

BOX 4-5-9

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 22nd GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

Vol. 17 No. 3

June-July 1972

Conference Actions Support Traditions, Services



Guided by the Conference theme, "Our Primary Purpose," delegates to the 22nd North American General Service Conference joined with their fellow conferees in obtaining the group conscience on a number of questions, many having to do with improving communications and other questions requiring clarification and discussion in light of our Traditions.

Ninety delegates attended the week-long sessions at the Hotel Roosevelt, April 17-22, together with the trustees of the General Service Board, A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors and staffs, plus a limited number of nonvoting observers from some of the Board Committees and other people having special assignments at the Conference.

Dr. Norris, chairman of the General Service Board, in welcoming delegates, spoke of the Conference "as a sharing of our experience, hope and strength, and of our concerns. . . this is your Conference, those of you who have studied the Third Legacy know how much this was a part of Bill's thinking, part of the Traditions that will keep A.A. alive and strong. . . a rewarding part of my experience in A.A. is to see the group conscience at work and to depend upon it."

Bob McA., chairman of the "Delegates Only" meeting, also greeted the Conference members at the opening session, reminding them that "we have a lot of work cut out for us this week. . . but it will be an unforgettable experience. . . to learn and to share, that is why we are here. Let us always be mindful to do what is best, not only for our areas, but for A.A. as a whole."

Following are some of the conference actions:

A.A. Growing in Size and Strength, Dr. Norris Reports

"Judging from reports given by trustees at our quarterly meetings, from contributions and sales of literature, and from correspondence, A.A. is growing in size and strength," Dr. Norris told the Conference, "so A.A. is, in your Board's opinion, in excellent shape."

Following are some questions considered by the Board during the past year: The writer selected to write Bill's biography, an A.A. member known to both Bill and Lois, is currently at work on this project; several proposals for the use of Bill's memorial contribution fund (now about \$36,000) have been considered. None was felt to be "right"—there seems no hurry to make an immediate decision. The Board further recommended that plaques not be placed on Bill's and Dr. Bob's birthplaces; that Lois not allow Bill's name to be used in connection with an alcoholism research foundation; that the matter of naming

groups after deceased persons be placed on the 1972 Conference agenda; approved Denver as the 1975 Convention site; suggested that a correspondence be developed between nonalcoholic trustees representing Boards in different parts of the world; discussed how to keep older members active; anonymity "within and without," and the upcoming World Service Meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

Hazel R., G.S.O. staff member 16 years, died Sept. 10, 1971, at Southport, Conn.

Betty R., delegate Panel 21, No. Carolina, died Oct. 3, 1971.

Walter H., delegate Panel 20, Tennessee, died July 1971.

NEW TRUSTEES ELECTED. *Junior A.*, Mass., from the Northeast region, U.S.; *Jim G.*, Nebr., from the West Central region; and *Matt N.*, Alberta, from Western Canada.

LOCAL MISUNDERSTANDINGS. Approved a motion that G.S.O. should not be asked to intervene or involve itself in local disputes or misunderstandings.

STEPPING STONES. Voted not to accept Stepping Stones property, Bill and Lois's home.

BILL WILSON MEMORIAL FUND. Agreed to defer decision on the use of this fund so that the delegates may discuss with their groups the suggestion of a film about A.A., historical or for Public Information purposes, and come back next year prepared to make a decision on this, or some other suggestions.

(continued p. 6)

The Voice of the Conference Was Heard...

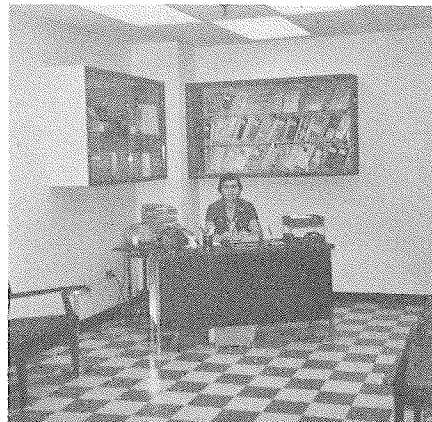
KEYNOTE: In his Keynote message, Tom G., general service trustee from Canada, addressed himself to the question of A.A.'s future service leadership, stressing the need for developing better informed and more dedicated service workers at all service levels, in order to carry out A.A.'s primary purpose. Tom suggested the Conference might consider three specific needs: "One, the need for informed and knowledgeable Third Legacy workers. To accomplish this, we ourselves need to do a better job of training and educating. Two, district committees and well-planned programs; perhaps our single greatest need is for dedicated committee members. . .our service leaders must be chosen, educated and trained out of the ranks of our membership, in and through the whole breadth of A.A. and nurtured on the vine of our service structure. It is our prime responsibility. Three, our assemblies. If agendas are provided early enough, discussion of problems can be thoroughly examined at district meetings, resulting in more effective business meetings where more can be accomplished and better reports made of the meetings."

A.A. MEETING: A regular A.A. meeting followed the opening dinner Monday night. John R., S.E. New York delegate, was chairman and introduced the A.A. speakers, fellow Panel 21 delegates, Gloria C., Louisiana, and Jim D., Oklahoma. Speakers shared their personal stories and A.A. experiences.

ALCOHOLISM IN THE ARMED SERVICES. Accepting an invitation to conduct a series of seminars on alcoholism for armed forces personnel (predominately chaplains) in West Germany and England, Dr. Jack shared details of his trip made earlier this year. His first stop was Frankfurt. "We began at 10 a.m.," he said, "and finished about 3 every afternoon. In the morning, I talked in general about alcoholism the disease. . . in the afternoon, I talked about A.A. and made suggestions about how to work with A.A., how they could start a group, what literature was available, urged them to attend meetings, etc." Dr. Norris was told that alcohol, rather than opiates, was the major problem with service people at these bases, the same being true of men serving in Viet Nam. "One way we can help is to do what we can to support civilian A.A. groups in communities near military bases and encourage these bases to use A.A. literature," Dr. Norris said. He visited other bases in Kaiserslautern, Stuttgart, Nuernberg, Berlin and London.

WORLD DIRECTORY PRESENTATION. "Is the World Directory helping us carry the message in A.A.?" is the question Ann M. posed to Conference members, giving them some background on the problem before they discussed it at more depth in a series of workshops. She reported, "It is becoming apparent that the World Directory is very limited in its usefulness. . .as far as we can determine, its principal uses are for travelers, as a mailing list for local events and as a limited 12th Step referral source. The present method of referring Directory requests from nonalcoholic sources to the delegate often means that the alcoholic is not getting the immediate help that we as A.A.'s want to offer. Replying to a questionnaire in *Box 4-5-9*, 513 of the 600 respondents confirmed our thinking that the main use is for travelers or people moving to new homes. Only 60 said it was used for 12th Step work." Ann asked the workshops to consider ways to make the Directory a better referral source.

CHANGE OF REGION FOR WISCONSIN. Arguments in favor of admitting the state of Wisconsin into the East Central region of the United States from



RECEPTION ROOM

DELEGATES TOUR G.S.O. GRAPEVINE

Though delegates of Panel 21 felt on familiar ground as they visited the G.S.O. and Grapevine premises Thursday afternoon during a scheduled break in the Conference sessions, Panel 22 delegates enjoyed their first "official" tour under the warm guidance of our receptionist Muriel and her capable assistants. Delegates had an opportunity to chat with the staff and office personnel, ask questions, and view at close hand the various office operations.

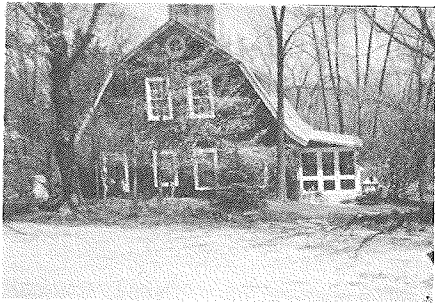
its present position as part of the West Central region, were heard from Joe B., Panel 21, So. Wisconsin, Don F., trustee, West Central region, and Jack M., trustee, East Cen. region. The Conference voted in favor of the proposal.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AREA COMMITTEES. Four delegates shared their personal and area experience respecting this question. Lenore M. talked about area responsibilities as suggested in the A.A. Service Manual: "The area committee. . .is responsible for the health of the Conference structure." She described some practices in her area: all committee members meet monthly with their G.S.R.'s, and every third month, the delegate and committee officers meet to discuss ideas and problems relating to the entire district. An intergroup steering committee member and the delegate frequently exchange visits to each other's meetings. The area committee arranges meetings to assist the delegate in giving his report. At their annual convention, the area committee invites non-A.A. guests involved with alcoholics but who have no clear idea of how A.A. functions.

Carl B. spoke of the role of past delegates. He felt they should not be placed in a special class. Rather than serving again as G.S.R.'s or committee members, he suggested they serve on P.I., institutions, or intergroup committees, participate in workshops and sharing sessions, etc. Carl suggested that the role of the past delegate be discussed again in 1973.

Stu N. talked about getting a better response from delegates. He thought it was simply a matter of making a stronger effort to stay in communication, "a little more acceptance of the responsibility we have already undertaken," willingness and effort to pass on information and knowledge to the next delegate.

Hal M. stressed the need for local areas to solve their own problems instead of asking G.S.O. to intervene. Hal said the function of G.S.O. is to implement policies approved by the Conference, to provide services and to share experience, not to judge or mediate in local disagreements. He asked that the Conference reaffirm the 1963 Conference action: "That G.S.O. continue to refer local matters back to the area involved." Delegates approved a motion that G.S.O. should not be asked to intervene or involve itself in local disputes or misunderstandings.



STEPPING STONES

A VISIT TO 'STEPPING STONES'

A visit to Bill and Lois's home in Bedford Hills, N.Y. scheduled every other year, has long been an enjoyable feature of the Conference week's activities. At the close of the last session, Saturday p.m., delegates boarded buses for the hour and a half drive to "Stepping Stones." There they had a rare opportunity to talk with Lois, stroll around the pleasant lawns, visit Bill's studio and eat a delicious buffet lunch before returning to New York—then home!

CLUBS. This presentation was based on findings of a questionnaire sent out to all clubs listed at G.S.O. in January of this year. Last year's Conference questioned whether G.S.O. could accept monies from clubs since many of us say that there is no such thing as an A.A. club; that these clubs are operated independently of A.A. However, since they are composed largely or entirely of A.A. members, it has been suggested that they should abide by A.A. Tradition because they are apt to be known as an A.A. facility in the community. There are many variations of club operation and ownership; monies are often received at G.S.O. from A.A. groups and members meeting at clubs. In any case, the subject is not entirely clear and there was much discussion on the floor as to whether G.S.O. can or cannot accept contributions from clubs. The delegates approved a motion that no club listed, or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members, be allowed to contribute to G.S.O. Individual groups meeting in these clubs could send in funds as long as it is in the name of the group.

"FAMILY" GROUP. Background on this subject was given by Valerie S. who told of the significant increase in the number of "Family groups" requesting a listing in the *World Directory*. The G.S.O. staff met last fall with Al-Anon, who felt the word "family," long identified with "Al-Anon Family Groups," should not be used in the name of an A.A. group. As to listing these groups and other "special" groups in the Directory, G.S.O. feels these are not A.A. groups in keeping with our primary purpose, or in some cases, in meeting membership requirements. So it was suggested to them that they be considered "meetings" in which A.A. members participate and not as A.A. groups. In light of Traditions 3, 4 and 5, the Conference was asked to comment and offer guidance on this question or reaffirm A.A. group policy concerning group membership and who may be eligible to be

group officers. After discussion, the following motion was approved: "Only those with a desire to stop drinking may be members of an A.A. group. Although nonalcoholics are welcome at open meetings of A.A., it is suggested that the word 'family' not be used in the name of an A.A. group. If A.A.'s and their nonalcoholic mates wish to meet together on a regular basis, it is suggested they consider these gatherings 'meetings' and not A.A. groups."

NAMING AN A.A. GROUP AFTER AN INDIVIDUAL. Preceding floor discussion, Midge M. told the delegates something about the background of this practice. Responding to a question in the 1964 issue of *Box 4-5-9* as to whether

this ought to be done or not, the majority said "no" and called attention, in fact, to Traditions 11 and 12. Each group being autonomous, this subject has had little discussion, but since Bill died, many groups are now naming themselves after him or other persons, living or deceased, or proposed doing so. Dr. Jack was asked for his opinion, and he requested this be discussed by the Board, who, in turn, referred the question to this Conference for guidance. Midge explained it is G.S.O. policy when answering a group seeking our opinion to suggest that it select another name on the basis of "principles above personalities." After discussion, it was the unanimous opinion of the delegates that an A.A. group should not be named after an A.A. member or nonalcoholic, living or deceased.

The average sobriety age of the 1972 delegates was 11½ years.

Lois Wilson, having recently returned from visiting A.A. and Al-Anon groups in several countries, was a surprise guest at the Conference Friday afternoon, where she shared the highlights of her two and a half month trip. Accompanied by an Al-Anon friend, she visited groups in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Japan and Hawaii before returning home March 31.

Digest of Agenda

Monday, April 17

Registration
Welcome session and Keynote
Area Delegate Chairman
Meet Your G.S.O. Staff
Request for Change of Region: Wisconsin
Report: Chairman of the Board
Trustees' and Conference Committee Chairmen
Opening Dinner: A.A. Meeting

Tuesday, April 18

A.A.W.S. Report
International Events: Two Reports
Presentation: World Directory, Part I
Workshop: World Directory, Part I
Conference and Trustees' Committee Meetings
Unstructured Workshop

Wednesday, April 19

Regional Trustee Election
Responsibilities of Area Committees
Tradition Seven at Work: Finance Presentation
The Voice of the Conference
Stepping Stones
Bill Wilson Memorial Fund

Thursday, April 20

Conference Committee Meetings
Tour of G.S.O. and Grapevine Offices
Delegates' Only Dinner and Meeting

Friday, April 21

Conference Committee Reports
Report Back on Workshops
Delegates' Only Meeting Report

Saturday, April 22

Closing Brunch
Trip to Bedford Hills

* * * * *

"AREA HIGHLIGHTS": Each day time was set aside to hear area delegates of Panel 22 report on A.A. in their areas.

"ASK-IT-BASKET": Questions submitted anonymously from the floor were discussed and answered at two sessions during the Conference.

1971 'Revisited' Through G.S.O. and A.A. Grapevine Reports

Last year was, by all accounts, a good one for our Fellowship; if not "a great leap forward" as other societies like to claim, there was certainly a steady and satisfactory growth both at home and abroad. Groups overall increased by 8% over 1970 and the membership by 6%.

Many countries have or are in the process of establishing sound service structures—Intergroups, General Service Offices and Boards and General Service Conferences—becoming less dependent on G.S.O. and assuming more responsibility for servicing their own areas.

The vitality of the Fellowship can also be seen in a substantial increase of literature sales and in contributions to G.S.O.

It was a year, also, of much public interest in the problem of alcoholism and in the creation of new alcoholism programs. This activity was reflected in invitations from professional agencies in the field for A.A. cooperation in research and surveys, and as a referral and information source.

Now, let's take a closer look at the year's activities through the staff reports, here briefly excerpted (longer reports will be included in the final *Conference Report*):

Bob H. told the Conference in his *A.A.W.S. REPORT* that there are currently 59 employees at G.S.O., which includes 13 on a part-time basis. Literature sales came to \$678,500, an increase of \$148,900 over 1970. Distribution of all materials in 1971 totaled 3,080,900 individual units. Free literature amounted to 274,200 pieces to service new groups and to inform the general public. The *Accounting* Department processed 19,380 orders as well as 20,930 contributions. *Shipping* handled 87,474 incoming letters; 77,808 letters were sent out. Book and pamphlet orders accounted for 77,095 packages shipped to all parts of the world.

Besides the *Accounting* Department (7 full-time employees, one part-time) and *Shipping* (7 full-time and 13 part-time employees), other departments at G.S.O. are: *Records* (6 employees and one part-time, who compile the World Directories besides all record-keeping duties) and *Steno/Clerical* (7 full-time transcribers and two part-time, two clerk typists, a receptionist and switchboard

GROUPS and MEMBERS	
Spring 1972	
Groups	Members
United States	10,342 181,419
Canada	1,815 29,073
Overseas*	3,921 71,349
Lone Members	478
In Hospitals	783 16,900
In Prisons	915 30,300
Internationalists	388
Total	17,776 329,907

*1971 count, until Part II of the *World Directory* is published in August 1972.
(including non-reported members, actual membership is estimated at more than 575,000 worldwide.)

operator, file research analyst, file clerk, assistant archivist and the general manager's secretary).

This past year a committee on Office Policy and Procedure was established, composed of the general manager, the staff and service coordinators, the controller and office manager. It deals only with office matters.

Ann M., *SERVICE COORDINATOR*, reported on her activities. She acts as liaison between department heads, the staff and the general manager. She said last year 1,806 new groups were recorded from the U.S. and Canada. There are now 13 Guidelines available from G.S.O. A new filmstrip on G.S.O. activities is in the works; during the past year, 175 requests were received for "Bill's Own Story," "Bill Discusses the 12 Traditions" and "Time for Decision." Our

tape service is being reviewed; our first cassette tape (a talk of Bill's, "A.A.'s Legacy of Service") is now available, and we are working on a Tape Correspondence Service. *Box 4-5-9*, in three language editions, has a print order of 30,700.

Midge M., *STAFF COORDINATOR*, described her current assignment, explaining that G.S.O. is basically a correspondence office, an A.A. communications center for sharing experience around the A.A. world. She regulates the flow of office mail, keeps records of office meetings, staff vacations and trip schedules. Last year, she said, the staff enjoyed their participation in 56 area and regional conferences and get-togethers. More than 980 visitors were welcomed at G.S.O. in 1971; friends from Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Japan, among others.

Waneta N., *CONFERENCE SECRETARY*, expressed gratitude to area committee secretaries for advising us of their newly elected trusted servants before the Dec. 1 deadline for inclusion in the *World Directory*, Part I. She said there are about 608 past delegates listed at G.S.O. who receive *Box 4-5-9* and other information. Last year, Conference members asked that past delegates receive the *Quarterly Report* and they now do so.

Reporting on the *INSTITUTIONS* assignment, Phyllis M. said that we list almost 800 groups in hospitals and well over 900 groups in prisons. Also, we list 100 Institutions committees throughout

Denver to Host '75 Convention

Denver, Colorado, was selected by the Convention Site Committee at the 1971 Conference to host A.A.'s 40th Anniversary and International Convention in 1975. This 6th International A.A. Convention, like all the others, will mark another milestone in the history of A.A.

The Host Committee has opened up an account for the guarantee fund in a Denver bank.

All Convention activities will be housed in the Currigan Convention

Complex. Hot meals and sandwiches will be served cafeteria-style in Currigan Hall, which will also have two snack bars open during sessions.

Jack M., a former Colorado delegate, has agreed to serve as Host Committee chairman and John N., current delegate, is also serving on the committee.

The Brown Palace Hotel will serve as Convention headquarters; the Denver Hilton Hotel as headquarters hotel for Al-Anon and Alateen.

—Bob H., *Conv. Chairman*

the world, most of them being in the U.S. and Canada. She said a new service, the Institutions Correspondence Service, has been started and about 150 inmates are presently receiving mail from 35 members of this service. Literature is now available to Institutions groups at a considerable discount, and a copy of the Big Book is provided free of charge.

Beth K., speaking for *LONERS*, said that at the present time, G.S.O. lists approximately 500 Loners. Of these, 40 are Spanish and 16 are French. During the past year, a number of Loners started groups; one in Tel Aviv, Israel; another in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and several in Viet Nam, among others. Also, a new Loner is in Czechoslovakia. We list about 200 Loner Sponsors; these attend group meetings but like to Twelfth Step through correspondence.

Mary Ellen U. reported on the year's activities in *PUBLIC INFORMATION*, saying that 8,273 inquiries were received and 3,245 press clippings, of which 1,000 related to Bill's death. There were 107 anonymity breaks, 173 radio and TV spots distributed, 29 One-Way Displays sent with P.I. labels and pamphlets for local use. Material was provided to 21 newspaper and magazine writers and to four radio/TV shows. The Anonymity Letter to the Press was mailed to 3,000 newspapers and the Annual Report to the Public was sent with the October P.I. Bulletin. The results of the survey, authorized by the 1971 Conference, to obtain more information about our Fellowship in the U.S. and Canada, are still being studied; as soon as final results have been determined, they will be made available.

There are now approximately 400 *INTERNATIONALISTS*, Valerie S. reported. She said G.S.O.'s list of Internationalists now carries only A.A.'s who spend time at sea. A few long-time A.A.'s, retired and living in port areas, are being listed as "Port Contacts."

Besides a list of names and addresses of other A.A. seamen, and the World Directories, Internationalists receive the *Round Robin* bimonthly and *Box 4-5-9*, sent on alternate months.

Speaking on *PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS*, Cora Louise B. said 75 A.A.'s employed as professionals in the alcoholism field were asked to share their experience through a questionnaire. Approximately 45 replies were received and this data has been used in preparing

World Service Meeting Scheduled for October 1972

The next World Service Meeting will be held Oct. 5-7, 1972. The G.S. Board has approved a budget of \$15,000 as its share of the expense. All countries participating approved an increase from \$200 to \$300 for each of their two delegates.

In addition to the 12 countries and one zone that participated in the 1969 meeting, Sweden, Brazil and Ireland were invited. Sweden and Ireland are interested, but Brazil feels it is not yet ready.

"Our Primary Purpose" will be the meeting theme. Some of the agenda subjects are as follows:

(1) Four-year term for delegates? (2) Worldwide publishing and literature policies, (3) Eventual preparation of a "service manual" for each country, (4) What constitutes G.S. Conference-approved material in each country? (5) Writings of individual members, carrying their names, as Conference-approved materials?, (6) Exploration of the W.S.M. structure, and (7) Review of requirements for delegates.

The Agenda-Admissions Committee of World Service Meeting disapproved the request from three countries to have observers attend the meeting.

Guidelines for "A.A. Members Who Wear Two Hats." Last year, the staff and trustees participated in 12 national and international events, as a result of our efforts to let agencies know of our wish to work with them, within our Traditions. In July, Col. Scott, staff chaplain, 7th Army, asked us to suggest an individual to conduct seminars on alcoholism for the armed forces personnel in West Germany. Dr. Jack accepted and made the trip. As of February, we have received 40 requests for material from armed forces officers in the U.S., Viet Nam and Europe. We sent literature, Guidelines for "Armed Forces Groups" and lists of armed forces A.A. groups.

A highlight in the *OVERSEAS* picture this year was Lois's around-the-world trip, Beth reported. Lois visited A.A. and Al-Anon groups in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Hawaii.

Other highlights were: Tokyo, *Japan*, has an Intergroup; There is a group in *Tel Aviv*, through efforts of two Loners; there are 14 groups and 15 Loners in *Viet Nam*—the first S.E. Asian A.A. conference was held in *Saigon* in Dec. There are plans for a G.S.B. and G.S.O. in *Australia. Bristol, England*, was host to The European Convention; The Armed Forces Groups in *Germany* have formed an Intergroup; the *Irish G.S.B.* wishes to be represented at the World Service Meeting in October; Sackville M., an A.A. trustee of the Irish Board and Travers C. were invited to Rome and had an audience with the Pope who welcomed them and commended the work of A.A.

Mexico has translated and printed most of our literature; their national di-

rectory lists 380 groups. A G.S.B. has been started for French-speaking groups in *Switzerland*.

GRAPEVINE

(Jack M., Paula C., co-editors)

Grapevine circulation reached a new high of 64,000 this year. The Grapevine 1972 calendar sold out and other Grapevine items moved well. Due to the healthy growth of the magazine, we will be able to hold the per-copy cost to 35 cents for the foreseeable future. A contribution of \$12,000 to the General Fund was voted by the Grapevine Corporate Board.

Equally gratifying was a sense of the growing interest in the Grapevine from the Fellowship. Our mail has been voluminous and enthusiastic. The number and quality of manuscripts sent to us for possible publication grows daily and we are able to select from a wealth of good material.

At this point in A.A. history, your editors feel a particular concern for the Traditions and for A.A. principles. We published 12 excellent articles on the Twelve Traditions. These, we know, have stimulated group discussion of the Traditions. We are currently running Bill W.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service. We have continued to stress A.A. thinking on our anonymity Traditions. All of this, we hope, will contribute to a better understanding of A.A.

During this year, we have been engaged in indexing all material ever published in the Grapevine since its beginning. We have completed 18 years with some 300 categories.

Board Reports in Brief

Literature Committee: Three projects now completed are "Twelve Traditions Illustrated," leaflet of Bill and Dr. Bob biographies, and "A.A.'s Legacy of Service" (the Foreword to the A.A. Service Manual). *Still in process:* "How We Stay Sober," "Came to Believe," and "A.A. in the Armed Services."

Public Information Committee: Work completed on the new A.A. Public Information Manual, a news release on Dr. Jack's trip to Germany was distributed; also in distribution are the Anonymity Wallet Card, "A Brief Guide to A.A." and a Position Paper on Anonymity. *Work in progress:* New leaflet on anonymity, new color-TV Public Service Announcements. *For the future:* Possible motion picture about A.A. and a major magazine article.

Policy Committee: Some subjects discussed at length last year were A.A.'s possible acceptance of Stepping Stones in joint ownership with Al-Anon; Bill's biography; Bill's memorial fund, and Anonymity and the Anonymity Tradition.

Professional Relations Committee: A new Professional Exhibit was accepted and is now in circulation. A new pamphlet for Professionals in the Alcoholism Field will be reviewed by the 1972 Conference. New Guidelines published were for "A.A. Members Employed in the Field of Alcoholism" (those who wear "two hats") and for "A.A. Cooperation with Alcoholism Agencies and Facilities." Accepted suggestion to prepare a regular newsletter for professionals and agencies re A.A.'s new pamphlets, activities, etc., discussed question of A.A. participation in surveys and research projects by outside agencies and individuals.

Finance Committee: Overall, finance picture for 1971 was good; net sales increased 28% over 1970; contributions increased 15%. Total increase, i.e., publishing gross profit and contributions, was 20% over 1970. Expenses, up 13%, related to growth of the Fellowship and the increased cost of doing business. G.S.O. had a net increase of \$33,900 for the year 1971.

Nominating Committee: Recommended to the Board that Joseph H., Jr. and Thomas C. be elected directors of the Grapevine corporate Board; that Ralph A. be elected president and chairman of that Board; that George G., submitted by the Grapevine Board for general service trustee be elected at the the annual meeting of the General Service Board, following presentation to the 1972 Conference for disapproval, if any; that Niles P., submitted by A.A.W.S. for Class B general service trustee, effective January 1, 1972, be elected at the quarterly meeting of the Board in November, following a mail poll of Conference members for disapproval, if any. The mail poll response expressed approval of Niles for general service trustee. Members of this committee reviewed again the subject of whether it is a good idea for a delegate to the Conference to be proposed as a trustee candidate before his term as delegate has expired. After discussion, the committee recommended to the Conference Committee on Trustees that a delegate to the General Service Conference shall not be eligible for service as a trustee candidate until after he has attended his last Conference. The committee reviewed the G.S.O. resumé sheet for regional and general service trustee candidates and suggested the trustee candidate sign and date the resumé, attesting to the accuracy of the information given to the best of his knowledge.

Final Conference Report will be available about June 10. It will carry a more complete reporting of the Conference proceedings. Price, \$1.75.

Growth & Money at G.S.O.

How efficient has been G.S.O.'s growth? In terms of personnel — in 1950 there was one employee for each 202 groups. Today, one employee serves each 335 groups.

During the past twenty one years, the G.S.O. budget has increased from \$89,500 to \$522,200 for services charged to the group contribution account. During that same period, cost of living increased 72%. Adjusting for this change in dollar value, we find that the cost of services per group actually showed a decrease from \$22.06 to \$17.06.

1972 Grapevine Budget

Estimated income from subscription and other sales.....	\$286,000
Estimated Expense.....	277,400
Net income from operation.....	8,600
Interest from investments.....	9,500
Net Income.....	18,400

CONFERENCE ACTIONS (continued on p. 1)

CLUBS. Approved a motion that no club listed, or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members, be allowed to contribute to G.S.O. Individual groups meeting in these clubs could send in funds as long as it is in the name of the group.

'FAMILY' GROUPS. Approved the motion that "only those with a desire to stop drinking may be members of an A.A. group. Although nonalcoholics are welcome at open meetings of A.A., it is suggested that the word 'family' not be used in the name of an A.A. group. If A.A.'s and their nonalcoholic mates wish to meet together on a regular basis, it is suggested they consider these gatherings 'meetings' and not A.A. groups. *Listing in World Directory:* It was the sense of the meeting that the family groups should not be listed under the family group name in the Directory.

NAMING AN A.A. GROUP AFTER AN INDIVIDUAL. It was the unanimous opinion of the delegates that an A.A. group should not be named after an A.A. member or non-alcoholic, living or deceased.

CHANGE OF REGION. Unanimously approved the proposal to change the State of Wisconsin from the West Central region to East Central region.

'DELEGATES ONLY MEETING'. Voted a contribution of \$359 to the Memorial Fund: elected the following as North American Conference delegates, and alternates, to the 1972 World Service Meeting: Panel 21, Shirley S., N.E. Ohio, and alternate, Lenore M., E. Pa. Panel 22, Ben P., Kansas and alternate, Ralph Z., Western N.Y.; recommended "Area Delegates" chairman have greater Conference responsibility; strongly recommended that the election procedure of trustees be thoroughly reviewed; Jim H., Alberta, Canada, elected as new Area Delegates chairman.

UNSTRUCTURED WORKSHOP. There were nine workshops in which 56 topics and questions emerged. Categories (including a miscellaneous one) were: General Service Activities, Conference, Miami Convention, Clubs, Groups, Drugs, Literature, General Service Board.

NARCOTICS, DRUGS AND A.A. There was much discussion, during which a show of hands indicated that more than one-half the delegates are concerned with this problem in their

(continued on p. 8)

1971 Group Contributions

U.S.	# Gps. re- ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Amount of Contrib.	Member- ship	Contrib's. per Capita	CANADA	# Gps. re- ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Amount of Contrib.	Member- ship	Contrib's. per Capita
Alabama	91	47	51.6%	\$ 2,883.16	1,543	\$ 1.87	Alberta	160	86	53.8%	\$ 3,788.50	1,644	\$ 2.30
Alaska	42	19	45.2	1,518.00	465	3.26	Atlantic Prov.						
Arizona	144	71	49.3	6,088.45	1,850	3.29	New Brunswick	57	36	63.2	1,241.47	760	1.63
Arkansas	78	49	62.8	2,821.00	1,026	2.75	Newfoundland	16	9	56.3	371.50	186	2.00
California	1,469	899	61.2	59,180.79	34,564	1.71	Nova Scotia	67	47	70.1	1,983.52	761	2.61
Colorado	150	101	67.3	5,825.26	2,260	2.58	Prince Ed. Is.	22	14	63.6	575.00	359	1.60
Connecticut	258	155	60.1	10,846.40	4,114	2.64	British Columbia	224	134	59.8	7,739.53	2,808	2.76
Delaware	36	31	86.1	1,791.00	541	3.31	Manitoba	92	46	50.0	2,772.58	1,745	1.59
Dist. of Columbia	61	33	54.1	4,650.89	1,778	2.62	N.W. Territories	5	3	60.0	93.82	28	4.30
Florida	367	236	64.3	23,911.59	5,873	4.07	Ontario	511	328	64.2	24,216.89	7,351	3.29
Georgia	185	132	71.4	6,134.44	2,582	2.38	Quebec	513	275	53.6	10,774.67	11,793	.91
Hawaii	42	27	64.3	1,104.85	553	2.00	Saskatchewan	146	81	55.5	3,536.61	1,615	2.19
Idaho	46	28	60.9	940.80	482	1.95	Yukon Terr.	2	2	100.0	64.40	23	2.80
Illinois	737	472	64.0	16,538.10	15,781	1.05	TOTAL for CANADA	1,815	1,061	58.5%	\$ 57,158.49	29,073	\$ 1.97
Indiana	217	149	68.7	9,519.60	2,937	3.24	TOTAL for U.S. and CANADA	12,160	7,795	64.1%	\$493,592.92	210,522	\$ 2.34
Iowa	139	92	66.2	5,499.98	2,524	2.18	FOREIGN & OTHER						
Kansas	128	84	65.6	4,696.08	2,293	2.05	Foreign				2,653.05		
Kentucky	136	93	68.4	7,591.20	1,590	4.77	World Hello				34.45		
Louisiana	118	78	66.1	3,602.53	2,052	1.76	International Doctors				200.00		
Maine	55	39	70.9	1,910.00	632	3.02	Hospital Groups				1,693.60		
Maryland	192	143	74.5	8,415.25	2,753	3.06	Prison Groups				107.00		
Massachusetts	352	200	56.8	14,003.75	6,954	2.01	Internationalists				1,103.55		
Michigan	406	272	67.0	22,941.13	6,608	3.47	Young People in A.A.				300.00		
Minnesota	302	190	56.3	10,107.65	6,761	1.49	Amateur Radio				10.00		
Mississippi	60	35	58.3	1,705.50	854	2.00	GRAND TOTAL				\$499,694.57		
Missouri	219	135	61.6	7,337.98	3,381	2.17							
Montana	63	38	60.3	1,238.55	643	1.93							
Nebraska	93	61	65.6	3,713.26	1,118	3.32							
Nevada	53	41	77.4	1,960.77	1,024	1.91							
New Hampshire	52	32	61.5	1,910.33	789	2.42							
New Jersey	328	237	72.3	17,416.00	5,119	3.40							
New Mexico	76	43	56.6	1,973.58	1,148	1.72							
New York	673	470	69.8	38,062.53	11,954	3.18							
North Carolina	189	142	75.1	8,347.83	2,703	3.09							
North Dakota	57	34	59.6	1,694.95	627	2.70							
Ohio	532	300	56.4	18,518.69	9,937	1.86							
Oklahoma	117	93	79.5	6,359.40	1,522	4.18							
Oregon	118	75	63.6	3,407.55	1,246	2.73							
Pennsylvania	373	266	71.3	21,883.66	6,172	2.09							
Rhode Island	42	32	76.2	2,264.10	499	4.54							
South Carolina	73	49	67.1	3,154.31	1,159	2.72							
South Dakota	48	31	64.6	1,602.90	896	1.79							
Tennessee	104	70	67.3	3,156.50	1,652	1.91							
Texas	401	278	69.3	18,843.95	8,016	2.35							
Utah	58	43	74.1	2,070.98	692	3.00							
Vermont	33	26	78.8	2,495.16	391	6.38							
Virginia	177	136	76.8	9,057.92	3,115	2.91							
Washington	247	155	62.8	12,077.00	3,053	3.96							
West Virginia	70	47	67.1	2,739.00	839	3.26							
Wisconsin	261	173	66.3	8,188.13	3,295	2.49							
Wyoming	29	17	58.6	662.00	316	2.09							
Commonwealth of P.R.	38	27	71.1	1,360.00	624	2.18							
Canal Zone	2	2	100.0	535.00	59	9.07							
Bahama Islands	5	4	80.0	110.00	60	1.72							
Virgin Islands of U.S.	3	2	66.6	65.00	30	2.17							
Total for U.S.	10,345	6,734	65.1%	\$436,434.43	181,449	\$ 2.41							

GROUP CONTRIBUTION COMPARISON — 1971 — 1970													
	# Gps. re- ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Amount of Contrib.	Member- ship	Contrib's. per Capita		# Gps. re- ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Amount of Contrib.	Member- ship	Contrib's. per Capita
U.S.A. 1971	10,345	6,734	65.1%	\$436,434.43	181,499	\$ 2.41							
U.S.A. 1970	9,541	6,129	64.2	380,995.95	167,167	2.28							
Increase (Decrease)	804	605	0.9%	\$ 55,438.48	14,282	\$.13							
Canada 1971	1,815	1,061	58.5%	\$ 57,158.49	29,073	\$ 1.97							
Canada 1970	1,667	958	57.5	47,434.08	25,957	1.83							
Increase (Decrease)	148	103	1.0%	\$ 9,723.41	3,116	\$.14							
U.S. & Canada 1971	12,160	7,795	64.1%	\$493,592.92	210,552	\$ 2.35							
U.S. & Canada 1970	11,208	7,087	63.2	428,430.43	193,124	2.22							
Increase (Decrease)	952	708	0.9%	\$ 65,162.49	17,428	\$.13							

A.A. CALENDAR

MAY

- 19-21 - *Woodstock, Vt.*, 5th Annu. Vt. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 273 Woodstock.
- 19-21 - *Tulsa, Okla.*, 31st Annu. State Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 7611, Tulsa.
- 20-21 - *Sedona, Ariz.*, 18th Annu. Round-up. Write: General Chm., Box 692, Sedona.
- 21 - *Bloomington, Ill.*, Annu. All-State Roundup. Write: Chm., Box 312, Bloomington.
- 21 - *Baltimore, Md.*, Balt. Area Intergroup 27th Annu. Banquet. Write: Banquet, Box 2735, Baltimore.
- 26-28 - *Reno, Nev.*, Reno Spring Festival. Write: Chm., Reno Spring Festival, Box 2876, Reno.
- 26-28 - *Roswell, N.M.*, 15th Annu. N.M. State Conf. Write: Regis. Comm., Box 1218, Alamogordo, N.M.
- 26-28 - *Ely, Minn.*, Upper Minn. Area Get-together. Write: Banquet Comm., 32 E. Sheridan Street, Ely.
- 26-28 - *Gatlinburg, Tenn.*, 21st Tenn. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 747, Gatlinburg.
- 26-28 - *Prince Albert, Sask., Can.*, Gateway Round-up. Write: Chm., 12-12th St. E., Prince Albert.
- 26-28 - *St. John's, Newfoundland, Can.* Roundup in Gnader. Write: Round-up Chm., Box 7131, St. John's.
- 26-28 - *Cody, Wyo.*, State Conf. Write: Wy. State Conf., Box 1092, Cody.
- 26-28 - *Jefferson, Ga.*, 3rd Potters Retreat. Write: Chm., Retreat, Box 823, Bostwick, Ga.

JUNE

- 2- 4 - *Palm Springs, Calif.*, 12th Annu. Desert Roundup. Write: Desert A.A. Roundup, Box 539, Palm Springs.
- 2- 4 - *Lincoln, Nebr.*, Lincoln, Neb. State Reunion. Write: Reunion Chm., Box 2602, Station B., Lincoln.
- 2- 4 - *Cleveland, Ohio*, 15th International Conference of Young People in A.A. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 3069, Cleveland.
- 3- 4 - *Effingham, Ill.*, So. Area Spring Conf. Write: Chm., Box 41, Effingham.
- 3- 4 - *Parksville, B.C., Can.*, 12th Annu. Rally. Write: 12th Annu. Parksville Rally, Box 15, Nanaimo, B.C.
- 3- 4 - *San Francisco, Calif.*, Northern Coastal Area. Write: Chm., Asilomar Assembly, Box 31192, San Francisco.
- 3- 4 - *Winchester, Va.*, 4-State & D.C. Get-To-Gether. Write: Chm., Box 651, Winchester.
- 9-11 - *Rye Beach, N.H.*, 7th Annu. State Assembly Conv. Write: Chm., Box 182, Portsmouth, N.H.
- 9-11 - *Stockton, Calif.*, No. Calif. Summer Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 856, Stockton.

- 15-17 - *St. Simons Island, Ga.*, 8th Annu. Golden Isles Family Weekend. Write: Chm., Box 508, Statesboro, Ga.
- 15-18 - *San Antonio, Texas*, 27th State Conv. Write: Chm., Box 5464, San Antonio.
- 23-25 - *Akron, Ohio*, Founders Day. Write: Conv. Chm., Intergroup Office, 41 So. High St., Akron.
- 30-July 2 - *Rochester, N.Y.*, 9th N.Y. State Conv. Write: Conv. Secy., 26 Dick-inson St., Rochester.
- 30-July 2 - *Portland, Ore.*, 25th Annu. Pacific N.W. Conf. Write: Conv. Secy., 17605 S.E. Roethe Pl., Milwaukie, Ore.

JULY

- 8-11 - *Umtali, Rhodesia, S.A.*, 1972 Conv. Write: Secy., Box 516, Umtali, Rhodesia, South Africa.
- 14-16 - *Baton Rouge, La.*, (Capital House). 15th La. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., 3616 Charry Drive, Baker, La.

SPECIAL GIFTS TO G.S.O.

CONNECTICUT	
Area Five Open Mtg.	\$200.00
Stamford Groups	800.00
MASSACHUSETTS	
17th Dist. S.E. Mass. General Serv. Area	20.00
NEW JERSEY	
25th Intergroup Ann. Dinner, A.A. Groups of N.J., Inc.	500.00
Atlantic City: So. N.J. Conv.	100.00
TEXAS	
El Paso: 10th Annu. Jamboree	250.00
10th Annu. S.E. Area Conf.	500.00
CANADA	
B.C.: Nanaimo, 11th Annu. Parksville Rally	100.00
Ont.: Sun Morn. Men's Mtg.	49.25
Que.: Montreal, 13th Bilingual Conf.	985.00
Sask.: Prince Albert Gateway Roundup 1971	198.00

CONFERENCE ACTIONS

(continued on p. 6)

areas. After discussion, it was moved that "G.S.O. prepare a clear-cut statement of what A.A. is and what it is not."

WORLD DIRECTORY, PART I. Recommended a set of specific guidelines be prepared by G.S.O. as soon as possible. Delegates unanimously agreed that their names may be used for any referrals from G.S.O.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: While reiterating A.A. spiritual principles, but recognizing the effect of inflation, it was recommended that the limit on individual gifts and bequest be increased from \$200 to \$300 a year.

AGENDA/ADMISSION COMMITTEE. Moved that the requests for additional delegates from British Columbia/Yukon and the Province of Quebec be deferred until next year.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE: Moved that the pamphlet, "A Brief Guide to A.A." (formerly the pamphlet "A Student's Guide to A.A.") be approved.

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE POLICY. Reaffirmed the 1969 Conference Agenda/Admissions Committee recommendation "that when an elected delegate cannot attend the annual meeting of the General Service Conference, the alternate delegate seated at the Conference will be considered delegate until notification is sent to G.S.O. by the area committee (as defined by the A.A. Service Manual) that the originally elected delegate is ready to resume his duties."

GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE. Recommended that the retiring delegates continue their service to A.A. by acting as Grapevine Representatives in their areas, carrying the message of the Grapevine to the Fellowship.

PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Recommended that the Conference approve the publication of the pamphlet, "If You Are a Professional . . ." with minor editorial changes.

REPORT AND CHARTER COMMITTEE. Recommended that the Literature Committee consider combining the summaries of the Ask-it-Basket questions and the Advisory Actions into a single looseleaf binder and, as such, offered to groups and members as a salable item. And, it was suggested that this binder, for the purpose of easier identification of sections, be provided with colored dividers . . . the overall title to be "What's the Answer?" and the Advisory Actions called "Conference Advice." It was also moved that wherever the term "trustees at large" appears in the A.A. Service Manual, the wording should be changed to read "general service trustee, United States, and general service trustee, Canada," in line with the Board's recommendation for change in the by-laws as accepted by the Conference.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE. It was also recommended to A.A.W.S. that a cartoon leaflet on service responsibilities be considered.

COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES. Reviewed and approved the recommendation that a delegate to the General Service Conference shall not be eligible to be proposed for trustee candidate until after he has attended his last Conference.

INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE. It was felt that Institutions Committees and/or outside groups and individual members are assuming responsibility in providing literature for institutions groups. This Committee recommends that the literature Committee re-examine the Institutional literature in an attempt to reach all levels of understanding.