

Delegates Corner  
March 2017

Wasn't February the most craziest month you ever saw? It was for me. First there were no Agenda Topics, then there were, and before you knew it, there were Agenda Topic Summaries, then translation of said Summaries (wasn't that a happy moment), then the next thing I know I am at PRAASA! (Pacific Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) It feels like a house just fell on me. I do have these red shoes.

I arrive in the Sacramento area in not so fit a spiritual condition. I needed some fresh air and a pause. After checking into my hotel, I wandered down to the conventions center and found the past CNIA delegates putting together packets for the registration table. I asked if I could join in and in no time I had entirely forgot the tailgaters on I 80 and the credit card company that thought they were being helpful by denying my purchase. When I do service work I get the biggest relief from the bondage of self. In a short period of time, I was fit to be around others again. It is one of the main reasons I keep doing service.

I began to wonder how many will be having their first PRAASA experience. At my first PRAASA someone said "this is the college education of Alcoholics Anonymous." And not only do I get to learn more about A.A., I learn a lot about myself, my disease and my recovery from that disease. My growth gets challenged. I get asked to do things that are uncomfortable for me and I find I am able to do them because these rooms are filled with loving people who are just like me. Their spirits help sustain mine. If this is your first PRAASA, my hope for you is that you will find a spiritual awakening here. It was at PRAASA that I realized I was a part of a bigger whole. I went from being a part of my home group to a district, then to an area, then to a region and then to the whole of A.A. I remember at one PRAASA where someone from Siberia came to thank us for literature in their language. It was very clear then as it is today that what we are doing here is important work. I come here and my spirit is renewed.

I hope I will run into some of you this weekend. I hope we will return from this weekend ready to help the A.A. in our care with understanding these Agenda Topics and forming a group conscience. By the end of this month we will all be more ready for the first Assembly of Panel 67. See you in the rooms.

With deep gratitude,  
Joann L.  
Delegate, Panel 67