AREA o5 SCAAN SPRING 2018

Statement of Purpose: To inform SCAA members and the AA fellowship at large, of selected items from GSO, the Area and items of general interest from the Districts.

I Thought My Life Was Over

When I came to A.A. at 19 years old, I thought my life was over. I had called central office in Oakland, California and spoke with some guy for almost 20 minutes – I started to talk myself out of having a drinking problem. I never drank alone, I told him; I never drank in the morning. I started to hang up the phone and he screamed, "NO! Don't hang up!" (I didn't) He told me that his name was Larry, and he was 20 years old, and that he had 4 years sober. He promised that if he could get sober, I could too. He picked me on the corner near my house, in a truck with music and two other sober kids, and we drove together to my first meeting. I often say that my life began on that day, with that call, and that drive. My whole sobriety has been echoed with that first week sober.

Last year, I rented a car and 3 of us from my district hopped in and drove up to Sacramento for PRAASA. We told stories, played music, laughed, I nearly lost my mind when we found out our hotel was overbooked, I took deep breaths and handled it, and I showed up to PRAASA, participating in sharing sessions, panels, laughter and fel-

lowship. I met a GSR from Hawaii and we talked about my being Hawaiian, about General Service in Hawaii, the great talk his delegate Bob gave, and how the GSR was there with his wife, Deborah. They met through General Service. He told me that they knew my cousin, who struggled with staying sober for many years until he passed away. The next day after the final panel at PRAASA, I was grabbed (gently) from behind by the arm by a woman I hadn't met but knew was Hawaiian - I asked if she was Deborah and she laughed and we embraced for a full minute. I'm not sure why, but when we pulled back, both of us had tears in our eyes. It was an immediate connection - sisterly love. She told me that she wished my husband and I could come to Hawaii so we could surf – dedicate a paddle-out



to my cousin. When I got home from PRAASA, I told my husband that we needed to go to Hawaii instead of Thailand – it was one of those decisions that was of my god (spirit of the universe, good orderly direction), like calling Central office all those years ago, like getting involved in young people's committee work, getting involved in General Service, going to this one meeting (out of the blue) where I met my husband. I texted Deborah and she sent me a picture of herself smiling. She asked me to speak





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at her home group – Xfactah on Oahu, and – get this – Bob the delegate came out, his sponsee, her husband, her best friend, and a couple others – all to welcome me. ME. I have tears as I write this. When I came in to A.A., I thought my life was over. I had a shaved head, a bad attitude, wore nothing but black makeup and clothes, was pretty sure I had scabies and was definitely sure I had nothing to offer anyone. No one wanted me around except A.A. They say A.A. isn't for people that need it, but for people that want it. But I heard someone say that many folks who want it can't get it. That it's for people who *do* it. Every good thing that's ever happened to me - Friendship, purpose, adventure, love – has been as a result of just showing up. Who I am, how I am, was formed through showing up, participating, and being open to new experiences.

This year, I went to PRAASA with one of my best friends who I met as a result of this work. We told stories, laughed SO MUCH, played road games, got almost lost in a snow storm, and laughed some more. I attended sharing sessions and panels, learned about myself and learned about the joys of service – even when others share beliefs I don't agree with.

On the road of recovery, I've had ups and downs, pit stops and detours, seen amazing things. PRAASA is not the only thing on that landscape, but my life is enriched by the new friendships, experiences, and insights I've had by simply showing up for it. Can't wait for PRAASA 2019 and what adventures it will bring!

Today I Want to Give Back

I am part of the change that started in Area 05 from our Alcoholic Anonymous Hispanic speaking community. Since December of 2015, a group of Hispanic women who saw the need to reach out to Spanish-speaking alcoholic women who are still suffering, a remote community, according to AA General Services. This movement has been getting stronger every day thanks to having a vision, and the work and perseverance it takes.

My name is Maria G. My first years in recovery were in a beautiful and distant South American country. Thanks to being bilingual, and arriving in the United States to reside in Los Angeles I had the opportunity immediately to participate in English-speaking meetings. After a few years, and under the suggestion of my sponsor at that time, I started to attend meetings for women only, something that did not exist in my country of origin. When I came to AA I thought that alcoholic women like me, could not be good friends, were merely the competition, and were not trustworthy, etc. This old idea began to change over time. I started to identify with my fellow "compañeras"; friendships began as I worked with them, and shared and listened about our experience, strength and hope. Spiritual growth happened thanks to this new experience in AA. Something I want every woman to experience.

As I started to participate in General Service and attend Assemblies in our Area, I served as a GSR and on the Translation Committee. One thing that caught my attention was the lack of participation of women in Hispanic districts as well as the lack of meetings being offered for Hispanic women. I brought my observations to discussions with our Area Secretary Zoraida who was also beginning to take steps towards looking to create something for Hispanic women. As the idea of the first workshop for Hispanic women was being developed, I was able to participate in this committee. This past December the Second Annual Hispanic Women's Workshop was held. The feedback we received about the need for opportunities like this was very strong. Now, thanks to the support of many in furthering this work, we were able to bring it home to our own district, three years later. Friday the 13 of April, Valerie G., DCM of District 18 and I held the first ever Hispanic Women's meeting in District 18, only the 5th meeting open in our Area 05!

While we have encountered obstacles along the way, we are moving forward and not looking back! Alcoholics Anonymous has given me a life beyond my wildest dreams. Today I want to give back.

With lots of love and service, Maria G., Alt. DCM District 18



PRAASA 2018 Presentation – Panel 1 Thomas B. - Southern California Area 05 Court Referrals – Carrying the Message of AA

My name is Thomas B. and I am an alcoholic. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, and to represent the collective voice of the 1,500 groups and 47,000 members of Southern California Area 5 as their Panel 67 Delegate. I also presently serve as the Chairperson of the 68th Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community or CPC.

So my topic today is Court Referrals - Carrying the Message of AA

A.A. first began cooperating with law enforcement agencies in 1942, when members from San Francisco brought the first A.A. meeting into San Quentin Prison at the request of the Warden.

This example led to A.A.'s cooperation with court systems, including *direct communications with judges and parole and probation officials. The sole purpose of this Twelfth Step work*, then and now, *is to carry A.A.'s message to the suffering alcoholic.* To fulfill that purpose, we have learned to share information about Alcoholics Anonymous within court systems.

This is the work of "CPC" -- Cooperation with the Professional Community. CPC work carries the message to the sick alcoholic through sharing information about the A.A. program with professionals who have contact with alcoholics. This work provides mutual understanding and cooperation between our Fellowship and others concerned about help for the alcoholic.

So today as a result, probation and parole officers, as well as judges, often require people with alcohol-related offenses to attend A.A. meetings. And there are a great number of "safe driving" programs to help drivers in trouble with the law for drinking and driving. A.A. groups offer these people a *chance* to learn about A.A., and countless thousands of these court card attendees are now sober members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

In fact, I am one of those.

Now, some of our members have the mistaken impression that court and DUI programs "affiliate" A.A. with outside enterprises, or constitute "endorsement". But our cooperation with these programs no more constitutes "affiliation" or "endorsement" than do A.A. meetings held in hospitals or prisons.

Still other members cite the Third Tradition and complain that mandatory attendance at A.A. meetings by court-referrals is ruining A.A. They point out that to get well "we really had to want it <u>for ourselves</u>".

Yet there are countless members who are first referred to Alcoholics Anonymous by their employer, family, friends or doctor. In A.A., we are not concerned about who or what first brings the alcoholic to us. Our responsibility is to show A.A. as a way of life, so that all newcomers who need it might want it, regardless of how they got to the meeting.

Even so there are today a group of folks who are making a concerted effort to rewrite our **service guidelines** to save the

A.A. groups from these "unwashed hordes" of court card people. They seek to limit groups' cooperation with these outside programs and to restrict court-ordered access to A.A. meetings. They cite safety issues, the influx of felons and probationers, and the lack of sincerity of these problem people as elements sure to ruin A.A. for the rest of us.

Well, to be clear: I am a felon. I was a probationer and a court card attendee. Alcoholics Anonymous saved my life. I am glad I was welcomed. Had I been rigorously vetted at the door, had the doors of my meeting been closed to me, I would be dead to-day.

All these fearful objections bring us to a fundamental question of who we are as a Fellowship, and what we value. Is our Fellowship a group of social clubs where insiders guard the doors to prevent those we judge unworthy from entering? Or are we a *Society of Alcoholics in Action*, extending the *bright hope* of Alcoholics Anonymous to all those who may need and want and be willing to receive it?

Yes there *are* problems with court referrals.

But our solution has always been a spiritual one.

Our legacy of unity captures A.A.'s greatest gift: the recognition that we are all bound together in ways that are invisible to the eye; that there is a oneness to all who suffer from the disease of alcoholism; that we of Alcoholics Anonymous <u>achieve</u> <u>ourselves by sharing ourselves with others</u>, <u>extending ourselves in compassion and caring for those around us</u>. Love and effort and selfless giving of ourselves in service to this sacred task underlies all we do.

That was the spirit that served my personal recovery, the spirit that's saved and transformed countless alcoholic lives, the spirit that's brought each of us here through this day.

And I believe that spirit has *always* been there, that *true force* inside each of us. I see it when a sponsor goes out of his way to extend the time and effort to share the message of depth and weight we all carry to a newcomer. I see it when volunteers sign up for Corrections Correspondence or an H&I panel and give of themselves to carry the message behind bars or institutions to those who desperately need and want it.

And I see it in our spirit of love and inclusion, when A.A. group members connect the pain and confusion of a struggling court card newcomer who may not look like them or speak like them or even act like them -- and understand that pain and confusion <u>as their own</u>.

Love and tolerance is our code. That's our Common Welfare. That's where our strength comes from. That's where our courage comes from. When we turn not *from* each other or *on* each other but *towards one another* -- and we find we share a common solution *that binds us TO each other* and that we do not walk alone.

Page 89 of the Big Book states: "Practical experience shows that <u>nothing</u> will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics.... You can help when no one else can....."

For so long as carrying the message to court referrals helps maintain our own sobriety, this kind of message carrying is a <u>success</u>. Our individual and collective responsibility is to make the seed of Alcoholics Anonymous freely available.

What the sufferer does with it is not our responsibility. In A.A. only one "statistic" should interest us - the very next person who may need our help.

Thomas B.

Delegate – Panel 67

Southern California Area 5 – Alcoholics Anonymous

68th Conference Committee Chair – Cooperation with the Professional Community

68th General Service Conference

Quick Reference

Thomas B – Area 05 Delegate@aascaa.org

AGENDA

- 69th GSC Theme will be "Our Big Book 80 Years, 71 Languages"
- Presentation Topics: Yesterday's World Our Legacies Begin, Today's World – Integrity, Anonymity and Service, Tomorrow's World – Courage to be Vigilant.
- Workshop Topic: Clarity of Purpose Addressing the needs of our meetings

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

- Changes to "A.A as a Resource for the Health Care Professional" to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans and active members of the Armed Services, including information on how to contact A.A. worldwide: PASSED
- Changes to "Members of the Clergy Ask Alcoholics Anonymous" to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans and active members of the Armed Services, including information on how to contact A.A. worldwide: PASSED
- Changes to "If you are a Professional" to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans and active members of the Armed Services, including information on how to contact A.A. worldwide: PASSED
- APPROVED: That A.A. World Services, Inc. develop a company page on LinkedIn with the following goals in mind:
- To offer another digital resource, in addition to aa.org, where professionals can find accurate information about A.A.
- To broaden the reach of the About A.A. newsletter for professionals
- To offer a platform where our professional friends may recommend us
- To raise awareness of exhibits staffed by local C.P.C. committees at national and local professional conferences
- To expand the network of our professional friends and deepen the pool of Class A Trustee candidates

 By our presence on LinkedIn, to reinforce the continuing relevance and efficacy of Alcoholics Anonymous to professionals

CORRECTIONS

- Create a Pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration: TOOK NO ACTION
- See Additional Considerations for substantial work in progress

FINANCE

- Develop a method to standardize increases to the limits on individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board: TOOK NO ACTION
- The Conference-approved maximum annual contribution from an individual A.A. member to the General Service Board be increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000 – PASSED

GRAPEVINE

- Consider allowing outside sales of Grapevine books and single issue magazines thus making these lifesaving publications available wherever they may be useful in helping the still suffering alcoholic: PASSED
- Reconsider the 2014 Conference Advisory Action regarding La Viña: La Viña will now be published in full color - PASSED
- Approve revised pamphlet "A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meeting in Print" and change title to "A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meeting in Print and Other Media": PASSED

LITERATURE

- Approve changes to "A.A. for the Woman" and retitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: Women in A.A.: PASSED
- Approve revised pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic" retitled Experience, Strength and Hope: LGBTQ Alcoholics in A.A." PASSED
- Approve changes to "Inside AA.: Understanding the Fellowship and its Services": PASSED

LITERATURE Continued

- Approve draft pamphlet "A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues – and Those Who Sponsor Them": retitled to "Experience, Strength and Hope: A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health issues – and Their Sponsors": PASSED
- Add new section on anonymity to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship": PASSED
- Change subtitle of pamphlet "G.S.R. General Service Representative: May be the Most Important Job in AA" to G.S.R. General Service Representative: Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole": PASSED
- Add removed text regarding medication to <u>Living</u>
 Sober: PASSED
- Update the video "Your General Service Office, The Grapevine and the General Service Structure": DVD: PASSED
- Publish with minor edits, the UK Pamphlet
 "The 'God' Word: Atheists and Agnostics in A.A.":
 PASSED
- Develop a new pamphlet based upon A.A.'s Three Legacies: PASSED
- Develop a pamphlet for Spanish speaking women alcoholics: PASSED

POLICY / ADMISSIONS

- The 71st GSC be held April 25-May 1, 2021
- Process for polling the General Service Conference between Conference meetings: PASSED
- Develop a policy for the use of the Conference dashboard: PASSED

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- Consider the proposed video PSA "Changes": PASSED, as amended
- Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of PSA "Changes" not to exceed \$42,000: PASSED
- Consider a Young People's Video: PASSED

- Consider revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" which expand content on Tradition Eleven and Twelve and adds information on safety: PASSED
- Consider revisions to the pamphlet "A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous" which update language, contact information and information on the prevalence and severity of alcoholism and add information related to safety in A.A.: PASSED

REPORT AND CHARTER

- Add "Panel" to the Glossary of General Service Terms: PASSED
- Add graphics on page S75, above the section A.A World Services, Inc. that visually display positions on each of the 3 corporate boards: PASSED
- Add text regarding standing committees from "The A.A. Group pamphlet": TOOK NO ACTION
- Remove statement from the section Area Newspapers or Bulletins re: use of circle and triangle by groups and districts: TOOK NO ACTION
- Publish Committee Additional Considerations entirely in the printed Conference Final Report and the anonymity-protected version: PASSED

TREATMENT/SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES

- Title of pamphlet Accessibility for all Alcoholics be changed to "Access to AA: Members Share on Overcoming Barriers & approved with add'l revisions.
- Scope of Committee expanded to include remote communities.

TRUSTEES

- Review proposal to censure the General Service Board: TOOK NO ACTION
- Review proposal to reorganize A.A. World Services and General Service Boards: TOOK NO ACTION

ARCHIVES

 The proposed new publication, Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951 – 1970 be approved with minor editorial changes.

AAWS / GSO Reports

- 2017 Contributions record of 8.4 Million, up 6% from 2016 Cost of Services-10.2 Million, up 3%, shortfall: 1.8 Million. Literature sales up 6%, covering shortfall. Reserve Fund is at 9.5 months.
- Cost of services/member: \$7.40, group: \$152.90.
- Grapevine subscriptions continue to decline but GV ended the year positive at \$126,000 with cost of La Viña \$126,000, vs \$152,000 in 2016.
- In 2017 GSO: 71 Big Books translated -more to come. 90 employees daily respond to more than 90,000 emails. Corrections answers over 65,000 letters annually. Archives receives over 1,300 requests.
- A.A. Publishing Department: 8 Million books, pamphlets & audio materials shipped annually & receive over 73,000 contributions (received 8,000 in Dec. alone)
- Big Books sold: 905,000, eBooks 54,790 units sold.
- Website: received over 12 million visits, 1000 visits a day for "Need Help with a Drinking Problem?

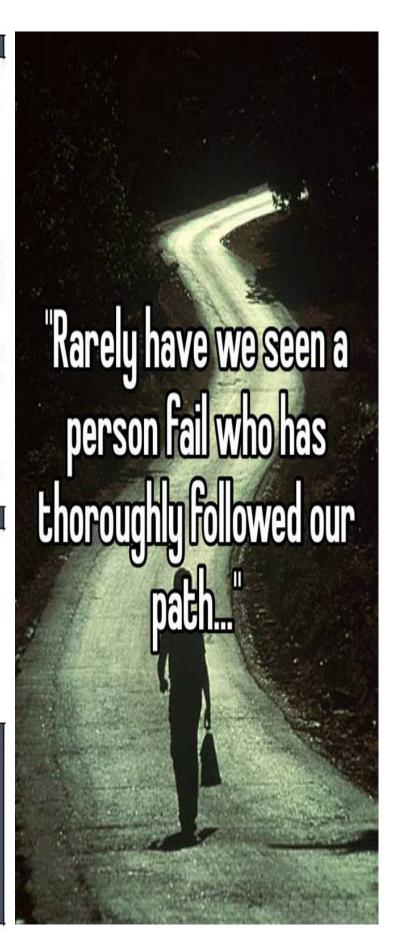
FLOOR ACTIONS

- #1, #3, #5, #7 Declined
- #8 Withdrawn.
 PASSED:
- 2. Update contact text p. 18 pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous"
- · 4. Area Highlights be published in their entirety.

NOT NECESSARY:

. 6. That Conference "reaffirm" authority of GSB

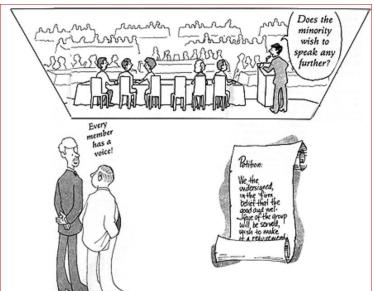
SAVE THE DATE!
DELEGATE'S CONFERENCE REPORT
Area Assembly
John Adams Middle School
2425 16th St. Santa Monica, CA 90405
Hosted by the Westside Combined Districts
Sunday, May 20, 2018
8:00-4:00 PM



May - Concept 5: Throughout our world services structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

Newcomers to A.A.'s ference are often suren by the presiding minority has a second its views. Even after issue, followed by a "substantial unanimiopposed are polled they wish to speak furview. In fact, numercited in which this mipelling the Conference self.

This is A.A.'s "Right of Bill says the same



General Service Conprised at the pains takofficer to make sure the opportunity to present extensive debate on an vote in which a ty" is reached, those individually to see if ther to their minority ous instances can be nority view is so comhas then reversed it-

Appeal" in action, and principle should apply

to meetings of our area committees, trustee committees and boards. On an issue of grave importance, the minority has the actual duty of presenting its views.

This "Right of Appeal" recognizes that minorities frequently can be right; that even when they are in error they still perform a most valuable service when they compel a thorough-going debate on important issues. The well-heard minority, therefore, is our chief protection against an uninformed, misinformed, hasty or angry majority.

"Trusted servants," according to Bill, "do for the groups what the groups cannot or should not do for themselves." And in exercising their "Right of Decision" (see Concept III), trusted servants are almost always "a small but truly qualified minority" — whether in the form of area committees, staffs, boards or even the General Service Conference itself. It is incumbent upon them, therefore, in their own meetings, to pay special deference to the minority voice.

CONCEPTS CHECKLIST

- 1. Do we encourage the minority opinion, the "Right of Appeal," to be heard at our home group, district committee meetings, area assemblies and the Conference?
- 2. What does our group accept as "substantial unanimity*"?
- 3. Has our group experienced the "tyranny of the majority" or the "tyranny of the minority"?
- 4. Does our group understand the importance of all points of view being heard before a vote is taken?
- * u·na·nim·i·ty agreement by all people involved; consensus

AREA 5 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2018 9:00-1:30 PM

Hosted by the Combined Spanish Speaking Districts 3936 Muscatel Ave, Rosemead, CA 91770

8:00 Breakfast Fellowship & Registration

9:00 Call-to-Order

One Minute Silent Meditation, Serenity

Presentation on Concept 1 – Javier F. DCMC CIH

Roll Call - Registrar, Brian P.

Area Committee Meeting (2/25/18)

| | Total | Voting | Non-Voting | Secondary Role* |
|---|-------|--------|------------|--------------------|
| District Committee Members | 15 | 14 | | 1 |
| Alternate District Committee Members | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| District Committee Member Chairs | 3 | 3 | | |
| Alternate District Committee Member Chairs | 1 | | 1 | |
| Committee Chairs | 9 | 7 | | 2 |
| Alternate Committee Chairs | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Area Officers | 6 | 6 | | |
| Past Delegates | 7 | 7 | | |
| Visitors | 18 | | 18 | |
| Subtotal | 67 | 41 | 22 | 4 |
| Adjustment for Individuals Serving in Multiple Roles* | -4 | | | |
| Total Attendance | 63 | | | |

^{*} These individuals serve in another area role (e.g. a Committee Chair that is also a GSR.) So that they are not counted twice, there presence in this role is not being counted towards total attendance.

Motion to Approve the Agenda of the Area Committee Meeting - Area Chairperson, Lauren A. Seconded Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve the Minutes for Area Committee Meeting from November 18, 2017 Seconded Approved Unanimously

DCM and DCMC Reports

Dist. 2, Susan P., DCM – They don't have very many GSR's but the ones they do have are active. They have been reviewing AA information like the Quarterly and Conference Report and went through them to talk about how to extract information for their GSR reports. They had a preconference afternoon last year and will have one again this year. The GSR's want to have a second meeting to review the Concepts. Hopefully that will make another form of outreach available.

Dist. 18, Valarie G., DCM – They are working on having a 4th step workshop. They have extra funds from their PRAASA budget. They have had 2 events this year and this will be their third. They are adding a Spanish Woman's meetings to their district meeting directory. They have extra money to send a GSR to PRAASA but unfortunately nobody can go.

Dist.7, Joe T., DCM – Recently they hosted the Winter Assembly. Last year I said that there is someone in our district who wanted to start a Spanish Women's meeting. One of our GSRs, Nelly A., started it. It is in West Hollywood at the West Hollywood Recovery Center on Thursday nights.

Westside Combined Districts, Sharron S., DCMC— Last year they wanted to make sure that their information was online and that their groups can contribute online and now they are on line. They welcomed in a new treasurer and approved a budget for 2018. Their contributions are good and they are trying to eliminate envelopes and stamps, all things involved with mailing contributions. They are hosting the Spring and Fall Area Assemblies. They booked a date for the Not a Glum Lot Picnic. It's an exciting event on Sunday, June 24th. 600-700 people attend this event. Their attendance was really lacking last year but their efforts have been improving. Beverly spearheaded the effort of Double Up your attendance for Double Scoops. Since their attendance has increased. They have 10 people attending PRAASA. They bought T-shirts for their districts. They pass the can at their district meeting to collect money for meetings that don't have enough to make contributions to GSO. They set-up a group text to send out reminders to their GSR's. The number is 313131. You can text WSC and you will get their text events when they are having events.

Dist. 35, Antonio A., DCM- They are doing everything possible to keep the GSR informed about their service. They have seen how emphatic our delegate is about reaching GSRs. They are visiting 2 groups per week and giving special attention to dark groups. They make their agenda every Monday to schedule group visits. The second Monday they have an assembly with GSR's and committee chairs. The third Monday they study the Concepts and other AA items.

They have a new Spanish Speaking Women's group that meets on Thursdays. This is a group that has their own GSR who is attending their meetings and are registered with the GSO. They are looking forward to distributing the questionnaires. He thinks the 12x12x12 is very important and also the Hispanic Women pamphlet. They are attending the CIH to reach the alcoholic that still suffers. They are waiting for PRAASA. They are going to be of service there.

They thanked the Area because of the emphasis they put on Hispanic groups. They have seen how the Area is working with them. They even speak Spanish. Language shouldn't be a barrier because we all speak the language of the heart

Dist. 34, Teofilo S.P., DCM – We have 2 GSR meetings a month we have 13 groups and 13 GSR's. I have notified all the GSR's about the area events. They made a contribution to attend PRAASA. They are ready to go next weekend. Today, he has 2 GSR's, a La Viña representative, Alt. DCM and himself present today. There will be about 10 people from his district attending PRAASA.

Dist. 30, Bea D., DCM – She visited 15-20 meetings in her district since the last ACM. They increased GSR's by 10 and lost 4. Their attendance is increasing. She is grateful that the Area Chairperson, Lauren, and Juan M. visited their meeting. Their district sponsors 4 step workshops every 2 months and their attendance keeps growing. Her and her alternate will go to PRAASA.

Dist. 4, Amy O., Alt. DCM – She and Miguel will be attending PRAASA. They have had a lot of officers from the area visit their meeting, Brian, Zoraida, Lauren, Thomas S. Their group really appreciated their visits and got a lot out of their shares.

Dist. 49, Jose S., DCM – They are continuing to visit their groups. They visit an average of 11-15 groups a month. They have 2 officer meetings the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month. They have GSR meetings 2 times a month. They also meet with the CIH where they report about their district and find out about our area events. They are hosting the 4 Committees event tentatively on August 12th. They are working in unity with all the other Spanish Districts. They are visiting the districts and 4 of them are ready to attend PRAASA.

Dist.15, Mike V., DCM – He was overwhelmed with his 8 GSR's who attended their district meeting. His home group is the Culver City Studio Group and he shares information with them. He wants to invite the DCM from Dist. 5 to attend this meeting and put out a pitch. He gives his GSR's the information he gets from the area.

Dist. 50, Francisco, DCM — They are visiting 2 groups a week and motivating their GSR's to attend area assemblies and district meetings. We talk to them about how important it is to share information with their groups about General Service. They talk to them about the importance of safety and the Traditions in their groups. They have 10 groups and a new one that is working on finding a location. They used to meet at a McDonalds. So now we will have 11 groups. The district will be the host for the quarterly workshop. You are all invited to attend. The flyers are in English and Spanish at the back of the room. They will be hosting the 40th Hispanic Forum. They will invite everyone in Area 05 to attend. They meet on Saturdays. They study the Service Manual for an hour. They also meet on Mondays. We have our fellow members ready to attend PRAASA and will bring back information to share.

Dist. 33, Bill L., DCM – They go to the CIH and keep their groups informed. They bring their groups information like the SCAAN and Box 459. They have 26 groups and an attendance of 15. They will support the CIH with other events. The PI committee is working to run an add on the radio. New GSR's are coming to the district. They are meeting their GSR. They welcomed the new women's group, Un Dia a la Vez. They invited the Delegate and La Viña rep from Area 93 to come and show them how to have a successful writing workshop. They will help the PI committee at the LA County fair. He will serve as a liaison to the Foothill Roundup and the LA 2019 Forum.

Hollywood Wilshire Downtown Combined Dist., Jennifer K., DCMC – Thanked everyone who comes to visit their districts, the officers, past delegates, and other committee members. Just like getting sober, sometimes it takes different voices to hear something we've been hearing for a while. Lauren came and spoke about the 4 Area Sharing Session and the importance of participation in different Area and District activities. Mary T. came and talked about the group conscience process. We had extra people who came to find out how to hold a group conscience. People come to just find out what we're doing at the district. People are interested about what we're doing here. Julie told me that the Shakers group had a group conscience and made space available to host a Spanish women's meeting. The Skid Row Drifters need a location. They meet every day and need to find a meeting place for the people who live on Skid Row to come and find recovery. They have a website. Combinedhollywood.org. They developed a new pamphlet on how they can help groups. It's about all the different ways of how a group can be stronger by being connected. It states all the things that GS can help with. They have a brunch coming up on March 24th at the Hollywood and Service Summer camp on October 5-7.

Dist. 3, Lisa M. – DCM - They had a successful safety workshop with Dist.13, 4, and Hollywood combined. Their attendance was about 100 people and they had Spanish translation. The main interest was singleness of purpose and people wanted to address sharing about alcohol and drug. They are excited for PRAASA. They have 6 people going on scholarships and others are going on their own. They have about 25-30 people every month. They are visiting a concept a month. Jane is really big on encouraging service sponsorship at every meeting. They have a raffle and give away AA literature. They participated in the 3rd Legacy meeting. They have an email list that she sends out and anyone can get on it. She includes links with maps. She gave credit to Brian their past DCM. If anyone has any suggestions she welcomed them to talk to her.

Dist. 55, Anselmo A., DCM – They are visiting 3 groups a week. They are ready to go to PRAASA. 20 members are going to PRAASA, including all of their officers, committee chairs, GSR's, and group members.

Comite Interdistrital Hispano, Javier, DCMC – They have had many activities this month – They held a district's inventory at area 93. They had a 4-committee event at CIH. They turned in an inventory report for Dist.49. They met with the officers of the CIH. They have a meeting with DCM's and their Alternates. They have study meetings of the Concepts. They have a meeting with the officers to get acquainted with assembly topics once a month. We discuss the information our Delegate gives us, like PRAASA, the Quarterly report, and the Pacific Regional Forum. They visit the district meetings and inform them about upcoming events. It's a lot of work.

Officer Reports:

Alt. Delegate (includes Audit Subcommittee Report), Thomas S. – He serves as the CFO and reviews the work of the Treasurers and they are doing an exceptional job. Our Revenue exceeded our expenses. They had a surplus of revenue of approximately 33 hundred dollars.

He will be presenting at PRAASA about What is Censure and why would we use it? He has been studying it. We are aware as a body that the Conference holds the power over General Service Board with the purse. However, there is another recourse called Censure and you will have to go to PRAASA to get more information.

Since our last gathering he has attended Central Office and attempted to visit the Spanish Central Office but they were closed. He was at the last assembly and lead a round table on diversity at the 4 Area Sharing Session. He went to the Intergroup meeting. Attended Hollywood Combined District and District 3's Safety Workshop.

He will attend the CIH and the Brunch of Drunks hosted by the Combined Hollywood. He will visit your district if invited.

Registrar, Brian P. – Reminded everyone to register. He has visited the Westside Combined, CIH, Districts 4, 3, 50. He went to the Central Office and met with the Directory committee. They presented us with an opportunity to cooperate. He also visited Dist.18 and went to an awesome Safety Workshop which was well attended. Thanked everyone for all registration updates. He is enjoying registering all the new Spanish Women's groups and he heard of a Chinese group in Hollywood.

Lisa gave me shout out for the email listing but Terry C. actually started it and I added events to it and Lisa has added to it. Everyone can add to it. He sent out Rosters via email.

He will be the timer for the Delegate's Panel at PRAASA.

Secretary, Zoraida R. Since our last ACM, she visited the Westside Combined, CIH, Dist. 3, Dist. 50, Dist. 18, and Dist. 35. She attended the 3rd Legacy meeting, Safety Workshop - Hosted by Dist. 3, 13, & Hollywood Combined, and the 4 Area Sharing Session. She has visited all the Area districts except for 1 last year and is starting her rotation again this year. She has already visited a few districts a second time this year. Please schedule a visit with her.

Teddy, the Alternate Delegate of Area of is chairing a committee focused on outreach for the Pacific Regional Forum. She was asked to be his Southern California and Spanish Speaking liaison for the committee. She is honored because she is the only liaison in Southern Ca and gets to speak with General Service members in different areas. They've been having conference calls and plan on having a hospitality room at PRAASA.

Also, she will be representing Area o5 at PRAASA this year. She was asked to speak on Panel 5 Saturday at 8am on Society in Action: A Success Story of Reaching Spanish Speaking Women.

Here are a few highlights from the Last ACM which can be found in the minutes. Please share them with others.

Dist. 30, Lori Ann M. - Alt DCM — Shared that They had success with heir 4th step workshop and are reaching out to new people. They are getting increased participation at their district. They have young people participating in their district. They will host a Traditions workshop in the spring.

Hollywood combined – Jennifer and Dist. 35, Antonio A., DCM shared about helping her districts to stay focused on serving the alcoholics in their districts.

Accounts Treasurer, Terry C. - Gave both his report and Doug's Contribution report because Doug was not at the ACM.

His report and Doug's report must match and they do. No one here does anything alone, the delegate and audit subcommittee work on the reports.

Motion to Approve of the Contributions Report/2nd by the Finance Chair, Shaun/Approved Unanimously

Motion to approve the Accounts Treasurer Report/2nd by the Finance Chair, Shaun/Approved Unanimously

Chairperson, **Lauren A.** - We had a great 4 Area DCM Sharing Session. We had 15 DCM's and DCMC's and 23 GSR's and others which includes 7 Past Delegates and a total of 113 people. We hosted 8, 9, and 93 and we got great feedback from the other areas. Thanked Zoraida, Brian, Dia, Bea and Lori for helping prepare for the event. Thanked Nadine for the lunch. She will be presenting at PRAASA on Remote Communities and sponsorship. The Friday night PRAASA dinner will be at the Rotisserie restaurant on Friday at 5:00 pm. She is looking forward to the Pre-conference Workshop.

Delegate's Report, Thomas B. – Reported on the Final Conference Agenda Report – Passed out Background information on CD's which is AA confidential to Area Committee Members. The material is confidential. Went over handouts he bought for the body: A Final Agenda, Questionnaires, Suggestions on how to conduct a group conscience, his written report, and the newsletter.

He had a profoundly rewarding and productive Board weekend in New York with the Trustees of the General Service Board, non-trustee directors of AAWS and AA Grapevine, GSO and Grapevine staff assigned to Conference, and the other Delegate chairs of the Conference Committees for the 68th General Service Conference.

It was a pleasure and a reward to spend the weekend working and spending time with these trusted servants as friends and partners in a common effort. This weekend gave him a solid look at the workings underlying the bold experiment of our AA service structure, and an inspiring view of the tireless commitment to our A.A. movement and rigorous integrity of all involved.

This weekend proved for him the principle that A.A. is not yet finished, that we are a dynamic movement, a society of Alcoholics in action, that we are indeed strong enough to be self-critical, that through our Conference process we can look upon our imperfections and decide that it is in our power to improve our services and the means and effectiveness by which we carry the message of hope and recovery to ever more closely align with our highest cherished spiritual principles and ideals.

Tremendous work was done on every committee and there is and will be a lot to talk about leading up to the release of the Final Conference Agenda on or about February 15, 2018. He is greatly pleased with the work and results coming out of the Trustees' Committee on CPC - Treatment -Accessibilities, in which he had a seat at the committee table and an active voice.

He is also grateful for the many hours spent with the CPC Coordinator, Jeff W., and his extensive work and diligent preparation as staff secretary of the Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community. Jeff will be our specially invited guest at this year's Preconference, and he cannot wait for you all to meet him.

He was permitted to speak in clarification and advocacy on behalf of both of Area 5's suggestions at the Literature Committee meeting: to develop a pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women alcoholics and to develop a new book combining the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Following robust discussion and debate on each item, he is pleased to report that both suggestions were forwarded to Conference by vote of the Trustees' Literature Committee and will be on the agenda for the 68th General Service Conference. He's glad he was there and was able to speak about them.

Reviewed financial and budgetary information from the Board meeting.

He went to the 4 Area Sharing Session and gave the keynote address. Thanked the committee who worked on the Sharing Session. Also helped the Central Office take an inventory. Shared about the benefits of taking inventory. The group newsletter is helping groups getting involved and interested in General Service. It is posted online.

These are the Questioners that he wants to receive from each DCM and GSR. They serve the purpose of preparing him to carry our group conscience to the Conference and to educate our AA members. You must take the time to read the background and understand what the background is. He wants the background to be a reference for those who received the it to see them and review them. He will prepare a paragraph for each topic and the background will be available for reference. It is suggested that each GSR handout the background to their members and give them time to review it before asking them for their opinions.

Reviewed the items. Since he serves on the CPC committee he will have a direct say on those matters.

It's important to reach professionals because it lets them know who we are and what we do.

Reviewed the Questionnaire and Agenda Items background information.

- 1. Review Trustee's Committee Report regarding LinkedIn as a platform for reaching professionals
- 2. Consider request to create a pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration.
- 3. Consider developing a method to standardize increases to the limits on voluntary individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board.
- 4. Review report on 2004 Conference Advisory Action on Outside Sales
- 5. Consider proposed revisions to the Big Book of *Alcoholics Anonymous*:
 - a. Request to add an appendix reflecting recognition received from the Library of Congress \Box
 - b. Request to add the A.A. Preamble and Responsibility Statement

- c. Request to add an endnote to Bill W.'s story acknowledging co-founder, Bob S.
- 6. Consider request for the development of a new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women alcoholics.
- 7. Consider request for the development of a new book combining *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* with *Twelve Concepts for World Service*.
- 8. Literature Agenda Items VI B & C.
 - B. Consider request that A.A. (U.S./Canada) publish "The God Word" (a pamphlet currently published by the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Great Britain).
 - C. Consider request for the development of a pamphlet for atheist and agnostic A.A. Members.
- 9. Review the 2017 trustees' Public Information Committee Report on use Google AdWords and Google Grants to carry the A.A. message.
- 10. Cooperation with the Professional Community Agenda Items B, C, and D
 - B. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional."
 - C. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous."
 - D. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "If You Are a Professional..."
- 11. Reconsider the 2010 Advisory Action regarding La Viña

Focus: To achieve greater *spiritual parity* with the AA Grapevine by publishing La Viña in color.

Review draft of proposed publication, Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951 –1970.

One thing that's not on the agenda has to do with the Board Censure thing. We're going to be having a workshop at the Conference about what the Board duties are. We empower them to act when emergency arises. How can we better communicate when those things happen? Having attended the Board weekend, he is convinced that they are working very hard for the welfare of our groups and the maintenance of AA and our ability to carry the message. He is so impressed with the integrity of those folks there. The last thing he wants to see is an uninformed discussion which can be inflammatory, divisive distrust of our fellowship and the way it operates. What will be informative is the panel at PRAASA but to ask for public shaming by the fellowship. Our primary job is not to blame and punish. If that becomes the major issue at this year's conference we will have failed our fellowship. What I found to be successful is for GSR's to make copies and make the questionnaires available to their members and have discussions. These will be online so you can respond to them directly. They will be posted the first week after PRAASA. He appreciates your support.

Panel Presentation: "Informed Group Conscience - The Voice of AA, how to obtain informed Group Consciences for upcoming 68th GSC" and Q&A presented by your Past Delegates

Old Business:

Financial Guidelines Presented to the ACM - Shawn A. Finance Chair

Q&A:

Motion to add these guidelines to the Financial Guidelines and submit the other 4 items to the Guidelines and Policies Committee./**Seconded/Discussion**

Friendly Amendment made by Brian P. to include in the mileage reimbursement item "unless the purpose of attendance is to do area business." /**Accepted**

Friendly Amendment made by Mary T. Requested that the part of the motion about the 4 items submitted to Guidelines and Policies be removed until we can see what exactly will be turned over to Guidelines and Policies. /**Accepted**

Discussion

Friendly Amendment made be Terri C. to remove number 11. Mileage Clause from the Financial Guidelines. /Seconded

Accepted

Vote All in Favor of voting on the motion to include # 4, #8, and #15 from the handout of the Financial Guidelines and exclude # 11 Mileage for further discussion.

Minority Opinion/Motion to Revote

Revote/Discussion /Motion by Gordy H. to table the Motion until the committee can consider what was discussed

Seconded/Vote/Motion Tabled

Preconference Workshop, Thomas S., Alt Delegate - Scheduled on April 7th and 8th and will be at this location. The Full Agenda for the Conference are available along with the Questionnaire. Please distribute them to your members with copies of how to obtain a group conscience. The Delegate has prepared an outstanding newsletter with information useful to your groups. The Pre-conference will be hosted by Districts 14 and 13. Scott M. will assist in preparation for the workshop. Any General Service Representative that attends the workshop with their secretary and the literature representative, and your Grapevine/La Viña representative will receive a piece of approved literature or Grapevine literature from him. If one of those GSR bring those 3 people plus their central service reps and a veteran from their meeting and or any member of their group who is active on the media will receive a scholarship to the summer camp hosted to the Hollywood Combined or the Mountain High Conference. It will be given to the GSR who brings the most basic and plusses. They must be at the full event.

PRAASA Report - Jennifer S. DCMC HCD

Good and Welfare

Closing: Moment of Silence & Responsibility Statement



Frequently Used Terms

AREA – A geographical division within a state or province; there are seven areas in the state of California; each area is represented by an Area Delegate at the Conference in New York.

AREA ASSEMBLY – A periodic meeting of GSR's, DCM's, DCMC's, Chairpersons of Standing Committees, Area Officers, Delegate and alternates to discuss AA affairs of the area. The Assembly is a basic unit of the General Service Structure and conducts or helps coordinate AA business for the Area.

DCM – The District Committee Member is and experienced GSR elected by the GSR's of the District to represent the groups of the District at Area committee meetings and Area Assemblies. DCM coordinates service activities in the District. The DCM votes in the election of the Area Delegate and officers.

DCMC (DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER CHAIRPERSON) – A large District in a city or county may hold regular meetings led by a DCMC, who serves as the link between the district and the area. Within this large district, there are many district subdivisions as needed to adequately serve the groups. Each of these is called a local district and is served by a DCM who may hold regular meetings of GSR's. The DCMC votes in the election of Area Delegate and officers.

DELEGATE – An AA member of the Assembly who is elected every other year to represent the Area at the annual General Service Conference in New York. SCAA elects it's Delegates at the Fall Assembly meeting of the "even" year. The Delegate is responsible for reporting back to the Area on the Conference.

DISTRICT – A geographical division within an Area. Currently in Southern California there are 37 Districts. A General Service Representative (GSR) represents groups within the district.

GSO – General Service Office in New York often referred to as our "AA Headquarters"

GSR – The General Service Representative is an AA member selected by the group to voice the group's opinion in discussion at the District and Area level. The GSR participates in the election of the District's DCM and also elects the Area Delegate and officers of the Assembly.

A.A. AREA 05 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WINTER 2018 AREA ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Trinity Baptist Church

2040 W. Jefferson Blvd. Los Angeles, 90018

Hosted by District 7

Saturday – January 20, 2018

9:00 Welcome and One Full Minute of Silent Meditation - Serenity Prayer

Call-to-Order

AA Birthdays (October 23, 2017- January 20, 2018)

Roll Call – Registrar, Brian P.

| | Total | Voting | Non-Voting | Secondary Role* |
|---|-------|--------|------------|--------------------|
| General Service Representatives | 60 | 55 | | 5 |
| Alternate General Service Representatives | 5 | 5 | | |
| District Committee Members | 20 | 19 | | 1 |
| Alternate District Committee Members | 9 | 5 | 4 | |
| District Committee Member Chairs | 3 | 3 | | |
| Alternate District Committee Member Chairs | 2 | | 2 | |
| Committee Chairs | 15 | 13 | | 2 |
| Alternate Committee Chairs | 7 | | 4 | 3 |
| Area Officers | 7 | 7 | | |
| Past Delegates | 6 | 6 | | |
| Visitors | 8 | | 8 | |
| Subtotal | 142 | 113 | 18 | 11 |
| Adjustment for Individuals Serving in Multiple Roles* | -11 | | | |
| Total Attendance | 131 | | | |

^{*} These individuals serve in another area role (e.g. a Committee Chair that is also a GSR.) They are not counted twice, their presence in this role is not being counted

Motion to Approve October 22, 2017 Assembly Minutes - Secretary, Zoraida R.

Seconded/Approved unanimously

Motion to Approve Assembly Agenda with the following Amendments - Chairperson, Lauren A.

Amendment – Chairperson, Lauren A. – There is a time change on the Spanish Agenda; the Sharing Session is at 2:55, not at 2:25. Also, when Gordy H. makes his 2019 Local Forum Ad-Hoc Committee report he will make his LA Central Office Trustee Report which he was just elected.

Seconded/Approved unanimously

Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Meetings/New GSR Orientation - Alt. Delegate, Thomas S.

Delegate Report - Thomas B.

Serves as the Delegate Chairperson for the 68th General Service Conference Cooperation with the Professional Community. It is a humbling service that he takes that very seriously. He's grateful for our support and guidance and thanks everyone for the support after his hospitalization in December. It allowed him to focus his attention on what really matters. His job is to do his very best to make sure this movement grows and prospers and is here for the alcoholics to come. Everything he does focuses on that.

The Conference process is a year-round process. From June to January, individuals, members, groups, districts bring forth proposed General Service Conference Agenda Items. Change doesn't come from the Conference. Change comes through the Conference guided by the groups, service committees, areas. Good ideas to improve AA are submitted and before the weekend in January every year, the Trustee Committees decide which ones will be presented to the various Conference Committees for consideration at the General Service Conference. Every member of AA is asked to participate in this process.

In the January assembly, the focus is on acclimating and educating new GSR's. Providing them with enough information to discuss the agenda items, talk about the Questionnaires, the background material on these issues and the Conference. The Delegate provides information to the body to obtain informed group consciences.

The Delegate then takes the group conscience to the Conference in April. Then the Delegate reports back when he returns from the Conference. It is an ongoing cycle. He appreciates the body's support and hard work.

We don't have a money problem in Area 05. We have a participation apathy problem.

If a GSR isn't attending the assembly he or she is cutting off their groups' participation in the conference process. There are 4 assemblies a year. Makes 12 step work possible. Asked the DCM's to ask their GSR's to attend every Assembly. There are four per year. It is essential in the General Service Conference Process.

How do we best engage our groups when they do not want to hear about General Service? He has been involved with General Service for the past 17 years. He has heard it too. He tries to inform his groups of what is relevant to them, about service opportunities, 12 Step work, and keep the big picture. General Service is for the groups to make 12 Step work possible.

He prepared a Delegate's Newsletter to the AA Groups with basic information that keeps them active and involved in the General Service process.

The newsletter will help provide your group and group members with essential information and solid explanation and understanding of their role in the important work of A.A. General Service as we move into the new year:

- 1. What is the A.A. Group's Role in the General Service Conference Process?
- 2. What is the General Service Conference Meeting?
- 3. What is General Service?
- 4. What is the work of our General Service Committees?
- 5. Strategic Plan Cooperation with the Professional Community
- 6. About Southern California Area 05

Since A.A.'s co-founders, Bill W. and Dr. Bob, turned over ultimate responsibility to the A.A. membership for running its own affairs, representatives of the Fellowship -- our elected Delegates -- from the 93 areas in the U.S. and Canada -- meet in April for six days with the trustees of the General Service Board, the staffs of the General Service Office and the A.A. Grapevine and certain other service workers to review the operations and finances of AA World

Services and the A.A. Grapevine and to address the questions, concerns, and suggestions of the Fellowship at large. They come together for one purpose: to focus on how A.A. can improve our ability to reach and help the suffering alcoholic. They gather to improve AA's ability to carry our message of recovery and to insure our Fellowship's survival into the future. They meet to address the questions, concerns, and suggestions of the Fellowship on improvements to AA literature, policies and finances -- guided by the informed consciences of our groups.

The group conscience of the annual meeting is considered the voice of the A.A. Fellowship which guides and directs the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. Your A.A. group has a vital role in this process, and can express its collective views to the Delegate through your GSR.

The newsletter could be distributed to the members of your group. It can be used to give reports. Good communication is essential.

Discussed the Board Weekend. There are 13 Conference committees and some Trustees committees. The trustee's committees meet at Board Weekends, 4 times a year. He is the Chairperson for the CPC; so, he has been getting updates. That committee is responsible for carrying information for the AA program to professionals who have contact with alcoholics. It is a very effective way to reach the still suffering alcoholic.

He will attend the Board meeting and will be participating in the Trustees committee. When his trustees committee is not meeting, he can sit in on the other committees. He gets a chance to review each of the agenda items and give feedback.

There are 176 pages of background material this year. Since the last Conference, they requested that the CPC continue to explore LinkedIn. He read the final. The committee has done a lot of work. It will be a robust discussion at the board weekend.

In the committee last year, he made the suggestion that professionals in AA review the letters we send to people in their professions before we submit letters to them. The professionals in our fellowship were effective and highlighted specifics for each field. Every act that we do in AA in love and compassion bears results that resound not just now but decades from now.

There was an emphasis on reaching the military community. We are reaching out to veterans and active duty alcoholics. Those pamphlets have been revised.

The communications team with CPC looked at how to explore Analytics for our professional webpage. There were thousands of views of our healthcare, legal, and human resources links at aa.org.

Use of Technology in CPC. We reviewed the technology at the ACA convention.

Things on the upcoming conference that will be of interest to you:

Our area submitted 2 suggestions. We suggested that the Conference review a book of 36 Principles. Brian P. submitted that. Which is a rigorous Area approval process. Nobody knows about the Concepts; yet they guide and direct and influence all of our work in service and our fellowship and its future. If people don't know about the concepts how can they understand that there is a need for self-support which are essential for anybody reaching out for help.

The second is the pamphlet submitted by Zoraida R. for Spanish-speaking women which provides a shared experienced to the Spanish women and lets them know that they are welcomed here. That's not always the case.

There will be discussion on other pamphlets, such as the LGBTQ, Many Paths to Spirituality, AA for the Woman, AA for the Alcoholic with Mental Health Issues, and Atheists and Agnostic.

There will be discussion on the God word pamphlet.

ASL translation of the Big Book was completed last week for the first 164 pages.

He encourages the body to give their best effort. Encourage the GSR's that are not here to get engaged.

This is our collective opportunity to make this better.

To secure and grow this amazing movement by reaching and supporting other alcoholics.

4 Area DCM Sharing Session Hosting Report - Bea D. DCM District 30 – There is a flyer for the 4 Area Sharing Session in the back of the SCAAN. Thanked Lauren and Nadine for their help with planning the event.

Lauren - Chairperson announced the Roundtable Topics and asked for volunteers.

2019 Local Forum Ad-Hoc Committee Report - Gordy H., Chairperson – It is an effort to have the Central Offices, General Service, and H&I work together. He was just elected as Trustee to L.A. Central Office. They voted to have a group inventory lead by our Delegate, Thomas B. Is distributing directories to courthouses because over 55% of calls that come in are people asking where they can register for AA classes. They are updating their website. Brian is going to be attending our Directory committee. They are interested in crossing over the Central office and General Service. They are going to visit every meeting and work together with General Service.

PRAASA Presentation Alt. Delegate, Thomas S. - Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. It is made up of 9 western states with 15 Delegates in the Pacific Region. They are all involved in making presentations at PRAASA. Every Region has a service assembly. The purpose of PRAASA is to develop better unity between members and groups in the Region, to encourage exchange and ideas, and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of Recovery, Unity, and Service of AA. This year it will be in Sparks Nevada at the Nugget Casino. It is close enough to drive. Reviewed the program for PRAASA. Area 05 PRAASA dinner is on Friday evening.

Round Tables - DCM's/DCMC's. Committee Chairs, GSR's

Lunch

Officer Reports:

Registrar, Brian P. – He sent out District Rosters to every District. Completed the Area Roster and Committee Roster. He has visited the new District, CIH, Westside Combined, District 3, and District 4. He would love to visit other districts. Announced that there is one email address that will reach everyone in the Area Committee. Reminder that it is not to be used as spam. He got to be of service to 2 committees and a few districts who requested maps and a list of zip codes. He is always happy to be utilized to help with a project of for information.

Alternate Delegate (includes Audit Sub- Committee Report), Thomas S. – CFO of our Legal entity and reviews the financial details and empirical data, and the results of our Accounts and Contributions treasurer data. He sits on the Financial committee and reconciles the accounts with the bank statements. He is a retired CPA. There has been only 1 difference which was reconciled; so, our accounts are intact. The most pressing thing is the preparation of our Pre-Conference Workshop. It is important to me because it is important to our Delegate. It is on April 7th and 8th. He does not know yet what topics and presentations our Delegate wasn't us to focus on. GSR's, DCM's, Committee Chairs and Alternates invite everyone in your groups to attend. Do not come alone. Bring your sponsors. He visited Hollywood Combined Districts and District 3. He will visit other districts. He is scheduled to visit Hollywood Combined again in March. He has the Safety Workshop on his schedule. He has open dates on his calendar for English and Spanish meetings as well. He also recently visited the 2nd established Russian meeting. Also visited a meeting in District 8 and gave a GSR report and asked someone to serve and a hand went up. He gave that information to Brian our Registrar. General Service has brightened his sobriety and he continues to be excited about this service. He has more service in him just let him know where we want him to be.

Contributions Treasurer, Doug S. - He tracks contributions on a spreadsheet, deposits them, and generates reports. He presented the Q4 Contributions report with a summary for 2017 on the first page. Reviewed his Contributions Report with the

Body. The report is broken down by month and category and there is a comparison for 2016. Please hand them to your groups. You can contact me with any questions. He is also available to visit groups. We'll vote on this and get this approved at the ACM next month.

Accounts Treasurer, Terry C - Reviewed 4th Quarter Financial Report. His report balances with Doug's Report. That is the critical part of this report. If you have any questions contact him.

Secretary – Zoraida R. - Since our last Assembly she has visited Dist. 3, 50, CIH and the Westside Combined. Since the beginning of this panel, last January, she has visited all the districts but one.

Reviewed the Minute highlights from the last Area Assembly to help everyone stay abreast of what is happening in the different committees.

David W., Chair of the Cooperation with the Elderly Community - spoke about developing a Safety questionnaire for Seniors to indicate if a meeting is senior friendly or not. Shawn A., Chair of the Finance Committee, shared that they are close to having a button on the area website to make contributions online. We voted on submitting the following 2 agenda proposals to the 68th General Service Conference Agenda: The Creation of a new pamphlet for the Spanish Speaking Woman Alcoholic and Adding the 12 Concepts to the AA Book "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions to form a new book of 36 principles. We also elected our candidate for Pacific Regional Trustee, Mary T. Thanked Thomas for his informative and inspiring reports. Also, shared that she was contacted by Area 6, host of the 2018 Pacific Regional Forum, and was asked to serve as a liaison. They are a committee of 3. She has not been to a Pacific Regional Forum; so, she asked how it differs from PRAASA. The answer is that at PRAASA the Fellowship talks to each other and exchanges ideas. The Pacific Regional Forum is more a of a two-way conversation; we get to address ideas and concerns directly with the members of the General Service Office and hear their input directly. We also get to address our concerns directly with them.

Chairperson – Lauren A. – Thanked the host District. Encouraged everyone to go to PRAASA. Reviewed theme for the 4 Area Sharing Session - A solution for all Generations. Reviewed topics for the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session. She shared that she earned so much when she attended her first Sharing Session and felt so much more connected with General Service after that. She visited the CIH and had a really spicy burrito. They are so well organized. She visited the Hollywood Combined. They have a lot of energy and are a lot of fun. They discussed their breakfast, Brunch of Drunks. They will have a camping event. She visited District 3 who has an amazing safety workshop coming up. All districts were very organized. She is happy to see so many people here after lunch and to see the participation in our committees. Participation is really great and has been so throughout this past year. Your committee work matters here and helps unify us. We'll have flyers for the Preconference Workshop at the ACM. Thanked the Past Delegates for their service with the roundtables today. She learns so much from the Past Delegates. Her job is to set the agenda, run this meeting, and visit districts and help anyone that she can. She is really grateful for that.

Delegate, Thomas B- Requested that anyone who will be at PRAASA and willing to be of service to let him know. He needs to give that information to Marita, PRAASA Program Chair.

Presentation by Archives Committee - Mary T. Committee Chair and members of the Archives Committee

Requests for ACM & Assembly Agenda items, Chairperson – Lauren A.

Introduction of new GSR's.

<u>Standing Committee Reports – 2-3 minute summaries:</u>

Corrections Committee – Miguel M, Corrections, Chair - Talked about the prerelease contact, metro 1 on 1, and the corrections correspondence programs. The Prelease Contact program is for AA members on the outside which are of services to inmates who have 6 months or less on their sentence. Metro 1 on 1 is video face to face 12 step work. Corrections Correspondence Programs allows you to write to alcoholics on the inside.

Archives Committee – Mary T., Chair – They talked about the website. For the next committee meeting they are committed to writing a draft scope of their collection and may need a larger space.

Treatment Facilities – Penn S., Chair – They have been rebooting the Bridging the Gap Program. Sets up new members who are coming out of Treatment centers with members of AA. They discussed setting parameters and guidelines to help with safety of the volunteers. They are going to start recruiting AA's to participate in Bridging the Gap. They have been working with H&I. There is information about Bridging the Gap on the Hospital side for Westside H&I. Our new email account is btgareao5@gmail.com for newcomers and volunteers can reach us and ask for information. There is a hotline 413-284-2205. Both the email and hotline will be passed on to the next committee chair.

Cooperation with the Professional Community – Nikki U., Chair – Had a joint CPC and PI committee meeting. In 2018, they will be participating in the LA County Fair; so, they will be working together. They will need volunteers for a lot of hours. They would like to have a variety of people. It's important that when someone signs up they show up.

Registration Committee – Erik M., Chair – Need to be registered 72 hours before the assembly to be eligible to vote. They are working on an inventory of our meeting directory to see who is active and inactive. They had a visitor from Central Office. They will have a meeting next week.

Translation Committee - Arnulfo G., Alt. Chair - Need volunteers. They translate documents for the area. They will be interpreting at the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session. They will also participate at the Dist. 3 workshop.

Finance Committee- Sean A., Chair - will be sending out information for the 2019 budget. Talk it over with your committees. You will be preparing the budget for the next chair of your committee.

Audio Visual – Mike N., Chair – Reviewed their purchase of mic stands.

Grapevine – Jesus A., Chair- They had their meeting with 2 people and his alternate. They discussed encouraging subscriptions and about a project called Carrying the Message with subscriptions of the magazine to whoever needs it.

Cooperation with the Elderly Community - David W., Chair – They had a good meeting. Looking at meetings that were senior friendly. Congratulated Gordy. They would like a check list for senior friendly meetings. Also, it would be really helpful to have a CEC desk. Brian sent him zip codes for Area o5 so that they can contact gerontologist within the Area. They are looking for someone who can help them put the information on a program.

Hispanic Women's Workshop – Zoraida R., Chair – We just had the workshop on December 3rd. She prepared financial statements for the workshop which are in the back. They had 160 women physically present. Some were English women who came out to support. Women came from different states. There were 11 active Skype accounts throughout the day. They were women from Bolivia, NY, Peru, Mexico and others. These women gathered with other women in their homes and had roundtable discussions. They were able to participate in our report backs at the workshop. This workshop was a call to action for all the women there to reach out to other women. It was an amazing experience. Since that workshop there is a new meeting in Coachella and a new one will be starting in February in Connecticut. There is another new meeting starting in our area in W. Hollywood. Since the previous workshop, there have been several new meetings that have sprung up. There was also an article written about the workshop in Box 4-5-9. Because of that article, the DCMC of Manhattan reached out to her. She spent time helping them organize to have their first workshop in NY. She is happening to be visiting NY in May to do a presentation for the APA; so, they decided to have the workshop during her visit. It is really incredible. Without the support of Area o5 this isn't possible. She thanked the Area for their love and support.

Literature Committee – Two Members gave report.

Old Business

Financial Guidelines Presentation - Shawn A., Chair - Presented 4 revisions to the Guidelines.

Q&A

New Business

Website Contribution Button Presentation - Finance Committee Chair, Shawn A.

GSR Sharing Session - "What's on Your Mind" - Open Microphone

Good and Welfare Announcements

Closing: Moment of Silence & Responsibility Statement (Spanish and English)

Come Join Us for Our ...



Founder's Day Picnic Sunday June 10, 2018 Starts at 11am @ Parnell Park 15390 Lambert Rd. Whittier

BYO: Balls, Blankets, Games!!!

Fun for the Whole Family!
Bring a dessert to share
Limited refreshments will be provided
(Hot Dogs, Chips, Soda, Water)

Brought to you by District 18



DIDN'T MAKE IT TO PRAASA?

THE FORUM IS COMING SOON.......

2018 Pacific Regional Forum

Registration opens Monday, July 9, 2018

To receive email notification when registration is open:

- Click here and fill out the form; or
- Contact Maria Morales-Lamm at moralesm@aa.org or (212) 870-3141; or
- Fill out the below and mail to G.S.O. to arrive by July 8, 2018. General Service Office, P.O. Box 459,

Grand Central Station, NY, NY 10163

| | Attii. Malia Morales-Lallilli | |
|------|-------------------------------|--|
| Name | Email | |
| | | |

Information provided is confidential and will only be used for this Regional Forum

For ASL Interpretation please contact G.S.O.: regionalforums@aa.org.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

2018 PACIFIC Regional Forum

September 7 - 9, 2018

DoubleTree by Hilton San Jose

2050 Gateway Place San Jose, California 95110 (408) 453-4000 Group Code CDTPRF

Rate cutoff date: August 15, 2018

Hotel Reservations can be made by one of the following methods:

- By phone: (408) 453-4000 no later than August 15, 2018
- Online: Click here.

Room rates:

Standard king/standard double queen: \$160.00 plus taxes Standard king/standard double queen on Club Level: \$190.00 plus taxes

For special room rate use Group Code: CDTPRF

2018 PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM

DoubleTree by Hilton San Jose

2050 Gateway Place San Jose, California 95110 (408) 453-4000

Group Code: CDTPRF

September 7 - 9, 2018

Sample SCHEDULE of Events

Friday: 6:30pm - 10pm Saturday: 9am - 9:45pm Sunday: 9am - 12pm

| FRIDAY | | SATURDAY (| (Continued) |
|--|--|--|--|
| 2:00 - close 6:30-6:45 pm | Registration First Timer Orientation | 2:30-3:15 pm 3:15-3:30 pm | Ask-It Basket Break |
| 7:00-8:30 pm 8:30-8:45 pm 8:45-9:15 pm 9:15-10:00 pm SATURDAY | Opening Session Break Video General Sharing | 3:30-4:00 pm 4:00-5:00 pm 5:00-7:00 pm 7:00-8:15 pm 8:15-8:30 pm 8:30-9:45 pm | Finance Presentation General Sharing Dinner* Workshops Break Workshops |
| 9:00am - close 9:00-10:00 am 10:00-10:15 am 10:15-11:00 am 11:00-12:00 pm 12:00-1:30 pm 1:30-2:30 pm | Registration A.A. Grapevine Break General Sharing Delegates' Presentations Lunch* G.S.O. Presentations | 9:00 - 10:00 am 10:00-10:30 am 10:30-10:45 am 10:45-11:30 am 11:30-Noon | General Sharing First Timer Sharing Break Past Trustees' Sharing Closing Remarks |

^{*} Meals are on your own

REGISTRATION Information

There is no charge to attend Regional Forums. Please pre-register to support GSO with event preparation. You can always register on-site. To pre-register online, go to www.aa.org. All who register will receive a Final Forum Report.

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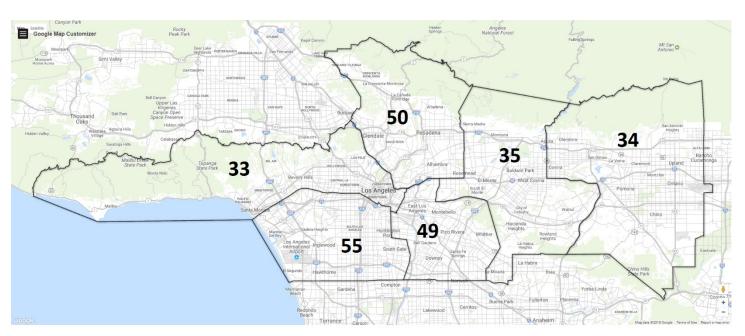
Notes

Saturday 1/20 Winter Area Assembly - Dist. 7 Sat 2/3 - 4 Area DCM Sharing Session - Area 5 Host Sunday 2/25 Area Committee Meeting - CIH March 2-4 PRAASA April 7-8 Pre-Conference Workshop (Dist. 14 & 13) Saturday 4/14 Steering Committee Meeting April 22-28 General Service Conference Sunday 5/20 Spring Area Assembly - WCD Saturday 6/2 Steering Committee Meeting Saturday 6/23 Area Committee Meeting - Dist. 3 Saturday 7/21 Summer Area Assembly - HWDC Sunday 8/19 Area Committee Meeting - Dist. 50 September 7-9 Pacific Regional Forum - San Jose, CA Saturday 9/22 Steering Committee Meeting Sunday 10/21 Fall Election Assembly - Dist. 45 Sunday 11/4 El Foro de Servicios Generales Saturday 11/17 Area Committee Meeting - WCD Saturday 12/1 Steering Committee Meeting

AREA MAP (English-Speaking Districts)



AREA MAP (Spanish-Speaking Districts)



AREA 05 SPRING 2018 ASSEMBLY

John Adams Middle School 2425 16th St. Santa Monica, CA 90405 Hosted by the Westside Combined Districts Sunday, May 20, 2018 8:00-4:00 PM

| 8:00 | Breakfast, Fellowship, Registration and A.A. Meeting |
|-------|---|
| 9:00 | Welcome and One Full Minute of Silent Meditation |
| | Call-to-Order |
| | AA Birthdays (January 20-May 20, 2018) |
| 9:15 | Roll Call - Brian P Registrar |
| 9:25 | Approval of January 20, 2018 Assembly Minutes Zoriada R Secretary |
| | Approval of Assembly Agenda for May 20, 2018 Lauren AChairperson |
| 9:30 | Delegate report by Thomas B 68th General Service Conference Report |
| | "What I Saw, Heard and Felt" |
| 10:15 | Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Meetings and New GSR Orientation led by Alt. Delegate-Thomas S. |
| 11:20 | Delegate's Business Report, Conference Advisory Actions - 68th General Service Conference with Q&A as time allows |
| 12:20 | Lunch |
| 1:10 | Officer Rprts: Registrar Brian P., Secretary Zoraida R. (incl. 2019 Calendar Proposal), Alt. Delegate Thomas S. (incl. Audit Subcommittee Rprt), Treasurers Doug S. Contributions, Terry C. Accounts presenting 1st Qtr 2018 Rprts. |
| 1:35 | Chairperson Report |
| 1:40 | Standing Committee Reports |
| | Introduction of New GSR's |
| 2:10 | Roundtables - Communicating the Actions of the 68th GSC Conference to Our Groups. |
| | (25 Minute discussion, 15 Minutes - 2 Minute Report Backs) |
| 2:50 | Old Business - Recommended by the Area Committee Meeting -Presentation of revised language for the Area 5 Financial Guidelines, Q&A - Shawn A. Finance Chair |
| 3:00 | New Business |
| | Area Corrections Committee - Un-budgeted request for funds - Miguel |
| | Area Registrar - Un-budgeted request for funds |
| 3:10 | Finance Committee Report - New Online Contributions link on Area Website |
| | Shawn A. Finance Chair |
| 3:20 | Presentation - Cooperation With the Elderly Community - David Wheeler |
| 3:25 | Open Mic - What's On Your Mind? |
| 3:45 | Good and Welfare Announcements |
| | Responsibility Pledge (Spanish and English) |