

Hello Fellowship,

I would like to share with you one of the Additional Considerations, from the 65th General Service Conference, about the participation from our Fellow members in support of the Grapevine and La Viña.

The committee discussed ways to increase organization-wide support for Grapevine and La Viña and suggested that:

1. Areas champion and embrace Grapevine/La Viña as the International Journals of A.A. through consistent narrative support in all relevant presentations, reports, announcements, newsletters and letters.

2. All A.A. entities be offered the opportunity to include a GV/LV link (with or without images) on local/area websites.

3. All areas participate in AAGV Inc.'s 2015 Subscription Challenge.

On the 18th and 19th of July 2015 we have just celebrated the 19th Anniversary of La Viña and sang happy birthday to Grapevine for celebrating 71 years. In La Viña anniversaries we have accomplished our goal by having members subscribe to La Viña when they get registered.

For example, 15th anniversary hosted by Area 93(806), Area 92 16th (604), Area 09 17th (895), Area 42 18th (820), and our Area CNCA 06 19th Anniversary (1,200), total subscriptions (4,325). Next year the 20th anniversary will be hosted in Area 03 Arizona. Also

I would like to encourage everyone to participate in our 7 minute recording of a story you have experienced to support the grapevine. For example, this was an experience that had happened to me not too long ago. I went to go buy some lunch and there was a homeless man outside of the building shaking asking me for money to buy a beer. I shared with him a bit of my experience how I too was once in his position and he seemed interested. I asked if he wanted help and he said yes. I gave him an option of choosing out of three grapevines which were young and sober, behind bars, and making amends. He chose the grapevine behind bars. I told him if he was serious about getting help I will come back and get him later on in the day. I gave him two dollars to buy a beer to help him with the shaking. I dropped him off where he was currently staying which was a couch on the side of a street in the bushes. I told him I would pick him up in this location later on. A few members and I went back to pick him up and he was there waiting. He got in the car and we brought him to my house and started to take care of him. When we gave him food we had found out that he hadn't eaten for three days. We went to buy him another beer because of his shaking and to allow him to sleep through the night. We took him to the hospital the next day and he should be getting released very soon to be physically ready to get the help he deserves. I was very touched by the way our members were treating him with a lot of love and it reminded me of the Big Book. **“Then you will know what it means to give of yourself that others may survive and rediscover life. You will learn the full meaning of “Love thy neighbor as thy-self.”**

Pg.153 AA Big Book

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Raymundo L.