

Delegate's Questionnaire, 65th General Service Conference, 2015

The General Service Conference was established to maintain a link among all AA groups, and to help AA effectively and consistently carry its message in ways impossible for local groups to do, yet important to the fellowship. At its heart is the communication through GSR's and other elected representatives to the area's Delegate who in turn represents the area's conscience and spirit of service on questions and issues before the Conference. The following questionnaire is based on the final agenda of the upcoming Conference.

At the Delegate's Day of Sharing, March 28th in Manhattan, and at county level General Service meetings, we will provide additional background information and discussion which should be helpful to your group's consideration of the questionnaire.

At the April 11th Pre-Conference Assembly in Rockland County, GSR's and others will have the chance to share their groups' conscience on these questions and leave their completed questionnaires in the box provided. The broader the participation by groups in this process, the better the delegate can represent the area at the Conference. (An electronic version of the questionnaire is available at www.aaseny.org in English and Spanish). When responding, attach additional pages as needed. A group does not have to answer a particular question if they strongly feel they have no opinion on it (please indicate "no opinion", however). Please return only one questionnaire per group or service group (District or County General Service group). For those who cannot participate in the Pre-Conference Assembly, please return completed questionnaires by mail to Jim W., SENY Delegate, 199 Lincoln Avenue, Box 318, Bronx, NY 10454 or scan/e-mail to seny65direct@gmail.com. Completed questionnaires need to be received no later than April 15, 2015.

1) INVENTORY:

**14) Leadership – How well is the Third Legacy Procedure serving us? How could it be improved?
Background/focus – refer to *The A.A. Service Manual*, pages S21 and S22. How well does this procedure guard against the influence of factions or the railroading of candidates.**

2) CORRECTIONS:

B) Discuss ways to engage members in Corrections service in order to address the volume.

Background/focus – There are consistently more female members on the "outside" who volunteer to write to female inmates than there are female inmates who request Corrections Correspondence Service. Due to the high volume of male requests for Corrections Correspondence Service that is greater than the number of members in the volunteer pool, there is often a lengthy waiting period before an inmate can be linked with an outside male member. While there are members willing to write to more than one inmate, this has not significantly reduced the wait period for most male inmates.

3) FINANCE:

A) Proposed increase in individual contributions to G.S.O. from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Background/focus – History of increases to the individual contribution limit by GSO: 1957 (\$100), 1967 (\$200), 1972 (\$300), 1979 (\$500), 1986 (\$1,000), 1999 (\$2,000), 2007 (\$3,000). (Note: Since the inception of the \$3,000 Annual Limit in 2007, there have only been 110 \$3,000 contributions made as compared to 377 of the \$1,000/\$2,000 variety during the same period. What are your Group's thoughts?)

4) GRAPEVINE/LA VINA:

D) Discuss ways to increase organization-wide support for Grapevine and La Vina.

Background/focus – Grapevine Representatives (GvRs) and La Vina Representatives (RLVs) perform a service for A.A. members, bringing them two vital tools of recovery – the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous and La Vina. GvRs and RLVs are engaged in practical, hands-on work. Their basic job is to make magazines available to the group, to encourage AA's to read them, to subscribe to them, and use them in Twelfth Step work. How can this work be enhanced?

5) LITERATURE:

D) Discuss updating the pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic."

Background/focus – The August 2014 trustees' Literature Committee agreed to forward to the 2015 Conference Committee on Literature a request to develop literature directed to transgender and gender-nonconforming alcoholics. The January 2015 committee agreed to forward a request to update the recovery pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic," to include the perspective of the entire Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender (GLBT) community and to possibly include information on the GLBT online intergroup as additional background to an agenda item previously forwarded to the 2015 Conference Committee on Literature.

5) LITERATURE:

E) Discuss producing a book combining *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* with the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

Background/focus – The request comes from Areas 72 (Western Washington) and 5 (Southern California) who expressed a certain usefulness and utility of a single volume containing all 36 items as a way of our membership getting acquainted with all three legacies.

6) PUBLIC INFORMATION:

B1) Discuss the use of specific social media platforms and social networking platforms as potential channels for sharing information about Alcoholics Anonymous.

Background/focus – The goal is to increase awareness of what A.A. is and what A.A. can and cannot do, in ways that are measurable and undergo regular review and revision, as appropriate, so that any alcoholic in need can find A.A.

6) PUBLIC INFORMATION:

B3) Discuss exploring a project for anonymity videos produced by A.A. members for A.A. members.

Background/focus – The committee agreed that in light of ongoing anonymity concerns, and the lack of A.A. information on anonymity in video format, that the proposed project for anonymity videos produced by A.A. members for A.A. members should be pursued.

7) REPORT and CHARTER:

A5) Discuss a request to update *The A.A. Service Manual* to better reflect how the General Service Office's database is utilized for reporting and sharing group information.

Background/focus – This request is designed to better reflect how GSO, the areas and districts utilize the Fellowship New Vision Program in regard to reporting and sharing group information. Updating the manual would better reflect what services the fellowship has available, and recommend that a consistent procedure be utilized throughout the service structure.

8) INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS:

B) Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

Background/focus – Regional Forums strengthen the Fellowship's Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service by providing an opportunity for A.A. groups and area trusted servants, as well as any interested members in a particular region, to share experience, strength and hope with representatives of the General Service Board and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members. There is no registration fee for Regional Forums, they are hosted by the General Service Board and coordinated by G.S.O. Consider methods to be used to attract attendees as a means of learning how the General Service Office works for the Fellowship.

Group #: _____

County: _____

Group Name: _____

Submitted by (first name, last initial): _____ **Date:**
