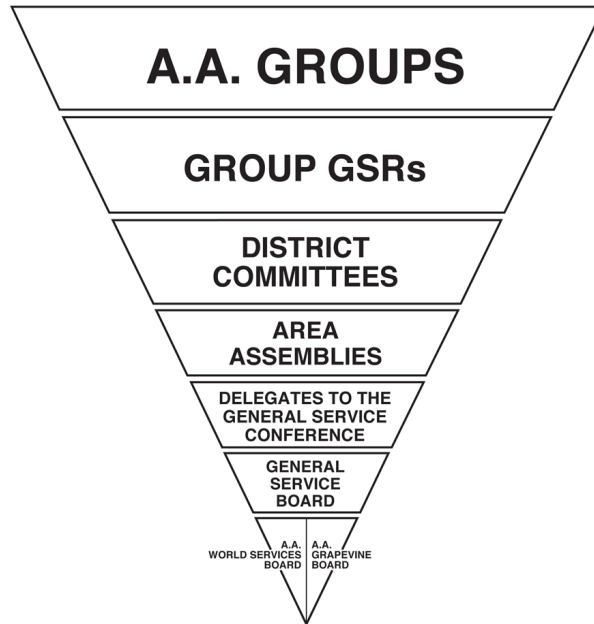


When you are a GSR you are linking your group with the entirety of AA. You transmit ideas and opinions as well as facts; through you, the GSR, your group's conscience becomes part of "the collective group conscience of our whole Fellowship," as expressed in the General Service Conference. So, how does this all work? It works through a series of simple steps. The exciting ones are about to happen right here in your neighborhood!

STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE
(U.S. and Canada)



Group members (top of the triangle) from all over the U.S. and Canada send ideas to the General Service Board (bottom of the triangle) that they would like to have considered by the Conference. The General Service Board consists of 7 Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustees and 14 Class B (alcoholic) Trustees. Many times these ideas are best filtered through the Districts and Areas to help obtain clarity and conciseness, but they don't have to be. You could sit down and write one tonight.

The ideas are then sent to the appropriate Trustee Committee for consideration. Then the Trustee Committee either sends them to the conference, or if necessary, refers them for further study (ie: cost, implementation, etc.). This process allows the Conference to act on the item when it is received. The Conference consists of 93 Delegates (one from each Area of the U.S. and Canada), Trustees and some A.A. staff members. For reference, we are District 12 in Area 09.

Before the Conference takes place the Agenda items and explanations (background material) are sent out each of the 93 Areas in the U.S. and Canada. The Area then passes this along to the Districts and Groups to allow the GSR's to get a group conscience for their particular group. Each group can decide which items they want to discuss. The GSR then takes that Group Conscience to the Area Pre-Conference Workshop to allow our Area to get a Group Conscience. The Delegate from our Area takes that Group Conscience to the Conference and shares our Area's thoughts and opinions with everyone at the Conference. Our Delegate has a vote on each item at the General Service Conference.