



CNCA COMMENTS



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

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Chair's Preview

While it finally cooled off outside, inside we were on fire with our love for AA at the June **Area Committee Meeting (ACM)**. We unanimously approved District 03's bid to take on the *Comentarios* commitment, and we passed two housekeeping motions for budget line items: One to fund the travel of the inventory facilitator for our Fall Assembly in November, and another to help fund an exhibitor booth at the California Psychiatric Association Conference in October.

We also approved a housekeeping motion from the **Interpretation & Translation Committee (I&T)** to purchase 20 more FM radios to have on hand for people to borrow at assemblies and other CNCA events. Then, I&T presented an item of new business to provide simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation at more of the committee meetings and sharing sessions here at the ACM. See inside for more details, as the text of the motion is lengthy, but the intent is fairly simple.

The motion to disburse \$10,000 to the General Service Board was discussed as old business for the first time and we heard a number of personal opinions from members on both sides of the issue. While a majority seemed ready to vote, a minority was not, and we want almost everyone to be ready when we vote on a matter that could affect our unity. Please talk about this more in your districts and bring those group consciences to the next ACM. We will have an exciting agenda again in July! And our newly formed Technology Ad Hoc committee will start meeting and reporting back on their progress.

Grateful to be part of a society of alcoholics in action,
Jennifer B, Area Chair

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 OF THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE PRESENTS:

THE 2017 SUMMER ASSEMBLY
Saturday August 5, 2017
Petaluma Community Center
320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma

Registration: 8:30–9:30 a.m.

Orientation: 9:30–9:45 a.m.

Business Meeting: 9:45–Noon

Lunch: 12:00–1:00 p.m.

Interpretation available at all workshops

Workshop Session I: 1:00–2:15 pm

1. Fifth Edition of the Big Book... When?
2. Traditions and Concepts in All Our Affairs
3. A Common Solution for a Diverse Fellowship: Including All Who Suffer from Alcoholism

Workshop Session II: 2:30–3:45 pm

1. Joy of Living: Finding Humor in AA Service
2. Utilizing Technology in Recovery, Unity, and Service
3. Group Autonomy and "Matters Affecting Other Groups or AA as a Whole"

Report back: 4:00–4:30 pm

What's On Your Mind?: 4:30–5:00 pm

BRING YOUR FM RADIO FOR SIMULTANEOUS SPANISH/ENGLISH INTERPRETATION AND ASSISTED LISTENING

I was speaking at a DUI class yesterday and I found myself choking on the word, anonymity. My mind went completely blank at the prospect of trying to explain this very spiritual principle. I was definitely critiquing myself afterwards, saying I have to find a better way of explaining this principle to people who have no idea of what AA is or isn't. What's going on with me?

The day got progressively even crazier. There were a lot of outside forces in the world grabbing social media. I had difficulty putting my phone down. I was looking forward to meeting with my sponsor when she canceled due to illness. I was sitting on my couch when this thought hit my mind: I need step two. I got up off the couch and did something that I have not done since I was a newcomer. I went and cleaned a toilet. That was something my sponsor would tell me to do when I was new and crazy. It was a small positive action that I could complete. In a world where I was powerless, this was something I could have power over. Well, me and a can of Ajax. (This is a metaphor on so many levels.) That night I was to meet some women for dinner and a meeting. This action got me through until I could get to a meeting and hear some hope.

At the meeting I heard a share by a person with three years that did give me hope. She talked about having faith when the road doesn't look like it's going anywhere, putting one foot in front of the other. I came back to my problem with anonymity. It's a two way street. I promise not to break your anonymity if you promise not to break mine. It's a matter of trust. Today I was not trusting. When I get sucked into the vortex of social media, the world can feel like a scary place. But I can choose to change my perspective, to change my focus. I can go from the negative to the positive. By taking simple actions and reaching out to others. Step two and tradition two get me out of myself. Isn't that what anonymity is all about?

In Love and Service,
Joann L
Panel 67 CNCA Delegate

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 2017

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held June 24, 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 Scott H. (District 40). Carolyn M (District 10) read Tradition 6 and Bob S (District 12) read Concept 6. There were five past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), Woody R (Panel 50, Area 07), Doug G (Panel 53), David N (Panel 59), 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 3 GSRs present and 4 new DCMs present. The May 2017 minutes and financial report were accepted as printed in the *CNCA Comments*. Birthdays: 99/6.

Registered attendance: Voting (61) / Non-voting (35)

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: Please encourage GSRs to share the newest *Box 459*, which has information about the General Service Conference, about the openings for a non-trustee director for AAWS and for *Grapevine*, and an article about the opening for two Class B Regional Trustees. There is also an article from the new Chair of the General Service Board, Michele G, who is replacing Terry B. In September, we will start planning for the 2018 Pacific Regional Forum in San Jose. And some of you have asked about the new safety card from GSO; the latest update I heard is that it will be released by the end of July.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: It was my great pleasure to attend the NCCAA convention in Sacramento and to represent CNCA at the Delegates Business Meeting. It was also a great privilege to attend the Past Delegates Reunion in San Jose as a visitor and to be reminded of how, in General Service, we learn to listen like we have no opinion, speak our truth, vote our conscience, and trust the group conscience. I have been in correspondence with the Alternate Delegate from CNIA to evaluate whether AA will have a presence at the annual CalPsych convention in Yosemite; we will, and I will be making a Housekeeping Motion.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: The officers have invited past Trustee-at-large Bob W to be our Area Inventory facilitator at the Fall Assembly. Our Delegate will present a Housekeeping Motion later this afternoon for travel expenses. He's a great guy and very happy to be asked. There's an opening for an Appointed Commit-

tee Member on our I&T committee; if you want to make yourself available to serve, please sign up on the clipboard. Finally, thank you for your Summer Assembly workshop topics. We have about 60 to choose from.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: As of today, we have \$33,820 in our checking account (used for operating expenses) and \$10,117 in our savings account (which represents our prudent reserve). We had budgeted approximately \$9000 in contributions and received \$12,000. We had budgeted \$12,200 in expenses, and spent \$8600. Year to date, we are now about \$20,000 ahead of budget.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: I continue to process changes as they come in from District Registrars and have been collecting feedback to make the process more efficient. We are still working on repairing some of the problems with the database, and I continue to review our records District by District to reconcile the differences in our records and GSO records for each group and service position. If you registered more than two months ago and still have not received your packet, please let me know so we can fix the problem.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: One of the privileges of being involved in service is the opportunity to see just how big AA really is. I've gotten to go to meetings all around Northern California, and I've gotten to see first-hand the life-saving Twelfth Step work we help facilitate here in General Service. I've been trying to capture these moments in our Area minutes, so please share them with me. General Service helped keep AA alive so that the Twelve Steps could save my life, and I hope to try and pass it forward.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: The Summer Assembly is rapidly approaching, and will be held right here in Petaluma on Saturday, August 5. District 18 is well underway with planning, and I know they are looking forward to hosting all of us. Panel 69 assembly dates are set, which means that there are now eight more opportunities for your Districts to experience the joy of hosting an assembly. If anyone would like information on bidding and hosting assemblies, please let me know. Finally, our January Area committee meeting will be held the third Saturday once again (which is January 20). I will remind you again as it approaches.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: The *Grapevine* is accepting articles on topics like Service during the Holidays and Sponsorship until July 5. The annual photo contest (in which members send in

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

photos to be featured in the annual wall calendar) has started, and submissions are due by December 1.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – SUSAN G: Our June meeting was filled with feedback from our groups on way to distribute funds above the prudent reserve. We are moving forward with plans for the BTG Forum in Monterey on October 21.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – ELIYAH H: We welcomed two new GSRs, and it is always exciting to see interest in General Service growing. We presented a draft for expense reimbursement guidelines, which highlighted an additional need for District financial guidelines. Our financial picture is rather bleak; however, the good news is that our Intergroup has approached us in a spirit of unity asking how they can help. We gave a presentation at the Intergroup meeting and a number of groups are adjusting their distribution percentages. We will also hold a 5K walk, lunch and speaker meeting on September 9.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – ERIC H: Santa Cruz held its annual Spring Fling to help carry the message. Attendance was light, but the day was awesome, and General Service participated. We discussed hosting a play in concert with Intergroup, though there are some questions about our status as a non-selling entity. We are planning a District inventory for the fall, and we will have the Delegate's report and a potluck next month.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – MARIANNE G: Our District members surprised me again this month. Although it wasn't on the agenda, they really wanted to talk about AA's legal attempt to save the original *Big Book* manuscript from the auction block. We heard comments ranging from outrage to calls for a special collection to aid in the legal defense.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – NICOLAS G: We had a very exciting District meeting this month. We heard an extensively-researched presentation on AA and the law that, according to a GSR in our District, was 'one of the most informative presentations' they've ever heard. We also passed two Housekeeping Motions; one for funding to the National Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend, and another for funding to the National AA Technology Workshop.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – COLLEEN G: Our planning committee is busy working on our annual Unity Day on July 29. The focus is on the different service committees and to hear from our Delegate. We had two of our

DCMs give presentations on what they do in their sub-Districts to encourage others to get involved. Our PI/CPC Chair presented a motion for funding to place two *Big Books* (one in English, one in Spanish) in each of our county's 33 libraries.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DENNIS H: We turned over our meeting for our Delegate's report. We invited the entire fellowship, and turnout was great. We continue to look for a female co-Chair for BTG, with plans to have a Third Legacy election in July to fill that position.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – PATRICK C: We held a very successful All Groups Day this month to support the East Bay Intergroup. Several GSRs have been helping groups in the District facilitate their group inventories. There is a desire to increase people's exposure to and understanding of the Concepts. We are exploring the details of what it means to be self-supporting. And our BTG committee has been taking stock of how to better unify outreach efforts across all the service committees.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – DON Z: We will be meeting Monday night for our monthly business meeting. We are working on our budget and a financial guidelines document. We are also updating and distributing our Motions Book, and are beginning to assemble the necessary pieces to host the Election Assembly next year.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – DON L: Our June meeting was our annual potluck and Delegate's report. We had a great turnout, with new GSRs and visitors attending. We will continue discussing a motion to fund one member of the District to the National AA Archives Workshop, and we are discussing whether the current District meeting space is meeting our needs.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – CLAUDIA K: We continue to look for an Archives Chair and an Alternate DCMC, and we approved our site for our upcoming Delegate's report / Service Day on September 16 at the Benicia Senior Center. Our Post-Conference Assembly planning is well underway, and half of our Chair positions are filled.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – TONY W: We discussed a motion from a GSR requesting that literature be developed sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation. We will have some more discussion, and perhaps vote, next month. We welcomed a new PI/CPC

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Chair, and I have heard rumors we may have a candidate for the BTG Chair as well. I was excited to hear that SOLYPAA (Solano Young People in AA) is trying to make a comeback, and I hope to attend their elections this coming week and lend any support I can.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – CATHY P: We heard excellent feedback from our recent roundtable discussion on safety in AA. GSRs continue sharing the recent service material from GSO with their groups. We are excited to participate in the \$7.27 on July 27, 2017 campaign and bring awareness to the fellowship about all the services GSO provides. Our Unity Day will be held in September and has a carnival theme.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – SANDRA S: Our PI/CPC training program to train speakers on how to speak outside the rooms of AA is coming along nicely. Speakers made a presentation at a county medical facility that garnered requests for more presentations. We have had some issues with the Napa Valley website, and we have been invited by Intergroup, which runs and maintains the website, to help. Unity Day is coming up on July 15, and will include a Delegate's report.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – ROBERT F: Our Delegate's barbecue was very successful; we had a large crowd and fabulous weather, and our meeting hall was packed. Many people were new to General Service, and the audience was enamored with Joann's presentation. Access Sonoma County has been making great progress on the Aging in Sobriety workshop, which will be in October in Santa Rosa.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – MARY ELLEN R: Everything is set for the Soberfest campout weekend in July, which is held by Intergroup but draws volunteers from across the fellowship of District 13. Our motion to distribute excess funds from 2016 passed, and we will distribute \$900, split evenly between CNCA and GSO.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ROBIN T: There have been several powerful service workshops organized by our two Intergroups and some individual groups. A Traditions workshop on the coast was very powerful. We have a new *Grapevine/La Viña* Literature Chair for our District, and it's the first time this position has been filled in a number of years.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – CHRISTOPHER C: Our webmaster was very busy re-coding our website to make the meeting schedule searchable. District 15 pledged its support to HCYPAA (Humboldt County YPAA) to host ACYPAA in 2019. And after six months of Third Legacy elections, we finally have an actual DCMC; stay tuned next month for a District report

from Devin P.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FRANCISCO R: We held our District meeting and had participation from an Area officer, who spoke on the importance of GSRs. On July 23, we will celebrate our District's anniversary.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – MARIO S: We had an excellent business meeting, and we continue motivating GSRs to attend the Summer Assembly. We celebrated our 27th anniversary last week.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – HECTOR C: The District is focused on our next few events we have the privilege of hosting, including the Inter-District meeting on July 9 in Napa, the Summer Assembly dinner on August 4 in Santa Rosa, and the Summer Assembly on August 5 in Petaluma. We are grateful for these opportunities to serve.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – MAGDALENO O: We celebrated our 22nd anniversary on June 11. As a District, we are meeting every Tuesday. On the first Tuesday, we have a Service Manual study. On the second, we have a regular business meeting (including a visit from an Area officer). On the third, we have Public Information committee meeting, and on the fourth, we have another business meeting.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – TEODOMIRO S: We will hear our Delegate's report on July 10, and continue working as a District to encourage GSRs to participate in our committees. We are also cooperating with Intergroup Office to explore the possibility of increasing the size of our meeting room. We need volunteers to serve as liaisons to Districts 08 and 07, and hope to fill these positions soon.

Area Sub-Committees and Sharing Sessions

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: This past month, the Area Archives committee received a donation of old reel-to-reel tapes. Another member of the committee picked up the PRAASA archives from Idaho, and they are being stored in our CNCA Repository. We sent archives displays to an All Groups Day and a Founder's Day event, had our quarterly training at our last workday (focused on oral histories), and will have two workdays in July.

BRIDGING THE GAP – LARRY B: At today's BTG committee meeting, we had an extended 'What's on

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

your Mind' session to allow our District Chairs to share goals and challenges. Some Districts would like more support on how to build their committees. With nine Districts reporting, your District and Area BTG committees gave 26 presentations and handled 121 requests for contact.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We had a lengthy discussion today around the budget worksheets for committees. If there are any budgetary items that are coming up, this will be a good time to discuss. Next month, we will be visiting committees to answer questions about these budget worksheets.

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: At our meeting today, we had the first of our roundtable discussions hearing from each District on the topic of letter-writing campaigns. We concluded that letter writing has a more limited response rate than we get from our personal network; it was noted that a much higher response rate to letter-writing campaigns had been experienced in respect to schools.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: We welcomed our newest member, Kendra A., and continue to work on the new website. A small problem with email forward-ing was fixed, and we will be updating Wordpress, the software we use for our website, next week, which should solve the spam problem. We continue discussing our guidelines and have had a request to have email forwarding for all DCMCs; this is being discussed as a possibility on the new website.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: The I&T committee will be bringing two motions to the Area today. One is a Housekeeping Motion to purchase more FM radios, and a second is presentation of new business to extend our coverage of interpretation capacity for the business meetings of the Area's committees. We also have an opening for an additional member of the I&T committee. You do not need to be bilingual, a DCM or a GSR to join; you just need a willingness to serve.

CNCA COMMENTS – JUAN CARLOS S: 988 copies of the *Comments* were sent on time, and we had help from 10 members of our District.

COMENTARIOS DE CNCA – MANUEL R: I am looking forward to rotation. I will be passing on information to District 03's committee, and I hope that the new committee experiences the same joy I did doing this beautiful service.

DCM SHARING SESSION – JACQUELINE P: Fifty-three

people attended today's DCM Sharing Session. We heard a presentation on Intergroups and General Service. People shared about some of the difficulties and joys of working with Intergroup, and gave suggestions on how to improve communication between service entities. Next month, the topic will be 'Helping GSRs with Controversial Topics.'

ACCESSIBILITIES – KRIS W: At today's sharing session, we heard a presentation from the founder of the Sunshine Club in San Francisco, which takes AA meetings to members who are unable to attend meetings due to accident, illness or temporary medical condition. She explained how the Sunshine Club was formed, how it works, and what they have learned about what works and what doesn't. Next month, we will review the Accessibilities Workbook.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: We had a wonderful sharing session and continue discussing ways to be effective communicators of literature, *Grapevine* and *La Viña* news. We are also planning to participate in the *Grapevine* photo contest by sharing photos we are submitting.

NCCAA – LINDA G: The NCCAA Conference was held two weeks ago in Sacramento, and it was a blast. Highlights included a service panel on access where a deaf woman signed her story of getting ASL-language meetings started in CNIA. Our next conference will be held in October in Lodi.

H&I – DIANE O: Thank you again for your generous contributions to our pink and white cans that help us to carry our message of hope to the confined alcoholic. We held our General Committee meeting on June 11. We have a new website that we are very pleased with. Karen C was re-elected as General Chair, and Ken M was elected as a member of our Finance committee. We also discussed changes to our Policies and Procedures pamphlet, and took our first vote on these changes. We vote again in October.

LA VIÑA 21 ANNIVERSARY – RAFAEL R: Last month, I was in McClellan, CA, at a workday for *La Viña* with members of the *La Viña* 21st Anniversary committee. I also attended NCCAA, where we had a display about *La Viña*. As an Area, we currently have about 150 people registered to support the event, which will be held July 22 and 23 in Oxnard, CA.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Housekeeping Motions

That CNCA pay the travel expenses (including round-trip airfare and two nights' lodging) for past Trustee-at-large (U.S.), Bob W, who has agreed to facilitate our Area Inventory at the Fall Assembly on November 4, 2017. – *presented by Joann L, Delegate*

Presentation: Bob will be coming from Massachusetts. The budgeted amount is \$750, and though we expect that Bob will be prudent, expenses could exceed that amount.

Questions: Q: Is there a reason we are flying in someone from the East Coast? A: We have done this in the past and it is better to have an inventory facilitator from outside our area.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

That CNCA purchase twenty (20) FM transistor radios at a cost not to exceed \$350. – *presented by the Interpretation and Translation (I&T) committee*

Presentation: When we have assemblies, we run out of our current stock of radios (about 43) frequently. At the ACM, we do have enough. But at the upcoming assembly, we want everyone to participate. We want to increase our stock of radios to make sure everyone can hear what is being said.

Questions: Q: How did you come up with the number \$350? A: We are hoping to get them for less, but we do want quality radios. Q: Would this include headphones? A: Yes. Q: Does the price include batteries? A: No. We already have batteries.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

That CNCA help defray the costs associated with an exhibitor booth at the annual California Psychiatric Association Conference in Yosemite, October 6-8, 2017, not to exceed \$600. – *presented by Teddy B-W, Alternate Delegate*

Presentation: The California Psychiatric Association meets annually in California. This year, the conference will be in CNIA, and, in prior years, CNCA has supported a variety of CPC events, sometimes in our Area, sometimes not. We have done this on seven occasions before, not for this specific conference but for others, for costs ranging between \$150 and \$1500. I contacted CNIA, and they will have a presence at CalPsych. The newsletter for professionals this month reminds us that many of our members receive counseling related to their alcoholism before coming to AA,

and many say that it played a crucial role in directing them to AA. We never put a value on our Twelfth Step work, but to give you context, the conference is attended by 200 practitioners who come into contact with some 1200 problem drinkers each. That works out to about 15 cents per problem drinker.

Questions: Q: Is the intent to provide funding, or to also provide people? A: This motion is purely for funds to help defray the costs for the booth.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

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

Area Business

COMENTARIOS BID:

District 03 bid for the Panel 67 *Comentarios*. Total bid cost of \$2734.

Presentation: There was enough interest in our District, and we put together this bid based on the remaining months in the panel (18 months). That is the total number, but fundamentally, we understand the need, we are willing, we are eager to do it, and the numbers seem in line with reality.

The Area Committee accepted the bid by show of hands.

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS:

That a portion of CNCA Motion 1008-3 be amended from '...professional quality simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation at all assembly workshops, the Area Meeting (including the DCMC and DCM sharing sessions and 2 standing committees on a rotating basis but so that there shall be no more than 2 being interpreted concurrently)' to read: '... professional quality simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation at all assembly workshops, the Area Meeting (including the DCMC and DCM sharing sessions and all standing committees, subcommittees and sharing sessions which request interpretation). Interpretation shall be subject to availability of interpreters and available equipment.' – *presented by the Interpretation and Translation (I&T) committee*

Presentation: In 2010, we had two transmitters. We now have four transmitters, and have added two new sharing sessions. We wanted to change this wording so that we had the ability to provide interpretation to anyone that requests it.

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

As of May 31, 2017

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	42,234.00
Prudent Reserve - Savings	10,117.90
Total Bank Accounts	\$52,351.90
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	1,950.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$1,950.00
Total Current Assets	\$54,301.90
TOTAL ASSETS	\$54,301.90
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	24,557.99
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	10,117.90
Net Revenue	19,626.01
Total Equity	\$54,301.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$54,301.90

Expense Report May 2017

California Northern Coastal Area

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

May 2017

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
REVENUE			
002 Group Contributions	4,716.43	6,000.00	78.61 %
003 District Contributions	5,535.00	625.00	885.60 %
004 Assembly Contributions	1,517.01	2,050.00	74.00 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	212.17	320.00	66.30 %
007 CNCA Subscriptions		12.00	
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	64.24	100.00	64.24 %
010 Interest Income	0.46	0.00	
Total Revenue	\$12,045.31	\$9,107.00	132.26 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$12,045.31	\$9,107.00	132.26 %
EXPENDITURES			
012 EXPENSE			
013 Delegate Expense	449.55	565.00	79.57 %
038 Officer Expense	2,869.63	2,845.00	100.87 %
093 Committee Expenses	1,249.58	2,311.00	54.07 %
158 General Expenses			
159 Assembly Expenses	1,785.13	4,300.00	41.51 %
177 Area Committee Expenses	2,268.23	2,214.00	102.45 %
192 Returned Check/Bank Fees		21.00	
Total 158 General Expenses	4,053.36	6,535.00	62.03 %
Total 012 EXPENSE	8,622.12	12,256.00	70.35 %
Total Expenditures	\$8,622.12	\$12,256.00	70.35 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$3,423.19	\$ -3,149.00	-108.71 %
NET REVENUE	\$3,423.19	\$ -3,149.00	-108.71 %

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Questions: Q: Is there a financial impact? A: It could have an impact. If we did add two new meetings, and paid the full fee and transportation from far away, it could, at most, come to \$2000 to \$3000 extra a year, per our current guidelines.

Motion remains Area Committee Business. Will be new business at the July Area committee meeting. *(Clear majority by show of hands; no count taken).*

OLD 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: We are not supposed to have too much money. // “The pressure of that fat treasury would surely tempt the board to invent all kinds of schemes to do good with such funds, and so divert AA from its primary purpose,” says the essay on Tradition 7. // We should encourage people to record their true expenses. When people bring cookies to a meeting, we reimburse them. I don’t see why we should have a different policy here. // I know we don’t invent ways to spend the money, but we could send more people to workshops, and we could spend the money on Area travel. San Mateo had a program where they put placards on buses talking about AA. Instead of just one District doing that, we could do that Area-wide. Someone could have come to each committee and asked us what we needed. // Just because we have money doesn’t mean we need to be creative. Once you have money, people come up with great ideas on how to spend it. // If we vote, can we send it on July 27? // My District did agree to distribute \$900. We do have a budget this year with costs that far exceed what we would normally take in in income. But we know that traditionally, people don’t submit for reimbursement for all the expenses that they incurred. If we run out of money, we will either not spend the money or we will raise money to reimburse those who have turned in expense reports. // One thing I read during the Feasibility Study period was that New York wanted to make a \$1 million pension payment fund. After reading how they had cut everything in New York to the bone, it crossed my mind that they do have pension liabilities. // I remember the *Twelve and Twelve* says that “We found that freedom from fear was more important than freedom from want.” // Difficult as it was, AA declined \$10,000 in our early history. The principle of corporate poverty was firmly embedded then in AA tradition. // We were talking about radios and we ap-

proved 20 radios. But why not 40 so that even more people can hear? // If we wanted to transfer all the reel-to-reel tapes and pay a company to do it, all of our money would be gone. Right now, we can transfer reel-to-reel one at a time, and it is time consuming.

Speeding up the process will cost money. When this panel started, it took a few months for us to acclimate. I don’t know if we are ready to just forward the money on. // There was an ad-hoc committee being planned for our technology needs. I was wondering if there had been any findings. (Note: The ad-hoc committee was formed June 24, and will start meeting this summer.) // We can only spend the money in CNCA that this body and our Area assembly tells us we can spend. That is what is presented each year in the budget to the Area committee meeting. If there are unmet needs, a committee or an individual should come forward with a motion so that we can discuss the request. // I have heard that we have between \$30,000 and \$40,000 and our prudent reserve is \$12,000. That is more than the budget of most areas. // We want to leave leeway for some needs that we are anticipating coming from the ad-hoc technology committee. This \$10,000 is a prudent move for CNCA. // For future budgetary needs, it is important to consider if we need to be budgeting more as we go along. For now, it is important to observe corporate poverty.

Motion remains Old Business.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

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

Discussion: It is important that the Area form an ad-hoc committee to explore different options and layouts to make the *CNCA Comments and Comentarios* more relevant to GSRs. The layout makes it difficult to read, but the information is useful. An ad-hoc committee could look at the newsletters other Areas have, and come back with suggestions. // I looked back at old *Comments*, and they haven’t changed from 2003. If you compared the ones from 2003 to the *Comments* from last month, you wouldn’t know they are from different years unless you look closely. // Why the two columns? // I was wondering if I brought a copy to a meeting, would people be interested in reading the *Comments*? Are they just for me, or are they for my group? // This looks like a convoluted compilation.

Discussion closed.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Simple majority decisions and the minority opinion

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Discussion: I was excited last month that this was a discussion topic. I spoke to several people afterwards and realized that we don't have to discuss everything. I don't have to be involved in everything. We have to trust the Chair. // We just decided to keep something at the Area committee meeting. I am curious as to why some people chose to send it to the assembly, but we did not hear that minority opinion. // AA is based to a large degree on substantial unanimity and group conscience. And a 51 percent in favor vote is neither of those things. On any measure that deals with substantial expenses or policy changes, we had better see if we can get a group conscience and consensus on whether it's the right thing to do. We should take a minority opinion on any vote that we take. // Substantial unanimity suggests working together to build unity. I am much more in favor of as many things as possible being substantial unanimity.

Discussion continues next month.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Suitability of this facility for our Area Committee meetings

Discussion: Of all the facilities I had to interact with, no one has treated us as well as this place has. It is geographically in the center of the Area. It has all the rooms we need; we can even expand. I can't imagine a better scenario. // If we were concerned about space, we could consider a different layout for the tables. // At one time, we met at the Alano Club in Oakland on a Thursday evening. The Area determined that we needed to move to a larger facility, and they decided on this place later. Before we go running out looking for somewhere else, let's think about it. // Our experience as a District has been that other groups in our Area have encroached on space that we have occupied for a long time. I just ask that maybe to avoid those problems, that there be some place that we can go to have that mediated. // One thing that is convenient is all the nearby food. // I love the ducks and geese and their poop. // We come from very far away, and it would be nice to change meeting locations between the northern and southern parts of the Area as well. I would like to rotate between different cities in our Area. It isn't fair some people can walk to the Area committee meeting and we must drive three hours. // It has parking, it is reasonably priced, they treat us well, and it is accessible (other than distance). This is the California Northern Coastal Area, not the San Francisco Bay Area, and that the Districts further north and south should be able to

participate. // I challenge you to find anything further south that you can afford. // When I was drinking, if I walked 20 feet from my house, it was too much. I now get to travel for something good, and I am so grateful to be able to come here. // In the future, we will have little robots with our little heads interacting with one another as we sit at home. So for now, I am enjoying our facility here.

Discussion closed.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

On the 14, I celebrated 25 years of sobriety. My oldest brother this past week found a picture of a 25 year chip, and he tagged me on Facebook. The intention was awesome, but I had to explain that while I appreciate it, I don't do that was because Dr. Bob and Bill started this thing that helped so many people, but on their tombstones there is nothing about AA. // We have a great relationship with CNIA. Their officers help at our election, and we help at theirs. Over the years, you make really good friends. I am sad to know that their current Registrar, Betsy, who was married to Matt (their current Recording Secretary), just passed away from cancer. // In the May 2015 issue of the *Grapevine*, I described my experience the last time CNIA was invited at CalPsych. The next one was going to be in southern California. I am getting the impression that there might not have been presence at other conferences. One overriding concern from mental health professionals was fear that misinformed members might tell their patients that they can't be sober if they take medication. People involved in PI/CPC reach out to mental health professionals because if they are afraid of sending people to AA, we are not helping fulfill our mission. // I went to my first PICPC presentation to behavioral health professionals in Santa Rosa and a lot of the questions were concerns about religion, our practices, medication, and how we present our *Big Book*. That plain language *Big Book* keeps popping its head up.

The meeting was closed at 3:15 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,

Eric L, CNCA Panel 67 Recording Secretary

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:

“That a portion of CNCA Motion 1008-3 be amended from ‘...professional quality simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation at all assembly workshops, the Area Meeting (including the DCMC and DCM sharing sessions and 2 standing committees on a rotating basis but so that there shall be no more than 2 being interpreted concurrently)’ to read:

‘... professional quality simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation at all assembly workshops, the Area Meeting (including the DCMC and DCM sharing sessions and all standing committees, subcommittees and sharing sessions which request interpretation). Interpretation shall be subject to availability of interpreters and available equipment.’” —*Presented by the I&T Committee*

Discussion topics:

Simple majority decisions and the minority opinion

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.

MOTION: “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.).” —*CNCA PI/CPC Committee*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: Our primary purpose as sober alcoholics is to help others achieve sobriety. Proposed by the PI/CPC committee, a sub-committee functioning as our trusted liaison to the professional community, this motion suggests that the addition of a PSA with full-faced actors would strengthen our purpose.

The intention of this motion is to encourage the GSB and GSC to produce a PSA that will be more relatable to the public. Importantly, the motion wouldn't require alterations to existing policy but, rather, would be in accordance with the 2011 Advisory Action that outlined a procedure for producing videos using full-face actors. Members have mentioned in our discussions that seeing the Australian version of a PSA with full-faces “spoke to” them “in a way those other videos haven't.” The implication is that seeing real people in the grips of alcoholism is more effective than a cartoon or a figure in the shadows.

Even more significantly, we must consider the impact this PSA could have on communities for whom access to A.A. is challenging. A PSA with full-faced actors would be more accessible to people who lip-read or to people in areas without in-person recovery meetings. Additionally, a PSA with full-face actors would transparently convey A.A.'s message to professionals. Anything that alleviates the public opinion that A.A. is “strange and secretive” would help an alcoholic in need.

It is unrealistic to assume that a full-face PSA will “speak to” everyone. The motion's intent isn't to negate the effectiveness of, for example, our “Doors” PSA. However, the spirit of our primary purpose suggests that even if A.A.'s message reaches only a few more people we are fulfilling our responsibility.

If we consider A.A.'s Traditions spiritually rather than dogmatically, the Traditions are suggestions with which it is prudent to align and our discussion veers into doctrine when we dwell on whether or not we are breaking them. Like everything we encounter in sobriety, we can only do our best with the information we have. Part of this spirit of “taking the next right action” —under the direction of our Higher Powers —is to trust our trusted servants. —*Allison S, Literature/Grapevine Chair, District 10*

ARGUMENT AGAINST THE MOTION: The motion violates several of our core traditions, chief among them traditions eleven and twelve, which concern anonymity. Creating a public service announcement with full-face actors allows the still-suffering alcoholic to focus on differences; i.e., race, age, sex, clothing style, etc. Many of us on the ground find twelfth-step more effective when we focus on our stories, allowing the alcoholic to find the similarities. The brevity of a public service announcement makes it more difficult to effectively share our experiences. This difficulty would be compounded by full-face actors which allow the viewer to focus on individual differences.

Additionally, tradition eight prohibits us from utilizing professional workers outside of our service centers. If approved, Alcoholics Anonymous would use professional actors to carry our message to the alcoholic who still suffers. On the surface, this is a perversion of the twelfth step that could serve as a precedent-setting action, requiring new boundaries. Why not hire professional speakers to recite our shares from podiums? Though that sounds preposterous, a supporter of that motion could point to this one to bolster his argument. While our service centers may employ professional workers, the act of carrying the message should remain the responsibility of alcoholics.

Perhaps the strongest argument against this motion can be found in the depth of the alcoholic experience itself. Those of us who have experienced it can recognize it in others. I have no doubt there exist actors skilled enough in their craft to accurately convey our experiences. Yet, as a former actor and director, I can tell you they are rare. Rarer still are the directors and producers who can foster an environment to accurately convey our truth. Several alternative PSA-styles have been proposed, from scenes of alcoholic destruction to poignant words displayed on screen. The act of conveying truth becomes difficult when actors are used. Therein lies the biggest danger of this motion: Do we want the newcomer to feel we are lying to them through actors? —*Thaddious K, GSR, District 04*

**CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 OF
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

2017 SUMMER ASSEMBLY

Saturday August 5, 2017

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

Registration: 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Business Meeting: 9:45-12:00 p.m.

Orientation: 9:30-9:45 a.m.

Lunch: 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Workshop Session I: 1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

1. Fifth Edition of the Big Book... When?
2. Traditions and Concepts in All Our Affairs
3. A Common Solution for a Diverse Fellowship: Including All Who Suffer from Alcoholism

Workshop Session II: 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

1. Joy of Living: Finding Humor in AA Service
2. Utilizing Technology in Recovery, Unity, and Service
3. Group Autonomy and “Matters Affecting Other Groups or AA as a Whole”

Report Back: 4:00-4:30 p.m.

What’s On Your Mind? 4:30-5:00 p.m.

Lodging in Petaluma:

Best Western Petaluma

200 S. McDowell Blvd, Petaluma 94954
bestwesterncalifornia.com
(707) 763-0994

Motel 6

1368 N McDowell Blvd., Petaluma 94954
motel6.com
(707) 765-0333

Quality Inn

5100 Montero Way, Petaluma 94954
choicehotels.com
(707) 664-1155

Sheraton Sonoma County - Petaluma

745 Baywood Dr., Petaluma 94954
sheratonsonoma.com
(707) 283-2888

Metro Hotel

508 Petaluma Blvd. S., Petaluma 94952
metrolodging.com
(707) 773-4900

Friday:

Keep It Simple

Local AA Meetings:

580 Sonoma Mtn. Pkwy, Petaluma
5:30pm

Petaluma Valley Group

125 Sonoma Mtn. Pkwy, Petaluma
7:30pm

Nueva Esperanza

620 E. Washington #104, Petaluma
7:00pm

Saturday:

Saturday Solution

504 Baker, Petaluma
7:00am

Celebrate Sobriety

Alano Club
1050 Petaluma Blvd North, Petaluma
7:00pm

Una Nueva Ilusion

42 College Ave, Santa Rosa
7:00pm

For additional meetings visit:

www.sonomacountyaa.org

**Interpretation available at all workshops
(bring your FM radio)**

CNCA CALENDAR -- PANEL 67

2017—Panel 67

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

2018—Panel 67

January 20—Area Committee Mtg
 (Note: 3rd Saturday)
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 Assem-
 bly, Santa Clara County Fair-
 grounds, hosted by Districts 40
 and 02
 22-28 General Service Conf.,

NY

28—Area Committee Mtg
May 12—Post Conference As-
 sembly, Solano County Fair
 grounds, hosted by District 09
June 26—Area Committee Mtg
July 23—Area Committee Mtg
August 28—Area Committee Mtg
 11—Summer Assembly,
 River Lodge, Fortuna, hosted
 by District 15
September 25—Area Committee Mtg
 7-9—Pacific Regional Forum,
 Doubletree by Hilton Hotel,
 San Jose, CA
October 22—Area Committee Mtg
November 27—Area Committee Mtg
 3—Election Assembly, Rob-
 ert Livermore Community Cen-
 ter, Livermore, hosted by Dis-
 trict 70
December 24—Area Committee Mtg
 15—Area Committee Mtg

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 assem-
 blies; 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 [assemblycoordina-
 tor.p67@cnca06.org](mailto:assemblycoordina-

 tor.p67@cnca06.org)

Panel 67 Area Officers & Area Meeting Information

Feel free to contact the Area officers by using the “contact us” tab on the www.cnca06.org

Delegate
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

General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
212-870-3400
www.aa.org

CNCA
P.O. Box 884222
San Francisco, CA 94188-4222
www.cnca06.org

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.

