

Area 40 Virtual Spring Assembly Agenda
March 26, 27, & 28, 2021
Zoom Meeting ID: 893 8937 2285
Passcode: area40 ([Join Zoom Meeting Link](#))

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

6:00-6:30pm: Zoom Orientation with Q&A – Mike D.

6:30-8:00pm: GSR and DCM Orientation with Q&A – Delegate: Connie R.

6:30-8:00pm: Area Standing Committee Chair Orientation with Q&A – Area Chair: Kacie N.

SATURDAY SESSION

7:30-8:00am: Sign in to Zoom and update sign in name

Rename: First Name, Last Initial, District # and position. If you are a non-voting member place a lower-case z in front of your first name (Ex. Bill W D50 GSR; zBob S D50 Alt GSR)

8:00-9:00am: Welcome, Serenity Prayer, Traditions, Concepts, Zoom Orientation

Abbreviated Orientation to the Assembly – Area Delegate, Connie R.

Roll Call and Past Actions – Area Secretary, Lisa C-D.

District breakouts – Attendance and Voting Member count

Financial Highlights – Area Treasurer, Jeremiah S.

Triangle Report – Triangle Editor, Terri T.

Chair Report – Area Chair, Kacie N.

DCM Reports (5-minute limit; hard stop at 9:00. Continued in afternoon)

9:00-9:30am: Webmaster Nominations & History

9:30-9:45am: Coffee Break

9:45-12:00pm: Standing Committee Meetings

Archives/Area 40 Structure and Policy – Brynn C.

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Trustees – Don M.

Corrections/International Conventions and Regional Forums – Ty K.

Finance – Jeremiah S.

Grapevine and La Viña/Policy and Admissions – Jody T.

Literature – Dan H.

Public Information/Report and Charter; Website & Hotline – Jake H.

Treatment and Accessibilities/Agenda – Grant O.

(If your committee has not finished its business during this session, please notify the Area Chair)

9:45-11:45am: Workshop for those not attending committee meetings

“Challenging Old Ideas in a Changing World” Presented by Past Delegate, Libbie L.

12:00-1:00pm: Recess for Lunch

1:00-1:30pm: Election of Webmaster – Presided over by Area Advisor, Paul L.

1:30-2:00pm: Remaining DCM Reports

2:00-2:45pm: Delegate’s Report with Questions and Answers

2:45-3:00pm: Coffee Break

3:00-5:00pm: Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion
Archives/Area 40 Structure and Policy – Brynn C.
Archivist Report – Earl F.
Cooperation with the Professional Community/Trustees – Don M.
Corrections/International Conventions and Regional Forums – Ty K.
Finance – Jeremiah S.
Grapevine and La Viña/Policy and Admissions – Jody T.
Literature – Dan H.
Public Information/Report and Charter; Website & Hotline – Jake H.
Webmaster Report – Jake L.
Hotline Chair Report – Sabrina C.
Treatment and Accessibilities/Agenda – Grant O.
Bridging the Gap Report – Jessica E.

5:00-6:15pm: Recess for Dinner

6:15-8:15pm: Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (Continued)

8:15-8:30pm: Coffee Break

8:30-9:15pm: Breakout Sessions
GSR Breakout — Led by Area Advisor: Ask-it-basket and sharing – Paul L.
DCM Breakout — Led by Past Delegate: Ask-it-basket and sharing – Libbie L.

9:15-10:00pm: Virtual Ice Cream Social

SUNDAY SESSION

8:30-9:00am: Roundup, Intergroup, WACYCAA, WC Regional Forum, and WCRAASC Reports

9:00-9:15 Past Delegate Sharing – Libbie L. Panel 65

9:15-10:30 Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (continued)

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:00 Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (continued)
followed by general sharing as time allows.

Reports limited to 5 minutes. Floor Comments limited to 3 minutes.
Please do not use the Public Chat to ask questions or make comments of any kind.
The chat function will be limited to direct, private comments only.
Technical concerns and questions should be directed towards a Zoom Committee member
designated by an asterisk in front of their name.
Raise your Zoom Hand to be considered “at the mic.”
Additional Zoom Protocol will be distributed prior to the Assembly.

The following is a list of agenda items and the Area Committees they have been assigned to for review. There are agenda items that originate in Area 40 and from the General Service Conference. All agenda items from the General Service Conference will be addressed at the General Service Conference later on in April.

The Committee Chairs, DCMs and District Representatives were sent a list of agenda items with the corresponding background information in February. This information is then passed on to other members of those committees, to GSRs in the districts and other interested members of our Fellowship for research, review and discussion, in turn providing for a well-informed conscience and decision. If your Group has any comments, questions, or concerns or would like copies of any background information please contact the appropriate Area Committee Chair or your DCM. Your DCM has the names, phone numbers and addresses of the Area Committee (which also appear in the *Triangle*) or you can email them through the Area's website www.aa-montana.org should you need them.

The General Service Conference agenda items discussed by committees will come to the floor as a brief report of each item considered, reviewed, or discussed with the general sense of the committee for each item, rather than coming as recommendations (motions passed and seconded). Assembly members will have an opportunity to ask questions and offer their groups' thought on each item. The discussion will provide the Delegate with a sense of the Area, with substantive comments to share with the Conference. For controversial items, or items for which the floor discussion does not provide a clear sense of the Area, the Delegate may request an informal show of hands, for and against, in order to obtain the sense of the Area.

(NOTE: The process by which items are submitted, dispersed, considered and brought to the Assembly is detailed in the *Area 40 Committee System Policy and Procedures* manual which is available through your DCM and on the web site).

Review Concepts I, II, III, X, XII and Tradition Two for a clearer understanding of the above process.

The following Committees/Committee agenda items are listed in order of presentation.

Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy – Brynn C.

Archives – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Archives Chair.
- B. Review Archivist Report.
- C. Review activity of Archives Committees throughout Area 40.

Structure & Policy — Area 40

- A. Area Assembly Evaluation Report.
- B. Consider providing guidance or rewriting certain Area 40 Past Actions.

Archives — GSC

- A. Review report on “Proposed Book on A.A. History.”
- B. Review Archives Workbook.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community/
Trustees Committee – Don M.**

Cooperation with the Professional Community – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 CPC Chair.
- B. Review activity of CPC Committees throughout Area 40.

Cooperation with the Professional Community – GSC

- A. Discuss progress report on LinkedIn page implementation.
- B. Consider a request to create a pamphlet for mental health professionals.
- C. Review draft update of the pamphlet “Members of the Clergy ask about Alcoholics Anonymous.”
- D. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

Trustees — GSC

- A. Consider the revised “Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or AA Grapevine Boards.”
 - 1. Review memo response regarding the consideration of alternate trustees.
- B. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - 1. East Central Regional Trustee
 - 2. Southeast Regional Trustee
 - 3. Trustee-at-Large/U.S.
- C. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- E. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- F. Review the "Statement of Concern and Motion to Censure for Submission to the 71st General Service Conference."
- G. Review report on amending the A.A. World Services, Inc. Bylaws

Corrections/International Conventions and Regional Forums – Ty K.

Corrections – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Corrections Chair.
- B. Review report on Pink Can income and disbursements.
- C. Review activity of Corrections Committees throughout Area 40.

Corrections – GSC

- A. Consider request for a review of all correction related literature to replace terms such as “inmate” and “offender” with less stigmatizing language.

- B. Discuss innovative ways of carrying the message to alcoholics in correctional facilities/programs.
- C. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

International Conventions/Regional Forums - GSC

- A. Discuss methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
- B. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

Finance – Jeremiah S.

Finance – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treasurer.

Finance – GSC

- A. The pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.”
 - 1. Consider a request regarding contribution percentages to service entities.
 - 2. Discuss mechanization of group contributions.
- B. Reconsider the 1972 G.S.C. Advisory Action stating “G.S.O. should not accept contributions from clubs, listed or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members. Contributions are welcome from groups meeting in clubs as long as they are sent in the name of the group.”
- C. Discuss Concept XII, Warranty Two and the practice of “selling of our books at cost or less.”
- D. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
- E. Review the Conference-approved level of \$10,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members.
- F. Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.
- G. Review the “Google Grants and the Seventh Tradition Report.”
- H. Review Self-Support Packet.

Grapevine and La Viña/GSC Policy & Admissions – Jody T.

Grapevine and La Viña – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Grapevine and La Viña Chair.
- B. Review activity of Grapevine and La Viña Committees throughout Area 40.

Grapevine and La Viña – GSC

- A. Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- B. Review progress report on actions taken from the findings of the AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey.

- C. Consider a request to develop an AA Grapevine pamphlet on how the AA Grapevine can be utilized to carry the A.A. message.
- D. Review progress report on development of an Instagram account.
- E. Review suggested gender-neutral language options for changes to the A.A. Preamble.
- F. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2022 or later.

Policy & Admissions – GSC

- A. Review G.S.O. general manager’s report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
- B. Review the floor action process.
- C. Consider a proposed process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss, and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee.
- D. Review dates for the 2025 General Service Conference.
- E. Review the “Report on Translation and Interpretation of General Service Conference Material.”
- F. Consider revising the process for polling the General Service Conference between annual meetings to make use of virtual meeting technologies.
- G. Consider a request that a procedure be drafted for appealing a ruling by a General Service Conference chair
- H. Discuss the revised proposed process for equitable distribution of workload.
- I. Review the report on the Conference Committee Assignment Application implemented for the 2020 Committee Selection process.
- J. Consider requests regarding participation of online groups in the General Service structure.

Literature – Dan H.

Literature – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Literature Chair.
- B. Review activity of Literature Committees throughout Area 40.

Literature – GSC

- A. Review proposed “A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format.”
- B. Consider requests to revise the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 1. Add pages 3 through 41 of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” as an appendix in the next printing.
 - 2. Revise the first 164 pages.
- C. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 1. Develop a Fifth Edition.
 - 2. Develop a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V.

3. Add a proposed addendum to a Fifth Edition foreword of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* at the time it is published.
- D. Consider development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book *Alcoholicos Anónimos*.
- E. Consider requests to revise the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*:
1. To remove the phrase “opposite sex” from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter “Step Twelve.”
 2. To reconsider use of the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six.”
- F. Consider request to add a subtitle to the booklet *Living Sober*.
- G. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.”
- H. Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
- I. Consider revising the pamphlet “Questions & Answers on Sponsorship”:
1. Change the suggestion that sponsor, and newcomer be of the same sex.
 2. Expand the section on “Service Sponsorship” and retitle the pamphlet to include service sponsorship.
- J. Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet “G.S.R.: Your Group’s Link to A.A. as a Whole.”
- K. Review recovery literature matrix (2019).
- L. Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”
- M. “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” pamphlet:
1. Discuss draft update of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
 2. Consider not retiring the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
- N. Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in *Living Sober* and “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
- O. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”
- P. Review the draft of the new pamphlet on A.A.’s Three Legacies.
- Q. Review the draft of the new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A.
- R. Discuss progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”
- S. Discuss progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts illustrated.”
- T. Discuss progress report regarding the pamphlet “Too Young?”
- U. Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, as well as workbooks to help study the program of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, can be addressed with a common solution.
- V. Consider adding the Long Form of each Tradition at the beginning of each essay for that Tradition in the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.
- W. Consider the development of a draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, noting past Advisory Actions.
- X. Consider revising the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group,” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five.

- Y. Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group.”
- Z. Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
- AA. Review G.S.O. Publishing updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy.
 - 1. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “Is A.A. for You?”
 - 2. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “Is there an Alcoholic in Your Life?”
 - 3. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “Frequently Asked Questions about A.A.”
 - 4. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “This is A.A.”
- BB. Review Matrix (2020)

Public Information/Report & Charter – Jake H.

Public Information – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Public Information Chair.
- B. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Webmaster.
- C. Review assembly report of the Area Hotline Chair.
- D. Discuss formal creation of Area Hotline Chair Job Description.
- E. Review activity of PI Committees throughout Area 40.

Public Information – GSC

- A. Review 2020 annual reports from the trustees’ Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
- B. Review the 2020 trustees’ Public Information Committee progress report on Google Ads performance.
- C. Review progress report regarding the 2021 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- D. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
 - 1. Review the 2020 Report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements.”
 - 2. Review a progress report on the development of two PSAs.
- E. Consider draft plan to develop podcasts.
- F. Review “A.A. Triennial Membership Survey” report.
- G. Discuss Public Information pamphlets.
 - 1. Consider revising the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings.”
 - 2. Discuss trustees’ Public Information Committee review of P.I. pamphlets.
- H. Review contents and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook

Report and Charter – GSC

- A. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.
- B. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.)
- C. Review the draft of The A.A. Service Manual, 2021-2023 Edition.
- D. Consider a request to amend paragraph one, the Purpose of the current Conference Charter.
- E. Consider a request to revise Concept Eleven essay of The Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Treatment and Accessibilities/Agenda – Grant O.

Treatment and Accessibilities – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treatment Chair.
- B. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Bridging the Gap Chair.
- C. Review activity of Treatment and Accessibilities Committees throughout Area 40.

Treatment and Accessibilities – GSC

- A. Review progress report on the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic.”
- B. Review a progress report on audio interviews with A.A. members who are in the Armed Forces.
- C. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
- D. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

Agenda – GSC

- A. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, process and 2019 Evaluation Summary.
- B. Review the 2019 January Conference Call participant survey results.
- C. Discuss 2020 report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees’ Committee on the General Service Conference.
- D. Discuss the General Service Conference schedule.
- E. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2022 General Service Conference.
- F. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2022 General Service Conference.
- G. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2022 General Service Conference.
- H. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and 2020 Evaluation Summary.
- I. Review 2021 report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees’ General Service Conference Committee.
- J. Discuss a request to provide additional avenues for A.A. members to share input on General Service Conference agenda items.