



CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential -- June 2017

www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Chair's Preview

The May Area Committee Meeting (ACM) had a jam-packed agenda full of excitement as three districts bid for the last two open assemblies of Panel 67. A big thank you to all who bid! The next Pre-Conference will be hosted by Districts 40 and 02 in San Jose on April 7-8, 2018, and the Fall Election Assembly will be hosted by District 70 in Livermore on November 3, 2018. The open assembly dates for Panel 69 can be found on page 19 of this issue.

We approved two housekeeping motions from Bridging the Gap (BTG) for their regularly budgeted events—sending one member to the 27th Annual Workshop Weekend (in Bloomington, MN this year), and funding our CNCA 12th Annual BTG forum, which will be in Monterey, CA on October 21, 2017. The annual forum is always fun and informative, with lots of great speakers. It's an excellent way to learn more about what BTG does.

We started discussion on the following motion: *“That, due to funds in our checking account that exceed established Area 06 7th Tradition needs, CNCA disburse \$10,000 to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.”* This will be old business in June, so please discuss it in your districts. And we touched on two out of three of our ACM discussion topics, all of which will continue. The discussion topics and current Area motions can be found on page 11.

We filled the opening on the Web committee, and now we have an opening on the Interpretation & Translation Committee. If you are interested, and available to attend the monthly meeting at 11 am on the 4th Saturday, please submit your name to any Area officer.

At the June ACM, our Delegate will present a housekeeping motion to fund the cost of having our past U.S. Trustee-at-large, Bob W., fly out and facilitate our Area Inventory at this year's Fall Assembly. Bob recently rotated out at this year's General Service Conference after four years of service around the world. Trustees-at-large have the best stories and I think you'll enjoy meeting him in November.

In love and service,
Jennifer B, Area Chair

CNCA ASSEMBLY LOST AND FOUND:

Timex Carriage women's watch ▪ “Sand” sunglasses (black with red trim) ▪ New Balance black fleece jacket (size XL) ▪ Dark blue puffy jacket (“Personality”) with stamps and gum in the pocket

As of this writing, I have already done 4 of my Delegates Reports including the Post Conference Assembly. My first one seemed very short. But the talks seem to be growing in length as I remember more and more of this fabulous experience. I keep asking myself what is the most important thing to relate to the fellowship? I keep coming back to the same thing. All of this helps us carry the message of recovery to the alcoholic who still suffers. It is always about our primary purpose. But my challenge is how to make the connection between home group and conference to the fellowship and tie it in to carrying the message?

General Service came into being to help do those things that a home group could not do by itself. On page S18 of our service manual, it states exactly what these services are: publication of uniform literature, public information resources, helping new groups get started, publishing an international magazine, and carrying the message in other languages into other countries. Can you imagine trying to carry our message if there were not a big book or literature to refer back to? How would anyone find us if there were not a public relations format on our website (or a phone number to call and people who would answer) that told professionals who we were, what we did and did not do, and how to get ahold of us? Our message reaches those in prisons and institutions by means of our magazine and our volunteer work. But most of all, our message has been translated into 69 languages with 15 pending, and it is spread world-wide. It works in other languages.

All of this is how we carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still suffering alcoholics. But by doing what we do in General Service, we ourselves get to stay sober another day and grow in this spiritual awakening. I am hoping to help others to connect the dots. Maybe that's why my report keeps getting bigger and bigger. There is so much to say.

With deep gratitude,
 Joann L
 Delegate, Panel 67

2017 Summer Assembly

SATURDAY, AUGUST 05, 2017

Petaluma Community Center
 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954

Registration: 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.
 Orientation: 9:30 – 9:45 A.M.

Business Meeting: 9:45 - 12:00 P.M.

Lunch: 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

Workshop Session I: 1:00 - 2:15 PM

Workshop Session II: 2:30 - 3:45 PM

Report back: 4:00 - 4:30 PM

What's on your mind?: 4:30 - 5:00 PM

**BRING YOUR FM RADIOS FOR SIMULTANEOUS
 SPANISH/ENGLISH INTERPRETATION & ASSISTED LISTENING**

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 2017

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held May 27, 2017 at the Petaluma Community Center. Jennifer B opened the meeting at 12:30, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Linda R (District 13). Coventina W (District 04) read Tradition 5 and Michelle G (District 12) read Concept 5. There were 4 past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), Woody R (Panel 50, Area 07), Doug G (Panel 53) and David N (Panel 59). David N currently serves as a General Service Trustee, and Doug G serves as an appointed committee member of the Trustee's Literature committee. There were 4 GSRs present and 2 new DCMs present. The April 2017 minutes and financial report were accepted as printed in the electronic version of the *CNCA Comments*, with a correction clarifying that the 21st Anniversary of La Vifia will be held in Oxnard, CA.

Birthdays: 187/7.

Registered attendance: Voting (59) / Non-voting (44)

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: Thank you all so much for your participation at the Pre-Conference Assembly and all of the group consciences that you shared with me. I felt well-prepared. I hope everyone received the information I sent out last week, especially about the openings for a non-trustee director on the *Grapevine* and AAWS boards and the opening next year for a Pacific Regional Trustee. If you have not yet received the Advisory Actions, Additional Committee Considerations, or the list of actions that did not become Advisory Actions, please let me know. I have already done three of my 23 Delegate's reports; three districts still need to schedule a date. I have also been contacted by the chair of Area 05, who needs Spanish-speaking women to be liaisons for their Spanish Women's Workshop.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: AA recently learned

that the 1939 Printer's Copy manuscript of the *Big Book* was going to appear at public auction. Because the manuscript belongs to the GSO Archives, AA was granted a temporary order by the New York State Supreme Court to prevent the manuscript from being sold. I have been in correspondence with the CNIA Alternate Delegate to evaluate whether California AA should have a presence at the annual CalPsych convention in Yosemite in October this year. If we do have a presence, I will be requesting that CNCA support this activity at a cost not to exceed \$600.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: You did a great job preparing your districts for the Agenda Topics and for assembly business, and we are now down to two items of old business carrying over to the Summer Assembly. Send in your ideas for Summer Assembly workshops by June 24. You may also want to start thinking about inventory questions for our Fall Inventory Assembly.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: As of today, we have \$43,845 in our checking account (used for operating expenses) and \$10,117 in our savings account (which represents our prudent reserve). While we expected net revenue for April to be a loss of \$13,328, we instead cleared \$8386 (a difference of \$21,217). One reason for this variance is due to the fact that we operate on a cash basis, and that expenses do not always accrue in the month in which they were budgeted.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: I have been working with some AA members with technology backgrounds to repair problems with the database, and I have been working with each district to reconcile the differences between our records and GSO records. This should fix problems like the delay in receiving GSR packets. If it has been more than two months since you registered and you have yet to receive your packet, let me know so that we can fix the problem.

Looking for Something?

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Delegate's Corner, p.2
2017 Summer Assembly , p.2
Area Committee Meeting Minutes, p. 3-7 and 10
Area Financial Reports, p. 8-9
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Minutes for 2017 Post-conference Assembly,
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Area Officers and Meeting Info., p. 20

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: I continue to be amazed by the diversity of opinions and the reservoir of love for AA that I get to witness as I record the minutes. I love watching people go up to the microphone and share from the heart, go sit down, and then hear someone express a completely different opinion. No one seems to get upset. It brings me great joy to see the principles of our program come to life.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: The Post-Conference Assembly was amazing, and District 13 did an awesome job; their hard work is greatly appreciated. It was a lot of fun for me to work with them and see them come together as a team. Next up is the Summer Assembly. Updated flyers with hotel information will be available soon. Assembly dates for Panel 69 will be available soon.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: The *Grapevine* is still accepting articles on topics like Service during the Holidays and Sponsorship. A new book, *Making Amends*, is now also available. The annual photo contest – in which members send in photos to be featured in the annual wall calendar – has now started. Finally, revisions to the *Big Book* in Hebrew and in Thai have been approved.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – SUSAN G: Our annual Unity Day will be held June 11 in Salinas. At our district meeting, we had a lively discussions regarding our bid to host the Bridging the Gap Forum and regarding a distribution of funds. We also elected a new Grapevine/La Viña chair.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – ELIYAH H: Our budget for Panel 67 and our Financial Guidelines have been completed. We are preparing a presentation to our Intergroup regarding finances. Our district has zero operating funds available, and our prudent reserve is just slightly over \$500.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – ERIC H: Our registrar completed the process of re-balancing meetings within existing sub-districts. We passed a motion to send a member to the National AA Technology Workshop, and we passed a motion to send a liaison to CRUZYPAA.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – MARIANNE G: The registration process in our district is getting better. 75 percent of our DCM positions are now filled. I also want to recognize my district members, GSRs, DCMs and other officers for having such excellent turnout at the

last two assemblies.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – COREE H: Our district's experiment renting an Airbnb for the Post-Conference Assembly was successful. Our last district meeting was dedicated to teaching our GSRs how to communicate Conference results to their groups.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – COLLEEN G: We are preparing for our first motion of the panel; we will be hearing a motion to partially fund our Archives Chair to attend the National AA Archives Workshop in Canada. We also are continuing to discuss what to do with our excess funds.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DENNIS H: We have experienced good attendance at our district meeting and at assemblies, one more sign of the enthusiasm we are feeling. One GSR indicated an interest in developing an assembly bid, and another member proposed a new technology liaison position.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – PATRICK C: Intergroup is so motivated to cooperate with General Service that they have requested their own Delegate's report at the East Bay All Groups Day celebration. Our Bridging the Gap chair has formed an Outreach committee to connect with new facilities and coordinate with H&I. We are hopeful that this outreach could serve as a concrete demonstration of the utility of General Service in facilitating direct 12th Step work.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – DON Z: Our district now has a featured monthly article in the local Intergroup newsletter, and we have already conducted one General Service workshop for one of the two Intergroups in our district. A newly-formed sub-district meeting is proving to be a valuable source of information for the participating GSRs.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – RICHARD W: We had a presentation on how funds can be requested at our district. We passed a motion from our CPC chair to produce flip-chart presentations, and a motion to fund a district member to the National AA Archives Workshop was introduced. We filled our Literature Chair position and a vacant DCM position.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – CLAUDIA K Y: Our Post-Conference Assembly planning committee is having their first formal meeting this June. Our PI/CPC committee will present their budget request next month.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – TONY W: At our last district meeting, we passed a motion to transfer responsibility for our website (aasolanonorth.org) to the North Solano Intergroup; it was the first piece of old business we voted on this panel, and it was Alcoholics Unanimous.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – CATHY P: Our PI/CPC committee is committed to tremendous outreach effort to the community. They are discussing a letter-writing effort to 600-plus doctors and nurse practitioners, along with letters to HR professionals working in the largest companies in Marin County.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – JEFF D: Our PI/CPC chair has established a training program for speaking outside the rooms of AA, and we created a NAPYPAA liaison position. A motion from last panel about moving our meeting day from Saturday to a different day of the week did not pass. We also established an ad-hoc committee to oversee General Service content on the local website.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – ROBERT F: We heard three more fantastic PRAASA reports. Our PI/CPC committee made a presentation at a local school, and the children all sent notes back to thank them.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – LINDA R: The Post-Conference Assembly went well with the help of many volunteers. A motion to distribute excess funds from 2016 will be old business at the next meeting. We also now have a newsletter.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ROBIN T: Our Accessibilities committee is distributing an accessibilities needs survey to groups to give them an idea on what to focus on. We are now developing plans around our Delegate's report on August 20.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – CHRISTOPHER C: We received a lot of positive feedback from our district on our successful bid for the 2018 Summer Assembly. Our presenters and volunteers are excited for Unity Day on July 8. We also have a new webmaster with programming experience.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FRANCISCO R: We attended the Post-Conference Assembly and held our district meeting. A liaison from District 06 and a member from the CNCA Bridging the Gap committee joined us. We continue encouraging groups to send GSRs to the district meeting.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – MARIO S: Five members, including one GSR at his first assembly, attended

the Post-Conference Assembly. We heard the Delegate's report on May 21; we saw good attendance and there were various questions that were all answered. We are now preparing for our 27th anniversary in June.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – HECTOR C: We will be hosting the next Inter-district meeting in July and our district anniversary in September. Our Summer Assembly planning committee has been meeting and all positions (except for the food committee) are filled and we have many volunteers.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – MAGDALENO O: No one from our district was able to attend the Post-Conference Assembly. We are ready for our district anniversary and have several meetings (including a *Service Manual* study and PI committee meetings) on the calendar.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – JOSÉ P: We experienced loving discussion regarding the search for a possible new meeting location for our district, and continue looking for liaisons to Districts 07 and 08. Our committees are running well and are experiencing growing enthusiasm.

Area Sub-Committees and Sharing Sessions

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: We have been working on several projects during our workday, including the display we are creating for the upcoming Past Delegates' Reunion in June. Today, the Archives committee discussed our equipment and material needs. Our next workday on June 17 will include our quarterly training.

BRIDGING THE GAP – KELLY H: For April and May, your district and Area Bridging the Gap committees gave 60 presentations and handled 208 requests for contact. Our Corresponding Secretary received and responded to two additional letters. We continue to roll out the Pre-Release Contact service (and received our first request using the new brochure).

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We are prepared for any more questions that come up regarding the proposed disbursement of \$10,000 to GSO. We also continue looking at the flow of our envelope stuffing/ receipts mailing, as well as other processes at the Area committee meeting.

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: At our meeting today, we discussed how to generate professional contacts, and were reminded that as AAs, we are very

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

resourceful and well-connected (for various reasons) with law enforcement, hospitals, churches, etc. We also talked about letter-writing campaigns, cold-calling and other methods, but concluded that the personal connection was the best.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: Problems with email forwarding have been fixed. We continue working on a new website, and we have also begun a new practice of coming early for our committee meeting for training and website work.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: A DVD of the Delegate's report in American Sign Language is available. We had to say goodbye to a member of our committee who is moving; that leaves an opening on our committee. At the last two assemblies, we ran out of radios to loan so we are preparing a motion to acquire more radios.

CNCA COMMENTS – JOSÉ A: The *Comments* were sent on time. We sent 970 *Comments*, including around 70 using first class mail. We want to thank Central Office in Santa Clara County and our district for their help.

COMENTARIOS DE CNCA – JUAN CARLOS S: We sent 168 copies of the *Comentarios* on time, and we continue working with the Registrar to update the mailing list.

DCM SHARING SESSION – JACQUELINE P: 51 people attended today's DCM sharing session, which focused on the DCM packet and how to use it. Since our presenter hadn't yet received his packet from GSO, he created a packet and compiled its contents to present to our meeting. The packet contained 31 items, all of which are available online.

ACCESSIBILITIES – KRIS W: Today, we focused on sharing different resources for improving access. We discussed the Google Translate app that provides real-time translation/interpretation. We circulated ADA requirements for accessibility, shared information on child-friendly meetings, and discussed whether accessibility is an "outside issue."

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: We discussed how to create *Grapevine* and literature displays. We talked about the *Grapevine* photo contest and will bring examples of photos next month. We also heard a presentation on how easy it is to record a story and then press send.

NCCAA – LINDA G: NCCAA is prepared for the 70th Summer Conference in Sacramento from June 9 to 11.

There are many people with General Service experience scheduled to speak, along with dances, raffles and workshops.

H&I – DIANE O: The home team did a wonderful job hosting our 45th Annual H&I Conference in San Jose. I continue to be grateful for the unity that we all share in trying to carry our message of hope. The set-up, panels and speakers were wonderful. The only disappointing thing was attendance.

LA VIÑA 21 ANNIVERSARY – JUAN CARLOS S: So far, we have 120 people from our area registered to support the *La Viña* Anniversary in Oxnard in July. If anyone has an event or group anniversary and would want more information about the *La Viña* anniversary, we are happy to bring information.

Housekeeping Motions

That CNCA fund one person from the BTG committee to attend the 27th Annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend, to be held in Bloomington, Minnesota, from September 8 to 10, 2017, at a cost not to exceed \$850 (\$100 more than the budgeted amount). – *presented by the BTG committee*

Presentation: This is an annual housekeeping motion. Last year, the event was in Tucson, Arizona. The increase in cost compared to what was budgeted is due to the person selected from the committee this year living further from an airport.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

That CNCA fund the BTG committee to hold its 12th Annual BTG Forum in Monterey, CA, on October 21, 2017, at a cost not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$1000. – *presented by the BTG committee*.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

Seventh Tradition and Break (1:45 to 2:00 PM)

Area Business

ASSEMBLY BID:

Districts 40 and 02 bid for the 2018 Pre-Conference Assembly on April 7 to 8, 2018, at Fiesta Hall at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds (344 Tully Road, San Jose). Total bid cost of \$9205.50.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Presentation: The 10,000-square-foot hall requires \$2000 for a parking buyout. There are numerous hotels nearby. The site has been used before and is wheelchair accessible.

Questions: Q: Could you talk more about the parking buy-out? A: The parking buyout means we can park as many cars as we want; if we had not done this, it would cost \$8 per car. Q: Could you describe the interior? A: It is a basic assembly hall, with a kitchen and a stage. I assume the chairs are comfortable.

The Area Committee accepted the bid by show of hands.

ASSEMBLY BIDS:

District 90 bid for the 2018 Fall Election Assembly on November 3, 2018, at Willow Hall at the Fairfield Community Center (1000 Kentucky Street, Fairfield). Total bid cost of \$4807.

Presentation: This facility is slightly smaller than what is in the area's guidelines for assemblies but has banquet seating for 468 people. It also has two large projection screens. The facility is ADA compliant, but the ramp to the stage is steep.

Questions: Q: Are there fees for security guards? A: There is a requirement for security guards only if we serve alcohol. Q: Do we get set-up time the day before? A: That's why we added two hours to the cost for the night before. Q: Have you been able to check out options for radio frequency transmissions for interpretation? A: No. Q: Do we have any ability for leeway regarding time if we have a long assembly? A: They are aware we may stay longer. But we would have to pay.

District 70 bid for the 2018 Fall Election Assembly on November 3, 2018, at the Robert Livermore Community Center (4444 East Avenue, Livermore). Total bid cost of \$5658.

Presentation: This 7326-square-foot hall has a large stage. There is ample parking. This facility has been used before. There are projection screens and the hall has private space for ballot counting. The facility is ADA compliant, and the bid cost includes fees for security guards.

Questions: Q: What is pre-amp? A: If we want to use their sound equipment, we can use their sound equipment or ours. There is no additional cost. Q: How are

the radio frequencies for interpretation? A: There were no problems the last time we held an assembly at this site.

The Area Committee was asked to choose between the bids. **Vote was 40-9, with the bid from District 70 accepted.**

NEW BUSINESS:

That, due to funds in our checking account that exceed established Area 06 7th Tradition needs, CNCA disburse \$10,000 to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. – *presented by the Finance committee*

Discussion: The way we can return the money to the Fellowship is to send it to GSO so that GSO can lower literature prices. // We could ask the committees whether they have any projects that need to be financed. // We are an organization that should not acquire excess funds with no expressed purpose. If we continue to do that, we would be violating the Seventh Tradition. // More money should be sent. // We could use money to help improve our technology. // \$10,000 is a lot of money. It also seems to set a precedent. This should be business at the assembly. // Money is a huge distraction from our primary purpose. We know we are supposed to be poor; it is a spiritual concept. If there were projects that we wanted to do, we should save for them, not, in hindsight, realize we have extra money and find ways of spending it. // When H&I distributed excess funds, donations went down. // We could have easily suggested a \$20,000 disbursement. We thought \$10,000 would be a comfortable number for the Area. // If we want to change reimbursement policies for hotel stays, we would need motions. We may want to reconsider the maximum reimbursement of \$100 for a hotel. // If we informed people that we needed money and a need arose, the money would show up.

Motion moved to Old Business.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

What do you like about the *CNCA Comments/Comentarios*? How could they be more accessible?

Discussion: I like the clear type and the spacing. They are easier to read than in the past and the content is useful. // Space is always an issue, and fitting everything in is the most time-consuming part of being the editor. There is no room for pictures or graphics. // When I am trying to find information on items like the pros and cons, I find it difficult to go back through previ-

**California Northern Coastal Area
Statement of Financial Position**

As of April 30, 2017

	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	39,386.56
Prudent Reserve - Savings	<u>10,117.90</u>
Total Bank Accounts	\$49,504.46
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	<u>1,375.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets	\$1,375.00
Total Current Assets	\$50,879.46
TOTAL ASSETS	\$50,879.46
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	24,557.99
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	10,117.90
Net Revenue	<u>16,203.57</u>
Total Equity	\$50,879.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$50,879.46

Expense Report April 2017

California Northern Coastal Area

BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: 2017 BUDGET - FY17 P&L

April 2017

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
REVENUE			
002 Group Contributions	7,792.46	6,000.00	129.87 %
003 District Contributions	5,976.91	625.00	956.31 %
004 Assembly Contributions	2,405.35	2,850.00	84.40 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	393.10	320.00	122.84 %
007 CNCA Subscriptions		12.00	
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	709.00	100.00	709.00 %
009 Motions Book		50.00	
010 Interest Income	0.41	1.00	41.00 %
Total Revenue	\$17,277.23	\$9,958.00	173.50 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$17,277.23	\$9,958.00	173.50 %
EXPENDITURES			
012 EXPENSE			
013 Delegate Expense	1,599.32	1,666.00	96.00 %
038 Officer Expense	3,061.54	2,744.00	111.57 %
093 Committee Expenses	1,013.33	2,341.00	43.29 %
158 General Expenses	3,036.70	16,535.00	18.37 %
Total 012 EXPENSE	8,710.89	23,286.00	37.41 %
Total Expenditures	\$8,710.89	\$23,286.00	37.41 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$8,566.34	\$ -13,328.00	-64.27 %
NET REVENUE	\$8,566.34	\$ -13,328.00	-64.27 %

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

ous issues. It takes hours to get the right information. // We could have a brief *Cliff's Notes* version of the *Comments*, and we could use technology to improve them and make them searchable. // We are one of the few areas still publishing on legal-size paper. // Our newsletter is quite simple. It includes the minutes, a financial report, information about subscriptions and a calendar. It could be a lot richer and more appealing. // Right now, it can be hard to know what I am looking at. Are these assembly minutes or committee meeting minutes? The font is bigger than in the past, but it's still hard to read. // We could put articles from our standing committees in the newsletter rather than a brief synopsis in the minutes. We could include articles about the Delegate's travels, or reports from assemblies, PRAASAs and Forums. // An ad-hoc committee could explore our options. // If I brought a copy of the *Comments* from 14 years ago, you would think it was this month's issue. // Even at the ACM, people see copies of the *Comments* and *Comentarios* and no one takes them. // I would like to see highlights from districts, similar to what is in the Conference reports highlighting different areas. // I would not be in favor of changing our format if it would make it difficult for districts to participate in and bid on this service. // It is nice to want color, articles, and pictures. But do we really need this? // When I get the newsletter in the mail, I read it. I don't know what would happen if it were sent electronically or I had to get it from the website.

Discussion continues next month.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Simple majority decisions and the minority opinion

Discussion: We have a lot of business we do with simple majority, and we have some guidelines on it. We trust our chair (at Area or district) to explain it. // We just had two bids for the same assembly, but there was no opportunity to offer the minority opinion. I hope there wasn't any information I hadn't thought about that could have changed my mind. I always want to hear the other side. // We ought to be doing minority opinions on every vote. // The minority opinion shouldn't be a gotcha thing to change the vote. If you have something, bring it up in the discussion, not hold on to it until the last minute for

maximum shock value. // We don't often hear why people are voting the way they do, especially on taking motions to the assembly or keeping them here. Hearing a minority opinion would make it clearer.

Discussion continues next month.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

You are all welcome to join us for the Past Delegates' Reunion in San Jose. It is a casual event held every year, and we do not charge a registration fee for non-past delegates. The banquet is \$50 and will be a lot of fun. // When I was attending my daughter's graduation in Santa Fe, I attended a meeting with many Native Americans in attendance. It got me thinking about my service here – and about all the reports of translations. It made me feel good about the service I am doing to AA by being here. // All ACYPAA panel speakers are available online at ACYPAA.org. // I attended the CNIA Post-Conference Assembly and felt welcomed and grateful. // I encourage all of those who get to travel for CNCA to invite us to come with them in the car. // I want to clarify that you will not get a new GSR/DCM packet every year if you were registered last year. // I also went to CNIA, and it was my first assembly outside of our area. It was so fun. // My heart always sinks when we have bids for the same assembly. I wish we could figure out a way to avoid that in the future.

The meeting was closed at 3:26 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love (and a little guilt for abbreviating reports)

Eric L

CNCA Panel 67 Recording Secretary

NOTES FROM CHAIR

Please remember to bring your FM radio to all Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies for Spanish/English interpretation and Assisted Listening for the hearing impaired.

Area Committee:

Assembly Bids:

Housekeeping Motions:

Guidelines:

Presentation of New Business:

Old Business at Area Committee Meeting:

“That, due to funds in our checking account that exceed established Area 06 7th Tradition needs, CNCA disburse \$10,000 to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.” —*presented by the Finance Committee*

New Business at Area Committee Meeting:

Discussion topics:

- What do you like about the CNCA *Comments/Comentarios*? How could they be more accessible?
- Simple majority decisions and the minority Opinion
- Suitability of this facility for our Area Committee meetings

Area Assembly Motions:

Redistricting Requests:

Presentation of New Business at Area Assembly:

Old Business at Area Assembly:

1. “That language similar to the following be added to the section “How Decisions Affecting A.A. Are Made” in “The A.A. Group” pamphlet at the conclusion of the following sentence: Annually, groups from the U.S. and Canada elect delegates (serving two-year terms) from their areas to the yearly meeting of the Conference in New York—to hear the reports of the board's committees, G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs, and to recommend future directions, mainly in the form of Advisory Actions.

‘Prior to the annual General Service Conference a list of important issues to be discussed during the Conference is published and made available to each and every Group in the U.S. and Canada. Because these issues make up a part of the entire General Service Conference Agenda, they are referred to as Agenda Topics. Every Group in the U.S. and Canada has the opportunity to review, discuss, and develop an informed Group Conscience on these Agenda Topics. The Group's GSR then carries the Group's Conscience on Conference Agenda Topics to the Area's Delegate, usually at an Area Assembly prior to the General Service Conference. The Area Delegate then represents the collective conscience of the Groups in the Area at the General Service Conference on these matters vital to A.A. as a whole.’”

2. “That the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous and the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous approve the development of a new public service announcement in video format that utilizes full-face actors (not members of A.A.). – *presented by the CNCA PI/CPC Committee*

New Business at the Area Assembly: None.

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

The Post-Conference Assembly Business meeting of CNCA was held May 13, 2017 at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Lakeport, California. Jennifer B opened the meeting at 9:15, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Linda G (District 13). Nora H (District 70) read the 12 Traditions in English, and Oscar R (District 40) read the 12 Traditions in Spanish. There were 7 past delegates present: Nancy H (Panel 49), Woody R (Panel 50, Area 07), Doug G (Panel 53), Sharon A (Panel 57), David N (Panel 59), Ken M (Panel 61), and Raymundo L (Panel 65). David N currently serves as a General Service Trustee, and Doug G serves as an appointed committee member of the Trustee's Literature Committee. There were also two past trustees present: Tom M and Nancy H. The minutes from the 2017 Pre-Conference Assembly were accepted as printed in the electronic version of the *CNCA Comments*.

Registered attendance: Voting (211) / Non-voting (82)

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: It feels so good to be home. I have sent out to all of the DCMCs copies of the Conference Advisory Actions, as well as information on additional Committee Considerations and Floor Actions that did not result in Advisory Actions. If anyone did not receive these, please let me know. I also have digital files of all Board reports and GSO staff reports. These will be in the final Conference Report, but if anyone wants these files sooner, I can send them to you. I also have a statistics sheet with information on the Conference this year. The Conference Report this year will be available in hard copy and digitally (which will be anonymity-protected and can go on our Area's website). In the AAWS report, you can find a complete review of current business practices. The takeaway is that the current business model is sustainable as long as the fellowship continues its contributions. At the Conference, we discussed how to improve information about online contributions on the website. We also were given information about a pending Safety Card that is being developed with language from the safety service materials. Right now, we seem to be addressing some of the things that can frighten us – like the safety issue and the money issue. Facing these problems is how we will be responsible for them in the future.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: Your delegate and I continue to meet monthly for lunch to ensure that we continue to work effectively on your behalf. I also pray for the health of the delegate, which, of course, you can

do also if you want. The GSO Quarterly Report has just been published; you can let your groups know that for 2016, group contributions were a record – up approximately 12 percent to just under \$8 million. If that rate of increase continues for the next two or three years, the cost of group services could be fully-funded by group contributions.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: Today is going to be a fun day. I think all assemblies are fun, but the one everyone calls the 'fun assembly' is our Summer Assembly coming up in August. We will have our usual business meeting in the morning, but we then break out into smaller groups for workshops in the afternoon. Please submit ideas for topics you would want to talk about and learn about to me or any Area Officer by June 24. Past topics have included Concepts, Service Sponsorship, Working with Intergroup and Central Offices, Technology, Safety and so much more. We also have an opening on the area's Web Committee. Members of the committee are appointed by the area officers, but we need to know who is available. If you are interested, please put your name on the clipboard or send me an email.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: As of today, we have \$41,183 in our checking account (used for operating expenses) and \$10,117 in our savings account (representing our prudent reserve). Year-to-date contributions are \$3000 ahead of budget, and expenses are \$17,000 ahead of budget. However, we are almost \$14,000 'in the black,' leaving us roughly \$20,000 ahead of budget. Please thank your groups for their continued contributions.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: I continue to process changes as they come in from districts and have been working with some AA members with technology backgrounds to repair some of the problems with the database. I am also working with the GSO Records Department to address the process of updating our area records. This should fix a few problems, including the delays in receiving GSR and DCM packets. If you haven't received your packet within two months of registering, please let your district registrar know so we can contact GSO on your behalf.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: So far this year, I've been able to visit 14 districts in our area, and am so grateful for the hospitality from all of you. It's so wonderful to see the love for AA – and for the alcoholic yet to walk through our doors – manifested at your district

meetings and here at these assemblies. I continue making every effort to ensure all of the voices of the AA members you've come here to represent are accurately reflected in our minutes.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: I would like to thank District 13 for all their hard work putting this assembly together for all of us. They have been planning for a long time, and they have done an awesome job. Our next assembly, the Summer Assembly, will be on August 5 at the Petaluma Community Center. As you can see today, hosting an assembly is a joyous experience. If you would like to find out more, please see me.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: The Grapevine Story Archive includes every Grapevine article published since 1944. You can find stories and articles by date, region or state, or topic. Grapevine is currently accepting articles for upcoming issues including topics like AA in the Military and Service during the Holidays. The newest translation of AA literature is the Raratongan language Big Book, and revised translations of the Hebrew and Thai editions have been approved.

Area Standing Committees and Sub-Committees

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: The function of the Archives Committee is to give members a sense of our past and an opportunity to study it. We will be taking a display to the upcoming Past Delegates' Reunion in San Jose, and are creating a new display and having a lot of fun seeing a timeline of our past delegates in this area. A member of our committee will be attending the National AA Archives Workshop in Winnipeg, Canada, at the end of September, and our area's Archives Repository in Walnut Creek will be open for our workday next Saturday from noon to 4 PM. Our next quarterly training will be held June 17.

BRIDGING THE GAP – KELLY H: Bridging the Gap officers continue to visit districts, something we prioritized this panel in order to support and help strengthen your district BTG committees and increase awareness of the service, especially of our new Pre-Release Contact Service. Thank you to everyone who commented on the brochure distributed at the last area meeting, and please consider holding a recruiting and orientation workshop if you would like your district, fellowship or meeting to have a chance to participate.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We talked as an area last year about collecting contributions digitally; our trial run using Square to collect contributions at the ACM in April was a big success, and we are improving the process. We

are hoping to eliminate some of the busy work that keeps the committee engrossed in envelopes and paper-stuffing and save the Area some money on the costs involved, and we are now discussing how to streamline the process of check requests and reviewing our Finance web page.

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: The Area's PI/CPC Committee meets monthly at 11:00 a.m., prior to the Area Committee Meeting in Petaluma. In Panel 67, on even months, we have roundtables where districts can share successes and challenges on a given topic. On odd months, we alternate between presentations and a CPC focus. We also represent AA at national, regional and statewide conventions held in our area, and I have reached out to professional organizations in the state to obtain information about their activities. Please stop by our table and find out more.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: Problems with email forwarding have been fixed, though we are aware of continuing spam to cnca06.org emails. We continue working on a new website, and, on our current website, we have added a new heading in the sidebar to post minutes from past assemblies.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: I want to thank our interpreters, Mateo and Molly, for coming to Lake County today. English to Spanish and Spanish to English interpretation is available on FM station 91.9; Assisted Listening is at FM station 103.5. There will be CD copies of the Delegate Report available in English and Spanish at the end of today's assembly, and a DVD of the ASL interpretation will be available at the May ACM.

Area Business

OLD BUSINESS:

That CNCA moves to reintroduce the following section (from page 6 of the *AA Member – Medications and Other Drugs*, revised 2011 and also from the 1998 edition of *Living Sober*, page 89) in "Appendix" in *Living Sober* (2012 edition). Placement of the below text will follow the current section Note to medical professionals (page 90):

'Some alcoholics require medication. We recognize that alcoholics are not immune to other diseases. Some of us have had to cope with depressions that can be suicidal; schizophrenia that sometimes requires hospitalization; bipolar disorder, and other mental and biological illnesses. Also among us are diabetics, epileptics,

members with heart trouble, cancer, allergies, hypertension, and many other serious physical conditions. Because of the difficulties that many alcoholics have with drugs, some members have taken the position that no one in A.A. should take any medication. While this position has undoubtedly prevented relapses for some it has meant disaster for others. A.A. members and many of their physicians have described situations in which depressed patients have been told by A.A.s to throw away the pills, only to have depression return with all its difficulties, sometimes resulting in suicide. We have heard, too, from members with other conditions, including schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, epilepsy and others requiring medication, that well-meaning A.A. friends discourage them from taking any prescribed medication. Unfortunately, by following a layperson's advice, the sufferers find that their conditions can return with all their previous intensity. On top of that, they feel guilty because they are convinced that 'A.A. is against pills.' It becomes clear that just as it is wrong to enable or support any alcoholic to become readdicted to any drug, it's equally wrong to deprive any alcoholic of medication, which can alleviate or control other disabling physical and/or emotional problems.'
 – presented by District 07

Discussion: This section continues to be Conference-approved text and is in other literature. We would like it placed in the booklet again. // My group was in favor because it is important information. We do not diagnose people or treat medical conditions, and this excerpt is important to include. // Most of the people in my group thought the more information available, the better. The topic of mental health is important, and we could add this information in a lot of our literature. One member of my group said it should be added into 'Appendix III: The Medical View on AA' in the *Big Book*. // Our group feels it is important because there have been personal opinions that can jeopardize people's sobriety and life. This would be helpful in dispelling misconceptions that exist. // We are in favor. // We were unanimously in support of this motion. That excerpt in the book helps increase visibility and lets people see how inclusive AA is. We give *Living Sober* out to newcomers, and as a newcomer, I saw that way before I saw this information in the pamphlets. // Our group was split three ways. One group of people was in favor, another group was in favor but had concerns about language, and the third group was not in favor. They expressed concerns that AA would be taking a stance on not taking a stance. // At our district meeting, there was unanimous support for the idea, but there were concerns about some of the

language. Stating the same thing in multiple places is helpful because it is an important message. // Our district was adamantly in favor. Playing doctor with medication is harmful and can even lead to death. We want AA to be accessible to all people who want to stop drinking. // Initially we were in favor, but after some discussion, we were unanimously not in favor, because this information is already available in the pamphlet. We want something added to *Living Sober*, but for it to be simpler. // My district is making a concerted effort to do outreach to veterans. I have been calling counselors and medical staff. One of the comments I got was that veterans are put off from attending AA because some of them have heard that AA is opposed to medication. // *Living Sober* is one of the first books we have newcomers read. If they don't see it in the book, they may never see it. // My personal experience is that I have been on medication in sobriety and got to a point where I was suicidal even with medication, even with a therapist, and I lost contact with my Higher Power. I have now come off medication and it has forced me to realize that the solution is in the Steps. I need one solution, not multiple solutions. I am not in favor of putting it back in because this information is in other places. // My issue is not with the content, but with where it is being put. My concern is with its placement as a note to medical professionals. // Most people I talked to wanted this in more literature. The concern I hear about redundancy surprises me. I think about redundancy in our literature and so much of our literature is redundant. We have an entire book, *As Bill Sees It*, which is redundant. This is an important enough issue that we can afford to be redundant. // Some people who take medication feel like they don't belong. I would like this information somewhere where it is visible. Having this text in there would make me feel like I belong. // I have lost two sponsors to suicide. Those men saved my life. All I know is redundancy is important and I want this information anywhere we can put it. // I have a brother who is an alcoholic and has Schizoaffective Disorder. A therapist he had told him that if he wanted to go to AA, he should not talk about his medication. Professionals should know that we are not opposed to medication and we should be clear about that by including it in our literature. // We had a workshop and I spoke about pain medication. I am proud to be a sober member of AA in good standing and I sometimes get funny looks because of my use of narcotics as prescribed. // I am not a doctor and I should not tell people to take medication or to not take medication. // When I was looking for a rehab, I was turned away from many possible rehabs because of my psychiatric diagnosis. It put me off of AA

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY (Cont.)

at the time. I got the impression that my psychiatric diagnosis was a barrier to my sobriety.

The Assembly was asked if they were ready to vote, and members were ready to vote. Substantial unanimity (2/3) was required for the motion to pass.

Vote: Yes (Substantial Unanimity, No Count Taken) / No (7) / Abstained (3). Motion passes.

Minority Opinion: I can't speak for other conditions. Thinking I know best for others is me being self-centered. But I do have experience with the depression aspect. Whether I am on medication or not, I am still self-centered. On medication, I got distracted from that. My solution was medication, and that allowed me to veer away from AA and nearly relapse. It may be necessary to struggle and experience pain in order to have the gift of desperation, which pushes us toward the solution that the steps offer. I worry about depriving alcoholics of that gift of desperation because they take medication that relieves their symptoms, but not their alcoholism.

No motion to reconsider. // **Motion passes.**

OLD BUSINESS:

That language similar to the following be added to the section "How Decisions Affecting A.A. Are Made" in *The A.A. Group* pamphlet at the conclusion of the following sentence: "Annually, groups from the U.S. and Canada elect delegates (serving two-year terms) from their areas to the yearly meeting of the Conference in New York — to hear the reports of the board's committees, G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs, and to recommend future directions, mainly in the form of Advisory Actions."

'Prior to the annual General Service Conference a list of important issues to be discussed during the Conference is published and made available to each and every Group in the U.S. and Canada. Because these issues make up a part of the entire General Service Conference Agenda, they are referred to as Agenda Topics. Every Group in the U.S. and Canada has the opportunity to review, discuss, and develop an informed Group Conscience on these Agenda Topics. The Group's GSR then carries the Group's Conscience on Conference Agenda Topics to the Area's Delegate, usually at an Area Assembly prior to the General Service Conference. The Area Delegate then represents the collective conscience of the Groups in the Area at the General Service Conference on these matters vital to A.A. as a whole.' — *presented by District 11*

Discussion: We were unanimous in support. This infor-

mation should be made readily available to demystify our process. // The wording of this motion looks great, but only for our area. My concern is that not all areas do business the way we do business here. Delegates have different ways of assembling information and gathering group consciences, and my concern is that we are imposing our way of doing business on AA as a whole. // If we had a pamphlet about the Conference process, this would be great. But this information is not about groups. Accurate information is available in the *Service Manual*. This motion feels like we're trying to cram more information about General Service into the pamphlet.

This motion will remain Old Business at the Summer Assembly.

NEW BUSINESS:

That Sub-District 001 of District 11 (Napa Valley) be allowed to split into two (2) Sub-Districts for a District total of three (3) Sub-Districts. — *presented by District 11*

Discussion: We (District 11) have been discussing how to split the district, and we would do it geographically. The western half of Sub-District 001 would remain Sub-District 001, and the eastern side would become Sub-District 003. They would become two sub-districts with about the same number of groups. // Right now you have a sub-district with 50-plus groups, which imposes a workload on the DCM that is fairly unreasonable. Groups would be better served by having a DCM who was able to be effective for them. The only effect on the area would be the addition of one voting member (a DCM). // Napa wants this. It seems like it would help them. Let's help them do it. // Why are we asking groups to do group consciences on this? Asking a group in San Jose to take a group conscience on how they feel about adding a sub-district in Napa does not make General Service attractive, and seems like a waste of time. // The reason I objected last month is that if this request is so important that we must discuss it at an assembly, it should not pass as a simple House-keeping Motion.

Motion moved to Old Business.

The Assembly was asked if they were ready to vote, and members were ready to vote. Simple Majority (50% +1) was required for the motion to pass.

Vote: Yes (Substantial Unanimity, No Count Taken) / No (2) / Abstained (6). Motion passes.

Minority Opinion: We have had problems with this procedure in the past. // I have not heard anything from GSRs in Napa. I would like to hear from the people most affected.

Motion to reconsider. Motion to reconsider fails. // **Motion passes.**

NEW BUSINESS:

That the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous and the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous approve the development of a new public service announcement in video format that utilizes full-face actors (not members of A.A.). – *presented by the CNCA PI/CPC Committee*

Discussion: At first people expressed anonymity concerns. After I showed them PSAs from other countries with full-faces, people responded positively to those videos and wanted similar videos produced here. // We thought these videos could be a great service for people. // The majority felt it would introduce AA to people who don't know much about us. // There were concerns about the clause 'not members of AA.' We don't want to block people from their livelihood if they are actors who are also AA members. // When this motion was first made, I was against it. But one of the arguments in favor was that lip-readers could benefit from full-faced videos and that changed my opinion. // I have been making presentations for the BTG committee since 2006. I have experienced no controversy regarding full-faces in video. Seeing faces is an effective Twelfth Step tool. // We are trying to micro-manage the PI/CPC committee. There is a policy, and this motion is redundant and not necessary. // I feel strongly about full-face videos. The less you show of people's faces, the more meaningful the video can be. The videos we have are well-made, and they show silhouettes or lips. I used to watch a lot of daytime television, and there were a lot of full-face videos for the treatment industry. Our videos set us apart. // I don't like the full face. It creeps me out. It also creeps me out when I see TV shows with our banners. It doesn't set a good precedent. It encourages people to see the differences. Let faces be obscured and instead let our literature speak. // I am in favor because it lets professionals have a sense of what AA is. Hiding our faces contributes to the feeling that AA is strange and secretive. // PSAs are right against the line between attraction and promotion, and full faces cross over that line. // I feel strongly about not having actors speak for us. Every show or movie I have seen emulate what AA is doesn't feel real. If you haven't been to the Fourth

Dimension, you can't fake it. // This motion reminds me of 'that guy' who comes to the business meeting and keeps coming back to the business meeting and making motions because what he wants to happen isn't happening. // This is just another tool. It may not reach everyone, but it will reach some people. I have been listening to the audio Grapevine for a decade. The message comes through because that is the most important thing. There is room for a PSA that can be very effective for some people. Let's add, not replace. // This is not a new thing. There was a similar motion several years ago that arose because of PI/CPC work with young people. Young people were more responsive to full-face videos, and while these may not be applicable to everyone, if we attract even a few, it can become one more tool in our arsenal of tools. // A great deal of my recovery is based on identification. I may identify better with someone I can identify. If it helps save one drunk, we should try it. // Those videos are really powerful. Seeing the face has a lot of identification for me, and this is something that can be one more tool. I also think the shadow thing is odd. // I just hope that we make a video that is tasteful. I would hope we could vote on the content that goes into the video before it is made. // I feel uncomfortable with full-face videos. But at ACYPAA, there was a panel with deaf people. And deaf people need full faces to be able to understand the message. // I am not sure where I stand on this. The full face thing feels like marketing. Are we sticking to our principles? But I don't know how someone considering coming to AA feels about this. We could also have a disclaimer that says that we don't show faces. // As alcoholics, aren't we all actors anyway? // The people portraying these alcoholics might be alcoholic also. // There is more we can do to make AA more accessible. // It is not good for some people to have their anonymity broken. But some people can handle it. They can be the ones in the video. // I see in our videos already our experience and hope. But when I was drunk in my room, I wanted to identify. // I am new to AA, and what attracted me was the people I know and love who have found recovery. But this seems to me more promotion, not attraction. I would also like AA members in our videos, because only we can convey our experience, strength and hope. // It seems that the spirit here is to get more alcoholics into AA. I do worry about promotion, and my experience is that AA works best when one alcoholic works with another. The problem isn't about getting people here, but instead getting them to stay. // I don't think this motion is spiritual in nature. Alcohol will be the great persuader, and we need to have our hand ready to receive people. *That hand shouldn't take the form of a television commercial. //*

Having seen the video, I felt moved. I have seen many videos with silhouettes or shadow people. The video we saw with full faces impacted me; it reminded me of my drinking and spoke to me in a way those other videos haven't. // I thought about what this could mean to people with less access to face-to-face meetings. This could mean a lot for them. // Attraction means we put information out so that people can have it. Promotion involves making guarantees of results and has a tone of a sales pitch. We can only say how AA has improved our lives. // There is something about one alcoholic talking to another that matters.

Motion moved to Old Business at the Summer Assembly.

PRESENTATION:

The World Service Meeting – presented by Doug G

I bring you greetings from the fellowships of Scandinavia. AA is alive and well in the Nordic countries. I was asked just now to speak about the World Service Meeting. It is mentioned in our current version of the *Service Manual*. It was established in 1969 and has been held every other year since 1972, and is held for countries (and regions) with service structures) to share experience strength and hope with each other. I got involved in 1998, when the Japanese General Service Conference asked me to serve as an interpreter at the World Service Meeting in Auckland, New Zealand. That was my first time attending. I have now been to 10. The last one (the 24th) was in Rye, NY, in October 2016. The meeting alternates between New York and other countries. Recent meetings have been held in New Zealand, Spain, Ireland, Mexico and Poland. The next one will be in Durban, South Africa, the first time it has been on the African continent. South Africa has been working hard for many years to carry the AA message to sub-Saharan Africa. The theme last year was 'One World – One A.A. – One Language of the Heart,' and there were 61 delegates representing 40 different countries or linguistic zones around the world. Our North American representatives were our two trustees at large for the United States and for Canada. Over the course of five days, delegates cover a broad range of issues pertinent to the development of AA. They may make recommendations about how the World Service Meeting runs, but they do not make decisions binding on any country or service structure. Two countries this year were participating for the first time: Paraguay and Slovakia. AA continues to grow around the world, and a highlight is hearing dele-

gates giving country highlights. Some of these countries have not had a service structure for more than a decade. Some (like Ukraine) have small budgets, and they do the best they can with their Seventh Tradition contributions. The delegates who came from Ukraine were sponsored by Great Britain. You hear a lot about country-to-country sponsorship. Initially, the United States sponsored Mexico. When AA started in Cuba, Mexico started to sponsor them, along with Paraguay. Australia sponsors some Southeast Asian countries (like Laos and Cambodia), New Zealand sponsors some of the Pacific island nations, and Japan helped Mongolia develop their service structure. At the World Service Meeting, the goal is to have one consistent message – and that the message of AA be available for sick alcoholics no matter where they may be or what language they speak. The language of the heart can thrive wherever the need for recovery exists. This past year, there were about twenty presentations on topics like anonymity, carrying the message to underserved populations, the effective use of technology, and how to work with professionals in the field of alcoholism. The International Literature fund (that helps develop translations) was a popular topic, and there were presentations on how to carry the message in a multilingual, multicultural society (like in India, with its many official languages and large population). AA is alive and well around the world. At the end of the meeting, all the delegates stand in a circle holding hands, and, in one language after the other, for the 28 languages present, the Serenity Prayer is recited, and, by the end, there is not a dry eye in the house.

The meeting was closed at 11:35 am with the Responsibility Statement.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? (AFTERNOON SESSION)

Thank you to Joann for being our link to the Conference. // The Regional Forum will be in San Jose in September, 2018. The Past Delegates' Reunion in San Jose will be this June, and if you are interested in knowing more, I can send you a flyer. // Thumpers is bidding to host the 2030 International Convention at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara. // Our groups should be self-supporting, and I came here with two women and I feel I am the only one being supported financially by my group. // I want to extend a thank you to all the folks who helped with this assembly. Just this afternoon, more than 40 people came just to support our hosting of this assembly. Thank

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY (Cont.)

you for making this event a success. // Speaking of the Self Support packet, I appreciated your description. When can we hear more about it? // When the topic of the YPAA subcommittee came up, I spoke to a lot of people. We noticed that our YPAA committee goes to a lot of service entities, but they don't come to us. We would love to see our area officers at our YPAA business meetings. // I want to mention that I have a meeting schedule for all of the secular meetings in Northern California. // We processed 10 electronic contributions today. The assembly cost about \$3800, and we brought in a little more than \$1400. Thank you for being so generous. // Thank you to Eric for taking our minutes. // The National AA Tech-

nology Workshop will be in Sacramento this September. They are soliciting workshop topics, and you can email the host committee with suggestions. // I want to invite all of you to the Summer Assembly which District 18 is hosting. We would be so grateful for your attendance and we are looking forward to seeing you on August 5.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,
Eric L
CNCA Panel 67 Recording Secretary

CNCA CALENDAR -- PANEL 67

2017—Panel 67

June **24—Area Committee Mtg**
July **22—Area Committee Mtg**
August **5—Summer Assembly,**
 Petaluma Community Center,
 hosted by District 18
 26—Area Committee Mtg
September **23—Area Committee Mtg**
October **28—Area Committee Mtg**
November **4—Fall Inventory Assembly,**
 Petaluma Veterans Building,
 hosted by District 12
 25—Area Committee Mtg
December **16—Area Committee Mtg**

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

22-28 General Service Conf., NY

28—Area Committee Mtg

12—Post Conference Assembly, Solano County Fair grounds, hosted by District 09

26—Area Committee Mtg

23—Area Committee Mtg

28—Area Committee Mtg

11—Summer Assembly, River Lodge, Fortuna, hosted by District 15

25—Area Committee Mtg

7-9—Pacific Regional Forum, Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, San Jose, CA

22—Area Committee Mtg

27—Area Committee Mtg

3—Election Assembly, Robert Livermore Community Center, Livermore, hosted by District 70

24—Area Committee Mtg

15—Area Committee Mtg

2018—Panel 67

January **27—Area Committee Mtg**
February **24—Area Committee Mtg**
March **2-4, PRAASA,** Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, NV, hosted by Area 42
 24—Area Committee Mtg
April **7,8—Pre Conference Assembly,** Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, hosted by Districts 40 and 02

PANEL 69 ASSEMBLY DATES CALENDAR

2019 Pre-Conference Assembly
April 13-14

2019 Post-Conference Assembly
May 18

2019 Summer Assembly
August 10

2019 Fall Inventory Assembly
November 2

2020 Pre-Conference Assembly
April 4-5

2020 Post-Conference Assembly
May 16

2020 Summer Assembly
August 8

2020 Fall Election Assembly
November 14

Bids have been accepted for all Panel 67 assemblies; see CNCA Calendar for dates and locations. If your District is considering making a bid for a Panel 69 Assembly, please contact the Assembly Coordinator Erica S at assemblycoordinator.p67@cnca06.org

AA Grapevine / La Viña Subscription Information www.aagrapevine.org

AA Grapevine US Rate

1 Year: Printed \$28.97 — 1 Year: Digital \$34.97 — 1 Year Digital and Print \$49.97

La Viña -- Spanish Magazine

1 Year (6 issues) Within US Printed \$11.97 — 2 Years (12 issues) Within US Printed \$22.00

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CNCA Comments Editor
CNCA Comments Editor

To contact Christian M. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

CNCA Comments Advisor

To contact Jennifer B. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

CNCA Comentarios Editor

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To contact Miguel H. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

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Panel 67 Area Officers & Area Meeting Information

Feel free to contact the Area officers
by using the “contact us” tab on the
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Joann L

Alternate Delegate
Teddy B-W

Chair
Jennifer B

Treasurer
Chris H

Registrar
Laura W

Recording Secretary
Eric L

Assembly Coordinator
Erica S

Literature/Grapevine Chair
Miguel H

Pacific Regional Trustee
Joel C

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H&I
www.handinorcal.org

CNCA Standing Committee & Sharing Session Meetings
are the 4th Saturday every month. Sharing Sessions - 10 am
Standing Committee Meetings - 11 am
Area Business Meeting 12:30 - 3:30 pm

Archives Committee meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Richard W by visiting the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org website. The Archives mailing address is 185 Mayhew Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94597-2065.

Bridging the Gap meets at 11:00 am. For Information contact Kelly H by visiting the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

Public Information/ Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Teddy B-W by visiting the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

Interpretation & Translation Committee meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Michael Q by visiting the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

Web Committee meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Robert E by visiting the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

DCMs & DCMCs Sharing Sessions meet at 10 am

Literature/Grapevine/La Vina Sharing Session meets at 10 am. www.aagrapevine.org

Accessibilities Sharing session meets at 10 am. For information visit the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

