

Hello Area 5! Happy New Year to you and I hope everyone is safe and healthy.

I'm excited and honored to serve as your Delegate for Panel 73. I recognize the trust you've bestowed in me, and I don't take this commitment lightly. I've watched numerous Past Delegates perform their responsibilities and they never ceased to amaze me.

I'd like to thank our newest Past Delegate, Lauren A., for serving us with grace and dignity during Panel 71. She worked tirelessly for our Area, the Public Information Committee and A.A. I'm privileged to have had her as my mentor the past two years and advisor the next two.

I'm very pleased to report I've been assigned to the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities. I am one of four new members on that committee. This is an exciting assignment for me as I've spent substantial time working with Southern California Hospitals and Institutions (SoCal H&I) Intergroup the past two years as Alternate Delegate. I feel at home in this line of service.

I have begun preparation by reviewing the preliminary agenda items for this year's conference, the History and Highlights of Actions from past conferences, past conference reports and our new A.A. Service Manual and Twelve Concepts for World Service (2021-2023).

I would like to congratulate our Panel 73 officers:

- Nikki U. - Alternate Delegate
- Gola R. – Chairperson
- Shawn A. – Secretary
- Amy O. - Accounts Treasurer
- Brian P - Contributions Treasurer
- Jennifer C. – Registrar

It was amazing to watch the Third Legacy Election in action! I am proud to serve with our new officers!

I'd also like to welcome our new General Service Representatives (GSRs), District Committee Members (DCMs), District Committee Member Chairs (DCMCs), Committee Chairs and alternates to our first Assembly of 2023. It's going to be a great year and panel!

I recall when Charlie W. was the Alternate Delegate many years ago. He said his most important job was to pray for the Delegate. I didn't understand what he was talking about at the time, but I certainly do now. I hope Nikki is busy doing that... If it weren't for Charlie W., I wouldn't be here today!

As most of you know, our Area is hosting the Pacific Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) this year March 3rd- 5th, 2023. Registration is open, so please register, sign up for the various banquet options and reserve your hotel rooms at <https://praasa.org/>

Be prepared for an exciting service filled PRAASA weekend!

The Area's Pre-Conference Assembly Workshop is a two-day assembly held in the Spring before the General Service Conference. This year the dates are Saturday, April 1st and Sunday, April 2nd, 2023. It is designed by the Alternate Delegate with consultation of the Delegate to address topics from the 73rd

General Service Conference. The event will assist our Delegate (that's me!) in making informed decisions at the General Service Conference. I am looking forward to working with Nikki and I hope you are too.

This year we will receive agenda background materials in all three languages of our U.S. and Canada Conference (English, French and Spanish) at the same time. This may affect "when" we receive the materials.

To select topics for presentation and discussion at the Pre-Conference Workshop, we need to wait patiently for the materials to be translated and delivered. In past years we've received English language background material from the General Service Office mid to late February. The Spanish language materials were provided sometime after that. GSO has committed extra resources to deliver all materials at the same time. Keep your fingers crossed.

We need to hear from your Group what **YOU** think about the business items that affect Alcoholics Anonymous!

This year's theme is Participation: A.A. Service Manual – Appendix V

STIMULATING INTEREST IN GENERAL SERVICE

Most A.A. members are primarily interested in their groups, in their own sobriety, and in helping other drunks one-on-one. And that is as it should be. While the work of general service has precisely the same objective — carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers — the connection is not always direct or obvious. Some stimulators are usually needed to get the attention of A.A. members — to show them that service can add a rich dimension to their sober lives and Twelfth Step work, and that their participation is vital to the future of A.A.

Feel free to contact me at any time via my email address: delegate@area05aa.org or my mobile number listed in the SCAAN.

I look forward to representing the Area!

Respectfully,

Doug S.

Delegate Area 05 Panel 73