

# Grassroots Forum *Highlights*



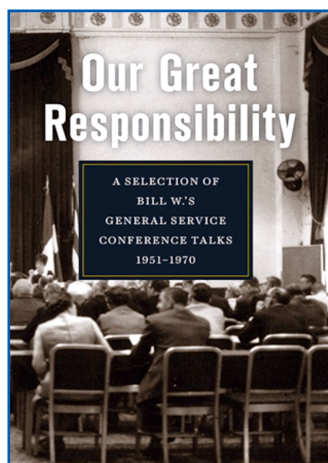
April 2020

Volume 40 No. 2

## Connecting...



## ....Who's Missing?



**Speaking at the General Service Conference in 1960 Bill W. said:**

“We live in an era of change. Our Twelve Steps probably won’t change; the Traditions, not at all likely. But our manner of communication, our manner of organizing ourselves for function, for service – let us hope that this goes on changing for the better, forever.”....

“We reference the past and its lessons for so long as those teachings work. When they don’t, we readapt and we reshift. That has been our history.”

Reprinted from *Our Great Responsibility*, Page 104, with the permission of A.A. World Services

## Please share this copy with your group.

## Alcoholics Anonymous shares new video: "Young & Sober in A.A.: From Drinking to Recovery"

"I started drinking when I was 12. I couldn't stop when I started. And when I was controlling it I was miserable."

"...Five months after I graduated high school, that's when I got introduced to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous."

"When I got willing... the obsession to drink was gone. I realized that there's something in these rooms that is changing my life."



<https://www.aa.org/#video-player>

Please announce and post in your  
District and Intergroup newsletters

### Our Web Team needs Volunteers

#### **DEVELOPMENT:**

**Team member needs knowledge of PHP**

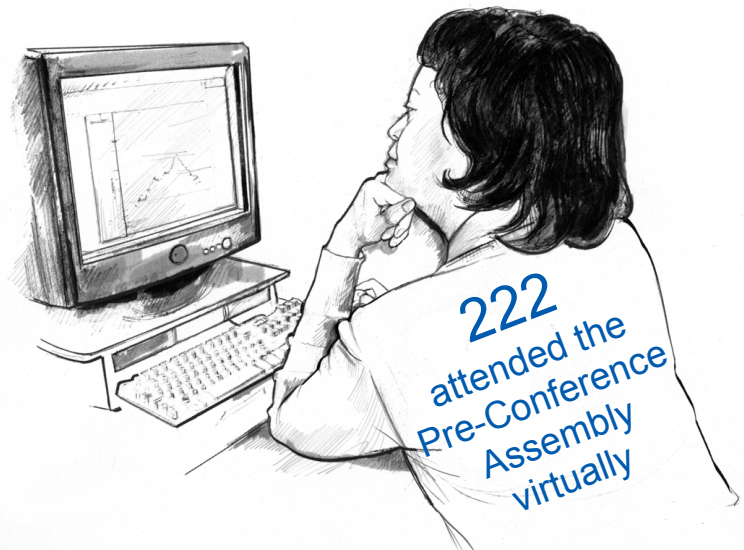
#### **ADMINISTRATION:**

**Team member needs good general  
computer skills**

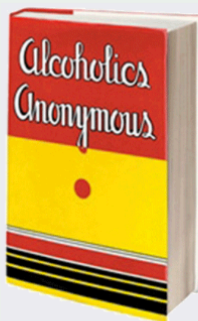
The Area 79 web team carries out routine maintenance of the website and implements the changes and additions requested by the Website Committee or GSC.

Web team work is done at home, so members can be located anywhere within the BC/Yukon area.

For more information please contact our Website Chair at [website@bcvukonaa.org](mailto:website@bcvukonaa.org) or give a call at **778-834-6144**.  
I'd love to talk with you!!



## APRIL 10 IS A HISTORIC DAY FOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



On April 10, 1939, 4,650 copies of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, became available for distribution. Cornwall Press would deliver copies to Works Publishing company, with an office on William Street in Newark, New Jersey. The grand bill for the print run was \$1,783.00!

Copies were also delivered directly to "friends" of the Fellowship, including associates of John D. Rockefeller who aided significantly in the publishing venture.

Today, over 40 million copies have been sold!

## ...from the GSC Reports

**Treasurer:** Many meetings and groups are not collecting a Seventh Tradition. Our service entities like Intergroups, Areas, District and New York GSO are still going to require funds to pay whatever items they have to pay like rent, hydro, phone, etc. We, as individual members, are now called upon to make sure those things are paid.

**Archives Chair:** Area 79 Archives would love to hear from you. Please send recordings, documentation, stories and any other information regarding COVID-19 A.A. experiences to Archives Chair Pauline D. [archives@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:archives@bcyukonaa.org)

## ...from the Districts

**District 3 (Campbell River):** In February, the District had Area 79 present a "Sponsorship" share and study on a Saturday.

**Districts 5 & 7 (Nanaimo)** held a Pre-Conference study which was fairly well attended.

**District 24 (in Vancouver)** held an LGBTQ info session on Sunday, March 1, at the Alano Club. A total of 20 members attended... going forward, will help the interaction with LGBTQ members in Alcoholics Anonymous.

**District 39 (Abbotsford):** Our website chair recently held a Zoom tutorial that was well attended by home district members and outside A.A. members that wanted to get a better understanding.

**District 42 (Surrey):** The 33rd annual District 42 fundraiser, "Heart to Heart – for the love of service" was held on February 15.

**District 45 (Chilliwack):** Please join in our meetings which are listed on our website... [www.chilliwackaa.com](http://www.chilliwackaa.com)

**District 46 (Sunshine Coast):** Please visit our local website to find out the meetings that are available at: [www.sunshinecoastaa.ca](http://www.sunshinecoastaa.ca).

**District 62 (Kamloops):** We hosted the South Central Mini-Assembly in Kamloops on Saturday, March 14, and had a wonderful day of fellowship. The afternoon workshop was on the A.A. slogans and we were excited to learn that no one in Area 79 had ever requested that particular workshop.

## Ask-it Basket Questions

Eleven questions were submitted at the Quarterly. All are answered in Grassroots. Here are a few examples.

All the questions and answers may be found at: [bcyukonaa.org/news/grassrootsforum.php](http://bcyukonaa.org/news/grassrootsforum.php)

**#2: Can we get the committee report-backs emailed to us or is that posted at a later time such as the BC/Yukon website?**

Answered by Drew W., Secretary... The report-backs that are given at the Pre-Conference Assembly are related to the business of A.A. as a whole, as the agenda items each committee is reporting on are related to the General Service Conference (GSC) in New York. All outcomes from the GSC are then published for full disclosure in the Final Conference Report which traditionally is published in October, both in print and as a downloadable PDF. Our committee work that we do at our Pre-Conference Assembly is to help our delegate go to the conference with an informed area conscience on the proposed agenda items and does not act as a deciding body for A.A. as a whole on conference matters...

**#3: Suggestions for handling conflicts between members in a committee.**

Answered by Pauline D., Archives Chair  
Thank you so much for your question. Depending on the level of conflict and disruption to the committee. I have selected 2 quotes from Bill W., who always emphasized the loving, helpful, and tolerant attitude A.A. members should show each other. He wrote in a letter in 1969: "This amount of charity does not mean that we cannot exclude those who disturb meetings or seriously interfere with the functioning of the group. Such people can be asked to quiet down or go elsewhere, or, to come back when they are better able to participate."  
Indeed, Bill W. was no stranger to tumult, controversy, or disturbances at A.A. meetings. He also had faith that growth and good could come out of trouble. In *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, he writes, "Within A.A., I suppose, we shall always quarrel a good bit. Mostly, I think, about how to do the greatest good for the greatest number of drunks... Surmounting such problems, in A.A.'s rather rugged school of life, is a healthy exercise." (p. 233) I hope these wise words from our co-founder answers your question.

**#7: "Is the topic of drugs (i.e. pot, coke, meth etc. considered an outside issue in our meetings?"**

**#9: Is there a chance that Zoom could be a continuing option at Area quarterlies and assemblies when this pandemic is over?**

**#11: What does, is there a nonalcoholic Trustee?**

## GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA ARE HERE TO HELP

HOME // GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA ARE HERE TO HELP

Due to the current changing health situation, many AA meetings across the U.S. and Canada are finding it safer to close. To help members during this time, we are giving everyone *free access* for a limited period to our 2020 Grapevine (January through May) and La Viña (Jan/Feb through May/June) print issues.

Please share with your fellows.

<https://www.aagrapevine.org>

## 2020 Dates

General Service Conference (May 16-19, 2020) ~ *being held virtually*  
~~Western Canada Regional Forum (May 29-31, 2020) ~ cancelled~~  
~~International Convention (July 2-5, 2020) ~ cancelled~~  
July Quarterly (July 17-19, 2020)-Smithers ~ *will be held virtually*  
October Voting/Election Assembly (Oct. 16-18, 2020) ~ Kelowna

**Bids  
Needed**

## 2021 Dates

January Quarterly, Jan. 8-9, 2021 ~ tba  
April Pre-Conference Assembly, April 9-11, 2021 ~ tba  
July Quarterly, July 9-11, 2021 ~ tba  
October Voting Assembly, Oct. 22-24, 2021 ~ tba



### Editor's Note

In four pages it is not possible to summarize 40 pages. Please see the full edition of Grassroots Forum for much, much more about the "happenings" in BC/Yukon and around A.A.! Consider subscribing to have it delivered to your mailing address. The full edition of Grassroots Forum is available at:

<https://www.bcyukonaa.org/news/grassrootsforum.php>

## Join us at the Quarterly July 17 - 19, 2020

a virtual gathering for all

A.A. members.

BC/Yukon Area 79 business.

How can we reach out to the still suffering  
alcoholic?

What do we need to do?

Info at:

[https://www.bcyukonaa.org/events/  
disp\\_events.php?type=assemblies](https://www.bcyukonaa.org/events/disp_events.php?type=assemblies)

## Grassroots Forum

The Voice of the B.C. Yukon Area 79



### what you get...

The full version Grassroots include complete conference minutes, in the neighbourhood of 50 pages, while Grassroots Highlights is a four page document outlining the Highlights. Both are included in this subscription rate.

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**Thank you for supporting Grassroots Forum!!**

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Canadian Publication Sales Agreement #40014567 "The Grassroots Forum is a newsletter by and for the members of Alcoholics Anonymous in BC/Yukon Area 79. It is compiled and edited by the Grassroots Chairperson with the assistance and input of the Grassroots Committee. This newsletter is a vehicle for communication within Area 79 with the aim of strengthening unity and participation. Grassroots is also the means of distribution of the minutes, financial statements and all reports from our Area Quarterlies and Assemblies. It is the aim of the Grassroots Forum to fulfill its purpose with the greatest possible consideration of fiscal prudence and to practise A.A. principles in all of its affairs."