

GSO

Speaking of the **General Service Conference**, this annual event will take place from April 22-29 in New York. I am eagerly anticipating my second conference as your delegate and am looking forward to reporting back at the May assembly the events that transpired there.

It was my privilege, during the extended weekend of January 25-29 to attend the **quarterly meeting of the General Service Board in New York**. All of the delegates who were elected to chair their respective conference committees were invited as guests to the weekend. It was quite a humbling weekend. I am pleased to report that we are represented by some very knowledgeable and talented folks at GSO. The delegates sat in on the meetings of the various Trustees Committees and listened as trustees and GSO staff conducted their business. The delegate chairs were invited as guest observers and had no input or vote on any of the issues that came before the Board. Several delegates shared afterward that they were "chomping at the bit" to add their two cents, but had to sit mute. I echo their sentiments. You may be assured that even seemingly minor items are discussed and debated to the "nth" degree. All of this in a very civil and professional manner even while discussing the most contentious issues. I feel that we are well served by our trusted servants of the General Service Board.

Our **G.S.O. Archives** desk reports that it is in receipt of archival material recently donated by the International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (ICYPAA). Among the many items is a Big Book inscribed in August 1968 by Bill W. to "A.A.'s young people."

Quick Facts

- ❖ February, 1940: Bert T. and Horace C. establish the first A. A. Clubhouse at 334 West 24th Street, New York, NY. (*Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, p. 180. Pass It On, p.238.)
- ❖ The first ICYPAA was held in Niagara Falls, NY in April, 1958.
- ❖ According to information in A.A. Archives, the first two Chairs of the General Service Board were alcoholics: William R. from August 1938 to January 1939, and Harry B. from January 1939 to January 1940.
- ❖ You can digitally visit the historic home of Bill and Lois W. at www.steppingstones.org/

Submitted in Love and Service,
Jimmy Sell, Area 45 Delegate