



CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential -- May 2017
www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

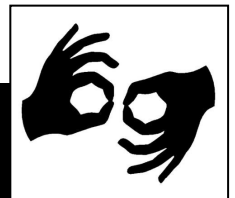
The April Area Committee Meeting (ACM) seemed lighter in attendance (and not just because our Delegate and a couple members of “the porch” were at the General Service Conference in NY). But we had a busier agenda and it promises to be even more interesting in May.

We approved an Assembly bid from District 15 for the 2018 Summer Assembly, so mark your calendars for Fortuna on August 11, 2018. I hear rumors that we may have multiple Assembly bids at our meeting in May. So exciting! I'd love to see the same enthusiasm for bidding on the *Comentarios* (hint, hint). We also approved a housekeeping motion for a member of the Archives committee to attend the annual workshop (in Winnipeg, Canada this year) at a cost not to exceed \$1400. And we got an update from Bridging the Gap on the Short-Term Correspondence pilot program, which will now be known as the “Pre-Release Contact Service.” See inside for details. And the Finance Committee's first trial run of collecting the 7th tradition electronically—in addition to passing the baskets—went smoothly.

There was a presentation of new business from the Finance Committee: “*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.*” The body voted to keep this discussion at the ACM, so it will be new business next month. A question came up during What's on Your Mind as to why we don't hear the minority opinion when we vote on the venue. Votes on whether a motion stays at the ACM or goes to the Assembly are not debatable. This question seems to come up a few times each panel, and since another member said it would be helpful to hear sharing on simple majority votes and the minority opinion at district level, we will have a discussion topic along those lines next month. Stay tuned...

Another topic of discussion, since you are holding it in your hand (or on your screen) as we speak, is “*What do you like about the CNCA Comments/Comentarios? How could they be more accessible?*” Read what was said in the minutes for April and bring your ideas to the ACM on May 27 (yes, that's Memorial Day weekend). And please submit ideas for Summer Assembly workshops to any Area Officer before June 24. What sorts of workshops have we done in prior years? Take a look at past July issues of the *Comments* in the online archive at www.cnca06.org.

Yours in fellowship and in service,
Jennifer B, Area Chair



2017 POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

401 Martin St., Lakeport, CA Saturday, May 13, 2017, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
ASL available for Delegate's Report 2:15 pm - 3:45 pm

By the time you read this you will be on your way to or back from our Post-Conference Assembly in Lakeport. The results will be known and you might be wondering, what's next?

For a start your group/committee/district will want to know what happened about those agenda items. Hopefully, you will have the information to inform them. Easy, right? Well, 'yes,' and 'no.' What about the items your group had much loving discussion over and upon which the conference committee decided to take no action? What's that about? Did the group waste its time?

The answer is an emphatic, 'no.' All discussion in Alcoholics Anonymous is valuable no matter the outcome because our sixth warranty reminds us that A.A. "will always remain democratic in thought and action." And, in his 1959 Grapevine article, *Leadership in A.A.: Ever a Vital Need*, Bill W. states: "Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere."

So worry not that the committee took no action. That idea, or something like it is almost certain to resurface. It may even come out of your group's business meeting.

Our wonderful general service process isn't, necessarily, a linear one. It's more like a spiritual pinball machine. The ball can bounce around some and if it's 'game over,' just remember, the ball is just waiting for the next player.

Teddy B-W
Alternate-Delegate, Panel 67

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 2017

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held April 22, 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 Justin H (District 06). Claudia G (District 07) read Tradition 4 and Randy P (District 70) read Concept 4. There were 3 past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), Ken M (Panel 61), and Raymundo L (Panel 65). There was 1 GSR present, along with 1 alternate GSR and 1 new alternate DCMC. The March 2017 minutes and financial report were accepted as printed in the *CNCA Comments*. Birthdays: 61/4.

Registered attendance: Voting (52) / Non-voting (47)

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: Joann is in Rye Brook, New York, where she is preparing for the commencement of the 67th General Service Conference that begins tomorrow.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: At the Pre-Conference Assembly, we were drenched in gratitude for the thoughtful explanations we heard for why your groups felt the way they did. Eric took 81 pages of notes (an almost verbatim transcript of what was shared at the microphones) and I took 16 pages of notes summarizing the reasons for the viewpoints that were expressed. Those, together with Joann's own notes and the group consciences that were dropped in the basket, will now flow into the General Service Conference and help to form the conscience of AA as a whole. CNCA has received some nice correspondence. Our fellows in Northwest Texas (Area 66) send their gratitude for our Spanish-language summaries and translation of the background material for the Finance Committee. And GSO thanked us for our work at the ACA Conference. I continue to take the area's inventory... of equipment and software, and I want to thank our Spanish-speaking districts (District 19 in particular) for hosting the first Inter-District of Panel 67.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: Thank you for an excellent Pre-Conference Assembly. I am looking forward to the Post-Conference Assembly next month and plan to send out the agenda in advance again. We still have two items of old business and two items of new business at the assembly. The Summer Assembly is not far behind, and we need ideas for the afternoon workshops. The deadline for workshop ideas is June 24; please give them to me or any area officer.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: As of today, CNCA has \$36,600 in checking and \$10,117 in savings; contributions were above projections this month, as were expenditures, largely due to a Pre-Conference Assembly expense that had not been factored specifically into the March bud-

et. Year-to-date, we are about \$18,000 ahead of budget.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: I continue to process changes as they come in from our districts and have been working with AA members with technology backgrounds to repair some of the problems with the database. I am optimistic things will be running more efficiently very soon. We had 458 people at the Pre-Conference Assembly on Saturday (377 voting) and 277 attendees (218 voting) on Sunday. I will send a breakdown by district to DCMCs and district registrars.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: The opportunity to watch as GSRs carried their group's conscience at the Pre-Conference Assembly was a profoundly moving experience. I felt a tremendous responsibility to capture the words that were said at the microphone and make sure that our Delegate went to the Conference with the collected wisdom of the 59,960 AA members and 2,051 groups in our area. Please thank your GSRs for speaking clearly at the microphone.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: Districts 20 and 08 did a fantastic job hosting the Pre-Conference Assembly. If anyone has constructive feedback for future assemblies, share it with me. Post-Conference Assembly planning is well underway, and District 13 is excited to host all of us. We will hear a bid today from District 15 to host the 2018 Summer Assembly. If it is approved, we will still have two more opportunities to experience the joys of hosting an assembly. If anyone is working on a bid, please talk to me about it.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: *Grapevine* now has a 'Story Archive' with every *Grapevine* article since 1944 available online. The magazine is accepting articles for upcoming issues focused on AA in the military and service during the holidays. I have ordered the new translation of the Raratogan-language Big Book, and we will hopefully have it by the next assembly for display. I am taking an inventory of the literature we do have to see what is missing and possibly order copies of literature for our display.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – SUSAN G: Our district discussed hosting a BTG Forum and received support from all in attendance. Our treasurer prepared a report on our current surplus, and we are discussing with groups what to do regarding our surplus. But we are

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

keeping in mind that we are spending more than we are taking in this year, with renewed interest in attending the ACM, PRAASA and regional forums.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – ELIYAH H: At our last district meeting, we welcomed three new GSRs and one alternate (our very first); we started the meeting in our small room but had to move to the big room because of attendance. We continue discussing financial issues of serious concern and are identifying options that we have. There has been interest in starting a Traditions and Concepts Study in the district, and two groups are conducting safety inventories.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – MURIAS O: We had a vacancy for a DCM position that was quickly filled. The district is discussing whether to host an assembly in 2018 or make a bid to help with the *Comentarios*. And a motion was presented at the district to formalize a mutual liaisonship with CRUZYPAA, and the district is sending a liaison to help facilitate CRUZYPAA elections on May 6.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – MARIANNE G: We passed a motion to request that the group inventory questions on pages 29 and 30 of 'The AA Group... Where it All Begins' be modified to include a question pertaining to group safety. We might present that motion at the ACM in May.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – COREE H: Our district officers have been discussing ways that we can better serve some of our more population-rich subdistricts. We are trying to audit the actual amount of groups we have in District 40; if all the groups in our district were registered and represented, our district meeting could potentially have approximately 200 GSRs. Reaching all of these groups is a challenge, and we are looking at potential options and will keep all of you informed as more is revealed.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – COLLEEN G: New GSRs really embraced the Pre-Conference Assembly process and enjoyed the experience. At our district meeting, we are discussing how to increase participation in some of our committees that could use support. We are also starting to plan our Unity Day, which we would like to hold on the coast this year.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DENNIS H: We had a lively Third Legacy election for the Alternate DCMC position; Justin H was selected from the hat after five rounds of voting. We are now resurrecting our Bridging the Gap committee, which will hold an orientation for new members on May 9, immediately before the next district meeting.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – BRENDAN M: The Pre-Conference Assembly was well-attended by our district, and many members are inspired to bring new business to our district meeting. Our Intergroup is planning an All Groups Day celebration on June 10 at Lake Temescal Park.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – DON Z: All of our positions are filled, and we are putting together a bid for an assembly in 2018. We are also creating an accessibility position for the district, and our business meetings are filled with men and women who essentially like the effect produced by Alcoholics Anonymous.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – DON L: GSRs were able to practice and present their group consciences at the microphone at our last district meeting. We had great participation at the assembly, and want to thank District 20 for inviting us to co-host. During the treasurer's report, there were questions about excess funds, and discussion will continue next month with a presentation on possible disbursement.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – KEN T: We still have three vacant positions. Our budget was approved (with a motion to amend the PI/CPC title line next month), and our planning committee for the 2018 Post-Conference Assembly held their first meeting.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – TONY W: At our last district meeting, we discussed a motion first presented last year to transfer our website from the district to North Solano Intergroup. We are looking forward to hearing Joann's report on May 13 (at the Post-Conference Assembly) and again on May 20 at our District 90 Delegate's Report Unity Day! In addition to the Delegate's Report, we will have an ice cream social and the skit 'Carnivores Anonymous.'

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – CATHY P: We are having loving discussing about the need of a new computer for the district Recording Secretary. Should it be a PC or a Mac, a transferable hard drive or a flash drive, and what software packages and licenses should we get? We are hoping to learn something from other districts and from area experience. We also passed a house-keeping motion to forward excess district funds above our prudent reserve to GSO and to CNCA.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – JEFF D: We had the sad misfortune to lose two officers due to unavailability, not

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

for a lack of passion. But new people stepped up and our Treasurer and Recording Secretary positions are filled. Not only has a new LGBTQ meeting been established in the district, but the first thing they did was elect a new GSR. Four new GSRs attended their first-ever assembly, and each came away with a greater desire to be involved in General Service.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – ROBERT F: At our April district meeting, we heard reports from PRAASA scholarship winners. We had a wonderful turnout at the Pre-Conference, and everyone was excited to share their group's conscience. One person who loved the questions on veteran's affairs decided she wanted to head up an outreach group. She got in touch with the PI chair for our district, and together they are developing a program to outreach to veterans. Our Access Sonoma County team is now planning a workshop around the topic of Aging in Sobriety. And our young people are very excited because their bid to host ACYPAA was accepted.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – MARY ELLEN R: We had great turnout for our district meeting and discussed one Agenda Topic. We had pretty good turn-out at the Pre-Conference Assembly, and a couple people came away with renewed enthusiasm for General Service. We are also currently having a lively discussion about what we can do better as a district to help and encourage our GSRs, and planning for the Post-Conference is moving right along.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ROBIN T: We elected a new Bridging the Gap chair at our district, and our new Accessibilities Coordinator is facilitating a sharing session in Ukiah tomorrow. Planning for events surrounding the Delegate's Report in August is underway.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – DEVIN P: The district funded (fully or partially) a number of GSRs to the Pre-Conference Assembly, for a total of 10 members in attendance. Our next district meeting will be in Redway (our southern-most subdistrict). We have adopted a business meeting procedure document to explain the how and why of our district and the General Service process. Today we are presenting a bid to host the 2018 Summer Assembly, and there are murmurs of a Traditions Workshop in the future.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FRANCISCO R: Prior to the Pre-Conference Assembly, we visited groups to discuss the Agenda Topics. Members from our district attended the Pre-Conference Assembly and the Inter-District meeting. We are looking forward to the Post-Conference Assembly.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – MARIO S: Seven members from the district (including four new GSRs) attended the Pre-Conference Assembly; they enjoyed it and are motivated to continue to be in service. Enthusiasm at the district is increasing, attendance is improving, and our district is growing.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – HECTOR C: At our last district meeting, we shared information about the Pre-Conference Assembly, showed the PSA video Doors, and discussed business at the next assembly. Our planning committee for the Summer Assembly is working hard and looking for sites for the Pre-Assembly dinner, and we discussed a motion to archive group histories (including group numbers) of groups in our district.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – MAGDALENO O: We hosted the Inter-District meeting, with participation from all five Spanish-language districts in the area. We are now preparing for our district anniversary on June 23, and two of our positions (BTG and Special Events) remain vacant.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – TEODOMIRO S: We learned a lot by co-hosting the Pre-Conference Assembly, and thank all of you for allowing us to serve. We are now discussing whether to form a committee to prepare a bid to host a Local Forum, with participation from all five Spanish-language district and invitations to other areas.

Area Sub-Committees and Sharing Sessions

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: Your Archives Committee has been busy; it was getting a little wild, with participation at ACYPAA, the Pre-Conference Assembly, and our workday. And it isn't slowing down, with an AA History Day and the Post-Conference Assembly next month. Our committee is sharing personal spiritual experiences, most recently with the creating of a display being made for the upcoming Past Delegates Reunion in San Jose. At our meeting today, we selected the committee member whom we will send to the National AA Archives Workshop if today's housekeeping motion passes. Keep sending information to your archives; your submissions help create spiritual experiences in the future.

BRIDGING THE GAP – KELLY H: This month, your BTG committees gave 22 presentations and handled 52 requests for contact. Your Corresponding Secretary received and responded to eight letter writers. We will

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

present a housekeeping motion next month to fund a member to the Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend, and we are gratefully anticipating bids to host this fall's BTG Forum. More will be revealed.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We elected a new chair, set up liaisons to the other committees, and prepared for today's presentation of new business this afternoon. We are also prepared to take electronic contributions today and at the Post-Conference Assembly in May. As a committee, we are also looking into ways to streamline expense reporting.

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: At our meeting today, we discussed our agenda for our meetings moving forward. We will alternate between roundtables where we share experience strength and hope from districts and choosing topics (with a specific focus on CPC). We also reviewed AA's public service announcements. Next month, we will be discussing how to get professional contacts for CPC work.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: We are aware of the spam that people with area e-mail addresses are receiving and are working to find a fix; most of the problems with email forwarding have already been solved. At the Pre-Conference Assembly, we had a lot of visitors to our table and were able to train new members and get work done. One member of the committee has stepped down, so if you are interested in joining the committee, please let the Area Chair know.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: Thank you to Districts 20 and 08 for a great assembly. Large venues present some challenges for us to produce volume on the available FM frequencies for interpretation. I think we solved those issues by the second day and have learned going forward. We ran out of FM radios to loan both days of the assembly and will be monitoring demand at the Post-Conference Assembly to determine if we might need to purchase more. We will have ASL translation at the assembly, and a DVD of the Delegate's Report in ASL will be available next month; a Spanish translation of the report will be available immediately following the assembly.

CNCA COMMENTS – JOSÉ A: *The Comments were sent on time; nearly 1000 were sent out. We continue to do this serve with the participation of groups in our sub-district and the support of our Hispanic Central Office. We had 18 people helping us this month.*

COMENTARIOS DE CNCA – MANUEL R: I translated the *Comments* documents to help the area achieve spiritual parity between the *Comments* and the *Comentarios*. I also printed and sent 175 copies. Only four copies of

the *Comentarios* were returned this month, meaning 99 percent of people on the mailing list are now getting their area newsletter.

DCM SHARING SESSION – LESLIE W: We had a great presentation and discussion on the care and tending of GSRs. There were plenty of suggestions for what that looked like, including encouraging GSRs to attend the ACM, PRAASA and the assemblies, encouraging participation in sub-district meetings, curbing 'information overload,' and emphasizing how their being a GSR benefits their group. Next month, the topic will be 'The DCM Packet.'

ACCESSIBILITIES – ALAN W: We heard a presentation about the Accessibilities and Treatment roundtable from PRAASA, where numerous topics were discussed, including what we are doing to encourage accessibility, what qualifies as accessibility, and the purpose of an accessibilities committee. We also noted that this sharing session isn't currently meeting the needs of those present who are hard of hearing, so our area officers will be brainstorming possible solutions. Next month, we will be bringing and sharing information, literature and resources we find with one another.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: We heard a presentation on how to start a Writing Stories Workshop; those in attendance will start encouraging these kinds of workshops at the district level, at Unity Days, and anywhere else alcoholics are willing to share their experiences.

NCCAA – DIANE O: NCCAA continues its 70th anniversary celebration in Sacramento this June, with many people with General Service experience scheduled to speak.

H&I – DIANE O: Thank you for your continuing generous contributions to our pink and white cans, which enable us to carry the message of hope to the confined alcoholic. We have completed the distribution of our excess funds to Intergroups and Central Officers in Northern California, and we now have a formula to follow if we again find ourselves with excess funds. The 45th H&I Conference will be in San Jose this May; the Friday night speaker at this conference is a young man with the most powerful story I have ever heard about the emancipation of the human soul, and it is not to be missed. Our next steering committee meeting will be in Sacramento following the NCCAA Conference.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

YPAA –DREW B: ACYPAA was a big success; more than 2100 people registered. All recordings will be made available online at acypaa.org in the next few weeks. SOCPAA (Sonoma County) will host ACYPAA next year.

LA VIÑA 21 ANNIVERSARY – JOSÉ A: We continue to encourage groups to participate and attend the 21st Pacific Region La Viña Anniversary in Oxnard CA in July.

Approval of the Finance Committee

Two new members of the finance committee were introduced (Claudia N (Chair) and Jeff D), joining Chris H, Nicolas G and Laura H. Seeing no objections, the finance committee has been approved.

Housekeeping Motions

That CNCA send a representative from the Archives committee to the 21st National Archives Workshop in Winnipeg, Canada at a cost not to exceed \$1400. – *presented by the Archives Committee*

Presentation: This is an annual housekeeping motion presented to send a member from the Archives committee to the NAAAW. Last year, the workshop was held in CNCA. The NAAAW will be held from September 28 to October 1.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

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

Area Business

ASSEMBLY BID:

District 15 bid for the Summer 2018 Assembly on August 11, 2018, at River Lodge (1800 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna). Total bid cost of \$3221.50.

Presentation: The main assembly will be in a large room, which can be converted into three rooms of varying sizes for the workshops. Several previous assemblies have been held at the same location, and there are numerous hotels within walking distance.

Questions: Q: About how many people do you expect to attend? A: The last assembly in District 15 had 266 in attendance. But the last time we held a Summer Assembly at this location, 364 people attended. Q: What is the average hotel cost? A: We have not looked at getting hotel packages yet. Rates can be upwards of \$100, but we are looking to negotiate that down.

Q: Can you camp there? A: Yes.

The Area Committee accepted the bid by show of hands. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION OF 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*

Presentation: We have excess funds, and we would like to keep our tradition of corporate poverty.

Questions: Q: Was there discussion about doing disbursement to the different Intergroups in the area, similar to what H&I did? A: To the best of my knowledge, Intergroups are not a part of the General Service structure. Q: How did you come up with the \$10,000 amount? A: We do not have any established guidelines on how much money we should have in the checking account. We wanted to come up with a figure that people were comfortable with. But don't be surprised that we may come back with an additional motion later. Q: Is this over and above what we are sending for our Delegate expense? A: This has nothing to do with Delegate expenses.

Motion remains Area Committee Meeting Business. (35 to remain at ACM; 7 to forward to the assembly).

PROGRESS REPORT:

Bridging the Gap Short-Term Correspondence Program – *presented by Kelly H, Bridging the Gap Committee Chair*

Presentation: This presentation is an update on what was originally a six month pilot program introduced at the ACM in May 2015. That original program was extended twice and is up for re-evaluation in September. Because there are many new DCMCs and DCMs that had not been a part of the extensive discussion we had last panel on this program, I asked to be able to give this presentation to ensure everyone has information prior to being asked to decide whether to continue, modify or extend this service. After some housekeeping motions today during our BTG Committee meeting, we re-named the Short-Term Correspondence Program, which will now be known as the Pre-Release Contact service.

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

As of March 31, 2017

	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	29,930.49
Prudent Reserve - Savings	10,117.99
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 40,048.48
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	1,375.00
Undeposited Funds	886.64
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 2,261.64
Total Current Assets	\$ 42,310.12
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 42,310.12
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	24,557.99
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	10,117.90
Net Revenue	7,634.23
Total Equity	\$ 42,310.12
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 42,310.12

Expense Report March 2017

California Northern Coastal Area

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

March 2017

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
REVENUE			
002 Group Contributions	5,881.52	6,000.00	98.03 %
003 District Contributions	381.00	1,750.00	21.77 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	258.37	320.00	80.74 %
007 CNCA Subscriptions		12.00	
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	2,578.50	100.00	2,578.50 %
010 Interest Income	0.43	0.00	
Total Revenue	\$9,099.82	\$8,182.00	111.22 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$9,099.82	\$8,182.00	111.22 %
EXPENDITURES			
012 EXPENSE			
013 Delegate Expense	980.69	815.00	120.33 %
038 Officer Expense	2,328.53	2,623.00	88.77 %
093 Committee Expenses	968.80	2,499.00	38.77 %
158 General Expenses	7,606.90	1,912.00	397.85 %
Total 012 EXPENSE	11,884.92	7,849.00	151.42 %
Total Expenditures	\$11,884.92	\$7,849.00	151.42 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -2,785.10	\$333.00	-836.37 %
NET REVENUE	\$ -2,785.10	\$333.00	-836.37 %

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

. Part of the rationale for the change of name was based on GSO literature, particularly the publication *Sharing From Behind the Walls*, which describes the program we had called Short-Term Correspondence Program as Pre-Release Contact Service. As described in the *Sharing From Behind the Walls* publication, Pre-Release Contact tries to link people soon to be released with people who live where they will be moving, giving them a local contact in their home community to help with transition. We also adopted a modified version of pamphlet F-163, developed by the BTG committee and reviewed by the General Chair and Alternate Chair of Northern California's H&I committee. GSO assured us that there are no copyright violations to modify F-163 for our local use. We continue rolling out our Pre-Release Contact Service slowly, focusing on areas with strong BTG committees (like Districts 04, 40 and 12). We have also seen positive results spring up organically in other places, such as District 14 and a jail in Alameda County. We think the Pre-Release Contact Service pamphlet will increase requests for service. I also want to give an example of this service. Last panel, this message came in through the CNCA website. "I visit the women's jail and a woman who I have seen in and out over the years approached me. She had clarity in her mind and the brightness in her eyes told me that something had changed. She wanted me to relay this message: 'Thank you so much to the Bridging the Gap program. I contacted you and asked if someone would write me. I am now working on my steps through correspondence with the BTG volunteer. This has made a huge difference in my life and I am so very grateful for your program.'" This woman was originally due to be released on March 26, but she just learned that she will now be in jail until August. There is now a gratitude circle that meets in this jail daily, and the woman in jail now believes she has an opportunity to help newcomers while she waits for her release.

Questions: Q: How many people are we currently corresponding with? A: We do not track how many letters are being sent. Some of these pre-release contact requests have been handled locally; we are currently focused on Districts 04, 40 and 12. But we have been asked to provide 300 copies of our modified service piece to H&I to initiate efforts in a state prison. Currently, 20 volunteers on the outside are writing letters. Q: Will this trial be extended or will this become an established service provided by BTG? A: I am comfortable with the area deciding, and that is something that could be decided in September when we re-evaluate. Q: Could there be a box on the pamphlet so people could put their information? Could we also change the

word 'inmate' to 'member?' A: We did come up with some wording changes. This is a work in progress, and we could discuss word changes.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

What are the technological needs of the Area?

Discussion: The area will be forming an ad-hoc committee to further address this discussion topic, but we continue seeking your input. // Earlier this week, I needed a meeting. I have an app on my phone, but there are many apps out there, and some of them lack information. It would be helpful if, as AA, we could create our own app that would have accurate information. // There is a discrepancy between which groups are registered and which groups are listed in meeting guides. // More gets revealed in our archives committee regarding technology. One of the things we are working on currently is digitizing videos and digitizing audio files (and tapes), but we have a limited amount of time and space. We would love to be able to convert everything, but this costs money and takes time. If anyone wants to help or knows resources, please let us know. // The most urgent need currently is finding a fix to the registration process. // We have been discussing how General Service sucks at keeping track of meeting information. Our registration should have updates from Intergroup rather than from group representatives in order to keep track of dark meetings. // When I served last panel as Comments editor, I used a Mac computer. I had a different publishing program than the *Comentarios* editor, so he would have to start over from scratch because he was using a different program. If we had laptops for the newsletters, we could share publishing software. // Registration is something we have been struggling with for a long time, and in spite of the best efforts of our registrars, we end up with no ability to get a list. We need to look at the registration seriously, maybe starting over from scratch, and we should examine assumptions we make about how we do registration and how we communicate with GSO. Registration is the bedrock of what we do. // The tools we are using to produce our newsletter at our district are not working, and I am curious as to what other districts are using. // Ukiah is a small town and it is easy to keep track of when a meeting closes or changes. But when a new person comes to town, they may get inaccurate information if they run an online search for AA meetings, since not every directory on the Internet is accurate. // Regardless of who keeps information in a directory, a major problem with the registration process is the input. In General Service, we

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

rely on districts to provide the area with information, and subsequently, the area sends information to GSO. But when a group or GSR goes away and the district does not hear about it we encounter problems. Someone needs to check on groups, and the only way this can be done is for the DCM to keep track of the groups in their sub-district.

Discussion closed.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

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

Discussion: There is a section in the Service Manual that talks about area newsletters and talks about the ways they can be engaging and exciting. // I would love to see our area newsletter make more use of images, more use of color, less dense text, and I would also like the option to get a link to see it online rather than having it mailed to me. // I have copies of the *Comments* from when I was in General Service in 2003, and if I brought one of those here, you would swear it was from last month. There is nothing wrong with that. But something that is appealing to the eye could be helpful. I would also like the online version to have hyperlinks. // I like the newsletter but the design could be updated. There is just limitless opportunity for improvement with the use of graphic design software. Most of us probably have publishing software on our computers, and we should take advantage of the technology that is available. // I have yet to receive any mail from AA, so I went to the website to print out the latest *Comments*, but I couldn't find them. What I did find was difficult to follow. I would love to see a list of what happens at each hour here at the ACM; I would also like to see the minutes in the back and what we are discussing currently near the front of the newsletter. There is also some redundancy (with dates), and it would be nice to consolidate all information into one calendar. I would also like to know when we will next be discussing things (i.e. "This motion will be discussed at the Post-Conference Assembly"). // At my district, people have asked why they can't sign up for an email list to receive the *Comments*, and why they aren't able to subscribe to the *Comments*. // A lot of the information in the *Comments* would be more accessible if it were on the website. // I would like for the *Comments* to be more easily searchable, or to have a database that could be searchable. For example, I would like to be able to see all the reports from a particular district over the course of a year. // At PRAASA, I attended the roundtable for area newsletters, where I exchanged information with other areas. Many other

areas have beautiful newsletters (Area 58 in particular). The layout of the current *Comments* dates back to the 1980s, and it modeled on what Box 4-5-9 looked like then. While other area newsletters and Box 4-5-9 evolved, our area has not. It is possible we may want to revisit the layout and formatting, and we could use some of the excess funds to make our newsletter more accessible while continuing to send it to everyone who wants it. // Let's make this a position at the area, or have a committee. // I like the idea of having a committee. When I visited the Grapevine office, I saw all the positions that they had, and a committee here could have similar structure, with editors.

Discussion continues next month.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Our interpreters do not work for the money. We received a note from one of our interpreters, who expressed his gratitude for getting to participate at our assemblies. The note says that they get to feel they are contributing to the world. // I am curious as to whether we will be able to discuss why we voted to keep something at the ACM or to forward it to the assembly. Would we be able to express a minority opinion? // I was at the Pre-Conference assembly, and it was wonderful to work with our Spanish-speaking peers. Even if we don't know the same language, we have the language of the heart. I served at the dinner, and that was a highlight. // I was excited about the assembly dinner, but my headset wasn't working. I had been looking forward to the Spanish-speaking speaker, and a young man at the table next to me lent me his radio. // Could we have a discussion topic on minority opinion on simple majority votes? // Thank you for a great assembly. I had so much fun at the PI/CPC table, and I enjoyed all of the people who came to visit and all the questions that people asked. // There are seating problems in this room. How can we be expected to fill all of our DCM positions if there wouldn't be enough space if all the DCMs came? // I am grateful to have served along with my District 08 companions for the assembly. This was a new experience, and I walked through my fears. Thanks for letting me participate.

The meeting was closed at 3:19 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,

Eric L

CNCA Panel 67 Recording Secretary

Area Committee:

Assembly Bids: 2018 Pre-Conference and 2018 Fall Election Assembly

Housekeeping Motions:

Guidelines:

Presentation of New Business:

Old Business at Area Committee Meeting:

New 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*

Discussion topic:

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

Area Assembly Motions:

Redistricting Requests:

Presentation of New Business at Area Assembly:

Old Business at Area Assembly:

“That CNCA moves to reintroduce the following section (From page 6 of the AA Member – Medications & 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.”

“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.”

New Business at the Area Assembly:

“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*

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*

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

The Pre-Conference Assembly Business meeting of CNCA was held April 8, 2017 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, California. Jennifer B opened the meeting at 9:15, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Tony W (District 90). Barbara S (District 12) read the 12 Traditions in English, and Mario S (District 17) read the 12 Traditions in Spanish. There were 7 past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), 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 also currently serves as a non-trustee director on the AAWS Board, 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 Greg M. The minutes from the 2016 Summer Assembly were accepted as printed in the *CNCA Comments*.

Registered attendance: Voting (349) / Non-voting (113)

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new GSRs here for their first assembly. I have been trying to put into words what I would like to accomplish as the Panel 67 delegate, and I found the words last night while reading the Report of the General Service Inventory on page 6, under Engaging the Fellowship. "Engaging the fellowship with ongoing and relevant information about the Conference is not a new problem. Many reports recognize the historical gap between the individual AA member and the Conference itself. If we are not working locally to engage the full fellowship," said one report, "the disconnect between the General Service Conference and the average AA member will remain. The connection needs to be made between what happens at the Conference and how it helps the drunk on the corner." That is my goal. So today I sit quietly and listen to you with an open heart and an open mind. But when I come back from New York, my hope is to fully engage all of you.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: Your delegate and I meet monthly for lunch to ensure that we continue working effectively on your behalf. I also pray for the health of the delegate, which, of course, you can do too. I have also received a large quantity of reading material from GSO, which I have read. I suspect I will get to read it again many times, over this panel, and thank you all, in advance, for your patience. Currently, I am taking an inventory of the area's equipment and software so that we can have a list and can forecast our needs, and meet those needs in a prudent fashion. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: I am full of nervous excitement for this first assembly of Panel 67. I thought I might share with you my goals and intention for the day. This morning, I hope to facilitate loving discussion on our Area business matters, in a way that is both efficient and that enables all points of view to be heard. Time constraints will see how far we get. The nice thing is that we meet again next month for the Post-Conference Assembly. In the afternoon, when we start on our General Service Conference Agenda Topics, our primary purpose here at this assembly is to inform our delegate before she goes to New York. But it is also very important to me that each of you gets a chance to participate and to have the experience of carrying your group's conscience at least once. It was a pretty big deal for me the first time when I was a new GSR. So please know that any decisions we make throughout this process are keeping both of those things in mind.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: In terms of our area's financial position, we currently have \$37,035 in our checking account (used for operating expenses) and \$10,117 in our savings account (our prudent reserve). In terms of group contributions, we have received about \$32,000; total contributions so far this year total \$43,200. Our expenses are under budget; we had budgeted to spend \$53,500 and have only spent \$29,000. As of right now, are in an excellent financial position. Please thank your groups for their contributions.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: I continue to process changes as they come in from districts and have been working with AA members with technology backgrounds to repair our database. I am optimistic that things will be running smoothly by next month. 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 delay in receiving GSR and DCM packets.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: I am moved to be able to help at this assembly, and am eager to make sure that all of your voices, and the voices of the members of A.A. whom you have traveled here to represent, are reflected in our area's business meeting minutes – and archived for the future. I know that for me, being heard at my first assembly was a profoundly moving experience, and I am here to listen and to ensure your words are accurately recorded.

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY (Cont)

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: We are finally at the first assembly of the Panel. While I am called the Assembly Coordinator, I would like to be clear that the real work is done by our host Districts (20, Spanish East, and 08, Contra Costa). They have been working on this for a long time and I am grateful for the diligent planning, love and service that went into putting this on for all of us. Just around the corner, we will have our Post-Conference Assembly on May 13 at the Lake County Fairgrounds. If you stop and observe the volunteers today, lots of them will probably be having fun with one another. If this is appealing to you, you might wonder if you can be a part of something like that. You can. There are still three assemblies available for bidding during this Panel. Hosting is a great opportunity to increase unity, participation, and enthusiasm locally.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: The Loners/International Meeting directories have been updated and mailed to LIM members. This service helps sea-going AAs and AA members in extremely remote areas of the world to stay connected and sober. With the publication of the Rarotongan language Big Book (a dialect of Maori spoken in the Cook Islands in the South Pacific), AA is now available in 70 languages. The Grapevine App is free. It was launched in 2016, and it is now available for Apple and Android devices, and it was developed to serve the needs of those who would prefer to read the *Grapevine* on electronic devices.

Area Standing Committees and Sub-Committees

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: We are having a ton of fun in Archives. We have been bringing our displays and participating at conferences, including PRAASA and the ACYPAA Conference that happened last weekend. We are now having quarterly trainings during our workdays. Our next quarterly training will be June 17 at our repository in Walnut Creek. We are also working on a lot of projects and taking oral histories. I want to thank your groups for sending in group histories and all of your districts for their ongoing support of archives.

BRIDGING THE GAP – KELLY H: In the first quarter of this panel, your area and district BTG committees and officers reported 51 presentations and 256 requests for contact. It is great to see the article in April's edition of *Grapevine* highlighting AA in treatment centers. We are still looking for a district to host our 2017 BTG Forum. Visit the BTG table today, where we have samples of current Corrections and Treatment Kits, volunteer sign up pamphlets for the national Corrections Correspondence program, and other information

on vital 12th Step work.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We will be electing a new Finance Committee chair at our next business meeting in April, as a few members had to step down. We are purchasing Square card readers soon with the intention of collecting 7th Tradition contributions at the April ACM and at the Post-Conference Assembly. We will present a motion at the ACM in April to disburse funds to the General Service Board, and, to reduce monthly postage costs, we will also begin offering group treasurers the option to receive electronic PDF receipts emailed directly from QuickBooks.

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: The work of public information is to provide information about what AA is, and what it is not, to the general public, either directly or via the media. Our cooperation with the professional community provides similar information to professionals who come into contact with problem drinkers in a professional capacity. According to our Triennial Membership Survey, 57 percent of our members said they were referred to AA by a counselor or by a medical or mental health professional. The area's PI/CPC committee represents AA as a whole at national, regional and statewide conventions held in our area. Recently, we attended the American Counselors Association annual convention in San Francisco, where we were visited by about 800 of the 4,139 counselors who attended. We distributed 544 pieces of AA literature and about 300 pieces of candy. We are here to inform and to ensure that correct information about AA reaches the people who will find it helpful. Even professionals can be misinformed about AA, and our work cooperating with them is vital.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: The web committee has increased our committee size, held elections and filled all of our positions. We are working on a brand new website using Drupal and are testing its capabilities. We are also investigating using third-party software to integrate with QuickBooks that would automatically enter group contributions and send out receipts. We are updating our policies and procedures, and looking forward to the National AA Technology Workshop, which will be held in Sacramento this September. We hope to send several committee members.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: The I&T Committee consists of seven appointed members and many volunteer translators and interpreters. We provide the area with written English to Spanish

and Spanish to English document translation, and we facilitate instantaneous English to Spanish and Spanish to English interpretation at our area committee meetings and assemblies. Today, we are broadcasting that interpretation on FM radio frequency channel 91.9. We also provide Assisted Listening on channel 92.9. Our interpreters today, Mateo and Molly, are professional, but not super-human, and as there will be literally hundreds of voices at the mike today, please be mindful of their service.

Re-Subdistricting Request

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*

Questions: Q: How would you divide the sub-districts? A: We would divide based on the number of groups rather than based on geography. Q: Do you have someone available to fill the position? A: Because this request has not been approved by the area, we have not made this position available. But there have been people who have expressed an interest in stepping up. Q: Will this improve communication in your district? A: Yes. We have a number of groups that have never been involved in General Service and DCMs have not been able to visit. By doing this, we will be able to have DCMs visit some of these groups. Q: Do you expect the number of groups to increase or decrease? A: I would hope that we can continue to increase the number of groups that are participating and represented at our district.

Seeing an objection, the re-subdistricting request has been moved to New Business at the Post-Conference Assembly.

Area Business

PRESENTATION OF 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*

Presentation: The PI/CPC Committee discussed this motion for several months after a proposal from a district PI/CPC Committee, and voted with substantial unanimity to forward the request to the area. Current GSO guidelines for PI/CPC videos require that a request for a video featuring the full faces of actors be made, and this motion would not change or rescind any

existing policy, but instead request a PSA featuring actors' faces as is outlined in current policy. As part of the presentation, the presenters screened several videos to demonstrate the difference between videos with actors' faces (several of which have been made by the General Service structure of Australia) and current PSAs being screened in the United States (without the faces of actors). All videos – the ones made by GSO and the ones from Australia – are available online.

Questions: Q: If the video is made, would it state that these are actors? A: There are disclaimers on some of the videos we have seen from other countries. Q: We could not see the Australian videos from where we were sitting. Is it possible we could watch them again? A: During lunch and breaks, we will be playing these videos at the PI/CPC table. Q: Would actors who are also AA members be excluded? A: That is correct. Q: Is the intention to attract rather than promote AA? A: Absolutely. Seeing an actor's face and expressions makes it more relatable to people. Q: Do any of the videos currently on the AA.org website include actors? A: None of them have the full faces of actors. Q: Would you share the other PSAs with actors? A: People can see the videos on the AA.org

website. Q: How would we know that the actors are not AA members? A: Hopefully they practice rigorous honesty. Q: How old are current PSAs, and are they reviewed? A: They are reviewed every couple of years, and the last time they were reviewed, the decision was made that there was no need for anything new. Q: Has any thought gone in to whether AA members could be involved in other production aspects (other than acting)? A: Yes, generally GSO hires a production company, but AA members do provide input.

Motion moved to New Business at the Post-Conference Assembly.

OLD BUSINESS:

That the General Service Conference develops a pamphlet sharing experience, strength and hope on group safety.

Discussion: Most of us would like to vote on this motion as soon as possible. // The majority opinion of my district wants this; most groups in our district have written their own safety material. The minority opinion is that alcoholics are not safe by definition. A newcomer who comes in may feel unwelcomed by this pamphlet. // We unanimously said 'yes.' We do need a pamphlet for unsafe situations. Safety is an important thing and there

is a need for a pamphlet. However, nobody reads pamphlets. // Safety is not just about 'beating people up.' It can be about sex; it can be about anonymity. // Our group felt that a pamphlet was not needed, and that guidelines from GSO are a great starting point for discussion. // Originally when the motion was brought up, my group was for it. But with new information, my group changed their mind, and one of the main reasons is that they were worried that groups taking the experience of other groups and viewing them as a sort of law. // Every time we have an issue, we throw a pamphlet at it. Some people think pamphlets are doctrine. // We talked about this twice. My group was opposed because they didn't feel there was enough information about what safety meant. There were also concerns about the financial impact of creating new literature. // It seems like the premise of AA is one alcoholic talking to another to help him or her, Why is that not applicable at the group level, if there are elder statesmen or leaders in the group, who can be sought out and asked for guidance on safety issues? If they don't know, we have a worldwide network of people who can help resolve safety issues. // There is already some information about safety out there. // I would have liked some kind of literature to know that this is an issue and that there are ways to address it. // It may be a good idea to have some sort of guidelines. // We felt that the pamphlet, because there is a rack, make themselves known at meetings and clubhouses. Just having a pamphlet there that says 'safety,' rather than just the service piece (which does not have the same visibility) gives awareness to this being a topic to think about. // Our group would like a pamphlet to put into newcomer packets. // The problem I see with a pamphlet is that it would be very difficult to meet every group's needs. This discussion should be done at a local level. // A better solution would be to have *Grapevine* create a book of stories related to safety. // Folks in my district were amazed by the wide range of abuses that can occur, and all kinds of other safety issues (earthquakes, fires). At first, I heard a lot of people saying we didn't need this. But as we keep talking about this, people are more interested in learning from others their experience, strength and hope about this topic. // I am hesitant to take a vote until after the Conference. // I would like a pamphlet because once, at my group, we once had to call the police. We would have liked guidance from other groups. // Most of the folks in my meetings felt the safety guidelines did not go far enough, and that a pamphlet is necessary to make meetings more safe.

Vote: Yes (155) / No (125) / Abstained (8) / Motion fails.

OLD BUSINESS:

That all Area business in CNCA be decided by substantial unanimity, usually 2/3.

Discussion: My group felt that a simple majority was good enough, but on some topics, a 2/3 vote may be necessary. // We have recently had a lot of discussion about the importance of the minority opinion and our search for substantial unanimity. Substantial unanimity is important for making decisions, and not having substantial unanimity does not invite the minority opinion as much. // This motion would stifle chair rules. We need to trust our trusted servants. The Service Manual says that, at some times, a simple majority is enough. // The wording suggests that this motion would stymie our ability to have housekeeping motions. // The fact that we get to rely on two-thirds substantial unanimity is really important to ensure that this is a voice of a loving God. // Though I agree with the motion at the assembly level, it is too broad and could handicap our area committee meeting and slow us down. // I think two-thirds is the best representation of what our area wants, and reminds me of Concept 12. // I do not like the word 'all.' // I don't want to add a new rule. // I am also wary of the word 'all.' // I have problems with some of the wording. The word 'all' troubles me, but so does the word 'usually.' // I've never been comfortable with two-thirds being substantial unanimity, but I do think that for the sake of unity, two-thirds is a lot closer than just over half. // The important thing about two-thirds is that we have less of a dissatisfied minority. // It is odd we have to vote on how to vote (majority or substantial unanimity). // Housekeeping motions are by definition completely unanimous so they are not affected by this motion. // If we have to do two-thirds on a vacuum cleaner in archives, we would be wasting a lot of time. // Voting by two-thirds doesn't take any longer than voting by simple majority This motion could bring more unity.

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 (126) / No (113) / Abstained (17). Motion fails.

Minority Opinion: None; No motion to reconsider.

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). Note: Full motion printed in the 2015 Fall Assembly minutes.

Discussion: My group unanimously wants this text back, and in the more places this text appears, the better. // Our group unanimously wanted this text back into the book. // My group unanimously supported this request, especially considering the unclear circumstances in which it was removed. // It appears there was a typographical error or editing error. Since this book is often given to newcomers, and the pamphlet is not, we want this back in the book. // My group was in favor. The minority opinion of my group is that we usually have committees deciding why things are taken out of literature, and we should trust our trusted servants for the possible reasons they may have removed the text. // We were in favor of this being put back in to the book. // This text is as important for people giving advice on medication as to those who are receiving this advice. // Without my medication, I would not be here. // There are people that need that medicine. We had an incident in our town that a young man was given advice not to take medication, and he ended up in prison. // People who need medication should take it with the support of their doctor. // I'm conflicted. I do believe that this is an important issue, and that AA cannot fix a cavity. But I do feel that this text is somewhat incomplete, in that not all medications are made the same, and some cause more trouble for alcoholics. A lot of doctors also aren't educated in how to talk to alcoholics, and language is missing about rigorous honesty with our doctors. // I am in favor of adding this text because of dual diagnosis, and I know people who needed herbal medicine or medical/psychiatric medicine. // The only thing I would request is that instead of epilepsy, they would change it to 'seizure disorder.' // I want to know whether the text was removed by omission or whether someone made a decision unilaterally. If that is what happened, that's not OK. // Without anti-depressants in sobriety, I would not be here. // We like this and we love the *Living Sober* book. // It is my personal opinion that it is covered in the Big Book very clearly. As alcoholics, we have no opinions on outside issues. I often hear alcoholics unqualified for anything giving advice that can kill someone. Stick to the book and follow the suggestions in the

book. // If you are not depressed when you get to AA, God bless you. I did not need a pill, I used the steps. // I should have been thrown out as one of those disruptive people, but they let me stay. Finally, I got on medication and I am now weaning off of medication. Thank you AA. // I attended a meeting with a person who did not believe in taking medication. I had to find an old version of the *Living Sober* book, and want this text placed back in. // The steps have not cured my PTSD; they have been helpful but they do not cure mental illness. Having this paragraph would be useful.

This motion will remain Old Business at the Post-Conference Assembly.

The meeting was closed at 11:55 am with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,

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.

CNCA CALENDAR -- PANEL 67

2017—Panel 67

May	13—Post Conference Assembly , Lake County Fairgrounds, Lakeport, hosted by District 13
	27—Area Committee Mtg
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

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
April	24—Area Committee Mtg
	7,8—Pre Conference Assembly
	22-28 General Service Conf., NY
	28—Area Committee Mtg
May	12—Post Conference Assembly , Solano County Fairgrounds, hosted by District 09
	26—Area Committee Mtg
June	23—Area Committee Mtg
July	28—Area Committee Mtg
August	11—Summer Assembly River Lodge, Fortuna, hosted by District 15
	25—Area Committee Mtg
September	7-9—Pacific Regional Forum , Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, San Jose, CA
	22—Area Committee Mtg
	27—Area Committee Mtg
October	3 or 10—Election Assembly
November	24—Area Committee Mtg
December	15—Area Committee Mtg

PANEL 67 ASSEMBLY DATES CALENDAR

2017 Post-Conference Assembly

May 13, Lake County Fairgrounds, Lakeport
(Hosted by District 13)

2017 Summer Assembly

August 5, Petaluma Community Center
(Hosted by District 18)

2017 Fall Inventory Assembly

November 4, Petaluma Veteran's Hall
(Hosted by District 12)

2018 Pre-Conference Assembly

April 7-8

2018 Post-Conference Assembly

May 12, Solano County Fairgrounds, Vallejo
(Hosted by District 09)

2018 Summer Assembly

August 11, River Lodge, Fortuna
(Hosted by District 15)

2018 Fall Election Assembly

November 03 or November 10

(Underlined dates preferred)

If your District is considering making a bid for an Assembly, please contact the Assembly Coordinator Erica S at assemblycoordinator.p67@cnca06.org

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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
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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.

