



# CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential -- December 2017

[www.cnca06.org](http://www.cnca06.org)

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

## Chair's Preview

Our November Area Committee Meeting (ACM) was short and sweet, as we had very little on our agenda. First we passed two housekeeping motions:

"That CNCA share the travel cost for Past Pacific Regional Trustee, Madeleine P, to participate in the 2018 Pre-Conference Assembly (facilitating the new GSR orientation) at a cost not to exceed \$125." —*presented by the Panel 67 Delegate*

"That the BTG Pre-Release Contact Service pilot program be extended for up to six more months." —*presented by Bridging the Gap*

Then the Finance Committee presented the draft of the 2018 CNCA Budget and copies were made available to everyone in attendance. There will be some corrections made and another draft circulated and you will get a chance to ask any remaining questions next month. At the December ACM, I will ask for "disapproval, if any" which essentially means we treat the passing of the budget like a housekeeping motion. We do it this way because everything that is in our budget has already been approved by a motion (or an assembly bid), or is a recurring overhead cost (like rent).

We will introduce two new discussion topics on our agenda at the December ACM (remember that we meet a week early on December 16):

Is there need for a workshop on the topic of "Guidance on Non-Profit Status and Tax ID Numbers for Groups and Districts?"

Microphone Etiquette and Comfort using the Microphones at Assemblies

Please see inside for the minutes from the Fall Assembly business meeting. The notes from our Area Inventory will be in the next issue. Fun fact: In case you didn't already know, a current list of all the motions being discussed at the ACM and Assemblies can be found inside every issue of the *CNCA Comments*, as well as under the "About CNCA" tab on our website.

May your holiday season be sober and joyous!

Jennifer B, Area Chair

I have a fondness for Thanksgiving, because that was the time of year I first got sober. Somewhere deep inside I knew I would not survive another holiday season. Especially not the way I drank. I was horribly underweight because I no longer ate much, my hands shook terribly and I am sure there was that distinctive aroma about me when alcohol comes through your pores. The woman who was to become my first sponsor took me to a lot of meetings in San Francisco and at practically every meeting the topic was gratitude. November is gratitude month of course. My attitude towards this was less than stellar. I really couldn't see what there was to be grateful for. The 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous would change that attitude. That year a lot would change. I would find a new way of life because of the Steps. I would change physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally. By the time the next Thanksgiving rolled around, I had a lot to be grateful for. I knew what gratitude felt like.

By the time I had 10 years of sobriety, I had everything I ever wanted but was unable to get because of my disease. The life that Alcoholics Anonymous had given me got in the way of my AA life. I drifted from the program and relapsed after 17 year. That relapse lasted five years. When I returned, what I found was the program of recovery would work again—when I worked it. I again received the psychic change needed to recover from alcoholism. The lesson I learned from my first recovery was balance. Balance between my AA life and the life that AA gave me. I acknowledged that Unity begins with me. (Only I can choose to stay with the Program.) Service begins with me. (It is up to me to make myself available.) And Recovery begins with me. (Only I can choose to work the steps.)

I am grateful today that I am not dying from a progressive fatal disease. I am even more grateful that a program of recovery from this disease has given me a life beyond wildest dreams, incredible friendships and relationships, and a purpose that is nothing I could have ever thought of. It takes the whole triangle—Recovery, Unity and Service—to keep my life steady and on course.

Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Joann L  
Panel 67 CNCA 06 Area Delegate

### **Looking for Something?**

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## AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 2017

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held November 25, 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 Denise G (District 12). Jill G (District 06) read Tradition 11 and Tim D (District 14) read Concept 11. There were four past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), Doug G (Panel 53), David N (Panel 59), and Raymundo L (Panel 65). David N currently serves as a General Service Trustee, and Doug G serves as an appointed committee member of the Trustee's Literature committee. There were 7 GSRs present. The October 2017 minutes and financial report were accepted as printed in the *CNCA Comments*. Birthdays: 202/10.

Registered attendance: Voting (48) / Non-voting (44)

### Officer Reports

**DELEGATE – JOANN L:** The bid for the 2030 International Convention is finished; I mailed off a hard copy of the bid (as well as an electronic copy) to GSO. All eight Area Officers and many volunteers from CNCA attended the CNIA Election Assembly. We all had fun counting ballots. Mike K is the new Delegate for CNIA and Tom A is the new Alternate Delegate.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W:** As of today, we have pledges for more than 2000 volunteers for our bid to host the 2030 International Convention. Please ask your groups to continue emailing their volunteer pledges to [AA2030@cnca06.org](mailto:AA2030@cnca06.org). Answers to Frequently Asked Questions are also available via email or on the Area website.

**CHAIR – JENNIFER B:** I am passing around cards to thank Bob W, who facilitated our Area Inventory, and Lela M, who took notes. When we get the notes, I will forward them to the DCMCs, and they will also be printed in the *Comments* and *Comentarios*.

**TREASURER – CHRIS H:** As of today, we have \$33,000 in our checking account and \$10,117 in our savings account. We received \$6700 in contributions and spent \$6800.

**REGISTRAR – LAURA W:** I am looking for feedback on how Districts make use of the Check-In Sheet and Registered Group List, and I am looking into ways to make use of the GSO database.

**RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L:** I am now working with a team to prepare the 2019 edition of our Motions Book. Standing committee chairs have been notified that quarterly reports are due at the December meeting.

**ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S:** There are currently seven assemblies still available for bidding. 2019 may sound far away, but bidding now would give your District time to prepare a bid and assemble a host committee.

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H:** The General Service Board approved a recommendation to proceed with the audio recording of the 12 Concepts for World Service in English, French and Spanish. The Navajo translation of the *Big Book* is now complete, and it is expected to be published in March 2018.

### District Reports

**DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – SUSAN G:** We completed our District inventory and heard several suggestions to improve communication.

**DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – ELIJAH H:** Our inventory lit up an inspiring energy in the room; there was great interest and enthusiasm about providing workshops and other service events within the District.

**DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – ERIC H:** We held the second part of our inventory. I am grateful to have AA in my life and this inventory process will help our District grow.

**DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – MARIANNE G:** We discussed what to do following our inventory and reviewed a budget proposal.

**DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – COREE H:** We reviewed our inventory, passed our budget and heard group consciences on a request for a fifth edition of the *Big Book*.

**DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – COLLEEN G:** We held our inventory; several suggestions were made. A motion to purchase *Grapevine* books for our District passed, and our budget committee presented the proposed budget.

**DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – JUSTIN H:** We held our inventory. There was emphasis placed on the role of the GSR, on the need for diversity in our District, and on the importance of service sponsorship and on having fun.

**DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – PATRICK C:** Much of our District business involved the formation of new committees. We formed a Finance committee, and we may be forming several other committees (Web, GSR Orientation, Inventory and Re-Subdistricting) next year.

**DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – NORA H:** We are

## AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

making final arrangements for our Holiday Potluck and speaker meeting, and we are circulating fliers inviting everyone. This month, we will be deciding whether to fund scholarships for members to attend PRAASA.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – DON L: Our financial projection for 2018 was presented and will be reviewed in December. We completed our inventory, and our Unity Day earlier this month had 70 members in attendance.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – CLAUDIA K: We elected co-chairs for our PI/CPC committee and filled our Central Office liaison position. We have vacancies in Bridging the Gap, Literature/Grapevine and Archives. We also discussed questions for our inventory next month.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – TONY W: Eighteen people from our District went to the Inventory Assembly. Several well-loved members in our District passed away recently; we are sad but grateful to be sober.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – CATHY P: During our District inventory, something that stood out was the idea of 'sponsoring' another District. Our Registrar gave a spontaneous report that included a song, dancing and a drummer boy costume.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – CHITRA S: We have a new chair for our Beginner's Meeting. We finalized our re-subdistricting plan, and that information has been sent to the Area Registrar. We have also started a discussion about how we respond to natural disasters.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – ROBERT F: We had an abundance of volunteers at the assembly, and everyone reacted in such a positive and upbeat manner. Our Aging in Sobriety workshop has been rescheduled for March 10. This month, we conducted our District inventory.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – MARY ELLEN R: Our inventory went well. A young people's meeting that started a month ago has generated interest, and plans for two more meetings are in the works. The overall health of our District is good, but there are groups that are struggling with attendance and finances.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ROBIN T: We held our inventory, and there will be some discussion topics and action items from it moving forward. We passed our budget, and we continue planning for an Agenda Topics Workshop next year. One of our remote groups lost their meeting place due to a fire. The District is helping them replace some of their literature, and the group now has a new meeting location.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – DEVIN P: We will conduct our inventory next month, and we are discussing resuming workshops or roundtable discussions prior to our business meeting. Our website appears to have been attacked by a denial of service attempt in October. Our web chair is seeking input from people with experience on how to protect the site in the future.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FRANCISCO R: We will host a public information workshop on November 27 at the Intergroup Office in San Francisco. We continue having difficulties attracting new GSRs.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – MARIO S: We conducted our inventory with assistance from District 16. We also attended the Hispanic Forum in Area 05, and we are looking forward to hosting the Inter-District workshop in December.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – HECTOR C: We will hold our inventory in December, and we are discussing whether to support a proposal from District 20 to hold a Hispanic Forum in our Area.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – MAGDALENO O: The Intergroup Office in Salinas will be celebrating its 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary tomorrow, and the office in Watsonville will celebrate its anniversary in January. We will be holding our inventory later this month.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – TEODOMIRO S: We held our inventory and now have heard a few suggestions on how to best serve our groups.

### **Area Sub-Committees and Sharing Sessions**

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: The Archives committee has been getting the word out about groups turning in group histories. We will be holding our third biennial Archives Workday on December 9 at the Archives repository in Walnut Creek.

BRIDGING THE GAP – KELLY H: This month, your BTG committees gave 2 presentations and handled 30 requests for contact. I am working with my counterpart in CNIA, our PI/CPC Chair and Northern California H&I on our first joint meeting of the panel. Our committee held a lively inventory, including a discussion about the pre-release pilot program.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We reviewed our current proposed budget and prepared for the presentation later this afternoon. We are also discussing the current website and other topics, including the Seventh Tradition at assemblies.

## AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: The second California-wide meeting of Area PI/CPC Chairs will happen by conference call soon so that we can continue to collaborate. At the PI/CPC meeting today, we read from the CPC Workbook; as a result, we will be putting together a 20-minute presentation for professionals.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: Progress on the creation of a new website has stalled, and we discussed the causes and how to proceed in the future. We posted the FAQs for the 2030 International Convention bid, and we corrected a problem with the month view in the calendar tab.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: We heard back from the PRAASA I&T committee, and they are grateful we will be bringing our equipment to assist with interpretation and assisted listening. In our meeting today, we discussed how to improve the quality of our interpretation service.

CNCA COMMENTS – JUAN T: Thirteen volunteers helped at the Lick and Stick this month; we mailed out 872 copies of the *Comments* via bulk mail and 103 copies via first-class mail. We are also getting ready to renew the mailing permit.

COMENTARIOS DE CNCA – ERIC H: The *Comentarios* were sent out earlier this week. We have lost some momentum and are struggling with completing our share of the translation. We are grateful for the efforts of the members on the I&T committee who provided all translation this month.

DCM SHARING SESSION – JACQUELINE P: We heard a presentation on helping GSRs conduct group inventories. People shared about the process and suggested that one way to view an inventory is as an exercise in taking the temperature of a meeting. Next month, the topic will be NCCAA and H&I: How They Fit into the CNCA Service Structure.

ACCESSIBILITIES – JENNIFER K: We had considerable discussion on the subject of medications for chronic pain. We also discussed online and phone meetings, including some of the benefits and some of the potential drawbacks.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – AMY M: We discussed *The God Word* pamphlet produced in Great Britain (which has not been approved by the General Service Conference in the United States). We also discussed the literature that could be pertinent to a newcomer, someone with 90 days, someone with a year, and someone with five years.

NCCAA – LINDA G: Next year, NCCAA will be held in San Ramon. We chose to meet on Easter weekend because of the rising cost of hotels.

H&I – KAREN B: H&I continues to have a negative cash flow due to decreased contributions and increased requests for literature. H&I is down \$81,679.59 for the year. Our next meeting will be in February in Solano County.

ACYPAA – JONNY W: ACYPAA has found a new facility in San Rafael for the hotel and conference (after the previous locations burned down). ACYPAA will be held March 1 to 4, which is, unfortunately, the same weekend as PRAASA.

LA VIÑA 21ST ANNIVERSARY – RAFAEL R: Juan Manuel H will serve as our next liaison to the *La Viña* 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary. Planning meetings for the event begin this December in Riverside, CA.

TECHNOLOGY AD-HOC – NORA H: Three visitors shared their thoughts on the Area's technology needs based on their service roles. We are now finalizing our current assets list, which we hope to complete by the end of the year.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP – EMMA M: I will be attending the workshop, which is just around the corner. Women from several countries, including Bolivia, Spain, Peru and Mexico, will be attending the workshop via Skype.

2018 PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM – DOUG G: I mailed out 'save the date' postcards to each Delegate in the Pacific Region, and I have appointed five members of the committee. We will soon start holding monthly meetings, and official fliers (with hotel information) will be sent to us by February 20.

### Housekeeping Motions

That CNCA share the travel cost for Past Pacific Regional Trustee, Madeleine P, to participate in the 2018 Pre-Conference Assembly (facilitating the new GSR orientation) at a cost not to exceed \$125. – *presented by Joann L, Delegate*

Presentation: Madeleine will be speaking at the dinner. We decided that we would like to ask her to participate during the orientation, so we would like to share the cost of her travel. She lives in Oregon.

Questions: Q: With whom will we share the travel cost?  
A: With the committee for the Pre-Conference Assembly Dinner.

## AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

### Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

That the BTG Pre-Release Contact Service pilot program be extended for up to six more months. – *presented by the Bridging the Gap committee*

Presentation: The Bridging the Gap committee would like to extend the pilot program for up to six months because, while there is enthusiasm about the service, more work is necessary in terms of cooperating with local H&I Committees. Initially, we had worked with the Chair and Co-Chair of Northern California H&I. With encouragement from H&I, we will now be working at the local level. We have also finalized two pieces of literature (English- and Spanish-language documents explaining the service), but this literature is not being used as widely as we would like. With up to six more months, we would be able to distribute information more widely.

### Seeing no objections / Motion passes.

#### Area Business

##### PRESENTATION:

2018 CNCA Budget – *presented by the Finance committee*

Presentation: The Finance committee has worked on this budget for an extended period of time, and is now presenting a budget with several notes. This is a deficit budget, meaning that, if expenses are as high as they could be (they generally have not been) and contributions are as low as they could be (they generally have been higher), the Area would operate at a deficit next year, meaning more money would be spent than brought in. Many deficit budgets have been presented in the past. The Finance committee reviewed several notes and some errors that had been pointed out prior to the presentation, and agreed to make some revisions prior to the budget being presented for approval at the ACM next month. There will be time for more questions next month. Everything in the budget has been approved by Area motions. If something does not look right, please contact the Finance Committee Chair or the Area Treasurer.

Questions: Q: Will we consider budgeting for future disbursements, like we did earlier this year? A: No. We do not usually plan for disbursements in the budget. We had a lot of cash on hand – far beyond our stated purpose – and the ACM decided to disburse the money. If that happens again next year, we will discuss it again next year. Q: Are the 2017 expenses annualized for the year? A: No, the budget only has expenses listed through October 31. Q: Could future budgets have

headers on all of the pages? A: Hopefully that will happen in the future. Q: Why are we budgeting \$0 for the Membership Survey? A: We do not work on that survey every year. In different years, different methods have been used to complete the surveys. Some years, Area Officers would go to the groups asked to complete the survey to help facilitate the process. Other years, we mail the surveys out. Q: Groups have been more generous recently. How do you calculate projected contributions to make an estimate? A: We usually take an average after removing some of the larger 'one-time only' contributions. We try to choose a number that is prudent. We generally expect expenses to be less than budgeted, and we expect income to be higher than projected (which is what happened this year). Q: Is the rent for the ACM increasing? A: Yes. We are renting another room in the mornings.

### The budget will be presented for disapproval, if any, in December.

##### DISCUSSION TOPIC:

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

Discussion: This is something that we could improve.

##### *Discussion closed*

##### WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Considering that the Concept 11 essay was edited last year, is it possible that additional changes to sexist language could be fixed prior to the audio recording project being completed? // My District lost its non-profit status and we need to find a way to get it back. I have not found anyone who can lay out the whole process for me. If anyone understands the process, I would appreciate learning. When I go online, there seems to be little information, and what I can find is contradictory and confusing. // We only have three weeks before the next ACM. Please give the I&T committee documents as soon as possible. // At my District, we talked about charitable status and Tax ID Numbers. I would like us to have a sharing session so we can gather information about people's experiences with this. It can be very confusing. // The Area will meet on the third Saturday in December and in January.

The meeting was closed at 2:27 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,  
Eric L

## ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 FALL ASSEMBLY (MORNING)

The Fall Assembly Business meeting of CNCA was held November 4, 2017 at the Petaluma Veteran's Hall in Petaluma, California. Jennifer B opened the meeting at 9:15, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Elijah H (District 02). Jason W (District 12) read the 12 Traditions in English, and Raymundo F (District 17) read the 12 Traditions in Spanish. There were 8 past delegates present: Diane O (Panel 35), Woody R (Panel 50, Area 07), Sharon A (Panel 57), David N (Panel 59), Jim F (Panel 59, Area 38), Ken M (Panel 61), Lela M (Panel 62, Area 07), and Raymundo L (Panel 65). David N currently serves as a General Service Trustee. There were also two past trustees present, Bob W and Tom M, and one visiting delegate, Vikki R, who currently serves Area 07. The minutes from the 2017 Summer Assembly were accepted as printed in the CNCA Comments.

Registered attendance: Voting (244) / Non-voting (159)

### Third Legacy Election

Ken M was selected to be the CNCA Nominee for Pacific Regional Trustee. The Pacific Regional Trustee will be selected at the General Service Conference in April 2018.

### Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JOANN L: My Delegate's Reports are all done. We are making progress on the bid for the 2030 International Convention in Santa Clara; it will be submitted by the end of the month. I received an email from GSO that the Trustees discussed our motion to add text back to Living Sober and will discuss it more at the January Board meeting.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – TEDDY B-W: The buzz for CNCA to host the 2030 International Convention increases. As of today, we have letters of support from numerous Inter-group offices, the rest of the Pacific Region, and pledges for more than 1600 volunteers, not bad for an event 13 years away when our slogan is one day at a time.

CHAIR – JENNIFER B: I want to thank you for all the love and support you have shown since David and I lost our home in the Tubbs fire. Your kindness means the world. When I first got sober, I was told to trust the process, and the same tools I was given in the beginning still work today if I pick them up and use them. I am still struggling with gratitude and silver linings. But it is good to be here, it is good to be sober, and it is good to be of service.

TREASURER – CHRIS H: We have \$34,200 in our Checking Account used for Operating Expenses and \$10,117 in our Savings Account that represents our Prudent Reserve. Year to date, we had budgeted for \$99,500 in contributions and received a total of \$112,200. We had budgeted \$107,700 in expenses and have spent \$88,400. We are well ahead of budget. Please thank your groups for their contributions.

REGISTRAR – LAURA W: Knowing how many people are attending our Assemblies helps us plan for the business meeting and the event – including making sure we have enough food for everyone. I continue processing changes as they come in from District Registrars and have been collecting feedback to make the process more efficient.

RECORDING SECRETARY – ERIC L: I have been able to visit every District in our Area and have been inspired by the passion and commitment to service and to the AA program.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – ERICA S: Our Pre-Conference Assembly will be in April at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. Districts 40 and 02 are looking forward to hosting all of us and are well underway with planning. There are currently seven assemblies available for bidding.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MIGUEL H: In the early 1940s, the Grapevine served AA as a communication tool. And the magazine continues to communicate in a way that AAWS cannot. We can participate by sharing our experiences, sending in photos or artwork, sharing the magazine and buying subscriptions.

### Area Standing Committees and Sub-Committees

ARCHIVES – RICHARD W: We collect, store, protect, catalog and organize CNCA's historical material. Many committee members recently returned from the National AA Archives Workshop in Winnipeg, Canada. The committee is now preparing to host our third biennial Archives Open House on December 9, which will include presentations, hands-on trainings and a live oral history of a past Delegate.

BRIDGING THE GAP – LARRY B: Your Area and District BTG committees gave 245 presentations and received 927 requests for help this year. Committee officers continue to visit District and BTG meetings and events, and we have seen enthusiasm growing, along with clear evidence that the need for the hand of AA to be there remains strong.

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

As of October 31, 2017

	<u>Total</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
Operating Funds - Checking	28,845.39
Prudent Reserve - Savings	10,117.90
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 38,963.29</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Assembly Deposits	3,390.00
Undeposited Funds	1,416.89
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,806.89</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 43,770.18</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 43,770.18</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	24,557.99
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	10,117.90
Net Revenue	9,094.29
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 43,770.18</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 43,770.18</b>



# Expense Report October 2017

## California Northern Coastal Area

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

January - October, 2017

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>			
002 Group Contributions	79,722.12	75,000.00	106.30 %
003 District Contributions	20,965.16	12,750.00	164.43 %
004 Assembly Contributions	5,120.05	6,950.00	73.67 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	2,578.30	3,080.00	83.71 %
006 H & I Archives Rent		575.00	
007 CNCA Subscriptions	12.00	48.00	25.00 %
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	3,788.61	1,000.00	378.86 %
009 Motions Book		50.00	
010 Interest Income	3.96	2.00	198.00 %
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$112,190.20</b>	<b>\$99,455.00</b>	<b>112.80 %</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$112,190.20</b>	<b>\$99,455.00</b>	<b>112.80 %</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>012 EXPENSE</b>			
013 Delegate Expense	6,862.20	7,019.00	97.77 %
038 Officer Expense	22,897.29	23,973.00	95.51 %
093 Committee Expenses	18,142.65	26,967.00	67.28 %
158 General Expenses	40,475.10	49,711.00	81.42 %
<b>Total 012 EXPENSE</b>	<b>88,377.24</b>	<b>107,670.00</b>	<b>82.08 %</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$88,377.24</b>	<b>\$107,670.00</b>	<b>82.08 %</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$23,812.96</b>	<b>\$ -8,215.00</b>	<b>-289.87 %</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>\$23,812.96</b>	<b>\$ -8,215.00</b>	<b>-289.87 %</b>

## ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 FALL ASSEMBLY (MORNING) Cont.

FINANCE – CLAUDIA N: We continue working on the upcoming budget for 2018 and hope to have this ready by the next Area Committee meeting. Upcoming discussions will include reviewing our Finance webpage and committee guidelines.

PI/CPC – TEDDY B-W: The Area's PI/CPC committee is working on a template letter that individual members of AA can hand to their doctor. At our last meeting, we had a roundtable about carrying the message to veterans. I have been in contact with other PI/CPC chairs around the state and we now have a system in place to ensure that AA will have a presence at the conventions of statewide professional organizations.

WEBSITE – ROBERT E: The Website committee continues to work on the new website, and we are getting ready to do our inventory later this month. Motions to purchase a projector and a hotspot device were approved, and several members of the committee attended the NAATW.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MICHAEL Q: We want to thank our professional interpreters. English to Spanish and Spanish to English interpretation is available on FM station 91.9; Assisted Listening is at FM station 100.7. We have a limited supply of FM radios to loan.

### **Area Business**

#### PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS:

That literature be developed sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation. – presented by District 90

Presentation: This motion originated at the Unity Group in Vacaville. The group forwarded the motion to the District, where it was discussed until it passed with substantial unanimity. The goal of this literature is to focus on people's experience, strength and hope on meditation rather than to be instructive.

Questions: Q: Does this motion intentionally exclude prayer? A: The focus is solely on meditation. Q: Is the intent of the motion to share about different types of meditation practices? A: The intent of the motion is to share experience, strength and hope on meditation. Q: Is this a request for a book, a pamphlet or a Grapevine collection? A: The request is for literature.

#### **Motion moved to New Business at the 2018 Pre-Conference Assembly.**

#### OLD BUSINESS:

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

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

Discussion: The motion is wordy, it dictates how other Area's should do their business, and it is not necessary. //The suggested language is too specific. // The information is available in other places. // There are typographical errors, and the passage is not well-written. The intent of the motion is well-spirited, but the language is inaccurate. // The original intent of this motion was to have clarity on the General Service Conference process. AA is shaped by the collective voice of the groups. Many new GSRs do not know what Agenda Topics are since they are not mentioned in our pamphlets. // This process is different in different parts of the country. // While I love the idea of clarity about the process, I have learned that the suggested language is not accurate everywhere. A good place to learn about Agenda Topics is at the District. // Concept 1 gives authority to the groups, and the purpose of the General Service Conference is to collect those group consciences to make policy decisions. This motion does not establish a new policy. It just puts that information in writing so that people understand that they have the ultimate authority in AA. Many groups do not have access to the Service Manual, and it is important to get the principles of Concept 1 to the groups. // When I served as Delegate, we did nothing like what is described in this motion. // My favorite phrase in AA is 'Keep it simple.'

## ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR 2017 FALL ASSEMBLY (MORNING) Cont.

But sometimes you have to be descriptive and use more words so that there is no confusion. It would be useful to give information to groups and to have the process explained in a pamphlet. // When we prepared for our group inventory and needed something in writing to validate the process to people, it was helpful to have background information available in a pamphlet. // When the Delegate arrives at the Conference, they are encouraged to vote for AA as a whole, not for their Area. We would do delegates a disservice by putting this text in the pamphlet.

The Assembly 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: Motion fails by show of hand; no count taken.**

OLD BUSINESS:

That the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous and the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous approve the development of a new public service announcement in video format that utilizes full-face actors (not members of A.A.). – presented by the CNCA PI/CPC Committee

Discussion: By keeping actors in silhouette, it demonstrates the importance of anonymity. // This would be an effective way of carrying the message to suffering alcoholics. But by showing faces, some alcoholics may focus on the differences rather than on the similarities. // Full face videos make it easier for people who read lips to understand. // Not hiring alcoholic actors would be illegal because it discriminates against alcoholics who happen to be actors. // Initially my group was divided. There were many concerns about anonymity and hiring actors. But after we watched public service announcements, everyone was in support. We thought they were impactful and effective. // Videos with faces may help people who have not heard about AA find recovery. // Only one alcoholic can truthfully convey the message of recovery to another alcoholic. // We would prefer if the best possible actors, whether they be alcoholic or not, be hired. // This motion has been so confusing. I thought videos with full faces had already been approved. // When we watched the videos from Australia, it was impactful to see the emotion on faces. // We watched videos from several countries. Even if we could not understand the language, we could understand the expressions on the actors' faces. // We often see representations of what AA looks like on television shows. But AA does not represent itself. // I have been making presentations for Bridging the Gap for 12 years. I spent a few

years using videos without full faces, and I have used the newer video with full faces also. The newer video is more accessible and people identify more. // This discussion about anonymity is important. More important, though, is that by prohibiting alcoholics from working, we would be breaking the law and engaging in hiring discrimination. This motion forces actors who happen to be alcoholics to lie about their disease. // In this world of technology, some people do not read books. These videos with full faces have so much more impact. // I am anonymous but AA is not. I like the idea of producing a video because it shows that AA is available. // Showing faces in the video takes away shame. We do not need to hide faces to make an impact. Full faces suggest that alcoholics are real people who come in many shapes, sizes and looks. // To avoid discrimination, we could add a label to the video explaining that these actors 'may or may not be alcoholics.'

**Motion remains Old Business at the 2018 Pre-Conference Assembly.**

The meeting was closed at 12:04 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

PRESENTATION: REFLECTIONS FROM A PAST TRUSTEE

I became a Trustee 10 years after having rotated from being a Delegate. By that time, I thought that serving Alcoholics Anonymous as a Trustee may not have been in the cards. So when I received a letter from my Delegate and from GSO that a trusteeship was available, I meditated and contemplated for months and months to make sure I was making myself available for the right reasons. I talked to my family. I wrote a balance sheet of what I might be good at and what I might not be good at. I felt a little apprehension, but I made myself available and was selected to be my Area's nominee in October. My Delegate sent my resume to the Trustee's Nominating committee and then I waited; life went on. Two months after that Assembly, my mother died of alcoholism. When she died, my zeal to serve AA increased a thousand-fold. On the day of the Conference, I went to the best place I could be, the chapel where I had been in discernment and prayer before. I was sitting in that chapel waiting for my Delegate to call and let me know I had not been elected when a woman my mother used to sponsor walked in, holding a Big Book and bringing with her a newcomer. They did the Third Step prayer. Shortly thereafter, my Delegate called to let me know the delegates from my region had selected me as their candidate. I would be one of six names on the Conference floor. A while after, my Delegate called to let me know I had been elected Trustee-at-Large (United States).

He later said it was the only time he had ever heard me speechless. I was stunned, grateful and scared. I served from April 2013 until April 2017; it was an absolute privilege. There are two Trustees-at-Large, one from the United States and one from Canada. We are the international Delegates, but also two of the 21 Trustees. There are four General Service Trustees chosen for their particular business acumen. Another eight are regional Trustees who bring a local perspective. There are seven non-alcoholic Trustees as well. The Trustees-at-Large represent our service structure at World Service meetings and at Zonal meetings. My first World Service meeting was in 2014. To my right was the Delegate from Ukraine and to his right was the Russian Delegate. There were conflicts at that time between the two countries. But there they were, coming together in the fellowship of the spirit, to love one another and to share with one another. There are often differences in AA from one country to another. But there is never a variation in our desire to help people who have a problem with alcohol. At my first World Service meeting, I also heard from the Iranian Delegate, who shared how AA came about in that country. AA operates underground; they hold meetings outside or in people's houses. They do not even call themselves AA; they call themselves 'Nameless Sobers' because the government thinks AA is a religious community. AA has grown to 8000 members in Iran. In my four years on the Board, I traveled to 15 countries. In Ukraine, I gave five presentations during a brief visit, and told my story five times. I was hoarse by the end, but the people there are starving for information. In El Salvador, after 26 hours of travel, I wanted to cool off after landing, and nearly got electrocuted when the shower I used had exposed wires. We go to any lengths to stay sober. One of my favorite memories was at a national convention in Latvia. In South America, everyone was always so happy and expressive. But in Latvia, everyone was stoic; the cultures are different. But the AA spirit comes out. Once the badges were on, the smiles started appearing. It is like any other convention. People came from all over. At the hotel I stayed in, my room had a bottle of water being sold for 2 Euros. The shot of whiskey was complimentary. I have been so grateful to see the love and joy and the fellowship of the spirit everywhere I go. Everyone does things a little differently, but there is one thing that is consistent: the love that the Fellowship has for the Steps, the Traditions and the Concepts. Our principles are timeless, and we need to allow them to continue to work in us. AA today is in about 180 countries, about the same number of countries in the world. Of those countries, 63 have General Service structures or boards or Intergrups or some

other form of organization. 41 countries attend the World Service meeting. We still have work to do. What is happening between those 180 countries and the 63 with structures? In the United States, we talk about membership stagnation. It is interesting to ponder, though, the growth of the fellowship around the world. Many people are suffering in nations where there is no AA, or where the closest meeting is 400 miles or 4000 miles away. There is no hope where they are, dying and suffering from alcoholism. That is where our money and spirituality mix. I am so grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve the Fellowship. I often think of how desperate and dying I was, an empty shell seconds and inches from taking my life. And I made a decision to join AA. My Higher Power led me here and AA has saved my life in every way and given me this experience to serve. Do not quit when you get frustrated. I was tested and I did not quit. General Service is so important. It keeps our message consistent so that my children or your children or the child not yet born, or anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, if they reach out for help, the hand of AA will be there. And for that, we are all responsible.

– presented by Bob W, past Trustee-at-Large (United States)

The afternoon session was closed at 5:19 pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,

Eric L

CNCA Panel 67 Recording Secretary

**Area Committee:**

**Assembly Bids:**

**Housekeeping Motions:**

**Guidelines:**

**Presentation of New Business:**

**Old Business at Area Committee Meeting:**

**New Business at Area Committee Meeting:**

**Discussion topics:**

Is there need for a workshop on the topic of  
“Guidance on Non-Profit Status and Tax ID Num-  
bers for Groups and Districts?”

Microphone Etiquette and Comfort using the Micro-  
phones at Assemblies

**Area Assembly Motions:**

**Redistricting Requests:**

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

**Old Business at Area Assembly:**

“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:**

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

**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.**

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

**The Interpretation and Translation Committee is always in search of more bilingual members to help with written translation. Please contact [translation.p67@cnca06.org](mailto:translation.p67@cnca06.org)**

## CNCA CALENDAR -- PANEL 67

### 2017—Panel 67

**December 16—Area Committee Mtg**

more Community Center, Livermore,  
hosted by District 70

**24—Area Committee Mtg**

**December**

**15—Area Committee Mtg**

### 2018—Panel 67

**January 20—Area Committee Mtg**  
(Note: 3rd Saturday)

**February 24—Area Committee Mtg**

**March 2-4, PRAASA, Nugget Casino Resort,**  
Sparks, NV, hosted by Area 42

**24—Area Committee Mtg**

**April 7,8—Pre Conference Assembly,**  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, hosted by Districts 40 and 02

**22-28 General Service Conf., NY**

**28—Area Committee Mtg**

**May 12—Post Conference Assembly,**  
Solano County Fairgrounds, hosted by District 09

**26—Area Committee Mtg**

**June 23—Area Committee Mtg**

**July 28—Area Committee Mtg**

**August 11—Summer Assembly,**  
River Lodge, Fortuna, hosted by District 15

**25—Area Committee Mtg**

**September 7-9—Pacific Regional Forum,**  
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, San Jose, CA

**22—Area Committee Mtg**

**October 27—Area Committee Mtg**

**November 3—Election Assembly, Robert Liver-**

## PANEL 69 ASSEMBLY DATES CALENDAR

### 2019 Pre-Conference Assembly

April 13-14

### 2019 Post-Conference Assembly

May 18, Ulatis Community Center, Vacaville  
(Hosted by District 90)

### 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](mailto:assemblycoordinator.p67@cnca06.org)

## AA Grapevine / La Viña Subscription Information

### AA Grapevine US Rate

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Make check or money order payable to:

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### La Viña -- Spanish Magazine

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### CNCA Comments Advisor

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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](http://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**  
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**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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.aagrapevine.org)

**Accessibilities** Sharing session meets at 10 am. For information visit the “contact us” tab on the [www.cnca06.org](http://www.cnca06.org) website.

