



CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential -- October 2017

www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Chair's Preview

At our September Area Committee Meeting (ACM) three housekeeping motions passed with no objection. Two were related to increasing the amount for food and coffee budgets at assemblies, which will go into effect immediately. Please see Erica, our Assembly Coordinator, for details and assistance if you have already bid and/or to discuss any upcoming bids. The third was to fund a display board for our Area at the National AA Archives Workshop, not to exceed \$100.

We also passed the Web committee's motion to have a hotspot for secure internet access at the ACM and assemblies. This is for official Area business only, such as processing electronic contributions, working on the web site, registering members with GSO, etc. Those of us doing our personal stuff will not have access, but we can rest assured that our data is more secure and our trusted servants are not coming out of their own pockets to perform their service.

A highlight of the day was hearing wonderful, heartfelt reports from two of the workshops we funded members to attend: The Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend in Bloomington, MN and the National AA Technology Workshop in Sacramento. The sharing of ideas and enthusiasm from these events benefits the whole Area. Note that reports from the Summer Assembly Workshops are also inside this issue.

I look forward to hearing all of your thoughts at our Fall Inventory Assembly. What is our Area doing well? What needs improvement? The discussion questions are below, and I encourage you to think about them broadly and be creative and fearless in your responses. Our inventory facilitator, Bob W, served as a Trustee-at-Large for four years, traveling around the world for A.A., so be sure to stick around for his presentation at the end of the day.

Love and service,
Jennifer B, Area Chair

Inventory Questions for Fall Assembly on November 4:

Assembly schedule and directions can be found on pp. 14-15

What is the basic purpose of CNCA (Area 06)?

How effectively are we using technology to inform and connect with members, groups, and GSRs in our Area?

Are we open-minded to all voices and ideas brought to our Area?

Are we doing a good job of supporting our subcommittees, standing committees, and sharing sessions? *

How do spiritual principles play a role in our financial decisions?

What barriers are preventing people from participating at our Area meeting and assemblies?

* *Area Subcommittees:* Archives, Bridging the Gap, and Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) ▪ *Area Standing Committees:* Finance, Web, and Interpretation & Translation ▪ *Sharing Sessions at the ACM:* DCMC, DCM, Literature/Grapevine/La Vina, and Accessibilities

Unity

A common problem and a common solution—is that not the cement that binds AA together in Unity? I see that happening in communities around us that have experienced a catastrophic event which is their common problem. These communities come together to clean up after a hurricane, a tornado or a fire. A common solution of rebuilding emerges.

We in AA have the deadly disease of alcoholism. This disease threatens our lives and sanity. Yet the triumph and celebration that happens at a chip meeting, where we get to witness the disease being arrested by the 12 steps is still an event grabs our hearts. We can rejoice in unity.

So I have been concerned about our unity lately. I seem to be reaching deeply into my Faith pocket as I watch what is going around me. I ask myself what kind of action helps with Unity. What can I do? In order to practice the first Tradition, we need the action of the second Tradition: an informed group conscience. That is why I participate in the business meeting of the groups I regularly attend. I love attending District meetings and watching others as they discuss their business. I see the first Tradition and the second Tradition being practiced at our Area business meeting and our assemblies. And now I have seen it at the Conference. We discuss what is best for our common welfare – what is best for all of us.

In the Conference Report on page 13, there is a profound statement in the presentation on “Communication – Today and Tomorrow” written by Thomas G. He says, “If they (the group members) don’t exercise their responsibility to voice their opinions and concerns within the organizational model, then they are giving up their privilege to contribute to the process of our association.”

Yes, we need all voices. We need participation. We need to speak up and we need to listen to each other. Sometimes it is hard to listen to what is being said. But it takes ALL voices to have an informed group conscience. All voices are needed.

Thank you for letting me be of service,
Joann L

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held September 23, 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 Amy M (District 14). Jacob S (District 04) read Tradition 9 and Ray W (District 70) read Concept 9. There were 5 past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), Woody R (Panel 50, Area 07), Sharon A (Panel 57), David N (Panel 59) and Raymundo L (Panel 65). David N currently serves as a General Service Trustee. There were 7 GSRs present and 1 new DCM present. The August 2017 minutes and financial report were accepted as printed in the *CNCA Comments*. Birthdays: 102/7.

Registered attendance: Voting (61) / Non-voting (38)

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: I am aware of the growing controversy in the Fellowship surrounding the recent lawsuit over the printer's copy of the *Big Book* manuscript. I believe now is not the right time to have a discussion on this, since we do not have all the facts. For now, I would like to wait. To pray. To trust. If I receive any news that I can share with you, I will send it to you as soon as possible. In the meantime, I think working with the newcomer who just showed up at my home group is a better use of my time.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: No report.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: Today is the last day to submit inventory question suggestions for the Fall Assembly. The publishing department at AAWS reviewed our Area's volunteer effort recording the Concepts essays from the *Service Manual* in English and Spanish, and, though they did not grant us permission to use these recordings, they were inspired by our efforts. AAWS is now exploring how they can professionally record the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* in English, French and Spanish.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: As of today, we have \$32,400 in our checking account (used for operating expenses) and \$10,117 in our savings account (which represents our prudent reserve). We had budgeted approximately \$10,200 in contributions and received \$14,100. We had budgeted \$13,300 in expenses, and spent \$9,100.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: I continue to process changes as they come in from our District registrars, and I have been receiving great feedback to make the process more efficient. We are on track to have issues with the database corrected in the next few months and will

hopefully have a better system to serve the members of our Area. I always remember that every name I type when processing changes in the database is the name of someone who is of service to AA.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: I can think of no better way to celebrate eight years sober than here with all of you. I continue preparing the next version of the Area's Motions Book for distribution in 2019, and I am seeking volunteers to help with writing vignettes of what we have discussed this panel to include in the Discussions and Report section.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: The Inventory Assembly will be held in Petaluma on November 4. District 12 is excited about hosting all of us. It was brought to my attention that some assemblies have gone over budget on various expenses, so I will be making two motions to increase Assembly food and coffee budgets.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: Please thank your groups for all the workshops that have been organized to write stories and to send photos to the *Grapevine*. I have received and forwarded 30 stories and 11 photos myself. I have also received a copy of the newest *Grapevine* book, *Voices of Women in AA*, which includes stories from the women who helped AA in its infancy.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – SUSAN G: We are excited about the formation of the Monterey YPAA group that will start meeting tomorrow night. At our last District meeting, we created a PI/CPC annual budget, and we are looking forward to the BTG Forum in Monterey in October.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – ELIJAH H: We held our Sunshine of the Spirit Walk and enjoyed beautiful fellowship and fun. Groups in the District have responded with increased contributions to help fund our General Service efforts. We are now preparing for a Secretary's Workshop and our Annual Gratitude Dinner in November.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – MURIAS O: We heard a report from a member who attended the National AA Technology Workshop (NAATW), who likened the experience to that of going to PRAASA. We also dis-

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

cussed the importance of a District inventory.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – MARIANNE G: We prepared for our inventory and gathered a District conscience on a matter of Assembly business.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – COREE H: We went over the Conference Report, with a presentation breaking down the report into digestible chunks so that GSRs could learn how to read the report. We also heard a report on the NAATW, and we picked District inventory questions.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – COLLEEN G: We are gearing up for our District inventory. Our Grapevine/La Viña chair made a motion to purchase literature to use as a display at events. And we have formed an ad-hoc budget committee.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – JUSTIN H: We welcomed eight new GSRs and alternates; we gave them GSR packets and offered words of encouragement. A motion to reimburse one of our BTG co-chairs to the BTG Forum in October passed unanimously. Our Unity Day will be held at the Urban Life Center in San Francisco on October 14.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – PATRICK C: Our District will be meeting next week.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – DON Z: We will be conducting our District inventory next month. Ten members of the District are now serving on the host committee for next year's Election Assembly, and another member has stepped up to fill our newly-created Accessibility Coordinator position.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – RICHARD W: We heard a wonderful presentation on the Conference Report and its contents, and we passed a motion to purchase a sound system to be used at our business meeting and at special events. We also continued discussing a motion to change the lodging reimbursement policy for assemblies. Next month, we will begin our District inventory.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – CLAUDIA K: We held a very successful Delegate's Report/ Service Day event. Next, we will be making a decision about holding a District inventory and we will be electing committee chairs.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – TONY W: We are planning to present a bid for the 2019 Post-Conference Assembly next month. Our Unity Day will be held on October 7 in Vacaville. The theme is how to best serve the newcomer.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – CATHY P: Our financial guidelines were approved, mirroring CNCA's guidelines and adhering to our tradition of prudent spending. We are also having preliminary discussions about hosting a safety workshop in 2018.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – JEFF D: We are discussing whether to send \$4,500 to two service entities. We approved scholarships for two people to attend the NAATW, and we began evaluating future scholarships. A discussion about speaker time limits produced lively debate, but no motion.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – ROBERT F: District 12 will be hosting the Fall Inventory Assembly on November 4 in Petaluma. The Pre-Assembly dinner will be the night before at the same location. Our Unity Day will be held on November 30 in Sebastopol; we have some unique presentations planned.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – MARY ELLEN R: Our Unity Day was a great success. A new YPAA group is forming in Lake County, starting in October. And our Literature Chair has been taking two of his favorite AA books, *Language of the Heart* and *Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers*, to meetings around the lake.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ROBIN T: We revised our financial guidelines to allow for more District officers to travel to more meetings at a lower reimbursement rate. GSRs are now gathering inventory questions to choose from.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – DEVIN P: We are discussing meeting later in the day and meeting twice a year in southern Humboldt County. Our host committee for the 2018 Summer Assembly is getting ready to start meeting. There was a fire at one of the churches where several groups hold meetings. We continue sending prayers to the person who set the fire and the person who was injured.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FRANCISCO R: We continue visiting groups, encouraging their participation in General Service and handing them copies of the Conference Report.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – MARIO S: Few GSRs attended our last District meeting. We are now planning the next Inter-District meeting, which we will host in December.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – HECTOR C: We will be celebrating our District anniversary tomorrow.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

We are now planning to host a *La Viña workshop*; *no date has been set*.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – MAGDALENO O: We are working with the two Central Offices within our District to encourage further participation in General Service. We passed out Conference Reports to our groups, and we are preparing our inventory for after the Fall Assembly.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – TEODOMIRO S: A new Alternate DCMC was elected and we heard a presentation on leadership in AA. We will be celebrating the District's sixth anniversary in November; everyone is invited.

Area Sub-Committees and Sharing Sessions

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: We have been collecting group histories and archiving all the activity in all of the Districts. It has been a pleasure to participate at Unity Days and connect members to our history. We are looking forward to the National AA Archives Workshop and will host our biennial Archives Workshop in Walnut Creek in December.

BRIDGING THE GAP – KELLY H: This month, your BTG committees gave 16 presentations and handled 85 requests for contact. Along with our Area representative, who will give a report later today, several other districts also funded representatives to the BTG Workshop Weekend, so CNCA was very well-represented. We have also been busy preparing for the 12th annual BTG Forum, which will be held in Monterey on October 21.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We continue to fine-tune the 2108 budget for our Area.

PI/CPC – CATHY P: We discussed working with schools and educational institutions, we reviewed the 'Sponsor your Doctor' letter, and we discussed our committee's technology needs. Next month, we will discuss working with veterans.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: We discussed the NAATW, which many of us attended. We also discussed the technology needs for CNCA in the future, and we are looking at developing a plan for managing our technology assets.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: We have crafted wording to describe the duties of the person in charge of taking care of the FM radios we lend out at the ACM and at assemblies. Because this is a

change to our guidelines, we will be presenting a motion next month.

CNCA COMMENTS – JUAN T: Ten volunteers helped at the Lick and Stick this month; we mailed out 1,099 copies of the *Comments*, and they were sent on time.

COMENTARIOS DE CNCA – JASMINE C: We printed and mailed 175 copies of the July and August *Comentarios* this month. Thanks again to the I&T team for providing the translation of both issues. We now have seven or eight members who are ready to incrementally take on more translation work over the next couple of months.

DCM SHARING SESSION – JENNY M: We heard a presentation on technology. People shared about access to digital resources and the preference of some to continue to receive printed copies of AA materials. A suggestion to offer instructional trainings to help people become comfortable with technology was greeted enthusiastically. Next month, the topic will be 'Recruiting New GSRs.'

ACCESSIBILITIES – GAIL C: We heard a presentation from the woman who started an ASL-interpreted meeting in 2005. She described the process of starting this group, which meets in Santa Rosa, and she explained how the group finances the expenses associated with providing weekly interpretation by using a green can similar to H&I's pink cans.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – JESUS C: We shared ideas on how to better work together during our sharing session. Next month, we will discuss the Conference report, especially content related to literature, *Grapevine* or *La Viña*.

H&I – KAREN C (SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY): Three members of the NorCal H&I committee will be attending the first National Corrections Conference in St. Louis in November. We have experienced a significant drop in contributions since the funds distribution, so please let groups know that we still need Pink Can contributions to support our committee and to keep the literature available to the confined alcoholic.

ACYPA – HELEN E: ACYPAA will be hosted in Santa Rosa between February 22 and 25. We hold business meetings every first and third Sunday. The host committee would like to extend our services to any Area or District that needs help with any events.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

LA VIÑA 21 ANNIVERSARY – RAFAEL R: Area 09 will be hosting the 22nd anniversary next year. We are now looking for a liaison from our Area to attend the planning meetings.

TECHNOLOGY AD-HOC – SHARON A: A few of us attended the NAATW in Sacramento. We are now talking with standing committees, Area officers and other Area sharing sessions about their needs. We are also looking into meeting again between now and the October ACM.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP – MARIA LUISA S AND EMMA M: Nearly 40 women met this month at the Fe y Acción (Faith and Action) group in Oakland to discuss our Area's theme, Queen of the Group. We will meet again on October 7 in Richmond, where we will choose a speaker to represent our Area at the Hispanic Women's Workshop in Pasadena in December.

Housekeeping Motions

That CNCA increase the food dollar amount for Area assemblies from \$4.50 to \$5.00 per person for a one-day assembly, and from \$5.00 to \$5.50 per person for a two-day assembly, effective immediately. – *presented by Erica S, Assembly Coordinator*

Presentation: It was pointed out to me that some assemblies were exceeding their budgets, particularly with food and coffee expenses. If this motion passed, it would increase the budgeted cost of assemblies by \$750 on odd-numbered years and by \$775 on even-numbered years. This increase would create a more realistic budget, and it could alleviate the pressure on host districts. The Finance committee has been informed of this motion, and the funds are available.

Questions: Q: When would it take effect? A: I was originally thinking Panel 69 but it could be that it would go into effect immediately (a friendly amendment was then suggested and accepted, clarifying this in the motion). Q: How did you come up with a 50 cent increase? A: The last two increases to the food budget were both by 50 cents also.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

That CNCA increase the coffee dollar amount for Area assemblies to \$100 for a one-day assembly and \$150 for a two-day assembly, effective immediately. – *presented by Erica S, Assembly Coordinator*

Presentation: The budgeted amount for coffee at Area assemblies has been \$75 for as long as I could find on

record. In our bookkeeping, food and coffee expenses are lumped together, making it difficult to discern what we have spent in the past. At the ACM, we spend \$50 a month for coffee for 100 people. \$75 at an assembly, for 300 to 400 people, seems unrealistic. This increase seems like a starting point to get on track with realistic expenses. If the motion passed, the budgeted cost of assemblies would increase by \$150 a year.

Questions: Q: Do you think that this increase is adequate? A: I am not sure.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

That CNCA create and send a display to the National AA Archives Workshop in Winnipeg, Canada, at a cost not to exceed \$100. – *presented by the Archives committee*

Presentation: At the National AA Archives Workshop, there is a room for different Areas in attendance to display archival information from their Area. The host committee asked our Area to participate, and our Archives committee wants to fully participate by creating a display board that shows our whole Area, different than any display we currently have, that would encompass not only information about General Service, but also about H&I, NCCAA, and a history of our Area.

Questions: Q: Would we get the display back? A: Yes. The display would be created for the workshop in Canada, but it would belong to CNCA. Q: Does the \$100 include the cost of shipping to Canada and back? A: The display would be created in Canada (several people from CNCA will arrive to the workshop early), and it would be shipped back. The \$100 includes shipping costs.

Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

Presentations

PRESENTATION:

Report from the 27th Annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend – *presented by Connie P, District 14*

Presentation: In AA, we all strive for one purpose – to be in recovery from active alcoholism. No matter a person's background or situation, we should all feel welcome in AA. This is a driving principle behind recovery, and the driving principle of Bridging the Gap; we want to help the alcoholic who is still suffering, every alcoholic, whether they walk through the doors of AA or are still incarcerated behind bars.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

At the workshop, we had speakers whose recovery started with Bridging the Gap, now with many years sober and still involved in BTG programs. We heard about the early history of Bridging the Gap by one of its founders, who said that personal sponsorship began with the efforts to help alcoholics in institutions. Altogether, 80 people from 24 different Areas attended. In British Columbia, some members traveled 11 hours across the Yukon Territory to outreach to rural groups. A staff member from the Treatment and Accessibilities staff at GSO discussed how GSO is a repository of shared experiences. A coordinator of a retreat center shared about how her recovery program, written, run and delivered by AA members, has been showing a high success rate. One judge described how she asks people questions like 'Have you gone out with the group for coffee yet?' The most important thing I learned at this workshop is to keep myself available in service to the still-suffering alcoholic so that when that window of opportunity opens, I can be there for my fellow human being with the principles of AA: love, patience, tolerance, kindness, acceptance, honesty and recovery.

PRESENTATION:

Report from the 2017 National AA Technology Workshop – *presented by Kendra A, Web committee*

Presentation: I felt so privileged to go the fourth annual NAATW, and I came home with great enthusiasm for what is happening now with AA and technology. There are so many exciting issues and possible solutions being talked about, always keeping in mind our Traditions and our primary purpose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Until recently, I had not been a techie, so I am learning a whole new vocabulary. I felt welcomed in this open, engaged environment, where curiosity, humility and forgiveness of failure were evident. The workshop began with a talk on the Traditions as a guide to our behavior, and continued with presentations on Twelfth Stepping into the 21st Century, search engine optimization, inspiring engagement with General Service and harnessing the wisdom of the AA crowd. There were also five sharing sessions; the most exciting new idea I heard was having a technology sponsor. At one of the workshops, I learned what happens when people search for 'How to Quit Drinking' on search engines, some of the top results are paid for by the rehab industry. Many of the presentations from last year are already online at NAATW.org; I imagine that this year's presentations will be posted again soon. I loved being at this workshop. It was intimate; I could sit in the front

row. I discovered that I may have found my niche. The message I heard was to not fear technology. Because technology is here to stay, we can explore the issues and learn how to use it.

Area Business

OLD BUSINESS:

That CNCA contract with a service provider determined by the Web Committee, to obtain a 'Hot Spot' for secure Internet access. Hot Spot to be available at all CNCA committee meetings, assemblies and other CNCA events. Internet access to be used by Standing Committees and Sub Committees and Area Officers to conduct CNCA business, committee work and presentations requested. Cost of provider not to exceed \$50 per month, plus initial set up fee not to exceed \$100. – *presented by the Web committee*

Discussion: None

The Area committee 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 (59) / No (2) / Abstained (0). Motion passes.

Minority Opinion: I have heard about this motion four times, and I still have no idea how this Hot Spot will be used. I understand that we don't want to put a data burden on individuals, but I don't know what it would be used for. I think we need more explanation. // When we discussed this at our sub-district meeting, the concerns focused on long-term costs, contract commitments and coverage (Would it work in all places? Verizon works on the coast, AT&T not so much). Also, this seemed like a luxury item.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

That CNCA purchase a projector and screen at a cost not to exceed \$650. – *presented by the Web committee*

Questions: Q: How would this equipment be transported safely? A: Most screens and projectors come with a padded case. Q: Has consideration been given to luminosity? A: I have been targeting a luminosity of 3000 lumens (which is pretty bright). In a room like this, you would be able to see well, especially with the front lights dimmed.

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

As of August 31, 2017

	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	36,112.59
Prudent Reserve - Savings	<u>10,117.90</u>
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 46,230.49
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	<u>3,390.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 3,390.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 49,620.49
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 49,620.49
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	24,557.99
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	10,117.90
Net Revenue	<u>14,944.60</u>
Total Equity	\$ 49,620.49
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 49,620.49

Expense Report August 2017

California Northern Coastal Area

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

August 2017

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
REVENUE			
002 Group Contributions	7,040.13	6,000.00	117.34 %
003 District Contributions	5,543.00	1,750.00	316.74 %
004 Assembly Contributions	1,197.69	2,050.00	58.42 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	294.50	280.00	105.18 %
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	73.24	100.00	73.24 %
010 Interest Income	0.36	0.00	
Total Revenue	\$14,148.92	\$10,180.00	138.99 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$14,148.92	\$10,180.00	138.99 %
EXPENDITURES			
012 EXPENSE			
013 Delegate Expense	562.08	575.00	97.75 %
038 Officer Expense	2,879.49	2,605.00	110.54 %
093 Committee Expenses	987.94	2,308.00	42.81 %
158 General Expenses			
159 Assembly Expenses	3,028.34	5,625.00	53.84 %
177 Area Committee Expenses	1,497.29	2,214.00	67.63 %
192 Returned Check/Bank Fees		21.00	
Total 158 General Expenses	4,525.63	7,860.00	57.58 %
Total 012 EXPENSE	8,955.14	13,348.00	67.09 %
Total Expenditures	\$8,955.14	\$13,348.00	67.09 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$5,193.78	\$ -3,168.00	-163.95 %
NET REVENUE	\$5,193.78	\$ -3,168.00	-163.95 %

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Discussion: Based on the description I heard last month, and that one of the main uses of the equipment would be for presentations at assemblies, I am not sure that there is enough space in all facilities for this. // I wonder if \$650 will be enough. Maybe we should be willing to spend more so that we can use it in a room with all the lights on. // We do not need the screen. We could project images on to a wall. // When we first discussed this in the Web committee, we did discuss a motion without a screen. In a small environment, we can shine it on a wall. Most of these projectors are flexible. // I was a part of an organization in which we had to replace a projector. The bulb was so expensive we bought a new projector. What is the life expectancy of the bulb or projector? Would we need to plan for this? (A: The bulb replacements are about \$175, about one third the cost of the projector, and the average life span of projector bulbs is about 3000 hours). // At our last district meeting, I had planned a presentation about the full face PSA motion. I used a computer with Internet access and with projection. The difference that this made, in terms of being able to easily show the videos we were talking about (instead of just having people crowd around a computer screen) was significant. This is something that could really benefit us in the future. // We could rent one of these to see how it works.

Motion moved to Old Business.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Translating the *Comentarios*: Is our process effective? If so, how? If not, why not?

Discussion: The English version of the *Comments* is often mailed out before the Area meeting. There are often delays with the *Comentarios*. // We have had problems for the past several years with the *Comentarios*. It is vitally important that we provide the information in the *Comentarios* to the Spanish-speaking members of this Area on a timely basis. At the present time, it does not appear that we are doing that. // We have many languages spoken in this Area. We could be translating the *Comments* into several other languages as well. // For the past two panels, we have been helping with the translation. It has taken a long time to make this process effective. Translation takes a long time, especially because we try to find the right words for every Spanish dialect. Spanish in Mexico is different than Spanish in El Salvador or Honduras. Also, the words used in General Service are unique. We try to find the language of the heart. We have been training people, trying to make this service available and helping people learn how to do translation work. People are

starting to show up, and we continue to try to carry the message to the Spanish-speaking community. // When District 03 took on this service, the first comment we heard was that they didn't want to be left alone. They still wanted help. We are still here to help. // Why don't we record what the interpreter is saying right now? (In response: I think that many times, we try to find the easier way, and what he is interpreting is often spontaneous and improvised. When it is written on paper, you can make the language more understandable.) // Translation for the *Comentarios* would cost the Area about \$700 a month if it were done by a translation service. That was the cheapest estimate I could find. Most neighboring Areas (09, 05, 93) have committees that do the translation as a volunteer service. // I have worked in the past in transcriptions. I used a specific kind of software to transcribe one hour of audio. Unfortunately, it takes a while to do that work, and the technology has not caught up. // We are talking about this because it has always been an issue, but it became clear this panel that our process is burdensome, it is hard to pass on, and we wanted to make the Area more aware of the work involved. It is hard to find people who are able to do the translation and can also put the newsletter together, so we were seeking ideas.

Discussion continues next month.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Pros and Cons of using both volunteers and professionals (as available) for simultaneous interpretation at our Assemblies

Discussion: Our professional interpreters are fantastic. In the years they have worked with us, they have learned the language of AA. I find them easy to understand, and they help me understand what is happening at Area assemblies. But we do have volunteers with good skills, and we should be able to use volunteers if professionals are not available. // What are we doing now? A: Currently, the I&T committee is restricted by a motion to use only professional interpreters at assemblies. At the ACM, the Area can hire professional-quality interpreters that get paid the same rate. // I do not want to stop using our current professional interpreters, because they are wonderful. But I would like the committee to have the option of using professional-quality interpreters because our professionals will eventually not be here (retirement, other commitments, etc.). The committee does not want to be mandated to use professionals only, because in the rare instances we have used a professional with less AA experience, there have been a lot of complaints.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

// This topic came up in our Accessibilities sharing session this morning. When an ASL meeting started, the founder knew some professionals that would come and help. She had to get people that she trusted to help and sign the meetings. They will also pay an interpreter, sometimes one who isn't professional, so that they can have a meeting every week. // I am grateful to have this service available for us. Not every professional is as good as the ones we usually have. In the past, when we have used other professionals, it was tough to see people get frustrated because of poor interpretation. An AA member who isn't professional is sometimes better, because it takes a long time to learn the AA language. It is unfortunate, though, that sometimes people have to choose between working as an interpreter and serving as a GSR or DCM. // I would not be celebrating 11 years of sobriety without the opportunity I have had to interpret and participate here. I do feel weird about getting paid when interpreting here. It is something I work on with my service sponsor. I will never be able to repay what I have gotten for doing this. // When I started by General Service journey, I was told I would always have interpretation available for me. We need professional interpreters so we can motivate GSRs to come and share at assemblies, knowing that interpretation will be available. // When we have used a professional who is not familiar with the AA language, it can be jarring. // We should have as much flexibility as necessary for this vital service. The important thing is that we have good-quality interpreters, and that we don't tie the I&T committee's hands now that we have the ability to use professional-quality interpreters.

Discussion closed.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

When I served as a GSR, I would find phone numbers and email addresses in the background information for the Agenda Topics, and I would call and ask people questions. Keeping that in mind, when GSO sent information about the manuscript litigation which said to call the PI desk with questions, I called. I was not satisfied with what I heard from PI desk. It is a complex issue,

and there is a lot of stuff I don't know. But I do know that AA has lasted more than 70 years without the original manuscript. The bottom line for me is that we are going to be OK. // As a member of the NAATW Steering Committee, it was a joy to see so many people from our Area in attendance. It was mind-blowing, and it felt like family was there. // Mark your calendars for the Fall Assembly and the dinner the night before. Bob W will be speaking after the dinner. // We will have a Photo Scavenger Hunt in the parking lot of the East Bay Intergroup Central Office on October 28. You can submit photos for the scavenger hunt digitally. // Greg T (President of AAWS) will be speaking at the Love and Service Group on October 15.

The meeting was closed at 3:21 pm 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.

SUMMER ASSEMBLY AFTERNOON WORKSHOP MINUTES FOR 2017

Every Summer Assembly holds workshops at which members of the Area are asked to present on specific topics and facilitate a sharing session. This year, we are including summaries of these workshops, as presented in the afternoon at the Summer Assembly, in the minutes.

WORKSHOP: FIFTH EDITION OF THE *BIG BOOK*... WHEN?

The first 164 pages of the *Big Book* have not changed; only the stories and the appendices have. The stories in the current Fourth Edition are meant to reflect our current membership and represent the still-suffering alcoholic. The process of change takes time. When the Fourth Edition was created, it was the first time that the Fellowship was asked for stories. Some 1200 people contributed. Sharing at the microphone suggested many people feel a new edition should be considered soon. It has been 16 years since the Fourth Edition was published, and it takes many years for a new edition to be prepared. Our Fellowship is changing, and a new edition could reflect AA today. Possible new stories could highlight how we get to AA and include writers with a dual diagnosis or who are 'angry alcoholics.' There was also some discussion about language in the *Big Book*, particularly in the chapter 'To Wives.'

– presentation by Justin H (District 07); summary by Judy W (District 13)

WORKSHOP: TRADITIONS AND CONCEPTS IN ALL OUR AFFAIRS

After introducing the idea that the Steps are to the individual what the Traditions are to the group and the Concepts to the General Service structure, the presenter shared her story of how the Concepts gave her a voice and a vote. It was a moving session that spoke the language of the heart. Our presenter shared how she came to be of service, initially losing a bid for election at her District. A few weeks later, a new service opportunity presented itself, leading to her presentation here today. Discussion focused on the Concepts and Traditions in our lives, and touched on how Hispanic women are considered a remote community and on their right to recover and to have a voice.

–presentation by Maria Luisa S (District 20); summary by Rocio H (District 07)

WORKSHOP: A COMMON SOLUTION FOR A DIVERSE FELLOWSHIP: INCLUDING ALL WHO SUFFER FROM ALCOHOLISM

The presenter spoke about how it is easier to hear the message when you go to a meeting where people 'look like you,' and the importance of being aware of how being exclusive toward those who look, act or think differently can be detrimental. Among the things we do well are the accessibility of the *Big Book* in various languages and formats and the availability of alternative meeting types and formats. Areas in which we could improve include a lack of understanding about what people with disabilities need, challenges meeting the needs of people with different backgrounds (financial, cultural, spiritual), and meeting the needs of people who identify as dually-addicted. The general message was that we want to be mindful of these various factors potentially pushing people out of AA, which could be a death sentence for them. The overarching themes were of personal responsibility, working to be inclusive of people from different backgrounds, accepting difficult conversations, and trying to be aware of ways to be more inclusive.

– presentation by Katie G (District 70); summary by Sarah B (District 06)

WORKSHOP: JOY OF LIVING: FINDING HUMOR IN AA SERVICE

One doesn't get into service to find humor. Our presenter ended up going on a journey of research, especially by reading articles in the *Grapevine* and asking folks from the Fellowship about this topic. When you go to your Fellowship, you find answers. She shared anecdotes about her group, and discovered that laughter is a great part about AA. Service is a great way to make friends; service is fun, and it often leads to joy. Among her service highlights include working with sponsees and doing 12th Step work. Members at the workshop shared about their own humorous situations in service, and some tips to make service attractive, including using humor when sharing, remembering Rule 62, and insisting on absolutely enjoying life. We also talked about letting go and letting God and using humor to right-size ourselves. General Service is an absolute adventure and an absolute joy. – presentation by Pat P (District 10); summary by Robert P (District 10)

SUMMER ASSEMBLY AFTERNOON WORKSHOP MINUTES FOR 2017

WORKSHOP: UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY IN RECOVERY, UNITY AND SERVICE

Our presenter discussed how technology has helped him, starting at age 10 when he made his first phone call. Social networks have helped him connect with people, and YouTube has helpful study guides. Our presenter described how he uses what works for him, and that technology can bring unity to those who are using it. Technology has allowed him to share his experience, strength and hope with others. However, he cautioned us that anonymity still matters online, and that once something is on the Internet, it can't be erased. Some useful tools he suggested including the quick search on the AA website and websites that are helpful when sponsoring others. The discussion ranged across many topics. Most people spoke about the ability to connect with others, but some cautioned that some technology may be difficult to navigate and to use technology with safeguards in place.

– *presentation by Jose A (District 40); summary by Richard K (District 90)*

WORKSHOP: GROUP AUTONOMY AND 'MATTERS AFFECTING OTHER GROUPS OR AA AS A WHOLE'

This workshop highlighted 'the dark side' of Tradition 4, especially as it has sometimes dissuaded members or made AA inaccessible to some. Our presenter spoke about AA's tradition of inclusivity, and occasional attempts to exclude people (like the dually-addicted, the LGBT community, African American alcoholics during segregation, or 'difficult' newcomers). Other issues of group autonomy include the use of the Lord's Prayer in meetings, which some have likened to endorsement of certain religions and others consider a small-T tradition in AA. The discussion during the workshop went in many directions, with a lot of discussion about the Lord's Prayer, the group conscience (and how it keeps our groups running smoothly), and the differences between open and closed meetings (and whether a baby would be welcome at a closed meeting). Overall, there was an interest in not excluding anyone who is suffering or anyone who is still sick.

– *presentation by Trevor H (District 40); summary by Ashley C (District 04)*

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? (AFTERNOON SESSION)

A recovery play will be shown in Berkeley and then again in Santa Rosa. // District 02 will be hosting a Walk in the Park in Salinas on September 9, which will include a speaker, a lunch and a walk. // My heart is so full. When I first came to AA, I did not feel like I belonged anywhere. Hearing the sharing in the Traditions and Concepts workshop from Hispanic women moved me. I felt so connected. That feeling of connection is so important to me as an alcoholic, because it reminds me I am not alone. // Marin County's Unity Day will be on September 10 in San Rafael. // The National AA Technology Workshop will start on September 8 in Sacramento. // We want to thank District 18 for an absolutely wonderful assembly, and want to invite you all to the Fall Inventory Assembly on November 4 in Petaluma. // Please return FM radios that were loaned from the I&T committee. Please help us keep this going. // I want to thank all of the volunteers who participated in this assembly. Many events I attend stay in my mind, but this is an event that will stay in my heart. // ACYPAA will be in Santa Rosa this February. This is a huge event, and we anticipate 2000 to 3000 people. // I want to thank District 18 for this assembly and for that awesome lunch. I have carne asada in my pockets. // I don't know if anyone is thinking about making a motion for a Fifth Edition, but that would be an awesome thing. If nothing else, those kinds of motions get people involved in General Service. // The Unity and Service Conference will start on August 18 in Concord, and will include many speakers with General Service experience. // I want to thank Area 06 for allowing District 18 to host this assembly. I did not think we would be able to do this, and I am so grateful and thankful for all of you being a part of our District's story. // Contribution in the 7th tradition today included \$231 for food, \$208 for coffee, and \$721.35 at registration. // Interpretation equipment is a technology tool that brings us all together.

The afternoon session was closed at 4:58 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,

Eric L, CNCA Panel 67 Recording Secretary

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
PRESENTS:
FALL ASSEMBLY “THE AREA INVENTORY”

Saturday, November 4, 2017
Petaluma Veterans Building
1094 Petaluma Blvd S., Petaluma, CA 94952

Registration: 8:15 - 9:15am

New GSR Orientation & 3rd Legacy Election -
Nominee for Pacific Regional Trustee: 9:15 - 9:45am

Business Meeting: 9:45 -12:00pm

Lunch: 12:00 -1:00pm

Area Inventory: 1:00 - 4:15pm

Speaker: Past Trustee-at-Large/U.S. 4:15 - 4:45pm

What's On Your Mind? 4:45 - 5:00pm

****all times are approximate***

Inventory Questions

- 1.-What is the basic purpose of CNCA (Area 06)?
- 2.-How effectively are we using technology to inform and connect with members, groups, and GSRs in our Area?
- 3.-Are we open-minded to all voices and ideas brought to our Area?
- 4.-Are we doing a good job of supporting our subcommittees, standing committees, and sharing sessions?
- 5.-How do spiritual principles play a role in our financial decisions?
- 6.-What barriers are preventing people from participating at our Area meeting and assemblies?



Getting to Petaluma from the South: Take Hwy 101 North, take the Petaluma Blvd. South (472A) exit, pass through roundabout 1094 on left .01 past McNear Blvd., next to bowling alley

Getting to Petaluma from the North: Take Hwy 101 South, take the Petaluma Blvd. South (472A) exit, turn left on Kastania Rd. then left on Petaluma Blvd. South

Lodging in Petaluma

Sheraton Sonoma County - Petaluma

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

Quality Inn

5100 Montero Way, Petaluma
94954
choicehotels.com
(707) 664-1155
For rate, mention "Manager's Special"

Best Western Petaluma

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

Local AA Meetings:

Friday:

Keep It Simple

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

BRING YOUR FM RADIO FOR SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION AND ASSISTED LISTENING

Area Committee:

Assembly Bids:

Housekeeping Motions:

Guidelines:

Presentation of New Business:

Old Business at Area Committee Meeting:

“That CNCA purchase a projector and screen at a cost not to exceed \$650.” —*Web Committee*

New Business at Area Committee Meeting:

Discussion topics:

Translating the *Comentarios*: Is our process effective? If so, how? If not, why not?

Area Assembly Motions:

Redistricting Requests:

Presentation of New Business at Area Assembly:

“That literature be developed sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation.” —*Presented by District 90*

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 re

ferred 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.).

New Business at the Area Assembly: None.

NOTES FROM CHAIR

Reminder that the December 16, 2017 and January 20, 2018 Area Committee Meetings are on the 3rd Saturday.

2017—Panel 67

October 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

September 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, Robert
 Livermore Community Center,
 Livermore, hosted by District 70

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 Assembly,
 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
28—Area Committee Mtg
August 11—Summer Assembly,
 River Lodge, Fortuna, hosted
 by District 15
25—Area Committee Mtg

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



Registration is now open for the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly, March 2-4, 2018.

www.PRAASA.org

AA Grapevine / La Viña Subscription Information

AA Grapevine US Rate

1 Year: Printed \$28.97

1 Year: Digital \$34.97

1 Year Digital and Print \$49.97

Make check or money order payable to:

The Grapevine

La Viña -- Spanish Magazine

1 Year (6 issues)

Within US Printed \$11.97

2 Years (12 issues)

Within US Printed \$22.00

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La Viña

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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 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.

