

This email is meant to provide you with the final list of Agenda Topics, report on the resignation of the General Service Board Chair (and a subsequent vacancy for a Class A Trustee), give you an update on previous Conference actions, and encourage you again to register for PRAASA.

### **Final Agenda Topics 2023**

Attached to this email is a document with the Agenda Topics for the 73rd General Service Conference. Please distribute these Agenda Topics to your Districts; background on these topics will be available in mid-February, and the Agenda Topic Summaries will be available by March 2.

Note that this year, we will not be revisiting the preamble changes, changes to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book, the production of the plain language translation of the Big Book, or the production of the Fourth Edition (in Spanish) and the Fifth Edition (in English) of the Big Book. Of course, members and groups can share with me their thoughts - but these are not items for discussion at this year's Conference.

### **Plain Language Translation Update**

At the Conference this year, members will review a copy of the first six chapters of the plain language translation of the Big Book (it is only being translated into plain English, not into other languages) and then discuss whether we feel like we are moving in the right direction and whether the translation contains the spiritual ideas of the book. The target date for completion is in the summer, and at next year's Conference, we could vote on whether to publish this book. I will report back on what I read and what I hear at the Post-Conference Assembly.

### **Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions / Preamble**

While there are no agenda topics about changes to Bill's writing in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, there is an item about having a broader discussion about Bill's writing in general, and what, if anything, to do with it. This is a broad discussion - no motion has been made. But let's have this conversation, and we will definitely discuss it at the Pre-Conference Assembly.

### **Timelines Regarding Fifth Edition (English) and Fourth Edition (Spanish) Big Books**

Progress is being made on both the updated fourth edition of the Big Book in Spanish and the updated fifth edition of the Big Book in English. There are NO editorial changes being made to the Doctor's Opinion, Preface, and the first 164 pages of the book; these updated editions will add new stories and remove some of the old stories in the back of the book.

A committee has already reviewed all of the Spanish-language stories, and that committee is now selecting which stories to include in the book (and which to remove). A committee has started reviewing the more than 2600 stories that were submitted for the English-language fifth edition. They are reading about 100 stories a month and still discussing what stories in the current text will remain, which will be removed, and which stories could be added.

The target date for completion of these new editions is the 2025 International Convention.

### **Resignation of the Chair of the General Service Board**

The Chair of the General Service Board (a non-alcoholic trustee) has resigned. A letter from AAWS about this resignation is attached to this email. What her resignation means is that the first vice chair of the board, a Class B (alcoholic) Trustee named Jimmy, will serve as interim chair of the Board through the General Service Conference this year. The second vice chair (Francis, also a Class B Trustee) will help with those responsibilities. The chair of the board runs the meetings of the General Service Board (which consists of the Class A and Class B Trustees). Often, the chair has been a Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustee. But there have been Class B Trustees in the long-ago past (in the 1930s). If you or members of your groups or districts have any questions about this, please feel free to reach out to me.

I have attached a letter from the interim chair of the board about this information.

**PRAASA (Pacific Region AA Service Assembly)**

PRAASA is a once-a-year service assembly that brings together the Pacific Region - this encompasses Alaska, Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and parts of Western Montana. This year, PRAASA will be held in Los Angeles (near LAX) between March 3 and 5.

The purpose of PRAASA is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, and Areas of the Pacific Region, to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences, and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA.

Registration is now open, as is hotel registration. Pre-registration is encouraged (but not required) and can be done at [www.praasa.org](http://www.praasa.org).

**Quarterly Report from the Regional Trustee**

I have also attached to this email a report from our new Regional Trustee, Reilly. She sends these reports after meetings with the General Service Board. The most recent board meeting was in late January which has a lot of detail that might interest some members. Please note that this report is confidential and is not to be shared outside of the Fellowship.

If you have any questions about anything, or would just like to chat, feel free to call, email, text, WhatsApp... I remain accessible to all who reach out.

In service,  
Eric

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Eric L.  
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