

SCAAN

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Panel 57, Issue 5
Winter 2008

DELEGATE'S REPORT

Assembly of January 26, 2008

My name is Gustavo, I am an alcoholic and I have the privilege to serve as delegate for panel 57, area 05 of Southern California.

It is amazing how time flies when you are occupied with something positive. This reminds me of why many alcoholics don't serve as GSRs or commitments in General Service. To many two years may seem like a long time. For us that have served in General Service, two is not enough to learn all we can about the commitment.

We now have the events that are part of the Conference's process which will end one more cycle of the General Service Conference, which will take place on the week of April 27th thru May 3rd, 2008.

Between the months of January and April we will have the opportunity to learn the group's conscience in relation to the items in the General Service's agenda for this year.

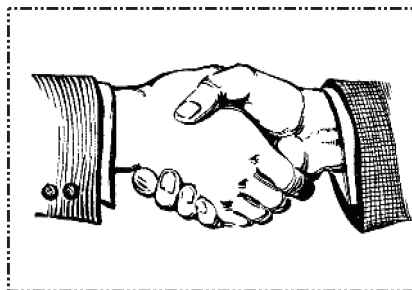
In the first days of February 2008, the Third Edition of the Big Book in Spanish will be released. The price this edition will be as follows:

Hard cover (SB-1) \$6.00 (Continued on page 3)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE; To inform SCA members, and the AA fellowship at large, of selected items from GSO, the Area, and items of general interest from the Districts.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Delegate's Report.....	1
Contacts Directory.....	2
Calendar of Events.....	3
AA Dream Comes True.....	4
Top Ten Reasons.....	4
Audio Visual Films.....	5
Contributions Treas. Rpt....	5
Third Legacy Agenda.....	6
DCM Sharing Flyer.....	7
GS Workshop Flyer.....	7
Assembly Minutes.....	8
Subscription Forms.....	12



WEB ADDRESS:
www.aascaa.org
SPANISH SPEAKING
www.alcoholicsanonimosaa.com

DELEGATE'S REPORT (Continued from page 1)

Soft cover (SB-30)	\$5.50
Pocket size (3.50)	\$3.50
Large print (6.30)	\$6.30

In mind we have the events of this year like PRAASA which will take place in Anchorage, Alaska from March 7th – 9th. The Pre- Conference Workshop for Area 05 on March 29th and 30th, 2008 and on August 29th – 31st, 2008 we have the Pacific Regional Forum in Spokane, Washington.

In the future we have the International Convention in San Antonio, Texas (July 2010). We will be hosting PRAASA in 2010 in which we trust our past delegates will maintain themselves occupied in the preparation of this event since it will be 16 years as Area we have not hosted this event. Although it seems far away, in the 2007 Service Conference, Leonard Blumenthal, president of the meeting of AA, has asked us to start to think of a place to host the celebration of 100 years of AA in 2035. Leonard Blumenthal reminded us that even though the celebration is 27 years away, we hope it will be a special celebration.

If “our primary objective is remain sober and help other alcoholic to achieve sobriety”, then to accept a commitment for one or two years is sort of an insurance. Translated in our experience is to enjoy sober life.

Thank you for brotherly love I have received and your teachings, and thank you for your tolerance of my mistakes.

With Love and Service,
Gustavo T, Panel 57, Area 05, Southern California

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Feb. 9, 2008	3rd Legacy (See flyer page 6)
Feb. 12, 2008	District 4 Service Workshop (See flyer page 7)
Feb. 16, 2008	Third Legacy Meeting
Feb. 23, 2008	4 Area DCM Sharing Session (See flyer page 7)
Feb 24, 2008	Area Committee Meeting. Host: Combined Hollywood/Downtown Districts
March 7-9, 2008	PRAASA - Anchorage, Alaska
March 29 & 30	Pre-Conference Workshop for Area 5 (2-day.- Upland & Westside)
April 27-May 3	General Service Conference
May 17, 2008	Third Legacy Meeting
June 28, 2008	Area Committee Meeting. Hosts: Combined Westside Districts
Aug. 23, 2008	Area Committee Meeting. Hosts: Combined Spanish Districts
Aug. 29-31, 2008	Pacific Regional Forum, Spokane, Washington
Nov. 23, 2008	Area Committee Meeting. Host: District 13.

AA DREAM COMES TRUE

Journey through Turkey and Greece, Oct. 2007.

A few members that have a passion for traveling had monthly meetings to plan this trip. However, we would not leave AA behind. We made contact with the central office in Istanbul for a meeting schedule. And we were also blessed with a sober member as our tour guide. Then we proceeded to spend seven days on the Island of Mykonos, Greece. The only AA contact on this island was out of the country at the time of our visit. "Where two or more are gathered, there he will be in the midst," was our theme for the next week. Thank goodness for meditation books and miniature big books!

And then off to Athens, Greece. AA is well and alive in that city. With minimal effort we were able to locate AA within a five- minute walking distance from our hotel. We made time to attend three meetings and 12-Step a newcomer from London. We took a train across Athens to an old-timers traditions meeting. They affectionately refer to this meeting as an underground meeting as they strictly adhere to AA traditions.

We put AA first and God blessed us with plenty of time to enjoy the sights and culture of these countries. Thank you God and AA for making this possible.

With love, Maria O. & Gloria. H..

TOP TEN REASONS NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO the 7th Tradition

10. I can't afford to put money in the basket! I just went to Starbucks.
9. Look, I've been coming here a long time. I think I paid my dues already!
8. The food person didn't show up this week. I am NOT paying for food I didn't get to eat!
7. What? You mean WE pay for the salaries and rent and utilities for the General Service Office in NYC? Forget that! They're normies, they can volunteer!
6. GSO Publishes the Big Book and gives us books at cost?? Oh, I'll just get mine from Central Office. It's just easier for me.
5. I heard there was pie...where? Oh, a pie chart...hmmm...we don't need one of those. But, let's have pie next week!!
4. Hey...so we're a little late on the rent. I'm ALWAYS late with mine!
3. Have you seen the price of gas lately?? Ummm...yeah I hitched a ride with my sponsor.
2. My sponsor said I have too many commitments right now.
1. Nobody ever has change for a \$1,000!

AUDIO VISUAL COMMITTEE*Films & Videos*

Available for showing at your Meeting:

1. **“Young People in AA”** 16mm film or video.....**30 minutes** 4 *Young People in AA* describe what it was like, what happened, and what it's like today.
2. **“It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell”** 16mm film or video.... **17 minutes.** 4 *Young AA's* in prison as a result of their drinking, tell their stories.
3. **“Hope Alcoholics Anonymous”** 16mm film or video.. **15 minutes.** Explains the principles of AA; Primary Purpose, Sponsorship, Home Groups, The Steps, the Traditions, basic recovery tools, and what AA is and isn't.
4. **“Bills Own Story”** 16mm film or video **60 minutes** *Cofounder Bill W. tells of his drinking and recovery. His wife Lois W. tells why she founded Alanon (for AA internal use only).*
5. **“Bill Wilson Discusses the 12 Traditions”** 16mm film or video **60 minutes.** *Co-founder Bill W. tells how the principles safeguarding AA unity developed (for AA internal use only).*
6. **“AA: Rap With Us”** video only . **17 minutes** *Rap music and lyrics bridge the contemporary stories of four young people in AA.*
7. **“AA: An Inside View”** video only. **28 minutes** *A close-up look at meetings and recovery.*
8. **Service Videos:**
“Your General service Office, The Grapevine and The General Service Structure” ...**21 minutes**

“Carrying The Message Behind These Walls”..**15 minutes.**

“Circles of Love & Service”
16 minutes
“Markings on the Journey”
36 minutes
“Your GSO Today” (older version)
...**28 minutes**

Contact: Maria O. (626) 962-0203, or
 Alternate Chair:
 Erin O.
 5140 Lyman Ave. Covina CA 91724
 (626) 862-2872

THINGS GET BETTER AND BETTER

Martha S. Contributions Treasurer

For the last year, I have had the pleasure of acting as your postmaster - picking up your groups' mail, and as your contributions treasurer - processing contributions from your groups into our area account.

Experiencing your patience as you continue supporting the area no matter what has been an incredibly humbling lesson for me.

During this past year, we have worked on upgrading hardware and software. We have also done some brainstorming about how we can improve reciprocity with the groups. Developing an automated process of handling group checks and being able to get a receipt returned in real time has been the topic of many, well, um, Loving Discussions, of course. Processing everything by hand has been an opportunity for me to reflect on how I ever got into this mess, which has led to even more of the humbling Someone obviously feels that I have needed.

I am excited to announce that once again the amazing process through which miracles occur in Alcoholics Anonymous— trusted servants working together — is really real and definitely works, and is working for us!

Usually what happens is some alcoholics get very tired of hearing other alcoholics complain, so they say the Serenity prayer many times, and while something appears to make the complainers less irritating, a solution also comes up for the real problem.

And for our Area, the solution of a receipt system that corresponds with the deposit of a group's check has been born. I've sure been looking forward to this, and can almost hear you saying in unison, “It's about time.”

So, I want to thank you in advance for more of your patience and let you know it has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. Your feedback will be important as we implement this new system, and I look forward to having the honor of another year to serve the greatest Area - 05 in AA.

Introduction to the 3rd Legacy of A.A.

Sat. February 9, 2008

12:30 to 2:30 PM

Parks & Recreation Building
3911 Dunsmore Ave.
La Crescenta, CA
(Honolulu Ave & Dunsmore Ave),

1. Registration and fellowship – Pizza lunch with fruit and drinks (water, coffee) (30 Min)
2. Welcome and Serenity Prayer – Burke W.
3. Introduction to the three legacies of A.A. (15 Min) – Burke W.
 - a. 1st Legacy = Recovery – 12 Steps (read the 12 steps) – Penny H.
 - b. 2nd Legacy = Unity – 12 Traditions (read the 12 traditions) – JoAnn B.
 - c. 3rd Legacy = Service – 12 Concepts (read the 12 concepts short form) – Wayne S.
4. Show video of “Circle of Love and Service” (16 Min) – Intro by Maria O., Area 5 AV Chair
5. BREAK
6. Speaker on Concept 1 (15 Min) – Mike P., Alternate Delegate for Area 5
7. Speaker on Concept 2 (15 Min) – Don C., DCM of District 4, Maria O., Alt. DCM
8. Speaker on Concept 3 (15 Min) – Mary T. & Jim I., Past Delegates from Area 5
9. Questions and Answers (15 Min) - Panel
10. Closing with “I am Responsible” (All Participate lead by Burke W.)

Pamphlets in handout:

A.A.s Legacy of Service by Bill W.

Circles of Love & Service

The 12 Concepts for World Service Illustrated

Responsibility Wallet Card

GSR May be the Most Important Job in A.A.

Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix

Your A.A. General Service Office

4 Area DCM
Sharing Session

Saturday, February 23, 2008

Registration & Donuts at 9:30 A.M.

Program Runs From 10:00 A.M.- 3:45 P.M.

5000 Colfax Avenue, No. Hollywood, CA 91601

The 4 Area DCM Sharing Session gives DCMs from Areas 5,8,9 and 93 an opportunity to share Service information and experiences. All past, present and future DCMs, DCMCs and alternates are invited.

Come join us and profit from rich diversities of Southern California General Service.

Featuring:

oo **Round Tables**

oo **Speaker: Joe V. (panel 47 delegate)**

oo **Spanish Translation**

oo **Lunch Provided**

oo **Hosted by Area 93 Central California Area**

DIRECTIONS:

From North: 5 Fwy South to 170 Fwy South; exit Riverside, West to Colfax, North to 5000 (Corner of Addison)

From South: 405 Fwy North to Hwy 101 East; Exit Laurel Cyn, North to Riverside, East to Colfax, North to 5000 (Corner of Addison)

From West: 101 Fwy South (which turns eastbound) Exit Laurel Cyn, North to Riverside, East to Colfax, North to 5000 (Cnr of Addison)

From Inland Empire: 101 Fwy North (or 134 Fwy West) to 170 North; Exit Magnolia, West to Colfax, South to 5000 (Corner of Addison)

Area 93 Committee Contacts:

Jim B. 661-972-1198 Email: dcm10@aaarea93.org Local Contact: Jeff J. 818-590-8404

Dave W. 805-688-2933 Email: dcm52@aaarea93.org

Faith Presbyterian Church, 5000 Colfax Avenue, No. Hollywood 91601-3602

DISTRICT 4 GENERAL SERVICE WORKSHOP

FOOD and Fellowship

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

6 P.M. to 8 P.M.

**Come Hear What Happens from those holding A.A. positions in
2008**

Area 5-

Past Delegate	- Jim I.
(Past District 4 DCM)	
Alternate Delegate	- Mike P.
Chairman	- Ben H.
Accounts Treasurer	- Gordy H.
Registrar	- George P.
<u>Central Office (Glendora)</u>	- Tina ___

Grace Lutheran Church
17880 Covina Blvd
Covina, CA 91722

**The Southern California Area
Of Alcoholics Anonymous
Assembly Minutes
Saturday October 27, 2007
La Habra United Methodist Church
631 N Euclid St.
La Habra, CA 90631**

Chairman Ben H called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The Twelve Concepts were read in English by Javier of District 33.

The Twelve Traditions were read in Spanish by Chuck of District 18.

A.A. birthdays for the months of July, August, and September were recognized and applauded.

Registrar George P took roll:

51 GSRs/Alt GSRs

15 DCMs/Alt DCMs

2 DCMCs

7 Area Officers

12 Standing Committee Chairs

4 Past Delegates

15 others

Total 106

Voting 91

Districts not represented: 5, 6, 9, 15, 17, 19, 36, 37, 40, 41, 45, 56, and 58.

Approval of the Assembly Minutes of May 20, 2007

Secretary Tom B noted that the Minutes of the July 29, 2007 Assembly were printed in the SCAAN (Area 05 newsletter) and distributed here for approval. He made a motion to approve the minutes. Greg I. seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed, none opposed.

Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Ben H noted that today's agenda was available on the handout table and asked for any amendments...there were none. He then made a motion to approve the agenda which was seconded by Bill J. The motion passed, none opposed.

New GSR Introductions

There were 13 new GSR's who came to the mike and introduced themselves.

Committee Meetings & New GSR Orientation

We broke into the new GSR orientation and committee meetings at 9:40 am. We reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

GSR & DCM Roundtables

GSR's came to the mike to express their questions and concerns; i.e. "Is there some other way to show our group treasurer how we can contribute to all our Service entities including the District and Area other than the pie chart that they have been using in the back of the group directories?" Many other GSR's and DCM's came to the mike and gave their own solutions of how they use different percentages to break up the pie chart so the Area and their Districts get a higher percent of the groups contributions. "How do we keep our GSR's interests and keep them coming to the District meetings, how do we get the groups to have GSR's?" Keep to the point of being of service, use box 459, by all means have the GSR's PARTICIPATE in some sort of District function....Pancake breakfasts, Service Day events, find some Committee work to get involved with at the District as well as Area level etc. were some of the responses. *There were a few more questions not recorded here.*

Lunch

Delegates Report- Gustavo T

My name is Gustavo, I am an alcoholic, and I do have the privilege of serving as Panel 57 Southern California Area 05 Delegate. I had the opportunity to attend some great events like the ICYPAA International Convention in Los Angeles, The 2nd annual Area 09 PI Workshop, and the Area 09 elections. On the hand out table I have supplied some literature, extra Final Conference Reports, PRAASA 2008 flyers, and guidelines for local Foros. Also I have put out there something for the GSR's to use next year...a GSR calendar that will help you to remember the events and activities that you should attend as part of your commitment. This was devised by Mary T. when she was our Area Delegate, and suggested that we could use it. Local Foros are taking the place of Special Foros. One important difference is that the Local Foro can be sponsored and run locally with *participation* by GSO staff. After this Assembly we will be looking forward to preparing ourselves for all the events of next year....PRAASA 2008 is just around the corner, so I encourage you to make your reservations now. The General Service Conference is being held from April 27th to May 3rd, back a week from the normal time. The Pacific Regional Forum will be held from August 29th to August 31st in Spokane Washington. Thank you, Gustavo T.

Alternate Delegates Report– Mike P

I also helped with the Area 09 elections. I attended the September H&I meeting and sent 2 contact upon release requests to them. GSO gets requests from prisoners about ready to get released, for AA contacts. GSO then sends those requests on to the Area and then I get them. As H&I liaison I then give them to H&I who has people that will initiate the contact. The manager at LA Central Office says that he is spending a lot of his time fixing problems with people cancelling their shifts at answering the phones there. At the 2006 General Service Conference they passed a motion by the Corrections Committee to make a new video for the purpose of training corrections personnel on the value of AA as a resource for inmates. We got the new video and were able to show it at the Audio/Visual Committee meeting this morning. The Spanish H&I group is having a Convention on December 2nd in East LA. Please, I invite you all to attend our own Area 05 Hispanic Foro on November 4th with English translation.

Contributions– Martha S

Today, the Finance Committee decided that the Contributions Treasurer will now collect all the contributions from the bucket drive. A method of tracking money collected from the groups regular 7th tradition contributions and the groups bucket contributions is being developed. However, if your group number or info. is not identified, the money will be credited as an anonymous contribution. Although it was not possible to generate a 2nd quarter contributions report, we did collect \$10,004.52 plus \$500.00 from Roundup contributions. I would like to thank Mary T. and Jim I. for their service in developing a new receipt system for our Area, and for helping me to maintain the financial accuracy of our system. The new receipts will begin with the 4th quarter 2007 contributions.

Accounts Treasurer– G

We brought more buckets today for you to take back to your groups and communicate with them about the Services Activities the Area is involved in. Please take this opportunity to talk to your groups about what General Service is and does. The financial reports for the 2nd and 3rd quarter are not available today. We are still getting up to speed with the computer program for contributions. We should be ready by the January 2008 Assembly.

Special Program –Diversity Panel (3 of past 4 Delegates)

Mary T. – I first heard of a discussion of diversity at a special inner-city forum in downtown Chicago. At that meeting there were people from all walks of life...It was very inspiring. Then I was asked to do a presentation on this topic at the Pacific Regional Forum in 2002. Alcoholism is an equal opportunity disease, and affects everyone everywhere, therefore it is our responsibility to reach out to all alcoholics, especially those that do not have the same access to AA as I or maybe you do. In Los Angeles, we have AA meetings in 5 different languages other than English and Spanish...better than nothing, but still not very good. We must be able to get the message out to people with accessibility needs. Action is needed; ask yourself, "What am I doing to help reach these alcoholics?"

Jim W. – Do I welcome the alcoholic who I don't know sitting next to me who may have a different opinion, and may not fit the "mainstream" that I feel is like the alcoholic who is in my "cozy little home group". Can I be better informed about those needs of the alcoholic that I don't see every day? Of course I can. There are specialty groups out there that suffer from alcoholism in ways that perhaps we don't have to. Whether or not you may participate in one of these groups is not important; what is important is do I stick my hand out and welcome them with the same heartfelt feeling like I do with the members of my home group? Are we really willing to step outside of ourselves and welcome someone who is different than us in Alcoholics Anonymous?

Jim I. - One thing that I do know is that the board of Trustees, the Conference, and the General Service Office work very hard to make Alcoholics Anonymous all inclusive, never exclusive. The Conference is continually improving literature, and researching ways to reach more and more people. This year's Conference changed the title of the pamphlet "Can AA Help Me Too...Black African Americans Share their Stories" to "AA for the Black African American Alcoholic". The name for the AA pamphlet for senior citizens was changed from "The Time To Start Living" to "AA for the Older Alcoholic/Never Too Late". The Pamphlet for the Native American was also revised. There are Public Service Announcements that are being produced specifically targeting Senior Citizens, and young people because those groups are underrepresented in Alcoholics Anonymous. The young people's video and literature has been redone and is constantly looked at to be kept up to date. Are we doing enough in our Area and our Districts to address these issues?

There was an open mike for comments regarding the Diversity Panel

Standing Committee Reports

Newsletter (SCAAN): David B, Chair – Our next SCAAN meeting will be at Junie's house on Nov. 3rd at 10:00. E-mail SCAAN editor for directions. Our next theme will be "Once a GSR, Always a GSR" We have a box at the back of the room called "A GSR asks"...It's an Ask It Basket. Please put any questions you have as a GSR in it and we will try to answer them in the next couple of SCAANS. Remember, every officer starts out as a GSR, and we welcome your experience in General Service. We had 5 in attendance.

Registration committee: Chair Doug S reports they had 7 in attendance. Discussed the status of District 3's sub-committee investigating the dark District 26....The meetings there, and any GSR's there. They have found 11 groups that should be in District 26 that are currently in District 3. They have identified a possible DCM for this District and will follow up. There are a lot of Spanish speaking groups in that District. Districts 30 and 31 merged and will become District 30. Registration Committee recommended that our Area Registrar process the change. We registered a new group in Montebello and welcomed District 18's registrar to the Committee.

Translation Committee: Fidel M, Chair – reports that they had 6 people. We discussed having more people volunteer for participation in this Committee to help with the translations. We got 4. The translations for the SCAAN is easier because Tom has found a Spanish Translation program and all we need to do is correct it for AA language.

Special thanks to Bill J. for being the "Sound Guy".

Refreshments and Lunch – Income and Expense

Food Expense: \$710.00

Income (Contributions on site):

Net Change shown as – Income / (Expense):

NOTES:

GRAPEVINE SUBSCRIPTION FORM

UNITED STATES
Two Years \$38.25
One Year \$20.00

New Subscription
Renewal

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Two Years, \$42.00 (US), \$52.00 (CDN)
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA GROUP CONTRIBUTION FORM

GSO Group Service Number # _____ District # _____

Group Name _____

Name _____

Meeting Day(s) and Time(s) _____

Meeting Address _____

Meeting City _____ Zip Code _____

Send Receipt to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Send Contributions to: Southern California Area Assembly, P.O. Box 481193, Los Angeles, CA 90048

SCAAN SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To receive your SCAAN via U.S. Mail, complete the following and return to:

Southern California Area Assembly, P.O. Box 481193, Los Angeles, CA 90048

To receive your SCAAN via email, send email information below to SCAAN@aascaa.org

Name _____ Date _____ E-mail Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

_____ English _____ Español

Contribution Enclosed \$ _____, Thank You.

Make payable to :Southern California Area Assembly (SCAA)