

# **General Service Representative Orientation Guide**

**District 38  
Kirkland, Washington**

**Area 72  
Western Washington**

This guide was put together by District 38 trusted servants as a service for General Service Representatives (G.S.R.s) and trusted servants of District 38. Wherever possible, information was quoted from conference approved literature.

2017-2018

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## District 38 Trusted Servants

<b>District Committee Member</b>	
<b>Alt. District Committee Member</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	
<b>Alt. Treasurer</b>	
<b>Registrar</b>	
<b>Archives Chair</b>	
<b>Corrections Chair</b>	
<b>CPC Chair</b>	
<b>Public Information Chair</b>	
<b>Intergroup Representative</b>	
<b>Grapevine/Literature Chair</b>	
<b>Hospitals and Treatment</b>	

## Common Acronyms in A.A.

AAWS	Alcoholics Anonymous World Services
CPC	Cooperation with the Professional Community
DCM	District Committee Member
GSB	General Service Board
GSO	General Service Office
GSC	General Service Conference
GSR	General Service Representative
GvR	Grapevine Representative
PI	Public Information
PRAASA	Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly
WSEA	Washington State East Area
WWA	Western Washington Area

## **About District 38**

District 38 includes all A.A. meetings in the city of Kirkland. District 38 is part of Western Washington Area 72 and the Pacific Region. The purpose of the District is to foster unity, service and recovery by serving as a liaison between A.A. groups and their G.S.R.'s and the larger service structure. District 38 holds events throughout the year, including workshops on A.A. topics, a summer picnic, and a fall gratitude dinner, reflecting its commitment to carrying the A.A. message to members and the community at large.

District 38 is supported by monetary contributions from the home groups in Kirkland as well as the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions from the monthly District meetings. Monthly District meetings are held at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month at: Kirkland Congregational Church  
106 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033

## **The G.S.R. Preamble**

“We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize the ultimate authority of A.A. is a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. In passing along his group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our Fellowship. Let us therefore have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups and A.A. as a whole.”

*August/September 1989 Issue Box 4-5-9*

## **A Declaration of Unity**

This we owe to the A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depends our lives and the lives of those to come.

## **Responsibility Pledge**

“I am responsible... When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there, and for that: I am responsible.”

## **A.A. Service Manual**

The Service Manual contains the guiding principles and procedures by which A.A. conducts its business in striving to carry the message (12<sup>th</sup> Step). Included in the A.A. Service Manual are detailed descriptions of the whole A.A. service structure, suggested duties of specific service positions, a description of the annual General Service Conference in New York, and information about the Grapevine publication.

## **What is a G.S.R.?**

The General Service Representative (G.S.R.) has the job of linking his/her group with A.A. as a whole. The G.S.R. represents the voice of the group conscience, reporting the group's thoughts to the D.C.M. and to the Delegate, who passes them on to the annual General Service Conference. This communication is a two-way street, making the G.S.R. responsible for bringing back to the group, conference actions that affect A.A. unity, health and growth. Only when a G.S.R. keeps the group informed, and communicates the group conscience can the General Service Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole. For more detailed information on

the responsibilities and role of a G.S.R., please turn to pages S26-S27 in the Service Manual.

When G.S.O. is notified, the new G.S.R. receives a kit containing a cover memo, the Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, useful pamphlets and leaflets, and a literature order form. (Service Manual, page S-28)

District 38 asks that G.S.R.s attend monthly District Meetings, the Pre-Assembly, the Area Assembly, the Pre-Conference and the Delegate's report.

### **What is an Alternate G.S.R.?**

An Alternate G.S.R. may be elected at the same time as the G.S.R., in case the G.S.R. is unable to attend district/area meetings or complete the two-year term. Alternates should be encouraged to assist, participate and share in the responsibilities of the G.S.R., attending district and area meetings when feasible, depending on local needs (Service Manual page S-28).

### **What is the "Informed Group Conscience"?**

The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view and the practice of A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority opinions with an open mind on sensitive issues; the group works slowly discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. When placing principles before personalities, the memberships



wary of dominant opinions. Its voice is heard when a well-informed group arrives at a decision. The result rests on more than a "yes" or "no" count precisely because it's the spiritual expression of the group conscience.

The term "informed group conscience" implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes (The A.A. Group, page 28-29).

### **What is the "Right of Decision"?**

Every trusted servant and every A.A. entity, at all levels of service, has the right "to decide ... how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises." That is, they can "decide which problems they will dispose of themselves and upon which matters they will report, consult, or ask specific direction." This is "the essence of "The Right of Decision."

Bill warned against using "The Right of Decision" as an excuse for failure to make the proper reports of action taken; or for exceeding a clearly defined authority; or for failing to consult the proper people before making an important decision (The Twelve Concepts for World Services Illustrated, Concept III).

### **What are District Officers?**

District 38 has elected "officer" positions whose roles and duties support the group, its G.S.R.'s and the Committee Chairs. District 38 officers are the D.C.M., Alternate D.C.M., Secretary, Treasurer and Alt. Treasurer. All of these positions are 2-year terms. Qualifications for these positions are outlined in Chapter 3 and 5 of the A.A. Service Manual.

### **District Committee Member (D.C.M.)**

The D.C.M. is the link in the general service chain to the G.S.R.s and the rest of A.A. In Area 72, the D.C.M. is a member of the Area Committee, and is the only member in the District with voting privileges in the quarterly process. The D.C.M. sets the agenda for the monthly G.S.R. meetings and reports on the happenings at the quarterlies and PRAASA. The D.C.M. also presents a 2-minute quarterly report to the Area at all quarterlies and the area assembly, and similarly submits a written report to the area secretary before the Saturday of the quarterly or assembly.

They also attend PRAASA every year with a budget of \$850 provided by District 38 (motion passed 02/2014).

The D.C.M. also selects a facilitator for the inventory and election meetings (motion passed 08/2016).

This description is not comprehensive, and is intended to describe the D.C.M.'s duties in District 38. For a more general description, refer to Chapter 3 of the AA Service Manual.

### **Alternate District Committee Member (Alt. D.C.M.)**

The Alt. D.C.M. fills in when the D.C.M. is unable to fulfill a certain service obligation and takes over the role of D.C.M. for the duration of the service term if the D.C.M. steps down. The Alt. D.C.M. works closely with the D.C.M. and shares the D.C.M.'s responsibilities, attends all of the monthly G.S.R. meetings, all of the quarterlies and the annual assembly.

## **Secretary**

The District Secretary attends all of the monthly G.S.R. meetings, gives a report on old business at the beginning of each meeting, and keeps detailed records of reports, discussions and motions at the monthly G.S.R. meetings.

Within 48 hours of adjourning the monthly G.S.R. meeting, the secretary prepares the meeting minutes in an electronic document and sends it out to all members in the district. G.S.R.s can then refer to this report when giving reports to their home groups. The Secretary also sends a short submission to the area newsletter about the happenings in the District by the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month.

The Secretary also keeps detailed notes at the District Inventory.

## **Treasurer**

The Treasurer is responsible for handling all money that comes in and out of the District's checking account. This person has access to the District's P.O Box and is responsible to receive all mail, usually checks from home groups. The Treasurer is listed on the District's checking account, and handles all deposits.

The Treasurer writes reimbursement checks to District trusted servants who provide receipts for any expenses directly related to District business (events, travelling to quarterlies, etc.). They also write rent checks for monthly G.S.R. meetings and other events hosted by District 38. The

Treasurer handles the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions during the G.S.R. meeting.

By group conscious (motion passed 02/1996), the Treasurer will provide a year-end finance report by Jan 15 of every year.

By group conscious (motion passed 07/2015), the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition will be observed at each monthly G.S.R. meeting.

### **Alternate Treasurer**

The Alternate Treasurer works closely with the Treasurer. This person is also listed on the District's checking account and also has the ability to reimburse trusted servants for expenses when receipts are provided.

### **What are the District Committee Chairs?**

The District Committee Chairs are persons who are committed to carrying the message of recovery through A.A., in accordance with our primary purpose, to the larger community and society. With the exception of the Archives Chair, all of these service positions are 2-year terms.

It is suggested that these committees do not consist of one person. Committee Chairs may actively look to recruit other A.A. members to do service within the specific committee. The Public Information, C.P.C., Treatment/Hospital, and Corrections chairs should closely coordinate since so much of their work overlaps in that it involves this vital 12<sup>th</sup> step work (AA Service Manual, "Other Officers" page S-46).

Most Committee Chairs will receive a literature kit from G.S.O. similar to the G.S.R. and D.C.M. kits that explains the committee and tips for success in that position. Each kit is identified by a code and materials can be downloaded from [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) free of charge.

District 38 wants Committee Chairs active in their positions. Any Committee Chair who is: 1) absent for 2 consecutive months and, 2) does not submit an e-mail report to the D.C.M. during that time will be contacted by the D.C.M. following the 2<sup>nd</sup> month of inactivity. If they still do not attend or submit a report after 3 months, the position is considered open, and someone else may step into the committee chair position (motion passed 10/2015).

### **Archives Chair / Archivist**

This position collects history, artifacts and memorabilia of the District, Area and rest of A.A. and is responsible to store this in an environmentally controlled facility to prevent damage to the materials. The archives committee will periodically display the archives at local events, such as the gratitude dinner.

They attend quarterly Archivist meetings in Area 72 to work with and bring information back to District 38.

The District Archivist keeps copies of the District meeting minutes and motions the District has passed or failed.

It is well-known in the Area that District 38 has the largest A.A. archive in Western Washington. From time to time, the District Archives Committee will be invited to display the archives at spiritual retreats and other such events where

travel and lodging expenses are incurred. By group conscious (motion 12/2013), the party making the invitation will reimburse these expenses, and not District 38.

By group conscious (motion passed 04/2016), the Archivist position is a 4-year term.

## **Hospitals and Treatment Chair**

This person creates a committee dedicated to connecting with and serving local treatment centers and hospitals, having a working knowledge and coordinating with home groups carrying out 12<sup>th</sup> step work in hospitals and treatment centers. They attend quarterly Treatment meetings in Area 72 to work with and bring information back to District 38. They are also responsible for Bridging the Gap.

Bridging the Gap (B.T.G.) is a temporary contact program that connects someone in a treatment center to A.A. members who are local to the patient's residence when they leave treatment. The patient can sometimes live hundreds of miles away from District 38, and B.T.G. is a great way to connect that patient with A.A. close to home.

The position requires that the patient B.T.G. forms that are filled out by patients receiving treatment with District 38's geographical boundaries are properly routed to the patient's home district where they will go after finishing treatment. Additionally, this person is responsible to maintain a list of local members (males for males, females for females) who are available for 12<sup>th</sup> step work should a patient return from treatment outside the district to their home within the district. (Bridging the Gap Pamphlet) The code for the Treatment Committee Kit is F-167W.

## **Corrections Chair**

The District 38 Corrections Committee Chair attends quarterly Corrections meetings in Area 72 to work with the Area and bring information back to District 38. They may also form their own committee with members of District 38 to do corrections work (taking meetings into jails, supplying Big Books, writing letters, etc.). The purpose of a corrections committee is to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics behind the walls (Corrections Pamphlet, MG-6, page 1). The code for the Corrections Committee Kit is F-68W.

## **Accessibilities Chair**

The District 38 Accessibility Committee Chair attends quarterly Accessibility meetings in Area 72 to work with the Area and bring information back to District 38. They may also form their own committee with members of District 38 to help with Accessibilities work. The purpose of an Accessibilities Committee is to assist A.A. members who have a variety of challenges in accessing the A.A. message in A.A. meetings, Twelve Step work and other A.A. service. Accessibility needs include, but are not limited to: visually impaired, hearing impaired, physical disabilities, chronic illness or difficulty reading (“Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs” Pamphlet, F-107, page 1). The code for the Accessibilities Committee Kit is F-182W.

## **Public Information (P.I.) Chair**

The District 38 P.I. Committee Chair attends quarterly P.I. meetings in Area 72 to work with the Area and bring information back to District 38. They may also form their own committee with members of District 38 to do P.I. work. The purpose of P.I. service work is to provide accurate A.A. information to the public when requested. P.I. committees visit schools, businesses and community meetings for this purpose. They also serve as resources for our friends in the local media, emphasizing our Traditions of anonymity, singleness of purpose and non-affiliation, as well as offering A.A. public service announcements to radio and television stations (“Public Information” Pamphlet, MG-7, page 1). The code for the P.I. Committee Kit is F-65W.

## **Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C.) Chair**

The District 38 C.P.C. Committee Chair attends quarterly C.P.C. meetings in Area 72 to work with the Area and bring information back to District 38. They may also form their own committee with members of District 38 to do C.P.C. work. Members of these committees provide information about A.A. to those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession. This group includes healthcare professionals, educators, members of the clergy, lawyers, social workers, union leaders, and industrial managers, government officials, as well as those working in the field of alcoholism. Information is provided about where we are, what we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do (C.P.C. Pamphlet, MG-11, page 1). The code for the C.P.C. Committee Kit is F-66W.



## **Literature & Grapevine Chair**

This person keeps an inventory of literature for sale at District events, attends the grapevine / literature quarterlies and keeps the District up to date on new and updated literature.

## **Other Trusted Servant Positions**

The Registrar and Intergroup Representative are trusted servants who are neither officer nor committee chairs, but do provide a vital role in keeping the District connected with the rest of A.A.

### **Registrar**

The Registrar maintains a contact list of all trusted servants, committee chairs, G.S.R.s and Alternate G.S.R.s including full names, phone numbers, home groups and street addresses. The Registrar maintains this list as positions become vacant and filled again, and keeps the contact information up to date. The Registrar e-mails this confidential contact list to the District every month.

The Registrar registers and maintains with the Western Washington Area 72 Registrar and also with the General Service Office in New York.

The Registrar also works with the G.S.R.s to keep AA group information up to date within the District using the forms and information from pages S-28 – S-30 of the A.A. Service Manual, and also identifies unrepresented groups. This person works with the local intergroup offices, Western Washington Area 72 and G.S.O. to keep meeting schedules accurate for meetings inside District 38.

The work in this role is how the D.C.M., G.S.R.s and committee chairs get their specific A.A. service kit materials from G.S.O. in New York.

## **Intergroup Representative**

The Intergroup Representative, much like the intergroup representative in the home group, attends monthly meetings at the Eastside Intergroup office in Bellevue, Washington. This person carries the spirit of our District to Eastside Intergroup (ESIG) and then gives monthly reports at District meetings.

## **What are District Meetings?**

District 38 holds a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. (In groups, District meetings are sometimes called G.S.R. meetings.) The D.C.M. sets the agenda and leads the meeting. The meetings are used primarily to discuss A.A. related business items, hear committee reports, vote on motions and plan events. We loosely follow Robert's Rules of Order, and occasionally have a potluck. This is typically an A.A. member's first introduction into the world of general service.

The D.C.M. selects an area officer to visit the monthly District meeting once a quarter to speak about their service for 15-20 minutes. (motion passed 02/2016)

By group conscious (motion passed 07/2015), the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition will be observed at each monthly G.S.R. meeting.

By group conscious (motion passed 03/2016), members in District 38 with voting privileges are: 1) the G.S.R.s, 2) D.C.M. and 3) Officers and Committee Chairs for District business. This includes voting for District motions and elections.

Most important of all: participation, discussion and making of motions is the right and privilege of all A.A. members present at the monthly meetings.

## **District 38 Events**

District 38 facilitates events throughout the year to support our recovery in A.A. The events we put on include but are not limited to the following:

### **Workshops**

It is the goal of District 38 to host one or more A.A. workshops every year. Topics can range from a third legacy workshop, a G.S.R. workshop, 12 traditions, 12 concepts or other workshop. In general, we fund these with a \$250 - \$400 budget. We practice a 7<sup>th</sup> tradition at these events.

### **Picnic**

The picnic is a summer potluck event for all A.A. members and their families. We produce flyers and provide hamburgers, hot-dogs, condiments and beverages. This is a very informal fellowship event. We keep a 7<sup>th</sup> tradition can at the event, but are unlikely to recover all of our costs. We do this in the spirit of carrying our message.

As of 2016, District 38 has decided that the picnic would be an annual summer event. (motion passed 04/2016)

## **Gratitude Dinner**

This is a more formal event that is put on by District 38. Attendance ranges from 200 – 550 guests, depending on the size of the facility we are able to secure. It usually occurs on a Saturday in November. It features an AI-Anon speaker and A.A. speaker. The whole district comes together to plan this event. District 38 groups donate cooked turkeys, baked hams and raffle prizes. There is usually a literature display and a sobriety countdown. This is perhaps the most significant event hosted by District 38.

## **Election Meeting**

The District 38 election meeting is held every 2 years as part of the regular monthly meeting. This occurs toward the end of even numbered years, and newly-elected trusted servants assume their new positions the following January.

By group conscious, the D.C.M. will pick someone with experience in General Service to facilitate each election with a spirit to keep it objective and impartial (motion passed 08/2016).

By group conscious (motion passed 08/2016), elections are conducted using the 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy procedure described in the A.A. Service Manual, pages S-21 through S-23.

## **District Inventory**

A group inventory is a great opportunity for the members of the district to evaluate how well we are fulfilling our primary purpose: to help alcoholics recover through the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous (The A.A. Group, Page 29).

By group conscious (motion passed 01/2016), the District will conduct a group inventory every two years. The D.C.M. will select an outside facilitator with similar qualifications to facilitate the inventory. The event is a potluck event usually held on weekend and usually lasts a few hours.

This is an opportunity for all members in the District to voice their thoughts and opinions. No motions are created or voted on during the group inventory meeting. The District Secretary keeps detailed notes, notes important action items and makes the meeting minutes available in electronic format.

## **What is an Area Quarterly?**

A Quarterly is where anyone can bring motions and concerns of their districts/groups before the Area Committee to decide what needs to be on the Assembly agenda. It is important for the G.S.R. to be at all quarterlies, though they cannot vote, they can get important background information for their home groups. The quarterly begins around 7:00pm on Friday with a general sharing session, this could be a panel discussion or round table discussion, Saturday starts at 8:30am with elected and appointed officer reports, Assembly reports, and ad hoc committee reports. Sometimes there will be bids on who would like to host the upcoming quarterlies. After lunch the discussion starts on the motions brought

forward by the districts. Each potential agenda item is discussed thoroughly before any vote is taken.

### **What is a Pre-Assembly?**

The Pre-Assembly is where all of the Assembly agenda motions are available. The pros and cons of each motion are discussed until there are no more questions. The G.S.R. then takes all the information back and presents it to their home group members for discussion and voting. The G.S.R. then takes the "informed group conscience" to the Assembly. Pre-Assemblies are held throughout the area, one always being held within local driving distance.

### **What is the Area Assembly?**

After getting the "informed group conscience" of their home group, the G.S.R. attends a 3-day assembly of all G.S.R.s in Area 72 to discuss and vote on each motion. After all motions are discussed and voted on, the G.S.R. takes the outcome of the assembly back to the home group to let them know what business took place and the results. Assemblies are usually held on the 1st week-end of October.

An Area Assembly is any meeting of area G.S.R.'s and the Area Committee (all D.C.M.'s, Area Officers and Area Chairs). The Assembly meeting considers a variety of issues, from General Service Conference business to area problems and solution and financial affairs, while sharing sessions, public information workshops, and video programs keep A.A. strong and participations in service growing (Service Manual Page S-36).

There are two types of Assemblies: non-election and election.

A NON-ELECTION Assembly is when there is no election scheduled and assembly meetings deal with a variety of area concerns. (Service Manual page S-39) The assembly motions come from the three quarterlies. Motions may also be submitted to the Assembly until noon on Saturday.

An ELECTION Assembly is held every two years to elect area committee officers. In WWA 72 the election assembly is held in the even years and we cast our votes for the following officers:

Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Chairperson, Alt. Chairperson, Treasurer and Alt. Treasurer. The voting is conducted according to the Third Legacy Procedure and takes place during the course of assembly business.

When the Assembly is over and all motions have been voted on the delegate then submits any motions that affect A.A. as a whole to the Conference Board for consideration as a possible Conference Agenda Item.

## **What is the Pre-Conference?**

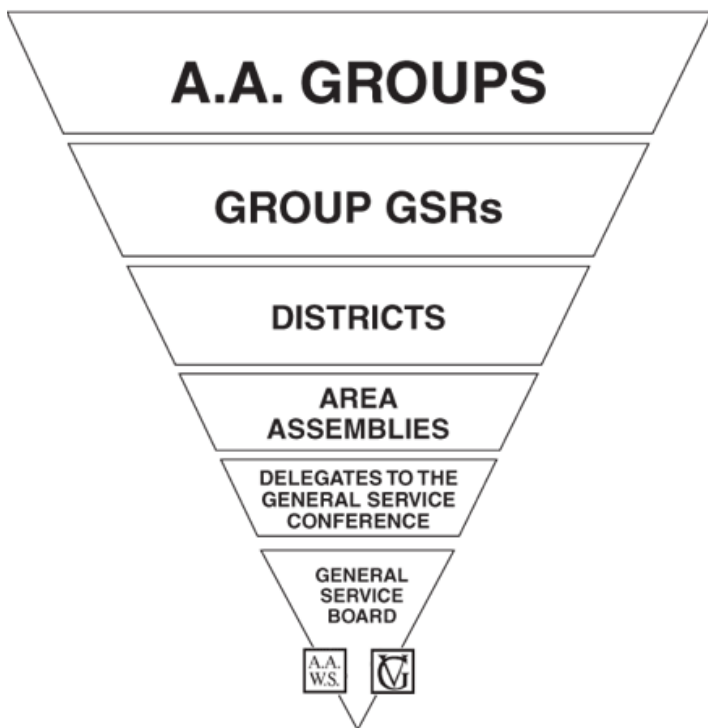
The Pre-Conference is where a number of districts meet with the delegate to let the delegate know how their home group feels about the conference agenda items that will be discussed in New York in April. By being at the Pre-Conference you will be able to let the delegate know what the concerns and feelings are of your home group and you will be able to ask questions to better inform your home group. Pre-Conferences are held before the third week of April. They are held regionally and usually last four hours.

## **What is the General Service Conference?**

The final agenda for any Conference consists of items suggested by individual A.A. members, delegates, trustees, area assemblies, and directors and staff members of A.A.W.S. and The Grapevine. The Conference considers matters of policy for A.A. as a whole, and there are tried-and-true procedures for placing an item on the agenda in the most effective way or, when the suggestion does not concern overall policy, for routing it to the most appropriate part of the service structure. If a G.S.R. has an idea for an agenda item, chances are that he or she will want to discuss it first with the group, then at a district or area meeting, which can then forward it to the staff member at G.S.O. currently serving as Conference coordinator (Service Manual page S-55).



## STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE (U.S. and Canada)



### **What is a Delegate?**

The Delegate has a demanding job, not only because a large amount of time and work are involved, but because it is the Delegate's responsibility to serve worldwide A.A. as voting members of the Conference. Delegates bring to its deliberation the experience and viewpoints of their own areas. Yet they are not representatives of their Areas in the

usual political sense; after hearing all points of view and becoming fully informed during Conference discussion, they vote in the best interest of A.A. as a whole (Service Manual, page S-49). For the complete list of the delegates duties go to the chapter in the Service Manual titled, "The Delegate."

### **What is the Delegate's Report?**

The Delegate's Report, held after the delegate gets back from the Conference in April, is where districts get together after the conference with the delegate to go over what happened at the conference- what Conference agenda items passed or failed and why. The delegate also brings back any pertinent information concerning A.A. as a whole that groups need to know.

### **What is G.S.O.?**

The General Service Office (G.S.O.) is located in New York and where all the day-to-day business of A.A. as a whole happens. G.S.O. serves all groups in the U.S. and Canada, and also offers services to A.A.s overseas, especially in countries where there is no service structure. It serves as a clearing house and exchange point for the wealth of A.A. experience accumulated over the years, coordinates a wide array of activities and services, and oversees publications and distribution of A.A. Conference-approved literature and service manuals (Service Manual, Page S-79).

## **Why is the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Observed?**

There are no dues or fees for membership in A.A., but we do have expenses. In keeping with the Seventh Tradition a group may "pass the basket" in order to cover expenses such as rent, refreshments, A.A. Conference approved books, pamphlets and meeting lists, and contribution to services provided by the local intergroup (central office), district and area, and the General Service Office of A.A. worldwide. A. A. members are free to contribute whatever they wish, up to a maximum of \$3,000 each in a given year (The A.A. group, page 22).

The number and extent of group services have increased over the years, but the real cost of service per group has decreased consistently owing to the growth of the fellowship. However, about one half of groups do not contribute. This places a heavier burden on the groups that do. More important than the dollar amount of contributions, however, is group participation in the part of A.A. service work, as in the other activities that make groups members of the A.A. community. Making regular contributions to world services ties a group to A.A. worldwide (Service Manual, page S-76).

At the end of 2013, it cost approximately \$147.00 per group per year to get the G.S.R. all the information that comes out from G.S.O. The average contribution per group is \$107.00 per year. The shortfall between these two figures is made up from A.A. publications.

## **What is PRAASA?**

PRAASA stands for Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. There are 15 areas represented by their Delegates in the Pacific Region, they consist of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Alaska and Hawaii. B.C./Yukon is an honorary member of our region and also attends. PRAASA is an informal gathering of the Delegates to share information without the formal responsibility of voting any conscience. It is held about 2 weeks before the General Service Conference and one of its main purposes is for the Pacific Region delegates and the Pacific Region Trustee to discuss the General Service Conference agenda items and prepare delegates for the conference. PRAASA is not just for the Delegates though, it is for anyone interested in A.A. service. If you're interested in knowing more about PRAASA, feel free to ask anyone involved in the A.A. service structure.

## **Recommended G.S.R. Readings**

It is recommended that a G.S.R. be familiar with all of the A.A. approved literature. Here are some recommendations:

- 1) The Service Manual/Twelve Concepts (Book)
- 2) The G.S.R. (Pamphlet P-19)
- 3) Understanding Anonymity (Pamphlet P-47)
- 4) The A.A. Group (Pamphlet P-16)
- 5) A.A. Traditions: How it developed (Pamphlet P-17)
- 6) Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix (Pamphlet F-3)
- 7) Twelve Traditions Illustrated (Pamphlet P-43)
- 8) Twelve Concepts Illustrated (Pamphlet P-8)
- 9) Area Newsletter
- 10) Area Handbook
- 11) 12 Steps and 12 Traditions (Book)
- 12) The Grapevine (Magazine)
- 13) Pass It On (Book)
- 14) Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers (Book)
- 15) Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age (Book)

## References

The A.A. Service Manual *Combined With Twelve Concepts* for World Service 2016 – 2018 Edition (Book)

The A.A. Group (Pamphlet P-16)

The G.S.R. (Pamphlet P-19)

Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix (Pamphlet F-3)

The A.A. Grapevine, Jan 1998 (Magazine)

The Twelve Concepts of World Service Illustrated (Pamphlet P-8)

Personal experience of members of Alcoholics Anonymous

## Notes

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