

Chair Preview: March 2019

And that busy, busy time of the year is now upon us. Much of General Service revolves around the annual Conference in New York, so these next two months, as our Area prepares to send our newly-elected Delegate to New York to represent us, are pretty exciting. And somewhat hectic. Navigating through PRAASA, multiple business meetings, Agenda Topics Workshops, and the numerous other things that help prepare all of us to ensure an informed group conscience can be a daunting chore to those new to General Service.

But that energy which emanates from these discussions will guarantee my sobriety for at least another 24 hours. These topics are the manifestation of the Fellowship identifying an unmet need, and attempting to find a solution to help save someone's life. In AA, the discussions we have today may not always be stimulating, but they do refocus our sobriety on how to ensure that our message is accessible to anyone that needs it.

I am writing this at PRAASA, thinking mostly about how we in AA carry the message – and about how our message saves lives. And I also thinking about these next six weeks and the multiple business meetings we will now navigate – and how to remind myself that the business we discuss helps facilitate the ability to carry our live-saving message.

At our most recent Area Committee Meeting, we continued discussing two motions about compensating translators of our written material (including agendas, minutes, materials in the Comments, and the Agenda Topic Summaries), a motion about requesting the Delegate for specific events, and a motion about providing group consciences to the Delegate electronically. We also continued discussing potential changes to the structure of CNCA.

Those discussions will continue – along with the many discussions we will have at the Pre-Conference Assembly's business meeting. But one discussion we will very likely table is our current Area motion to request a Fifth Edition of the *Big Book*. Because it is currently an Agenda Topic – and we expect a lot of people to share group consciences on this topic – we will probably delay discussion on our specific Area motion until we see what happens at the Conference. Other business – including a request for literature regarding meditation and a request to form a Technology committee – remain on the agenda, and we might even vote.

The afternoon will be dedicated to the Agenda Topics; the Pre-Conference Assembly flyer lists what topics we will discuss each day. I can't wait to hear all the loving discussion on both area business and the Conference topics. This is an experience you absolutely must not miss.

If you are a new GSR, welcome again to Panel 69 and the adventure that is General Service. I think we will have a lot of fun, and that we will do a lot of good.

Thank you for your service,
Eric L.
CNCA Chair Panel 69