

**10am - Meeting Opened with the Serenity Prayer by Erica S.**

Translation by Nicholas and Juan. Thank you for your service!

**49 DCMs, GSRs and visitors attended. Erica S. facilitated.**

Welcome to six newcomers.

**Presentation – Sonia N - NCCAA & HI and their relationship to CNCA 06/General Service**

- Our presenter researched this topic by attending the Archives Workshop, where she learned how the two service groups started - the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous and Hospitals & Institutions
- In the late 1940s, member Nick N. from Oakland and Bill W. had discussed the service structure in AA. In 1946, Nick got very enthusiastic and founded the NCCAA in 1946-47. So, that means the NCCAA is five years older than the General Service Conference, which was established in 1952 (See how much you learn at the DCM Sharing Session?!). Nick N. was the first CA delegate for the first General Service Conference.
- H&I as we know it today started at the same time as NCCAA. They created a collaborative relationship with NCCAA and its first outreach was at San Quentin in 1942
- In the late 1940s, AA was quite small and members people would travel large distances to get together. NCCAA served as a gathering point for Northern California AA, with recovery speakers, and it was the main place to pass information throughout Nor. Cal. AA
- Both NCCAA and H&I are not part of the AA General Service structure but are Tradition 9 service committees – “service boards or committee directly responsible to those they serve.” Both these service entities have their own structures. If you have any spare time, it is fascinating to learn about the structure of our different service organizations
- Each of these service bodies have liaisons to CNCA
- Since it was the first service body formed to reach out to hospitals, institutions (and now treatment centers), the Northern California H&I served as a model for AA areas around the country, though most of them fold institutional outreach into their General Service structure.
- Two pamphlets were passed around for our education

**Members Share**

*Round the table, sharing session-style*

- She feels more a part of and informed due to the presentation – it was great!
- He is less confused now. It’s good to know that our service organizations complement each other
- He belongs to the NCCAA conference committee (and noted upcoming events, specifically the 71<sup>st</sup> annual workshop. The website is norcallAA.org. He has pamphlet on the Structure of the conference.
- He has been reading about this for several years. NCCAA online posts its newsletter. At the beginning, the newsletter was the way NorCal AA kept informed about H&I and the GS conference. CNCA06 was established in 1971.
- Member asked what the primary purposes are for H&I and NCCAA
- Another member reflected the idea that “they’re really not part of AA” but that they are part of AA service in Northern California, and we work best to cooperate and work together. He’s grateful for them because, if they didn’t exist, there would be more to do in General Service. We

have enough to do. We're all part of the same family and our purpose is to help alcoholics who still suffer. Each of us finds our place on where we can do the best service.

- He recently rotated out of NCCAA and is a past NCCAA delegate. He has grown quite a bit. In the 1940's, AA Northern California was very small. People would travel large distances to get together. NCCAA served as a gathering point for AA and for growing service. Now we have a lot of service opportunities. But back then, that conference was the main place to exchange info and experience. Bill W. approached California members about the idea of a General Service conference. H&I developed relationships with corrections and treatment facilities and helped local organizations grow and become independent. Each of these groups is a Tradition 9 service committee. NCCAA has its own structure for groups representatives as does H&I and General Service. The most confusing part is to learn about the structure of these different service structures.
- Her sponsor took her to NCCAA and "made" her attend marathon meetings and to dance. That helped her discover that "we are not a glum lot" and that she can have fun in sobriety. She saw members be joyous without drinking. That's how her sobriety got started and NCCAA became close to her heart. Her sub-district wanted to know the difference between NCCAA and General Service, so she talked to the woman who wrote the history of NCCAA and it was an amazing discovery.
- When he first came into AA, he had the idea that it came full blown from the mind of AA. He is grateful to be part of the evolution of AA.
- He still doesn't see any connectivity between these entities but guesses he has a lot to learn
- She wishes she had heard the presentation three years ago. When she first heard about NCCAA, she first thought about competition but has since experienced cooperation.
- She still has a hard time tracking the connection of these different entities. On the East Coast, they don't have H&I. It's interesting to see the regional differences.
- He's just getting past the acronyms right now.
- She attended the Bridging the Gap conference and witnessed that service is provided differently in each region and state. It opened her eyes that our little piece of the pie isn't the only way to provide service.
- She liked hearing the past delegate's historical context and his referencing Tradition 9. They are all part of "a service board or committee directly responsible to those they serve. We are all members of AA and can be of service in different ways. Those two groups are not part of the General Service structure. On the East Coast, the committee is corrections and treatment. We chose not to do that. Nevada was in NCCAA but is no longer. Our sister area, CNIA, is also part of H&I and NCCAA, so that's part of the triangular structure and unity and service. H&I exists in other states. It is unique to this area of the country due to its early founding.
- She came in confused about NCCAA and CNCA and the presentation helped.
- He was an NCCAA meeting delegate. He got the blue pamphlet – the mission statement – which states its primary purpose is to pass the message. The way we do it in NCCAA is through conferences. He is fortunate that his district has a Foster City conference. It's a wonderful way for all of us to meet sober. He loves NCCAA and may see some changes. Some say it's outdated but it can evolve.
- There is an NCCAA Archives committee. The General Service archives are for CNCA. H&I also has its archives committee. Is any of this info in the book *AA Comes of Age*?
- He was an NCCAA delegate and noted that any meeting is entitled to two delegates. A member can show up at the conference and hear about the finances of the organization and business and can also serve as host for next conference.

## DCM Sharing Session December 2017

- Minnesota has H&I pink can labels that reference NorCal H&I
- NCCAA has conferences (for speakers and gather) and General Service has assemblies (for the business of AA)
- He noted that the presentation is a Tradition 9 reminder. These two organizations are part of AA and how we do it in California. There's not a "right way" to do any service. All the service entities have a purpose and wonderful trusted servants.
- He asked how does NCCAA have groups? Do they have a registry What is a group per NCCAA?
- Member replied that all have liaisons. Current Delegate Joanne is speaking at the June NCCAA conference. There will also be a special needs workshop. NCCAA is a chance to meet and see people from General Service in a conference environment. There will be display tables at the NCCAA conference with Bridging the Gap, H&I, etc.
- He noted that in General Service, we register AA groups through General Service office. When you go to intergroup that group is NOT registered automatically with General Service, H&I or NCCAA. These two entities are service boards related directly to those they serve – the members. Our *CNCA Comments* has a report from NCCAA and H&I because there are liaisons. Every time they have a conference, CNCA and CNIA delegates do attend and assist. For this panel, Linda and Diane O. are liaisons
- He noted there is an H&I website and that there are often panels on General Service at H&I and NCCAA conferences.

### **Next Month's Topic –How do the warranties affect us in General Service from Denise G., District 12**

- ALL – Please bring radios. We need everyone to have an opportunity to share.
- Thank you, Nicholas and Juan, for translating.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully submitted,  
Jacqueline P., Recording Secretary