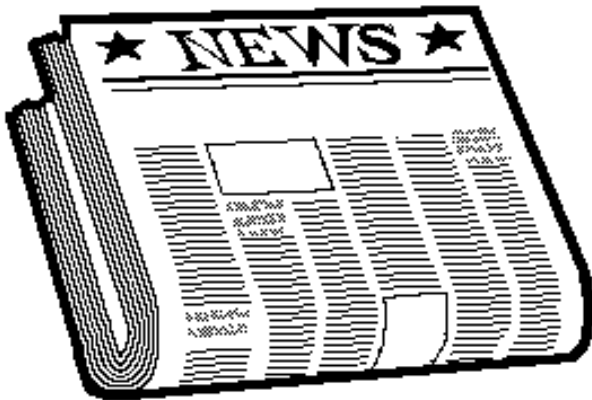


# SCAAN

## From Your Delegate

*Notes from Mike P.*



The activities of the General Service Conference have been occupying a great deal of our energy these days yet there are a couple of items I need to report as well as a Trustees' committee request for sharing from the fellowship. In addition to one alcoholic sharing with another, we carry our message of recovery in print and on film, and we members of Alcoholics

Anonymous are the stewards of that message also.

Conference-approved literature and Grapevine / La Viña prices are going up. Conference-approved literature is going up primarily due to production and shipping cost increases, not a change in ratio to those profits' support of our services. Most of the books are going up \$1.00 - \$2.00 each. Grapevine / La Viña (continued on page 9)

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### 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.



### AREA WEB ADDRESS:

**[www.aascaa.org](http://www.aascaa.org)**

**SPANISH SPEAKING**

**[www.alcoholicosanonimosaa.com](http://www.alcoholicosanonimosaa.com)**

### **NOTES FROM YOUR AREA CHAIR**

So what do we do now?

We elected our Panel 59 Delegate last Fall to a two year term. We've canvassed our home groups and brought their consensus on the 59th General Service Conference Agenda Items back to the Two-day Pre-conference Area Workshop. Then we waved goodbye to Mike P. as he went off with the other 92 delegates to the Conference to go make the "big decisions" and especially to serve on the Conference Committee on the Grapevine.

Now today, May 17th, we have all assembled to hear Mike's report on what happened at the Conference. Soon we'll be able to pick up a copy of Box 459, with advance information about the actions taken by the Conference. Later the full Conference Report will be published, which includes Financial Statements for our separately incorporated service entities (Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Inc. and The AA Grapevine Inc.) plus all the Advisory Actions (aka decisions taken) and "Other Considerations" (aka decisions postponed). There will likely be a few actions taken - or not taken - by the Conference that we will all want to report back to our home groups.

So is that it... what do we do for the rest of the year until next year's Conference Agenda comes out? Plenty!

Nothing happens in General Service without much - sometimes years of - "loving discussion"... and then there's Minority Opinion... and of course every Panel is independent, so there's nothing to stop the next Panel from making the exact opposite decision as the previous Panel.

At every Area meeting: Assemblies, Area Committees and Steering Committees, we will will spend time discussing and taking action on items that were, and may come before the Conference.

When discussing the results of this year's Conference in your Home Group, District Meeting, Standing Committee Meetings, or with a random bunch of A.A.'s, listen for the topics that people get the most excited about (both positively and negatively). We'll put those items on our Area Agenda for the second half of this year and do our best to make our Area one of the most active Areas working to keep A.A. as a whole both healthy and strong.

Yours in service,

Marcus F.

Panel 59 Southern California Area 05 Chairperson.

### **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Hello from your SCAAN Editor. I am honored to be of service to the SCAAN Committee and to you for Panel 59! I encourage you to send any ideas, articles and information for future publications

including constructive criticism you might want to pass along to us. Everything will be considered and applied when and where the committee sees fit. We are always looking for content which shares your experience strength and hope whether it is regarding your district, your home group or the entire Area.

The Area 5 newsletter - SCAAN - is published four times annually, at each Area Assembly. The SCAAN Committee has set a schedule with deadlines and article requests for each issue.

### **Guidelines for submission:**

\*\*Please have your article sent to us NO LATER than the indicated deadline.

\*\*All submissions must be no more than 300 words.

\*\*Other subject matter is also accepted and will be considered by the committee however it may not be printed if there is no space available.

### **Summer 2009**

Publication Date: July 26, 2009

Deadline for submission of articles: July 12, 2009

Requested article topics:

- a) How I became a GSR.
- b) Concept 3 - The Right of Decision.

### **Fall 2009**

Publication Date: Oct. 24, 2009

Deadline for submission of articles: Oct. 10, 2009

Requested article topics:

- a) My Journey as treasurer of my District.
- b) Concept 4 - The Right of Participation.

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**Mike P.**  
(SEE DELEGATE)

**H&I Liaison**

**Ben H.**  
(SEE ALTERNATE DELEGATE)

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**A.A. Area 5  
Southern California Area  
Assembly  
Saturday January 24, 2009  
Odyssey Charter School  
Altadena, Ca. 91001**

Chairman: Marcus F. Called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, with the Serenity prayer.

The twelve Concepts short form was read by Thomas B. Concept one was also presented by Thomas.

A.A. Birthdays for the months of November, December and January up to this day were recognized and applauded.

Approval of October Assembly minutes: Was moved by Secretary Maria O and Registration Chair Greg I. second.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda: Chairman Marcus read the agenda. It was also put On-Line. He called for approval. Passed, unanimously.

Registrar: Amelia W. took row:

DCMs/AltDCMs	
29	
GSRs/Alt GSRs	
98	
DCMCs/Alt DCMCs	
4	
Area Officers	
7	
Standing Committee Chairs	
10	
Past Delegates	
5	
Others	
26	
Total	
179	

Officers Reports:

**Contribution Treasurer: Tom B.** thanked the Assembly for being of service also thanked Martha S. who put t he report together. The Fourth

Quarter for 2008 is on the hand out table. He presented the report and will be approved at the following ACM.

**Account Treasurer: Erick K** presents the Fourth Quarter and financial reports, are at the hand out table. Chairman Marcus announces if any questions, comments or discussions, let your DCM know and bring them back to their groups and districts. We will be voting at the area committee meeting.

**Chairman's Report: Marcus F.** Presents focusing on our primary responsibility as General Service Trusted Servants. Every two years we elect our Delegate, who represents our area group conscience. Our next responsibility is to assist our Delegate and Alternate Delegate if our Delegate is not able to attend the Conference, we prepare them with our conscience on every item on the agenda for the conference.

**Alternate Delegate Report: Ben H.** Reported his presentation for the GSRs orientation.

**Delegates Report: Mike P.** Reports his assignment for the Grapevine Committee at the General Servs Conference. Also he is in the PRAASA Delegate advisory committee, which will be in 2010. We have fliers for the young people's video, it is a project for the young people, which is still open, and there's only five. I want to report also on the Grapevine that it will be staple free in every issue beginning in April, every issue can be taken into the prisons, except La Vina because of it's small circulation.

**PRAASA 2010 Chair: Past Delegate Mary T.** Explains what PRAASA means and it`s function. We are hosting it in 2010 and is the only place where we can speak The Language of the Heart for forty eight hours straight.

Many of us are going to attend the one in Oakland, so we can get ready for the next years PRAASA which will be held near the LAX. The PRAASA Committee for 2010 is: Chair Mary T. =Co Chair Gustavo T. =Advisory Committee Mike P. =Program Chair Jim I. and Juan M. =Hospitality: Jim W. We will meet in two weeks to discuss other positions; we will also have Treasurer and Registration positions. If you are interested in any position please e-mail me or go to aascaa.org web site for PRAASA 2010 or panel59aascaa.org. We will have PRAASA buttons.

Finance committee Chair and House Treasurer: 2009 area Budget that was approved by the area committee meeting is now for final approval.

**Finance Committee Chair: Scott M.** Reports to proposed budget, back in August at the area committee meeting we asked the committee chairs for a proposed budget for commitment work. The proposed budget came up at the November area committee meeting for approval. We have a minimum balance of \$5,000.00. We have about \$15,000.00 that has gradually increased over the year.

**House Treasurer: Eric K.** Reports, we need to look at the Fourth Quarter financial report that has the actual income expenses for 2008, which the total income was \$41,838.00 minimum, how ever the actual expenses were \$43,897.00 which is \$10,000.00 below what our budget expenses were. Marcus asked for current bank balance, Scott replies it is around \$24,000.00, Marcus again asked about the upper and lower cash limit on our preserve, Scott adds the lower is \$5,000 and the upper is around \$20,000.00.

(MINUTES CONT. FROM PAGE 4)

**Presentation of the General Service Conference:** Delegate Mike P. reported that he had the 2009 Preliminary Agenda. First pg. reads: Cooperation with the professional community, second item, review videos directed to them in the employment relations field. You will find this in the final conference report in English page 65 and in Spanish conference report pg. 66; it is not to be confused with the action that is on pg 39. The bottom of the first page item number 4 finance, that the trustees finance and budget committee gather input from the fellowship. Next is Literature, it was under additional consideration of last years report pg 67 in English and pg 68 in Spanish, it gives you some background on these items. Public Information, The third item down, with this information it centralizes distribution tracking an evaluation to PSI.

**Treatment Facilities:** Discuss a proposal of Treatment Facilities literature and include information that would assist area district Treatment Facilities. On the final agenda there will be a lot more of this. Mike reads reviews of a rough text and graphics to the current To Young pamphlet.

**Finance Questions:** Delegate Mike P. Past Delegate, Gustavo T. and I are going to present this. We will discuss the benefits and liabilities, in both the Spiritual and Practical from the GSO services to the fellowship by the voluntary contributions of A.A. members. Gustavo will speak on the Spiritual side and I will speak on the Practical side. We are doing this because last year we started it and Gustavo is familiar with it.

Gustavo. I would like to do something very special. Today 30 years ago our Co-Founder Bill Wilson passed away in Florida and I want us all to celebrate his life, I'm asking

that we all stand in a moment of silence (standing in silence). Thank you. I would also like to thank my Higher Power for my sobriety and thank Mike for giving me this opportunity. One of the most important things my sponsor told me when I came to Alcoholic anonymous was not to drink for 24 hours and to help another alcoholic to achieve sobriety. Later, I learned this is part of the A.A. preamble. In preparing this presentation there is a lot of reading material, learning and preparing for this topic, it is read in English and Spanish and figured out the principals that are related to the principles of self support. Finding these are great because they are close to my re-born new life in Alcoholic Anonymous and gives me a better idea of putting two dollars in the basket and saving a dollar per year and one penny for every day I enjoy being sober, I send this to New York. Some of the Concepts in order are; self support, participation, gratitude, love, discipline, service and what you can add to any other Spiritual Concept related to self support. The General Service Board explains their views on self support of World Services.

**The Practical Part:** Delegate, Mike P. On the hand out table there is literature on A.A. around the World. It states that A.A. has a presence of more than 180 countries, there are 61 autonomous A.A. general service offices world wide. A final Vision of Co-Founder Bill Wilson who believed there could be one world of A.A. to assure that help would always be available for sick alcoholics where ever they are or what ever language they speak. That A.A. could cross all of the barriers that have divided and shattered the world of our time.

**The Trustees Finance Committee is Developing their Agenda for 2009 General Service Conference:** Delegate Mike P. talks of what went on the last Conference, not using profits from literature sales.

Bill Wilson in 1946 wrote how he wants the General Service Office one day come fully self supporting by the volunteer contributions of the fellowship. There are two items we should keep in mind. Literature sales made three million dollars and in contributions received made six and a half million, and General Service Board made eight million dollars, so we lost two million dollars between contributions and services, means we made one million dollars in literature. There are fifty eight thousand three hundred and forty that are registered.

There is a motion made by Robert that we request that our delegate resubmits the original agenda items to the groups in a mutual manner. Marcus states the motion will table to our business discussion and will address it if there is sufficient time on the agenda. Marcus also reads from the 2008 General Conference Committee Agenda an item that was presented for the finance committee agenda item B. Consider the request to discuss the benefits and liabilities both Spiritual and Practical abounding the general service office of A.A. solely by the volunteer contributions of A.A. members and A.A. groups that profits from literature sale will no longer be used to fund our general service office, further consider a procedure to gathering the input from the fellowship as a whole and prepare a report on these discussions for 2009 Conference. The committee modified it. Advisory Action I approved, recommended on the committee as approved on the floor of the Conference. We will take up that motion after the business portion; we will have full discussion and vote on that motion.

(MINUTES CONT. FROM PAGE 5)

**New Business:** Assembly and ACM Host: District 30 will host the Pre-Conference work shop held in Pomona March 28th. Sunday March 29th Pre-Conference held in Santa Monica, will be hosted by the Combined Westside District. Motion passed unanimously.

**Revised web-Site Guidelines and policies:** Chair, Doug S. There is a recommendation for approval based on some work that Web-Site committee and the Guidelines and Policies committee did during the last several months. To change the Guidelines and Policies on the standing committees and out of that sub section in the Web-Site committee, they were discussed and brought to the guidelines and policies by the web-site committee at an assembly and an area committee meeting where the language was approved by the two committees. There was a written change in English and Spanish at the hand out table. Doug S. makes a motion to accept the recommended change, Joe M second. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **2009 Area 5 Final Budget**

**Approval:** Chairman Marcus F. asked if any committee chair would like to request an amendment to the budget. You can let this budget go thru as is and request a budget expenditure request. **Committee Chairperson's Reports:**

**Archives:** Chair, Shane P.: The budget for 2009 shows 0 and the budget for 2008 shows \$960.00 which went towards the storage facility in Pasadena. I would like the new budget to be amended

that we continue paying. This storage is too small, and there are more area 5 items that many of us have in our garages and a 9x5 is not big enough to fit all this. I ask that the budget be increased to \$2,000.00. Marcus asked what 's the income? Shane replies, we expect an increase once we get a large storage. Marcus "since you don't know what the current rent will be, are you willing to accept the \$960.00 from last year back in and when you find out what the rent might be to request it"? Shane agreed. Note that \$960.00 request for amending rent.

**CPC Chair:** Martha S.: suggested budget for \$1,193.00, won't cover but maybe one State Conference. Last time paid was \$800.00. Although we don't have specific request at the time, but will have. As for literature \$380.00 is very low considering all the projects currently going on in the area including putting literature racks and Big Books in Police and Sheriff Stations for what we do is not enough money. I'd like a request of \$2,000.00 be added on to this budget. Marcus asked if willing to accept a revision to the request to increase by \$500.00? And once the plan is more formally presented, at the ACM meeting we can address the additional \$1,500.00. Martha accepts.

#### **Public Information Chair:**

Greg L.: Don't have any information on what was spent last year. We designed some projects that we want to start; we need to provide some literature and other ongoing projects that some of our committee members are involved. We will

have to make a special request later.

**PRAASA Expenses:** The only ones that have no source of funding to attend the PRAASA are; area steering committee, the committee chairs, and the officers excluding the delegate and alternate delegate. Looking at item 661 has \$1,800.00 that was approved at the area committee which would pay \$100.00 for each one of the remaining 18 individuals that have no other source of funding to go to PRAASA, and we also have 5 more persons that were not identified earlier which are eligible to vote at our assemblies, who are our past delegates. Do you want our past delegates to be able to be funded \$100.00 each to go to PRAASA? I want to amend that on \$1,800.00 add \$500.00 to that line item to total \$2,300.00. Marcus closes amendment to the budget. An individual vote on each amendment will be taken at closing. And further discussion on the entire budget. Robert asked if the increase from the reserves that was talked about earlier? Eric K account treasurer clarified the reserves range from \$5,000.00 on the lower level and \$30,000.00 on the upper level and are currently at \$24,000.00 at the prudent reserves, and it will come from the reserves. Marcus makes motion for the amendments. Motion passed unanimously. Marcus moves for the approval of the budget as amended, motion passes. **Treatment Facilities:** Chair, Erich M.: states that they have a lot of experience in the committee and will be very active. We get involved in treatment centers teaching what A.A. is and what it isn't. We will coordinate

(MINUTES CONT FROM PG 6)

important items in the agenda, to review the pamphlets and also the videos. We plan to meet outside the assembly area. We have a secretary, Michael B.

**SCAAN Chair:** Lauren A.: I'd like to thank David B for helping me. Also Fidel our translator who has done an amazing job. We have a request for you to write in the SCAAN our family life in A.A., Concept 2 the general service of A.A. is our voice and conscience in our whole society. The dead line for these articles are May 3rd. Also, how I became a GSR and concept 3 the right of discussion, dead line July 12th. My journey as treasurer in my district, dead line is October 10th.

**Finance Committee:** Chair, Scott M.: Discussed that all the committee chairs should get their budget together and need to spend that money. Our main concern is the additional funds we have in the bank and not being spent. Every one should see on a regular basis what the bank balance is and what the funds are doing in the ACM's and Assemblies. We need to supply every one with balance sheets. We discussed about PRAASA funding, not necessarily just PRAASA. We are going to be working on financial guidelines and updating them and getting some things going fir material inventory. At our next meeting we will have a form for every one that has equipment and material that we need to identify.

**Guidelines and Policies:** Chair, Doug S.: We discussed the purpose of our guideline committee for the ones that are

new including myself. Also discussed the purpose change of the web-site committee language that we voted earlier, discussed the process how we went thru it. Many questions came up as to what is in the area 5 guidelines and policies, how changes are proposed and how they are being made as to what we experience today.

**Grapevine/ La vina:** Chair, George P.: We had an outstanding meeting. We are looking for an Alternate Chair who is bilingual. The committee is reaching out to get district Grapevine rep's to join us in the area grapevine committee meeting. I have a list from GSO and we will be contacting them to bring our list up to date. The committee has subscriptions of the Grapevine and La Vina.

**Registration:** Chair, Greg I.: We discussed committee goals as follows: To work with DCMs and up date district groups. That can be filled out On-Line and submit it directly to the registrar. Develop an Acknowledgement letter for the new registered GSRs. This is to bridge that gap between the time they register and when New York contacts them by mail. Develop a DCM group registration check list.

**Audio/Visual:** Chair, Gene R.: The meeting was very educational. There are fliers at the hand out table of Video films in English and in Spanish. On the flier you can contact me and also there's a Web-Site, we will schedule showing at your request as to the list on the fliers. District 14 scheduled on their quarterly Birthday on February 28th. We

also discussed about the committee equipment and how to facilitate the showing of the movies out to different districts at their request. The Spanish district was interested as to converting format into DVDs.

**Literature:** Chair, Jose F.: We discussed the Conference and presented the preliminary for the next Conference. We discussed the revision of the petition to review the Question and Answer pamphlet about sponsorship. Also to eliminate the cultural ethnic and vocational reference. We also hand our information about actions and additional congregations that were taken in the 58 conference of General Services about the revision of the stories that will be added to the pamphlet A.A. for the Native American. This information was handed out. We also discussed the finance in becoming self supporting and to stop using literature proceeds. The pamphlet Box 459 is very important.

**Archives:** Chair, Shane P.: Our Archives committee gave me the key to the storage in Pasadena. I will be going there to see what is in the storage. Some of our committee members are from the Spanish district. Shane also explains what an Archive work shop is.

**Web-Site:** Chair, Joe M.: We discussed the transition of the old Web-Master to the new Web-Master, before I continue the guide lines, it has to be approved by the officers. Marcus replied it will be done at officers meeting. The proposal is for John our new web-master. I will be the liaison for the Spanish speaking and he

(minutes cont. from pg 7)

will make sure the translation is correct.

**CEC (Co-operation with the Elderly Community) Committee (ADHOC):** Chris S. Our goal is to make sure we distribute literature to all the Senior Centers in our area and to participate in their annual health fair and their Senior Support groups were we find alcoholics. Our goal is to reach seniors and elderly alcoholics. We made sure we aren't replicating. We are also asking other districts to provide senior centers in their districts, I will be visiting. One of our committee members is designing a flier and will be distributed to the groups. On February 7th district 2 is hosting a presentation at the senior center in Sun Land, all interested please give your support.

**Sound Person:** Marcus is asking that we need a Sound Person to handle the job of setting up the equipment, storing it between meetings. Making it available at all area events, and having tapes to record the meetings. Please let me know if you are willing.

**Good and welfare:** Marcus asked for the good and welfare of A.A. We closed with the Responsibility Statement both Spanish and English.

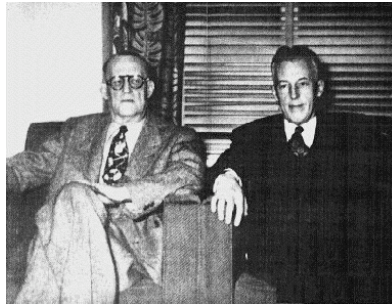
**Refreshments and**

**Lunch: Food Expenses**

\$794.98 Income (Contribution on Site) \$ 880.93 Net Change shown- as Income/Expense\$ 85.95

Thank you for allowing me being of Service. Your Secretary,  
Maria O.

**What Does General Service in So Cal Do?**



**Annually** sends our local delegate to the General Service Conference in New York to carry the conscience of Alcoholics in Southern California.

**Holds** assemblies and committee meetings for the representatives of local groups (GSR) to discuss the business of A.A.

**Organizes** efforts to bridge the gap between local treatment facilities and A.A. meetings.

**Educates** local health, legal and medical professionals about A.A.

**Addresses** accessibility issues to alcoholics with special needs.

**Screens** historical and educational A.A. films and videos at any meetings upon request.

**Collects** and archives historical A.A. artifacts to preserve our local A.A. legacy.

**Carries** the message of recovery through the Grapevine and the La Vina magazines.

**Maintains** registration of all groups in our area for the AA International directory.

**Handles** Public information requests from the media and anonymity breaks in the AA fellowship.

**Maintains** and makes available a comprehensive library of AA literature.

**Hosts** a website ([www.aascaa.org](http://www.aascaa.org)) which provides information, maps and news to members in So Cal and around the world.

**CONCEPT 2**

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.

When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference - excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter - the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.

**DELEGATE CONTINUED**

(Continued from page 1)

price increases are overdue. We have this silly little tradition that keeps outside enterprise from getting its foot in our door so Grapevine / La Viña accepts no advertising, nor does it receive contributions. Its sole sources for success rest with its content appeal and enough subscriptions to keep the price reasonable. What is its "content appeal?" Simply put, it's a "meeting in print." If you could leave an AA meeting on a park bench, a courtroom chair, in a doctor's office or sponsor a year's worth to a library would you? What is "enough subscriptions?" The English Grapevine has enough to be full color and staple-free for prison access, yet the price for 12 issues a year has to go up to \$27.00. The Spanish La Viña does not have enough subscriptions for full color nor staple-free prison access and for 6 issues a year it's going up to \$12.00. Participation by action on our part, individually and as groups, I believe is the path.

The trustees' Committee on C.P.C.(Co-operation with the Professional Community)/T.F. (Treatment Facilities) has requested sharing from the Fellowship regarding how A.A. members view the recent change in the practice of filming full faces of actors portraying A.A. members in relationship to A.A.'s Tradition of Anonymity. Prior to the 2007

General Service Conference approved video "A.A. in Correctional Facilities", both actors portraying A.A. members as well as actual A.A. members were filmed in an anonymity protected manner. In 2008 two more video clips directed to professionals show full faces of actors portraying A.A. members. All three of these videos include a statement that anyone portraying an A.A. member is an actor. Kindly direct your group's view on these changes to, email: [cpc@aa.org](mailto:cpc@aa.org) or by postal mail to, C.P.C. Desk, General Service Office, 475 Riverside Dr., 11th floor, New York, NY 10115.

This has been a brief report and I trust an important one. Should you have any questions or would like more information regarding Grapevine / La Viña or C.P.C./T.F. please contact our area's committee chair listed inside this SCAAN.

In fellowship,

Mike P.

Delegate

Area 05, Panel 59

**NOTES**

**AAGRAPEVINE.org**  
The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous



**A.A. AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
AREA ASSEMBLY AGENDA**

Sunday, May 17, 2009  
Olympic High School  
721 Ocean Park Blvd.  
Santa Monica, CA 90405

- 8:00 Registration, Fellowship
- 9:00 Call-to-Order, Serenity Prayer, 12 Concepts, Presentation Concept 3  
AA Birthdays (January 25 - May 17)  
Roll Call  
Approval of October Assembly Minutes  
Approval of Agenda
- 9:30 Officer Reports: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurers, alt.Delegate
- 9:55 PRAASA 2010 Committee Report
- 10:00 Delegate Report on the 59th General Service Conference
- 12:00 Lunch - Delegate Q & A on the 59th GSC
- 12:45 Standing Committee Meetings (review Conference Report)  
New GSR Orientation
- 1:45 Introduction of new GSRs and DCMs/DCMCs
- 2:00 Standing Committee Reports
- 2:45 Presentation and Q&A on Registration & Re-Districting
- 3:00 Presentation on Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC)
- 3:15 Old Business  
Tabled Motion from ACM: CEC Standing Committee
- 3:45 New Business  
Introduction of Guidelines Language for Website (Q&A)  
Un-budgeted Expenditure Requests  
Assembly & ACM Hosts
- 4:15 Good and Welfare
- 4:30 Closing: Responsibility Statement (Spanish and English)

AUDIO VISUAL COMMITTEE

**Films and Videos**

**available to you and your groups!**

**“Young People In AA “**

Format: 16mm film or video

Length: 30 Minutes

Four Young People in AA describe what it was like, what happened and what it’s like today.

**“It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell”**

Format: 16mm Film or video

Length: 17 Minutes

Four young AA’s in prison as a result of their drinking tell their stories.

**“Bill’s Own Story”**

Format: 16mm Film or Video

Length: 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)

**“Hope - Alcoholics Anonymous”**

Format: 16mm Film or Video

Length: 15 Minutes

Explains the Principals of AA: Primary Purpose, Sponsorship, Home groups, The Steps, the Traditions, basic recovery tools nd what AA isn’t.

**“Bill Wilson Discusses the 12 Traditions”**

Format: 16mm Film or Video

Length: 60 Minutes

Cofounder Bill W. tells how the principals safeguarding AA unity developed. (For AA Internal use only)

**“AA: Rap With Us”**

Format: Video Only

Length: 17 Minutes

Rap means music and lyrics bridge the contemporary stories of four young people in AA.

**“AA: An Inside View”**

Format: Video Only

Length: 28 Minutes

A close-up look at meetings and recovery.

**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 and Service”...16 Minutes**

**“Markings On the Journey” ....36 Minutes**

**“Your GSO Today” (older version).... 28 Minutes**

**CONTACT:**

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**SKID ROW DRIFTERS**

“In return for a bottle and a hangover, we have been given the keys to the Kingdom”

**SUNDAY JUNE 7, 2009**

Noon - 1:00 PM

POTLUCK AND  
ENTERTAINMENT

(Please bring something to share)

1:00-2:30

A Meeting to Remember

804E. 6th St. In the Park

(S.W. Corner 6th and Gladys  
between San Pedro and Central)

Skid Row Drifters is the only group to hold “Open” meetings on SKid Row every night and twice on Sundays. The Drifters have been carrying the message in a place where it is desperately needed. As you can imagine, in this economic climate, we come up a little short when we pass the basket down here. It has become tradition to hold an annual meeting to raise the funds necessary to keep this essential meeting going. We invite all Drifters, past and present, and all new members who wish to support us, to join us for this awesome event.

PLEASE BRING A CHAIR

If you are unable to attend and want to make a 7th tradition contribution, checks can be mailed to : Skid Row Drifters 603 Rampart, #55 L.A., CA 90057

**58th Southern California  
A.A. Convention**

**A New Way of Living**

**October 9,10,11, 2009**

We offer something for the entire Family including Al-Anon Marathon Meetings and A-Lateen Events.

Featured Speakers (A.A; A.A. Young Peoples, and our cherished Long-timers) Marathon Meetings, Fellowship and Fun.

The Southern California Convention is the Grand Daddy of

AA conventions in Southern California. It was brought into existence to fulfill an important need for the members of Alcoholics Anonymous long before the current explosion of AA conventions. The Southern California Convention has continued to provide that service for over half a century.

Please join us this year for fellowship and sobriety.

If you wish to attend you may fill out the [registration form](#) on this website. [www.aasocal.com/registration2009open.htm](http://www.aasocal.com/registration2009open.htm) Further information about the hotel site and directions are linked to this website.

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Garden Grove, Ca

If you are interested in joining the Planning Committee please visit the [2008 Planning Page](#) for information about convention Planning meetings [www.aasocal.com/2009Planning.htm](http://www.aasocal.com/2009Planning.htm)

AA Conventions: Why do I have to Pay?

While there are no dues or fees for membership in AA, there are many conferences around the world and the most common misconception of these gatherings are that they are AA meetings, and “there are no dues and fees for AA membership.” However, Conventions and Conferences are special events, not regular AA meetings.

This Convention requires months of planning, preparation and money to present. Since all of the events are held at a Convention Center, there is a charge to the Committee for the use of these facilities. Other expenses include travel and lodging for speakers, printing costs, postage and supplies. The event is paid for through the cost of the registration. No baskets are passed. As responsible AA members “WE PAY OUR OWN WAY.”

**DISTRICT 10 INVITES  
YOU TO:**

**THE 3RD ANNUAL  
EATIN MEETIN'  
EXTRAVAGANZA**

**Sunday June 7, 2009**

AT

THE SUBUD CENTER  
5828 Wilshire Bl. 3rd Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90036

Noon- 4:00 PM

**HOSTED BY YOUR  
GOOD FRIENDS FROM**

**DISTRICT 10/AREA 5**

GREAT FOOD!

GREAT FELLOWSHIP!

[WWW.D10AALA.ORG](http://WWW.D10AALA.ORG)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**CARRY THE VISION  
51ST ICYPAA ATLANTA,  
GA**

The 51st International Conference by Young People In Alcoholics Anonymous (ICYPAA) is Memorial Day Weekend, May 21st-24th at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, downtown, 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 USA.

Georgia is eager to host you at the 51st ICYPAA! The Host Committee has a non-stop weekend of meetings and activities planned. We invite you to join us for for fellowship and fun, where you will make new friends and "Carry the Vision" to our fellows from around the world. [www.icypaahost.org](http://www.icypaahost.org)

### Family Life In AA

I love this topic as much as I love AA because AA is my family. Like many of us I came from a dysfunctional family, but unlike some of us I wasn't the only non-functioning person. When I grew up I was the hero in my family. When I got sober I became the scapegoat. I did all the things we do in AA to grow. I made amends to all of my family members. I stayed out of their responses and kept my side of the street clean. There were only two emotional connections within my family. My mother and my nephew. Both died during my first three years of sobriety. Eventually, through outside help I detached from my blood family with love.

My higher power took me to people who have become my brothers, sisters, fathers and mothers. You are one of these and I have found the ones I can count on are the ones that show up for General Service Work. Whether you know it or not we are all family. Be kind to yourself today and all of your other family members. Remember Love and Service isn't just a Slogan.

**Roger W.**

**ALT/DCM DISTRICT 7**

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### CONCEPT 2

Alcoholics Anonymous began as an organization of loosely associated AA groups bound only by suggestions, "principles," and "traditions," not rules or regulations. The natural autonomy of the groups was balanced only by the need to have a centralized source for information, guidance, literature, and public relations. In

AA's early years, this source was Headquarters: the New York office and Alcoholic Foundation (essentially a board of trustees, consisting of five--three non-alcoholics and two AAs). The office was mostly Bill, his nonalcoholic secretary, and an assorted staff of volunteers. The Alcoholic Foundation, set up in 1938, monitored the legal, business, and financial end of AA.

This arrangement was fine as long as AA was in its infancy.

But as AA's population grew, thrived, and stabilized, it became apparent that AA was no mere experiment--it was going to endure. Bill saw two problems for the future: first, there was no link between the AA members and Headquarters. Second, AA's policy was being set by the trustees, who were not directly responsible to those they served.

As he often did on important matters, Bill communicated with the Fellowship about the conference. In November 1950, Bill wrote:

"So the hour is come when you must take these things into your own keeping. We ask that you guard them well, for the future of Alcoholics Anonymous may much depend on how you maintain and support these life-giving Arms of Service." This is how the General Service Structure was born.

Our founders believed they could be replaced by a principle: the collective conscience of AA speaking through the delegates of the General Service Conference.

AA's "collective conscience" made many important decisions during that first Conference:

approval of the Conference charter, requiring Conference approval for all AA "textbooks", and that nonalcoholic trustees should continue to serve.

Our 59th Conference is now history. 58 Conferences have come since that first panel and there is a new generation of AA's. AA has survived and prospered in between due to the success of the Conference structure. As Area 5's Panel 1 delegate said: "I knew why I was at the Conference. I was there as a representative of AA--to perpetuate our existence and to find new and better ways to carry the message."

Now it is our turn.

As General Service Representatives -- trusted servants of our groups -- it is our time to step up in active participation and communication with our groups on the important issues of our day. Because of this Conference process, we, like our founders, can help protect the Fellowship--its present policies and its future survival. The future of our Fellowship is right here in front of us. We represent that precious vital link between our group, its conscience and the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. We have to facilitate that connection through our participation--make it solid, make it strong.

**Thomas B.**

**DCMC - Westside  
Combined Districts**

**2009 Area 5 Calendar  
of Events**

**January 2009**  
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  
 1 2 3  
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17  
 18 19 20 **21** 22 23 **24**  
 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  
**AREA Assembly - 24th**

**February 2009**  
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
 8 9 10 11 12 13 14  
 15 16 17 18 19 20 **21**  
 22 23 24 25 26 27 28  
**4 Area DCM Sharing  
Session**

**March 2009**  
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**8** 9 10 11 12 13 14  
 15 16 17 18 19 20 21  
 22 23 24 25 26 27 **28**  
**29** 30 31  
**PRASSA - 6th - 8th  
28-29 Pre-conference  
Workshop**

**April 2009**  
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 19 20 21 22 23 24 25  
 26 27 28 29 30  
**Conference 4/26 thru  
5/2**

**May 2009**  
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**17** 18 19 20 21 22 23  
 24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
 31

**Area Assembly - 17th**

**June 2009**  
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 21 22 23 24 25 26 **27**  
 28 29 30

**Area Committee Meeting  
- 27th**

**July 2009**  
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 19 20 21 22 23 24 25  
**26** 27 28 29 30 31  
**Area Assembly 26th**

**August 2009**  
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 26 27 28 **29** 30 31

**Area Committee Meeting  
- 29th**

**September 2009**  
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 20 21 22 23 24 25 26  
 27 28 29 30

**October 2009**  
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 18 19 20 21 22 23 **24**  
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**Area Assembly - 24th**

**November 2009**  
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**1** 2 3 4 5 6 7  
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**22** 23 24 25 26 27 28  
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**Spanish Foro - 1st  
Area Committee Meeting  
- 22nd**

**December 2009**  
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 27 28 29 30 31



**TERMS FREQUENTLY USED IN GENERAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES:**

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- GSO** – General Service Office in New York often referred to as our “AA Headquarters”.

**THE AA GRAPEVINE  
MAGAZINE**  
[www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org)

Written, edited, illustrated,  
and read by AA members and  
others interested in the AA  
program of recovery from  
alcoholism, the Grapevine is  
a lifeline linking one  
alcoholic to another.

**UNITED STATES**

TWO YEARS - \$38.25  
ONE YEAR - \$20.00

**CANADA**

TWO YEARS - \$42.00 (U.S.), \$52.00 (CDN)  
ONE YEAR - \$22.00 (US), \$27.00 (CDN)

Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_for \_\_\_\_\_subscriptions

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Southern California Area Group Contribution Form**

GSO Group Service # \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting Day/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Send Receipts to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**SCAAN  
SUBSCRIPTION  
FORM**

To receive your SCAAN  
Newsletter via email,  
send your name and  
email address to:  
[scaan@aascaa.org](mailto:scaan@aascaa.org)

