

Chair Preview: April 2019

By the time you receive this, we will have already experienced our first Pre-Conference Assembly of Panel 69 together. But I am writing this in late March, before the Assembly happened, so I can't predict what actually happened. But I am pretty sure that my mind will have changed a hundred different times as people shared at the microphones on a variety of Agenda Topics. The depth and breadth of sharing at the microphones is one of the things that kept me coming back into General Service.

I am so appreciative of the passion that people have to keep the AA message alive, accessible, and consistent – and our work in General Service is a small part of helping people find the rooms in which recovery is made possible. Everything we do here is aimed at helping facilitate a life-saving message that we each were given. So thank you for your participation in this process.

Meanwhile, at the Area Committee Meeting (ACM)...

We have spent the past few months discussing a number of motions, and this past month, we ended up voting on and approving seven different things. It was one of the most productive and exciting business meetings I've facilitated (to be fair, though, I have only facilitated three). We also got a lot of practice voting, heard our first minority opinion of the new panel, and ended up feeling pretty united (several proposals passed with no one opposed).

The motions we passed at the ACM included three housekeeping motions: to fund travel for a member of the Bridging the Gap committee to attend the H&I General Conference; to purchase containers to store our literature; and to fund booth rental at a state-wide conference of Marriage and Family Therapists.

We also approved a bid for the 2019 Summer Assembly, which will be held in Petaluma in September – instead of August, as previously expected. With this bid now in place, only three bids remain in 2020.

And after several months of discussion, we approved two motions to compensated translators of our written materials (who often spend many hours each month translating documents like the one you are reading now, our agendas, and our minutes, as well as the Agenda Topic Summaries each year). We also approved a motion to create a form on the CNCA website to request the Delegate for events.

Just one piece of old business remains on the docket, creating a form to allow people to submit group consciences to the Delegate electronically. And we continue discussion potential changes to the structure of CNCA. It is very likely that additional motions will be introduced in the coming months, giving us much more to discuss as we strive to make AA the inclusive, welcoming place it can be.

Thank you for your service,
Eric L.
CNCA Chair Panel 69