

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM A.A.W.S.

MARCH 14, 2014

The A.A. World Services Board met on Friday, March 14, 2014, at the General Service Office in New York, NY. Chair of the A.A.W.S. Board, J. Gary L. opened the meeting, warmly welcomed all in attendance, and asked for a moment of silence to remember Marty Watters, A.A.W.S. Trustee Director who passed on March 4, 2014.

## **Manager's Report**

The General Service Conference is very much on our minds; with 60 agenda items scheduled for consideration, we should have a very busy and exciting time of love and service!

Celebrating the Big Book's 75th year – The General Service Office is developing communication pieces to be distributed within the Fellowship and the media; preparing displays and presentations, and a planning a special celebration at the General Service Conference.

Archives - The spring 2014 edition of the Archives newsletter, *Markings* was recently released to subscribers. Formerly sub-titled, "Your Archives Interchange," the spring edition is the first to carry the publication's new sub-title, "Your Archives eNewsletter."

Human Resources – The General Service Office welcomed David Rosen, the newly hired Licensing Manager, on March 4, 2014. A veteran of the trade book publishing business for more than two decades, David will be responsible for managing A.A. World Services and A.A. Grapevine translations and licensing functions.

Support Services/Records - Publication of the Intergroup/Central Office directories is expected to be completed in about four weeks.

## **Services**

A.A.W.S. approved adding disclaimer language about links to external Web sites to the print versions of *Box 4-5-9* and *Markings*, going forward and to the anchor Web pages on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) for each newsletter in the Web site redesign.

## **Publishing**

Sales – For the two months ended February 28, 2014, total gross sales were reported at \$2,114,739.

75th Anniversary Commemorative Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous – By the end of the preorder deadline of February 28, we received preorders for more than 100,000 units of the special edition Big Book. Preorders will start shipping on or about April 1, 2014, and our warehouses have been instructed to distribute all pre-orders by April 15, 2014.

Digital Publishing Program – The digital publishing program has added new titles and seen steady sales. Currently, the Big Book and Twelve & Twelve (in English and French) are published on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Apple iTunes stores, with the Big Book in Spanish to follow.

## Finance

A.A.W.S. approved the transfer of \$2,651,267.03 to the General Fund to cover the 2013 General Fund deficit for 2013.

The unaudited financial report for the one month ended January 31, 2014 reflected:

Net sales	\$1,013,307
Gross Profit (Literature)	\$ 646,329
Contributions	\$ 682,442
Total operating expenses	\$1,125,366

## Other

General Service Office Technology – The Recurring Contributions Project and the Website Redesign Project are near completion. Both sites are expected to launch before the General Service Conference in April 2014.

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