

2024 AA General Service Conference (GSC) Personal / Group Opinion Poll

2024 AA General Service Conference (GSC) Personal / Group Opinion Poll

Dear Area 93 Group Member:

March 8, 2024

One of my duties as your delegate is to present the Area's collective group opinions during this year's GSC from **April 14 to April 20th in Brooklyn, NY**. The following questionnaire contains subjects that will be voted on by all the Conference members. Please help me to know your personal views by answering the questions you may have an opinion on and return to me by one of the following methods before **April 10th** when I leave for the GSC.

- 1) Give it to your GSR
- 2) Bring it to the **Pre-Conference Workshop in Lancaster CA**.
- 3) Mail it to the Area 93 Delegate, **Pablo H. 608 Easter St. Bakersfield CA 93307**
- 4) E-mail it to delegate@area93.org
- 5) Call the Area delegate at **661-349-0221**

Thank you for your help in preparing me for the General Service Conference (GSC). This way your voice will be heard. Pablo H. Panel 73 Delegate | C.C.A.A. Area 93

Grapevine and La Viña

Item C-Discuss the cost effectiveness and sustainability of continuing to print La Viña.

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda? La Viña was started in 1995 as the result of a Conference Advisory Action based on an expressed need for a Spanish edition of the Grapevine. The Conference recommended that funding for up to five years of publication be obtained from the General Service Board Reserve Fund, and that if, after five years, it was determined to no longer be feasible, publication be discontinued.

Many Committee Considerations and Recommendations, in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2010, 2015, 2017, and 2018 recognized the demonstrated effectiveness of La Viña, its spiritual benefits as a Twelfth Step tool, and overall support for its continued publication and need for it to achieve spiritual parity with the A.A. Grapevine. At the same time, some of these Conference Considerations recognized the need for La Viña to continue striving for the goal of becoming self-supporting, and that funding La Viña as a service through the General Fund is an issue that affects the overall fellowship.

In 2023, an individual member submitted a proposed agenda item requesting that the Conference review the overall cost effectiveness and sustainability of continuing to print La Viña, referencing financial reports released by the General Service Board over the last five years. The specific numbers are available in the full background material. The member noted in their submission that they believe in the usefulness of La Viña and are hoping only for an informed group conscience.

Please share the impact (positive or negative) that the La Viña magazine (both print and/or digital version) has had on your recovery and in your community.

(Please use the back of this page if needed)

2024 AA General Service Conference (GSC) Personal / Group Opinion Poll

Dear Area 93 Group Member:

March 8, 2024

One of my duties as your delegate is to present the Area's collective group opinions during this year's GSC from **April 14 to April 20th in Brooklyn, NY**. The following questionnaire contains subjects that will be voted on by all the Conference members. Please help me to know your personal views by answering the questions you may have an opinion on and return to me by one of the following methods before April 10th when I leave for the GSC.

1) Give it to your GSR

2) Bring it to the **Pre-Conference Workshop in Lancaster CA**.

3) Mail it to the Area 93 Delegate, **Pablo H. 608 Easter St. Bakersfield CA 93307**

4) E-mail it to delegate@area93.org

5) Call the Area delegate at **661-349-0221**

Thank you for your help in preparing me for the General Service Conference (GSC). This way your voice will be heard. Pablo H. Panel 73 Delegate | C.C.A.A. Area 93

Grapevine and La Viña — Item D

Explore the services provided by AA Grapevine and how they should be funded.

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda? Since its inception, the AA Grapevine has been meant to be funded solely through subscriptions and (more recently) the sale of Grapevine books and other items. This has been reaffirmed by the Conference numerous times, in 1993, 1994, 2008, and, most recently, in 2017.

In 2023, the Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee discussed that La Viña (a Spanish-language magazine similar to the AA Grapevine) is funded by the General Service Board as a result of a Conference Advisory Action. The Trustees' committee suggested that the Conference discuss whether the Grapevine also be funded by the General Service Board. The background includes the letter from the Trustees' committee.

The Grapevine currently produces, as a service to the Fellowship, the AAGV Podcast, the Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts, and the Grapevine and La Viña YouTube accounts; in 2023, these services cost \$91,390.

The background also includes an excerpt from the bylaws of the General Service Board.

Does your group think that the AA Grapevine should be funded solely through subscriptions and sales, or would your group like to see Seventh Tradition contributions used to fund AA Grapevine services?

(Please use the back of this page if needed)

2024 AA General Service Conference (GSC) Personal / Group Opinion Poll

Dear Area 93 Group Member:

March 8, 2024

One of my duties as your delegate is to present the Area's collective group opinions during this year's GSC from **April 14 to April 20th in Brooklyn, NY**. The following questionnaire contains subjects that will be voted on by all the Conference members. Please help me to know your personal views by answering the questions you may have an opinion on and return to me by one of the following methods before April 10th when I leave for the GSC.

- 1) Give it to your GSR
- 2) Bring it to the **Pre-Conference Workshop in Lancaster CA**.
- 3) Mail it to the Area 93 Delegate, **Pablo H. 608 Easter St. Bakersfield CA 93307**
- 4) E-mail it to delegate@area93.org
- 5) Call the Area delegate at **661-349-0221**

Thank you for your help in preparing me for the General Service Conference (GSC). This way your voice will be heard. **Pablo H. Panel 73 Delegate | C.C.A.A. Area 93**

Literature — Item F

Review draft manuscript of the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language.

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda? Following an Advisory Action at the 2021 General Service Conference, the Trustees Literature Committee has been working on a translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language. The Advisory Action requested that it be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible.

Following the 2023 General Service Conference, the Conference Committee on Literature agreed with the general direction of the project and requested that it continue to move forward. Conference members were also permitted to review the draft of the book privately and securely in a reading room.

The Trustees Literature Committee has reviewed the draft manuscript of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) translated into plain and simple language and agreed to forward it to the 2024 Conference Literature Committee. They also reviewed and submitted a "letter of understanding" outlining the confidentiality guidelines related to review of the manuscript (to ensure A.A.'s legal rights in the registration of the approved final draft of the manuscript with the U.S. Copyright Office, maintain the integrity of A.A. literature and ultimately our most valued asset which is A.A. unity). After the 2024 Conference Literature Committee reviews the draft manuscript, several things may happen, among them: The Committee might approve the manuscript and recommend it be approved by the Conference as a whole, permitting Conference members to review it in a reading room before voting. The Committee might also send the manuscript back to the Trustees Committee on Literature with any significant concerns or changes to the proposed draft.

What does your group hope this plain and simple language translation of The Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous) includes? What does your group hope this book accomplishes? What specific concerns/fears does your group have about this new book? The Delegate will be reading this draft at the Conference – The Delegate needs to know what you want them to focus on when reading and discussing this potential new book.

(Please use the back of this page if needed)

2024 AA General Service Conference (GSC) Personal / Group Opinion Poll

Dear Area 93 Group Member:
2024

March 8,

One of my duties as your delegate is to present the Area's collective group opinions during this year's GSC from **April 14 to April 20th in Brooklyn, NY**. The following questionnaire contains subjects that will be voted on by all the Conference members. Please help me to know your personal views by answering the questions you may have an opinion on and return to me by one of the following methods before April 10th when I leave for the GSC.

- 1) Give it to your GSR
- 2) Bring it to the **Pre-Conference Workshop in Lancaster CA**.
- 3) Mail it to the Area 93 Delegate, **Pablo H. 608 Easter St. Bakersfield CA 93307**
- 4) E-mail it to delegate@area93.org
- 5) Call the Area delegate at **661-349-0221**

Thank you for your help in preparing me for the General Service Conference (GSC). This way your voice will be heard. Pablo H. Panel 73 Delegate | C.C.A.A. Area 93

Int'l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item D

Discuss options for closing the Big Meeting at the International Convention.

Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda? For the last four International Conventions, at the choice of the respective chair, one of the Big Meetings is closed with the Lord's Prayer, one is closed with the Serenity Prayer, and one is closed with the Responsibility Statement. At the 2021 General Service Conference, the Conference Committee on International Conventions/ Regional Forums (IC/RF) discussed methods of closing the Big Meetings at the next International Convention in 2025, particularly the use of the Lord's Prayer. A survey was conducted in 2022 to gather feedback from the Fellowship regarding methods of closing the Big meetings, including the use of the Lord's Prayer and potential alternatives (e.g., Third Step Prayer, Seventh Step Prayer, A.A.'s Declaration of Unity). In December 2022, the Trustees IC/RF Committee reviewed and discussed the survey results and concluded that the data "did not reflect an overwhelming desire by the respondents to change the current practice". While 50% of members who responded supported keeping the current practice, data (in the background) notes that nearly 40% of English respondents and 55% of Spanish respondents wanted to end the practice of using the Lord's Prayer, and that 47% of English respondents and 74% of Spanish respondents wanted to substitute another option for the Lord's Prayer. In 2023, the Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums noted that the consensus of the committee was to continue allowing the chair the choice of closing the meeting with one of the three options. A floor action at the Conference requested that only the Serenity Prayer and the Responsibility Statement be options. Because the Conference ran out of time for substantive discussion on the floor action, a motion to recommit (send it back to the Trustees' Committee) passed – and the Trustees' committee forwarded the item again to the 2024 Conference for more discussion.

Does your group believe the Lord's Prayer should remain one of three options for closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention? Why or why not?