Jersey, replacing Garrett T.

Delegate chairperson for the 1988 Conference will be Joyce K. (Northeastern Ohio); alternate chairperson, Dick P. (Northern Florida).

Sandwiched between committee meetings, general sessions, presentations, reports and area highlights, two workshops afforded Conference members the opportunity to share their concerns, experience, strengths and hopes on Unity and Living Sober.

Friday afternoon, after the committee reports and advisory actions had been completed, the last presentation/discussion topic was: "Maintaining the Basics—A.A.'s Principles," reiterating once more what Alcoholics Anonymous is all about. As was said in the keynote address: "The Conference structure works, and what we must do is show up when we are asked to and allow our Higher Power to guide us in carrying our message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic. After all, that is what all of this is about, one drunk helping another."

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### Estimates of Groups and Members as of January 1, 1987

	Groups	Members
United States	36,002	727,145
Canada	4,540	76,377
Overseas	30,868 <sup>1</sup>	698,271 <sup>1</sup>
Correctional facilities	1,782 <sup>2</sup>	53,460 <sup>2</sup>
Internationalists		543
Lone members		520
	<hr/> 73,192	<hr/> 1,556,316

1. At the end of 1986, we had reported members from 68 of the 115 overseas countries with A.A. groups. These totaled 25,608 groups and 578,180 members. To establish an estimate for the 47 countries not yet responding, we excluded the eight largest responding and obtained an average of the balance. This average was applied to the 47 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.

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# 1987 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 of the 38th Conference be “Our Singleness of Purpose—Key to Unity”; that “Self-support” be a presentation/discussion topic for the next five years.

**Cooperation With the Professional Community**—that area assembly chairpersons be asked for information on area interest in having tabletop exhibits; that the title of the pamphlet “A Clergyman Asks” be changed to “The Clergy Ask.”

**Correctional Facilities**—that all areas be encouraged to begin working in the direction of establishing an area institutions correspondence service; that the trustees’ Correctional Facilities Committee find a method of adapting the film “It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell” into the Spanish language, and that the committee also consider the feasibility of translating the film into French.

**Finance**—that the objectives of the Five-year Plan be approved, and be reviewed monthly; the plan projects increased contributions and periodic literature price decreases which would make us self-supporting in five years or less.

**Grapevine**—that delegates focus their efforts on the district service structure as a means of reaching individual groups to make them aware of the value of the *Grapevine* as a recovery tool; that the Grapevine Board establish a mechanism for timely communications to all Conference members of actions taken and progress toward resolution of serious management problems.

**Literature**—that the trustees’ Literature Committee undertake development of a daily reflections book based on individual A.A.’s (including Bill W.’s) sharing based on the Traditions and Steps; that a draft of a pamphlet for the Native North American be prepared by the trustees’ Literature Committee and forwarded to the 1988 Conference; that a service item regarding A.A.’s primary purpose be made available.

**Policy/Admissions**—that when a Conference committee recommendation involves a substantial expenditure of money, an estimate of costs will be part of that recommendation; that a Conference Archives Committee *not* be formed at this time.

**Public Information**—that the trustees’ Public Information Committee explore the feasibility of adapting the film for young people into Spanish and French.

**Report and Charter**—that an eleventh chapter, about the *Grapevine*, be included in the *A.A. Service Manual*; that suggested changes be made in the *A.A. Service Manual*.

**Treatment Facilities**—that the contact sponsorship report developed by the trustee’s Treatment Facilities Committee be developed into a service piece and included in the Treatment Facilities Workbook.

**Trustees**—that the current practice of selecting directors for both A.A.W.S. and Grapevine Corporate boards be continued, but that they should not necessarily be restricted to New York City and vicinity.

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## Digest of Agenda

**Sunday, April 26:** Opening dinner and A.A. meeting

**Monday, April 27:** Welcome; Roll call; Area delegate chairperson; Keynote; General Service Board report; Reports of Grapevine and A.A.W.S.; Trustees’ committees’ highlights; Presentation/discussion: “Finance — the Seventh Tradition”; Joint trustees’ and Conference committee meetings; Presentations/discussions: “Right of Decision” and “Use of Surveys in Making Conference Decisions”; Radio/TV spots and filmstrips

**Tuesday, April 28:** Native North American Project report; Presentation/discussion: “Publishing — Too Much?”; Conference committee meetings; Presentation/discussion: “Are We Carrying the Message to All?”; Visit to G.S.O. and Grapevine offices; Delegates’ meeting

**Wednesday, April 29:** Conference committee meetings; Presentation/discussion: “Grapevine”; Ninth World Service Meeting report; Presentation/discussion: “Court Programs — Current Problems and Solutions”; Regional trustees and trustee-at-large Canada elections; Workshop: “Unity — Let’s Talk About It”

**Thursday, April 30:** Conference committee reports and discussion; Sharing session: “What’s on Your Mind?”

**Friday, May 1:** Conference committee reports and discussion; Workshop: “Living Sober — Growing Together or Apart?”; Presentation/discussion: “Maintaining the Basics — A.A.’s Principles”; Closing talk

**Saturday, May 2:** Closing brunch; Farewell talks; Closing remarks

Reports on Area Service Highlights: At intervals, Panel 37 delegates shared area experiences.

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

## General Service Board

**Trustees' report:** Nineteen eighty-six was a particularly eventful year. Situations which seemed to be serious indeed early in the year were resolved or greatly improved. As a result, the year ended on a happy and harmonious note.

First let me discuss some events involving the Grapevine. I reported to the 1986 Conference, that the board formed an oversight committee and engaged outside consultants to examine the Grapevine operation. In due course the two consulting firms reported their findings and recommendations as to changes. The managing editor became dissatisfied with the direction in which the study was proceeding, and ultimately tendered her resignation.

An interim management team is now in place. The board looks forward to the completion of its examination of the Grapevine, by a new ad hoc committee and by the Grapevine Board itself. We confidently expect that the ultimate result will be a continuing, viable role for the Grapevine in A.A.

In 1986 I also emphasized the board's concern regarding our financial structure, in particular, the deviation from a condition of self-support. The fact that a substantial part of the deviation from our Tradition of self-support, that is, from a condition of self-support *by our own contributions*, has been made up by publishing income derived from outside sources is of particular concern to the General Service and the A.A.W.S. Boards.

Much has been done since then: A.A.W.S. mounted a vigorous campaign of communication to the Fellowship, and already there is indication of a heartening response.

A number of common concerns of intergroups and central offices arose in recent years. To respond to these and to the needs of the G.S.O. publishing operation, a seminar was organized among representatives of 82 intergroups and central offices. The attendees requested another one this year, which G.S.O. is in the process of organizing.

The 1986 Conference chose three possible sites for the 1990 International Convention, with the specific selection to be accomplished by the General Service Board. Seattle, Washington, was selected.

In the above connection and in many other recent activities of the General Service Board, it has been necessary to engage specialized outside firms to provide needed expertise and knowledge. I think it is part of reaching toward maturity to recognize when we need help and to seek it out.

Our service structure appears to be standing up well against increasing pressures and challenges from the changing world around us. It appears to have the flexibility to adjust to new demands, and I am confident that the A.A. program of recovery and hope will endure as long as everyone at every level continues to exercise the tolerance and trust which are our Higher Power's wish for us.

*Gordon Patrick (nonalcoholic), chairperson*

## A.A. World Services, Inc.

**Directors' report:** The board met 12 times during 1986. The following significant items are noted:

- Reviewed and recommended to the trustees' Finance Committee: the 1986 budget; the revised budget for construction and refurbishing, which totaled \$865,200, an increase over the preliminary budget of \$744,800 projected in the 1986 budget; and proposed budget additions as of June 30, 1986, in the amount of \$58,600.
- Transferred \$510,600 to the General Service Board to cover operating deficits for the year ended December 31, 1985.
- Held interim meetings to address the subject of self-support. The paper "Challenge of the Seventh Tradition" was distributed throughout the service structure. Our aim is that within five years, contributions will cover the cost of our services to the Fellowship.
- Notified Canadian central offices and intergroups that an unauthorized miniature version of the first 11 chapters of the Big Book was published in Hong Kong and offered for sale in Canada. We have had no notice of further activity.
- Approved prices for 27 items, including the portable soft-cover Big Book, foreign language pamphlets and service material.
- Approved 77 requests to reprint from A.A. literature and two requests to tape-record. Thirteen requests were not approved.
- Proposed our 1987 budget and projected sufficient income to introduce a 4% discount on literature orders of \$25.00 or more.

*Shepherd R., chairperson*

## Archives

**Trustees' committee:** A subcommittee was formed to study how the Archives Committee might make itself available to the Conference Policy and Admissions Committee as a resource in the latter's de-

liberations on the feasibility of a Conference Archives Committee. Material relevant to the feasibility of creating a Conference Archives Committee was gathered and presented to the secretary of the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions.

The Archival Handbook was revised to reflect additional information reported from the more than 60 centers for area archives in the U.S. and Canada.

A system has been designed to ensure the physical retention of historically important items from group files after these have been microfiched. This will ensure that future historians will have an opportunity to see these originals when the need arises.

A smaller version of the Archival Exhibit was commissioned, and is available for Regional Forums and area conventions.

*Joe P., chairperson*

**Archivist's report:** Our reaching the early-timers project — "Don't Throw Me Away, I Belong to A.A." — has had quite a beneficial effect on raising the level of awareness in donating artifacts to local area archives.

1986 was something of a banner year as far as acquisitions were concerned. Particularly welcomed were a number of area histories, several large donations of historical books, and page 669 of the 1936 Brooklyn Telephone Directory with a listing for "Wilson Wm. G. 182 Clinton . . . Main 4-3220."

*Frank M.*

## Conference

**Trustees' committee:** Suggestions for the 1987 Conference theme were reviewed, and we recommended to the Conference Agenda Committee that the theme be "The Seventh Tradition — A Turning Point." The committee reviewed suggestions received through the Conference Evaluation Questionnaire and the post-Conference General Sharing Session and suggested the following:

- That an information sheet be written describing the roles of trustees, directors, and G.S.O. staff in the Conference structure. The sheet was completed and distributed at the 1987 Conference and included in the delegates' pre-Conference kits.
- Conference secretary prepare a list of topics to be covered for regional trustee orientation.
- Digests of trustees' reports be changed to trustees' committee highlights, covering major activities or topics of concern to the Conference body.

• Reviewed and approved the final Conference Agenda, after deleting some presentation/discussion topics. We felt it best not to overload in order to deal with major Fellowship concerns involving A.A.'s future.  
*Jack F., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The Conference coordinator is a point of contact for all Conference members and all those serving on the general service committees in the 91 U.S./Canada areas. All A.A. members are encouraged to submit suggestions for the Conference agenda, usually through their delegates. Once approved, agenda items are shared with the Fellowship via the *Quarterly Report* and *Box 4-5-9*. A preliminary agenda is mailed to the delegates in January.

The Conference coordinator assumes responsibility for the Conference theme and agenda; serves as secretary of the Conference Agenda Committee and the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference; corresponds with delegates in preparation for the Conference; works with the general manager, office manager, and staff in planning and coordinating the Conference; schedules reports and other material for the Conference Manual, *Early Bird Edition of Box 4-5-9*, and the *Final Conference Report*; coordinates the Annual Open House Day at G.S.O.  
*Susan U.*

## Cooperation With the Professional Community

**Trustees' committee:** After reviewing all available information about carrying the A.A. message to Native North American peoples, the committee recommended that the trustees' Literature Committee consider publishing a pamphlet of recovery stories from Native North Americans.

Current problems in connection with A.A.'s cooperation with court programs were discussed and suggestions were forwarded to the 1987 Conference C.P.C. Committee for discussion.

The committee considered the development of a tabletop exhibit for use by local C.P.C. committees at regional professional conferences. Since the Archives Committee is considering a similar idea it was recommended that the C.P.C. Committee secretary work with the Archives Committee secretary on developing an exhibit that could serve multiple purposes.

The committee approved the staff recommendation to: (1) refurbish three of our Professional Exhibits called "B" units; (2) retire the large exhibit called an "A" unit; and (3) build a new "B" unit.

*Jack W., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The purpose of the C.P.C. assignment is to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic by sharing information about our Fellowship with professional groups and individuals. The C.P.C. staff person responds to all mail and telephone inquiries from organizations outside the Fellowship.

The staff member attends annual meetings of some of the national organizations dealing with alcoholism and serves as a representative of A.A., in a liaison capacity, on the Advisory Council to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. The staff member also maintains communication with A.A. members involved in C.P.C. service work. C.P.C. committees have increased significantly over the past year, with 535 now listed at G.S.O.

The C.P.C. staff person is also assigned to coordinate all available information about spreading the A.A. message to the Native North American population.

*Betty L.*

## Correctional Facilities

**Trustees' committee:** This committee has been involved in overseeing the completion of two projects: the production of a 16-minute video "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell"; and the rewrite of the pamphlet "Memo to An Inmate Who May Be An Alcoholic" — both were recommended to the Conference for approval. In addition, the committee has continued to review and coordinate all aspects of A.A. activity on the "inside."

The committee also recommended that complimentary copies of the soft-cover Big Book be sent to all correctional committee chairpersons along with suggestions for its use with inmates. The committee further recommended that special efforts be made in targeting the illiterate inmate and forwarded this suggestion to the Conference Correctional Facilities Committee for further discussion. The possibility of dissolving the Institutions Correspondence Service, now coordinated from G.S.O., was discussed; it was suggested that this service be coordinated by each delegate area.

After reviewing the Composition, Scope and Procedure of the trustees' Correctional Committee, it was recommended that "nonvoting staff member" be changed to "voting staff member," in accordance with Concept XI, Item 4.

*Don P., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The Correctional Facilities desk has a constant flow of correspondence to and from A.A. members on the "inside" (1,777 groups), correctional facilities officials, correctional facilities/institutions committees (514 in the U.S. and Canada),

and outside A.A. sponsors. Approximately 500 letters are written each month — 6,000 a year. When a request comes from an inmate for release planning, G.S.O. helps coordinate efforts with local committees for prerelease sponsorship. Additionally, the staff member coordinates the Institutions Correspondence Service, through which approximately 500 A.A. members on the "outside" share by mail their experience, strength, and hope with A.A.s on the "inside." Discount packages of A.A. literature, in English and Spanish, are available to groups in correctional facilities, and to institutions committees, and back issues of the Grapevine are donated monthly for distribution to inmates.

*Lyla B.*

## Finance

**Trustees' committee:** The committee reviewed and approved budget recommendations; supervised the administration of the Reserve Fund; and monitored the efforts of the General Service Office in its self-support project.

Although sales wound up 5.6% over what was anticipated, sales of the new portable Big Book accounted for \$307,000 out of \$401,000 of the difference. Exclusive of this item, sales were within 1.3% of budget. Contributions were 0.4% under budget for the first 11 months of 1986 and, due to a strong December, finished 2.1% over budget. Expenses for 1986, exclusive of construction, were \$554,700, compared to a net income of \$825,100 in 1985 (the 1985 net income included \$315,900 of the net 50th Anniversary International Convention income).

In anticipation of a positive response from the Fellowship to the challenge of the Seventh Tradition, G.S.O. has reintroduced a sales discount (at 4% on purchases over \$25, effective 4/1/87). During 1987, A.A.W.S., Inc. will review, on a regular basis, the possibility of increasing this discount if contributions warrant it.

The Grapevine income was \$158,700 higher than 1985, while expenses were \$252,900 higher. Included in the 1986 expenses, however, are future severance benefits of \$60,100. This resulted in an operating loss of \$134,200, which was offset by interest income of \$58,000, and the cumulative effect, in the amount of \$64,900, of an approved change in accounting methods, leaving a net loss for the year of \$11,300, a virtual break-even. The Grapevine has budgeted revenues at \$1,615,000 and expenses at \$1,610,000, resulting in a budgeted operating net income of \$5,000. Net income after interest earned is budgeted to be \$62,000.

*Robert P. Morse  
(nonalcoholic), chairperson*

## General Sharing Session

**Trustees' committee:** In-depth reports were presented by the following board committees: Archives, Conference, Finance and Budgetary, and International. Other sessions included discussions on carrying the A.A. message to the Native North American population, and the Seventh Tradition. Reports were given by the two delegates who attended the Ninth World Service Meeting, and two films, prepared under the guidance of the trustees' Public Information and Correctional Facilities Committees, as recommended by the General Service Conference, were reviewed.

In the spirit of cooperation, three members of the board of trustees of Cocaine Anonymous were invited to attend the February 1987 General Sharing Session.  
*Garrett T., chairperson*

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## Group Services

**Staff report:** The primary responsibility of the group services coordinator is to provide communication services to the Fellowship, and supervise the production and updating of all service material, including Guidelines, Group Handbooks, order forms, literature kits and A.A. directories.

New groups in the United States and Canada receive a Group Handbook, a G.S.R. Kit, and a complimentary supply of literature, and are placed on the mailing list to receive *Box 4-5-9* and the appropriate regional A.A. directory. G.S.O. lists more than 1,000 French-speaking and more than 500 Spanish-speaking groups, and the Group Handbook, G.S.R. Kit, and *Box 4-5-9* are available in these languages.

Most service material (which is not required to have Conference approval) is complimentary and is not listed on the literature order form. It is produced when G.S.O. correspondence indicates a need for readily available information on a specific subject, and is prepared from correspondence containing group experience.

The group services coordinator also acts as liaison with intergroups/central offices, communicating to the Conference the needs and concerns of intergroups/central offices, and is involved in organizing the annual intergroup/central office seminar.  
*Curtis M.*

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## International/Overseas/ World Service Meeting

**Trustees' committee:** The International Committee is a focal point for information about A.A. around the world. We make suggestions for carrying the message to al-

coholics overseas, particularly in countries where there is no established service structure; share our experiences on board structure; and assist members who travel abroad by helping them contact isolated A.A.s and groups. In 1986 the committee finalized the Ninth World Service Meeting.

We are trying to obtain more information from intergroups and central offices as to what foreign languages they have had requests for. This information will help us to determine which languages to consider next for our three basic recovery pamphlets. Translations of books and pamphlets in Polish, Korean, Vietnamese, Russian and Chinese were completed.

*Helen H., chairperson*

### Staff report:

**Overseas** — The staff member on this assignment corresponds with 33 G.S.O.s and literature distribution centers outside the U.S. and Canada. Groups and individuals in other countries are encouraged to correspond with their own G.S.O.s. Correspondence from groups and individual A.A.s in countries without a service center or office is answered by this office.

To protect A.A.'s copyrights, careful consideration is given to granting overseas boards and centers permission to print A.A. Conference-approved literature in the language of the country. We also maintain files of translations of A.A. literature.

**World Service Meeting** — The World Service Meeting meets biennially at locations alternating between the United States and overseas. The Ninth World Service Meeting was held October 19-23, 1986, in Guatemala; 35 delegates, representing 27 countries where the A.A. Fellowship has a national service structure or G.S.O. attended. The theme, "Service Through Love and Humility," aptly expressed the spirit of the members who joined together to share their experience, strength, hope, and dedication to our Three Legacies. The Tenth World Service Meeting will be held October 23-27, 1988, in New York City. The theme will be "A.A. and Its Responsibilities."

*Helen T.*

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## International Convention/ A.A. Regional Forums

### Trustees' committee:

**International Convention** — We approved Seattle, Washington, as the site of the 1990 International A.A. Convention. Our Big Meeting will be held at the Kingdome, which seats up to 60,000. The Seattle Center will be the center for A.A. meetings and workshops and the Washington State Convention Center will serve as the hub for

some of our entertainment activities. We have also tentatively scheduled a range of entertainment at other locations: the Coliseum and Arena at the Seattle Center; the Convention Center; the Westin Ballroom; and perhaps an outdoor event.

We recommended that the 1987 Conference recommend that the 1988 Conference select three cities for the 1995 International Convention, without further indication of preference. The final selection of the site will be made by the General Service Board in July 1988, following an inspection trip by the Site Selection Committee.

**Regional Forums** — Four regions hosted Forums within the past year. Our committee discussed each of these Forums, which continue to be well received by service workers and improve communications within our Fellowship. We formed a subcommittee to determine how far in advance Regional Forum dates and sites should be selected. Their recommendation was that the regional trustee and general service delegates should decide these matters two years before Forums are scheduled. Their report was approved.

*Dan B., chairperson*

### Staff report:

**Regional Forums** — Forums are held at the invitation of the region, and plans are made with the regional trustee, area delegates and the G.S.O. staff. The General Service Board covers hotel, mail, and travel expenses for all its personnel in attendance; expenses for the region's service people are the responsibility either of the individuals or area committees. The Regional Forum coordinator makes arrangements with the host-city contact (the local liaison), hotel, and host city; arranges travel and hotels for board personnel; handles mailings to the regions' services workers and is responsible for display boards of sample literature and service material. Reports on Regional Forums are sent to all Forum participants, trustees, and current delegates.

*Curtis M.*

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## Literature

**Trustees' committee:** The following items became available: "A.A. for the Woman" — revised; "Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated" and *Alcoholics Anonymous* — soft-cover edition.

The committee forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee: "Too Young?" — revised to include updated stories and new graphics; samples of four service pieces regarding A.A.'s primary purpose for use at A.A. meetings; a recommendation to develop a pamphlet for the Native North American; and to consider developing lower-level reading material.

The committee also forwarded to the Conference a request to publish the first 181 pages of the Big Book, and also forwarded the information that when the Big Book survey was taken in the summer of 1986, a number of areas indicated that they would like to see only the stories omitted but everything else retained.

Joan Jackson, Ph.D.

(nonalcoholic) chairperson

**Staff report:** The literature coordinator works with editors, writers and artists on updating and preparing new recovery pamphlets, books, and audiovisuals. Production of this material is under the auspices of G.S.O.'s Publications Division.

In addition to recovery literature, the literature coordinator serves as editor of *Box 4-5-9*, our bimonthly newsletter. In an effort to increase the circulation of *Box 4-5-9* we have selected several projects for 1987 on an experimental basis: include a *Box 4-5-9* order form with each issue; a questionnaire was sent asking for information to help us in making our newsletter more interesting and helpful; include a recent *Box 4-5-9* and a subscription form with literature orders; developed a tabletop placard with a holder for display on groups' literature tables, which will be sent with bulk subscriptions of *Box 4-5-9*; include a *Box 4-5-9* placard, newsletters, and subscription forms at Regional Forums; have *Box 4-5-9* as a topic in one of the presentations during each Regional Forum.

Correspondence from A.A. groups and individuals requesting specific information about literature comes to the literature desk. A letter is sent semiannually to central offices, intergroups, literature chairpersons, and literature distribution centers to inform them of new developments in A.A. literature and other service material.

Sarah P.

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## Loners, Internationalists, Homers

**Staff report:** Approximately 3,050 A.A.s participate in the *Loners-Internationalist Meeting (LIM)*. Loners are A.A.s who live in isolated areas where there are no A.A. groups or contacts; they stay sober by reading A.A. literature and sharing experience, strength, and hope with other A.A. members through letters and tapes. There are over 500 Loners in 90 countries.

There are about 600 Internationalists (seagoing A.A.s) and Port Contacts, and 56 Internationalist groups meeting aboard ships or in ports. There are also 125 Homers in the group — A.A.s who are housebound due to long-term illness or physical disability.

A literature package is sent to each new

member, along with lists of Loners, Homers, and Internationalists and the bimonthly bulletins *Box 4-5-9* and *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*, a discussion meeting in print that shares excerpts from letters received at G.S.O.

Cheryl Ann B.

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## Nominating

**Trustees' committee:** We discussed the board's responsibilities in filling all vacancies, whether within their own ranks or among key service directors and staff members, and requested that a job description of each category and rotation dates (if applicable) be sent to all committee members. It was noted that we have a responsibility to seek out possible candidates for all vacancies within the committee's scope in order that we may have an on-going file to drawn upon. The importance of making known to the entire Fellowship the availability of these positions was also noted.

We also took the following actions:

- Reviewed the procedures for hiring a general manager and suggested that the term of general manager be in the range of a minimum of five years and a maximum of seven years, in keeping with A.A.'s spirit of rotation.
- Recommended that the Conference Committee on Trustees be fully apprised of when the selection process for the search for a new general manager begins.
- Recommended that the Conference Committee on Trustees review the current practice of selecting directors for both A.A.W.S. and Grapevine Boards exclusively from New York City and vicinity.
- Revised the Composition of this Committee.
- Reviewed and recommended the slate of trustees, board officers, and A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors for election at the annual meeting in May, following presentation at the 1987 General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.

Wayne P., chairperson

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## Public Information

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

- Made available for distribution to P.I. committees the new public service announcements approved by the 1986 General Service Conference.
- Revised the P.I. Workbook, in keeping with the suggestions made by the 1986 Conference Public Information Committee.
- Launched the Seventh Triennial Membership Survey, results of which will be forthcoming later in 1987.

• Reviewed our current press feature stories, and explored the need for additional features.

• Produced a 28-minute film targeting young alcoholics, as recommended by the 1986 General Service Conference.

Bill C., chairperson

**Staff report:** The public information assignment is to help carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic and potential alcoholic through the media. The staff member responds to about 10,000 written and telephoned inquiries from both the general public and from within the Fellowship. During the past year, we have provided literature for 325 health fairs; processed 15,000 newspaper, magazine, and television feature stories; followed up on a monthly average of 15 to 20 anonymity breaks; and sent a letter of thanks to all 1,800 local P.I. committees and P.I. contacts.

Both the existing and most recent radio and TV public service announcements, as well as the film "Alcoholics Anonymous — An Inside View," were widely aired by major networks and local TV and radio stations. Requests for help in planning programs including references to Alcoholics Anonymous have also abounded.

G.S.O. services are backed up in large measure by the tremendous dedication of more than 800 local P.I. committees and about 900 P.I. contacts.

Eileen G.

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## Spanish Services Coordinator

**Staff report:** The Spanish services assignment was created to serve the Spanish-speaking A.A. groups, furthering communication with the Hispanic A.A. world, and to provide services to the Hispanic A.A. community equivalent, whenever possible, to the services provided to English-speaking A.A. groups. This nonrotating staff member also coordinates and reviews translations into Spanish of service material and literature, and serves as the editor of Spanish *Box 4-5-9*. Another current project is the translation of *Pass It On*.

The staff member on this assignment represents G.S.O. at the Ibero-American Commission for Translation and Adaptation of A.A. Literature, which reviews translations in an effort to create a standard version. In addition, the Spanish services coordinator attends conventions, Hispanic intergroup meetings, and Regional Forums; assists at G.S.O.'s Open House, the World Service Meeting, and the International A.A. Convention, and greets and talks with 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 General Service Board meeting; and also serves as editor of the *Quarterly Report*. Another responsibility is chairing the weekly staff meeting and coordinating all staff activities. The staff coordinator serves as secretary of the General Sharing Session and the Conference Committee on Conference Policy/Admissions, is a director and vice-president of A.A.W.S. and coordinates the Self-Support Project.

During 1986, the G.S.O. staff handled almost 25,000 pieces of mail — an 11% increase over 1985. Another aspect of staff service is to respond to invitations to A.A. conventions, assembly meetings, and get-togethers. This provides the staff with opportunities to become acquainted with A.A.s all over the U.S. and Canada. During the past year, approximately 1,700 visitors from all over the world visited G.S.O.  
*Lois F.*

## Treatment Facilities

**Trustees' committee:** In response to a 1986 Conference recommendation that the trustees' committee study ways to develop contact sponsorship programs, we solicited shared experience throughout the Fellowship and compiled a report to be submitted to the 1987 Conference for their review and further recommendations.

The committee also discussed and approved adding three items on "carrying the message" as enclosures in the Treatment Facilities Workbook. The committee reviewed the suggestion and forwarded to the 1987 Conference a phrase change in the pamphlet "A.A. in Treatment Centers."  
*William Flynn, M.D.*

*(nonalcoholic), chairperson*

**Staff report:** The staff member on this assignment answers correspondence from A.A.s and non-A.A.s requesting information and shared experience on how A.A.s carry the message into and cooperate with treatment facilities. The correspondence for this assignment has shown that the main issues of concern for the Fellowship continue to be: attendance of nonalcoholic addicts at regular A.A. groups and treatment facility meetings; influx of patients from treatment facilities to regular A.A. groups; and sponsorship of newly released patients. The focus of this assignment, for the past year, has been on projects that address these concerns.  
*Maureen C.*

## Reports from the A.A. Grapevine

**Directors' report:** After a year of many changes the watchword of the A.A. Grapevine is "let's go forward." A special committee of the A.A. Grapevine staff and board members has been established for the sole purpose of planning to increase the magazine's use and circulation.

In the fall of 1986 the staff produced the Grapevine's first four-color flyer, and the returns have been significant. Since then a second four-color flyer has been produced with emphasis on the magazine itself. We have been in touch with the Intergroup Association of A.A. of Greater New York, and this flyer may be included in a forthcoming mailing.

The new *GvR Newsletter* has become a regular publication and has received enthusiastic response in several areas. The staff has widened the search for artists and continues to appeal to the Fellowship to contribute to the magazine, with the consistent reminder "We don't write the magazine, you do!"

In addition, a selection of Bill W.'s writings for the Grapevine, with the working title *In All Our Affairs*, is nearing completion, and will be submitted to the Conference next year.

In view of a demonstrated need for cassette tapes, the Grapevine editorial staff has been busy of late, not only with the two trial tapes in French and Spanish, but with more recent tape efforts on the subject of spirituality: a set of two entitled "Spirituality — Finding It" and "Spirituality — Maintaining It." For the non- or lazy readers, the A.A. Grapevine also produced and released two earlier tapes entitled "Attitudes" and "Character Defects," which were enthusiastically received. It is clear that tapes must be thought of as direct extensions of the magazine itself — as auditory rather than visual method of carrying the message.

For 1986 Grapevine circulation was budgeted at 125,000 per month and came in at an average of 126,400 per month. Circulation for December 1986, however, was below that average, at 123,000. According to current figures, the monthly average so far in 1987 is about 123,000. Small as those figures might seem, there is reason to be proud of the way the readership of the A.A. Grapevine has grown and is holding steady. An article in *The New York Times* quotes a study which indicates that there are more than 28 million adult Americans who are functionally illiterate and that functional illiteracy is increasing by 2.3 million more adults a year. It is little wonder, then, that figures from the audit bureau of magazine circulation show readership of many major magazines is down considerably.

As to finances: Net overall operations loss for the year 1986 (including interest)

was \$11,300. In the opinion of the experts, this is tantamount to break-even, an indication of rather good financial health for a nonprofit operation. It is also recognition, perhaps, that the purpose of the A.A. Grapevine has never been to make money but to make the A.A. message available to anyone who wants it.

*Ralph R., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The resignation of the chief executive in November has meant spreading the administrative workload more widely; editor Ann W. and controller Don Meurer, appointed as an interim management team, are "bridging the gap," fully supported by Grapevine personnel.

The magazine is moving ahead, with the objective of being even more responsive to the Fellowship as a whole. A new "Your Move" section now publishes the opinions of a large number of readers on issues of significance to the Fellowship, and a revived "Around A.A." section contains news and information about A.A., and there has been more frequent publication of special sections grouping several articles on the same topic. The Three Legacies are present in full force: stories that help readers identify, a Traditions checklist each month of 1987, and an increase in articles on service.

In 1986 several new special items were introduced, notably the second volume of *Best of the Grapevine* and several cassette tapes. The Grapevine Workbook came off press in August and thus far is proving an effective service tool.

A desktop publishing committee, chaired by managing editor Ames S., investigated the possibilities of desktop publishing and determined that present technology is not adequate for the quality needs of the magazine. The possibilities of using DTP programs on the office's I.B.M. personal computers are now being looked into, with the thought of phasing into desktop publishing in this way.

Art director John N., in addition to continuing his search for illustrators, designed two four-color flyers. The new *GvR Newsletter* is now being produced regularly, and the job of GvR coordinator has been upgraded and expanded. Our Circulation Department manager, Grace H., resigned in November 1986. Upon leaving, she recommended a downgrading of the job to a supervisory level position. The workload and job descriptions are now being evaluated. While it has been a busy year, with the ups and downs that none of us are exempt from, it has been a year of reflection, productivity, and growth.

*Ann W., editor*

*Donald W. Meurer, controller*



# 1987 G.S.O. Budget

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

**Income:** Sales income has been budgeted at \$7,900,000, \$399,400 (5.3%) greater than 1986. This projection includes the first full year's impact of the portable Big Book, as well as the introduction of a 4% sales discount to all purchasers of \$25.00 or more, effective April 1, 1987. Total income after cost of printing, royalties and the 4% discount (and including interest earned) is estimated at \$3,990,700.

**Expenses:** Expenses charged against the publishing operation are budgeted at \$2,909,000, representing an increase of \$384,200 over 1986. Part of this increase is due to the planned addition of three persons.

**Net:** Net publishing income, after operating expenses, is expected to be \$1,081,700.

## GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

**Income:** Contributions are budgeted at \$3,028,000, \$362,400 (13.6%) over 1986, based on anticipated support from the Fellowship to the Self-Support project.

**Expenses:** Total group expenses to be directly charged against contributions are budgeted to be \$3,382,500. This budget anticipates the addition of one person in this area. These expenses are \$346,500 greater than contribution income and will be offset by anticipated net income from publishing.

## GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses of the General Service Board are budgeted at \$1,274,200. This includes \$763,200 for construction and refurbishing to be paid for out of the General Service Board Reserve Fund. Exclusive of construction costs, these other expenses are budgeted \$29,800 (5.5%) less than 1985. These expenses will also be offset by anticipated net income from publishing.

## RECAP

The shortfall for 1987 of "group services" (as defined by the 1986 General Service Conference) supported by group contributions, is budgeted to be \$865,500. This is exclusive of construction and refurbishing which is paid for by the G.S.B. Reserve Fund. The makeup of this shortfall is shown on the right.

# 1987 Grapevine Budget

**Total income:** Income from magazine and other sales is budgeted at \$1,615,000.

**Total expenses:** Expenses are budgeted at \$1,610,000. These expenses do not include salaries for a publisher and circulation manager. These positions are vacant and are not planned to be filled in the foreseeable future. The operation is being directed by a management team consisting of the Grapevine controller and editor.

**Net:** The net operating income for 1987 is \$5,000. After interest earned from operating cash and on monies in the G.S.B. Reserve Fund for unfulfilled subscriptions, total net income is budgeted to be \$62,000.

# 1987 G.S.O. Budget

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

### INCOME

Net sales	\$7,663,000
Less: Cost of products and royalties	3,689,300
Gross profit from sales	3,973,700
Plus: Interest income	17,000
Total income	3,990,700

### TOTAL EXPENSES

Net income	1,081,700
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## GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

### INCOME

Contributions	\$3,028,000
Interest income	8,000
Total income	3,036,000

### TOTAL EXPENSES

Net expense	(346,500)
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\*Includes cost of General Service Conference — \$219,700

## GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

### TOTAL EXPENSES (NET)

\$(1,274,200)\*\*

\*\*Board meetings, P.I.C. expense, C.P.C. expense, legal and auditing fees, Regional Forums, archives, film development, construction, etc.

The publishing activity will contribute \$857,500 toward the budgeted deficits, \$763,200 will be transferred from the G.S.B. Reserve Fund for construction, leaving a net G.S.O. income from operations in the amount of \$224,200.

# 1987 Grapevine Budget

Estimated income from subscription and other sales	\$1,615,000
Total costs and expenses	1,610,200
Net income from operations	4,800
Interest—Regular	\$ 6,000
Reserve Fund—Unfulfilled subscriptions	50,000
Total net income	60,800

## 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 intergroup offices:

- 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]:

### 1985

Contributions—A.A. Groups & Members		\$2,378,828
General Fund—Office Expenses	\$2,904,127	
General Fund—Other Expenses of the Board	309,162	3,213,289
Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions		(834,461)

### 1986

Contributions—A.A. Groups & Members		\$2,665,634
General Fund—Office Expenses	\$3,048,831	
General Fund—Other Expenses of the Board	\$ 612,994	
Less: Construction—Funded by the General Service Board Reserve Fund	(72,243)	540,751
Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions		(923,948)

### 1987 BUDGET

Contributions—A.A. Groups & Members		\$3,028,000
General Fund—Office Expenses	\$3,382,500	
General Fund—Other Expenses of the Board	\$1,274,200	
Less: Construction—Funded by the General Service Board Reserve Fund	(763,200)	511,000
Shortfall of "group services" supported by group contributions		(865,500)

# 1986 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.	331	178	53.7%	\$ 13,029.67	4,181	\$3.12	61.	Rhode Island	178	88	49.4	9,891.23	3,344	2.96
2.	Alaska	177	83	46.8	6,604.63	2,350	2.81	62.	South Carolina	220	160	72.7	15,083.12	3,500	4.31
3.	Arizona	545	249	45.6	27,355.96	9,041	3.03	63.	South Dakota	132	70	53.0	5,726.05	2,571	2.23
4.	Arkansas	194	112	57.7	7,504.80	2,768	2.71	64.	Tennessee	340	203	59.7	21,734.67	5,219	4.16
5.	California								Texas						
5.	Southern	1,315	614	46.6	74,956.37	42,461	1.77	65.	Northeast	335	159	47.4	28,200.27	10,388	2.71
6.	N. Coastal	1,575	1,045	66.3	136,713.92	37,926	3.60	66.	Northwest	197	92	46.7	10,321.18	4,538	2.27
7.	N. Interior	507	235	46.3	26,253.53	10,743	2.44	67.	Southeast	385	214	55.5	25,012.30	10,899	2.29
8.	San Diego/Imp.	512	262	51.1	28,172.42	13,337	2.11	68.	Southwest	372	201	54.0	26,444.34	7,001	3.78
9.	Mid-South.	1,182	588	49.7	66,872.86	35,668	1.87	69.	Utah	180	95	52.7	8,374.18	2,975	2.81
10.	Colorado	538	261	48.5	33,621.91	11,577	2.90	70.	Vermont	166	90	54.2	9,902.22	2,747	3.60
11.	Connecticut	902	425	47.1	50,955.59	19,023	2.68	71.	Virginia	836	488	58.3	62,393.43	15,766	3.96
12.	Delaware	115	76	66.0	11,504.10	1,811	6.35	72.	Washington	920	472	51.3	50,507.19	17,075	2.96
13.	D.C.	311	204	65.5	41,369.83	9,864	4.19	73.	West Virginia	200	99	49.5	7,108.41	2,302	3.09
14.	Florida								Wisconsin						
14.	North	385	232	60.2	26,403.73	6,722	3.93	74.	N.Wis./Upper						
15.	South	1,017	581	57.1	76,921.56	16,607	4.63		Pen. Mich.	519	229	44.1	18,783.72	7,572	2.48
16.	Georgia	525	363	69.1	41,637.16	10,941	3.81	75.	South	635	311	48.9	25,712.18	11,507	2.23
17.	Hawaii	200	136	68.0	12,744.15	3,382	3.77	76.	Wyoming	111	61	54.9	3,307.88	1,723	1.92
18.	Idaho	159	87	54.7	5,881.03	2,047	2.87	77.	Puerto Rico	116	53	45.6	2,623.45	1,444	1.82
19.	Illinois							78.	Alberta/N.W.T.	489	215	43.9	20,282.13	6,195	3.27
19.	Chicago	854	359	42.0	44,709.69	19,408	2.30	79.	B.C./Yukon	576	255	44.0	22,189.94	8,663	2.56
20.	North	658	309	46.9	27,572.78	11,791	2.34	80.	Manitoba	152	64	42.1	5,379.43	3,502	1.54
21.	South	317	146	46.0	12,369.00	5,408	2.29	81.	N.B./P.E.I.	224	96	42.8	5,650.59	3,194	1.77
22.	Indiana							82.	N.S./Nfld./Lab.	248	112	45.1	7,154.96	2,856	2.51
22.	North	476	210	44.1	19,759.61	7,078	2.79		Ontario						
23.	South	266	171	64.2	19,078.88	4,989	3.82	83.	East	502	187	37.2	22,263.03	11,535	1.93
24.	Iowa	562	276	49.1	22,189.60	10,380	2.14	84.	Northeast	174	51	29.3	5,014.48	2,115	2.37
25.	Kansas	319	205	64.2	17,629.73	6,708	2.63	85.	Northwest	84	27	32.1	2,271.98	1,275	1.78
26.	Kentucky	393	232	59.0	35,053.44	6,189	5.66	86.	West	427	182	42.6	23,051.52	6,618	3.48
27.	Louisiana	419	228	54.4	19,156.01	6,942	2.76		Quebec						
28.	Maine	289	125	43.2	11,296.95	4,956	2.28	87.	Southwest	529	289	54.6	28,737.42	13,674	2.10
29.	Maryland	653	323	49.4	36,546.63	8,985	4.07	88.	Southeast	227	202	89.0	21,334.68	3,087	6.91
30.	Massachusetts							89.	Northeast	327	327	100.0	12,367.64	5,912	2.09
30.	East	888	480	54.0	73,760.83	25,583	2.88	90.	Northwest	297	297	100.0	36,735.48	5,577	6.59
31.	West	150	76	50.6	10,663.34	3,132	3.40	91.	Saskatchewan	324	164	50.6	8,698.05	3,839	2.27
32.	Michigan								Total U.S./						
32.	Central	368	190	51.6	25,390.34	7,485	3.39		Canada	40,529	20,114 <sup>①</sup>	49.6% <sup>①</sup>	\$2,328,938.81 <sup>②</sup>	803,192	\$2.90 <sup>①</sup>
33.	Southeast	445	216	48.5	34,028.07	9,576	3.55		Bahamas	4	0	0	0	93	0
34.	West	302	150	49.6	19,949.99	5,843	3.41		V.I. of U.S.	9	7	77.8	2,532.85	237	10.69
35.	Minnesota									40,542	21,121 <sup>①</sup>	52.1% <sup>①</sup>	\$2,331,471.66 <sup>②</sup>	803,522	\$2.90 <sup>①</sup>
35.	North	509	258	50.6	14,669.22	8,108	1.81		Individual, in-memoriam, & special meetings				\$ 114,306.04		
36.	South	863	418	48.4	37,214.54	25,121	1.48		Specials				199,995.69		
37.	Mississippi	211	123	58.2	7,138.03	2,407	2.97		Total for U.S. & Canada				\$2,645,773.39		
38.	Missouri								<b>FOREIGN AND OTHER</b>						
38.	East	426	236	55.3	23,850.86	5,806	4.11		Birds of a Feather				\$ 415.00		
39.	West	201	123	61.1	12,401.21	4,285	2.89		Correctional facility groups				100.00		
40.	Montana	280	109	38.9	7,755.13	3,654	2.12		Foreign				11,824.60		
41.	Nebraska	598	336	56.1	35,705.07	10,710	3.33		International Advisory Council of Young						
42.	Nevada	239	115	48.1	9,843.58	3,346	2.94		People in A.A.				7,300.00		
43.	New Hampshire	295	153	51.8	19,872.10	3,894	5.10		Internationalists				10.00		
44.	New Jersey								Loners				1,601.30		
44.	North	971	435	44.7	56,173.28	21,332	2.63		Treatment facility groups				818.00		
45.	South	241	138	57.2	21,342.11	3,566	5.98		World Hello				44.93		
46.	New Mexico	239	126	52.7	9,513.56	3,704	2.57		Grand Total				\$2,667,887.22		
47.	New York														
47.	Central	479	225	46.9	30,087.29	6,476	4.65								
48.	H./M./B.	438	218	49.7	16,571.48	5,181	3.20								
49.	Southeast	1,282	635	49.5	106,327.62	33,980	3.13								
50.	West	213	104	48.8	9,066.81	2,994	3.03								
51.	N. Carolina/Ber.	590	380	66.6	44,269.00	9,061	4.89								
52.	North Dakota	160	85	53.1	6,836.99	2,764	2.47								
53.	Ohio														
53.	Cent. & S.E.	419	181	43.1	18,263.85	4,893	3.73								
54.	Northeast	872	221	25.3	18,688.20	21,697	.86								
55.	N.W. Ohio/														
55.	S.E. Mich.	221	100	45.2	10,912.18	3,191	3.42								
56.	S.W. Ohio	322	165	51.2	16,292.41	6,340	2.57								
57.	Oklahoma	323	244	75.5	20,526.88	4,299	4.77								
58.	Oregon	518	272	52.5	23,829.00	7,184	3.32								
59.	Pennsylvania														
59.	East	819	438	53.4	54,198.33	18,009	3.01								
60.	West	529	296	55.9	27,674.82	7,675	3.61								

## CONTRIBUTION COMPARISON — 1986-1985

(in U.S. dollars)

	#GPS. RE-PORTED	#GPS. CONTRIB.	% OF GPS. CONTRIB.	AMOUNT OF CONTRIB.	MEMBERSHIP	CONTRIB. PER CAPITA
U.S. & Canada 1986	40,542	21,121 <sup>①</sup>	52.1% <sup>①</sup>	\$2,331,471.66 <sup>②</sup>	803,522	\$2.90 <sup>①</sup>
U.S. & Canada 1985	38,285	19,989 <sup>①</sup>	52.2% <sup>①</sup>	2,100,421.31 <sup>②</sup>	750,511	2.80 <sup>①</sup>
Increase (Decrease)	2,257	1,132	(0.1%)	\$ 231,050.35	53,011	\$.10

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 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

### June

- 4-7 — *Daytona Beach, Florida*. Seventh Conv. For Young People. Write: Box 646, Holly Hill, FL 32017
- 4-7 — *Palm Springs, California*. Desert Roundup. Write: Com. Box 30247, Long Beach, CA 90803
- 5-7 — *Kearney, Nebraska*. 28th Annual State Reunion. Write: Ch., Box 147, Alda, NE 68810
- 5-7 — *Joliette, Quebec, Canada*. 12a Congrès de Lanaudière. Ecrivez: Comité, CP 338, St. Jean de Matha, QC J0K 2S0
- 5-7 — *Grand Junction, Colorado*. Summer Area Assembly. Write: Ch., 127 N. 22nd Ct., Grand Junction, CO 81501
- 5-7 — *Ogden, Utah*. Second Ann. Rocky Mountain Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 9239, Ogden, UT 84409
- 5-7 — *Albuquerque, New Mexico*. 30th Annual Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 22001, Station 6, Albuquerque, NM 87154
- 5-7 — *Stamford, Connecticut*. Northeast Regional Forum. Write: Coordinator, G.S.O., 468 Park Ave., New York, NY 10016
- 5-7 — *Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*. Fifth Annual Unity Conf. for Gay Men and Women. Write: Ch., 800 Ross Av., Apt. 1, Pittsburgh, PA 15221
- 11-14 — *Clarksville, Tennessee*. 36th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 2622, Clarksville, TN 37042-2622
- 11-14 — *St. Simons Island, Georgia*. 23rd Golden Isles Family Weekend. Write: Ch., 126 Hardee Dr., Brunswick, GA 31520
- 12-14 — *Kamas, Utah*. Sixth Annual Oakley Campout. Write: Ch., 3065 W 8600 S., West Jordan, UT 84088
- 12-14 — *Chatham, Ontario, Canada*. Mid-Season Campout. Write: Ch., Box 641, Sta. A, Windsor, Ont. N9A 6N4
- 12-14 — *Calgary, Alberta, Canada*. Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 954, Sta. M, Calgary, Alta. T2T 2K4
- 12-14 — *Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada*. 30th Anniv. Celebration. Write: Ch., 1161 — 96th Ave., Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 1G2
- 12-14 — *Mobile, Alabama*. Sixth Annual Azalea City Jamboree. Write: Com., Box 161166, Mobile, AL 36616
- 12-14 — *Willow, Alaska*. Annual Mat-Su Blast. Write: Ch., Box 876419, Wasilla, AK 99687
- 12-14 — *Chinle, Arizona*. Canyon de Chelly Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 417, Chinle, AZ 86503
- 19-21 — *North Conway, New Hampshire*. 22nd Area Assy. Annual Conv. Write: Sec., 321 Lincoln St., Rm. 204, Manchester, NH 03103

- 19-21 — *Charleston, West Virginia*. 35th Annual Area Conv. Write: Box 10352, Charleston, WV 25357
- 19-21 — *Tupelo, Mississippi*. 41st Annual State Conv. Write: Box 2662, Tupelo, MS 38803-2662
- 19-21 — *Providence, Rhode Island*. 11th Annual Ocean State Young People's Closed Conf. Write: Ch., Box 23199, Providence, RI 02903
- 26-28 — *Riviere du Loup, Quebec, Canada*. XII Congrès Annuel. Écrire: Ch., 320 rue St. Pierre, Riviere du Loup, Que. G5R 3V3
- 26-28 — *Nanoose Bay, British Columbia, Canada*. 27th Parksville Mid-Vancouver Island Rally. Write: Ch., R.R.3, Site 325, C-15, Parkesville, B.C. V0R 2S0
- 26-28 — *Sept-Iles, Quebec, Canada*. Huitième Congrès. Écrire: Comité, C.P. 1289, Sept-Iles, PQ G4R 4X7
- 26-28 — *Manchester, England*. Third Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 16 Bracken Drive, Baguley, Manchester, M23 8LT, England
- 26-28 — *Austin, Texas*. Big Book Study. Write: Tr., 3011 N. Lamar, Austin, TX 78705
- 27 — *Newcastle, Pennsylvania*. Pennsylvania Ohio Family Fun Day. Write: Ch., 305 North Ray St., Newcastle, PA 16101

### July

- 2-5 — *Nashville, Tennessee*. Sixth Annual Music Hall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 762, Goodlettsville, TN 37072
- 3-5 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Pockets of Enthusiasm Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 55, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 3-5 — *St. Paul, Minnesota*. Gopher State Roundup XIV. Write: Ch., Box 65295, St. Paul, MN 55165-0295
- 3-5 — *Montreal, Quebec, Canada*. Rendez-Vous Bilingual Conv. (Gays & Lesbians) Write: Box 2105, Delorimier Station, Montreal PQ H2H 2R8

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

*June* (page 13): Help for group problems; spiritual development; sponsorship; A.A. and the handicapped.

*July* (page 29): Our common bond; disappointment; A.A. and prison; the pink cloud.

- 3-5 — *Lake Oswego, Oregon*. Pacific N.W. Conf. Write: Ch., DNAC, Box 2427, Lake Oswego, OR 97035-0096
- 3-5 — *Grand Rapids, Michigan*. 11th East Central Region Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2224, Grand Rapids, MI 49501
- 8-12 — *Miami, Florida*. 31st Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 570176, Miami, FL 33257-0176
- 10-11 — *Hawkesbury, Ontario, Canada*. Neuvième Congrès Français. Écrire: Ch., District 07, 440 Stanley, Hawkesbury, ON K6A 1S2
- 10-12 — *Baton Rouge, Louisiana*. 29th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., 1135 Castle Kirk Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808
- 10-12 — *Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. Weekend of Sharing. Write: Sec., W. Cooper St., Apt. 38, Slippery Rock, PA 16057
- 16-19 — *Lubbock, Texas*. 13th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6511, Lubbock, TX 79413
- 17-19 — *Rimouski, Quebec, Canada*. Congrès du Bas St-Laurent. Ecrivez: Ch., 60, Rue Evêché Ouest, Rimouski, Québec G5L 7R1
- 24-26 — *Albany, New York*. 22nd State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6712, Albany, NY 12206
- 24-26 — *Springfield, Missouri*. State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 34767, North Kansas City, MO 64116-9998

## Planning an August, September or October Event?

Please send your information on August, September or October events 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

- 29-31 — *Castlegar, British Columbia, Canada*. 14th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., 507-8th Av., Castlegar, B.C., V1N 1N7
- 29-August 3 — *Lexington, Kentucky*. Annual Meeting of International Doctors in A.A. Write: Sec., 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511
- 31-August 2 — *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. 14ième Congrès de L'Outaouais. Écrire: 515 Lacroix, Gatineau, PQ J8P 6R7
- 31-August 2 — *Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada*. 13th Rally. Write: Com., 785 Marina Blvd., Campbell River, B.C. V9W 6C8
- 31-August 2 — *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*. 40th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 18412, Raleigh, NC 27619

## August

- 7-9 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. Campout. Write: Sec., c/o Coalmont P.O., Tulameen, B.C. V0X 1G0

- 7-9 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. 47th "Old Grandad" Conv. Write: Tr., 3302 Ridge Rd., N. Little Rock, AR 72116
- 13-16 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Tenth Cornhusker Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 14-15 — *Granby, Quebec, Canada*. Neuvième Congrès Annuel. Écrire: Ch., Box 222, Granby, QC J2G 8E4
- 14-16 — *Dallas, Texas*. 16th Lone Star Roundup. Write: Com., Box 835112, Richardson, TX 75083-5112
- 14-16 — *Universal City, California*. Roundup (Gay Men and Women). Write: Ch., 14755 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1-756, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
- 14-16 — *Reading, Pennsylvania*. Second Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 8301, Reading, PA 19603
- 14-16 — *Kutztown, Pennsylvania*. Second Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 8301, Reading, PA 19603
- 14-16 — *Jackson, Mississippi*. First Annual Old Timers Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 20664, Jackson, MS 39209-1664

- 19-24 — *Richmond, Virginia*. Southeastern Conv. Write: Ch., 5715 Theodore-Dawes, Theodore, AL 36582
- 21-23 — *Reno, Nevada*. Sierra Nevada Roundup. Write: Ch., 251 Smithridge Pk., Reno, NV 89502
- 21-23 *Evanston, Wyoming*. Rebels Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 483, Evanston, WY 82930
- 21-23 — *Cleveland, Ohio*. Fifth Roundup (Gay Men and Women). Write: Com., Box 14775, Cleveland, OH 44114
- 21-23 — *Greenlake, Wisconsin*. Seventh Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 213, Germantown, WI 53022
- 21-23 — *Cartersville, Georgia*. Tenth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 856, Cartersville, GA 30120
- 28-29 — *Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*. 40th Anniversary Conv. Write: Ch., Ave. N.S. Copacabana, 435/505, Box 44017, Rio de Janeiro, CEP 22020
- 28-30 — *Tiel, Holland*. First Annual International English Roundup. Write: Ch., Marga Klompestraat 25, 2401 MG Alphen a/d Rijn, Netherlands