

CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential -- February 2016 www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Preview of the Area Committee Meeting February 2016

Our Area Committee meeting on January 23 again had a light agenda. There was a presentation of new business by the Web Committee Chair. That motion, "That the committee expand add two members increasing from 5 members to 7. The added people to administer our servers, greatly increasing security, for this panel only." will be new business at the next Area Committee meeting in February.

There was some discussion on the old business: "Updates to the Financial Guidelines." It will remain as old business on the agenda next month. As a result of the discussion topic last month, "How do we handle business at assemblies," the Area officers made some decisions about the business meeting for the up-coming Pre-Conference Assembly. First the Assembly will start at 9 a.m., and the orientation will be limited to 10 minutes with no break afterwards. Also reports at the business meeting will be limited to 1 ½ minutes. This will be an experiment to see if we can get to the motions part of the business meeting quicker and perhaps handle more of the business. The group at the ACM did not feel we needed to continue the discussion on "how we handle business at the assemblies." Next month there will be a presentation and discussion by our delegate on "The General Service Office Feasibility Study."

We are all anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Agenda topics with the background material, hopefully by February 15. Our delegate did distribute the preliminary agenda topics to the Districts. The officers have their plan in place to start work on the Agenda Topics Summaries as soon as the full agenda topics arrive.

Plans for the pre-conference assembly in Marin are shaping up nicely and I know we are all looking forward to participating in our Area's group conscience in April.

In service and gratitude, Joann L. Panel 65 CNC Area Chair

Please bring your FM Radios! To the Area Committee meeting and to all Assemblies!

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Pre-Conference Assembly 2016			
"Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions & Concepts."			
Saturday/Sunday April 9 & 10, 2016 Marin Center Exhibit Hall 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael CA 94903			
Sunday			
8:00 - 9:00 AM Registration			
9:00 AM Group Consciences			
What's on your Mind? 12:30 - 1:00 PM			
"If extra time is needed to hear group consciences, we will break for lunch and return at 2:00 PM to continue."			
Please clean up all your belongings			
BRING YOUR FM RADIO FOR SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION			

FEBRUARY 2016

DELEGATE'S CORNER

Dear Members of CNCA:

This weekend the General Service Board is working on the Final Agenda; so far I have been notified that the Background Material will be posted on the dashboard on February 12th for some areas will be sent on flash drive but it will take a little longer.

I received the ballot results on the following proposal that I mentioned on January's Delegates corner:

"That the 2016 General Service Conference workshop topic "Anonymity - The Spiritual Foundation" be deferred to the 2017 General Service Conference so that the 2016 Conference can discuss and respond to the GSB request for sharing on the Feasibility Study." YES <u>71</u> NO <u>2</u> ABSTAIN <u>0</u>

Please note that the workshop topic of Anonymity will be deferred to the 2017 General Service Conference. Workshop topics will not be sent out this year from the office for use at area assemblies. I will be making a presentation on this topic at the February ACM to get some feedback from all of you guys since this will be an important item at the Conference; it is possible that we might get some background material but I will let you know as soon as I find out.

This is the time for all the GSRs to start reaching out to your home groups and to start planning the special meetings for the Agenda Topics group consciences. It's always helpful if you can contact your DCM, DCMCs, Area Officers, Past Delegates or anyone who's been through this process before to help you organize it, and you can also attend your District workshop where you will find their various successful experiences.

I want to thank all the 17 volunteers who made themselves available for PRAASA. We still need Spanish speaking volunteers for registration; I have been in contact with the program chair and she asked Past Delegate Area 09 and myself to help out to translate the program.

I got very inspired reading the past Delegates Corner for other years and I found a lot of love, encouragement and guidance for all of us who are serving in the present towards the future generations, is really amazing to take a look at the past and to feel the gratitude in my heart for those who serve before us thinking that there were hoping that someday some of us will show up at the rooms of AA and they did whatever possible to keep the doors open for us. There is no doubt that actions were taken for you and I to be sober today. Let's hope with the same spirit that we can make the same difference for those who are still out there and specially for those new GSRs, who will participate with their group consciences looking toward the future with Love, Gratitude and Service for our Future Generations. I'd like to share a phrase that I found in one of our past Delegates Corners that is no longer with us: "Don't get caught up in the small details, but look to the primary purpose; This is what the Fellowship does best."

With Spirit of Love in Service Raymundo L. CNCA 06 Panel 65 Delegate

Looking for Something?

Preview of the Area Committee Meeting, p. 1CNCA & Assembly Motions, p. 11Delegate's Corner, p. 2Area Officer Eligbility Motion -- Pro & Con, p. 12Area Committee Meeting Minutes, p. 3-7Group Safety Pamphlet Motion -- Pro & Con, p. 13Area Financial Reports, p. 8-10CNCA & Assembly Calendars, p. 14Area Officers and Meeting Info., p. 16

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 2016

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held January 23, 2015 at the Petaluma Community Center. Joann L., opened the meeting at 12:30, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Regina of District 2. Derek of District 12 read Tradition 1 and Mary of District 11 read Concept 1. There were 5 past delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35) Bob K. (Panel 47), Doug G. (Panel 53), and current committee member of GSO Trustees Literature Committee, David N. (Panel 59), and current non trustee director of AAWS Board, and Ken M. (Panel 61). There were 4 GSRs present and 3 new DCMs present. The December 2015 minutes and financial report were accepted as printed in *CNCA Comments*. Birthdays: 169/10. Registered attendance: Voting= **65**, Non-voting= **46**.

Officer Reports

DELEGATE Raymundo L .: The preliminary items were sent out. Item #13 International Conventions/Regional Forums was printed twice as #7 and #14. Our conference coordinator is aware of the error and we apologize for the confusion. The final agenda will be available hopefully by February 12 and the officers will get together on Valentine's Day to prepare the summaries. I will download the background material from the dashboard. I will copy onto a disc and we will send it out to all DCMC's by regular mail to be available to your districts. Remember that this information is confidential and it has full names of AA members; do not post publicly and handle with care. The Spanish AA General Service conference inventory compendium should be arriving soon, I will get it to you as soon as I receive it. I would like to send all of the names for volunteers to PRAASA so please send them to me as soon as you can. Volunteers should be registered and it would be a preference for those who have not served on these service opportunities before

ALTERNATE DELEGATE *Phil B.*: We are at the start of the 2016 Service Conference. The Theme this year is "Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts." This is our busiest time of the year and the most exciting. Welcome to the new DCM's, you will be getting lots of wonderful information with the upcoming Agenda Topics. You will also receive the Agenda Summaries. You and the other DCM's will have all the available information so your GSR's can be fully informed. My most important job as Alternate Delegate is to "Pray for the Delegate." So starting today, Raymundo you are in my prayers!

AREA CHAIR Joann L.: There is a new black jacket in the lost and found. After listening to you about time management at the business meeting at the Pre-Conference assembly, the area officers discussed what we can do and here are the changes we are going to try. Start at 9:00, 10-minute orientation, no break after orientation and straight into reports, which will be limited to 90 seconds. This will be an experiment. If all goes well, we will keep it.

TREASURER *Teddy BW*: In 2015 we received \$110,012.86 in income, paid out \$109,616.72 in expenses which made a surplus of \$402.14. We started with \$13,804.22 in the bank. We received \$11,993.91 in revenue this month and have written checks for \$13,759.65, leaving us with \$12,038.48 in

the bank, plus prudent reserve of \$9,194.39. We have opened our QuickBooks online account and will be migrating the data later this month. Our tax preparer has all the information necessary to prepare our 2015 taxes. REGISTRAR *Ray W.:* Need to get any corrections of additions to your district 2 weeks before your district meeting in order to have correct sign in sheets for your District Meeting. We are getting returns of the Comments/ Comentarios back, and we pay 1st class mail for each one. Please be sure that you correct anyone that has moved or rotated out of your district so we can avoid the returns. 20% of the documents I receive for changes are incomplete or illegible to read. If I can't read the form, I am forced to return for correction.

RECORDING SECRETARY *Barbara S.:* We have received all the information from the I & T Committee which has been done with the translations of the Motions Book to Spanish. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with translation. Please see me after the meeting if you are willing to help.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR *Michael Q.:* Pre-Conference flyers are available on the front table. Marin hotels are pretty steep so you might think of other areas that are close. Panel 67 proposed dates are listed in the Comments; there are still 7 assemblies open. Please take the information back to your districts. As Joann stated we are making some changes to the Business Meeting schedule and hope this will give about 45 more minutes to conduct Area Business.

LITERATURE/GV/LV *Agustin L*.: Last year we had a challenge for the GV/LV. California is the biggest number in subscriptions, but by percentages the winner is Missouri. Delaware was the winner for the LV. The biggest numbers for GV were, Calif., Florida, NY, PA, Texas. For LV it was Calif., Texas, Arizona, Virginia, Florida.

District Reports

01 MONTEREY Susan G.: Discussed with visiting area officer about our inventory; he shared his experience with the process. We filled our GV/Literature chair position. 02 SALINAS/SAN BENITO *Eliyah H.:* We are working on the details of moving our meeting. Also working on the agenda topics. We have 7 new GSR's. Many thanks to our officer for their support and encouragement.

03 SANTA CRUZ *Jeff W.:* District 40 showed up for a summer assembly planning meeting. We will be traveling to District 40 next month. Visiting officer discussed DCM's role at area, we filled our vacancies and now have all our DCM positions filled. 5 out of 11 are here today.

04 SANTA CLARA NORTH *Eric L*.: We have an ad hoc committee to explore the options we have with filing with the IRS's. The Intergroup is working on passing a motion in our District to have PI move to General Service.

40 SANTA CLARA SOUTH *Miguel H.:* We passed that our Agenda Topic workshop be recorded. It will be available to any GSR or DCM that is unable to attend. We attended a planning committee with District 03 this month and are starting to work on the assembly. We are ready to attend PRAASA and have many names to submit for volunteers. We had our first planning meeting for the 2016 Assembly

with District 03.

05 SAN MATEO *Erica* S.: At our District we had an awesome panel where a GSR and 2 DCM's shared their experience on topics helpful to GSR's. We voted to send a GSR to PRAASA in addition to our Alt. DCMC. Our Agenda Topic Workshop flyers are on the front table.

06 SAN FRANCISCO *Rhys G*.: We had a presentation on the conference process and the value of PRAASA. We have a small "t" tradition to send one GSR to PRAASA and we had a 3rd legacy election to pick a GSR. We selected a new Events Chair. Our Agenda Topic Workshop will be March 12. During "What's on your Mind" we had a discussion about non-service animals at District Meetings.

07 ALAMEDA NORTH *Kris W.:* December was our potluck and we have not had our January meeting yet. We are cohosting an Agenda Topic workshop with District 70 in March. 70 ALAMEDA SOUTH *Wes W.:* Our first meeting of 2016 will be on the 25th. Last month we had our potluck and tackled the outcome from our inventory. We divided into groups with each group taking a question. We then had a report back from each. Excellent ideas that we can take action on. Cohosting an Agenda Topic Workshop with District 07 in March. Flyers on table.

08 CONTRA COSTA *Laura W.:* We are still working on our Inventory in the sharing session style and have had great participation. Sub-district 009 is holding an AA History event on January 30. We are discussing a second sub-district event and sending a DCM or District Officer to PRAASA. Our Agenda Topic Workshop will be February 13. 09 SOLANO SOUTH *John M.:* We are hosting the Interdistrict workshop with Dist. 09,11,13 and 90 on January 30. We are working on getting a new District Registrar, but we do have someone temporarily covering. We are sending 2 GSR's to PRAASA. We are slowing working to expand the GS information on our Inter-District web page. We approved the 2016 Budget. The process went very smoothly.

the 2016 Budget. The process went very smoothly. 90 SOLANO NORTH *Evelyn O.:* We are holding our first Unity Day of 2016 for Agenda Topics. We have been having problems with our members dropping out of their commitments, so I have been focusing on how to encourage everyone to complete commitments. Finding assistants and ask for help from service sponsors with the follow through. 10 MARIN *Chris H.:* We set a date for our Agenda Topic workshop; flyers can be emailed if you want. Pre-Conference Dinner flyers are available on the table. If you are interested in alternative accommodations, please contact our hospitably chair whose email is on the back of the flyer. We continue to cut back on reports and are enjoying more time for GSRs' presentations and roundtable discussions. 11 NAPA *Mary S.:* We presented a 2016 Budget. There was also a discussion about forming a committee to determine

potential changes to the GS page of the Napa Valley AA web site. We are also looking at joining our Intergroup to present a workshop on group treasurers. 12 SONOMA *Jennifer B.:* We pulled names from the hat

and 5 GSR's will be attending PRAASA. We are working on our Agenda Topic workshop in February. Flyers are on the table. The Mental Health in Sobriety Workshop hosted by

Access Committee was well received.

13 LAKE Mary Ellen R .: My first meeting as a DCMC went well. We had two new GSR's present. We will hold elections next month before our business meeting for open district positions. We will have GSR orientation before next meeting replacing Concept Study. From comments made at our inventory we will be having a GSR taking notes during meeting for a report at the end on "What to take to my Group.[®] 2016 budget to be approved next month. 14 MENDOCINO *Tim D.:* We are still working on the 2016 Budget and hope to finish next month. We had good discussions about Area Assembly Business meeting, our motion moving forward and AA in social media. 15 HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE Bruce P .: We are getting the self-support package for our GSR's in February. This give the GSR's ideas on how to start the conversation in their groups on self-support to their meetings. We passed our Budget for 2016 and will be discussing on what to do with our excess funds next month. We are sending 2 members to PRAASA and have some travel plans forming for the Pre-Conference Assembly in Marin. We have resumed monthly PI/CPC meetings after several years off.

16 SPANISH CENTRAL *Reynaldo M.:* We approved the 2016 budget. We will have our District inventory on the 26th, with 4 questions. We are having our study group with our GSR's. We are visiting groups to encourage attendance at PRAASA. We will also have a workshop on Agenda Topics. 17 SPANISH SOUTH *Benito C.:* We had a district meeting with Sub-district 002. We had a study manual meeting with Districts 10 and 12. We are also organizing travel to PRAASA.

18 SPANISH NORTH *Ramiro A.*: We elected a liaison to District 10. We will be participating at District 12's Agenda Topic Workshop. We had one new GSR present for a new group. We also talked about PRAASA and attending other District workshops for Agenda Topics.

19 SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH Fermin M.: We had a presentation on PRAASA and agenda topics. We are still working on groups that do not have GSR's. We will be having a District Anniversary in March. We are also getting ready for PRAASA.

20 SPANISH EAST *Enrique E.:* We had a workshop for PI. We are getting ready for PRAASA. 11 people will be attending.

Area Sub-Committees

ARCHIVES Sheri W.: Our last workday we worked on cleaning areas for additional shelving. We had our inventory this month, and will continue next month. Registration is open for the National Archives workshop in September. If you would like to be of service for this event, see myself or Laura.

BRIDGING THE GAP *Bill B.:* With 5 Districts reporting, we had 29 presentations and 81 requests for contacts. We had our committee inventory today. We received 19 letters this month, 3 were referred to GSO correspondence, 4 requested return letters, one was part of the short term correspondence pilot program. Districts 04/40 have found an excellent venue for the 2016 BTG Forum in October.

FINANCE COMMITTEE *Russ A.:* We are beginning this year with a good balance in our checking account. Once the Pre-Conference is over, we will be taking a look at expenses for the rest of the year. Mileage reimbursements will be at \$0.40 per mile this year.

PI/CPC *Phil B*.: This year we will be discussing agenda topics. We had a discussion on #8 for the plain language of the Big Book. Good discussion. We will be working also on item #10 about the PI workbook. We formed an ad hoc committee to take a look at that and present a report to us on what they will find.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE *Cheryl* G.: We discussed an ad hoc meeting which will be working to update the documents of the website committee. We had a presentation about a VPS technology that will greatly improve security over shared hosting and will be administered by non-editing people familiar with web servers. After the committee agreed with 100% unanimity to use a web hosting company with this technology available.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION COMMITTEE *Claudia N*.: We had a great meeting this morning and did our inventory. Looking at our committee as a whole around outreach to our community with other languages then Spanish, and also the deaf and blind communities. Please reach out to your district to see if this need exists. We also are looking into ways to help efficiently in all areas of translation and our area documents.

CNCA COMMENTS *Robin T.:* Mailed 953 bulk and 42 first class this month. With the increase of pages, it was \$192 for mail cost, \$371 print cost and \$15 rent, total \$578. Our bid was \$580 so we are still within budget with the additional pages. 14 participants at last mailing party.

COMENTARIOS DE ACNC *Manuel* R.: We are working hard on making the Comentarios look more like the Comments. We worked hard to get the Comentarios done this month on time but had some trouble. We will be finishing this week and will be mailing as soon as possible. DCM SHARING SESSION *Linda* T.: We had 2 presentations this month. First was, "How to facilitate an informed group conscience." The 2nd presentation was on DCM experience on visiting groups. Many good suggestions

and a full and vibrant conversation. Next month will be "Preparing GSR's for the Agenda Process."

GRAPEVINE/LA VINA Agustin L.: We had a discussion today on "The process of the Agenda Topic." First the topics and the background material is received by the delegate and the officers in our area do summaries. This is shared with the DCMC's of each district. At the Pre-Conference we will hear the group's consciences of all the groups of CNCA. NCCAA Linda G.: NCCAA Conference in San Ramon March 18-20. Flyers on table. We had our first ever inventory (68 years) last October. The results are 18 pages and are on our web site at norcalaa.org. Spanish translation almost complete and will be on the website soon. Each group is allowed 2 delegates to participate at the delegates business meeting at the conference. Al-Anon and Spanish language participations are being brought back in the fold. Spanish and English marathon meetings will be at the conference. I need panelists and readers for all service panel on Sunday, March 20^{th} at 9:00.

H&I *Diane* O.: Our January 9th committee meeting was productive and enjoyable. Our general meeting will be held in Marin at the Rod and Gun Club by San Quentin on February 14, at 11:00. They held a 3-day conference at CTF Soledad State Prison on January 8-10. It came off perfectly with about 200 inmates and 40 outside AA members. This has never been done before in a state or federal prison in California. The Warden attended Saturday night. Our Conference is on April 29, 30 and May 1st in Santa Rosa. I have copies of the new revised Policies and Procedures Manuals. Section 1 is for our H & I trusted servants to use. Section 2 is more for the Steering Committee. All your H & I areas should have copies.

LA VINA ANNIVERSARY *Joshua H.:* The committee received an invitation to participate in the United Hispanic Districts. The elections for the theme and logo were completed, 5 suggestions were chosen that had the most votes. 2 were from Area 06, 2 from Area 03 and 1 from Area 09. All were placed in the hat and the theme and logo that was chosen was from Area 06. Total Registrations is 81. \$2,328.72 was received. Total spent \$1,377.34. Balance is \$951.38.

Housekeeping Motions: None

(Seventh Tradition and BREAK) (1:45 to 2:00pm)

Area Business

Presentation of New Business:

Motion:

That the committee add two members, increasing from 5 to 7. The added people to administer our servers, greatly increasing security, for this panel only. —Presented by Cheryl G. – Web Committee Questions: Would they be members of the committee have

special positions or would they be members at large? A. There IT members to administer the added security of the VPS. Q. Would they be considered Web Editor or would that remain the same? A. Everything else would remain the same. Q. You say this panel, are you talking specific to this year? A. Panel 65. Q. Security has been an ongoing issue for this panel, why this panel only and not keep it up? A. It is because we are in the process of ad hocking our documents to the website and when the committee approves the committee composition, we will then present it to the ACM as a 7-member committee and hope that the committee will approve it and it would continue from one panel to the next. Q. What precipitated the security breaches? A. We found out that shared servers have 200 other pages and that is causing the hacks all the time. So VPS makes kind of boxes and they only have about 8 boxes on each server and each server has its own operating system, so that will make it more secure. Q. Will this be more expensive than the shared server that we have? A. We spent \$503 in 2015 and if this VPS is \$30-\$40 it will be less money. Q. Would these two members be member of AA or would they be people that had specific information about IT? A. I will have to pass on that question; if this motion passes it would be up to the Area

Officers to appoint these two IT people. Q. If this motion is specifically for 2 security persons and not costing any more money, why is this being presented as a New Motion and not a housekeeping motion? A. Passed by previous motions the web committee only has 5 persons, and housekeeping motions can't change what's in the motions book already. Q. Are there any requirements for this position? A. Yes, IT persons know servers. They would administrate the data base and they would administrate the servers. Q. By members of the committee I would think they are going to be AA members, is this so? A. They don't have to be for the web committee, per the motions book, but the area officers will be appointing these members. Q. So if there is a member with those qualifications, the committee would be willing to accept those, but if there is not they would be hired? A. I can't answer that until this motions passes. Q. Whether these persons are members or not, should they be considered special workers or not? A. Yes, they have thought about that and that is in the hands of our area officers, they are our service authority. Q. Would this be an added cost to the area? These services are usually expensive? A. I believe if this motion passes there would be no added costs to the area.

>>Committee agreed by simple majority that this motion should be Area Committee business.

**New Business at the Area Committee Meeting **

Old Business:

Motion:

Updates to the Financial Guidelines

Discussion: I appreciated the discussion we had last month. If this motion was to pass, it still would be an additional expense. One of our stop gaps is to stop area officer visits. The groups need to be told that they would have to increase contributions to cover this cost of travel or be willing to stop area officers' visits. When I travel for business and it is a two-day trip, and it does not make sense to travel all in one day; I would put the expense in for the travel and it would average out to be about the same. I'm still not sure when the 3rd day would ever happen, but I did hear what people had to say last month, so I am more open to that opinion.// I did talk to my district last month, and I'm not sure they totally understood it, but they did seem to be in favor.// At first I was not in favor of this, but after hearing what people had to say with an open mind, I think we do elect our officers with care and trust them to use this only in that rare occasion that it was necessary.// There is nothing about ASL in the revised guidelines. Is that because it needs to be asked for in advance? We have discussed the translation into Spanish which will be undertaken if this is passed. If the ASL is requested we will take that up in the committee.// My service sponsor and sponsor as I have taken my journey in service, remind me that sacrifice is a big part of service. I don't understand the need for a 3rd day hotel on a 2-day assembly. I believe that we are generous with our mileage reimbursement here at CNCA. Many areas reimburse at the non-profit rate which is about \$0.17. We reimburse at 75% of the IRS full rate. When I served as Delegate, and Delegates travel more than any other officer, I

was embarrassed by the amount of money I was receiving for reimbursement. That amount of money would cover any hotel I wished to stay in during my panel. I am also concerned how we are putting a new policy into effect through guidelines. I understand that we are doing it that way, but it feels underhanded. We should be passing a motion that reflects the policy change, then accepting guidelines that reflect that motion.// I believe that the current guidelines state that it is up to the treasurer to decide if we provide another night, but if we look at the big picture there is only two assemblies a panel that are two days, and some area officers have to travel great distances. I know it's about money but if they have an accident, we should have through about paying just one more night.// Does this cover the officer monthly District visits?// A. No.// Is it too late to ask that this be a separate motion separate from the guidelines? I did the math on 175 miles at 0.41 a mile, its \$71.75; that's for a decent hotel.// I remember last year before the preconference we spent a lot of time talking to the GSR's about how to ask their groups for money, and eventually they get the confidence to do that. I don't know how many groups have guidelines on how much money their GSR should get, I think most trust their GSR's to get the best hotel price they can and not to overcharge for money. I understand that it feels a little weird to sneak in this change. I'm not overconcerned that area officers are sneaking money from us. think they are trying just to be safe. I need to trust my trusted servants that they are going to do the right thing with our money. I'm in favor of the guideline change because I don't think people are going to take advantage of it.// I am in favor of the financial guidelines, I don't believe anyone is going to take advantage of it, but I am having a difficulty with the process. I think we should have a separate motion from the guidelines and then approve the guidelines. I believe we should follow the process.// Has any officer ever requested a third night? I appreciate the conversation that we have had here today. If you remember we started the panel with a request that we present a motion that the area officers have an additional hotel night if required. After discussions for three months, as a committee we decided to rescind the motion and change the financial guidelines to reflect all the concerns and discussion that we had heard. I'm not saying that we should not continue to discuss this, but I am just giving you a little history on where these guidelines are coming from.// I'm asking if we could amend the guidelines to not have that extra hotel night which seems to be the sticking point, and discuss the extra night as a separate motion.// I was the Finance Committee chair for Panel 59. At that time the guidelines were not very easy to understand as to past motions. One of the things we did in that panel was to clean up the guidelines. We were very careful not to introduce any new policies, and to only clean up the guidelines as to past motions. We felt that any policy change should be a separate motion, and then the guidelines would be amended to reflect new policies.// If we were to have a Pre-Conference in Eureka, I would not be able to drive 10 hours and be there at 8:00 for registration, so I would take a hotel the night before. If I don't get out of the assembly till 5, I would not be able to make the 10-hour drive home and

would have to take the 3rd night in a hotel. If this is going to be a policy I think it should extend beyond the area officers.// Could this not be on a one on one basis, does it need to be for all officers all the time.// Under the current guidelines, the treasurer can authorize for additional hotels.// Because it has come up in the discussion what the different mileage rates the IRS suggest, I through it would be helpful to explain the different rates. The non-profit rate is lower because it only reflects the variable rates to operate a car, gas, tires and oil, etc. The full rate the IRS figures reflect the fixed rates to operate a car such as lease payments, license and registration fees and insurance. The reason for the two rates is because it is assumed that an individual would not purchase a car to do volunteer work; in contract you would purchase a car to do your job. That is why CNCA does not reimburse at the full rate. The full rate is looked at every year and adjusted based on cost, but the non-profit rate has not been looked at since 1998. // I don't think it is required that any officer put in for reimbursement if they don't want to.// I have been told that I need to put in for reimbursement whether I need it or not. I can then donate it back to the entity I received it from. There may be people who can't afford to do the service without reimbursement and we don't want to stop anyone who can't.// Is this being brought this way because it is only in special circumstance? We made an effort to clean up all the guidelines that were handed to us last panel. There were circumstances that interpretation to certain sections were up for debate, in terms of the hotel, it came up that some officers were having to stay at the preconference later than the rest and then had to drive 8 hours home. There were no complaints from the officers, but we are trying to address the concerns that were brought up in regards to safety // I believe we need to look at this as a separate motion and then add to the financial guidelines.// Are we not trusting our trusted servants on the finance committee to do their job?// I don't know any officer that has made any money off this deal. What no one takes into consideration is the miles we drive to the Unity Days, the LV Celebrations, to the Inter-Districts, to CNIA and all the extra travel we don't get reimbursed for. I'm not sure that I can serve next Panel because I am retired and on a fixed income. It's a sacrifice and I am blessed, but I don't know anyone that has ever profited from this.// For me this is not about the extra money, it is about setting a precedent about the way we are setting policy.

Motion to Continue as "Old Business" next month**

Discussion Topic:

How do we handle business at the assemblies?

How do we make it that we talk about old business first before we talk about new business?// Presentation of New Business comes first, then old business, then new business.// There is a good reason for this. It is a way to get the old business off the agenda. If new business was always first, we would never get to the old business. Presentation of New Business is before Old Business and the presentations are short.// I think we handle business at assemblies well; part of this is our responsibility also, sometimes we repeat the same thing over and over at the microphone. As DCMC's we are responsible to let the Districts know to stop repeating if they have heard the same thing.// We need to continue to educate the GSR's and DCM's about the policy of Presentation of New Business and that this is only a time for questions on the intent. It is also our responsibility to educate.// Thank you for adjusting the assemblies. We saw that we heard from the GSR's at our district that Area Assembly business is boring. Maybe we need to adjust the District meetings also.// We attempt to operate from consents. A certain about to tedious is essential.// The first thing we learn is to be patience. My district has been talking for one year about moving. We still have not made any decision.// Maybe if we know in advance about a lot of Presentations of New Business we could limit the time we spend on each motion.

"What's On Your Mind?"

We are excited to have everyone come to Marin for the Pre-Conference. The first hotel on the flyer is a Suite that sleeps 4 people. The Double sleeps 6. The dinner flyers for the preconference are on the table. Please send in before the deadline March 26 2016.// Thank you to all the members that have sent their names in for PRAASA volunteers. Please send you names to me.// I sent you our trustees report back in October. You can pick out some of the agenda topics from his report.// The service of the treasurer is to count the money as it comes in and comes out, so you can all make informed decisions and be prudent. That is what happened last year, we were able to meet our expenses and purchase the equipment we need and be able to fund what we needed to do.// Does anyone have experience changing a PO Box?// District 4 and 40 will be recording the presentations at the agenda workshop. Copies are available to anyone.// We spend time and money to have translation at our meetings from English to Spanish and Spanish to English. I would hope that we all have respect to bring our FM radios to be able to understand members that speak in different languages. I think it is disrespectful to both parties.// When we do that vote to decide if a motion stays here or goes to the assembly, could we maybe consider hearing the minority opinion.

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

Submitted with Love and Gratitude, Barbara S. CNCA Panel 65 Recording Secretary

Balance Sheet December 2015

California Northern Coastal Area Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2015

		Total			
	As of	Dec 31, 2015	As of I	Dec 31, 2014 (PY)	% Change
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Bank Accounts					
B of A Checking		14,404.46		16,474.04	-12.56%
B of A Savings		9,195.18		8,705.16	5.63%
Total Bank Accounts	\$	23,599.64	\$	25,179.20	-6.27%
Accounts Receivable					
1200 Accounts Receivable		1,599.78		1,599.78	0.00%
Total Accounts Receivable	\$	1,599.78	\$	1,599.78	0.00%
Other current assets					
Assembly Deposits		1,381.90		-1,652.34	183.63%
BTG		0.00		124.00	-100.00%
CNCA Comments		0.00		427.98	-100.00%
Total Other current assets	\$	1,381.90	-\$	1,100.36	225.59%
Total Current	\$	26,581.32	\$	25,678.62	3.52%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	26,581.32	\$	25,678.62	3.52%
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts Payable					
2000 Accounts Payable		245.26		245.26	0.00%
Advance From Officer		940.12		940.12	0.00%
Due to Districts		121.43		121.43	0.00%
Total Accounts Payable	\$	1,306.81	\$	1,306.81	0.00%
Total Current Liabilities	\$	1,306.81	\$	1,306.81	0.00%
Total Liabilities	\$	1,306.81	\$	1,306.81	0.00%
Equity					
3900 Operating Funds - Adjusted		15,176.95		18,927.10	-19.81%
Prudent Reserve		9,194.86		9,485.16	-3.06%
Net Revenue		902.70		-4,040.45	122.34%
Total Equity	\$	25,274.51	\$	24,371.81	3.70%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	26,581.32	\$	25,678.62	3.52%

Expense Report December 2015

California Northern Coastal Area Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2015 - FY15 P&L January - : ember 2015

	Total						
		Actual		Budget	ov	er Budget	% of Budget
Revenue							10.0 R
Assembly Contributions		7,807.90		8,000.00		-192.10	97.60%
CNCA Comments Subscriptions		48.00		30.00		18.00	160.00%
District Contributions		12,668.86		7,000.00		5,668.86	180.98%
Group Contributions		83,234.46		82,000.00		1,234.46	101.51%
H & I Archives Rent		1,000.00		500.00		500.00	200.00%
Interest Income/Prudent Reserve		4.48		7.00		-2.52	64.00%
Personal/Misc. Contributions		1,136.66		1,100.00		36.66	103.33%
Tradition 7, Area Committee		3,676.00		3,200.00		476.00	114.88%
Total Revenue	\$	109,576.36	\$	101,837.00	\$	7,739.36	107.60%
Gross Profit	\$	109,576.36	\$	101,837.00	\$	7,739.36	107.60%
Expenditures							
Committee Expense		23,878.15		28,958.00		-5,079.85	82.46%
Delegate Expense		5,913.33		6,110.00		-196.67	96.78%
General Expense		41,231.03		47,441.00		-6,209.97	86.91%
Officer Expense		33,405.39		27,803.00		5,602.39	120.15%
Total Expenditures	\$	104,427.90	\$	110,312.00	-\$	5,884.10	94.67%
Net Operating Revenue	\$	5,148.46	-\$	8,475.00	\$	13,623.46	-60.75%
Net Revenue	\$	5,148.46	-\$	8,475.00	\$	13,623.46	-60.75%

2016 BUDGET

California Northern Coastal Area Budget Overview: 2016 Budget - FY16 P&L

January - December 2016

		Total
Revenue		
Assembly Contributions		9,000.00
CNCA Comments Subscriptions		60.00
District Contributions		12,000.00
Group Contributions		85,000.00
H & I Archives Rent		500.00
Interest Income/Prudent Reserve		5.00
Personal/Misc. Contributions		1,510.00
Tradition 7, Area Committee		3,600.00
Total Revenue	\$	111,675.00
Gross Profit	\$	111,675.00
Expenditures		
Committee Expense		29,514.00
Delegate Expense		9,380.00
General Expense		54,837.00
Officer Expense		31,153.00
Total Expenditures	\$	124,884.00
Net Operating Revenue	-\$	13,209.00
Net Revenue	-\$	13,209.00

CNCA AREA AND ASSEMBLY MOTIONS FEBRUARY 2016

Area Committee:

Assembly Bids:

Housekeeping Motions:

Guidelines:

Presentation of New Business: That the committee add two members, increasing from 5 to 7. The added people to administer our servers, greatly increasing security, for this panel only.

Old Business at Area Committee Meeting:

· Updates to the Financial Guidelines

New Business at Area Committee Meeting:

Discussion Topic:

• Presentation and discussion on "The General Service Board Feasibility Study" by Raymundo L.

Area Assembly Motions

Housekeeping Motions:

Presentation of New Business at Area Assembly: Old Business at Area Assembly:

• "District 16 Spanish Central is requesting that CNCA 06 restructure District 16 by removing sub-district 02 from District 16."

• "That CNCA 06 expand the area officer eligibility to include Alternate District Committee Member Chairs and current members and chairs of Area standing committees and sub-committees who have served as a DCM and/or DCMC."

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

New Business at Area Assembly:

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

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

"Some alcoholics require medication.

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

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

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

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

AREA OFFICER ELIGIBILITY MOTION -- PRO & CON

PRO

"That CNCA 06 expands the area officer eligibility to include Alternate District Committee Member Chairs and current member and chairs of standing committees and sub committees who have served as a DCM and/or DCMC."

<u>Aspects – Spiritual, Business and Practicality</u> Spiritual –

In A.A. we often talk about "letting God decide" through the selection process (Tradition 2). From a spiritual basis, limiting the eligibility to the current format does not allow the "God of Our Understanding" to select His choice for the officer positions through our group conscience.

Business -

A.A. is unique in that it doesn't follow standard business practices. Its leaders are often chosen by who is dedicated at that time (Concept IX). Current commitment and dedication (the many) serves us better than prior experience (the few). In order to "tap" this type of experience, a larger field of candidates is required.

Practicality -

If this motion passes, it would increase the amount of time needed for the voting by providing more candidates for each officer position. However, our 3rd Legacy process will "ween out" many candidates in the first round of voting.

Conclusion

It makes common sense to adopt this motion in order to provide our Area with more choices and the most willing candidates to serve as our Area officers. Traditions, small t's or large T's (such as the way our elections are currently held) are all very well, but once they start to control us, they've outlived their usefulness.

-- Wesley S., Alternate DCMC, District 70

CON

This is a con for the CNCA06 Area Motion whether to expand officer eligibility to include Alternate DCMC's and Chairs of Standing Area Committees.

There currently is a "small t" tradition within CNCA that is the path of General Service to "work yourself down the triangle" as my service sponsor has told me. This path is GSR, DCM, District Officer, DCMC, Area Officer, Area Delegate. The motion before CNCA06 would give the ability to skirt this tradition.

To become a member of many of the committees within CNCA06, one only needs to be a member of AA, not a member of the Area Commitee. Committee chairs for the following panel are elected from the current committee members. This motion would then give rise to the distinct possibility that an individual without GSR, DCM, DCMC, or any General Service experience would be eligible to be an Officer of CNCA06. It is this missing vital experience which creates the eligibility to become an Area Officer. The experience, the General Service story, which each Area Officer carries with them gives them their leadership qualities. The members of the Area Committee, District Committees, and the alcoholic who is still struggling within the rooms of AA relies on this experience to trust the officers as our servants. With this motion every member of AA, and future member of AA within CNCA06, could easily be on the losing side. This motion does not serve at being there as a responsible hand of AA for those who will be reaching out for help.

-- Murias O., Web Advisor

GROUP SAFETY PAMPHLET MOTION -- PRO & CON

AREA CNCA 06 MOTION REGARDING SAFETY AT AA MEETINGS

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

THE IMPACT: If this motion is passed, CNCA would request that the General Service Conference develop a pamphlet on safety in AA, which could include topics addressing sexual harassment, violence, disruptive members and threatening language, and how to handle problems when they occur.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION

Bad behavior by an individual or group of people at an AA meeting can, if unchecked, affect the entire group through loss of a meeting space or members leaving fearing for their own safety. Threatening language, sexual harassment, violence or any disruptive behaviors have no place in an AA meeting. Finding a solution to such disruptions takes love, tolerance and careful thought. Tradition 1 is our guide here reminding us that "our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity."

The Motion regarding Safety addresses an important concern within Alcoholics Anonymous. We must provide a safe environment, yet we cannot deal with offending individuals in a punitive way that goes against our principals. As Tradition 5 tells us, "Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." A pamphlet that offers guidance for how to protect members and encourages healthy behaviors, while dealing effectively, fairly and lovingly with offenders would offer much needed help to groups who are experiencing problems.

Specific reasons to support this motion are:

- 1. Currently there is no published guidance to deal with disruptive behaviors at group level.
- New or young members in service as Secretaries need help to deal with disruptive members at meetings.
- The Unity and sense of community of a home group can be threatened if disruptive behavior goes unchecked.
- 4. Members in AA as a whole may have had experience with these issues, remedied them in the past at a personal or group level and have information to share with those groups who are currently facing such problems.
- 5. A pamphlet containing a collection of examples or stories of potentially disruptive situations that caused people to feel unsafe coupled with solutions that successfully solved the problem would offer hope and empower groups who are searching for loving ways to maintain a peaceful and safe atmosphere at meetings.

Mary Kate F., DCM CNCA Dist 04 January 21, 2016

CON ARGUMENT to the motion "that the General Service Conference develop a pamphlet sharing experience, strength and hope on group safety."

The publication of a pamphlet on group safety potentially puts A.A. World Services, Inc. in opposition with two of our Traditions: the Fourth Tradition, which states (in the short form) that "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole" and the Tenth Tradition, which states (again, in the short form) that "Alcoholics Anonymous has no option on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never to be drawn into public controversy."

To the point regarding the Fourth Tradition, safety can mean different things to different groups of people. Behaviors such as smoking or swearing that might be acceptable at one A.A. meeting might be perceived as unsafe or offensive at another. A meeting that takes place in a "bad part of town" might be considered unsafe to one member of A.A., while being seen as a refuge to another. If a pamphlet were to be published that suggests that a particular meeting's location or etiquette is "unsafe," would that group then be considered in opposition to A.A. etc. anon, as decreed by A.A.W.S.?

In offering up a pamphlet on group safety, would we rob individual groups of the opportunity to explore what safety means to them and to introspect and evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose, and instead be asking New York to answer those questions for us?

To the point regarding the Tenth Tradition, the publication of a pamphlet related to group safety might be perceived by some as an implicit guarantee of safety at all A.A. meetings. Pamphlets are, after all (as stated on the AA.org website), a resource to find out about Alcoholics Anonymous and "how it works."

Will the publication of a pamphlet on group safety guarantee that unsafe situations at A.A. meetings will not exist in the future, or would they instead place A.A.W.S. in a position of being held liable when individual groups do not conform to the suggestions that it offers?

Resources already exist that a group can draw from to benefit from the experience, strength and hope of others related to group safety. Notes from the 62nd General Service Workshop "Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare" is one example that poses thoughtful questions and presents some helpful suggestions on group safety, without asserting itself as an A.A. directive.

-- Eric H., DCM, District 12

CNCA CALENDAR

<u>2016—Panel 65</u>		_	27—Area Committee Mtg	
February March	27—Area Committee Mtg 3-6—PRAASA Spokane, Wash.	September	8-11 20 th National AA Archives Workshop in Walnut Creek	
	26—Area Committee Mtg		24—Area Committee Mtg 30 - Oct. 2—Pacific Regional	
April	9, 10—Pre Conference Assembly Marin Civic Center Exhibit Hall,		Forum in Waikola, Hawaii	
	San Rafael (Hosted By District 10)	October November	22—Area Committee Mtg 5—Election Assembly	
Мау	23—Area Committee Mtg 14—Post Conference Assembly		Scottish Rite Center, San Jose	
	Machinist Hall, Burlingame (Hosted by Districts 04 and 05)		(Hosted by District 17) 26—Area Committee Mtg	
	28—Area Committee Mtg	December	17—Area Committee Mtg	
June July	25—Area Committee Mtg 23—Area Committee Mtg			
August	6—Summer Assembly Santa Cruz Fairgrounds, Santa			
	Cruz (Hosted by Districts 03 and 40)			

ASSEMBLY DATES CALENDAR

PANEL 65 ASSEMBLY DATES

2016 Pre-Conference Assembly
April 9-10; Marin Civic Center Exhibit Hall
10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903
(Hosted by District 10)

2016 Post-conference Assembly
May 14; Machinist Hall, Burlingame
(Hosted by Districts 04 and 05)
2016 Summer Assembly
August 6; Santa Cruz Fairgrounds, Santa Cruz
(Hosted by Districts 03 and 40)
2016 Fall Election Assembly
November 5, Scottish Rite Center, San Jose
(Hosted by District 17)

PANEL 67 ASSEMBLY DATES

2017 Pre-conference Assembly April 8-9 2017 Post-conference Assembly May 13, Lake County Fairgrounds, Lakeport (Hosted by District 13) 2017 Summer Assembly August 5 or August 12 2017 Fall Inventory Assembly November 11 2018 Pre-conference Assembly April 7-8 2018 Post-conference Assembly May 12 or May 19 2018 Summer Assembly August 4 or August 11 2018 Fall Election Assembly November 10

(Underline dates preferred)

If your District is considering making a bid for an Assembly, please contact the Assembly Coordinator Michael Q. by visiting the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

AA Grapevine / La Viña Subscription Information

AA Grapevine US Rate

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To contact Robin T. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

CNCA Comments Advisor

To contact Joann L. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

CNCA Comentarios Editor

To contact Manuel R. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

CNCA Comentarios Advisor

To contact Agustín L. visit the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website

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Panel 65 Area Officers & Area Meeting Information

Feel free to contact the Area Officers by using the "Contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

Delegate Raymundo L.

Alternate Delegate Phil B.

Chair Joann L.

Treasurer Teddy BW Registrar Ray W.

Recording Secretary Barbara S.

Assembly Coordinator Michael Q.

Literature/Grapevine/La Viña Chair Agustin L.

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

<u>Archives</u> Committee meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Sheri W. by visiting the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website. The CNCA Archives are located at 185 Mayhew Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94597-2065

Bridging the Gap meets at 11:00 am. For Information contact Bill B. 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 Phil B. by visiting the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

Interpretation & Translation Committee meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Claudia N. by visiting the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

Web Committee meets at 11:00 am. For information contact Cheryl G. by visiting the "contact us" tab on the www.cnca06.org website.

DCMs & DCMCs Sharing Sessions meet at 10 am.

<u>Grapevine/La Vina/Lit.</u> Sharing Session meets at 10 am. <u>www.aagrapevine.org</u>

