

JULY 2022 DISTRICT 5 LITERATURE COMMITTEE REPORT

My name is Jeanette C. and I am an alcoholic grateful to serve District 5 as (Panel 71) Literature Committee Chair.

Please be advised of a July 18, 2022, message from the Editors at GSO as follows:

“Due to a typographical error, the text of the Long Form of Tradition Eight was inadvertently repeated in the Long Form of Tradition Nine (page 177) in this edition. The accurate full text of Tradition Nine (Long Form) appears on page 178. Please note: The correction has been entered into our files for future printings. Also note: French- and Spanish-language editions are not affected. They do not contain this error. We apologize for this error. The correction has been entered into in our files, and the corrected pages will appear in the next printing of this volume. With apologies and with gratitude for our work together sharing A.A.’s message via our literature - The Editors, General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

Also, because I was unable to attend the June D5 meeting, for the July 2022 D5 meeting I attended and distributed the Advisory Actions and Committee Recommendations of the 72 General Service Conference:

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 72nd GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The following recommendations were approved by the 72nd General Service Conference:

LITERATURE

It was recommended that:

7. The pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” be revised to add the following text regarding safety and A.A.:

1. In the section "For the person wanting to be a sponsor" (p. 14) under the heading "What does a sponsor do and not do?":

Stresses the importance of A.A. being a safe place for all members and encourages members to become familiar with service material available from the General Service Office such as "Safety in A.A. – Our Common Welfare."

2. In the section “for groups planning sponsorship activity” (p.23), under the heading “How does sponsorship help a group?” add a fourth paragraph:

Sponsorship can also help a group to create a welcoming and secure environment. Safety is an issue affecting all members and it is important for groups to remain accessible to all who are seeking recovery. Sponsorship can help keep the group focused on the common welfare.

8. The booklet Living Sober be revised to add the following paragraph regarding safety and A.A. in chapter 29, page 76:

“Of course, A.A. is a reflection of the larger society around us and problems found in the outside world can also make their way into the rooms of A.A. But by keeping the focus on our common welfare and primary purpose, groups can help provide a safe and secure environment for all their members.”

9. The video animation of the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" (currently published by the General Service Board of A.A. Great Britain) be adapted and produced by the Publishing Department. The committee requested a progress report or rough cut be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

10. The draft of the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” be approved.

11. The pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated” be updated with non-offensive, contemporary text and illustrations and that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

12. The updated pamphlet “Is A.A. for You?” be approved.

13. The updated pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?” be approved.

14. The updated pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.” be approved.

15. The updated pamphlet “This Is A.A.” be approved.

72nd GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

LITERATURE

Committee Considerations:

- The committee reviewed the 2022 matrix of A.A. recovery literature. The committee agreed to follow up with the Publishing Department with suggestions regarding the usefulness and purpose of the recovery literature matrix and looks forward to reviewing the matrix at their meeting during the 2023 General Service Conference.
- The committee reviewed a draft pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies and offered additional suggestions for the trustees’ Literature Committee to consider. The committee requested that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report on the update of the pamphlet “Too Young?” The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report on the update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.” The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report on the update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.” The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding development of a Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos. The committee requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language. The committee requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding strategy to make current literature accessible in all possible formats. The committee encourages the trustees’ Literature Committee to continue in their efforts to make literature accessible in all formats and provided several suggestions for more e-literature and other accessible digital platforms, such as Liquid Mode PDF for mobile screens.

- The committee reviewed the Subcommittee Report on Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) and several requests for development of study guides from the Fellowship. The committee also reviewed the minutes of the discussions on this item by the trustees' Literature Committee. The committee noted that additional information would be needed in order to provide direction on these requests. The committee requested that the trustees' Literature Committee provide further information regarding the purpose of the proposals and examples of what Big Book or Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions study guides would look like.
- The committee reviewed a draft of the Literature Committee workbook and noted that the development of the workbook is moving in the right direction. The committee provided several suggestions regarding the length and content of the workbook and requested that a revised draft be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature for review.
- The committee discussed the changes to the text of the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions resulting from advisory actions of the 71st General Service Conference and took no action. The committee noted that there does not appear to be a consensus on the changes among A.A. members at the local level.
- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding development of a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous. The committee requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

Along with the other reports already posted, this report will be posted on the Literature Committee page in the District 5 website aadistrict5.org.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve.

With gratitude and love,
Your friend, Jeanette C.
Literature Committee Chair
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