

DELEGATE'S REPORT
On the 59th General Service Conference
April 26-May 2, 2009

Skidway Lake
6/07/09

Welcome everyone to Skidway Lake. It is truly an honor and a privilege to stand before you today as your delegate to the 59th General Service Conference. Attending the Conference for the first time is a humbling experience. Being in the same room with all the delegates and trustees from the U.S. and Canada, the board of directors and the staff from the General Service and Grapevine Offices, makes one realize just how important the Conference is to our entire fellowship. It took a couple of days to adjust, but with help of the Panel 58 delegates we 59's were made to feel quite at home.

The week started out with an orientation and all the pertinent information we would need for the week handed out to us. The Conference started out by delegates attending workshops in the morning then reporting in the after noon on the results and thoughts as a result.

Next came the committee meetings. This is where the input and discussion from the fellowship is shared on each of the agenda items for the committee. The Agenda Committee, which I sat on began meeting on Monday morning. In the afternoon we heard from all the first year delegates and their area highlights. There were times for breaks where we could go out and have time to relax. A couple of the highlights were when Pam R., from area 33 was elected as our next East Central Regional Trustee, meeting with many of the delegates from Canada, especially from Quebec, on Wednesday evening after the Conference delegates and quest from two regions, went to the Stardust Dinner for ice cream and during the week we spent about half of an afternoon visiting the General Service Office and the Grapevine Office

The Committee Reports and Discussion began Wednesday evening at 7:30pm. As the week progressed, it became apparent we were running behind in the amount of time it was taking to get through the reports and discussions. It was decided to start earlier in the morning and work later into the evening. By the end of the week we were so far behind, in order to finish with all debate and voting, the Conference did not end until 2:30am Saturday morning. The closing Brunch and remarks began at 8:00am bringing to a close to the 59th General Service Conference. Dorothy W. gave a moving presentation and farewell as the outgoing Trustee At Large U.S. It was during her talk that she let everyone know how grateful she is to Alcoholics Anonymous for the privilege of serving and what the program has given to her. She remarked how much joy she felt giving her last address to the Conference as she rotates off the board and was blessed to have her daughter share the moment with her as a panel 59 delegate attending her first Conference at this her last.

I have been truly honored and blessed to be allowed to serve our fellowship as delegate for Area 32 on the 59th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in Service,

Michael A. K.
Delegate P59/A32