

September 2022 Delegate Report

Hello. My name is Sherri and I'm an alcoholic. I am currently serving as your Area 51 Panel 71 Delegate. It has been an honor and a privilege to do so. My report today is short and sweet. Congratulations to all the newly elected Officers and Trusted Servants.

Welcome if you are new to this area of service, hang on for a ride that will change your life.

1. First and foremost, the digital version of the Final Report is released. It will be on aanorthdakota.org on the Officers & Trusted Servants page. Which as all of you remember is available to All of us. It is password protected and the password is Unity-2019. DCMs I also emailed this to you this morning in the 52 all email. I only emailed the English translation BUT if you need French or Spanish versions, I can get that for you.
2. 2022 A.A. Membership Survey is going on now. I was given 4 Groups from Area 52.
3. Date for proposed agenda items was closed Sept. 15. There are 150 proposed agenda items. Most have to do with the 2021 GSC changes to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, The Preamble, and The Plain and Simple Language translation, and Safety and AA service piece.
4. Grapevine and Lavina. Please check out the aagrapevine.org website. It is being asked of the fellowship to give their opinion on a new Grapevine and LaVina App. There will be FREE shipping November 1 – December 31. There will be a price increase beginning January 1, 2023 on book and other content. CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE. There is a cool AA Grapevine and Your Group quarterly!!
5. Please go to aa.org and check out the What's New tab at the bottom of the home page. There is a letter to the Fellowship from our General Manager Bob W., information on printing and distribution information, Call for stories "A.A. for the older alcoholic", Box 459 Summer Edition, 2025 International Convention Member Engagement Survey, and more!
6. GMs letter: Over the past two years, the pandemic has brought much uncertainty and many challenges to how the office fulfills the services it provides. Throughout this period, the Fellowship has been more than generous with their contributions. As we have transitioned back to in-person events, our travel and other event costs have returned to pre-pandemic levels. Unfortunately, we continue to struggle with lingering effects of the global shutdown as they relate to the cost and production of our literature, resulting in a notable decrease in publishing revenue, which also supports the office. We continue to explore options to help us overcome these publishing challenges, including those related to access to materials as well as to production costs.

Mindful of our responsibility and stewardship of A.A.'s money, we are committed to continuously improving our budgeting process. Each department now prepares details of how it expects to utilize the A.A. dollar and provides justifications for each expense. This has been very beneficial to ensure that there is a direct line from expenses to the spiritual services we provide — in other words, ensuring that "money and spirituality mix"! This year's budget is expected to yield a loss of approximately \$1,400,000. Fortunately, last year we had a surplus of \$1,119,000, which will largely fund this year's deficit; the balance will be covered by cash from previous years. As the year progresses,

we continue to look for cost reductions where possible, being mindful not to compromise the services we provide.

7. Dust copies of Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions will be discontinued. What are the expected cost savings on the new jacketless format for the Big Book and "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions?"
Big Books We should save about \$135,000.00 on just our initial order of 300,000 jacketless B-1s **12 x 12s** We should save about \$25,000.00 on just our initial order of 135,000 jacketless B-2s. Turnaround time savings: Once we start printing these jacketless books, we'll save roughly, between 30 to 60 days in manufacturing turnaround per order, and we'll be able to get larger quantities of books shipped to our warehouses at once, as opposed to the current shipments that are necessarily staggered over weeks. The savings per Big Book works out to \$0.45 per book and the 12 x 12 works out to \$0.185 per book. Equally as important as the cost savings, reducing the lead time by 30 to 60 days when we are experiencing out of stock conditions due to supply chain issues is huge.
8. WCRAASC is in Omaha in 2023 and the Newly Elected Delegate will bring you more information on that. ☺ The 2024 is in MINOT!!
9. Any questions?
10. Final Gratitude for serving Area 52:

Thank you, thank you, thank you for believing in me, supporting me, and putting up with me through the years. I remember coming into General Service in 2013 and my thoughts or opinions were so different than they are today. Just like Patrick mentioned last night "I had my opinion before I had the experience" I was judgmental, full of ego, and absolutely filled with fear. I am so grateful for the journey that my higher power led me on. I am so grateful that I walked down the service triangle and gained the experiences I did serving in the positions of GSR, DCM, Archives Committee Chair, Area 52 Chairperson and finally as Area 52 Panel 71 Delegate. Each position has changed me. Each position has allowed me to grow. Each position has humbled me. Each position has kept me sober and enhanced my sobriety. Serving Area 52 has allowed me to form and maintain relationships across the state. Serving as a delegate has allowed me to form and maintain relationships across North America. I cannot explain to most of you exactly how I feel in my heart about serving as the Area Delegate, or maybe I can but you probably won't "feel" what I feel until you have the experience. There are future Area Delegates in this room. Keep serving. Stay active in General Service. Thank you.