

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

Our journey to the 54th General Service Conference began unofficially on the morning of May 14, 2004 when I stepped onto our "rocket into the 4th dimension," at San Diego airport, headed east. Fortunately, the flight was uneventful, and I arrived in Newark, NJ airport excited, happy and glad to be picked up by long-time friends that I'd be spending a couple of days with in Princeton, NJ.

Thursday found us headed into NYC on the train with a friend on a "walking tour" from Penn Station (34th Street) up 7th Ave. to 57th Street, east to 5th Ave, lunch and walking down 5th Ave, stopping for sightseeing at Tiffany's & Cartier, then St Patrick's Cathedral (to pray for the sights at Tiffany's & Cartier!), Empire State Bldg, and then back to Penn Station and return to Princeton.

Friday, our friends both had to work the day, so armed with a map and explicit instructions from our friends, feeling confident that I was an "old hand" at this after yesterday, we embarked the train early for our *solo* adventure into NYC to attend the infamous 11am Language of the Heart AA meeting at GSO. I'm sure you know what happens when we get too confident... well, it did.

The conductor called out "Penn Station," and we departed the train, only to find out as the train whisked away, that there are two Penn Stations, and we got off at (Newark) the wrong one. With the help of a kind lady at the ticket window, we got on the right track, and as we sat down, the conductor announced that this train went ONLY to Hoboken. We dashed for the door, only to have it close in front of us and we couldn't exit. We sat down feeling like the Kingston Trio's "...poor Charlie on the MTA," when the conductor came along and listened patiently to our dilemma, asked me if I was from California, and gave me step-by-step instructions to get back on my course to NYC. I wonder how he knew?

After taking a 3rd train, and the subway to 116th Street, it was only a short walk to 475 Riverside Drive and we were at the GSO (the locals call it the "God Box"), only 10 MINUTES behind our schedule, which I believe is a testimony to the Grace of my God, and the amazing public transportation system that prevails in Greater NYC.

While touring the GSO, seeing old friends, and meeting the names that go with the faces that we've spoken with so many, many times, our friend Bill A., pulled me aside and told me that since he had so much enjoyed speaking at PRAASA 2004, hosted in our Area 09, he'd like for me to return the favor and share my story at the 11am GSO meeting. WOW! What an order -- and an honor it was - to share at that meeting. Needless to say, our 4th dimension experience was rapidly expanding!

After the meeting and lunch in the cafeteria, there was another meeting hosted by the Grapevine, and then we returned to the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 49th St. and Broadway in the heart of Times Square via the subway with our area's dear friends, past trustee Jim C and his wife, Linda.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

Excitedly, we happily attended a Broadway play that evening with my friend from Princeton, and the delegate from Area 93, who offered the 2nd bed in her room to us for Friday nite, so that I wouldn't have to test our luck with the trains from Princeton again the next day!

Saturday, Phyllis H., the Pacific Region trustee took all the region delegates on an AA history tour narrated by Judit S the GSO Archivist, and George D, which included stops at Livingston & Clinton Streets in Brooklyn Heights where Bill and Lois had lived, and of course -- we set the Clinton St. neighborhood chattering about why all those people (some in tears) were trading cameras and places on the steps, taking photos of each other in front of #182.

We stopped for photos at the beautiful old Calvary Church, where thru Ebby, Bill W came in contact with the Oxford Groups and one of AA's greatest friends, Rev. Sam Shoemaker.

(Enroute, we also caught a glimpse of the Queen Mary II, which was docked at Pier 92. Later on that week, it was joined by the Queen Elizabeth II for cruise departure on a tandem journey.)

We also saw the building that was once the Towns Hospital, where Bill was a frequent visitor, and it was at his last visit there in December of 1934, that he became sober. We passed by the former GSO on Park Avenue across from Central Park and grabbed a great photo opportunity.

Upon returning to the hotel, to our delight we found the folks from the New York Intergroup hosting a hospitality suite for us for the entire afternoon, during which time we were able to check into our rooms, and then we went to an onsite *"1728" meeting* (12x12x12), dinner with the Public Information Committee Chair (my assigned committee), followed by a delegates only meeting and then ice cream at the Stardust Diner; wrote a few postcards, then lights out for this weary but happy Area 09 messenger.

Sunday our day began with the Remote Communities Committee meeting. By definition of a remote community as being any group of alcoholics separated by language, culture or geography, we heard nine delegates from BC/Yukon, Eastern Pennsylvania, Alaska, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Arizona, Montana, Nova Scotia/Newfoundland/ Labrador and Southern Wisconsin present activities their areas had accomplished in the past year toward reaching out to the alcoholic in their respective remote communities. In addition, Leonard Blumenthal, Class A Trustee also reported on the General Service Board Native American Committee.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

We then went to the Pacific Region Delegate Orientation Lunch meeting, where our Region Trustee and the Panel 53 Delegates imparted words of wisdom and experience on what to expect in different parts of the Conference process, and shared their "tips & tricks," on giving our area highlights within the two-minute time limit. We also developed our "game plan" for the trip to GSO on Tuesday, and our other upcoming "field trips."

Immediately following our lunch, we entered the room where the opening and all the main sessions were to be held. This was a very spiritually sensitive moment for me. As I crossed the threshold and saw the large banner hanging above the dais: "54th Annual General Service Conference," and the theme banner hung in front of the podium announced: "Our Singleness of Purpose – The Cornerstone of AA," I was struck with an incredible and humbling sense of awe. I had come face to face with the magnitude of AA. By all rights, I should be dead or drunk or locked away, and yet, here I stood, a servant among servants to all humankind. A paraphrase of that which the psalmist said ran thru my head at that moment: "Oh God, what is mankind that Thou art mindful of him or her?"

The chair of the General Service Board, officially opened the 54th General Service Conference and as the general manager, called the roll, I wept silently in gratitude.

The afternoon session we met in our first committee meetings which were combined trustee and conference committees. Following those, we attended the opening dinner and AA meeting. No walk to Central Park or ice cream for me tonight – I wrote postcards and conked out early!

Monday thru Friday at 7:30am, the 'General Service Serenity Group' AA open meeting met on site, discussing a different predetermined topic each day. This meeting is a registered meeting that only meets once/yearly – at the Conference, and was a great way to get the day jump-started. A "sound byte" collected from the meeting: "it's better to wake up on the wrong side of the bed than the wrong side of the floor."

The Monday morning session was entirely devoted to committee meetings; after lunch we heard reports from the General Service Board, the AAWS Board and the Grapevine Board. These reports were followed by a presentation on Finances by the chair of the Trustees' Finance & Budgetary Committee, and open mic questions and sharing.

The treasurer reported that the group contributions for 2003 were 2% less than budgeted, altho' they were up \$6000 from 2002. The \$4,997,400 were contributed by 25,400 groups, individuals & service entities, which represents 44.7% of the 56,904 groups registered with GSO. He also reported that net sales of literature were 3% greater than budgeted, and within \$25,000 of the previous year.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

We then heard Area Service Highlights from the Northeast Region and Eastern Canada Panel 54 delegates. The last part of the session before dinner was the Presentation: "the 2005 International Convention, Toronto, Canada: I Am Responsible."

This session ended with a "What's on Your Mind?" sharing session. One of the delegate's shared: "When nobody else took me in you said come on, when no one else loved me, you did." Another delegate shared: "It was suggested that I sit by people I didn't know during the meals, so I looked for a stranger to sit next to and could never find one."

After dinner, we reconvened and heard a presentation from the AA Archivist, titled: "What's New"

Tuesday's Serenity Group sound byte: "not only is alcoholism progressive, but sobriety is progressive also."

From 9am to noon, we met in committees again, and after lunch we heard presentations on: "Our Singleness of Purpose – 1) Our Responsibility to the Newcomer and 2) Communicating Our Singleness of Purpose. We then heard more Area Service Highlights from the New Brunswick/PEI, Southwest and West Central regions.

At 2pm we left on the subway for the GSO/Grapevine offices, where we toured, got acquainted with staff and employees acting as docents. We visited the GSO Archives, where I had my photo taken holding Bill Wilson's personal Big Book; what a treasured experience that is.

We also participated in a demonstration of the new Grapevine Archives Online feature that will be rolled out June 1. For a one-month trial period this feature will be free of charge, and then it will be by subscription at \$15/year. Between July 1 & Oct 31, if you are already a GV subscriber, you may obtain the online Archives subscription for \$5/yr. It is absolutely fabulous, and I was able to search for GV articles by city, author & subject, among many others. All the GV Archive items will be accessible, including hundreds of letters that Bill wrote and received. There is more info coming on this.

We returned from the offices just in time to slide into the delegate dinner and meeting, where Jimmy Jack Bailey from Kansas was elected Delegate Chair for next year's Conference and Randy Magnus from Saskatchewan is Alternate.

At this meeting we also discussed ways of communicating amongst our regions, and once again, I was ever so proud to be part of the Pacific Region delegation. Our region is well respected throughout the Conference, and is known to be the home of good, solid recovery and service. In addition, the areas in our region communicate well with each other, and much to my surprise, we are one of only 4 areas that has a region

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

service assembly (PRAASA). It became pretty apparent to me that there are other regions that don't know what they are missing!

Bad news: a Panel 53 Pacific Region delegate lost her precious (and expensive) camera. At the Conference, pictures are so important, that it's like losing *everything* when your camera's missing. Good news: prayers were invoked immediately.

Sound byte from the Serenity Group: "Humility is about being right-sized."

Wednesday was "our" day!

Good news: the lost camera was found. Bad News: the first event of the day was that I lost my wallet and my camera; one had all my money, and the other had all my priceless, precious pictures. Good news: again, the prayer chain swung into action, and both wallet and camera were found (nothing missing) within two hours.

9am found us in a workshop titled: "How is Singleness of Purpose Important to the Individual, Group, District, Area, GSO and Grapevine Offices?"

What a trip! I was exceptionally proud and pleased that Area 09 had addressed these topics over the past few months in our monthly delegate sharing sessions. Knowing that I have a great memory, but it's a little short, and that it's usually guided by my "ladies in the attic," I had chosen to take all my sharing session notes, roundtable notes from PRAASA and our Pre Conference Workshop, as well as several group consciences that were emailed, with me to the Conference. It paid off, as several times during the week, I was able to pull your sharing out of my bag and receive your direction at that moment. That's the way the process works, and I am truly grateful to you for that process. Again, another expansion of our 4th dimension.

The next event was our turn to be in the spotlight, as the Panel 54 Pacific Region Delegates gave their area highlights. This was a very unusual experience for me. As I took my seat on the dais, I felt the elastic in my pantyhose break! Since I was 5th on the presentation schedule, I had no time leave & take care of the matter. I sat veerrrry still during the four preceding presentations, walked to the podium, successfully gave Area 09 highlights (like we did at PRAASA), finishing BEFORE the 2-minute red light hit, and walked back to my chair with my pantyhose around my knees!! Fortunately, I was wearing a long skirt, which covered my boo-boo. It has been said that delegates will go to any lengths; well, I learned what the saying means that day! We were followed by the Western Canada delegates' highlights and since no one said anything, I believe my defective pantyhose got away undetected.

The next meeting was our Pacific Region lunch, and we welcomed illustrious guests past & present servants from the Pacific Region, joining us by invitation from our

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

trustee: Greg M(past trustee), David E, (GV director, Jim E (past chairman of the board), Paul C. (director, AAWS) and Eva S. (past delegate).

The Pacific Region voted to have the PRAASA 2007 in Portland, OR. I have the presentation available to share if anyone would like to see it. We also discussed the approaching Pacific Region Forum in Portland, July 16-18. For those who have attended a region forum before, any day now (if you haven't already), you should be receiving registration & hotel reservation info from the GSO. To those that haven't attended and would like to, please see me, as I have some cards available that I just received.

A Special Forum is scheduled in Juneau, AK, for Remote Communities, Aug 12-15, 2005. We approved a proposal from Area 08 for the southern California areas to apply to the GSO forum schedule to jointly co-host a Special Forum for Native American Indian alcoholics, the closest and only date available being the second weekend in November 2006, and to be held in the Coachella Valley of MSCA 09.

A staff member present proposed a discussion question that came from a phone call received at GSO:

"is it ok for members of other fellowships to assume service positions in our AA meetings?" Please talk about this in your meetings and advise me?

Following lunch, as we proceeded to the general session room, another delegate stopped me in the hall to tell me that there was a note for me on the message board. When I retrieved it, it was from a member of District 21, which simply said, "we are with you." That was the best heart-hug that I've had in a long time, and I carried it with me for the rest of my trip.

We went into the next session where two new regional trustees were elected: West Central Region elected Chuck Barta from Iowa, and Tom Kraemer came out of the hat as the trustee for Western Canada Region.

We then heard international presentations on: 1) REDELA (Reunion de Las Americas), and 2), Zonal Growth.

Following this, the Southeast Region and the East Central Regions Panel 54 Delegates presented their area highlights.

After dinner, we participated in a "What's On Your Mind?" sharing session for 1¼ hours, where I heard another gem, a quote from Mother Teresa: "I slept and I dreamed that life was all joy. I awoke and found that life was service. I served and found that service was joy."

A trustee shared: "I stand before you no greater or less than anyone, just a part of. I wasn't a part of anything when I got here."

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

Then the committee reports and discussion began, and our session went until 10pm.

Sound byte from the Thursday Serenity Group from a Class A trustee: "I'm a Class A because I couldn't pass the physical"

Thursday morning found us listening to presentations on "the Cornerstone of AA:" 1) Safeguarding our Unity; 2) The Role of the Home Group; and 3), Traditions Three and Five: Our Members, Our Message. The remainder of the day was devoted to committee reports and discussion. At 10pm day's business over, we enjoyed fun and fellowship as our trustee treated us to ice cream next door at the Times Square Grill.

Serenity Group Friday sound byte: "I'm not responsible for the first thought that comes into my head, I'm responsible for entertaining it."

The major portion of the day Friday was spent finishing up committee reports and then into a lengthened sharing session. After the first coffee break, Greg M. gave us the sad announcement that AA's dear friend Smitty (Dr. Bob's son) had passed away that morning!

A delegate shared at the Serenity Group meeting that he'd received a phone call at 4:15am that his adult daughter (one of us), with him at the Conference, was missing. He really needed our prayer support. Again, with hearts burdened, the prayer chain swung into action, and before lunch we got word that she'd been found unharmed. At the afternoon closing sharing session he announced that at that moment, one of the GSO staff had taken her to an AA meeting. Amidst the shouts of joy and gratitude that ensued, there was not a dry eye in the room.

A few more of the special "sound bytes" heard at the closing sharing session:

"We did the business of AA from the heart, as it should be."

"Thank you for sharing the language of the heart when I had forgotten the words."

"The task ahead of us is never as great as the power behind us."

From her closing remarks to the Conference, Elaine McDowell, Board Chair, said: "If we are the hands of AA then AA is in good hands."

Another very touching moment (there were many) occurred when the closing Serenity Prayer was delivered by three delegates in Spanish, French and English, respectively. The business of the 54th General Service Conference being completed, we were adjourned.

We were on our own, and many thanks to our "fearless leader" (as she has come to be known), Phyllis organized another field trip to Greenwich Village for dinner and an AA meeting in the East Village. We even got a mini history lesson about the Village from one of the trustees that accompanied us.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

Saturday morning brought us together one last time for the closing brunch and farewell sharing from the rotating trustees: Ric Downey, Western Canada, Ted Stoa, West Central, and our beloved Class A, Dr. George Valliant.

Immediately following the closing brunch meeting, we boarded the buses for Stepping Stones. This is truly a remarkable place, and it's my wish that every alcoholic could visit at least once in their lifetime. Although the entire house and grounds are very meaningful, my most spiritually tender moments came when we walked up the hill a short distance to Wits End, a little house-office that Bill and a friend of his built for an instant "getaway." When we crossed the threshold, I felt immediately surrounded and connected to the spirit of not only Bill W, but of the thousands of sober alcoholics that have passed thru the portals, and more importantly, the ones who haven't made it yet; we're saving a space for them. Their spirits enjoin with ours even though they don't know it yet. I had this strange feeling that somewhere in our vast universe, Bill & Dr. Bob were smiling on me, and commenting: "it's a good thing for her that we kept it simple."

Thank you for your faith and confidence in me and for the incredible opportunity to serve you.

Nancy

PART 2: Action Items, Additional Considerations & Floor Actions.

Conference Committee on Agenda

The recommendation that the theme for the 2005 General Service Conference be:
"Basics of Our Home Group – Recovery, Unit and Service"
was passed unanimously.

The Conference passed the committee recommendation that the following Presentation/Discussion topics for the 2005 General Service Conference be:

- 1) Recovery:
 - a. "How It Works" in our Home Group
 - b. Carrying the Message Through Practicing the Principles in Our Daily Lives
- 2) Unity:
 - a. Love and Tolerance of Others is Our Code
 - b. The Basket – Where Money and Spirituality Mix
 - c. The Spiritual Principle of Our Twelfth Tradition
- 3) Service
 - a. Concept One - Final Responsibility and Ultimate Authority

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

- b. Concept Five – Minority Opinion – Are We Listening?
- c. Leadership – Responsibility for A.A.’s Future – Concept Nine

The recommendation of the following workshop topic for the 2005 General Service Conference: “Do I Carry the A.A. Message or My Own?” was passed.

Conference Committee on Correctional Facilities

The recommendation that the trustees’ Committee on Correctional Facilities consider including the statement on A.A.’s Singleness of Purpose in the pamphlet “A Message to Correctional Professionals.”

In addition, it was recommended that in A.A.’s Singleness of Purpose, the words: “*open*” and “*closed*” referring to A.A. meetings be italicized. was passed.

In Additional Considerations:

The committee supports the proposed name change from ‘trustees Committee on Correctional Facilities,’ to ‘trustees Committee on Corrections.’

The committee strongly suggested that the trustees’ Committee on Correctional Facilities present a report to the 2005 Conference Committee on Correctional Facilities on the feasibility and cost of producing and distributing a video featuring someone highly credible in the corrections field introducing A.A. to correctional personnel.

The committee unanimously requested that the trustees’ Committee on correctional Facilities continue to gather and review additional sharing from Area Delegates and Correctional Committee, Cooperation With the Professional Community, and Bridging the Gap Area Chairs on the topic of introducing A.A. into *training* programs for the correctional personnel, and that they use this information to write guidelines to present to the 2005 Conference Committee on Correctional Facilities for the development of workshops and *training* sessions on introducing A.A. to Correctional personnel.

Note:

I introduced a floor action item to change the two words “*training*” to “*educational*,” but the Conference declined to consider the item.

I also read an email statement at the mic, that Area 09’s Correctional Facilities Chair sent to me with suggestions re: the training material for prisons and the bridging program.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine

The Conference passed a unanimous recommendation from the GV Committee: "to allow the widest distribution of the AA Grapevine and La Vina to all purchasers, while guarding against affiliation with any outside enterprise, a) subscriptions to the AA Grapevine and La Vina magazines be issued only by the AA Grapevine, Inc., or by AA trusted servants directly; and b) the AA Grapevine, Inc., adopt standardized sales practices and pricing structures for all purchasers.

Note: this recommendation is to clarify the 1993 Advisory Action stating that "the Grapevine Corporate Board not actively pursue the placement of Grapevine materials for resale in commercial (non-AA) outlets."

Additionally, the Conference passed the committee's unanimous recommendation that: "the AA Grapevine: Our Meeting In Print" pamphlet be revised to include the proposed references to La Vina and La Vina representatives where the Grapevine magazine and its representatives are mentioned.

The committee's unanimous recommendation that the AA Grapevine Workbook be designated as service material and be reviewed on an annual basis by the Conference Committee on the AA Grapevine was passed unanimously by the Conference.

Conference Committee on Literature

The committee recommendation that the Publications Department rewrite the pamphlet "*Too Young?*" with changes to layout and style as determined by Publications, targeting the ages of 11-17, and present the revised draft pamphlet to the 2005 Conference Literature Committee following review by the trustees' Literature Committee. Passed unanimously by the Conference.

The committee recommendation that the Publications Department update and shorten existing stories, wherever appropriate, in the pamphlet "Young People and A.A.," and that the trustees' Literature Committee add new younger age stories solicited from the Fellowship to reflect current experience, and present the revised draft pamphlet or a progress report to the 2005 Conference Literature Committee. Passed unanimously by the Conference.

The Conference passed the committee recommendation that a draft Third Edition Spanish-language Big Book, *Alcohólicos Anónimos*, be developed by the trustees' Literature Committee and a progress report be brought back to the 2005 conference Literature Committee, in keeping with the trustees' recommendations on content, process and story solicitation, as follows:

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

I Contents

- A. The Third Edition Spanish-language Big Book to be similar in page count to the English Fourth Edition Big Book.
- B. The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Dr. Bob's Nightmare, the Preface, the Forewords, the Doctor's Opinion and Appendices will undergo a complete review to assure accuracy of translation and consistency of style and tone throughout the text. As in translations of all languages, the Publications Department strives to reflect the best possible translation of Bill W.'s writings and does not require Conference-approval.
- C. Personal Stories:

- Retain selected stories from only Spanish-speaking members in the Spanish-language Second Edition.
- Select stories from A.A.'s *La Vina* magazine.
- Select new stories from Spanish-speaking membership.
- Stories to be designated to three main sections similar to the English Fourth Edition Big Book.

II Story Solicitation

- A. Within the United States and Canada and internationally to Spanish-speaking countries.
[note: this to increase the variety of stories to include seniors, women and young people]

III Story Selection Process

- A. To be under the direction of the trustees' Literature subcommittee on the Third Edition Spanish-language Big Book.
- B. Story selection subcommittee:
 - All bilingual – Spanish and English (in a universal language)
 - Spanish speaking editors
 - Spanish speaking Staff Members
 - Chair to appoint some subcommittee members from the Fellowship
- C. Basic Selection Criteria:
 - To use the same criteria as the English Fourth Edition Big Book based on Bill W.'s recommendations.
 - Each story must, as Bill W. recommended, reach out to the newcomer who is still looking for the A.A. solution.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

- Each story must be a standard A.A. story that tells what we were like, what happened and what we are like today.

The committee's recommendation that the Conference consider the suggestion to change the words, "Of course" in the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" on page 11, paragraph two to a suitable substitute.

Passed by the Conference.

The committee's recommendation that the trustees' Literature Committee broaden the section titled "Service Sponsorship" on page 28 in the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" to reflect current shared experience and present a revised draft to the 2005 Conference Literature Committee.

This recommendation generated much "loving discussion" and was initially defeated. However, when the minority opinion was heard, and more "loving discussion" occurred, it was reconsidered and the Conference passed it by a greater margin than the first defeat.

The committee considered the request to restore punctuation in "Dr. Bob's Nightmare" in the Fourth Edition as it appears in the Third Edition of the Big Book and after lengthy discussion and with unified consensus, agreed to take no action.

After much "loving discussion," this resulted in a floor action submission, and after much "warm, loving discussion," the Conference passed it.

The Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

The committee's recommendation that the 57th General Service Conference be held April 22-28, 2007 since these dates do not conflict with any major religious holidays passed unanimously by the Conference.

The committee's recommendation that the use of personal computers at General Service Conferences be approved in keeping with the Guidelines for PC Users at the General Service Conference contained in a report from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference passed unanimously.

The committee's recommendation that the request from Area 15, South Florida, Bahamas, U.S. Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands and Antigua (to create a new delegate area) be denied was passed by the Conference.

The recommendation by the committee that current practice for viewing or examining all materials other than service material submitted for Conference approval be continued adhering to the principle of the "right of decision" throughout the Conference process was passed.

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

By request of the A.A.W.S. Board, the committee encouraged full Conference input on the ramifications of electronic distribution of Conference agendas and background material. The Conference body discussed various means of electronic distribution.

The Conference Committee on Public Information

The recommendation of the committee that the tag line on all radio PSAs be changed from "Look us up in the phone book" or "Phone or check your newspaper," to the tag line: "Look us up. Check your phone book, newspaper or aa.org" was passed unanimously by the Conference.

The Conference unanimously passed the recommendation by the committee that 1) The AAWS Board should continue to manage the Web site through its Services Committee; 2) Any correspondence, requests for changes or requests for reports on the Web site would continue to be responded to by the AAWS Board; 3) the AAWS Board would be responsible for preparing a quarterly report to the trustees' PI Committee for their review. The report would include the following information:

- Changes to the web site
- Updates on web site activity
- A summary of requests or correspondence from the Fellowship regarding the web site and a summary of actions taken by the AAWS Board in response to those requests or correspondence.

4) The AAWS Board would prepare an annual report for the trustees' PI Committee summarizing all web site quarterly report information. The report along with any additional comments from the trustees' Committee would be forwarded to the Conference PI Committee for their consideration; 5) the Conference PI Committee agenda would include a permanent agenda item, "Consider report from the trustees' PI Committee regarding GSOs AA web site.

The committee's recommendation that the 2004 AA Membership Survey be conducted by area on a random basis as was done in the 2001 AA Membership Survey was passed by the Conference.

Additional Considerations

The PI Committee viewed the proposed TV public service announcement (PSA) – "Living in Chaos" – developed by the trustees' PI Committee, expressed deep appreciation for the concept and the diversity portrayed, and asked that the first segment be re-filmed and the amended version of "Living in Chaos" be forwarded to the 2005 Conference PI Committee. This resulted in much "loving discussion."

Also, the committee considered centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the proposed TV PSA – "Living in Chaos" – at a cost not to exceed \$30,000, in addition to

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

the work of local PI committees and, as there will be no new PSA this year, the committee took no action. This resulted in the introduction of a floor action item to continue to distribute and track the two newest public service announcements "Reach Out" and "We Know What It's Like" over the next year at a cost not to exceed \$30,000, which was passed by the Conference.

The PIC requested that all Conference Areas review whether and how Alcoholics Anonymous is listed in the white pages of local phone books.

The committee requested that the trustees' PI Committee submit a report to the 2005 Conference Committee on PI which includes feasibility, costs and timeliness for updating/replacing the two videos "AA – Rap with Us" and "Young People in AA"

The committee requested that the trustees' PI Committee review the radio PSA, "Teenager," spot #6 on item #R-10, and report back to the 2005 Conference Committee on PI regarding the sentence: "I started drinking and taking pills," in relation to the spirit of our singleness of purpose.

Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

The committee's recommendation that an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2005 International Convention was passed by a unanimous Conference.

A recommendation by the committee that the General Service Conference support the General Service Board Policy as amended on November 2,2003 which reads: "Whenever a discount or subsidy is that which would be offered to any other organization of similar size requiring purchased service or product of similar character and magnitude, for example, convention rates at hotels, it may be accepted. Whenever a discount or subsidy is partly or in total offered because we are Alcoholics Anonymous, it must be declined.

Passed by the Conference.

¡AVISO IMPORTANTE!

Los miembros que desean ir a Canadá para asistir a la Convención Internacional de 2005 que en el pasado han tenido condenas por delitos graves, entre los que se incluye DWI/DUI (conducir bajo los efectos del alcohol o de las drogas) y que van a solicitar a las autoridades de Inmigración canadiense un **PERMISO DE RESIDENCIA TEMPORAL** o una **CONCESIÓN DE REHABILITACIÓN**, deben escribir en el ángulo superior derecho de la primera página de la solicitud las palabras "**2005 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.**"

MID SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09
PANEL 54 DELEGATE REPORT

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Members wishing to enter Canada to attend the 2005 International Convention, who have felony convictions in their past, including DUI/DWIs, and who are applying to Canadian Immigration for a TEMPORARY RESIDENT PERMIT or a GRANT OF REHABILITATION, must be sure to write on the first page of the completed application at the top right hand corner, "**2005 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.**"

We have some updated information regarding the 2005 IC, and just this week I received a notice that the early registration fee will be \$85.

I am told that large groups (over 25 people) may register together to be assigned to the same hotel/motel. Being a large group WILL NOT guarantee you a motel/hotel next door to the convention center – location will still be by lottery.

In this part two of our report, I have attempted to share with you the action items, or consideration items that resulted in action taken by the 54th General Service Conference. More complete accounts will be available when the Final Conference Report is generated.

In addition, although I wrote a daily log of experiences both on and off the Conference floor, I am quite sure recounting them has probably been less than total and that more will be revealed to me as we continue our journey together.

It is my prayer today, as it has been from the start, to just be the best delegate and servant that I can be for you, and that if one person comes to know the saving grace of Alcoholics Anonymous for having been in our presence, then we're doing our job. Thank you again, for participating in my sobriety.

Nancy Jensen
Panel 54 Delegate
Mid Southern California Area 09