

January 2006

2006 General Service Conference Committees Agenda Items

I. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2007 General Service Conference.
Choices:
1. "Preserving Our Fellowship"
2. "A Message of Hope, Fellowship of Unity and Program of Action"
3. "A.A. and All Three Legacies"
- A. Discuss presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2007 General Service Conference.
1. The Newcomer – We Demand Nothing (See Essay in A.A. Tradition)
- B. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2007 General Service Conference.
1. ?? no notes
- C. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.
1. Not enough time to review.

(From Delegate's Notes)

II. Cooperation With the Professional Community

- A. Discuss the need for three short video segments that could be streamed on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site and directed to professionals in the employment/human relations, legal/criminal justice, and medical fields, with a total cost not to exceed \$60,000.
VOTE: YES: 5.....NO: 16

Concerns:

Negative comments – While we may have good use for such a tool, there is not enough information available at this time to warrant an expenditure of \$40,000 - \$60,000 with an already troubled GSO budget. As many of us are not technical, we feel unqualified to give a blanket approval of such a project without more information. What would be the length and content of the videos? What percentage of the activity on G.S.O.'s Web Site in 2005 was made by professionals? A few thought professionals generally didn't have time to avail themselves to the information on our web site. Many thought that personal communication worked best, and that we should work harder as individuals to use the tools we already have – literature, pamphlets, other videos.

Positive comments – This would be a good tool that could possibly be downloaded and used in the classroom or office setting, but there would still be a need for communication by the AA member to inform professionals of the video on the web site. Individuals can easily view anonymously and in private, which could save many lives.

B. Discuss ways C.P.C. committees present A.A. to professionals, such as slide presentations, demonstrations of G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site or local A.A. Web sites, and the use of A.A. booths at professional events.

1. Dressing appropriately, having good knowledge of our traditions, and being prepared by reading CPC literature, guidelines, and workbook are important when carrying the message to professionals at a convention or presentation. Personal contact, one on one, in the spirit of cooperation, helpfulness and friendliness seems to work the best. Continuity of communication and a commitment to fostering a good relationship is important. Area 65 is poor, so the CPC committee does not have equipment such as a VCR, DVD, laptop, or projector to use for Power Point, slides, or transparency presentations, although the professionals may have them in their own offices.

2. The biggest hindrance to our CPC committees though is the availability of AA members that can participate on a typical workday during the week when many of the conventions take place. Many feel the convention booth setup from GSO could be made more attractive or dynamic in design to draw more attention from passersby. It has been the experience of this panel that the AA booth placement is usually remote, and not necessarily centrally located, with limited room for our literature

C. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.

1. The 3-ring binder is widely considered more organized and user friendly. All changes made to the workbook are appropriate. It would serve us well if the workbook was made available on the GSO's AA Web site.

D. Corrections

A. Review the trustees' Committee on Corrections Progress Report on the Development of an Informational Media Presentation Introducing A.A. to Training Academies and In-service Training Programs for Corrections Personnel.

1. This proposal was brought up at last years conference and it was voted against. We felt it removes the one to one contact and especially takes away the value of the CPC chair at all levels.

VOTE: We all oppose producing this presentation.

B. Consider the revised manuscript of *A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate*.

1. We felt this booklet should be left alone!

VOTE: No one was in favor of the revised manuscript.

Concerns:

1.To begin with nobody has read the revised one.

2. Copies were sent only to the conference committee members to review.
 3. So, as A.A. members we did not have an opportunity to review.
 4. We are about A.A. not N.A.
- C. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.
1. I'm sorry we did not have a Kit or Workbook at hand. But did discuss the background material.

Vote: Was to accept the change from Conference Committee on Correctional Facilities to Conference Committee on Corrections.

2. All were in favor of having the workbook available online.

*****ESPANOL: Voted "Yes" on all three items*****

E. Finance

Spring, 2005 NETA Assembly – Break-out Committee on Finance Agenda

There were 17 members of the Assembly who participated in discussion of the agenda items to be discussed by the Conference Committee on Finance. At the beginning of the sharing session chairperson presented an overview of the Fellowship finances and obligations against our Reserve Fund (attached) and shared a copy of the Finance Report given by Vince Keefe at the SW Regional Forum in Rogers, AR. A synopsis of the discussion and comments regarding each item follows:

A. Discuss the draft "Finance Card" created by trustees' Finance Committee. What is the cost of the production of this card?

It is better to have person-to-person contact and explanation of why it is important to make contributions than to read off a card as part of a meeting.

We have workshops – should have workshops discussing Finance in the Fellowship.

The card would probably be put up on the group's bulletin board but not read at meetings.

It is the members' responsibility to combat indifference, apathy, or negative thinking when it comes to financial contributions.

Unnecessary expense. It is like the group would be asking for money. We need more information about where the money goes.

Group conscience and steering committee meetings need to stress contributions.

We need to stress the birthday plan.

Sponsorship is at the root of contributions and why we contribute – also the home group and the long-time members can share their experience about why it is important to contribute.

Note: A comparison was made to the existing “BLUE CARD” which has been around since the mid-1980s – several of the members of our group had never HEARD of the blue card on open or closed meetings.

VOTE: 15 members were against production of the blue card and 2 were for its production.

- B. **Discuss a proposal to replace the word “donation” with the word “contribution” in A.A.W.S. literature.**

The background information was well-received and made sense.

“Contribution” does mean “WE”.

VOTE: Unanimous for making the changes in wording

- C. **The pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix”:**

1. **Discuss a request to add references about other A.A. information for group treasurers.**

Might help the groups out – better communication.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of adding the references provided we exhaust all supplies of the existing materials first.

2. **Discuss a request to remove the pie charts from the pamphlet.**

(A history of the pie charts taken from previous Conference Advisory Actions was given by chairperson.)

Get rid of the pie charts – as they stand now.

Rural groups not served by Intergroups may not understand percentages.

Intergroup may be in an entirely different financial position from other service entities. What’s best for the most dollar.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of removing the pie charts

3. **Discuss a request to add an additional pie chart reflecting a 25/25/25/25% distribution.**

**VOTE: Add 25/25/25/25 split pie chart to pamphlet.
Fair and equal distribution.**

Substantial majority in favor of adding above pie chart IF others are removed

- D. **Discuss requests to rescind the small-order freight charge policy instituted by A.A.W.S. effective 7/1/05.**

SEE NOTES BELOW

E. **Discuss requests to eliminate the discounts on volume purchases of A.A.W.S. literature.**

(We discussed these items together.)

Leave the charges and the discounts in place just as they are – we must pay for what we use.

Literature is a business – we cannot have our cake and eat it too.

Perhaps shipping and handling should be charged on ALL orders – this was a popular comment.

Our board instituted fees to defray costs – why would we send them a message that cost-saving was not approved by the Fellowship?

Rural groups need to get together in their Districts or their Area and purchase in bulk.

Any Intergroup across the country could handle orders from rural groups.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of leaving everything as it is. (Actually “Adamant” about leaving both items as is.)

F. A.A. Grapevine

A. Review contents of Workbook.

1. Looked at items and background
2. Request from mock committee that any updated item be an agenda item for the 2007 General Service Conference.
3. No suggestions for any changes.

B. Consider a suggestion that A.A. Grapevine produce an anthology of La Viña stories in the year 2007 or later.

1. Wait until Grapevine/La Vina is in the black
2. Recommends that a Language of the Heart, Volume 2 be developed instead.
3. Since World Services supports La Vina, send back to Grapevine Committee 2007,
4. Do not print until La Vina is more self supporting and under the financial responsibility of the Grapevine. Grapevine should be self-supporting!

VOTE: NO: Majority against producing an anthology. Only one voted yes.

5. We're selling the best of La Vina when no one is buying it in the first place
6. Why Not translate “Best of the Grapevine” first?

Grapevine Contined:

*****ESPAÑOL: VOTED “YES” ON ALL ITEMS*****

G. Literature

- A. Review the revised draft pamphlet “Too Young?”
1. Inadequate background material provided

Espanol vote: Yes

- B. Review the revised draft pamphlet “It Happened to Alice!”
1. Inadequate background material provided.

Note:

1. Strongly recommend full distribution of background information on all agenda items (all motions)

Vote: Yes: 10.....No: 2.....Undecided: 2

2. Recommended that the delegate “take no action” on motions without full background information. In order for G.S.R.’s to adequately represent their Group’s Conscience with information sufficient to make an Informed decision. (Process: Information to the group members and from the group and its members to the delegate.)
3. Discussion occurred regarding the ability to protect copyright (s) and still be able to distribute background information.

Espanol Consensus: Yes

- C. Consider suggestion to revise the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
1. **Vote: Yes: 9.....No: 0.....Undecided: 3**

Espanol: Yes

- D. Discuss request for a review of language in A.A. literature that refers to the first 164 pages of the Big Book.
1. Language (and Art Work) changed to reflect that the first 164 pages has remained “largely” unchanged.
 2. Review by GSO if literature to determine if there are other incorrect statements
- VOTE:: No Disapproval**

Espanol: NO

- E. “Young People and A.A.” draft manuscript:
1. Consider revised front matter.

- a. Inadequate background material.

Espanol: Yes

- 2. Review stories.

- a. Inadequate background material

F. Discuss requests to develop an intergroup/central office pamphlet.

- 1. Consensus: Do not develop pamphlet
- 2. **VOTE: No disapproval on "Not " to develop**

Espanol: Yes

G. Review trustees' Committee on Literature progress report on the Spanish-language Third Edition Big Book, *Alcohólicos Anónimos*.

- 1. **Consensus: Continue to move forward**

Espanol: Yes

H. Consider request to develop an A.A. history book covering the years 1955-2000.

- 1. Reviewed in depth the committee history report stating \$380,537.00 sent thus for.
- 2. Would like to have an estimate of final cost.

Yes: 4.....No: 10 (take no action)

- 3. Would consider if the estimated total cost of this project are presented prior to any thing else being done.

- 4. Note: The accuracy of the material in the draft (s) is in question.

Espanol: Yes

I. Consider proposal that the pamphlet "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" be discontinued.

- 1. Consensus: Discontinue this pamphlet:
VOTE:: Unanimously to discontinue this pamphlet

Espanol: No

J. Consider developing a pamphlet concerning Alcoholics Anonymous, religion and spirituality.

- 1. Consensus: Do not develop this pamphlet.
VOTE: Unanimously...do not develop

Espanol: No....Do not develop

H. Policy/Admissions

A. Approve invitation for two observers to attend the 56th General Service Conference, one from G.S.O. Japan and one from G.S.O. Australia.

- 1. Good experience for other countries to see how we handle our affairs. Help them start their own conference. (General Service Office)

- B. Review dates for the 2009 General Service Conference.
 - 1. First choice date, Sunday, April 26, 2009 to Saturday, May 2, 2009 between major Holidays. **Accepted**
- C. Review report from the General Service Board on feasibility of more balanced composition/structure of regions.
 - 1. **Review Only, Matter of record.**
- D. Review request that the Conference be mindful of balancing the number of odd and even panel delegates when decisions are made that affect delegate rotation.
 - 1. **Review only, Matter of record.**

I. Public Information

- A. Consider 2005 annual report from the trustees' Committee on Public Information regarding G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.
 - 1. We generally approve of the report. We believe we should trust our trusted servants in accordance with Concept Three.
 - 2. We do offer some suggestions for changes:
 - a. We approve of the change to place "Home Group" before Central Offices & Intergroups in the "How to order literature" section on the web site.
 - b. We would like to see the GSO Financial Statement on the site.
- B. Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s):
 - 1. Consider approving the proposed television P.S.A. "Testimonials" developed by the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
 - a. "Testimonials" video. Not available to view. We do not like "not" being fully informed before expenditures of funds for production and distribution.
 - 2. Review information on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the television P.S.A. "Living in Chaos."
 - a. "Living in Chaos" distribution and tracking.
 - b. Agree to continue as recommended. Same process as for others.
 - c. Tracking information gained is useful to the fellowship in carrying the message.
 - d. Shows us where we need to go to further distribute them. Most important information. Is where they are not being shown.

- e. Good to know reasons for airing or not airing on part of stations.
 - 1. Points out need for our own P.I. efforts to be more proactive.
 - 2. We do question some of the survey results and statistics.
 - 3. Shows the need for more effort to get stations to see importance of airing year around and not just during Holiday seasons.
 - 3. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the proposed television P.S.A. "Testimonials" at a cost not to exceed \$30,000, in addition to the work of local Public Information committees.
 - a. We approve of need for continued centralized distribution and tracking on "Testimonials" video.
 - b. Same procedure as other PSA's
 - c. We need this information for the same reasons as previous discussion on "Living in Chaos."
- C. 2007 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey:
- 1. Discuss how to get more area delegates involved in the distribution and collection of the 2007 A.A. Membership Survey Questionnaires.
 - a. Delegate should be more involved. We believe the process as laid out is fundamentally sound but believe the Delegate should be offered some autonomy on group selection of primary groups. And especially have the authority to select "alternative" groups to replace those selected that may not wish to participate or no longer meet.
 - b. We also believe the survey is not an adequate sampling. Currently only receives responses from approximately 0.4 % of members. (estimated)
 - 2. Consider request to add the following categories to the "Length of Sobriety" section in the "2007 A.A. Membership Survey" pamphlet:

Sober between 11 - 20 years
Sober more than 20 years

 - a. Addition of sobriety categories. 11-20 yrs. We agree.
 - 3. Consider request to add "Domestic Partner" to the "Marital Status of Members" section of the 2007 A.A. Membership Survey Questionnaire.
 - a. **Do not see the need.**
 - b. How is this survey pertinent information?
 - c. Will not serve professionals working with us to carry the message.
 - d. One suggestion was perhaps combine as a choice under "Married" status. I.E. "Married/Partner"
 - 4. Consider request to add a "Sexual Orientation" category to the 2007 A.A. Membership Survey Questionnaire.
 - a. **See no purpose**

- b. Had already been : “Not acted on”
 - c. There are no specific example as to how the question would be listed.
 - d. Do not agree it will help the professional community to have these demographics shown.

- 5. Consider and approve the 2007 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey Questionnaire.
 - a. We do approve as is. Would “**not**” **approve** with any or both of the above changes was made.

- D. Consider request that the list of early symptoms derived from outside literature on page 17, item #19 in the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings,” be replaced with a list derived from A.A. literature.
 - a. We believe there should be no use of this “outside” sources being used in “Speaking at Non-AA Meetings”
 - b. We believe there should be no use of this outside information.
 - c. It’s misleading and implies endorsement.
 - d. However, no specific replacement clearly defined; just many examples of possibilities.

Therefore we do not endorse the request for lack of a proper motion to change.

- E. **Review report from the trustees’ Committee on Public Information on Videos for Young People.**
 - a. “Young People’s” Video
 - b. Both are in drastic of revision. Both should be discontinued and replaced with more up to date material.
 - c. Most of us agree it should never have been put out in its present form.
 - d. Many questionable points: Traditions violations, mention of drugs too much. Sexually transmitted disease, looks like all A.A.’s smoke. In one scene a newcomer female mentions a newcomer male asked her to coffee at first meeting. Around here we call that 13th stepping.
 - e. Between the two, sponsor or sponsorship was only mentioned twice but with not even a brief discussion on what that meant.
 - f. Survey results provided from GSO vastly different from those conducted in our area. Some so different, we wonder if the numbers were transposed. Results completely opposite.
 - g. It’s quite apparent few if any young people were involved in the production or planning of these videos. We would suggest:
 - 1. A professional production company specializing in young people marketing be consulted for preliminary pre-production duties.
 - 2. A large group and diverse cross section of young people, not just A.A. members, be invited to participate in reviewing

script and storyboards for input from the targeted audience. WE do not believe this review should be limited to AA members. We see it differently.

3. They need to be designed to attract the attention of and hold the interest of those who still have not found us. Either already involved with alcohol but just, or more, importantly, those who have not yet tried it.
4. Our goal is to share our experience, strength and hope with others so they do not have to go through what we have. If we can get this message to young people before they've experimented we believe we've done a greater service.
5. Target 12 to 20 year olds.

F. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.

- a. Approve of the list of information to be included. Saw no changes on the list.
- b. Do not know if there is any proposed changes to the kit itself. Were not provided with one. Saw no proposed changes submitted.

J. Report and Charter

A. Review *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2005-2006 edition:

1. Review editorial updates to *The A.A. Service Manual*.

- a. Changes should be made as needed
- b. Changes should be made with every new printing.
- c. Legal updates should be done to more accurately reflect legal realities of our fellowship.
- d. Some said reduce printing to every five years, but then we have the problem of printing & distributing addenda.

VOTE: Yes.....unanimously (100%)

2. Discuss the discrepancy between the Conference Charter and *The A.A. Service Manual* regarding panel rotation of district committee members (D.C.M.s).

- a. Voted unanimously to have the Service Manual re-worded to match the Conference Charter.
- b. Autonomy can lead to more chaos and confusion.

VOTE: Yes: 19.....No: 0

3. Consider a request to include a description of the duties of a district committee member chairperson (D.C.M.C.) on page S30.

- a. This affects Area's structure differently than NETA.
- b. Each area has a right to this position based on their structure/Districts & Group structure.

- c. Downside is more votes for the panel, which can become top-heavy with disproportionate number of votes.

VOTE:: Yes: 17.....No: 3

- 4. Consider a request to restore the graphic “Service Structure Inside the A.A. Group” to Chapter 2.
 - a. Background material was not at all convincing, but one of our committee member’s experience helped by providing a clearer picture of how this graphic helped him show new members all the possibilities for service at the group level.
 - b. **VOTE: Yes: 21.....No: 0**

- 5. Consider a request to insert an inverted triangle graphic similar to the one found in “The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated” pamphlet.
 - a. The graphic was too busy & sophomoric.
 - b. The graphic left out the G.S.R.s
 - c. The Inverted Triangle Graphic we use at NETA is much clearer in scope and definition.
 - d. If the graphic we use is substituted for the one they presented, the vote would be Unanimously “YES”
 - e. **VOTE: As presented: Yes: 0.....No: 21**

- 6. Consider a request to revise page S28 to more accurately reflect the number of groups in a metropolitan district.
 - a. **Unanimously voted to eliminate the numbers** altogether as we have a variety of Districts and Group Structures across the United States.
 - b. We do need to clarify distinctions between “Stand-Alone” and “Sub Districts” system as well as how groups are defined differently.

- 7. Consider a request to add a descriptive sentence on the role of a trustee-at-large to the second paragraph on page S63 in the section “Trustees-at-Large.”
 - a. Trustees at Large may attend “Meetings of the Americas” every other year.
 - b. They in fact already attend these meetings.
 - c. “Quote: “Sounds like someone wants to go on a trip on our dime”

VOTE: Yes: 11.....No: 5

****Delegate’s comment:**

This question was asked: Who is authorized to attend these meetings/conferences?

This process of attending special meetings are written in our Guideline’s for the Trustees at Large. The last few years, we

have other staff members also attending, which may be something we can research.

Reference: "Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous", pages 107-127, especially page 120 and pages 149-152.

Reference: A.A. Service Manual:
Concepts 4-8
Current Conference Charter, Appendix C, page S93

- B. Consider a suggestion to restore *The Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.* to its original form as published in 1962.
 - a. **Unanimously Voted Yes.**
 - b. Quote: "Quit changing our literature"
- C. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.
 - a. **Did not have time to address.**
- D. Discuss A.A. Directories:
 - 1. Consider a request to add/attach an explanatory letter regarding the appropriate use of the A.A. Directories.
 - a. Inserting Anonymity Statement in Directories.
 - b. **VOTE: Yes: 17.....No: 1**
 - c. Concern about the rush to pass this.
 - d. This is a tool for A.A. members, not a P.I. piece.
 - 2. Consider a request to revise the statement on page ii, located below the box "An A.A. Group."
 - a. Revising Statement concerning relationship between groups and AAWS.
 - b. This helps preventing more lawsuits, etc.
 - VOTE: Unanimously Yes**

K. Treatment Facilities

- A. Consider both the scope and name of the Conference Committee on Treatment Facilities.
 - 1. In the "changing landscape of treatment," we too are seeing fewer treatment Centers and shorter stays
 - 2. There are no alcohol treatment centers only substance abuse treatment centers.
 - 3. Treatment committees now take meetings to halfway houses, nursing homes, homeless shelters and outpatient programs, just to name a few.**VOTE: NO Action on Name Change**

Espanol: Consensus: Yes, but more information is needed.

B. Treatment Facilities Kit and Workbook:

1. Review a summary of the results of the 2004 Treatment Facilities Committee Survey prepared for inclusion in the Treatment Facilities Workbook.

a. **Consensus: Yes to inclusion**

Espanol: Yes to inclusion

2. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.

a. All changes are **acceptable** with the **exception** of the change on **page 11**, adding the word **“often”**.

b. **Comment: This meeting will always be brought by an AA Group.**

L. Trustees

A. Review résumés for regional trustees:

1. Pacific Regional Trustee
2. Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

a. **No background material**

Vote: No action, no opinion

B. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc

1. **No Action**

C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. **NO ACTION**

D. Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc..... **NO ACTION**

E. Review report on the efficacy of the “Diversity Statement” currently being used in vacancy letters.

1. Should apply to all members of A.A. as a whole. Recommended no “special” groups be addressed.

Vote: Only one “no” vote

F. Review background material and experience pertaining to request that the selection process for Chairperson of the General Service Board be expanded to include past Class B trustees as candidates.

Vote: Unanimously “No”

Delegates Comment: “We need to gather more information on this one.”

- G. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board to approve the revised Bylaws of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

Vote: Yes: 3.....No: 11.....Abstaining...1

- H. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board to approve the revised Certificates of Incorporation of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

Vote: No action

Concerns: Committee did not have copy of Bylaws.

Questions: What are the changes?

Are these changes to adhere to the New York State Laws?

XIII. Archives

- I. Review Workbook.

- J. Consider that the Conference Archives Committee annually review a list to be compiled by G.S.O.'s Archivist of proposed archival recordings (format to be determined by A.A.W.S.) to be produced for sale by A.A.W.S. so that the Conference might provide guidance prior to production.

1. On the International Convention recordings to be reduced from \$15.00 to \$10.00

Vote: Yes

Not enough time or information to fully discuss agenda item for any type of report to be given concerning the list of archives recordings to be produced for sale by AAWS.

XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

- K. Discuss addition of informational flyers to the Regional Forums section of G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.

1. Discussion of addition of informational flyers to the Regional Forums section of GSO's A.A. web site. Flyers encourage participation in Regional Forums

a. These flyers are in English, Spanish, French currently the English flyers are already on the web site.

1. **Consensus was: Yes: Add Spanish and French to web site.**

b. Questions:

1. If posting on web site in other languages—Will there be translators available for those attending who speak those languages?

2. Why are we limiting flyers to only Spanish, French and English?

3. Why not be more inclusive and add other languages?

4. Do we need flyers so that an internet savvy person will translate our English document and use for translation

software available on internet?

- L. Discuss the Report on Restructuring and/or Increasing Regional/Special Forums from the trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums.
1. In the report we were provided with two revised definitions of regional forums that are posted on A.A.'s web site. One draft dated September 2005 and one revision dated October 2005.
 2. The October revision is already posted on A.A.'s website.
 3. The only discussion was concern over that both draft revision were sent to us as background material, yet the October version was already posted on the web site.

Why?

NO ACTION

4. Discussion on the revised schedule for regional/special forums.
 - a. In the past there have been no more than two special forums per year but the report favored increasing special forums to three for 2006 and 2007 on a trial basis.
 - b. Moving 2008 Philadelphia, PA Special Forum to 2006 at no increase to budget. This is already on web site listed as Inner City Forum.
 - c. Moving 2007 Virgin islands Special Forum to 2009 with a projected increase in budget of &7,000.00

VOTE: 11 were opposed to the addition of special forums in 2006 and 2007.

d. Concerns:

1. Against anything that included the word "special"
2. Financial concerns regarding the change
3. Concern that the Philadelphia, PA Forum was already listed on the web site prior to going back to the General Service Conference.
4. One member was comfortable with a forum based on language, but suggested that the term "special" be removed.
5. Several thought we should completely do away with special forums and believes that this separates "us."
6. Question: What is an inner city forum?
7. One person had attended a Spanish language special forum and thought it was a good idea for communication.

M. Review report on the 2005 International Convention in Toronto.

1. Went over the 70th Anniversary of AA statistics.
2. Went over Flag Ceremony. 65 areas and 14 foreign GSO's signed up to view.

Note: Our Delegate has asked us to recommend some possible Convention "Themes" to submit for the future International Conventions.