

## DCM Report Area Assembly

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Hello District, 8! Thank you for letting me be of service and I appreciate your trust as the representative for the district.

This was a busy agenda. The Pre-conference assembly is filled with much anticipation of what will be on the agenda for our representative to take to GSO for us.

On Friday night, I attended a demonstration of a new platform that will be used for all Remote meetings with the Area. It is called "Google Meets". This platform aims at saving \$1,000 per year in funds that would have been paid to Zoom. There is a Power Point that will be available to anyone interested in using this platform in the future. It doesn't look too complicated and the instructions are user-friendly.

Saturday morning started bright and early at 8am. We heard Delegate's Pre-Conference report and he was apprehensive, but excited to participate in the upcoming agenda for his trip to New York that had 78 agenda items.

One of the most important takeaways was to hear that our "buck in the basket" regarding 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition donations were that our current Dollar is a 1952 dollar and not a 2026 dollar. Broken down to what the equivalent is for today, **\$1 in 1952 is equivalent in purchasing power to about \$12.27 today, representing a 1,127% cumulative inflation increase over 74 years.** Of course that would be excessive for most people who attend daily, but it does show how we need to be mindful of the impact of our donations.

The weekend was full of sage advice and guidance from people who devote a large portion of their sobriety to service work. I heard about unhealthy cynicism and that we are reminded that

the money in the basket is for our Hotline, Supporting DCM and GSR's for travel to bring the voice of District 8 to Area 58 to our Area Chair to be active in Alcoholics Anonymous worldwide. The Triangle of Serve demonstrates the importance of our service responsibility.

Instead of focusing on what the District can do for me, we focus on what we can do and the services we can provide to the still suffering alcoholic and the incarcerated and housed communities that do not have freedom or access to walk into a room filled with hope, fellowship and recovery and get a free cup of coffee.

**These agenda items are broken into sections that we were assigned.**

## **District 8 Breakout Topics for GSO Conference in April**

1. **Corrections Item C: Consider a request to update the pamphlet "The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs."**

### **Summary**

This request proposes revising and potentially expanding the pamphlet to reflect current trends regarding prescription medications, mental health treatment, pain management, legal substances, and other drugs. The proposal concerns that portions of the existing content — particularly member stories and examples — may be outdated, insufficiently relatable, or incomplete given developments in medicine, terminology, and substance use patterns. Suggested updates include modernizing language, adding new topics (e.g., chronic pain treatment, legal marijuana, OTC misuse), and ensuring guidance remains consistent with A.A.'s principles while remaining relevant to contemporary members.

### **Pros**

1. Improved relevance and accuracy — Updated content could better reflect current medical practices, terminology, and real-world experiences.
2. Greater usefulness for members — Expanded guidance may help individuals navigate complex issues such as prescribed medications, pain treatment, and cross-addiction risks.
3. Enhanced inclusivity and relatability — New stories and perspectives could resonate with a broader range of members and situations.

### **Cons**

1. Risk of entering medical territory — Detailed discussion of medications could be perceived as offering medical advice, potentially conflicting with A.A.'s non-professional stance.
2. Potential controversy — Topics such as legal marijuana or psychiatric medication can generate strong differing opinions within the Fellowship.
3. Resource demands and review complexity — Revising Conference-approved literature requires substantial time, consultation, and consensus-building.

## **2. Finance Item B: Discuss motion to add wording to Item F-3, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.”**

### **Summary**

This motion proposes adding language to an existing self-support pamphlet (F-3) clarifying that A.A. Grapevine and La Viña do not accept direct contributions and are instead supported through subscriptions and sales. It encourages groups, when allocating funds, to consider supporting these publications through purchases rather than traditional contributions.

### **Pros**

1. Improved clarity for groups — Explicit guidance may reduce confusion about how these entities are funded.
2. Potential financial support boost — Encouraging subscriptions and purchases could help stabilize funding through appropriate channels.
3. Alignment with self-support principles — Reinforces that all parts of the service structure should be supported in ways consistent with their operating models.

**Cons**

1. Perceived promotional tone — Adding purchase suggestions to a spiritual pamphlet may feel commercial to some members.
2. Risk of expanding pamphlet scope — Additional wording could complicate a document intended to convey broad principles rather than specific recommendations.
3. Possible uneven influence on group decisions — Groups may feel pressured to support particular service entities over others.

**3.Finance Item C: Consider a request to create a Twelve Step study guide or workbook.****Summary**

This request proposes developing a Conference-approved study guide or workbook specifically designed to help members work through the Twelve Steps in a structured manner, particularly for individuals who lack access to sponsorship or other guidance.

**Pros**

1. Structured support for members — A standardized tool could assist individuals who need guidance, including those in remote or institutional settings.
2. Consistency of message — An official resource may reduce reliance on non-approved materials with varying interpretations.
3. Accessibility for underserved populations — Could benefit members facing barriers such as incarceration, isolation, or limited sponsorship.

**Cons**

1. Potential duplication of existing literature — Current materials already address the Steps, raising questions about necessity.
2. Risk of overly prescriptive interpretation — A formal workbook might be seen as standardizing a process traditionally guided by sponsorship and personal experience and the big book.

3.Resource and prioritization concerns — Developing new literature requires time and funding that could delay other projects.

#### **4. Finance Item D: Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (GSC) (PAI-22).**

##### **Summary**

This request seeks to initiate a formal study examining whether the General Service Conference could be held in a less costly location than its traditional setting of New York City with the goal of reducing expenses and easing the financial burden on the Fellowship.

##### **Pros**

- 1.Potential cost savings — Alternative venues may significantly reduce travel, lodging, and operational expenses.
- 2.Broader geographic accessibility — Rotating or relocating the event could make attendance easier for members from different regions.
- 3.Reallocation of funds — Savings could be redirected toward service activities and carrying the message.

##### **Cons**

- 1.Logistical complexity — Planning outside the traditional location may require additional coordination, staffing, and infrastructure.
- 2.Loss of historical and organizational context — Moving away from the traditional setting could diminish symbolic or practical connections to the service structure.
- 3.Uncertain net benefit — Potential savings may be offset by new costs related to travel, setup, or unfamiliar venues.

#### **5 Grapevine & La Viña Item B: Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine and La Viña book topics for 2027 or after**

##### **Summary**

This item involves reviewing proposed future book topics to provide Conference guidance before production. Suggested themes draw from member experience and aim to carry the message, deepen understanding

of A.A.'s principles and history, address specific populations or recovery challenges, and support Grapevine and La Viña's role as self-supporting publications through book sales. Proposed working titles of new books include Senior Members, Members Dealing with Mental Illness and Despertares Espirituales (Spiritual Awakenings)

### **Pros**

1. Responsive to Fellowship needs — Topics based on member experience may address emerging concerns and underserved audiences.
2. Supports recovery and education — Books can deepen understanding of Steps, Traditions, service, and sobriety across diverse situations.
3. Strengthens financial sustainability — Successful titles contribute to revenue through print, digital, and audio formats.

### **Cons**

1. Uncertain demand — Some specialized topics may not attract sufficient readership to justify production costs.
  2. Content overlap risk — New titles may duplicate existing literature or previously published collections.
  3. Resource allocation concerns — Editorial, production, and distribution
- Approved Grapevine Book Ideas

### **Approved Grapevine Book Ideas**

1. Voices of Long-Term Sobriety II
2. Accessibilities (formerly Special Needs)
3. Inclusiveness (Diversity) in AA
4. Mid-Sobriety Challenges
5. How I found My Higher Power
6. Steps 4 & 5
7. All About GV Reps (doing service with GV & LV)
8. AA & Families
9. The Early Days of AA (40s, 50s, 60s — AA's earliest days)
10. Getting Involved in General Service

11. AA's Twelve Concepts
12. Best of Dear Grapevine
13. Book for Newcomers
14. GV Cartoon Book III
15. Emotional Sobriety III
16. Sober Holiday Stories
17. Dating & Relationships
18. Prayer & Meditation II (working title)
19. Women's Book II (passed in 2025)
20. Best of "If Walls Could Talk" (passed in 2025)

**Approved La Viña Book Ideas**

1. Stories from LV Workshops
2. Carrying the Message into Institutions
3. Hispanic members Doing Service in AA
4. Surrender & Hope
5. How We Came to Believe
6. Voices of Oldtimers
7. Spiritual Awakenings (translated GV book)
8. Lo Mejor de La Viña III (Best of LV III)
9. En las prisiones (Jails and Institutions)
10. La derrota (Surrender)
11. Amor, Unidad y Servicio (Love, Unity and Service) (passed in 2025) efforts for multiple titles may strain capacity.

**6. Grapevine & La Viña A Item F: Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc., accept contributions.**

**Summary**

This item considers whether AA Grapevine, Inc. should be permitted to receive voluntary financial contributions directly, rather than relying solely on subscriptions, sales, and related revenue. The question touches on financial sustainability, member support, and alignment with A.A.'s self-support traditions and organizational practices.

### Pros

1. Additional funding source — Voluntary contributions could help offset operating losses or fund new initiatives.

2. Member participation opportunity — Supporters could contribute directly to a publication they value.

Potential stabilization of finances — Diversifying income streams may reduce reliance on fluctuating sales and subscriptions.

### Cons

1. Tradition and policy concerns — Accepting contributions may raise questions about consistency with A.A.'s established funding principles.

2. Administrative complexity — Processing donations introduces new accounting, reporting, and compliance requirements.

3. Risk of perceived inequity — Direct funding for one service entity could be viewed as disproportionate support relative to others.

When considering these topics, the Area Chair has asked the body to identify the importance of these topics to you. He has **78 topics** and if you feel that discussion of the topic is important, then he will focus on your desires. Every topic should be rated between 1 to 5. The topics were divided between all districts.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

NOT IMPORTANT  
IMPORTANT

Please return your feedback to  
[dcm08@aa-oregon.org](mailto:dcm08@aa-oregon.org) or your GSR by April

13<sup>th</sup>