

International Convention 2025 Update

Countdown to Vancouver!

There's still time to [register](#) for the 2025 A.A. International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, July 3-6, 2025.

Join your A.A. friends and guests for a convention full of opportunities to enjoy fellowship and fun.

- Thursday night party, flag ceremony, the stadium Big Meetings, and the Saturday night Old Timers meeting featuring speakers with 50+ years of sobriety.
- More than 250 different meetings to choose from on a variety of topics — and marathon meetings for those who want to sleep after the convention is over!
- 20+ Hospitality Suites.
- Visit the GSO Archives display and the Carry the Message Pavillion. Take part in the Walk the Walk from the Vancouver Convention Centre to BC Place.

Volunteer opportunities still available! Get the latest information on volunteering [here](#).

Register for convention today [here](#)! Housing options still available — check out our Housing Resources information [here](#).

Learn more about IC2025 at aa.org/international-convention

Unable to attend the 2025 International Convention in person? There are options for you to participate!

Register for a Virtual Session Program Track.

This is a two-day eight-session virtual program track for individual viewing at home. The sessions will be live-streamed as they take place and will *not* be available for purchase after the Convention. The cost is \$35 (USD).

You can use the Online Registration portal to sign up for the **Virtual Session Program Track**: aa.org/international-convention

Purchase the 2025 International Convention Three Big Meetings Video Product

An anonymity-protected video recording of the Three Big Meetings in the stadium will be available for viewing after the Convention. The cost is \$60 (USD). Once you purchase the video, you will receive instructions via email *after* the convention about how to view the anonymity-protected video recording.

You can purchase the **Three Big Meetings Video Product** as an ancillary product through the Online Registration [portal](#). If you are already registered for the Convention, log in to your registration record via your email confirmation and add the video to your purchase.

Friday, July 4, 2025:	9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. PDT	A.A. Around the World Call Up I
Friday, July 4, 2025:	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT	Online Meetings, Are We Hiding Behind Our Screens?
Friday, July 4, 2025:	1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. PDT	Unity: The Most Cherished Quality
Friday, July 4, 2025:	3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. PDT	Living Sober
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. PDT	A.A. Around the World Call Up II
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT	H.A.L.T.
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. PDT	Intensive Work with Other Alcoholics
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. PDT	Celebrate Sobriety

There will be eight (8) 1.5-hour topic sessions to view. There is a half-hour break between sessions.

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Note on anonymity: From time to time in this publication full names and/or pictures of GSO employees, Class A trustees and other nonalcoholics are used. The anonymity of A.A. members is maintained, as they are identified throughout by first name and last initial only.

NEW! Watch Party Viewing Option

The General Service Board has approved a tiered-pricing registration option that is now being added for Groups and Information Gathering Watch Parties. Intergroups/central offices, districts, areas, and local A.A. groups have requested this option. A Group and Information Gathering Watch Party coordinator must register and pay a 2025 International Convention Virtual Program Session Track registration fee based on a tiered number of Watch Party attendees as follows:

1. 6-20 attendees = \$200.00 (USD)
2. 21-30 attendees = \$300.00 (USD)
3. 31-40 attendees = \$400.00 (USD)
4. 41-50 attendees = \$500.00 (USD)

You can register for this Watch Party viewing option at [Watch Party Viewings Registration](#)

How to Coordinate and Host a Watch Party

- Gather a group who would like to get together to watch the virtual program session track.
- The coordinator would pay for the group based on the board-approved tiered-pricing structure based on how many attendees will attend the Watch Party.
- The coordinator must have a place for people to meet for the Watch Party.
- The coordinator will need to ensure how people are going to view the virtual program — for example, laptop connected to a TV screen, projector on screen, etc.)
- The coordinator could request reimbursement from the other attendees for their portion of the cost of registration based on the tiered pricing for the number of people in the group.

Learn more at aa.org/international-convention.



■ Call for Military Veteran A.A. Members for Interview Project



The General Service Board trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities is pleased to announce the launch of the "Military Veteran Interview Project". This initiative invites A.A. members who are veterans of the United States or Canadian Armed Forces to participate in a unique opportunity to share their experiences.

The goal of this effort is to enhance A.A. outreach efforts specifically tailored to military veterans in the U.S. and Canada. A key component will be the creation of several audio interviews, in which anonymity-protected A.A. members who are military veterans share their experience, strength, and hope — focusing on the intersection of military service and recovery in A.A.

The project is seeking representation from a broad spectrum of veterans across all branches of the Armed Services in Canada and the U.S. The aim is to include voices from a diverse range of backgrounds, ranks, ages, genders, orientations, and operational experiences. Each story will illustrate the journey of recovery and sobriety during or after military service.

If you are an A.A. member and would like to learn more about this project or volunteer for an interview, **please reach out to the U.S. and Canadian points of contact via email at: militaryoutreach@aa.org.** The anonymity of all participants will be rigorously protected.

Please share this information widely within the A.A. Fellowship to reach as many members and trusted servants as possible.

Listen to audio interviews of active-duty A.A. members at aa.org/military.

■ Opening for Nontrustee Director for A.A. World Services

There will be an upcoming opening for a nontrustee director position in 2026 for A.A. World Services, Inc. (AAWS). Nontrustee directors are A.A. members with a minimum of seven years of continuous sobriety and a working knowledge of the A.A. service structure, selected for their business or professional experience that relates to the activities of the corporation. Per the AAWS bylaws, a nontrustee director can serve up to four successive one-year terms. The time commitment includes availability to attend all regular meetings of the AAWS Board (currently up to eight per year), three weekend meetings of trustees' committees (to which corporate board directors are appointed) and the General Service Conference for one week in April. In addition, directors may be called upon to attend subcommittee or other meetings and to represent AAWS at Regional Forums or other A.A. functions.

In seeking applications, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large applicant file of qualified persons which reflects the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A., and interested A.A. members are encouraged to apply. Full details on how to apply will be made available on the aa.org "What's New" page, the news section on Meeting Guide app, and in a letter to Conference members and the Fellowship later this spring. The deadline to receive submissions is July 1, 2025.

Inside A.A. Finances

Part VI:

This is the final column in a series from Kevin Prior, former Treasurer of the General Service Board (GSB) and chair of its Finance and Budgetary Committee, who rotated from the board as a Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee after the recent General Service Conference.

By Kevin Prior

At the meeting of the General Service Board (GSB) in January, the 2025 budgets for GSB, A.A. World Services (AAWS), and the AA Grapevine (AAGV) were approved. In previous columns, we covered the process for budget development and approval. In this column, I will provide an overview of these budgets.

First, an explanation of some budget terminology. The **operating budget** includes the annual ongoing revenues and costs needed to operate the General Service Office, the AA Grapevine, and all the functions of the bottom layers of our service triangle including the General Service Board and General Service Conference

An operating budget is characterized by **recurring items that GSO and/or the respective Board (GSB, AAWS, AAGV) can control**. This includes, for example, costs related to personnel, technology, and publishing, among other functions, and costs for the 2025 General Service Conference and Regional Forums. Rent is fixed over shorter periods but ultimately lease renewals are controllable expenses, so they are included.

The biggest example of non-operating items are gains/losses and changes in valuation for A.A.'s pension and postretirement health insurance programs. Most non-operating items are not and/or cannot be budgeted.

The **capital budget** includes purchases (or leases) of larger items with a service life of more than one year. Think copiers, the AA Grapevine app, and improvements and renovations to the office. The cash expenditure occurs up-front, and a “fixed asset” is created. Then, over the useful life of that asset, it is charged to expense as depreciation. The reason for this treatment is the fundamental accounting rule of “matching,” where expenses should be recorded

in the same period as the benefit is received. So, if you purchase a machine that lasts five years, you benefit from that machine over the five-year period and the related expense is over that same period.

Few items on A.A.'s financial statements cause more confusion than **depreciation expense**, a concept in finance that can be difficult to understand for the layperson. Depreciation is the bridge between the operating budget and the capital budget. As noted above, when fixed assets are purchased, there is a cash outlay but no expense. When depreciation is recorded, there is an expense but no cash outlay. Rather, the depreciation "chips away" at the value of the fixed asset on the books. It is often beneficial to examine financial results before depreciation since depreciation is non-cash and represents the impact of past rather than current decisions.

MORE ON OUR BUDGETS

AAWS/GSB Revenue

For the 2025 operating budget, contributions are budgeted a little lower than actual 2024 receipts (\$11 million versus \$11.3 million received). Literature sales

[illegible]

are budgeted greater than 2024 due to the full-year impact of the *Plain Language Big Book* (2024 included the results of only the first print run of 70,000 copies). The literature budget does not assume any new literature that may be approved by the 75th General Service Conference. Gross Margin (what we make on literature sales) is budgeted at 55% of sales. This is an improvement from the last several years and represents the new “normal.”

AAWS/GSB Expenses

Operating expenses (including depreciation) included in the budget of \$20.5 million are higher than ever before, but so are costs. In fact, looking at 2014 operating expenses of \$16 million, if these grew by the amount of the Consumer Price Index (inflation) from 2014 to 2024, they would have grown to \$21.2 million over that same period, indicating that, over time, expenses have been contained within the level of inflation or less. Inflation is the greatest driver of costs, as we are not expanding the number of employees and are actually planning to shrink our leased office space starting in 2026.

AAWS/GSB Net

For 2025, the Budgeted Operating Surplus before depreciation is \$1 million. This is the second year in a row of strong results that have been made possible by record Seventh Tradition contributions and literature sales that continue to recover from the pandemic lows. La Viña is a non-operating expense for GSB because GSB is responsible for funding any shortfall, but the amount is determined by the AA Grapevine Board. Deducting this amount from the \$1 million above, the net operating surplus before depreciation net of La Viña is budgeted to be \$573,000 versus a surplus of \$431,000 in 2024 and a deficit of \$176,000 in 2023.

AA Grapevine Operating Budgets

AAGV (excluding La Viña) incurred planned operating losses in 2023 and 2024 to allow time for the Grapevine mobile app to be developed and adopted within the Fellowship. Subscription revenue (print and digital) is expected to be \$2.2 million in 2025, an increase of 12% from 2024 and 28% from 2023. Combined with strong book sales and the impact of price increases for both books and subscriptions, total 2025 gross margin is budgeted to be \$2 million, an increase of 23% from 2024 and 63% from 2023. This improved revenue picture, combined with necessary reductions in Grapevine’s operations, has allowed Grapevine to achieve a break-even budget before depreciation for

2025. This compares to deficits before depreciation of \$700,000 or greater in each of the two years.

La Viña has also benefited from increased subscriptions and sales of books. Gross margin is budgeted to be more than double the gross margin achieved in 2024. This, combined with careful management of operating expenses, has reduced the budgeted net shortfall for 2025 (covered by GSB) to \$455,000 versus \$565,000 in 2024.

AAWS/GSB Capital Budget

The 2025 approved capital budget is \$2.4 million, comprising \$2 million for office renovation costs and \$340,000 in capital costs related to communications, publishing, and technology services.

The retrofitting of the 11th floor at 475 Riverside Drive will allow consolidation of all GSO employees on a single floor and reduce rent and occupancy expenses over the long term by giving up the current space on the 8th floor.

AA Grapevine Capital Budget

AAGV capital spending is budgeted to be \$60,000, consisting primarily of investments of \$48,000 in the Grapevine app.

■ Opening for Class A Trustee

Following the 76th General Service Conference in May 2026 there will be one (1) opening for a Class A Trustee (*nonalcoholic*) on the General Service Board. The trustees’ Nominating Committee asks that trustees, delegates, and directors encourage appropriate candidates for Class A trustees to consider serving Alcoholics Anonymous. Class A trustees are chosen from a variety of professional backgrounds, including accounting, clergy, corrections, education, finance, health care, law, medicine, military, psychology, social work, and science. In seeking applications for the General Service Board, the trustees’ Nominating Committee is committed to creating a large applicant file of qualified people reflecting the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A. itself. Candidates are invited to include statements demonstrating interest in Alcoholics Anonymous, leadership skills and characteristics, a proven track record in their own professional field, experience as a board member, and experience working with AA and its members. Candidates can submit their business or professional résumé to the Secretary, Trustees’ Nominating Committee at nominating@aa.org, or [Smartsheet link](#), or by mail to GSO, 475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 no later than August 31, 2025.

■ The Seventh Tradition Goes to the (Little) Library

A.A. co-founder Bill W. wrote that “Every single A.A. service is designed to make more and better Twelfth Step work possible.” Of course, it’s our Seventh Tradition—passing the actual or digital basket—that helps fund that crucial A.A. work throughout the Fellowship. The story of Christine B., of Redmond, Oregon, exemplifies this.

Christine’s sobriety date is May 20, 2013, and she’s done lots of service since walking into the A.A. rooms. Currently, she’s a greeter for her home group and also serves as Area 58 Finance co-chair and District 5 IT chair. But the service she and others are doing with the “little free libraries”—those decorated book kiosks that pop up in neighborhoods all over the U.S., Canada, and around the world—really speaks to her heart.

The story starts with the Covid-19 pandemic. “Our district found ourselves with extra [Seventh Tradition] funds and we were looking for ways to spend it down,” she says. “So my sponsor, Vera F., got the idea to put A.A. literature into the little libraries. I’m a big reader, so I got really excited about this. It started as a motion at the district level and then went back to the groups, and it passed!”

The District 5 Public Information committee used Seventh Tradition funds to order copies of the

Big Book as well as issues of the AA Grapevine and La Viña magazines. The committee also affixed stickers with the district help-line number to the literature. Christine and other volunteers got a list of the registered free little libraries, which they found online, in their central Oregon area and, armed with boxes of literature, spread out in their area to do the Twelfth Step work of distributing the life-saving material.

Christine estimates that on their first effort they probably placed literature in 25 little libraries. The outreach has now been ongoing for five years and has grown to include all of Area 58.

“The feeling is amazing,” Christine says. “You have no idea who you’re going to touch.” While the idea of these little libraries is to borrow a book and replace it with another, Christine says that when it comes to suffering alcoholics, her message is, “steal this book if you need to. You can always make an amends when you’re sober.”

For more information about self-support and the Seventh Tradition, visit aa.org.

THE POWER OF OUR SEVENTH TRADITION

MEMBER SERVICES



In 2024, the Member Services department responded to 24,428 email inquiries and 16,838 phone calls.

XXIX
ANNIVERSARY OF LA VIÑA OF THE PACIFIC REGION
JULY, 25, 26, & 27, 2025
HOST AREA #05 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Contacts

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Registrations:
Hector L.
(323) 947-3868

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www.aalavinaregion05.org





What seemed at first a flimsy reed has proved to be the Loring and Powerful Hand of God.

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AREAS OF THE PACIFIC REGION

2, 3, 5, 6, 7,
 8, 9, 17, 18,
 42, 58, 69, 72,
 92 y 93. Alaska,
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 Idaho, Hawaii,
 Nevada,
 Oregon, Utah
 & Washington



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Please mention that your reservation is for the event:
 the 29th Anniversary of the Pacific Region La Viña

www.PACIFICPALMSRESORT.COM



ARE YOU GONG TO VANCOUVER?

Grapevine is excited to offer A.A. members the opportunity to volunteer at the International Convention.

We have time slots available for you to help Grapevine Carry the Message. Be a:

Booth/Kiosk Attendant
Grapevine News Carrier
App Ambassador
Workshop Facilitator
Podcast Participant



We will offer multiple online trainings & in-person support at the event.

Please reach out to us using email address:
ic2025outreach@aagrapevine.org
to help Carry the Message!

*Grapevine & La Vina International
Convention Volunteer Committee*

AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.



Visit the General Service Office!

Visitors are welcome to GSO, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tours are scheduled at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 2 p.m., and last about 45 minutes.

**On Fridays, GSO hosts an open A.A. meeting at 11 a.m.
There is also a guided tour offered after the meeting at 12:15 p.m.**



SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT TO GSO

All visitors must register in advance to gain access to the building in accordance with the building policy. Accordingly, we strongly recommend that individuals contact us prior to their visit so that we can enter them into the building's security system.

**We're located at 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY
(building entrance at 61 Claremont Avenue).**

Groups of 10 or more must contact us ahead of time to schedule their visit so that we can best prepare for your time at the General Service Office.

To schedule your visit, email gsotours@aa.org or call 212-870-3430.

To learn more about visiting GSO, including location details, our health and safety policy, and information about purchasing literature, please visit aa.org/visiting-the-gso.

Please note, the building will be closed to visitors May 26, June 19, July 4, and September 1.





ON SALE NOW!

Help for understanding the book
Alcoholics Anonymous

Please visit the Online Bookstore at aa.org to learn more.



Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur



2025

A.A. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Join your friends in Vancouver,
British Columbia, Canada
July 3-6

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE...

- » Thursday Night Block Party
- » Flag Ceremony
- » Stadium Meetings
- » Old Timers Meeting

AND MORE...including 250+ meetings,
hospitality suites, and a full slate of
panels and workshops

REGISTER NOW



**THERE'S STILL
TIME TO
REGISTER!**

LEARN MORE

aa.org/international-convention 

2025ic@aa.org 

Alcoholics
Anonymous®

◆ NOW STREAMING

Our Primary Purpose Podcast

“

Featuring interviews with GSO staff and voices from A.A. history and the Fellowship today — learn how GSO supports A.A. groups and members to carry the message of hope and recovery.

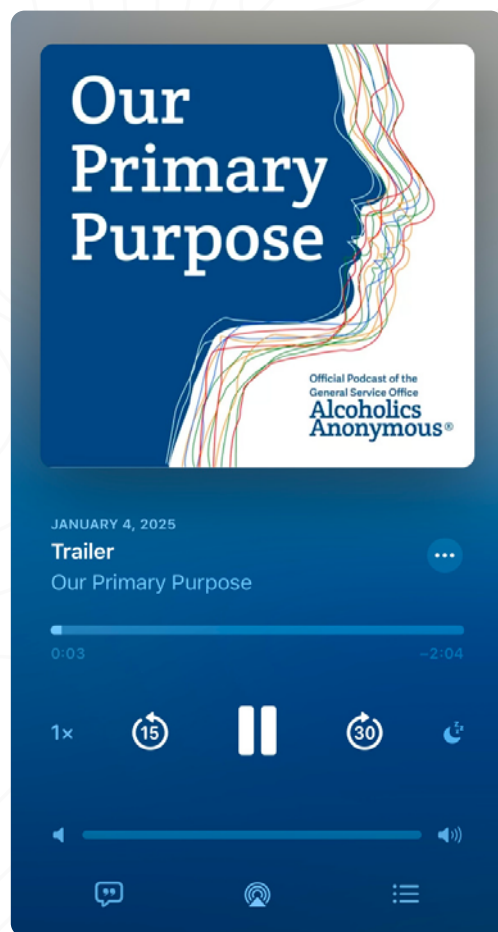


*Available in English only

Season 1 streaming now and available on podcast platforms



aa.org/gso-podcast



Questions? Contact us at gsopodcast@aa.org or visit the [webpage](#).

Calendar of Events

NOTE: Events may be canceled or moved to online formats due to health and safety concerns. Please contact the event coordinators as listed before making your plans.

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office. Please note that we cannot attest to the accuracy, relevancy, timeliness, or completeness of information provided by any linked site. For any additional information, please use the event contact information provided.

JUNE

- 6-8** Akron, Ohio
90th Annual Founders' Day
Info: <https://foundersday.org/>
- 6-8** Grand Island, Nebraska
66th Area 41 Reunion
Write: Box 264, Eagle, NE 68347
Info: <https://www.area41.org/event/reunion-2025-06/>
- 6-8** Pittsfield, Massachusetts
56th Annual Area 31 Roundup
Write: Box 6818, Holyoke, CT 01041
Info: <https://area31aa.org/events/area-31-round-up/>
- 6-8** Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada
Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup
Write: Box 31338, Halifax NS, Canada B3K 5Z1
Info: <https://www.area81aa.ca/docs/NSPR.pdf>
- 12-15** Sparks, Nebraska
17th Annual Soberfloat
Info: <https://www.area41.org/event/17th-annual-soberfloat/>
- 13-15** Carrabassett Valley, Maine
Maine Area Roundup
Write: Box 2892, Waterville, ME 04901
Info: <https://aaroundup.me/>
- 13-15** Clear Lake, Iowa
2025 Area 24 Spring Conf.
Write: Box 465, Buffalo Center, Iowa 50424-0465
Info: <https://my.cheddarup.com/>
- 13-15** St. John, Virgin Islands
Camp EZ Diz It
Write: Box 151, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00804
Info: <https://aavirginislands.org/events/>

- 13-15** Tallahassee, Florida
Founders Day Florida Style
Info: www.foundersdayflorida.org

JULY

- 3-6** Charlotte, North Carolina
Not a Glum Lot Roundup
Write: Box 19081, Charlotte NC 28219
Info: <https://aaneok.org/>
- 11-13** Emma Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada
Lakeshore Roundup
Write: Box 357, Christopher Lake, SK Canada S0J 0N0
- 11-13** Birmingham, Alabama
Area 1 Assembly
Write: Box 209, Opelika AL, 36801
Info: <https://aaarea1.org/>
- 18-20** Omaha, Nebraska
XVIII Convención Hispana del Estado de Nebraska
Info: <https://aadistrito31.org/>
- 25-27** Huntington, West Virginia
Progress Not Perfection, Area 73 Conv.
Write: Box 341, Huntington, WV 25708
Info: <https://www.aawv.org/>
- 25-27** Hot Springs, Arkansas
85th Old Grandad Conv.
Write: Box 1821, Bentonville, AR 72712
Info: <https://www.oldgrandadconvention.com/>
- 25-27** City of Industry, California
XXIX Aniversario de La Viña de la Región del Pacífico
Info: <https://www.aalavinaregional05.org/>

AUGUST

- 1-3** Virtual
3° Conv. Virtual Internacional Hispana
Info: <http://aavirtual.org/3raConvencion>

- 1-3** Jefferson City, Missouri
Missouri State Conv.
Write: Box 582, Kirksville, MO 63501
Info: <https://mostateconvention.org>
- 1-3** Fortuna, California
Redwood Coast Roundup
Info: <https://redwoodcoastroundup.org>
- 8-10** Beaumont, Texas
44th Annual District 90 Conv.
Write: Box 1591, Groves, TX 77619
Info: <https://www.aadistrict90.org/>
- 8-10** Caldwell, Idaho
2025 Gem State Round Up
Write: Box 828, Kuna, ID 83634
Info: www.gemstateroundup.com
- 15-17** Springfield, Massachusetts
Massachusetts State Convention of Young People in A.A.
Info: <https://www.msccypaa.com/>

SEPTEMBER

- 12-14** Khajuraho City, MP, India
International Conv. at Khajuraho, MP
Info: <https://www.aagsoindia.org/event>
- 12-14** Columbus, Ohio
42nd Ohio Conf. of Young People
Info: <http://www.oypaa.org/oypaa-42>
- 19-21** Somerset, New Jersey
Northern New Jersey
General Service Area 44 Conv.
Info: <https://nnjaa.org/convention/2025/>